

Conrad

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

When sixteen hundred people are rescued from a blazing vessel on the high seas, that ^{is} a story ~~indeed!~~
~~It is~~ a story that great writers of ^{tales of the sea,} ~~sea tales,~~ Joseph Conrad or W.S. McFee, or Captain Marryatt would have given a great deal to report. Sixteen hundred people rescued by three of Uncle Sam's warships somewhere in the Atlantic! ~~What a sight that must have been!~~

The naval transport WAKEFIELD, ^{of} twenty-four thousand tons, caught fire at sea on the evening of September Third. The authorities do ^{nt} ~~not~~ yet know, or at any rate ~~do not~~ ^{they don't} tell, how the fire started. The WAKEFIELD, ^{by the way, once was} ~~incidentally~~ ~~used to be~~ the United States liner MANHATTAN. ~~There were sixteen hundred aboard her,~~

~~some thousand passengers and a crew of six hundred.~~

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The flames were first discovered pouring out of a passenger's cabin, at six bells, five o'clock in the evening Eastern War Time, *And in no time the blaze was racing* ~~Before long they were racing~~ down the corridors of B deck.

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The WAKEFIELD was part of a convoy at the time. When the flames broke out, the master of the WAKEFIELD, Commander Harold Bradbury of Uncle Sam's Coast Guard, broke convoy rules and used his radio. He sent out the message:- "I am on fire." Within ten minutes a cruiser and two destroyers of the convoy escort were alongside. In record time two hundred and twenty-eight passengers were taken aboard one of the destroyers. Most of the ~~other~~ passenger list of a *(men women and children)* thousand were trans-shipped to the cruiser.

All this was done at the gravest and most imminent risk. *For* The flames from the WAKEFIELD were visible on the



high seas for ^{miles.} ~~a distance of more than ten miles.~~ It was
 an open invitation to ^{lurking} ~~any~~ enemy U-boats. ~~that happened to~~
~~be within striking distance.~~ But the Commander of the
 convoy escort disregarded the danger. ~~In action he~~
~~repeated the historic words of Farragut: "Damn the~~
~~torpedoes, go ahead."~~

Evidently ^{it all} ~~this~~ happened ^{when} ~~while~~ the convoy was
 nearing home. ~~It had been a remarkably uneventful~~
~~crossing. Officers and crew were being grateful for a~~
~~successful voyage and no submarine alerts.~~ ^{Anyhow,} The disaster
 when it came, ^{came} ~~struck~~ quickly. ~~The~~ Men, women and children
~~had to be~~ ^{were} taken off ^{the} ~~that~~ ~~blazing~~ liner ~~with~~
~~the utmost speed.~~ ~~Few of them could be allowed to take~~
~~anything with them except what they had~~ ~~on~~ ~~their~~ ~~backs.~~
~~on their backs.~~

The Commander of the convoy wanted to take the
 crew of the WAKEFIELD off as well as the passengers, but

Commander Bradbury and the crew ^{declined the offer,} ~~of the WAKEFIELD declined.~~

They thought they still had a chance of saving their ship. So they kept ^{on and on - battling the} ~~at it, battling with the spreading~~

flame. ^{S.P} The WAKEFIELD, ^{was} ~~was~~ presently invisible to the

^{rest} ~~ships~~ of the convoy. ~~for she was~~ Completely shrouded

by clouds of smoke and ~~of~~ steam from the water that ~~the~~

crew ~~was~~ playing ^{ed} on the flames. ^{While her} ~~Braving the danger from~~

^{neighbor ships of} ~~enemy submarines,~~ the convoy and destroyers kept

circling ~~around and around, the burning liner.~~

An hour and a half after the fire was discovered, Commander Bradbury still felt confident that he could save the ship. ~~The conveying cruiser steamed~~

~~away.~~ But ten minutes later ^{he} ~~Bradbury~~ radioed ~~a message~~

^{8 1/2} that the fire had broken out with new intensity. By

^{And soon it was} ~~eight o'clock the fire appeared to be~~ out of control.

