LOWELL THOMAS SUNOCO OIL BROADCAST - 9/15/33

Good Evening, Everybody:

In case you think that tonight's storm is bad, you'd better batten down your hatches, lash the dog kennel firmly so it won't blow away, wire your fruit onto your trees -- if you have any left, and tie up everything that's loose, because tomorrow the weather is going to take a change: for the worse. This makes me just as fed-up as it does you because I'm on my way to the farm. But Uncle Sam sent out storm warnings today and the black storm cones have been hoisted all the way up and down the Atlantic Coast from Cape Hatteras to Boston. The Coast Guard issued a caution that all small craft be kept in harbor, and stoutly moored. Even larger vessels are advised to stay where they are, tomorrow, and pospone their sailings. Not only will the rain continue unabated, but the gale which is on its way from mid-Atlantic is expected to turn out to be another one of these blasted hurricanes by the time it strikes the mainland. What a swell September this is turning out to be!

A severe gale is reported raging out at sea right now. The center of the hurricane at noon was some hundred and fifty miles south of Cape Hatteras, moving northwest about fourteen miles an hour. It is expected to hit the coast of South Carolina tonight and will reach the interior of the middle Atlantic States tomorrow.

-2-

The rain and winds in the northern Atlantic states today have nothing to do with the coming, but are quite independent of it -- mere teasers from the North east. The one from the South bids fair to be a hummer. A lulu! Perhaps like that unwelcome visitor from the Caribbean we had, the one that tore up everything in sight. If our present rather mild northeaster and the hurricane from the south ever meet! Well, I hope that meeting doesn't occur in your backyard or mine!

I hope the Weather Bureau is kidding and that it doesn't happen!

No serious casualties from out at sea are reported yet. But the Radio Marine Corporation has sent out a message to all ships to watch for a man who was swept overboard from an oil tanker a hundred or so miles east of Hatteras. Some small craft and barges were in distress off the Jersey Coast, but nothing extremely serious as yet. However, it looks as though the weather will furnish us with

LEAD

a topic of conversation over the week-end. At any rate it's sure to ruin my ball game.

NBC

COAL

ntm .:

The announcement that President Roosevelt would sign has the bituminous coal code tonight had an electric effect in the troubled mine fields of Pennsylvania. I learned from Governor Pinchot's office in Harrisburg that all ais quiet now in Fayette County where all the bloodshed took place. yesterday's riot in which fifteen men were shot and clubbed, Mr. Pinchot sent fifty of the formidable Pennsylvania State Constabulary into the district. As soon as they appeared on the scene peace reigned once more. Governor Pinchot says the news that the President is about to sign the coal code is the best he's heard in a long while, as it removes all uncertainty among both miners and operators.

General Johnson sags there ware one or two points still to be ironed out in the labor clauses of the code, also one or two concerning its administration. Nevertheless, it is definite that Mr. Roosevelt will sign that code tonight. And then one of the worst obstacles in the path of the National Recovery Act will be eliminated. N.B.C.

There was some talk of further troubles, disturbances, counter revolutions and so forth from Cuba today. But later investigation disclosed the fact that they were not as serious as at first indicated. Washington heard that an outbreak occurred some hundred miles from Havana where an army captain is supposed to have organized a company of his soldiers together with a large corps of heavily armed civilians. The object of this was to put General Menocal, former president of Cuba, back in the throne. But later reports brought the information that troops of President San Martin's government under the command of former Sergeant Batista, now a Colonel and Chief of Staff, swooped down on the rebels and drove them into the hills.) This, we learn for the time being, is the only real disturbance on that island.

N.B.C.

inter:

WOODIN

into .:.

The Secretary of the Treasury is back on the job today for the first time in a month. Mr. Woodin has been laid up the last four weeks, but is now completely recovered.

His first official statement after returning to work was that Uncle Sam's Treasury would have a comfortable surplus by the end of the fiscal year. Revenues, he says, are rising so nicely that the budget bids fair to be more than balanced. Receipts at the Treasury are size all along the line and in the six months period from January to June he expects heavy increases.

Incidentally the price of gold is higher than it has **NEXEX** ever been. The Treasury now is paying thirty dollars and forty-one cents an ounce, which is a jump over as recent a price as yesterday's.to the extent of sixty-four cents. The precious metal has been going up all week and has **going** to a dollar and thirty-one cents since Monday. This is due to the depreciation on Uncle Sam's dollar on the foreign exchanges.

