

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, SEPT. 26, 1938.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The center and fulcrum of the world's news tonight is again one man, Adolf Hitler. For the second time in two weeks his voice resounded through the world's ether waves. (For the second time in two weeks the world listened while that ^{master of excited declamation} ~~man's voice~~ made history.)

It was an unforgettable scene in Berlin as he spoke ^{in a vast hall crammed with Nazis,} ~~this was~~ probably the greatest speech of his career. For (even Hitler, the most effective mob rouser of the day, never whipped his audience to such a frenzy of passion.) They were literally inflamed with patriotic fire and fever, ^{in fact} ready for war. And as the American correspondents tell us, his audience was a representative German crowd. And even ^{across these thousands of miles} ~~to us, who have no part or interest in the squabble~~ there was a thrill in hearing that multitude when it burst spontaneously into the words of the German National Anthem.

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Heard under any conditions, it's a magnificent tune. It ought to be,

Hydn --for Austria!

Haydn wrote it. As a matter of fact, we often sing it ourselves

when, as and if we go to church, it's the tune of "Praise the Lord,

Ye Heavens Adore Him!" This afternoon even static couldn't quite

kill the magnificence of ~~Papa~~ Haydn's old tune pouring from

thousands of German throats. *But on what an un-Hydn like occasion!*

(The huge Berlin Sports Palace was jammed to the doors) hours

before the opening of the show. *And we* ~~People~~ who listened over thousands

of miles of air could hear ~~for themselves~~, the yells of *the* multitudes

shouting "Heil" and "Sieg Heil!" - Hail Victory! Before the Fuehrer

stepped to the mike we could hear the ~~neurotic trill tones of~~ *shouting, super-fervid*

tones of

Propaganda Minister Goebbels.

There can be no doubt about the effect of that speech on

Hitler's own countrymen. *And it may be* ~~It is~~ safe to say Germany is behind him,

~~at least ninety per cent.~~ One does hear of an underground ~~Naz~~

anti-Nazi movement, ready to spring into action if war breaks out.

But, for the time being that ~~isn't~~ *'s drowned out.* ~~As for the speech~~ *TP Much of what*

~~itself, to many ears over here it seemed nothing less than~~

~~masterly. In all candor and in all impartiality, most of what~~

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Hitler said ^{must have} sounded plausible, logical, even reasonable ^{to many,} To be sure, his attacks on President Benes of Czechoslovakia, approached the hysterical. But ^{that's} ~~as any experienced speaker will tell you, that's~~ a time-honored platform trick. To give a ~~thoroughly~~ good show, you've got to have a villain. You've got to have somebody for the audience to boo and hiss. It was a shrewd, oratorical trick on Hitler's part to pick Benes as the villain. ~~It's a trick at which none of the neutral countries could seriously take umbrage.~~

(About the mildest term that Hitler applied to the Czech President was "liar".) ^{said} There were particularly loud yells from the crowd when Hitler sarcastically reminded them that Benes had not fought in the World War whereas Hitler had borne his share in the front lines. And he said, "The question that troubles Europe all these weeks is not Czechoslovakia, but Mr. Benes." And he said: "Mr. Benes put over on the treaty makers of Versailles the lie that there was such a thing as a Czechoslovak nation.

For his ^{own} countrymen and for the world, he gave ^{an} ~~a complete~~ outline of ^{what he considered} his efforts to establish peace. ~~Said he: "I offered to disarm down to the last machine gun if other nations would do the~~

~~At another point in his speech~~ he emphasized his peaceful intentions. "After we got the Saar back," he said, "I told France that I absolutely renounced any further ^{designs} ~~intentions~~ on the French territory. I renounced all hopes of regaining Alsace-Lorraine.

I knew that what the people of Alsace-Lorraine wanted was no fighting anywhere near their homes. ^{And that sounded like} ~~That assurance was also useless, and he~~ ^{a shrewd appeal to the peace sentiment} ~~added~~ in France.

He ^{took} ~~made~~ his usual cracks at democracy. Said he: "The democracies are of all countries the most bloodthirsty fomenters of war. He claimed that if Poland had been a democracy, he never would have been able to make a peaceful agreement about Danzig and the Polish Corridor. ~~HEXHEX~~ But as he had to deal with only one man, he made that agreement for ten years and, he said, "it will be renewed." He described President Woodrow Wilson as a vague Democratic scholar who succeeded in filling the ~~GERMAN~~ German people with the poison of democracy from which they are now immune. ~~He also made a~~ ~~polite bow to Neville Chamberlain, saying he was grateful for~~ Chamberlain's efforts to bring about a peaceful solution.

