

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY: --

I am broadcasting tonight from the cab of a railway locomotive -- of all places. It's the latest thing in locomotives -- one hundred and ninety-six feet long. I've been on ocean-going ships not as long as that. And it weighs four hundred and fifty tons. But, before I explain why I'm in the cab of a locomotive, let's take a quick look at the news.

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MARITIME

The longshoremen, lead by Harry Bridges, are threatening to walk out unless their new wage demands are met.

The Waterfront Employers' Association as offered to resume contract negotiations tomorrow; and Secretary of Labor Schwollenbach has appealed to ship operators and union representatives to meet with him on Friday, in Washington, in an effort to head off the strike. So far, the union hasn't responded.

If the long shoremen do go on strike, they've been promised the support of the other unions. In other words, the shipping strike could start all over again.

ICELAND

At noon today, a strike began up in Iceland. The strike, which follows a small outbreak of mob disturbance yesterday, is against proposals for an airbase agreement with the United States.

Washington made a proposal that we reserve the right to use just one American-built flying field as a transit point for our planes flying to and from Germany. This transit point, according to the plan, to be run by American civilians.

The Icelandic government agreed to consider this -- put the matter before the Icelandic Parliament, the Althing or hold a referendum of the Icelanders.

But the Icelandic labor unions oppose any consideration of American use of the airbase. Yesterday a debate on the subject turned into a riot, a crowd trying to attack the Icelandic Premier and other officials; and, today the labor objection took the form of a strike -- scheduled to last for twenty-four hours. Presumably it all ties in with Soviet talk against American plans to have air bases in various parts of the Pacific.

KAISER

In a congressional committee room today, appeared a witness with a jovial expansive air; Henry Kaiser, the Shipbuilder. He talked freely; but after giving evidence for five hours, the Congressmen who questioned him were baffled and bewildered. Probing into the business affairs of the time shipbuilder-- they were unable to get any clear picture of the vast ramifications of the Kaiser empire.

Kaiser again denied that he, on his giant war contracts, had made a profit of four billion dollars.

Indeed, by the time the West Coast industrialist got through with the Merchant Marine Committee today, Committee members were not certain whether to castigate Kaiser or take up a collection for him.

Kaiser told the Committee that, during the war, his companies had come out with a net deficit, of about eighteen million dollars, on war contracts, And -- he was unable to tell them much about the state of his own solvency. Representative McConnell of

Pennsylvania asked this direct and personal question:

"Are you solvent or not?"

Kaiser blinked and replied: "I can't tell now. It depends on what risks and hazards I have to take."

LOWELL THOMAS

(Late Show)
September 24, 1946

FOOD

Whatever the meat situation, and whatever is causing the shortage, there will be "few, if any," food price increases. ~~So said~~ Secretary of Agriculture ~~Clinton~~ Anderson ~~who made~~ a speech ~~this~~ ^{tonight, at} ~~evening~~ Albuquerque, New Mexico, ~~on the food~~ situation.

^{Sec.} Anderson feels that current ceiling prices are high enough to promote food production. ~~and~~ ^{He's} the ^{now-and} boss. Under the new price control act, the O.P.A. can fix ceilings only after ^{Sec.} Anderson approves, ~~then~~.

Tonight the Secretary of Agriculture held out the hope that meat will soon return to the nation's tables. According to Anderson, it's just a question of converting the nation's record feed crops into beef.

~~Then Anderson~~ ^{He} warned farmers that from now on they had better concentrate on their domestic market.

~~Another tug of war out at Lake Success, Long Island, where the United Nations Security Council is meeting. The story is the same, Russia throwing her weight around, the other powers pulling against her.~~

~~Today,~~ ^{Security Council has} The ~~Council~~ voted down the Soviet Union's request for an inventory of ~~the~~ Allied troop^s ~~garrisons~~ overseas.

