

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Japan has had another experience with the truth that Nature can make war as well as man. The elemental powers can be almost as harsh toward the human race as men toward each other. Japan has had a ten day deluge of tremendous rains, followed by a typhoon -- today. The Island of Oshima has had twenty-seven inches of rain in the past ninety-six hours. And that is tremendous. Enough water has fallen out of the sky in four days to cover the island of Oshima to a depth of two feet and three inches.

While the flood gates of the heavens were being thrown open, water-soaked Japan was told that a typhoon was coming, that old dread storm demon of the China Sea. The Tokyo Weather Bureau announced the approach of the typhoon which it described in these two words - "epoch-making." Moreover, the typhoon was described as driving straight at Tokyo, the metropolis of Japan, And so there was plenty of Far Eastern apprehension, anxiety. A typhoon hitting Tokyo, already half overun by water, promised a fantastic

amount of devastation.

Today the typhoon struck, but at the last minute it swerved. Blowing straight at Tokyo, the great wind shifted its course a little -- the gods of Nippon relented. The typhoon passed just between Japan's two greatest concentrations of human beings and human habitations Tokyo and Osaka. But still huge damage was done. Hundreds of thousands homeless.

Damage to the crops of Japan is immense -- after ten days of deluge climaxed by the typhoon. Grave fears are expressed for the rice crop -- that Japanese necessity. Tonight Japan is reckoning its injury, as the typhoon is sweeping across the China Sea.

Late this afternoon President Roosevelt told the White House Press Conference something that he had just learned - information that had been given to him only a few minutes before. Japan has imposed a complete censorship. Tokyo has put iron-clad restrictions on all communication by radio and cable -- censorship one hundred percent. The President said this had been conveyed to him in a message handed to him by his Naval Aide. He was asked whether he thought the new Japanese censorship meant something important. He replied bluntly -- yes, he did.

A stroke by the Mikado's forces is expected either in the direction of French Indo-China -- or Soviet Siberia.

The Nazis are making an uproar over what they call -- the unmasking of President Roosevelt. Hitler newspapers are printing stories and pictures to show the President is a member of the Masonic Order. They talk about him in connection with what they call -- "A Jewish-Masonic conspiracy." It's ~~xxx~~ all noisy and full of the usual Goebbels kind of mad chatter.

There's complete contradiction in the stories of the Nazi air raid on Moscow. The Germans and the Soviets give each other the lie so completely that it's quite impossible to tell what happened. Berlin reports stupendous devastation, uses all the German adjectives to describe the havoc. Moscow ripped by high explosive, huge fires set by incendiary bombs. The familiar figure of speech "a sea of flames." Berlin says that Moscow was savagely punished in retaliation for Red air forces bombings of Rumanian cities and the Finnish capital, Helsinki.

Soviet dispatches claim that the air raid was a flat failure.

Here's the latest:- Stalin, as Soviet-Commander-in-Chief has just issued a proclamation saying that only one German plane had been able to reach Moscow, one out of two hundred.

On the war front, the German-Soviet accounts are likewise in contradiction -- though they agree on one point. Moscow repeats its familiar claim -- that the Red army lines are holding fast, the blitzkrieg stalled.

The Germans, on their side, do not claim any large advances. We have only one unofficial Berlin statement, which

would seem to place the most advanced point of the Nazi spearhead about a hundred miles from Moscow -- (considerably beyond the key city of Smolensk. This claim, however, is decidedly vague.

The Berlin version of the battle is that the blitzkrieg machine is driving on, because it's busily engaged in rounding up Soviet forces which have been isolated. The contention is repeated more strongly than ever that the Red Army has been cut into sections. We are even told that there's no real centralized Red Army command now -- Soviet units defending themselves stubbornly on their own.

In the sector of Britain -- the air war raids were fiercer today . The British busy with their bombing raids - the Germans fighting back in the sky more strongly than before -- so it would appear from today's Berlin story. This tells of great air fights between fleets of warplanes high above the English Channel.

