

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1939.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

(A late message from Washington; ~~just off the wire~~
~~is~~ a proclamation by the President; a warning to foreign
submarine commanders. Undersea warships belonging to the
belligerent nations must keep out of the harbors, ports and
territorial waters of the United States.)

This is not an arbitrary action on the part of
President Roosevelt and has nothing to do with the declaration
at Panama. The proclamation which the President has just issued was
made mandatory upon him by the Neutrality Act, the same Neutrality
Act that he wants repealed.

He mentions the belligerent nations by name. His
proclamation reads:- "I declare and proclaim that it shall
hereafter be unlawful for any submarine of France, Germany, Poland,
or the United Kingdom, India, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, or
the Union of South Africa, to enter ports or territorial waters
of the United States."

The proclamation then goes on to state the exceptions laid down by Congress in the Neutrality Act. "Submarines which are forced into the ports or territorial waters of the United States, may enter under certain conditions and restrictions. They may enter and leave only while running on the surface with their conning tower and superstructure above water and flying the flags of the states ~~to~~ which they ^{belong} ~~are vessels~~. In order to be ~~permitted~~ thus permitted to enter, they must be literally forced either by accident or pursuit by ^{an} ~~superior~~ enemy. ~~force~~

It is noted that the proclamation doesn't define the area or extent of territorial waters. Lacking such a definition, the usage of international law will apply, meaning the three-mile limit.

The Neutrality Act provides that the President can, at his discretion, extend this prohibition to the armed merchant vessels of belligerent powers. That would exclude British liners. So far Mr. Roosevelt has not seen fit to invoke that part of the Neutrality Law.

ROOSEVELT

The message which President Roosevelt sent to Stockholm today came at an important moment. The conference of the Baltic nations began today at the Swedish capital. The President used these words in his telegram to King Gustav:- "Under the circumstances which exist, this government joins with the governments of the other American republics in expressing its support of the principles of neutrality and order under law for which the nations represented at the Stockholm conference have, throughout their history, taken a consistent stand." *That was a long sentence. If the President*
~~Mr. Roosevelt, therefore,~~ *for* was talking not only for the government of the United States ~~for~~ but all the twenty-one republics of the Western Hemisphere. It was the government of Argentina that first suggested *his* ~~to Mr. Roosevelt the~~ sending of ~~the~~ *the* message.
A

FINLAND

(The Government of Finland today addressed a question to the three Scandinavian powers, Sweden, Norway and Denmark. The question was, "What help can we expect if we're invaded and try to defend ourselves?")

This information isn't official - it's a report that comes from Stockholm. So far there's no ^{word} ~~report~~ of any answer having been made by the governments of the three Scandinavian countries. It is said in Stockholm that they are waiting to study the situation more thoroughly.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The people of little Esthonia were cut off today from all contact with the rest of the world. Soviet Russian troops were marching in and occupying the military bases which Esthonia had granted by agreement at the cannon's mouth. So all telephone and radio communication was shut down under strict military censorship. ~~enforced~~. The invading Russian troops were led by Soviet air squadrons flying in advance and flying close to the soil.

RUSSO-TURK

There was rejoicing in Great Britain today over the collapse of negotiations between Soviet Russia and Turkey.

But the British Foreign Office said, "Don't cheer too soon! We don't know yet what happened." said London, officially. "Even the government doesn't know the details of what went on during the Turkish Foreign Minister's visit to Moscow," says the Foreign Office. The guesses and surmises which foreign correspondents have published, adds the British official spokesman, "do not square with the facts, as known to the government."

Judgment from statements published in Turkey, the Hitch in the negotiations was over control of the Dardanelles and the Balkans.

In Italy too there was joy over the collapse of the negotiations; for a different reason. The hope that Communism cannot spread any further in the Near East. This is the feeling not only of the Fascist government but of course of the Vatican. The official newspaper of the Vatican was particularly jubilant in praise of the firm attitude of Mohammedan Turkey.

WAR

The most important news about the war today is not something that has happened, but something that seems to be about to happen. Evidently, there ^{is} going to be a terrific German push on the Western Front, a massed hurling of myriad tons of shells and hundreds of thousands of soldiers ^{against} ~~upon~~ the French defenses. In fact it sounds as though it might become a repetition of the desperate attacks on Verdun in the last war.