^{And} ~~Twenty minutes later~~ the master and crew ^{had to} ~~abandoned~~ ^{her,} ~~ship.~~

The flames burned out the super-structure. ~~But later,~~



Later on her skipper
~~when their intensity had subsided, Commander Bradbury~~

led a party of volunteers back aboard the WAKEFIELD.

They got the fire under control sufficiently to ~~get~~ ^{attach}

tow lines, ~~aboard her.~~ Whereupon tugs and salvage craft
~~dragged~~ ^{towed} her to a port, somewhere on the Atlantic coast.

A charred hulk that was
once the proud liner Manhattan.

And now Hugh.

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VICHY

The Vichy Government of ~~France~~ today came face^d to
~~face with the~~ ^{its} greatest crisis, ~~it has encountered~~ since
Marshal Petain became chief of state, ~~in~~ June, Nineteen
Forty. The general discontent with both the aged Marshal
and Pierre Laval flared out into open and ~~vehement~~ ^{spectacular}
[Dramatic as only the French can make it.]
protest, ^{What makes it most} serious is that it comes from
the leaders of the last Parliament of the Third Republic.
It takes the form of a warning addressed to Petain and
Laval and signed by former Premier Eduard Herriot and
Zhon Zzaniény
Jean Jeanneney as Presidents of the Senate and ~~the~~ Chamber
of Deputies. They took their courage into their hands
and made this historic document public today. ~~Furthermore,~~
And,
they announced that in so doing they spoke for all the
members of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, ~~and~~
~~Not~~ a voice ~~was~~ lifted to contradict them. In other words,
the entire membership of the French Senate and Chamber
are in open conflict with the chief and deputy chief of
state.

In Nineteen Forty, the Parliament of the Third Republic delegated its powers to Petain. Since then the old Marshal ^{hasnt even} ~~never~~ permitted the French ~~lawmakers~~ ^{lawmakers} ~~Parliament to do anything or even~~ to assemble. Finally, as we now learn for the first time, Petain ordered the suppression of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. The publishing of this document tells the world that the French Parliament refuses to be suppressed, even though it may not meet.

Among other warnings, the protest contains these words:- "It is impossible for liberty to die in the country of its birth from where it spread all over the world."

Herriot and his colleagues then sound the caution that if Petain and Laval try to draw France into what they call "war against our allies", France will suffer convulsions with which Petain and Laval will not

be able to cope. The Presidents of the Senate and Chamber accuse Petain of having violated the solemn promises he made to the French Parliament in Nineteen Forty, promises to limit his powers and not to try to drag France into war on the side of the Axis. They use these words:- "You have been misled if you have been told that the country will follow you along the path you are trying to take." And they continue:- "The country has tolerated the measures and the successive governments you have ~~imposed~~ imposed upon it because it could not do anything else. But do not make the foolish attempt of believing that you can win the spirit or the heart of France without which you can accomplish nothing durable."

Petaim, they say, has usurped powers which were not delegated by Parliament. His acts in abolishing the French Republic were illegal.

Herriot and his colleagues/also protest against the imprisonment of two former members of the Popular Front Cabinet. ~~of Premier Leon Blum~~ They go on to say:-

"Not content with having forbidden any legislative activity you have now suppressed all the prerogatives of the members of Parliament. You have deported both Chambers from Vichy to Chatel Guyon. You now want to terminate their existence." And they say later:-

"You must realize that we Republicans will not stay silent against this new attack on republican institutions. You have abolished the principle of elective representation. You have substituted unlimited dictatorship for guarantees which all civilized nations grant. Such acts," they add, "are more than misuse of power."

At the same moment We learn that the Petain
Government is in open conflict with the Catholic Church.

