

P. T. - Sunoco. Thursday, Dec. 6, 1934.

Today looked like ~~the~~ turning point in that immensely important international affair - the naval situation. There is no doubt that the newspapers are absolutely right, accurate to the tick, in attributing the most <sup>full and</sup> formal ~~form of~~ significance to the speech before the American Correspondents Association in London - the grave and <sup>potent</sup> declaration made by Norman Davis, American Ambassador-at-Large and delegate to the London Naval Conference. Every circumstance indicates that Mr. Davis' <sup>statements</sup> ~~declarations~~ in his address to the newspapermen were made on order from Washington, as a public pronouncement of American policy. With these grave factors to give weight to his words, let's see what he said.

He reaffirmed and emphasized in the plainest <sup>language</sup> ~~words~~ that the United States will not deviate from the terms of the Naval Treaty as they now stand, and will not agree to naval equality for Japan.

He revealed that the American delegates proposed to the Conference a program for drastic cuts in warship strength, with the naval proportions remaining as they are. This proposal got nowhere.

He solemnly warned the world against a naval race. He declared that the United States does not want to build more warships, but if the Treaty is denounced and if any naval power tries to

increase its naval strength in proportion to our naval strength, why Uncle Sam will meet the challenge. If they start to build ships, we will build more ships. The implication, of course, is directed toward Japan. If Tokio starts to build above the present ratios of five-five-three, why we will go ahead and outbuild Tokio.

It is an exceedingly strong statement, an indication that Washington believes that negotiations behind closed doors have gone far enough, and that it is time to bring the naval question out in the open, into the clear light of day.

And the <sup>ing</sup>time of Mr. Davis' declaration is most significant.

It follows right on the heels of events in Tokio yesterday, when it was revealed that the Emperor ~~Nirakita~~ Hiro<sup>h</sup>ito himself has taken a hand in naval affairs. The word is that the Emperor has passed to his Council of <sup>Advisors</sup> ~~officers~~ a copy of the letter that Japan is about to send to Washington - a formal notice telling us that the ~~is~~ five-five-three ratio is off, so far as Japan is concerned - and that the Tokio government reserves a free hand for the building of whatever warships it thinks best.

So it looks like a naval race. It's been looking more and more like that for some time. But today brings out into the vivid

open the serious prospect of a warship-building contest between the United States, Great Britain and Japan.

~~The naval situation is a crisis broad in scope and of the largest and most portentous possibilities. Much smaller, much sharper, is the Yugoslav-Hungarian affair, - the acutely dangerous pin-prick sort of thing, the possibilities of which are wicked and immediate.~~

Buchan.

Dec. 6, 1934.

INTRO. TO COL. BUCHAN

This striking turn of international news reminded me today of how I had told the other night of the arrival in the United States of a distinguished gentleman from London - Colonel John Buchan, member of Parliament, for the Scotch <sup>high</sup> universities, historian, novelist, journalist and head of the giant news gathering organization called "Reuters".

Colonel Buchan is here on a short visit, receiving an honorary doctor's degree from Columbia University and visiting President Roosevelt in Washington - also receiving acclamations for his latest brilliant book - OLIVER CROMWELL.

Colonel John Buchan is certainly a man in a position to give us an international slant on today's turn in the naval situation. So I telephoned him and asked him to come to the studio here. He's beside me at the mike right now. Tell us, Colonel Buchan, what impression do you get from Ambassador Davis' declaration today?

FOR COL. BUCHAN

COL. BUCHAN :- Many impressions, of course. Too many - and serious impressions they are. If an international naval race came about, it would be a dominant influence in shaping the affairs of the world in the next ~~year~~ few years. One thing that interests me in particular is that very openness with which the American naval policy was made public before an association of American newspaper correspondents.

As an English member of Parliament, and an historian, my business is with public opinion. In certain European countries today, public opinion is not allowed free expression. More, the governments of these countries do not permit the outer world to know the full truth of what is happening there. The result is that we can only guess at what Russians and Germans and Italians are doing and thinking.