~~Returning to the present crisis, he declared: "We~~

~~Germans have no intention of oppressing other nations. We have no hate against other nations. Our sole purpose in this instance is to protect people of our own flesh and blood.~~ He also disavowed any intention of intervening on behalf of the Poles and Hungarians. "Our sole interest," he declared, "is in those Sudeten Germans. ~~Six hundred thousand of them, he declared, have been forced to leave their homes, he said.~~"

He complained bitterly because ~~President~~ Benes early last week had agreed to cede the Sudeten territory. "And now," cried Hitler, "he goes back on his word." ^d ~~Then he took a leaf out of the book of President Wilson. The people of Czechoslovakia have nothing to do with all these hostile acts towards us. It is a small, unscrupulous gang of international capitalists.~~ (And he shouted: "Now I notify President Benes that German patience is at an end. ~~Was~~ We're going to have that Sudeten territory and we're going to have it now, we won't wait until Benes has exterminated two million more Germans."

~~Annex finished~~
As he finished, the huge multitude repeated their shouts

in unison of "Sieg Heil", and the slogan, "One people, one Reich, one Fuehrer!"

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It is to be observed that the Fuehrer ^{made no mention of} ~~added nothing to the~~
~~the time limit in the ultimatum he gave to Prime~~
~~ultimatum he has already sent to Czechoslovakia, the ultimatum~~
^{his} ~~minister Chamberlain~~ - ^{made no reference}
warning that if the Sudeten area is not evacuated immediately,
the German legions will march October First, -- ^{next} ~~that means~~ Saturday.
He said nothing about that ^{deadline}.

LONDON FOLLOW LEAD

So much for the German position, but what about the rest of Europe? There's just one sadly over-worked word to describe the situation -- confusion. ~~Of course~~ ^H Hitler's speech was delivered after the communication had come from Prague, the announcement that the Czech government found the German terms unacceptable. But the Czech ^S ~~government~~ _^ adds they should be submitted for further discussion.

The Prague government made a detailed list of its objections to what Hitler demands. It cited many reasons based on economic and racial grounds as well as national defense. ^H ~~The~~ ^{and} Czechs are continuing ^{their} _^ preparations for war.

^H ~~France~~ ^{also} _^ is openly making preparations, ~~as if~~ for war. ^{in Paris} The government _^ is urging all dwellers of towns and cities to leave for the open country. ~~The government~~ ^{and} _^ even offers to furnish

gasoline and special trains to evacuate the cities. They urge ~~that~~ particularly ^{that} _^ women and children ~~should~~ leave for the country. Premier Daladier ^{has} _^ called a special meeting of the Council of Ministers for tomorrow morning.

(In London the Air Ministry called up all members of the defense units of the auxiliary air force. ^{and} _^ Gas masks are being

throughout
distributed ~~in~~ London.) Special trains to the north are taking men of King George's navy and marines to the grand fleet at Scapa Flow. The War Office called out the coastal defense units of the territorial army, which corresponds to our National Guard, also the anti-aircraft units. The system that warns people against air raids has been organized and put in working order.

~~Lloyds of London announces an increase of war risk rates on shipping insurance.~~ The Prime Ministers of all the dominions, Australia, South Africa, Canada and Ireland, are in constant communication with London.

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(Americans are being urged to leave Europe and come home as soon as possible.) All the liners flying the flags of neutral countries are heavily booked in advance. Preparations are being made to evacuate the wives and children of members of British diplomatic and consular establishments in Germany.

Germany has closed the Czech frontier, but the State Department is making a special appeal to Berlin to allow Americans in Czechoslovakia to travel home by way of Germany. *They're having trouble getting out.*

One of the most drastic moves today was an official warning from ~~John Bull~~ ^{Britain} and France to Hitler. It was made public

by means of an inspired statement from Downing Street: ~~it was~~
labelled as coming from "official quarters." ~~Nevertheless~~
~~Actually, it's the official explanation of where ~~Britain~~ John Bull stands.~~
~~and~~ Here it is: "It is still possible to ~~be~~ settle peacefully the
Czechoslovak question by means of negotiation. The German claim
to transfer of the Sudeten area has already been conceded by the
French, British and Czechoslovak governments." Then this official
communique adds: "If, in spite of all efforts by the British
Prime Minister, a German attack is made upon Czechoslovakia,
the immediate result will be that France will be bound to come to
Czechoslovakia's assistance and Great Britain and Russia will
certainly stand by France." The statement ends on a hopeful note:
"It is still not too late. This is a great tragedy and the people
of all nations insist on a settlement by free negotiation."

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This whole business is ~~more~~ baffling. ~~than ever~~ If the
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have agreed
Czechs ~~are willing~~ to give up those Sudeten areas, then why this
continued deadlock? The only explanation can be that there are
~~definitely in Hitler's demands~~ drastic conditions in Hitler's demands
which have not been made public.

KING GEORGE

King George of England was forced today to change his plans. The program was that he was to go to Glasgow tomorrow with Queen Elizabeth and break the ceremonial bottle of champagne over a new monster ocean liner:- R.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH, that trans-oceanic monster even ^{larger} ~~more formidable~~ than the QUEEN MARY, — ^{now} ~~is all~~ ready to be launched. But at the request of Prime Minister Chamberlain, King George cancelled his plans and this afternoon presided over a meeting of the Privy Council. And that's highly significant because a meeting of the Privy Council is a necessary preliminary to mobilization or a declaration of war.

