

L.T. - SUNOCO. FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1936.

Amund  
7/30

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

6

Good Friday brings the Easter season to its days of climax, the swift three day transition from sorrow to joy, from crucifixion to resurrection. I know of no other religion that provides such a vivid pageant of contrast - from the sombre black of Good Friday to the white gleaming of Easter lilies. It would be a splendid thing if the news of the world were to keep step with Easter-time and undergo a similar transformation over the weekend, if things dark and menacing today on Good Friday were suddenly to change into bright hope and glad tidings on Easter Sunday. <sup>But</sup> I don't suppose anything like that will happen. The stubborn old world and its hard-hearted race of men don't follow such gay and goodly <sup>patterns.</sup> ~~tidings.~~

47

Still, there's one headline that heralds the approach of Easter with the appropriate word - peace. It <sup>proposes</sup> ~~suggests~~ peace <sup>for</sup> ~~in~~ the western hemisphere and good-will toward all men of the Americas:- <sup>a</sup> ~~that~~ suggestion for a Pan-American Treaty of mutual help and arbitration.

It comes from General Ubico, President of Guatemala. General Ubico propounds the idea in a message to President Roosevelt.

This coming summer there is to be an All-American Peace Conference at Buenos Aires. The United States government is calling it. President Roosevelt sent out the invitations. Today the acceptance of the government of Guatemala was received. In it General Ubico suggested that the All-American Peace Congress should get up a treaty binding all the American republics, pledging them to render mutual assistance to each other in case of attack by a foreign power. Moreover - that the American nations should form a Permanent Court of Inter-American Justice. That would be a New World version of the World Court at The Hague. This tribunal would pass upon all disputes between its member nations.

The plan has several interesting angles. It would put a new aspect on the Monroe Doctrine. Everybody would have a hand in the new doctrine. Guatemala, for example, or Honduras, would come to the defense of the United States if attacked by

Japan. And then if we were in fire distress we'd get the help of Costa Rica. Maybe not so important, in a realistic way, but it would sooth the pride of our Latin-American brothers. And that is important.

It is interesting that the author of this peace plan is General Ubico, military war lord, the Napoleon of Central America. He looks like Napoleon and imitates the mannerisms of the Corsican conqueror. His profile is modeled like a Napoleonic medallion. He has his hair cut a la Conaparte, and he poses with his arms folded.

LEAD - 54

19

He first came into note years ago, as the prefect of a west coast district. There, he staged a campaign ~~gain~~ against yellow fever. To the south, in the Panama Canal Zone, our own General Gorgas, was fighting his ~~own~~ memorable battle against the yellow plague. Ubico's work attracted the attention of Gorgas, and the American General remarked - "that fellow would make a fine president of Guatemala." Ubico was of the same opinion. He pushed his way upward, became Minister of War, and then in Nineteen Thirty-One - President.

His yellow fever career pictures him as mild and benevolent. But Ubico has another side too. I suppose you can't be a ~~gentle~~ Central American president and hold your job unless you have that side. A year and a half ago, a plot against his life was discovered. Twelve men were tried for treason. The president attended their execution. He also attended their funeral.

Such are the mixed impressions, the discordant personal characteristics, behind today's proposal for peace and good-will in the western hemisphere.

## MEXICO

On Good Friday, four hundred and seventeen years ago, Fernando Cortez and his little troop of soldiers landed at what is now Vera Cruz - beginning the world renowned march to Montezuma's capital --- the conquest of Mexico. Today our neighbor to the south was startled by one of the spectacular events in its recent political history - the sudden arrest and swift exile of Calles, the one time "Iron Man of Mexico."

For years Calles "ruled the land with an iron hand", as the old ditty goes. He made presidents and unmade them. He made President Cardenas. Calles thought he could continue to rule as the Iron Man behind the scenes, with his puppet, Cardenas, in the presidential palace. But Cardenas proceeded to put on a striking exhibition of the familiar historical phenonemon - Mr. A raises Mr. B to power, whereupon Mr. B tosses Mr. A right out of the picture.

Calles went into exile - that was more than a year ago. Later, Calles staged a dramatic coup - by returning to Mexico;

and the opposition to Cardenas rallied round him. Left Wing Radicals have been accusing Calles in connection with that disastrous bridge bombing and train wreck of the other day. This outrage, they said, was engineered by followers of the former Iron Man. They likewise accused Calles of trying to promote trouble and bring about the intervention of the United States in Mexico. That's how bitterly the political charges have been flying.