This
~~It is~~
^

on account of the way ~~Pierre~~ Laval has been

treating the Jews. He arrested ten thousand of them,

chiefly emigres from Poland, Czechoslovakia and other

And,
~~he then~~ shipped them in crowded box cars

to Poland, for forced labor. This aroused the vehement

protest of the Church at Rome and public declarations

by several of the foremost Roman Catholic prelates.

As a result of ~~the~~ all those protests, the mass arrests

and deportations of Jews for forced labor were stopped.

TP

But now we learn that Laval has also arrested Catholic

priests in unoccupied France for having sheltered Jewish

children. *Jefferia*
Cardinal Gerrier, Archbishop of Lyons,

refused to authorize the surrender of those Jewish

children who were in the custody of the Roman Catholic

clergy. *TP* Pastoral letters are being read from pulpits

all over unoccupied France, asking French Catholics to

give all help they can to persecuted Jews. The

Military Governor of Lyons refused to furnish troops to help in these mass arrests of Jews, so Laval dismissed him.

All this news lends considerable meaning to conferences that Pierre Laval held at Vichy today. He had a conversation with the chief of the German delegation to Vichy. Then he conferred with the French Ministers of the Army and the Navy. With them was the Commander-in-Chief of the French forces in North Africa.

These may have been routine affairs. But the acute tension in France and the rumors that spread from Vichy and Paris lead to the speculation whether these conferences ^{foreshadow} ~~imply~~ the intention of Petain and Laval to try to drag their country into ^{fighting} ~~fighting~~ side by side with the Germans.

CHURCHILL

Prime Minister Winston Churchill was under fire in the House of Commons today. A Laborite member, Aneurin Bevan, arose on the floor and lashed out with the most savage charges that Churchill has had to hear since he took office in May, Nineteen ^{Forty.} ~~Forty.~~ *This Bevan M.P.* He went so far as to say that the continuation of the Prime Minister in office is a major disaster, and he used these words: *"The Prime Minister"* ~~He~~ no longer is able to summon the spirit of the British people because he represents policies they deeply distrust." *The irate M.P.* ~~Bevan~~ then took up the speech that Churchill made in the Commons yesterday. He spoke scornfully of what Churchill had said about a Second Front and war production in America; *called it* ~~said it was~~ "childish nonsense." And he declared: "We know that American war production is even now less than our own," meaning the British, "and America is running into very considerable difficulty in reorganizing her production."

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He continued: "Germany's economic potential is at least equal to that of Britain and ~~the United~~ America ~~is~~ going all out." He explained this by saying; "Germany is acquiring economic facilities which are more than equal the production capacity of Britain and America combined."

Then he added: -
~~Bevan also said~~ this year with imagination and courage the Germans could have been beaten. ~~The~~ *He* ~~reason,~~ *charged that the Churchill* ~~he declared,~~ ~~"has been because the government~~ *hadn't"* ~~does not have~~ the guts to do it."

~~Bevan said he had no expectation that Churchill would reply because, he declared, Churchill gives information to the newspapers before giving it to the Commons. "The Prime Minister," he said, "is following the example of President Roosevelt."~~

STALIN FOLLOW CHURCHILL

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A story comes out of Moscow that Churchill had a serious disagreement with Soviet Premier Stalin while he was in the Russian capital. This came to light when the controlled Moscow press failed to publish certain paragraphs of the speech Winston Churchill made in London yesterday. It seems ~~that~~ the inner circles in Moscow have known for several days that there ^{were} ~~was~~ serious differences between the British and ~~the~~ Russian points of view ^{concerning} ~~about~~ the conduct of the war. ~~But this was not generally known.~~ ^{with} ~~There is~~ real bitterness in Moscow because the Allies have done ^{little} ~~nothing~~ to relieve the pressure on the Russian front.