## MILITARY SERVICE

The opinion of newspapermen in Washington is that congressional opposition is weakening -- in the fight to keep the men in the army for more than a year.

The Senate Military Affairs Committee is going on with its hearings. Today appeared General John McCauley Palmer, who was World War Assistant Chief of Staff under General Pershing. He stated that the German General Staff has aimed at world conquest ever since its defeat in the last War. That would imply that world conquest plans were formed even before the rise ~~of~~ of Hitler. General Palmer said that this far flung Teutonic ambition must include the conquest of the United States. So, therefore, he spoke strongly in favor of letting the army keep the selective service men and National Guardsmen for the duration of the emergency.

Witnesses in opposition had their say today. A minister representing a peace society told the Committee that Congress would be justified in changing the ~~the~~ selective service act only by declaring a state of national emergency, and this, said he, would be taken by the country as a virtual declaration of war.

A statement from Oswald Garrison Villard was read -  
he's Honorary Chairman of the Keep-America-Out-Of-War-Congress.  
Villard said that to extend the term of service beyond one year  
would be what he termed - "another long step in the direction of  
a dictatorship and the destruction of the American republic."



## SABOTEURS

The Senate today okayed legislation to give the Navy authority to establish a secret force for the protection of naval plants. The Senators were given confidential information about employees who might be suspected of possible sabotage at the big navy yards. For example -- the great Mare Island navy Yard in California. The Senators were told the following:- "The estimated number of civilian suspects in that yard at present is approximately four hundred. Of course," continues the report, "none of these have been thoroughly investigated, due to the lack of experienced trained investigators." Now, however, that lack will be remedied - with the Senate appropriating a million dollars to give the Navy the means of protection.

## PLANES

A Committee of the House of Representatives was told today that the delivery of war planes to the Navy is twenty per cent below schedule. This was stated by Admiral Towers, Chief of the Bureau of Aeronautics. He said that for the first six months of this year the schedule called for nineteen hundred and ninety-seven planes. The actual number turned out and delivered to the Navy was fifteen hundred and forty-seven. Twenty per cent below expectations.

The Admiral added that there was no longer any hope that the schedule of deliveries for Nineteen Forty-One could be met. What's the reason? Admiral Towers said it was simply because manufacturers have been unable to turn the planes out fast enough. He also cited the fact that the construction of huge bombers <sup>for</sup> ~~for~~ the Army would slow down production for the Navy. The Army bombers have priority - the right of way.

## ERICKSON

One of New York's most publicized characters, makes the headlines again -- Frank Erickson, a bookmaker and gambler who has long been denounced and excoriated by Mayor LaGuardia of New York.

The latest Erickson headline, however, emanates from New Jersey - where at the town of Butler, a wealthy New York broker today filed a complaint charging atrocious assault with intent to kill. His name is Milton Untermeyer, and he claims that the gambler and bookmaker tried to stab him to death.

This happened more than a month ago, but nothing much has been said until now. The story the Wall Street man tells is that Erickson and two women called at his country home in New Jersey. One of the women is identified as a prominent golfer. The visit resulted in a party, and the party resulted in a fight. The story is that Broker Untermeyer resented a remark that Erickson made to one of the women -- not exactly a compliment. He intervened, and soon afterward was in a hospital -- where nine stitches were required to sew up a slash in his face, and two stiches were needed for a scalp wound. Moreover, his jaw was broken -- so he says. Apparently it was quite a party.

Now after a month, the affair gets into the realm of the

law, and New Jersey has asked the New York police to arrest Bookmaker Erickson. They say the New York cops know where to lay their hands on him -- the gambler whom the Mayor has been trying to run out of town.

## PRISONER

Today in the grim prison at Dannemora, New York, a convict had his way. He wanted the death penalty to be inflicted on him, but the law wouldn't do it.

