

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The government of the United States today announced action in a dark human tragedy. Ever since Hitler took Austria, there has been pity for the plight of the ^{Austrian} ~~German~~ Jews. Of course, the hard Nazi fist bears down on other sorts of enemies, Communists, Socialists, Liberals, Pacifists, Monarchists, everything anti-Nazi. But in the foreground ^{it} pathos ^{are} ~~centers on~~ the Austrian Jews, Vienna with its large and prominent Jewish population. ^{TF} Now - what is our government going to do about it all?

Secretary of State Hull announced this afternoon that an ^{American} note has been sent to nine European governments. ^{also} and all the Latin-American republics. In this formal communication, the United States suggests action in behalf of those who suffer for political reasons in Austria - also in Germany. Let something be done to enable them to leave those two Nazi countries, give them some place to go. "Facilitate the emigration of political refugees," is the way the idea is worded in the American note.

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How can that be done? Secretary Hull's proposal is that the nine European governments and all the Latin-American republics establish a special committee that would study the problem of the refugees and devise plans for their emigration - some place to go.

Nations to take them in? Open the doors? Yes, but with a qualification. *The Cordell Hull statement includes* ~~The American note concludes with~~ *this* paragraph:

"It should be understood that no country would be expected or asked to receive a greater number of immigrants than is permitted by its existing legislation." That might seem to leave the matter in a dilemma:- existing legislation. That's what keeps refugees out of various countries right now.

Take our own case:- Under our immigration quotas, the number of people from Germany admitted into this country per year is only twenty-five thousand, nine hundred and fifty-seven. From Austria, we admit only one thousand, four hundred and thirteen. Today the news tells us of thousands of Jews in Vienna besieging the American Consulate, trying to get passports vise^d so that they can come to the United States. Three thousand at least - and the

total legal quota admits only a little over a thousand.

Washington states specifically today that under any refugee plan the quota figures for Austria and Germany would not be increased. The legal limits will stay the same. But within those legal limits the coming of the refugees would be made more speedy and easy. And - full quotas might be admitted. That touches on the fact that during the last few years immigration has been so discouraged that only a fraction of those who might legally come have been permitted to. Out of a German quota of nearly twenty-six thousand, only twelve thousand, five hundred and thirty-two people from Germany were allowed in last year, forty-eight per cent. Of the Austrian quota of fourteen hundred, only thirty per cent was filled - four hundred and twenty-four individuals in all. [#] Why have the legal quotas been thus curtailed? Why haven't

the whole legal numbers of immigrants been allowed in? Because of unemployment - because it has been ^{Washington} ~~government~~ policy to discourage immigration while we have a great unemployment problem over here.

But that curtailment and discouraging of immigration might be called off to admit the refugees. They might come in up to the

full ~~and~~ legal quota, *and the German and Austrian quotas might be merged to admit more Austrian*

refugees.

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Who would pay? Who would put up the money? Our international note covers that point. It says, "Any financing of the emergency immigration would be undertaken by private organizations." Over here, for example, groups of societies interested in the refugees would raise the funds and bring them over.

Such is the plan the United States government places before nine nations of Europe and the Latin-American republics. Those nine European nations are - Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland and Italy. Yes, Mussolini's Italy, allied with Hitler's Germany. It reminds us of the paradox that, while Italy is lined up with the anti-Semitic Nazis, it's the one country where historically anti-Semitism has never flourished - where prejudice against the Jews has been conspicuously absent.

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The present problem is something like that of the White Russians nearly twenty years ago, massacre^d by the Bolsheviks, homeless refugees by the tens of thousands. Whole armies that fought the Reds - sentenced to wandering exile. — *still wandering.*

During the approaching few days, Washington will receive replies to its international inquiry, and no doubt a Commission to help the refugees will be set up.

AUSTRIAN ARREST

Here's an example of the stories that lie behind the Nazi arrest of all those noblemen and high dignitaries in Austria. The Esterhazy family is one of the oldest, richest and most famous in the lands that were the Austro-Hungarian empire. Today, at the City of Linz, Count Paul Esterhazy was seized by the Nazis and tossed into prison - and this is the charge against him. A German soldier was quartered in his residence - ~~an occupant in the~~ *an opulent and* stately mansion. The whole first floor of the Esterhazy house was unoccupied. But Prince Paul, compelled to give hospitality to the Nazi soldier, assigned him to quarters in the cellar, dreary and damp. On that charge ~~he is~~ *now he is* in the Hitler ~~house~~ *jug tonight.*

HELIUM

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The German crisis in Europe is tied today with the German disaster of spring a year ago. And the word is - helium.

After the HINDENBURG and its vast volume of inflammable hydrogen exploded, there was much talk about the United States providing Germany with non-inflammable helium for its great airships - the U.S.A. being the only source of helium supply.