Observers, sent out by the French army, report that there's a huge concentration of German troops along the Rhine for a front of ninety miles. ~~long~~ Hitler's generals are said to have eight hundred thousand men massed behind the Siegfried Line. Railroads and highways in that part of Germany are clogged for miles with troop movements. And as a preliminary to the big push, the German advance guard smashed into the French lines and drove out the French soldiers that had been occupying the land between the Saar and the ~~Maxxelle Riverxx~~ Moselle Rivers. This information, by the way, comes from France, and not from German sources.

BATTLE

Again the report of a naval battle. But this time it comes from Holland and sounds a trifle more plausible. For the engagement is reported to have been between six warships and twelve airplanes.

~~It is supposed~~ ^{Said} to have been seen by eye-witnesses on an island off the north coast of the Netherlands.

*Details lacking.
Story still to be confirmed.*

ATTLEE

British anger over the success of German air raids has reached the boiling point. Today, for the first time since the war began, biting criticism of the British government was hurled forth in the House of Commons. Clement Attlee, leader of the Laborites, asked some caustic questions. Why, he wanted to know, were those attacks from the air on the warships in the Firth of Forth not defended until the German bombers were actually over the river? Then he picked on the sinking of a capital ship, the ROYAL OAK, while in apparent safety at the British Scapa Flow base.

~~Clement~~ Attlee hoped the government would soon offer the Commons a detailed report about that calamity, its why and wherefor, and an explanation of how a submarine could get in to Scapa Flow.

PRIEN

The Commander of the U-boat that pulled off that ^{the Scapa Flow feat} ~~stunt~~

talks as though he hadn't had much difficulty with it. He says he creeps in cautiously, avoiding the mines, fired one torpedo at the ROYAL OAK, then two more. The first thing the submarine commander saw was one huge waterspout after another, then a terrific series of explosions, a fireworks display such as he had never seen before. Then he turned and fired another torpedo at a battle cruiser, the REPULSE. After loosing the torpedo, he distinctly saw another huge waterspout at the bow of the REPULSE. Then he turned and fled through the mine field ~~field~~ unharmed, to the open sea.

Prien and his crew were given a triumph in Berlin.

Workers in the factories ^{had} ~~were given~~ a few hours off so ~~that~~ they could line the streets and cheer the personnel of that victorious U-boat. ~~They were officially decorated by Fuehrer Hitler himself.~~

DIES

Rockwell Kent, the artist, is sore at the Dies Committee.

The other day, the Congressmen heard a witness testify first, that Kent was a Communist; second, that the Department of the Interior had paid him forty thousand dollars for a mural that he had painted. Kent has written a letter to the Dies Committee, demanding that it cease giving publicity to slanderous, backstage gossip. He is not a Communist, he said, never has been, never has been even influenced by Communists. Then he took a fling at J.B.Mathew, the investigator for the Committee. And Kent added:-
~~that~~ "As a taxpayer and therefore one of Mathews' employers, I protest to you that he is unfit for the work upon which your Committee has employed him."

Dept. of Interior

As for the forty thousand dollar mural, he said,

all he had ever been paid was three thousand, five hundred dollars

Dept. by the Treasury, ~~and that was~~ *But* for two murals. The Department of

the Interior had paid him nothing.

WAGE-HOUR

Still further upheavals are due in the administration of the Wage-Hour Law. The abrupt resignation of Elmer Andrews, is to be followed by many changes among the higher officials. ~~of the administration~~ At present Miss Perkins, Secretary of Labor, is in control. That is supposed to be temporary, just waiting for ^{from St. Paul} the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel Fleming, the new Administrator. ~~from St. Paul.~~

It has been predicted for some time in Washington that these upheavals would take place, that Miss Perkins was using all her influence to persuade the President to make changes in the Wage-Hour administration. The first intimation Elmer Andrews had that the President was going to shift him into another job came from Miss Perkins herself. On top of that, she called in his two principal assistants, and made them resign.

