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Lawell Thomas

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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~~The~~ News from Norway, <sup>Today's</sup> ~~was on a seesaw today:~~ ~~The~~ first dramatic announcement came from Berlin, and <sup>it</sup> ~~claimed~~ a German victory. <sup>That</sup> ~~The~~ Nazi forces had ~~met~~ met the Allies north of Trondheim at a place called Steinkjer, ~~They claimed that they~~ had reduced the place to ruins and driven the British and Norwegians back six miles out of town. This action, said ~~the~~ <sup>Berlin,</sup> ~~German high command,~~ gave them command of the straits at Steinkjer and enabled them to cut off the British troops at Namsos, thirty miles to the north. Thereby they had prevented the British from carrying out their nut-cracker operations in <sup>British + Norwegian</sup> conjunction with the ~~the~~ forces south of Trondheim.

~~That sounded like bad news and it was corroborated by independent, neutral reports to Stockholm~~

Later, however, came <sup>a</sup> ~~this~~ <sup>1</sup> communique from the British War Office. The Allied Forces, said the British high command,

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had fought a sharp battle with the Germans north of Trondheim and had, as they put it, "succeeded in reestablishing the situation."

— o —

In the far north, the Allies are driving hard to cut off such German detachments as remain in the area around Narvik. A message from Stockholm reports that the remnants of a German battalion of a thousand surrendered to the Norwegians thirty miles north of Narvik. There are now only two thousand Germans left in Narvik itself.

Adolf Hitler is said to have talked by radio telephone to the general in command at Narvik, a personal friend of ~~the~~ der Fuehrer. He talked by relay from a plane equipped with radio telephone as it circled over Narvik. The General is reported to have told Hitler, "We have no ships, no artillery left, few anti-aircraft. But with our excellent automatic arms we will repel any attempt to loosen our hold on Narvik."

~~This conversation ~~took~~ was carried on four~~  
~~days ago.~~

NORWAY

48

The people of south Norway are to have all the trappings and trimmings that go with Nazi occupation. Chancellor Hitler of Germany today appointed one of his ~~gauleiters~~ <sup>GAULEITERS</sup> as commissioner of Norwegian occupied territory. <sup>Q GAULEITER</sup> ~~A gauleiter~~ is a sort of governor in the Nazi realm. Official circles in Berlin declare that the appointment of this ~~man~~ <sup>man</sup> ~~to rule over the Norwegians~~ means that the Norwegians will be under absolute German rule wherever the Germans have set foot. Up to now, the civil government has been in the hands of Norwegians, but not any more.

The man appointed to Norway is named Ter Boven, <sup>who was GAULEITER</sup> ~~and was gauleiter~~ at Essen, the German Pittsburgh.

In other words, the conquered Norwegians will be treated pretty much in the same fashion as the Poles. Some Norwegian officials will be allowed to function, but they will be under Nazi overlords, ~~and of course~~ with Nazi Gestapo agents all over the place.

Commissioner Ter Boven will take his orders only from Adolf Hitler.

HAAKON

9

A message from the hapless King Haakon of Norway:- It comes through the Norwegian Legation at Stockholm. And <sup>here are</sup> ~~this is~~ *the King's words! -*  
~~the message~~ "The Norwegian Government and the King can accept no issue of the present situation until complete withdrawal of the German forces now holding parts of the Norwegian territory." And, says King Haakon further:- "It is impossible for Norwegians to accept the German invader impassively."

BULLETIN

that

A bulletin came in just this minute from London, reports that the Royal Air Force has just completed the most intensive wave of bombing attacks since the war started. The

~~XXXX~~ British bombers attacked German air bases in Denmark and Norway and brought the total number of Nazi planes destroyed up to three hundred.

SWEDEN

In Paris today the conviction was even stronger that that the Nazis are about to walk in on Sweden. <sup>The</sup> French <sup>Service</sup> military intelligence reports that there is great activity of German ~~xx~~ warships in the Baltic. Of course it is admitted that those Naval movements might be part of the Nazi effort to reinforce their troops in Norway. However, the fear of an invasion of Sweden was strengthened by the news of heavy concentrations of German divisions on the Danish island of Bornholm just a few miles away from the tip of Norway and also of the German mainland. <sup>TP</sup> This anxiety is echoed in Sweden. One newspaper reported to Stockholm ~~xx~~ that five German warships were violating the neutrality of Swedish territorial waters.

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A spokesman for the French government said that this danger has increased critically in the last twenty-four hours.

SEAMAN

Two of the stories from Scandinavia today are not big news, but <sup>they are</sup> sidelights with ~~quite~~ a thrill. A couple of Norwegian aviators were in a beer house having a glass or two. The place was jammed with Nazi invaders. These two Norwegians happened to talk German, and they overheard the conversation of German pilots. The conversation was about a German plane moored in a fjord neaby.