Today, a force of government soldiers surrounded the Calles' ranch near Mexico City. They arrested the Iron Man, told him he was to go into exile at once, in the swiftest way,

wings through the sky, by airplane. "I'm your prisoner", Calles replied. "You may take me <sup>to an</sup> airplane or before a firing squad."

~~I consider that the conditions of the country are due, not to me, but to the Government itself."~~

Simultaneously, other soldiers stopped an automobile on the highway outside of Mexico City. And from it they took Louis Morones, Calles' close friend and his former Secretary of Labor. Morones was once a predominant force in the affairs of Mexico.

Another troop of police went to Mexico's fashionable section, Chapultepec Heights, in the shadow of grim old Chapultepec Castle. There they arrested Louis Leon, who had been Secretary of Agriculture under Calles.

A third adherent of the Iron Man was seized - Ortéga, former Government of the state of Guanajuato. The prisoners were swiftly taken to a waiting airplane.

52  
Brownsville, Texas! - a plane from Mexico City has landed with General Calles and his three companions. Passing the Immigration Bureau, they have been admitted into the United States - exiles!

That must have been a rare clash of personalities in Geneva today, Eden and Flandin. The Beau Brummell of Britain and the giant, powerful shouldered Frenchman. They opposed each other at every turn in the League proceedings with bitter stroke and counter-stroke. Eden demanded, Flandin objected. Eden said "yes." Flandin said "no."

Eden said -- yes, Mussolini must stop the African war or we'll put more sanctions on Italy.

Flandin said -- no, Mussolini must join up with us against Hitler.

And behind the dispute of the two aroused statesmen was the equally aroused public opinion in their respective countries. British public opinion -- running strongly against Italy. French public opinion -- in favor of Italy.

What did Mussolini's representative have to say about it? Baron Aloisi's reply was cold. He said he was not in Geneva to talk about the war in Ethiopia. He had been sent from Rome merely to discuss Hitler's re-armament of the Rhine. He added that his government had already declared its readiness



to negotiate an East African settlement.

The battle of words ended this way:- The League Committee concerned with the Ethiopian question has adjourned until April Sixteenth. During that time its chairman is to get in touch with Mussolini on the subject of stopping the war. Foreign Minister Eden put Great Britain on record, by issuing the declaration that unless the peace-making is started by the Sixteenth, London will press for more sanctions against Italy, oil sanctions.

All of this gives the European crisis more ominous color tonight. Mussolini is, ~~showing no sign of yielding an inch. He is~~ determined that his armies shall crush the last vestige of Ethiopian resistance. Then he'll call off the war. In Rome the feeling against England is <sup>again</sup> rising higher. There is renewed talk of a European conflict, statements that if Great Britain wants to fight, very well. Foreign Minister Eden, with his threat of oil sanctions, is defying threats of war.

4

Diplomatic circles in Europe are asking tonight-- who will be the next German Ambassador to London? That's one of the most important posts in statecraft of the world today -- With Germany assiduously trying to get on better terms with England, trying to draw England away from France. Today the German Ambassador in London, ~~Ambassador~~ von Hoesch was sitting at breakfast, when he suddenly collapsed -- from a heart attack. He died a few minutes later, at the age of fifty-four.

Immediately the speculation began -- who will succeed him? Tonight two names are mentioned. It isn't surprising to find that one name is von Ribbentrop, the former wine merchant to whom Hitler has entrusted some of his most delicate diplomatic missions. Von Ribbentrop it was who did the dickering and dealing at <sup>the</sup> a recent conference, when Great Britain was persuaded not to back up France against Germany.

55

The second name is Hans Heinrich Dieckhoff, ~~He is~~ chief of the Anglo-American department of the German Foreign Office. Dieckhoff was von Ribbentrop's aide in the diplomatic high-jinks in London.

Whoever the new ambassador is, he'll have to be good to fill the shoes of von Hoesch, who <sup>certainly</sup> did not represent <sup>any</sup> ~~the~~ clumsy, blustering school of German statecraft. Always turned out in faultless style, he was a striking figure at Diplomatic functions. And he was suave, subtle. A little while ago there was an anti-Nazi demonstration in front of the German Embassy. The police broke it up, after a good deal of rough and tumble battling. Several Bobbies were hurt. The German Ambassador issued an expression of courteous regret that the Bobbies had been thumped. He sent his own secretary to Scotland Yard to ask how the injured police officers were doing. They were doing fine. The ambassador expressed his pleasure to hear it. It was all exceedingly suave.