REPEAL

An announcement was made today which indicates how sure political leaders are of the repeal of Prohibition. The announcement was made by Governor Cooney of Montana who says that he is not going to call any repeal election in his state. Says Governor Cooney: "Montana won't need to vote. The whole thing will be in the bag by November 7th and we in Montana will save the hundred thousand dollars it would cost to have the special election and will use that money to feed those of our people who are in need." Incidentally, Secretary Woodin said today the

apparent certainty that Prohibition will be eliminated is going to help swell Uncle Sam's revenue. One bit of **good** news is that it will automatically eliminate the special taxes that are levied under in the National Recovery Act, including an extra half cent a gallon on gas, the tax on capital stock, dividends and excess profits. And that is one thing we can't grumble about.

NBC

I have another message from Ellery Walter, our roving Sunoco correspondent, who is still in China. He had just made a trip along the Great Wall, and from Peking to Nanking he says the journey gave him the impression of tremendous armed multitudes -- swarms of slant-eyed soldiers, everywhere.

Walter also sends the report that at a station across the river from Nanking he saw a number of Communist prisoners.

Then too he sent me some interesting pictures of the big Japanese air maneuvers around Tokio and Yokohama and at the same time he writes:- "I asked a military official just <u>who was</u> the hypothetical enemy? To which that official replied: Russia, pointing out that Vladivostok was only five hours flying time from Tokio."

Ellery Walter says furthermore that he has been assured from other extremely reliable sources that the Soviet government has a tremendous concentration of air forces at Vladivostok, a division of cavalry, and two whole

CHINA

antma:

CHINA - 2

divisions of artillery. And Lieutenant General Araki, the dynamic, all powerful Japanese War Minister, told my friend, Walter, that the Russians now have nine full divisions at full war strength along the entire length of the frontier of Manchukuo. This contrasts with the fact that in 1931 the Soviets only had four divisions there. Walter adds that if trouble is going to break he hopes it will happen while he is there.

Another fact that waiter reports is that the activities of bandits in Manchukuo have increased enormously, owing to the unreliability of the troops of that newly erected state. In almost every case, when the troops of Manchukuo meet the bandits, they are either defeated or they join the bandits, thus the actual work of keeping order falls on the shoulders of the Japanese army.

He tells me further that he has received everywhere with the greatest courtesy by Japanese officials. He gathered that there was a genuine hope throughout the East that Japan

and America might be friends. He points out that there seem to be only three ways of dealing with the Japanese: Thefirst, to fight them; the second, to strangle them economically with a boycott; the third, to wax play ball with them. To fight them, he says, would be absurd, because neither nation would gain anything from a war. Uncle Sam would have to fight, Japan on their home ground, where they are exceedingly strong. As for hitting them with a boycott, that might cripple Japan, but it also would pling havoc on the American business, because Mayon is our fifth largest customer. So Walter comes to the conclusion that to play ball with the Mikado's people would seem the sanest prove But he adds, "don't think because I say this that I've gone over to the Japanes Foreign office." His observations were made not only as a result of talks with Japanese leaders, but with resident Americans.

Ellery Walter.

The drive of the German Nazis to convert the Austrians still has foreign officers worried all over Europe. In spite of protests the campaign of Chancellor Hitler's followers on the Austrian front has not abated. They are determined to make Austria a part of Germany.

But firey little Chancellor Dolfuss of Austria has made a counter attack. He proposes to steal the Nazis' thunder; and announces that Austria will be remodeled into a Fascist state, modelled on that of Italy.) Austria, says the Chancellor, will remain Germanic, but independent of Germany.

This statement of Austria's Chancellor was made to a multitude of eighty thousand people who were gathered at the Vienna racetrack in celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Vienna's delivery from the Turkish armies, the famous victory won by XMM Jan Sobieski of Poland.

At the same time Chancellor Dolfuss announces his conversion to the idea that party government is out of date in a modern state. He is going to reorganize the Austrian parliament

NAZI

NAZI - 2

sprein

which in the future is to consist of representatives of the various industries. That's an innovation which sounds though it may have far reaching effects.