Lorenzo Celline, jealous in a love affair, killed the stewardess of a ship. He was convicted and sentenced to the electric chair, but the Governor intervened, commuted the sentence. Celline protested against the official act of mercy. He insisted that his execution take place, and he wept with bitter sobs when his demand was refused. This was three weeks ago, and today the convict had his way. In prison -- he hanged himself, executing the justice the state was too merciful to exact.

## SCHOONER

In a San Francisco court today, was enacted a culminating incident in a bitter, fantastic tragedy, A petition was filed to prevent the disclosure of the contents of the log of a ship. Keep that nautical record secret -- otherwise a woman may go mad.

The ship in question was the Schooner WING ON, which some while ago sailed to the South Seas on an adventure of romance. Pearl hunting, a quest for the shimmering, glowing gem of the sea. The pearl hunters were two married couples, Mrs. and Mrs. Chester Thompson, and Mr. and Mrs. Delton Conly. Out into the Pacific and down to southern latitudes they navigated in their sailing ship, steering a course for lonely isles where brown men and black men dive for pearls. There a frightful misadventure befell them.

In the Fiji Islands, some missionaries found the schooner, WING ON wrecked, lodged on a coral reef. The pearl hunters had perished of hunger and thirst, all save one -- Mrs. Chester Thompson. She remained hardly alive.

They nursed her back to strength of body, but not of mind. She remained in a daze, a blank -- her mental faculties shocked to numbness by the frightful ordeal. And so she still remains, having

been brought back home -- to California. There, they are trying to restore her to normal.

The doctors attending her are afraid of one thing -- the log of the WING ON, the ship's record. The log was written by day after day by Mrs. Thompson's husband and the others, and its entires tell the tale to the bitter end. The doctors are afraid it will be published, and come to the attention of the dazed woman. Her memory is now a blank, a merciful blank. Recollection must be brought to her gradually and skillfully by competent psychiatrists -- otherwise she may forever lose her sanity. Hence the injunction proceedings in San Francisco today -- asking the court to prevent the publication of the log of the schooner WING ON.

## UMPIRE

A danger to our national game of baseball was averted today -- a budding peril that had dire possibilities. The hero is George Sisler, one-time star first-baseman of the big leagues, and now High Commissioner of semi-pro baseball. The great Sisler checked a move that might ultimately have ended in the abolition of that supreme American institution - the umpire.

Something new was proposed for the National Sandlot Tournament at Wichita, Kansas. It was a technological marvel to do away with the insistent kicking about balls and strikes. Don't leave that to the umpire any more. He's only a human being and is fallible -- that was the idea. A new gadget was proposed, something with beams of light -- on the order of the light rays that record the winner in a horse race. They have invented a mechanical system whereby light beams will register whether or not a ball thrown to the batter is over the plate and high or low enough to make it a strike. Super scientific. There'd be no kicking about that -- the way they squawk at the umpire.

But high Commissioner George Sisler stepped in and said "No!" And he added these noble words: "I feel it is detrimental to baseball," said he, "because it is designed eventually to



eliminate an essential part of the game - the umpire behind the plate."

Of course, having eliminated the umpire behind the plate, the scientists would go on and eliminate the umpire's at the bases. They'd find a machine to tell whether a runner was safe or out. And so we'd have no umpires at all. That would be sad. The old refrain:--"Kill the umpire" would be gone forever.

## MARRIAGE

The charges that wives make against their husbands are sometimes breath-taking. In New York today, a doctor's lady sued for separation, and among ~~the~~ the complaints listed are the following: He had a bad temper. One evening he smashed several chairs in the living room. Another time he threw two dozen eggs on the kitchen floor and jumped up and down on them -- making a foot omelet.

He was unkind to wife, even cruel. On one occasion he poured hot soup in her lap, - why waste the soup? Another time he stuffed a pillow in her mouth and that must have been breath-taking! Which brings us breathlessly to Hugh James.