And the big Zeppelin — the Von Hindenburg came thru that storm safely.

## SOCIAL CREDIT

The collapse of the Social Credit Utopia in Canadian Alberta, is a culmination of the ups and down of an economic theory. It all goes back to fifteen years ago, when over in England a prominent engineer got to thinking about the economic ills of the world - Major Clifford High Douglas. He started preaching the doctrine that the world's financial troubles were caused, not by over-production, but by under-consumption - the lack of purchasing power.

His "Social Credit" scheme was all scientific and complicated, but Major Douglas himself didn't devise any pleasingly simple idea of paying everybody twenty-five dollars a month. That was a new wrinkle introduced by William Aberhart, a big bald-headed Evangelizing preacher of the Canadian prairies. He swept Alberta, and now he's Premier.

At the time of this triumph, Major Douglas said he had his doubts about it. He didn't ~~pr~~ approve of the twenty-five dollar a month

bonus. Moreover, Alberta was a mere province, while Social Credit would have to be put over by a sovereign state with plenty of money. Today's news will give the Major a chance to say: "I told you so", and add that the flop in Alberta is no failure of his own brand of Utopia.

Not a <sup>single</sup> twenty-five dollar dividend found <sup>has</sup> <sup>its way</sup> ~~itself into the~~ <sup>to</sup> jeans of the Alberta farmers. Premier Aberhart hasn't been able to get the money. He tried to borrow from the Dominion government, but that fell through. So Alberta has had to default on a million dollar bond issue, ~~that fell due~~. Instead of a golden treasure to pay out, <sup>now</sup> it's bankruptcy. Aberhart had started to list citizens for the twenty-five dollar payments. But he <sup>has</sup> stopped that now. Today we hear him saying: "We have set aside the whole thing for the time being." And the Premier has become the Evangelizing preacher once more. He spends his spare time at the microphone of <sup>his</sup> ~~the~~ Bible Institute, prophesying the Second Coming of the Saviour. Interpreting the Bible, he says that will occur <sup>it</sup> during a period which he calls "raptures." So instead of twenty-five a month, the Social Credit farmers are getting - raptures.

EASTER

All over the world, the old ritual of Easter time is being observed, from St. Peters in Rome to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, from St. Pauls in London to the moody cathedral at Goa on the Malabar coast of India. <sup>But</sup> for the <sup>full</sup> ~~hol~~ range of contrast, we don't have to go beyond our own country.

58  
In Arizona, the Yaqui Indians are making ready for their strange and terrible rites, a mixture of Christian ceremonies and pagan superstitions. Tomorrow night and Sunday, with the beating of goat-skin drums and the shaking of gourd rattles, they will perform their incredible reenactment of the Crucifixion. An orgy of self-torture - they believe <sup>that</sup> by inflicting pain upon themselves they purify themselves of sin. ~~The authorities don't interfere.~~  
~~The custom is too deeply rooted in the wild religious spirit of the Yaquis.~~ <sup>And</sup> there would be serious trouble if their Easter ritual were stopped.

58 1/2  
From that dark ordeal we can pass on to something light, cheery and amusing - the orchid promenade at Asbury Park. It's an Easter Sunday fashion show, and the winners get great bouquets of orchids. It's strictly for the everyday woman who ~~displays~~

*splurges with*  
~~circles~~ the family bank roll on a new Easter outfit. A four  
dollar dress has the same status as a four hundred dollar turn-out,  
if it looks good. Grandma at sixty will enjoy the same favor as a  
sprightly miss of sixteen, if grandma's dress is sufficiently  
becoming to her years and dignity. ~~the~~ Slinking slender sinuosity  
has no advantage over the fat lady, weight three hundred pounds -  
providing the bulky competitor is arrayed in clothes to make the  
best of her plumpness. *I'd like to be there.*

59  
Today, ~~it is~~ sombre Good Friday, Sunday ~~will be~~ bright, ~~and~~  
joyful Easter. So, skipping a day - Happy Easter and -

974  
SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.