The Norwegians paid their check, walked out quietly and ran like blazes to the waterfront. ~~ix~~ And there they saw that seaplane. It was unguarded. They rode out in a boat and first of all carefully obliterated the German swastikas, replacing them <sup>with</sup> ~~with~~ the Norwegian insignia. Then they took off while the Germans were drinking, flew across the North Sea, and landed in a British port. The first ~~thing~~ thing they did was to volunteer for service with the British Royal Airforce.

Another interesting story is told by an American sailor from Baltimore who made his escape from ~~Narvik~~ Narvik to Sweden. He ~~had~~ just been released from a hospital at Narvik when the Germans arrived. While he was asleep in a seamen's home he

was awakened by the sound of firing. As he ran out on the waterfront he saw a Norwegian coast defense ship sunk with torpedoes from a German ~~xx~~ warship. The American sailor said that several hundred Norwegians were plunged into the ice-cold waters of the Narvik Harbor, and the Germans in the warship opened machine-gun fire on them.

~~The American mariner also said he had heard that the Germans had captured the British consul at Narvik and executed him, just took him out in the backyard and shot him out of hand.~~



ROUMANIA

A new treaty between Nazi Germany and Roumania!

This is described as another link in the protective chain that Hitler has been forging <sup>for himself</sup> in the countries that encircle Germany.

The news, by the way, comes from the Nazi official news agency in Berlin. The new agreement was brought about by the German-Roumanian Economic Commission working in Bucharest.

It'll make easier still more active trade movements between the two countries, *more raw materials for the Nazis.*

Through a message from Bucharest we learn that King Carol's government has started a feverish activities in building roads, also fortifications. The Roumanian army sent out a call for all engineers, architects, technicians, regardless of how old or young they are. They <sup>are all</sup> ~~are~~ ordered to report to the army <sup>on</sup> May Third. <sup>And -</sup> Building Materials have been concentrated in tremendous quantities.

MERCY FLIGHT

A plane of the Royal Canadian Air Force took to the  
skies today from Halifax, Nova Scotia. But it isn't carrying  
a load of bombs, ~~and it isn't going to kill anybody.~~ *It is off on a flight* ~~It is~~  
~~It is going~~  
*not take*  
to save lives ~~instead of taking~~ them.

*Off Labrador,*  
A doctor in the icebound Magdalen Islands, sent a  
wireless call for help. Seven of his patients have been taken  
ill with diptheria and he's running short of serum. So Flight  
Lieutenant Wylie of Nova Scotia, flew north to carry serum to the  
diptheria victims.

PUBLISHERS

→ The Newspaper Publishers of America are having their  
annual beano in New York <sup>at the Waldorf.</sup> This is their Fifty-Third Convention.

Today they heard a speech from John McCarrens, President of the Association, Vice-President and General Manager of that famous newspaper, THE CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER. ~~and~~ Said he, "The big news today is that this is ~~k~~ still the freest continent in the world and has the freest press in the world."

W.P.A.

~~Bad news for W.P.A. workers~~ More than two hundred  
W.P.A. workers are  
thousand ~~are going~~ to be cut off the rolls during the month  
of May. This was announced by the W.P.A. Commissioner in  
Washington today. That <sup>will</sup> still leave one million, nine hundred  
and twenty thousand working on W.P.A. projects.

PRIMARIES

The returns are <sup>not</sup> ~~not~~ all in yet from the Pennsylvania primaries, but there are enough to give us a fair guess. So far as they go, the leader in the Republican race for Senator, leader by a long <sup>(distance,)</sup> ~~lead,~~ is Jay Cooke, grandson of the famous financier of the Civil War. The big contest among the Democrats, as you may recall, is the fight on United States Senator Joe Guffey, the New Deal champion. Guffey also has quite a lead.

Incidentally, over half a million more Republicans are registered in Pennsylvania than Democrats *this time.*

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DIES

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The Dies Committee today heard testimony from a marine radio operator. This witness, ~~called~~ Fred M. Howe, was formerly Secretary *of* the American Communications Association, the C.I.O. union of radio telegraphers. And Howe told the Dies Committee that the President of the A.C.A. is a Communist. What's more, he testified that the Communists are so organized aboard Uncle Sam's mercantile marine that they would be able to tie up American ships in case of war and help establish a soviet system.

CONVENTION

Am: - send to  
John Ham -

Chairman Hamilton of the National Republican Committee  
seems to be doing his <sup>best</sup> ~~utmost~~ to shorten <sup>the length of this year's</sup> ~~up the~~ convention.

