

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

We're facing today a repetition of one of the great tragedies of history. The fourth partition of Poland is not only in sight tonight, it's virtually an accomplished fact. The heads of the Polish government are for the time being in Roumania. The gallant, unhappy Polish army has one million, five hundred thousand soldiers still under arms, and a pathetic press announcement from Paris claims that their lines are still intact east of the Vistula River, standing steady in spite of titanic bombardment by German artillery and planes. But the actual facts appear to be that if those million and a half Poles keep on fighting against the Germans to the west of them, with the advancing Soviet millions to the east of them, it will mean the suicide of an army.

(According to the latest dispatch from Berlin, the advance guard of the mechanized German army met the forerunners of Stalin's

Russians at Brest-Litovsk. This is an official announcement from Hitler's capital. If the Soviet army has already reached Brest-Litovsk, it means that the Russians are more than a hundred miles in Polish territory.) Stalin's troops are in the outskirts of Vilna in the northeast, ancient capital of Lithuania. And a still later report from Kovno has it that the Lithuanians have mobilized. When this first became known, it was rumored that they were about to take advantage of the misfortunes of the Poles to seize Vilna, their ancient capital. But this is officially denied. The Lithuanians are mobilizing, they sayk just in self defense.

We may expect to hear at any moment that Warsaw has fallen. German general headquarters claims that parts of Hitler's army have occupied a line reaching from Lemberg in the south to Bialystok in the north. If that is true, they've conquered two-thirds of Poland.

(A semi-official statement is made in Berlin that Hitler and Stalin have drawn up an agreement covering six points for the partition of Poland.) This is no surprise. For it has been

generally suspected since it became known that the two dictators had come to terms. The most essential point of that agreement is Number Four, which states that the task of Germany and Russia is to establish a complete new settlement of their spheres of influence.

In Moscow a statement in one of the official government newspapers indicates that Hitler and Stalin agreed that the old Russian frontier is to be reestablished, running along a line from the East Prussian frontier in the north through Bialystok and Brest-Litovsk, down to the borders of Roumania. It is also intimated that Hitler and Stalin will not wipe Poland out altogether. They will preserve a small portion of it as a buffer state, somewhat along the lines of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw which Napoleon erected as a buffer, but it didn't last long.

(What will England do? Fight Russia? No word!)

Germany now presents the question to France and Britain, something like this:- "You went to war to protect Poland. Now Poland no longer exists. So what about it? Are you going on fighting for a state that has ceased to exist?"

There is literally no limit to the catastrophic possibilities in the situation tonight. One report I have been waiting for all day is a statement from Tokyo. At any moment we may hear confirmation of what everybody suspects, that Japan is in on the deal. If that is true, the potential outcome is too tremendous to contemplate.

ROUMANIA

Somebody is bombarding parts of Roumania. ^{And} The Roumanians don't know who ^{it} is ~~attacking them~~. A couple of planes flew over the frontier and dropped bombs on a village which killed six people and set fire to several houses. In another village, bombs killed three and destroyed one house. But the authorities say the nationality of those planes has not yet been established. It is, however, known that some of Stalin's bombers destroyed the railway station at a town on the frontier between Roumania and Poland.

{ Nearly five hundred Polish planes have been interned in Roumania.

King Carol's government reiterated its declaration of neutrality. It was announced at Bucharest today that Roumania ^{is} confirmed in her decision to continue an attitude of strict neutrality toward the belligerents.



COURAGEOUS

Almost exactly twenty-five years ago, a German U-boat in the North Sea pulled off a spectacular feat. It inflicted the first ~~heavy~~ ^{heavy} ~~spectacular~~ loss that John Bull's Navy had sustained since the Napoleonic Wars. In one and the same manœuvre that German submarine commander, ~~Weddigen,~~ ^{Weddigen,} sank three of Britain's warships within sight of the English coast.

But that was ~~trifling compared to~~ ^{hardly greater than} the latest thing done by one of Hitler's under-water destroyers. The CRESSY, the ~~ABOUKIR~~ ^{Hogue} and the ~~Hogue~~ of twenty-five years ago were second class cruisers, their loss was not serious. But (the huge aircraft carrier COURAGEOUS, which is now at the bottom of Davey Jones's locker, was one of the most valuable in King George's Navy. Although she was the ~~latest~~ oldest aircraft carrier, she was also the largest. Perhaps the most amazing part of this disaster is that she went to the bottom twenty minutes after the torpedo had struck. ^R When she was converted in Nineteen Twenty-Four from a cruiser into an aircraft carrier, her armour below water was reenforced. There were two violent explosions, after which H.M.S. COURAGEOUS began to settle.

The British Ministry of Information does not go into

details about the number of men lost. Survivors say that everybody behaved in thoroughly cool and orderly fashion, true to naval tradition.

The latest definite news about the survivors is that nearly four hundred of them were landed by a destroyer. Her normal complement was twelve hundred and sixteen officers and men.

Though designed to carry forty-eight airplanes, she had less than that number aboard at the time. Therefore the personnel may have been under normal.

There were several merchant ships in the neighborhood when she sank and they picked up some of the survivors. The British announce, perhaps hopefully, that the destroyers escorting the aircraft carrier are believed to have sunk the submarine that inflicted the deadly blow. But so far that seems to be only a belief.

SUBMARINE

To offset the sinking of the COURAGEOUS, the British Ministry of Information dug up a story of a British victory. A U-boat was sunk by a young pilot of the Royal Air Force, a South African. The British believe that this was the first story of the kind in this war, the first fight in which a lone airplane sunk a U-boat. The pilot said he dropped his bomb just as the German began to dive. The explosion blew the U-boat back to the surface, after which her whole stern lifted, and then she plunged.

INTERNEED

A complaint has been made about an action of the French government. A resident of Memphis, Texas, born in Germany but with his first American papers, was traveling from Palestine aboard an American ship, going back to Texas. When the ship docked at Marseilles, the French police went aboard, took that ^S man from Memphis, Texas, and stuck him in a concentration camp. He had been living in the United States for twenty-six years though he had only his first papers so far. His wife complained to the French authorities in vain, and has now appealed to ^{Ambassador} ~~Bullitt~~ Bullitt, ^{^ ^} ~~our Ambassador to Paris.~~

CONFERENCE

There is to be a conference on neutrality the day after tomorrow, just one day before Congress meets in special neutrality session. Congressional leaders, both on the Republican and Democratic side, have accepted the invitation of the President.

Mr. Roosevelt also has invited Alfred M. Landon of Kansas and Colonel Frank Knox, whom the G.O.P. nominated for President and Vice-President in Nineteen Thirty-Six. It is announced today that both Mr. Landon and Colonel Knox accepted at once. Mr. Landon, at Topeka, explained his acceptance by saying that he believes politics has no place in international affairs. Colonel Knox said nothing.

DIES

A man of interesting background was called as a witness today by Chairman Dies of the Committee on Un-American Activities. This witness was Sam Cobb, a brother-in-law of Molotov, Premier and Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union.

Sam Cobb is described as an importer and a naturalized citizen of the United States. He testified that in Nineteen Thirty-Six, the Soviet Government had commissioned him to buy a hundred million dollars' worth of battleships in ^{this country.} ~~the United States.~~ In addition to that, he was to buy airplanes and marine engines. An American firm was paid twenty-five thousand dollars for a set of sketches but the Russian Government turned them down. Later on, however, a commission came over here from Moscow to discuss those battleship plans again.

Apparently the Dies Committee expected to drag out some more interesting facts about this Russian deal ^{that didn't} ~~come off.~~

BROWDER

In even the greatest tragedies, some comic relief is appropriate. For instance, there's (Earl Browder, official figure-head of the Reds in the United States, ~~he~~ describes the invasion of ^{Poland} ~~the Poles~~ by Stalin as another triumph for human freedom.)

"The Russian invaders," says he, "are being received with joy by the Poles." Somebody remarked that it must have been a curious sort of response to joy that prompted the Red Army to shoot down seven Polish planes.

Then there's the DAILY WORKER, American organ of the Bolsheviks. That paper says that the Soviet government sent in the Red Army to free the Ukranians and White Russians from Fascist enslavement -- save them from Hitler.

FARMERS

Here's a word of advice to farmers from the Department of Agriculture. "Don't get excited over any war boom in prices."

This counsel comes from the Western Director of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. It is directed in this instance at Wheat farmers. The advice is, "Don't go haywire breaking fresh soil to plant wheat." It was to such expansion during the last war that we owed the awful dust storms.

JONES

The railroads of America are hurrying to get into condition to meet extra heavy traffic. This news comes tonight through a statement by Jesse Jones, Federal Loan Administrator. He let it be known that the railroads have arranged to spend two hundred million dollars for the next six months for new equipment and repairs. They're getting ready to meet any emergency demands in transport facilities. In the last sixty days alone the lines ordered new equipment to the tune of a hundred and twenty-five millions.

Administrator Jones also said that he has made special arrangements to make it easy for business men to borrow from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Applications can now be filed with some of the field offices of the Federal Housing Administration and Home Owners Loan Corporation, as well as with the regular agencies of the R.F.C.

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This sounds like a bit of news that ought to be welcome to business men. Jones also declared that it is the purpose of the R.F.C. to lend to business and industry on liberal terms wherever credit is not otherwise available, especially loans that will

help employment and recovery. He will give particular consideration to loans for modernizing plants and equipment, also expanding factories. He has more than one billion, two hundred and fifty millions to lend.

STRIKE

A strike of a serious nature is threatened in Michigan. This time it's not a walkout of automobile workers. The employees of a big electric power company will quit tomorrow at midnight if their demands are not granted. *This would affect* ~~if it comes off, it'll be bad~~

~~news for~~ almost everybody in the Michigan lower peninsula. The only part of that area *left out* ~~not affected~~ would be Detroit.

This dispute is another outcome of the fight between the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. The men who are talking strike are C.I.O. people. They claim the company has discriminated against them and favored the electric *workers* ~~workers~~ of the American Federation of Labor.

FREIGHTER

A Norwegian steamer, carrying both freight and passengers, was on her way from Trinidad to Boston. Early yesterday the master of that Norwegian vessel lost his way, mistook the lights of Gloucester, Massachusetts, for Boston lights. The consequence was, the vessel ran aground, was hung up on a ledge a hundred feet off Eastern Point near Gloucester. A couple of Uncle Sam's Coast Guard vessels and five tugs came to the rescue, but even at high tide they weren't able to pull the Norwegian ~~ship~~ off ~~that~~^S ledge. ~~But~~ The passengers ~~— there were only a handful of~~ ~~them~~ were taken ashore in safety and went home by train.

CHILDREN

In Minneapolis there's a city health commissioner with strong views about the rearing of children. Some time ago he told parents they were altogether too lenient, the children were too precocious, ought to be spanked more. Even a six months' old baby would be the better off for an occasional paddling, says this health commissioner.

Today he comes out with a new one. Little boys should wear dresses, he says, just like little girls, until they're seven years old. The reason is that skirts would prevent precociousness, save the children from growing-up too soon. *And s-l-u-t*

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~~It's a good thing for that city health commissioner of Minneapolis that small boys can't vote.~~