Now we hear that all this is likely to have some lively repercussions in Congress. When the Wage-Hour Law was enacted, the legislators deliberately declined to hand it over in charge of Miss Perkins. So there'll be ^{some} ~~not a few~~ legislators ^{it all.} who may not like ~~what is happening.~~ That is the Washington rumor.

GALLOGLY

Governor O'Daniel of Texas has ~~finally~~ taken action in the case of Richard Gallogly, the rich young convict who escaped from the Georgia Penitentiary. The Texas Governor ^{today} signed the extradition paper, and ~~he~~ explained that it's an error to suppose that the Governor of any state in extradition hearings should decide the guilt or innocence of a fugitive from justice. He intimated that it would not be courtesy to the governor and citizenry of another state for him to override the decisions of the law courts of Georgia. ~~And he said:~~ ^{he added} "There is no doubt in my mind ^{""} that Richard Gallogly compelled two Georgia prison guards to abandon the car in which they were transporting him and then used the prison guards' car in making his escape." For that reason, ^{the Governor} ~~he~~ signed ² ~~these~~ extradition papers.

Gallogly's lawyers are making one last effort. They will try for a writ of habeas corpus as a last resort to save Gallogly from going back to the Georgia prison.

SHIPS

People on land had better be thankful they weren't traveling on the North Atlantic the last couple of days. The storm from all accounts and judging by what it did was terrific, almost historic. Evidently the American liner, PRESIDENT HARDING, caught the brunt of the gale. The latest message from her master is that no fewer than seventy-three of her passengers and crew had been hurt. Twenty-three of them were injured seriously. In addition to which one sailor is missing and believed to have been blown overboard.

Earlier in the day, we heard that the gale was so bad and the condition of the injured passengers so serious, that Captain Roberts thought he would have to put ^{at} ~~into~~ Halifax, Nova Scotia, before proceeding to New York. Later in the day, however, he radioed ^{in to} ~~into~~ his home office that ~~there was no bad~~ ^{was in no danger} ~~damage to~~ the ship and that he was coming straight into New York.

He had to send out a distress call for extra medical supplies. And these were put aboard the battered liner ^{today} by a naval vessel whose identity was not made public.

EXPLOSION

Shortly before nine o'clock this morning, the people living in Eldred, Pennsylvania, heard a terrific noise. It was an explosion whose vibrations were felt as many as seven miles away. The noise was even heard in New York State. A stone building, used as a mixing plant, by the National Powder Company of Eldred, had blown up with that terrific roar, and left nothing but a hole in the ground. Five men were killed. ~~Fortunately, for the others, the disaster did not spread to the other buildings of the plant.~~

^{They}
~~The men who were killed~~ were mixing dynamite and something happened to the mixture.

HUTTON

The chronicles of the Wollworth-Hutton family became news again. Countess Barbara, and her papa, both in the spotlight.

When the Italian Liner CONTE diSAVOIA sailed from Naples, American bound, it became public that the passenger list included Countess Barbara and her little son Lance. Then came word that the Count, her divorced husband, Haugwitz-Reventlow, was a fellow passenger with his ex-wife and little son. And at the same time we learn that the gentleman who has been mentioned by gossips as a possible successor to the Count is also aboard the Italian ship.

And now as the Countess lands on her native shores, she will find her own papa in the spotlight. Franklyn L. Hutton, today published an advertisement in New York newspapers, announcing to the world at large that he would no more be responsible for any debts or obligations contracted by his wife. She is not the mother of Countess Barbara.

Just another page in the lively annals of the nickel and dime fortune.

SAFETY

Any chronic pedestrians who happened to be in Atlantic City today, might have heard harsh things about themselves. There was a meeting of the Special Committee of the National Safety Congress, and that Committee brought in a caustic bill of charges. It is the carelessness of those who travel the highways on Shanks's pony that causes most accidents to pedestrians. The pedestrian, said the Committee, drinks more than motorists, breaks traffic regulations, throws common sense out of the window, and ignores what protection he gets. Thirteen per cent of the pedestrians killed last year had been drinking. On the other hand, of all drivers who were mixed up in fatal accidents, only nine per cent were found to have been under the influence.

In other words ~~are~~ ride in automobiles and use Blue Sunoco. Would you recommend that Hugh before I sign off?

S-L-U-T-M