

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1939.

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GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

All day we've been waiting, wondering whether President Roosevelt would make any reply to the criticisms and sneers of the Communist Soviet Premier Molotov. Earlier in the day, a caustic statement was issued from the White House, but it did not expressly come from the President himself. It was uttered by his secretary, Steve Early, who made a point of saying that he didn't know whether his chief had read the text of the Molotov speech. However, observers remembered that presidential secretaries are not encouraged to make public utterances of which the boss doesn't approve. The gist of Early's remarks was the hint that Molotov had chosen that particular moment for his criticisms of American foreign policy, when he knew the House was about to vote on the Neutrality Bill.

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There the matter seemed to rest. But just a few minutes ago, there came another dispatch from the White House. This was a

reply from President Roosevelt himself, an implicit slap at the Soviet Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary. The President made public the text of messages that had passed between himself and Kalinin, President of the Soviet Union. As long ago as last April, Kalinin cabled Mr. Roosevelt profound sympathy with his appeal to Chancellor Hitler to preserve the peace of the world.

On April Sixteenth, Kalinin cabled the President:-

"Cordial congratulations and profound sympathy with the noble appeal which you have addressed to the governments of Germany and Italy." And the Soviet President adds: "You may rest assured that your initiative finds most ardent response in the hearts of the people of the Soviet Socialist Union."

Mr. Roosevelt replied to Kalinin that his views were similar to those expressed by the heads of numerous other states.

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The documents the President has just released indicate that the Soviets promised not to attack any small nation.

NEUTRALITY FOLLOW ~~EARLY~~

If Molotov did time his speech so as to influence Congress, it was a boomerang, for the first reaction to be heard in the House was a proposal that we should retaliate against the Soviet. Democratic Representative McCormack of Massachusetts, pronounced Molotov's criticism on the repeal of the Arms Embargo to be a flagrant violation of international law. So he voiced a demand that our Ambassador to Moscow should be recalled. McCormack's remarks were greeted with loud cheers in the House.

Sam Rayburn of Texas, Majority Leader, started a move to shorten up ~~the~~^e debate on neutrality. ~~In the House.~~ He asked ~~a~~ unanimous consent that Congressmen stop talking tomorrow and start voting on amendments. ~~He didn't get to first base.~~ Republican Schaefer of Wisconsin promptly objected. However, Sam Rayburn is going to move for a cloture^h of debate at two o'clock tomorrow.

Minority Leader, Joe Martin of Massachusetts, announced himself officially opposed to any motion to send the lawmakers home after they've settled the neutrality business. The Republican leader declared it was his judgment that the people of the United

States want Congress to remain in session, to work for peace in keeping the country out of war and improving our domestic situation. Aside from the war matter, he said there ~~is~~ are a number of serious problems that need to be met, unemployment, distress among farmers, the railroads in trouble, and national defense.

SOVIET

Having digested the speech of Premier Molotov, the Supreme Council of the Soviet Union got down to business today. Their first action was to admit western Ukrania into their Union. That's the territory that used to be Polish, now occupied by Stalin's Red army. The vote was taken on the motion of the Vice-Premier of the Union, who said:- "Never again will Polish landlords enslave the western Ukrainians."

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One can't help speculate how that slogan and the vote will ring in the ears of the landlords of East Prussia. ^{For} They are ~~landlords~~ ^{property owners} of exactly the same type as the big Polish land-owners. And now the conquest of Poland has placed upon their borders a system so avowedly and ostensibly inimical to them.

FINLAND

(Here's the answer of the Finns to the Soviet demands, the Finnish retort to the speech made by Soviet Premier Molotov before the Supreme Soviet Council. Finland will firmly resist any attempt by Red Russia to penetrate Finnish territory.) The military and territorial concessions that Molotov asked are described as completely unacceptable. ~~These terms came~~ from the mouth of Eljas Erkko, the Foreign Minister at Helsingfors. *and* That makes it ~~pretty much~~ official.