Today Secretary of the Interior Ickes announces - no helium for Germany. He explained this by saying - Hitler might put it to a warlike use. American helium might inflate German sky ships of war. Assurance that nothing like this would happen is being demanded of the German airship company that wants to buy the helium. But, added the Secretary, assurance from merely the company would not be enough. ^RThe subject was taken to another secretary - Cordell Hull, ~~Secretary of State~~. He said the State Department had not been consulted by ~~Secretary~~ Ickes concerning the new helium proclamation. ^{And he} recalled that several weeks ago, the National Munitions Control Board was granted a license to export helium.

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Whereupon ~~And~~ the Board approved of the sale of the non-inflammable gas to Germany. Secretary Hull said that he knew of no change in that

decision by the Munitions Control Board.

So the two secretaries, State and Interior, seem to be not exactly in accord. HINDENBURG disaster plus Hitler and war - that's a subject which might stir up much argument, a lot of ~~hot~~ ^{hot helium} ~~helium~~.
~~scarcity~~.

SPAIN

There's a rosy Communist ~~flavor~~^{vor} to the term: -- ~~the~~^{The} Lenin Line.

The Comrades are always talking about -- the Party Line. So you might expect the Lenin Line to be some exceedingly orthodox form of Bolshevik political philosophy. But here in the news we also find the Vor^oshilov Line. That doesn't sound political, because Vor^oshilov is a general, commander of the Red Army. So the line named after him ~~was to be~~^{is} a military line, ~~trenches fortifications~~. In fact both lines, Lenin and Vor^oshilov, are ~~military~~^{trenches and} fortifications. But they're not in Russia -- they're in Spain.

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(On the war front in Aragon ~~they're~~ there are two series of powerful strongholds ~~divided~~^{defended} by the Left Wingers. These are the Lenin Line and the Vor^oshilov Line -- and the nomenclature gives ~~the~~^{an} idea of the political complexion.) Rather Red -- though things are not so rosy just now. The Franco attack drove today all along the ~~line~~^{front}. The Rebels report a huge victory. ~~They~~ Claim they've broken through at various places and are pushing on in ~~xxx~~ some more of their swift motorized storming and rushing. But they did ~~not~~ break through

the Lenin Line or ~~through~~ the Vorshilov Line. They say these are ~~in~~ too powerful for a storming frontal attack. So they've smashed through on either side of those ^{fortified} ~~forty-five~~ areas, closing ^{in,} an encircling movement. (Tonight the Franco victory-claim is that the whole Left Wing Army in those parts is in danger of being surrounded and captured. A pincers movement -- and they claim they're about to pinch off ^{both} the Lenin Line and the Vorshilov Line.)

~~The xxxxxx battle now has spread to a front of over a hundred miles. Instead of driving on to the sea ~~in~~ with their original narrow thrusting wedge, Franco's men are blasting ahead all along the front that faces Catalonia. Their next objective is the Catalan city of Lareda, ~~as they point to another conquest of a province.~~~~

In Barcelona the Left Wing cabinet has ^{just} ordered the mobilization of everybody -- the entire civilian population. That was decided tonight in a four hour meeting of the Left Wing Cabinet. The Barcelona chiefs, faced by the menace of the on-coming Franco drive, make a ^{final} move of desperation -- mobilization of the entire civilian population.

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ENGLAND

Today was the big day in the British House of Commons. It was the time set for ^{(the} formal declaration of policy by Prime Minister Chamberlain) scheduled to be important. The declaration was made - and, it was important. Yet there's no need to discuss it copiously. ^{For} Every point of British policy the Prime Minister laid down had been ^e forecast, ~~it was~~ known in advance. I ^{'ve} told about them each half a dozen times. And as for comment, the news for weeks has been ~~an~~ ample commentary on it all. So little is new ^{that} the opposition in Parliament felt no shock of astonishment - made no wild vitriolic attack on what had been stated and attacked so often before. *Here it is: -*

(Great Britain will not guarantee Czechoslovakia against Hitler!) - That was point number one in the Chamberlain pronouncement. The Prime Minister said that England guarantees France and Belgium against unprovoked attack, and will fight to maintain the guarantee. But as for Czechoslovakia - No. He said the way to deal with that problem was by diplomatic means, persuade the Prague government to grant concessions to the three million and a half Germans within its borders, and thus pacify Germany.) Right along those lines, we have a report that Czechoslovakia ^{today} ~~has~~ promised Great Britain to

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do something effective to pacify the Czechoslovakian Germans.

~~The~~ Chamberlain point-number-two concerned Italy.

The Prime Minister formally told Parliament that British-Italian negotiations were proceeding in satisfactory fashion and that he was sure a far reaching settlement with Mussolini would be affirmed before long. He assured the Commons that he had a promise in which he believed - that Italy would make no attempt to take any part of Spain - specifically the Balearic Islands. Italy to withdraw.

This was greeted with taunting mockery from the Labor opposition.

Did the Prime Minister seriously think he could trust Mussolini's promises about Spain? Well, the Prime Minister thinks he can.

He spoke up for
~~He said he had put his trust in~~ rearmament and peace. He

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assured the M.P.'s that the rearmament program was proceeding in good style - double and triple assurance of British security. He declared for peace, but with this qualification - that Britain would fight if necessary. War - if need be.

"Peace is the greatest interest of the British Empire,"

said Neville Chamberlain, "but that does not mean that nothing will

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make us fight." ~~To that~~ he added a solemn observation: "We know,"

said he, "that in war there are no winners." Meaning - in war everybody loses.

The reply of the opposition was a criticism of the whole Chamberlain policy - a policy of staving off war until Great Britain has rearmed and is more formidable. The opposition argument was that by the time Britain was ready to fight, she might have lost more than the delay was worth. And that's a critical point of thinking. While Britain is waiting to rearm, the dictators may be winning so much and improving their position so much, as to off-set the increase of British strength.

One rather colorless and pathetic part of the Chamberlain declaration was his speaking in favor of the League of Nations. He uttered favorable words about the League, praised it, affirmed his faith in it - but it was all so lukewarm. It was a ghostly defense of a ghostly League of Nations.

~~That poor League of Nations seems fading out so blankly I suppose I might as well hurry up and pass along a colorful bit of knowledge that I picked up recently about the Aga Khan - President of the League.~~

CHANNEL

London had a fog today - that's not news. But it was one of the foggiest fogs, one of the soupiest pea-soupers, the Tower and London Bridge had ^{ye} ever seen. You can imagine how things were in the English Channel, busy shipping blanketed by the blinding mist. Or if you can't imagine, just ask Ex-President Hoover, who is on his way home. He ~~was on his way~~ boarded the NORMANDIE today, after hours of delay. The big boat was lost. Ex-President Hoover and three hundred other passengers at Southampton were to have started their voyage last night, but the NORMANDIE didn't show up, mislaid in the fog - until this morning, when she appeared.

The whole length of the Channel reports mishaps to ships, vessels ^{losing} ~~missing~~ their way in the ~~blinding~~ fog and going ashore.

A big passenger liner with two hundred and thirty-one souls aboard was stranded at one place. It was tough for the ferry service between France and England. Three Channel boats went aground, and the Channel ferry service was called off.

One ship collision is reported - involving an American craft, the steamer BLACK OSPREY. She ran into a British motor ship in the fog. And the British boat, badly smashed, went to the bottom. The crew was saved.

IRWIN

Remember the case of the crack-brained sculptor, Robert Irwin, and the multiple murders he committed - including the killing of a beautiful artist's model? The immediate question was - sane or insane? That was for the courts to decide.

Today, a lunacy commission, appointed to examine the homicidal sculptor handed in its report to Judge Freschi of General Sessions. The experts have had a hard time with Irwin. He ~~he~~ hid under his bed from them. He spat at them. He ranted and raved. Insanity? No say the psychiatrists -- just pretended insanity. So the commission report today is that the sculptor was legally sane at the time of his crime.

Immediately afterward Judge Freschi decreed that Robert Irwin was to be tried for murder -- that triple murder.

FORTUNE

Today at Oklahoma City, an aged woman died, eighty-four years old, poor and obscure. The last years she spent taking care of chickens on a ranch. And her pay - thirty dollars a month. Nobody knew much about her - until today, when they examined her belongings and found a lot of newspaper clippings - old, yellow, crumbling. And these told the story of Mrs. Jane Howard Woodend.

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She was the daughter of a wealthy New York bank president. When she was nineteen, her mother died and left her a hundred thousand dollars in cash; ^{also} a settled income of ten thousand ~~dollars~~ a year, and a mansion to live in. She married a doctor. But he, wedded to an heiress, acquired financial ambitions. She bought him a seat on the Stock Exchange, and financed him with her money. In one year he made a million dollars - and was hailed as a wizard of Wall Street. In a fashion vote, he was decreed the best dressed man in New York. He had sixty suits of clothes and seventy-five overcoats. His wife flourished as a leader in the world of wealth and social prestige.

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Then came the depression, the panic ^{of} ~~in~~ Nineteen Four.

For this is a story of depression and panic of years long gone by.

Dr. Woodend was caught in the market, and he lost his fortune, he lost his wife's fortune, he lost her brother's fortune. From the dizziest top to the deepest bottom.

From then on, the heap of clippings in the old woman's trunk tell no more - no more to be said save to tell of the death in Oklahoma today of Mrs. Jane Howard Woodend, eighty-four year old chicken keeper at thirty dollars a month. Another of the endless instances that come in the news and exemplify the old Latin phrase - sic transit gloria mundi.

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