~~Russia, who has been very coy about her own army dispositions outside of~~ ^{RUSSIA, had} ~~the~~ formally demanded today that Great Britain and the United States report to the United Nations on their current overseas military establishments -- how many, where, and what for.

~~By implication, of course, the Soviet request accuses us and Great Britain of oppression. By implication, the Soviet delegate made it apparent that his Government does not distinguish between the presence of American troops in, for instance, Iceland, and Russian troops in, for instance, Poland.~~

However, the members of the Security Council rejected Russia's demand and cleared America and Great Britain of the Soviet charge that they were a menace to world peace.

STALIN

At the Peace Conference in Paris, the Ministers of the Big Four are having another meeting. ^{and} This time they gather in an atmosphere of optimism. That's the word from Paris. We are told that Messrs. Byrnes, Bevin, Molotov and Bidault, are talking ~~things~~ over, in a mood of greater conciliation and amity than the Peace Conference has known hitherto. Why? What's the reason? The Stalin declaration says Paris.

This is echoed by London, with tonight's dispatch from the British capital expressing the belief that the statements made by the Soviet Premier may indicate a change in Soviet foreign policy. The dispatch uses such expressions as these: "Stalin held out the olive branch to Great Britain and the United States"; "Foreign quarters believe his statements were intended to reduce a rising tension in international relations and assure the world the situation is not as bad as it appears."

Informed circles in London think that Stalin's purpose may be to create a favorable atmosphere for negotiations to bring about a change in the present trend of hostilities between Soviet Russia and the Western democracies. *And the latest - Moscow echoes the same opinion.*

In the light of these reactions ~~in Paris and London,~~ ^{the} Let's take a look at things ~~that~~ Stalin said in his declaration, - ~~headlined today.~~ ~~Let's note the various points that are being interpreted as the olive branch, of peace.~~ ^{his} Stalin ~~gives~~ replies to questions addressed to him by ~~Alexander Werth,~~ ^{the} Moscow correspondent of the London Sunday Times. ^R One question was ^{re} about the danger of another war. Stalin ^{answers,} ~~replies,~~ ^{this} with a flat and ~~is~~ direct statement - "I do not believe" ^{said he,} "in the danger of a new war." To which he adds Moscow explanations attributing the war talk to military and political adventurers who are playing their own game. ~~And he adds:~~

he continues,

"We should discriminate ^{" "} between the loud rumors about a new war, and the real danger of a new war which today does not exist."

The British correspondent in Moscow went on with a question about that bugaboo played up in a wild way by Soviet propaganda - capitalistic encirclement. Moscow, in defense of its aggresions, is constantly defending itself with charges that the wicked capitalists are conspiring to throw a hostile ring around Soviet Russia. So what does Stalin say? "I don't think," he declares, "the ruling circles of Great Britain and the United States could create a capitalistic encirclement of the U.S.S.R., even if they wished to do so. But I cannot affirm that they want to."

In other words, they can't do it, and Stalin isn't sure that they want to do it. Well, that does seem to look like the olive branch. ~~I have thought that, if~~

~~the Soviets wanted to come off their high horse, the most vivid sign of this would be the tossing out of the scarecrow of capitalistic encirclement. And here we have Stalin - denying the theory of capitalistic encirclement; ~~and~~ tossing the scarecrow right out.~~

And ~~here is~~ something equally important - ^{his} ~~Stalin's~~

answer to a question about whether or not friendly cooperation is possible between the Soviets and the Western democracies - in spite of the ideological differences of Communism and Western libertarianism.

As for that kind of cooperation, Stalin replies briefly and with emphasis - "I unconditionally believe it is possible."

But what about the doctrine of world Communism? Marx, Lenin, and Stalin himself, can be quoted as saying that a Communist country cannot exist in a world of liberal capitalism. The British newsman asked - "Is Communism in one country possible?"