The Finnish Foreign Minister ^{*took*} ~~is taking~~ his courage in both hands, for he minced no words. He said the Soviet demands are incompatible with respect for the neutrality of Finland, the respect that Stalin and Molotov had previously guaranteed. In other words, Stalin and Molotov went flagrantly back on their own words.

FLINT

Then there's the CITY OF FLINT, still an international problem, still a question-mark on both sides of the Atlantic. A cable from Oslo, capital of Norway, brings a report that she's steaming south, keeping inside the territorial waters of Norway, and sometime tonight will be in the latitude of Bergen. That would place her between the coast of Norway and the Shetland Islands. How do we know that the CITY OF FLINT is thereabouts? The cable from Oslo says that "advices indicate", but it doesn't say whose advices.

In London it is ^{stated} ~~said~~ that the British Navy might even let the CITY OF FLINT get by, not try to intercept her. The idea is not to give the Nazis an excuse to scuttle the ship that has been such a source of international argument. ~~and~~ ^{Who} says that this has been contemplated by the British Navy? "Well informed sources," whoever they may be.

And in Berlin it is announced by an authorized source that the American crew of the captured freighter is ⁱⁿ no danger from the Nazis. It is not to be feared that they ~~will be endangered by~~ ^{might be imperilled by}

anything from the German side. But the Nazis add that they have no information about the CITY OF FLINT.

POST-CARDS

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Dr. Goebbels, Hitler's Propaganda Minister, has made a ruling. It sounds as though it might be a reaction to Mussolini's move in firing the most pro-German members of his Cabinet. Goebbels has forbidden the sale of picture post-cards which showed Fuehrer Hitler and Duce Mussolini together. Underneath the picture was the legend, "Fuehrer and Duce have decided - Peace." ~~However~~ Goebbels has also forbidden the sale of the literature that carried the inscription, "Adolf Hitler, our Peace Leader."

FOOD

The Germans are not the only belligerents who are going to feel the pinch of war at their breakfast and dinner tables.

(Six weeks from now, the civilian population of Great Britain will go on rations.) Not as severe as ~~the~~ ⁱⁿ German ~~rations~~, nevertheless a decided limitation of the Englishman's diet, particularly his breakfast, at which he ~~xxx~~ usually eats a menu that makes the average ^{city} American almost faint ~~over~~ to contemplate. ~~It~~ There is to be ~~meritism~~ no rationing of meat. But bacon - only four ounces a week for each person. Most Britishers that I have known eat four ounces for breakfast, and that's just to top off his oatmeal, kippered herring, and two or three eggs, with maybe a couple of sausages thrown in. ~~But~~ There's to be no rationing of bread, so he can have all the toast and marmalade he wants. But he'll have to go easy on the butter, four ounces a week, just the same as the German allowance. Outside of butter he can have all the fats he wants. In Germany they're restricted to eight ounces a week, with six pounds of bread.

In Britain there's no mention of any rationing of beer. During the last war, the Lloyd George government tried to

cut down on the Britisher's ^{beer and stout,} ~~beer~~, with unhappy results. Working men threw down their tools and raised the shout, "No beer, no work." P.S. They got their beer.

The Food Minister intimated to the House of Commons today, that this rationing, which will start in mid-December, might be temporary. What he said exactly was, "Supplies in sight are ample to meet all reasonable requirements for both the armed forces and the civilian population." In fact, he expected that imported supplies of food would become larger, rather than smaller, in the future.

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And he said further that he had volunteered the last time because he had a farm in Canada. They told him he was in the army to protect his farm from the Germans, but after he came back he found that it wasn't the Germans but the people he had gone to fight for, against whom he needed protection.

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OBJECTOR

There was ~~an amazing~~ ^{a strange} scene in a British courtroom at

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London today. The case being tried was that of a conscientious objector, a young man who applied to be excused from going to war. The man who made the scene was the conscientious objector's father, a veteran of the last war. And the amazing part about it was not so much the passion and feeling of that veteran but the enthusiastic applause he got from the crowd in the courtroom. That World War veteran told the judge that, having suffered in a hospital for five years, two of them on his back, and having been fed by other people, he determined that if he ever got out he would discourage his son from ever taking part in what he called "such dirty and filthy work."