He wants to cut out those long nominating speeches as well as the  
eloquence of the seconders. Most of those worthy utterances in  
times past have been merely for the benefit of the folks back  
home who were listening in on the radio, and an awful bore to  
those present on the floor of the convention. <sup>John</sup> So Hamilton wants

to cut the nominating speeches to thirty minutes; seconders to

<sup>53'</sup> *Three cheers for that idea!*  
four or five minutes each. <sup>^</sup> Two of the candidates have agreed; <sup>so far</sup>

Senators Taft and Vandenberg.



METHODISTS

There's a gathering of considerable historic importance at Atlantic City today. The First General Conference of the Reunited Methodist Church ~~was~~ opened with a communion service.

Eight million church members were represented <sup>there</sup> by seven hundred

and seventy-six delegates, and Bishop ~~Adna Wright~~ Leonard of

Pittsburgh <sup>presided at the opening service.</sup> ~~led the communion.~~

<sup>today</sup>  
The conference heard a report from its Board of

Temperance, a report which declared that the rate at which the

use of wine has grown in the United States gives food for serious

~~thought~~ thought. The Board of Temperance is also worried

for fear the liquor business in the United States might become a

government monopoly.

STRIKE

It looks as though a lot of New Yorkers will be walking  
tomorrow, <sup>^</sup>walking in the rain if tonight's clouds are any  
indication. The taxi drivers are striking. Six thousand hackmen  
of the Transport Workers Union <sup>have just been</sup> ~~were~~ <sup>^</sup> <sup>^</sup> called out. That'll put some  
two thousand, nine hundred cabs out of commission. What are they  
striking for? The usual thing, more money.

FIRE

The final death list of the fire at that dance hall at Natchez, Mississippi, <sup>now</sup> mounts up ~~now~~ to two hundred and twenty-six, two hundred and twenty-six people killed in <sup>an appalling</sup> ~~the most horrible~~ <sup>disaster</sup> ~~fashion~~, burned or trampled to death. And tonight the police of Natchez are looking for a negro whom ~~they say~~ they suspect of having started the <sup>e</sup> ~~fire~~ fire. The police chief says he has five negroes under arrest, and they say they overheard a remark by a drunken man. The walls of the building, which was a flimsey affair, nothing more than a fire-trap, were decorated with moss, ~~which was~~ dry as tinder. The drunken fellow for whom the police are looking said he was going to throw a match into those decorations. And that, say the cops, was the start of that holocaust that killed two hundred and twenty-six. ~~They~~ <sup>including</sup> including six members of the Walter Barnes Orchestra, a negro orchestra <sup>from</sup> ~~in~~ Chicago including Walter Barnes himself and a woman singer.

BUFFALO

57

A couple of gentlemen out in Brookfield, Missouri, are planning a buffalo fight. John Latta of Brookfield and Dr. John T. McLarney are proud of their <sup>marksmanship</sup> ~~profess~~, Latta with the bow and arrow and Doc McLarney with a spear. Latta, who owns a trucking firm, is going to bring a couple of Buffalo from a ranch in Texas so that he and McLarney can get into the ring and show off their skill with the bow and arrow and spear on the two buffalo. All this for the benefit of the Brookfield Anti-Horse Thief Association of which Latta and McLarney are leading members.

The project aroused the suspicion of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Mrs. Latta today told the S.P.C.A. that it need not worry. Then she explained:- "I've seen my husband use a bow and arrow so I know that the buffalo is in practically no danger. However," she added, "let the spectators beware!"

As for Doc McLarney, she continued:- "I don't know how good he is with a spear, but it's a fair guess that he will be as wild as a rookie southpaw." Then Mrs. John Latta continued:-

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"Those men sit around at their Anti-Horse Thief sessions and one boast brings on another. And now look what they've got: ~~skunkfish~~

A buffalo fight, two buffalos to ~~fight~~ feed, a humane society making threats, and plans for a barbecue with the whole state

invited!" — everybody in Missouri filling up with Blue Sunoco

~~Well, they ought to burn up some good Blue Sunoco so they can get there to fill getting there. What do you say, Hagh?~~

up on Buffalo.

NOTRE DAME

8/12  
At the University of Notre Dame, home of the Fighting Irish, a scientist has been making experiments on athletes.

He has been trying to find out whether they could run farther, work harder, fare better, after taking gelatine, just plain,

unflavored gelatine. Dr. Kaczmarek, Professor of Physiology

at Notre Dame, is the scientist who made the tests and he

reported today at Chicago at the Convention of the American

Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

He found that not only athletes but those who are not athletic

and women besides, do more work and are much stronger after that

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gelatine diet. Indeed, he said the women are able to do a

hundred per cent more work.

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Hugh, pass me the gelatine and then you tell the folks what's good for the innards of automobiles.