^{said to have} Another thing ^{that} increased the bitterness of Russian feeling was Churchill's announcement that the British and American High Commands ^{last July} ~~had~~ reached complete agreement on all phases of military operation. That was news to the Russians and they feel ~~decidedly~~ left out of it because they were not invited to take part

in that conference. From the Russian point of view they are not being treated as full fledged Allies of the British and Americans. They feel that Britain and the United States are planning their war without ^{due}~~any~~ consideration for the needs of Russia.

RUSSIA

What news from Russia?

^ In the Battle of Stalingrad, the Soviet spokesmen admit that the Germans are throwing their reserves against the Red defenders; ~~They are~~ attacking in greater force and ~~with~~ more speed than ever.

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Apparently, the Russians have lost control of the air since it is reported that ~~the~~ Nazi planes have been cruising at their leisure over the Russian positions.

TP The Red army has been fighting without rest or let-up, while the Germans are attacking with fresh troops.

The Berlin high command claims to have captured the heights that dominate Stalingrad from the west. But Moscow says that in the southwest the Nazis have made no progress in five days although they have been redoubling the verocity of their attack. The ground west and southwest of Stalingrad is rolling hills and shallow ravines, most difficult to defend.

And at Novorossisk, the Black Sea naval base,

the situation is critical. ^{there} The Russians are in danger
of being overwhelmed. The Nazis have driven a deep
wedge into the Soviet positions and as they outnumber
the defenders, they are able to attack from all
directions.

EGYPT

Berlin tonight admitted the death in action of Major General George von Bismarck, leader of a crack panzer column in the Egyptian desert.

And ^Q a story from Ankara carries ^a ~~the~~ report concerning Field Marshal Rommel, Commander-in-Chief of the Afrika Korps. Rommel is ill, say the British. They claim to have that information from German prisoners ~~that~~ they captured. That story does not ~~give~~ come from Cairo, ^{and} ~~say~~ it is not official. However, the rumor prevails all over the Middle East that Hitler finds it necessary to replace Rommel.

NEW GUINEA

The Berlin radio tonight broadcast a report that in New Guinea the Japanese had broken through the Australian positions to Kokota and advanced further on the way to Port Moresby.

But this is balanced by a dispatch from General MacArthur's headquarters in Australia. The Australian troops have stabilized their line in the Owen Stanley Mountain Range. ~~They have~~ ^{ing} checked the Japanese advance on Moresby.

Meanwhile, Australian and American heavy bombers are bombarding the Jap base at Buna on the north coast of New Guinea, the jumping off place for the Jap raid. ^{TP} It is admitted that the Japanese have advanced eight miles from Kokota and are near the summit of the pass. At the same time they have made their supply problem more difficult. The Japanese have to haul everything up one side of the mountain to meet the

the Australians. At the same time they have gone through jungles which white men consider impassible.

Meanwhile, the Japs have become more active around ~~the~~ Milne Bay at the southeastern extremity of New Guinea. Although they had their ears bent back on their first attempt to land there, they evidently have not abandoned all hope in that direction.

INFLATION

~~There was a suggestion in Washington today~~
proposes to
~~that~~ Congress ~~will~~ dump the inflation baby back into
^ ^
the lap of President Roosevelt. The ~~suggestion came~~ *news comes* from
^ ^
none other than Speaker Sam Rayburn of the House of
Representatives. Rayburn told reporters that he himself
is in favor of such a move. He and Congressman McCormack
of Massachusetts, the Majority Leader, ~~in the House,~~
were at the White House for more than two hours
consulting with Mr. Roosevelt. Rayburn said:- "We are
going to try to go along with this thing as fast as
possible." Then he added:- "I favor a resolution,
couched in general terms, a joint resolution, giving the
President authority to stabilize all prices and wages
notwithstanding any provision of existing law."

Evidently Majority Leader McCormack was in
agreement, for he remarked that this resolution would
include every factor. However, he added that the nature

of the bill under discussion is general and nothing can be said about it now. Committee action might take some time, he said, and he added that anything can happen.