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give the people in the gallery opportunity to leave quietly."

Thereupon the applause became more thunderous than ever. The judge, annoyed, had the court cleared by the bailiffs. Thereupon there were shouts of "Dictator!" "We want a fair deal," cried the spectators, and others shouted, "This should not be done behind closed doors." Some of the women refused to leave and had to be ejected by force.

Tonight, the affair of the COULMORE is a bit of a mystery. After that first call for help was received in the United States, the COULMORE'S radio apparently went dead. Our naval and Coast Guard planes were sent out to try to get in communication with the distressed vessel, but no answer.

A couple of Coast Guard planes went out, one from Cape May, New Jersey, and another from New York, ^{They} flew close to the place where the British freighter had been reported. Bad weather forced them back without sight of any sign or trace of the COULMORE. The Coast Guard cutter HIBB -- why do they give

COULMORE

There has been a good deal of excitement all day because it appeared that the war had come close to our shores. The distress call from the British freighter COULMORE, sent a flotilla of rescue ships and planes to a spot where she was supposed to be. Later calculations made it evident that she wasn't as close as ~~she~~ was first supposed. Uncle Sam's Coast Guard officials reckoned ~~her~~ ^{her} ~~some four hundred and fifty miles~~ off the coast of New England; ~~That's plenty close enough, but still~~ ^{but} not within the three hundred mile limit laid down in the declaration at Panama.

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A couple of Coast Guard planes went out, one from Cape May, New Jersey, and another from New York, ^{They} flew close to the place where the British freighter had been reported. Bad weather forced them back without sight of any sign or trace of the COULMORE. The Coast Guard Cutter BIBB -- why do they give

our Coast Guard craft such comic names? - Anyway, the Coast Guard Cutter BIBB reached the spot on the map where the COULMORE should have been but saw nothing. Not even any wreckage.

~~According to still later calculations, the position reported by the COULMORE radio operator when he called for help was five hundred and thirty miles east by south of Boston; six hundred and eighty miles due east of New York.~~ Officers of the Coast Guard and the Navy are now visualizing the possibility that the call for help may have been a hoax. If so, a surely mischievous and even criminal joke.

TRADE AGREEMENTS

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An important Republican and a leading Democratic Senator, are of one mind on one point. Senator Borah of Idaho and Senator Key Pitman of Nevada, Ex-Chairman and ^{respectively} Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, say the same thing about Secretary Hull's reciprocal program for reciprocal trade agreements with other countries. Senator Borah declared that in the west it would be one of the major issues in next year's presidential campaign. Pitman, also a westerner, agrees with him. Says Borah:- "Our farmers are beginning to wake up to the situation." He wants the law repealed; return to Congress the right to fix tariffs and make agreements with other countries. Pitman concurs in this, but adds that he'd be satisfied if the act were amended to provide that all those reciprocal trade tariff agreements should be subject to okay by the Senate.

GLOUCESTER

American correspondents on the Western Front were having tea - or something - in a little roadside French ^{estaminet} ~~cafe~~, today.

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Into that tiny room, sixteen foot square, reeking with smoke, marched a British general and his aide. It was Major-General, His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester, brother of King George the Sixth. He tossed aside his steaming wet trench coat, sat down to a cup of tea or something, and started chatting freely with the American reporters. He told them that since he had come to France to join the British Expeditionary Force, he had talked twice with his brother, Major-General H.R.H., the Duke of Windsor. He told the newspaper men that he had found the British troops in good spirits, making the best of boredom and bad weather, which are at present the chief affliction of the soldiers on the West Front.

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The Duke said that the British Tommies have invented a new race. They take wheel-barrows and put live frogs in them. Then they race with the wheelbarrows. If ~~one of~~ your frogs jumps out, you have to catch him and put him back before you ~~can~~ go on with the race. ^{and} You have to arrive at the finish line with your