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RUMBURG

— skirmishing along

In the fighting ~~around~~^{around} the Czechoslovak frontier there was one engagement of considerable importance ^{today}. If you'll look at your map you'll see that at a place called Rumburg, there's a little neck of land ~~striking out from~~^{striking out from} ~~hitherto~~ belonging to Czechoslovakia which juts out into German Saxony. It was seized and occupied today by the Sudeten Free Corps. The Czechs didn't put up much of a fight for it. ^{It's too vulnerable — could be} ~~at all as it could have been~~ attacked from three sides at once. ~~It would have been too dangerous and~~^{Too} costly to defend it.

POLAND

There was fighting in the neighborhood of Teschen, on the frontier between Poland and Czechoslovakia. That's the region that the Poles are clamoring about. They want the Czechs to withdraw immediately. The Warsaw government received a note yesterday from President Benes. It was made public today. The Czechs refuse to get out and insist upon negotiations.

JAPAN

Here's a new thought to add to the confusion. There's the possibility that Japan might jump in on the side of her allies, Italy and Germany. French and British officials at Shanghai are supposed to have made all arrangements to remove British subjects and French ~~citizens~~ citizens from all points in North and central China. That doesn't mean Japan's entry into the European war is taken for granted. It's merely that the French and British in the Far East are preparing for the worst. However there's no thought of removing Uncle Sam's Marines.

STOCKS

It was only to be expected that such a nerve-shattering day as this should have produced a stock market sensation. ~~It wasn't~~ ^{Not} on Wall Street, but on Threadneedle Street, London, ~~that~~ ^{There was where the} excitement took place. It was the heaviest, most jittery, busiest day in the history of the royal stock exchange. Never since that ancient institution was founded have so many securities been sold in one day. It was almost as though the operators had put stocks and bonds into a great big hopper, opened it up and let it flop. The value of many stocks and bonds dropped almost like lead bullets in a bucket; their value was clipped by several billions of dollars. There could be only one explanation, the fear of war. Even many American stocks were hammered down at London. ~~In the~~

In the heart of our own Wall Street, the traders took it ^{more} ~~very~~ easily. The market was nervous but there was no such spectacular, sensational drop as that of London.

ROOSEVELT

It's difficult to find any item in today's news that doesn't have some connection or other with Hitler and Czechoslovakia. Washington naturally was full of the subject. Secretary of State Hull called at the White House today, at the President's invitation. Messrs. Roosevelt and Hull sat by the radio, together, listening to Hitler. When the speech was over, the President sent out the summons for an emergency meeting of the Cabinet at the White House tomorrow afternoon.

President Roosevelt's personal appeal to Hitler and Benes has created no political tidal wave, to be quite blunt about it.

Another criticism was, in effect, "practice what you preach. You demand no interference by European countries in American affairs. Therefore, suppose you keep your hand out of European affairs." In other words, mind your own business.

Applause for President Roosevelt's plea, came from Prime Minister Chamberlain. He cabled him. "conveying the gratitude of His Majesty's Government for the worthy message of the President to the United States."

TRUCK STRIKE

For several days I haven't mentioned that strike of New York truck drivers, though for a while it had some picturesque features. After all, when the carriage of freight is halted in the busiest city in the world, that's something. But last week it looked as though ~~that~~^{the} strike would be settled.

Today, the peace ~~talk~~ talk is off, the strike is on, and ~~it's~~ worse than ever. ~~For~~ The Drivers' Union on the other side of the Hudson River in New Jersey, joined^{ing} the New York truck drivers. ~~So that strike is~~ increased^{ing the number of men out} by some fifteen to twenty thousand ~~men~~.

The meaning of this is that not a pound of freight is being moved in the great city[^] except perishable food. ~~Even~~^{Even} Drivers of school buses have joined the striking teamsters and children were unable to go to school.

HURRICANE

~~Bad news continues to pour in from New England.~~ The more
the damage from that hurricane is investigated the ^{greater} ~~worse~~ it turns
out to be. Relief Administrator Harry Hopkins met ^{with} ~~with~~ the New
England ^{officials} ~~governments~~ today. He had been travelling over the
stricken countryside and the report he brought ~~to those governments~~
was gloomy. The total of dead will probably reach six hundred
and fifty. The damage in seven states now amounts up to five
hundred million dollars, half a billion. ~~And one~~ And one hundred
thousand ~~souls~~ are homeless. ^π Governor Hurley of Massachusetts
made one concrete suggestion:— ~~That was~~ that Uncle Sam should
ease up on some of his regulations, allow the Reconstruction
Finance Corporation to make temporary loans to people whose
homes have been destroyed. Also the F.H.A. should be authorized
to hand out money for the rebuilding ~~x~~ of homes and farm buildings.

Well — let's hope for better
news tomorrow night —

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