Stalin's reply is -- Yes. He says --

"Communism in one country is quite possible, especially in a country like the Soviet Union." And by the way, he denies that the Communist parties in other countries take dictation from Moscow -- but these matters are of minor consequence -- as we interpret the Stalin statement in terms of the proverbial olive branch of peace.

ATOM

The news tells of what promises to be a further great advance in solving the mystery of the ultimate constitution of the physical universe. This is in the shape of a new formula, a mathematical equation recently devised. It was presented today at a conference of physicists at Princeton,

~~University.~~ The conference is considering the future ~~probabilities~~ of atomic science, and before the assembled savants appeared Professor Paul Dirac, Nobel Prize Winner and one of the most eminent of British physicists. He presented the formula, the mathematic equation - which appears to offer a new deep glimpse into the secrets of matter, energy, space.

~~Just~~ How does the formula work? Here's the answer as given in the news dispatch - *From Princeton:* - "It attempts to extend the wave equations to include relativity and quantum mechanics." Which should be perfectly clear, if you're entirely familiar with relativity, have a close personal

knowledge of wave equations, and are on intimate speaking terms with quantum mechanics. I myself have hardly even a nodding acquaintance.

The new revelation is so complicated, that the news dispatch goes on to say -- "the technical physicists themselves were at a loss for words with which to reduce it to simple language."

If professors are at a loss for words, so am I.

In Japan, they've arrested a twenty-two year old ex-convict, named Higuchi - for the kidnapping of a girl, a fifteen year old heiress. Higuchi was captured while traveling around with young Miss Kuniko Sumitomo, a daughter of a wealthy industrial family. Questioned today, Higuchi told a story of strange revenge.

Two years ago, as the war was ending, Higuchi was sent to prison for kidnapping the daughter of a marquis, a noble of high standing. He intimates it was really an elopement, an affair of romance - with highly placed parents frowning on a lowly suitor and having him sent to jail as an abductor.

In prison Higuchi brooded on ways to get even, and hit upon one of the most remarkable schemes that ever got into a vengeful brain. He would retaliate against the whole race of aristocratic daughters - would abduct one thousand heiresses. His wits were beguiled by that

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vindictive dream - not so unpleasant when you think of it -
a dream of a thousand elopments.

To put his plan into operation, he escaped from
jail - and now has been caught traveling around with Miss
Sumitomo, heiress of a prominent industrial family. She
was number fifteen. Higuchi had also eloped with fourteen
others - taking them away and then sending them home after
awhile. He was working fast to run ~~up~~ the string, ^{up to a}
thousand.

Well, now - the romantic avenger is back in jail,
and it looks like he'll get another long prison sentence.
This time Higuchi, in his dungeon cell, will probably
dream all the more ardently about getting even, ^{and} make
^{still} ~~even~~ larger plans for another revenge. This time, I
suppose, he'll hike the figure to ten thousand elopments.

1/4 And that Nelson brings me to you.

INTRO TO MR. GURLEY

~~Now~~ About the ~~XXXX~~ locomotive, and its cab from which I am speaking ~~to you~~. It's on a siding under the Waldorf-Astoria ~~Hotel~~, in the center of Manhattan Island. They call this the presidential siding because Presidents slide ~~under~~ the city and get here in this way. The locomotive is the seventy-five thousandth turned out ~~so far~~ by the American Locomotive Company. The first ~~one this company~~ ^{was} turned out was in ~~1937~~ ¹⁸³⁷, and it whizzed along at speeds up to thirty miles an hour. This new one, in which ~~the~~ engineer sits in an upholstered leather chair, can make one hundred and twenty miles an hour. It's a diesel-electric, and soon will be operating on the ~~Am~~ Atchison, Topeka and ~~the~~ Santa Fe. I used to live out West on the ~~Am~~ Santa Fe, and the man who built that great railroad, was one of the friends of my youth. His successor, the present President, is sitting beside me in the cab, ~~and I am going to ask him a few questions about railroads in general.~~