Schoonmaker

FOLLOW NAZI

In consonance with this policy of the Austrian Chancellor, he announced today that he is dismissing the Socialist Mayor of Vienna. In his place Dolfuss is appointing a Fascist dictator who in future will run the charming city on the

Danube.

DUBLIN

Meanwhile the Irish Fascisti, General O'Duffey's Blue Shirts, found themselves in trouble waters. The military tribunal of the Irish Free State has been making an investigation of O'Duffey's organization. As a result today it closed up the offices of the Blue Shirt Guard and ordered all people employed there to cease work at once, declaring the organization to be against the law.

DUBLIN

Meanwhile the Irish Fascisti, General O'Duffey's Blue Shirts, found themselves in trouble waters. The military tribunal of the Irish Free State has been making an investigation of O'Duffey's organization. As a result today it closed up the offices of the Blue Shirt Guard and ordered all people employed there to cease work at once, declaring the organization to be against the law.

RUSSIA

An interesting bit of musical news came from Moscow today. The French national anthem, that sterling song, the Marseillais, was played in Moscow today for the first time since the overthrow of the czarist government. The occasion was the arrival of the French Air Mission headed by Pierre Cot.

AIRPORTS

Here's an encouraging fact for people interested in aviation. The Department of Commerce informs us that since August 1st no less than thirty new airports have been established in the U.S.A. That's thirty new ports in less than forty-five days. They are situated in California, Florida, Illinois, in fact in sixteen different states all over the country. Nine of these new ports are in Texas.

HOUSEWORK

I wonder how the following item will strike the fancy of the little woman. A New York scientist has promulgated an idea that the best possible way either to reduce weight or keep your figure slender is not dieting, nor golf, nor tennis, nor swimming. It is housework.

Getting busy with the old broom, says this scientist, is one of the surest ways to become slender, and the next best brings are washing dishes and making beds. The same doctor declares that sweeping exercise with the family broom makes ideal practice for improving the golf stroke.

And he even says that the weekly washing and family mending can be treated as exercise for keeping in good physical condition.

What do you think of that ladies? Answer: Not much. Don't blame me if you don't like it. I am merely reporting the voice of science.

EPIDEMIC

apteirs

It's good to hear that that epidemic of sleeping sickness which was raging in the neighborhood of St. Louis seems to be on the wane. The Commissioner of Health tells us that the number of cases is declining in both the city and the county. So far a hundred/and forty three xx people have died, seventy-one in St. Jouis, and seventy-two in the surrounding county.

HOOVER

phoeis

I learned an interesting fact today about the late Irwin Hood Hoover who died last night and is known to everybody at the White House and other folks besides as "Ike".

Ike who was the major-domo of the White House, is to be buried tomorrow afternoon in the Capitol and President and Mrs. Roosevelt will be present at the services.

The new fact I learned about him if that one time How end or another Ike refused offers of many thousands of dollars from magazines and newspapers to write articles about the Presidents and their intimate habits. Ike knew well every President of the United States since Grover Cleveland. He served forty years in that most intimate capacity. They do say that the offer he received to write about the Coolidges was up in the five figures. But even that one Ike Hoover turned down. May his soul rest in prace-m the Green Tastures,

NBC

A San Francisco magnifico by the name of Joseph Durney is having a devil of a lot of trouble Mr. Durney owns property in Alaska and the people in charge of that property have just informed him that he has become a father of three Kodiak bears, or strictly speaking a god-father. The Kodiak bear is the most powerful animal on earth with the possible exception of the elephant.

Now "bear-father" Durney finds himself with four troubles to get rid of. The first trouble is how to induce all his friends on Market Street, Frisco, and elsewhere around the Golden Gate to quit calling him "Goldilocks." Another thing he would like to get rid of is three bears. He has wired and phoned to every zoc in the nation but the Kodiak bear always wants to hug everybody so there are no takers.

If you would like a fine Kodiak bear for your back yard or even your front yard, write to Mr. Joseph Durney, President of the Griffith Durney Company, San Francisco. Mr. Durney will send you a bear express prepaid. It might come in useful if you expect a visit from your wife's relatives.

BEAR

ENDING

phois

WIND EFFECT

----- 0 ------

What's that? Gee, it must be that advance guard of the hurricane the weather men have been telling us about today. So I guess I'd better duck fro home and tie my chicken coops down. So, SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY