

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The news from the Greek War grows more exciting. It has been reported several times x that the Greeks had taken Pogradetz an important Italian base in Albania. Tonight we know it to be true, because American correspondents are in Pogradetz with the Greek armies.

A story coming out of Jugoslavia brings the tidings that the Greeks are smashing through on the northern Albanian front and are within fifteen miles of Albazan, a big Fascist base.

An American correspondent with the Greek Army

says the ~~Greeks~~ are now  
~~been~~ bombarding Porto Edda, the Fascist port named after  
Mussolini's daughter. <sup>He said</sup> ~~As he puts it~~ he had a ringside seat at  
the bombardment ~~of Porto Edda~~. This was Santa Barbara's feast day,  
the patron saint of <sup>gunners,</sup> ~~artillerymen~~. And the Hellene artillerymen  
celebrated it with a ferocious bombardment of the Italians. At the  
conclusion of the day, the American correspondent <sup>radios that</sup> ~~telephoned~~  
the Fascist forces were driven out of their stronghold at Porto Edda  
and are escaping northward along the coast road. ~~It isn't much~~  
<sup>That</sup> ~~of a~~ road becomes nothing more than a mule track when it turns  
into the mountains towards Valona, the more northerly Albanian port.

A spokesman of the Greek Government at Athens announced  
that ~~Hellene~~ <sup>Greek</sup> troops had reached the outskirts of Porto Edda  
and that the seaport had <sup>s</sup> been abandoned. ~~But that American~~  
~~correspondent does not corroborate, makes no mention of the Greeks~~  
~~entering the port.~~

Returning to the occupation of Pogradec, there's a  
humorous twist to it. The American correspondents on the spot  
are Leland Stowe of the NEW YORK EVENING POST and the CHICAGO EVENING  
NEWS, and Edwin Stevens of the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR.

Stowe radios the POST that owing to a slight error, he and Stevens entered Pogradec several hours before the Greeks had captured it. A detachment of Hellenic cavalrymen had slipped into the town before daybreak on December First. Stowe and Stevens thought the occupation had begun, so in they went. But they found themselves way ahead of the army to which they were accredited. The place was quiet as a tomb, not a living thing stirring, Stowe reports. Then he heard the crackle of a machinegun, and as their car hove in sight, a regular chorus of machine guns was barking from the heights just beyond the town. Thereupon the Greek lieutenant, who was with ~~him~~ them, exclaimed: "That sounds like the Italians, we'd better get out of here fast." And they got. They made their way back to the general in command, who said he wasn't going to let ~~in~~ any of his infantry go in until the Fascist rearguard had been cleared out from the heights above the town.

Stowe sums up the Greek campaign in these words:- "The main essence of it is the same story - superior Greek strategy and superior quality of the Greek troops in the mountain fighting."

The more optimistic claims from Athens tonight have it

that not only Porto Edda but also Argyrokastron are about to fall, that the Italians ~~are~~ are evacuating Argyrokastron as well as the harbor.

Mussolini's armies in Albania seem to be in quite a bad way.

CORFU

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One American correspondent has been taking ~~xi~~ a look at Corfu, that beautiful island off the west coast of Greece. After months of being raided by Italian bombers he describes Corfu as like an island of the dead. Once upon a time Corfu was the favorite retreat of Kaiser Wilhelm the Second. One fourth of the old world town of Corfu is now uninhabited. The American reporter tells us that the streets are empty except for an occasional hungry cat or an old man digging in the ruins. Five thousand of the original 28,000 inhabitants of Corfu are still clinging to their island homes, he says, but they are like dwellers in catacombs, living underground.

He adds the foot note that Corfu had no ~~mix~~ military defense, not a single ~~xi~~ anti-aircraft gun or airplane --- utterly defenseless.

PLANE

There have been many and varying guesses about the number of planes lost respectively by the British and the Nazis. A story broadcast in London today purports to give more exact figures. Since the war started, Hitler has lost three thousand planes shot down over British soil. On the other hand, the British have lost around one thousand. But those figures do not tell all the story, for a great many of the British pilots were saved, and are back in action.

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The German man power loss has been much higher. And many of the Nazi pilots have been captured.

## SHIPPING

The British are getting ready to do something drastic to save their shipping. They haven't admitted the truth of the Nazi claims, that bombers and U-boats in one attack on an Atlantic convoy sunk eighteen British vessels. Neither the British Admiralty nor the Minister of Information had a word to say either in confirmation or denial of the subject. All the same, it's obvious that the ~~British~~ <sup>British</sup> ~~people of the islands~~ are alarmed and on their toes. A Conservative member of the House of Commons today urged the Churchill Government to make an appeal to the United States, ask for the help of Uncle Sam's Navy. He said it wouldn't be the first time the American Navy had helped the British Navy. ~~out~~ He declared that during the second war in China, an American commodore, although nominally neutral, rendered important help to His Majesty's warships. And the Navy Department at Washington did not reprimand him for it.

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In answer to that, Sir John Anderson, Lord President of the Council, told the House of Commons <sup>today that His Majesty's</sup> ~~that the~~ government is fully alive to the seriousness of the situation. Sir John then told the House that not only the Defense Committee but the Prime Minister

himself, who has unrivaled experience in these matters, is giving ~~the keenest~~ attention to the question of enemy attack by underseas craft and from the air, upon British convoys. The Lord President, ~~then attempted~~ to reassure the House, ~~He~~ pointed out that in the last war British losses gave the British many anxious times, but they never doubted they would find methods of overcoming the resourceful enemy.

AID TO BRITISH follow SHIP <sup>ing</sup>

~~And it becomes known today that our own Government is quite seriously considering~~ <sup>for</sup> ~~More help to~~ Britain. ~~This news broke first from~~ Jesse Jones, ~~the~~ Secretary of Commerce and Federal Lending Administrator, Speaking as a banker - and <sup>a</sup> ~~he is~~ <sup>1</sup> ~~rated a good~~ <sup>famous</sup> one - ~~he~~ <sup>S</sup> ~~considered~~ Great Britain a good risk. ~~and~~ <sup>He says</sup> ~~let it be understood~~ that Uncle Sam is meditating the possibility of giving ~~it some form of~~ financial help. However, <sup>(Commerce)</sup> ~~Secretary~~ <sup>Jesse</sup> Jones <sup>1</sup> refused to specify, wouldn't say how or when it was to be done; but, he made it emphatic that it was his policy all along to lend government funds to good risks, ~~when they needed it for proper~~ purposes.

<sup>Jesse</sup> When Jones <sup>1</sup> told this to the Washington correspondents, they remembered that he was one of four Cabinet members who took part in a ~~serious~~ conference at the office of the Secretary of the Treasury. When they asked him whether the question of help to the British had been discussed, his answer was - "use your own imagination."

A second inkling to the same effect came from Secretary Morgenthau himself. He gave <sup>out</sup> the news that the Treasury is about

to have a visit from a high British official, Sir Frederick Phillips, Under-Secretary of the British Treasury. ~~He is~~ Coming over to give Morthenthau a report on the financial condition of King George's empire.

JOHNSON

A statesman today made the prediction that there is no doubt but what the United States will go to war, and he added: "We're edging closer to it every day."

The statesman who so prophesied is not in favor of war. He is not an interventionist. Yes, Senator Hiram Johnson, the rock-ribbed isolationist of California. Senator Hiram Johnson today told reporters out in California, that those who ~~are~~ running this country are wildly eager to get us in and ~~fill~~ will have us there soon.

Hiram Johnson added that he's going to fight to the last ditch against the repealing of his Johnson Act, the act forbidding the lending of money to foreign countries in default of war debts.

STIRLING FOLLOW JOHNSON

But here's an opinion of another sort:- It comes from that gallant sea dog Rear Admiral Stirling. His view is that Uncle Sam ought to hurry up and give Great Britain active naval aid -- all the ships and planes we can. And, said he, "We should convoy our own ships to Great Britain, man them with our own men, giving the British all the supplies she needs. So says Admiral Stirling.

CANAL

The authorities are going ahead on the Panama Canal, building  
~~that~~ <sup>a</sup> third set of locks ~~which~~ <sup>that</sup> Congress authorized. ~~You may recall~~  
~~the agitation~~ <sup>at</sup> the time the question came up. It was pointed out  
that a third set of locks would make the canal much safer from  
attack. <sup>give us a spare.</sup> The new locks are to be a mile and a half away from those  
~~which are~~ now in operation and will be thirty feet wider. Today  
the administration of the Canal opened bids for excavations on that  
spare set of locks.

## JOBS

Here's good news - jobs for four million people. That's the prophecy made today by a public body, the Industrial Economics Division of the Conference Board. By the end of October so many national defense contracts had been awarded by the Army and the Navy, that by next June those four million new jobs will be available; not only available but clamoring for people to fill them. Already the list of people employed is way up. Almost as many people have jobs as in the peak months of Nineteen Twenty-Nine. And by June there will be so many more at work.

DAVILA

Uncle Sam, today made a neighborly gesture. Madame Davila, wife of a former President of Chile, is gravely ill ~~in~~ in New York. She just underwent an operation and her physicians prescribe that recovery would be much quicker if she could be taken back to her native land. So, at the request of President Roosevelt, the War Department has placed at her disposal one of Uncle Sam's flying fortresses. Ex-President Davila and his wife, with a nurse, tomorrow will fly all the way to Chile in a U. S. Army Bomber.

## COMMUNISM

The Chamber of Deputies in Chile passed a new bill today, outlawing Communism and Communists in that country. It took the Chilean Chamber just four minutes to pass the act. Now it goes to the Chilean Senate.

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While this was going on, a Committee of the New York Legislature was hearing more of that story about Communists from the President of Brooklyn College, Dr. Harry Gideonse. Incidentally, the size of Brooklyn College was news to a good many people. It has fourteen thousand under-graduates.

Dr. Gideonse told the Committee what had happened to him when he set out to break the domination of Communists over student activities. Most of the student body, he said, was apathetic, had no interest in campus ~~activities~~ activities. But, he said the Communists had the time, and the interest and the money. The consequence was that, although Communists only constituted a small minority of the under-graduate body, they ran the show. Dr. Gideonse, as President of the College, changed the electoral system, outsmarted the Comrades.

# RETAKE

He made a ruling that the elections should be held in the classrooms. Consequently, all the students voted and the ballots were counted right there. As a result of that, ~~all~~ the anti-Communist majority won seventeen out of twenty seats on the governing body, and the Communists were licked.

Thereupon, not only Dr. Gideonse but his family suffered a peculiar sort of persecution, <sup>of</sup> retaliation by the Bolsheviks.

They would bombard his house with fake telephone messages. They sent fake telegrams. For instance, one of those fake telegrams

falsely informed Mrs. Gideonse that there had been a death in the family. This greatly upset his wife <sup>who was not accustomed</sup> ~~to such antics~~ <sup>to such antics.</sup>

The blame for all this, Dr. Gideonse put squarely on the American Student Union, which he described as nothing but a Communist front; also the Peace Continuation Committee. <sup>And -</sup> He named two members of his faculty who had taken part in Communist demonstrations.

Then there was a so-called peace demonstration at Brooklyn College. Organized groups of <sup>Communist</sup> undergraduates rushed up and down the halls, blew whistles, and popped in and out of <sup>classrooms.</sup>

## CHURCH

The town of Belmar, down on the New Jersey coast has started something which it hopes will sweep the country. The Mayor has issued a proclamation ~~EXORCISM~~<sup>1,</sup> ex<sup>A</sup>orting all the citizens to attend church. Also, a special committee made up entirely of laymen is pushing this, and their aim is to have everyone in Belmar to ~~ATTEND~~<sup>attend</sup> some church this weekend. These laymen have even put a large ad in the local newspaper. They have ~~put~~ plastered the town with window cards and have flung a banner across the main street. Here are two lines from the announcement:- "For out of the ~~Church~~ Church have come all those liberties we cherish. Once the church is forgotten a people will enivitably perish. There must be spiritual as well as military mobilization".

S.A.R.

3/2  
In South Woodbury, Vermont, is an elderly gentleman who bears a peculiar relation to American history. He's the only living man who can call himself in the most literal and narrow sense of the word a "son of the American Revolution." His name is William Constant Wheeler. His father, Comfort Wheeler, of Rehoboth, Massachusetts, fought under George Washington, <sup>In fact his father</sup> ~~he~~ enlisted at the age of fourteen and served as orderly to General Nathaniel Greene. Comfort Wheeler not only survived the War but lived to a ripe old age. When he was eighty years old, his third <sup>the present</sup> wife gave birth to a son, William Constant Wheeler. There were <sup>now living,</sup> sixty years between William and his oldest brother, James.

1  
In a snowbound farmhouse near South Woodbury that surviving son of the orderly to General Nathaniel Greene, ~~is~~ <sup>son</sup> of one of ~~Gen.~~ <sup>Gen.</sup> Washington's soldiers, is celebrating his ninety-third birthday.

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And what do you know about that Hugh?