Now, when a nation becomes secretive, it means that it has lost confidence, and a loss of confidence is far worse than the loss of wealth. You in America and we in Britain have our troubles sure enough, but we have never lost confidence, and therefore we are ready to let the whole world know what we are

doing and thinking. Our courageous and generous publicity is a proof of vitality and self-reliance, and these are the qualities that pull a nation through.

And it seems to me that this courageous and generous publicity was made manifest in shining fashion today when the American delegate took <sup>the</sup> American naval policy out of the secrecy of the Conference and put the cards on the table before a gathering of journalists.

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FOR L.T.:- Many thanks Colonel. You've given us all a valuable bit of insight.

L.T.  The naval situation is a crisis broad in scope and of the largest and most portentous possibilities. Much smaller, much sharper, is the Yugoslav-Hungarian affair - the acutely dangerous pin-prick sort of thing, the possibilities of which are wicked and immediate.

## HUNGARY

It's formal now, publicly and officially announced - the expulsion of the Hungarians from Yugoslavia. The South Slav government announced today its decision to expel everyone of the twenty-seven thousand Hungarians now living in Yugoslavia. This is another of the far spreading results that have followed the assassination of King Alexander. The Yugoslavs are acting in reprisal for the share they claim the Hungarian nation had in the plotting of the crime at Marseilles.

It is an ominous series of events to contemplate.

Jugoslavia made a drastic protest to the League of Nations accusing Hungary, of sheltering the conspirators. To this the Hungarians replied with an indignant protest.

Then things subsided to mere delay - that kind of delay which is the long suit of the League of Nations. Maybe that's one of the League's useful qualities - putting things off - letting excited affairs cool down, die out.

But now the fat is in the fire again. The Hungarians who live in those provinces tend to make them Hungarian in character and keep the Magyar spirit alive. By expelling them



~~Hungarians~~, Jugoslavia not only strikes an angry blow, but eliminates the Hungarian element in those territories which Hungary claims.

The situation is filled with danger, ~~grievance~~ aggravation and dynamite. Twenty-seven thousand Hungarians asked to leave. They say the expulsion will be a gradual process but will be carried out to the bitter end. Already two thousand Hungarians in Jugoslavia have been sent across the border. <sup>And</sup> ~~The~~ story has ~~already~~ begun to unfold - the melancholy story of refugees, people thrust out of their homes, frightened, despairing, trudging on with their belongings, women with babies, - the same picture as that of the Belgian refugees during the World War. . And this sad procession marching across the borders of Hungary! You can see the inflammable possibilities.

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It brings about a crisis in Hungary, the certainty of a flare-up of popular anger, demonstrations against Jugoslavia, rioting. The Hungarian government will have its hands full, keeping the lid on, keeping its own people from exploding. If the lid is not ~~kept~~ <sup>kept</sup> clamped firmly on - look out. Europe is tense tonight. There is fear that a diplomatic break between ~~the~~ Hungary and Jugoslavia

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may be at hand - Budapest severing diplomatic relations with  
Jugoslavia.

In any case - for a long time to come pitiful  
refugees, forced out of their homes, will stream across the  
border from Jugoslavia to Hungary - incessant provocation that  
will not die down for years and years. In fact Hungary is  
already vastly disturbed.

RUSSIA

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That new and ~~grim~~ grim procedure of Soviet law <sup>which</sup> ~~that~~ I told about last night -- Bolshevik justice, Red vengeance -- was not long delayed. Sixty-six people, including one woman, were sent to those swift and merciless trials, and then ~~xxxxx~~ immediately shot to death by firing squads!

Let's get this clear. The sixty-six victims were not accused of having anything to do with the assassination of the Communist leader Kiroff. The Soviet authorities admit that. Unofficial opinion more and more takes the view that Kiroff was killed by a Communist comrade because of a personal grudge. The mass killings were a Bolshevik demonstration, a warning that attacks must not be made on Communist leaders.

The Soviets accuse their victims of being White Guards -- ~~of being~~ anti-Communists come recently into Russia for the purpose of plotting. But there is no attempt to disguise the significance of the fact that they were arrested and executed ~~immediately~~, as an answer to the ~~xxx~~ killing of Kiroff.

Defined in Red revolutionary terms, it is terror -- striking at a whole class for an individual's action, wholesale killings to establish a ~~mastery~~ mastery of fear over a class. This is one of the acknowledged weapons of Communist revolution.

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Hitler's ferocious blood purge killed <sup>his own</sup> men whom he accused of plotting ~~against~~ <sup>against</sup> his government. These latest Communist mass executions are more akin to the Reign of Terror in the French Revolution and the Bolshevik Red Terror that followed the assassination of two high Communist officials and an attempt on the life of Lenin -- punishing, not individuals for what they do, but a social class for the actions of some of its members.

## FIRE

Winter time is fire time. And the warning is always appropriate when cold weather is with us:-- be careful about fire!

The subject is suggested by two big fires on ~~the~~ opposite coasts of this continent. The one on the West Coast ~~was~~ in the swagger and historic hotel St. Francis in San Francisco. That gathering-place of the Golden Gate smart-set started to blaze early this morning. The fire alarms banged out. ~~ix~~ And guests in sleeping clothes were routed from their rooms. A few hours later the city fire department had won out, and the fire was reduced to the rank of smelly smoke and drenching wetness, *a giant hotel full of water.*

*56*  
On the East Coast the flames raged at Portland, Maine, a disastrous fire on the Portland waterfront. A high wind ~~swept~~ whipped the roaring <sup>blaze</sup> ~~flames~~ from pier to pier, from building to building. Several persons were hurt and three whole ~~big~~ blocks of houses were swept into smouldering ruins, the damage running into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

INSULL

When Samuel Insull was acquitted on Federal charges of fraud -- that left the next move up to the Government. There were two Federal indictments against the former Chicago Utilities magnate. One was the fraud charge, which the Federal prosecutor failed to pin on him. That left a second indictment -- for violation of the Bankruptcy law. Would the Government press this second charge? It was widely supposed that the answer would be "no". But that's not the answer. It is "yes."

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Federal Attorneys have been in Washington consulting with Attorney General Cummings. Now a decision has been reached. Samuel Insull was ordered today to appear before Federal Judge Wilkerson in Chicago, on December 18th, to plead to the second indictment. He will have to face Federal trial again -- this time on the bankruptcy law charge.

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And then, of course, the Commonwealth of Illinois has indictments against him for violation of the State laws concerning fraud. But that's in the future.

## FOOTBALL

The football season, like the baseball season, has its news angles after the yearly string of games has been played.

In baseball its mostly news about shifting players from one team or another. They don't trade the players around from college to college in football. It's a matter of coaches. During the week following the football playing season, the talk is about the coaches and their contracts.

There's a change at Harvard of course. The moguls of Cambridge are wracking their brains, trying to find a successor to Eddie Casey, who is leaving after a bad Harvard season - several poor seasons. At Alabama the story is the other way around - naturally, because those football letter men from the Gulf Littoral have finished in triumph. After driving his team for the third time into the Rose Bowl Game, Coach Thomas was handed a five year contract, which begins today.

I remarked on a previous occasion that California is dispensing with the services of Navy Bill Ingram, after plenty of defeat.

But the coaching news is climaxed by the resignation of Lloyd Burdick, of Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois. Coach Burdick

is abandoning the staff officer dignity of coaching to return to the ranks of the players. He'll run punts and heave passes for the Detroit Lions in the professional league next season. He revealed this bit of news at a dinner given for the Knox team. The boys were celebrating a remarkable football record. Coach Burdick had led them through a string of games, <sup>wonderful</sup>~~remarkable~~ for consistent play. The Knox team was celebrating its twenty-seventh straight defeat. This year they not only failed to win a game - they failed to score a single point against any team they played. Twenty-seven straight beatings, season after season, without a victory, and this season represented by a consecutive row of goose eggs. That's maintaining a consistent standard all right. The boys were willing to do or die for dear old Knox, but they neither did nor died.

"They are a swell bunch of kids, but the odds were against them", explains Coach Burdick as he retires from the coaching line to the line of skirmish; <sup>and, as I return from the</sup> ~~skirmish line of the news -~~ <sup>along-u-t-m.</sup>