Also
Mr. Robert McColl, President of the American

Locomotive Company, ~~is also with us, but I'll put my questions to the President of the Santa Fe. I hope they don't embarrass you, Mr. Gurley.~~

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MR. G.:- ~~Go ahead, I don't mind.~~

A moment ago I asked Mr. Gurley of the Santa Fe

L.T.:- [^] When are we going to be able to ride on trains at night and really get a good sleep? When will there be no more "square" wheels? *He replied that something must be*

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MR. G.:- I think that's more a matter ^{with my} ~~of your own~~

digestive system. He insists that travelers I know that people are sleeping the Santa Fe, naturally he would. He urges me to go West soundly on our trains. I suggest you come out West and get ^{myself} yourself in ^{better} good physical condition! I think I will.

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In response to another question; -

L.T.:- ^{new} How is the ~~the~~ through-Pullman service working, the ~~new~~ ^{now} system that enables a traveler to go from coast to coast without ~~in~~ changing trains? *He replies!*

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MR. G.:- ~~The idea has been well received. But, you~~
~~might be interested to know that~~ ^{less} ~~more~~ than half of the
passengers actually stay in their cars on their way
through Chicago. ^{He says} Most travelers ~~seem to~~ prefer
to take a brief time out for visiting friends, or
transacting business, in Chicago. ~~However, all travelers~~
^{But they all find} ~~are finding~~ it a great convenience to be able to leave
their baggage on board the train, and not have to
transfer it.

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L.T.:- How do our railways compare with prewar
days? And when will we get major improvements?

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MR. G.:- All the railroads have a great deal of
equipment on order. We need much material that we've been
unable to buy. Nevertheless, in the next six or nine
months, we expect a great deal of new equipment, and
that will mean considerable improvement. However, we have
applied to the Interstate Commerce Commission for

authority to increase our rates. Our expenses are much greater than they were. Materials are much higher. And we must have rates that will enable us to finance all the new developments of this complicated postwar age.

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LT.: - Well, Mr. Gurley, whatever progress there is, I know the Santa Fe will be right out in front. It always has been, as long as I can remember.

This huge locomotive - in the cab of which I am sitting - the latest development in American railroading, will soon be hauling The Super Chief across the Southwest.

STRIKE

Taken from early Sept. 24/48 L.C.

The steel capital of America was partly paralyzed today - by a strike. In Pittsburgh, the walkout of thirty-five hundred power house workers tied up numbers of great industrial plants. The strike was staged in defiance of a court order, and the latest tonight tells of legal action taken against the President of the union. Ordered by the court to send the power house employees back to work, he replied with defiance, and was sentenced to a year in jail - for contempt of court.

KAISER

In a congressional committee room today, appeared a large witness - a burly, portly man, with jovial expansive air. ~~He was~~ Kaiser the Shipbuilder. He was a willing and good-natured witness, talked freely, and answered questions with a smiling amiability. But, after he had given evidence for five hours, the Congressmen who questioned him were baffled and bewildered. They were ~~trying to~~ probing into the business affairs of Henry J. Kaiser, the headline wartime shipbuilder - but were unable to get any clear picture of the vast ramifications of the Kaiser empire of maritime construction.

The Merchant Marine Committee of the House of Representatives is looking into the matter of wartime profits in shipbuilding, and is investigating charges of profiteering. Kaiser uttered vigorous denials that he, on his giant war contracts, had made a stupendous profit of four billion dollars. He ridiculed the idea and

declared that one of the biggest of his many companies had never paid income tax, because it had never shown anything in the black, always in the red, running at a loss

When the Committee tried to get down to details of the Kaiser empire of shipbuilding, the financial angles, the maze of contracts - there was mostly confusion. Henry Kaiser himself stated on the witness stand today that his interests as a wartime shipbuilder were too huge and varied and complicated for him to make a quick report on them - a mere ^{brief} five-hour report.