

L.T. SUNOCO. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1938.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY;

I'm doubly glad to have news of peace to tell on this particular day, because for me September Twenty-Ninth is decidedly an anniversary. (Just eight years ago tonight I gave my first news broadcast, began this program -- and in all those eight years I never had such dark and ominous news to tell as during the past week. For days, it has looked as if I would have to celebrate my eighth anniversary on the air by relating sombre, forbidden tidings of World War. But yesterday came that startling turn of events, and tonight I can begin my ninth year on the air with the headline-peace.)

Today, just in reminiscence, I looked over the notes I used on that first news broadcast of mine, and instantly my eye hit on one phrase that I spoke then. Here is what I said eight years ago: "Adolf Hitler, the German Fascist, Chief is snorting fire." And that has a strangely up-to-date sound, something that we might so easily be saying tonight -- as war news? Eight years ago the Hitler event was merely a street fight between a detachment of his Nazis and a

party of Communists in some German town or other -- a forgotten incident in the Hitler fight and rise to power. Today, the Reichfuehrer snorting fire, would have the meaning and menace of war. But Hitler wasn't snorting fire today. Everybody was cooing like the dove of peace at Munich. And that indeed is good anniversary news.



LEAD.

Its all over but the shouting. No, not the shouting — the Czechslovakian acceptance, As for shouting, there's plenty of it. (Germany, England, France, Italy cheering with

unrestrained joy, because the word tonight is - peace. *The world knows the Munich conference of four met for the third time today. — 3 times in the one day. —* ~~The~~ *As all* Hitler,

Chamberlain, Daladier and Mussolini, merely to arrange minor details and sign the agreement.) So all that remains ~~is~~ is for Czechslovakia to accept.

What are the terms? These have just come through officially. The latest word is from official German sources, terms outlined as follows. (Hitler is to have his march into Czechslovakia on Saturday as he has demanded so stubbornly even at the peril of war. But it is to be a mere token occupation, ~~something~~ *symbolical.*) The Czech army is to move out of a narrow strip of Sudeten land along the German border. There won't be any storming German invasion of troops in steel helmets, with machine guns, cannon and tanks. Hitler's token troops will go into the Sudeten area in peaceful fashion, wearing not steel helmets, but their every day peace time caps.

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( Then there will be an increasing occupation of  
Sudeten land by the Germans, to be completed in ten days. )

By October tenth Hitler is to be in possession of those areas  
that have a decided and predominating population of Germans.  
But in no case will Hitler's soldiers advance beyond the Czech  
line of fortifications - their ~~Maginot~~ Maginot line.

In other areas with ~~sizable~~ sizable German  
minorities, there is to be a plebiscite, the people to vote ~~on~~  
their destiny. These sections are to be evacuated by the  
Czechs and occupied by an international <sup>al</sup> force of British, French  
and Italian troops. They'll supervise the election.

9 The question of the Polish and Hungarian minorities  
is covered in the agreement. Poland is threatening to seize  
on Saturday the small bit of territory it claims. The Poles  
making the most menacing gestures of armed invasion. But  
Poland is likely to accept what the ~~four~~ Four Power  
Conference decided today - that there'll be plebiscites in  
both the Polish and Hungarian sections of Czechoslovakia. Let  
the people vote to decide what nation they'll belong to.



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There's to be a Four Power Guarantee of the Czechoslovak territory that's left after this partition. Germany will join with Great Britain, France and Italy to assure the boundaries of the nation that will have become so much smaller and so defenceless.

An International Commission will work out the details of the new frontiers and will get up plans for a transfer of populations, an exchange of minorities. If there are Czechs in the German area, they <sup>will</sup> to go <sup>in</sup> to Czechoslovak territory and take the place of Germans there - Germans that are to be sent to German Sudeten land. All this to be arranged on a ~~firm~~ basis of plebiscites.

Such is the final announcement, just given out in informal terms by the Germans - the announcement of how they decided Czechoslovakia's destiny, without consulting the Czechoslovaks. The terms, ~~in complete and definitive form~~ are <sup>on their way</sup> ~~being sent~~ to Prague tonight. Will Czechoslovakia accept them? That's the only remaining question. (The indications are that the Czechs will bow to the inevitable.) ~~inevitable in the~~

~~shape~~ of their enemies, Hitler and Mussolini, and their friends, Chamberlain and Daladier. There's one Czech <sup>that</sup> suggestion if these are points they can't accept, let President Roosevelt arbitrate.

Surely there has never been a more ~~decisive~~ decisive day in the history of diplomacy, the world ~~was~~ war that seemed so close at hand, turning into a festival of peace. The whole dangerous Czechoslovak minority question settled in three brief sessions on the same day. But things seem to go beyond that, the word is - that Hitler, Chamberlain, Daladier and Mussolini went further. They began arrangements for a further Four Power agreement, a pact to settle all questions of European dispute, and guarantee the peace.



SPAIN.

A great writer of stories was Ring Lardner, and if he were alive today, he might find story material in the adventures of his own son, James Lardner reported missing *the other* *day* in the Spanish Civil War, and tonight there *is further* ~~seems to be~~ *definitely* ~~no~~ word about him. He is reported to be a Franco prisoner, taken to a prison camp at Saragosa.

Young Lardner joined the Americans in the **I**nternational **B**rigade, fighting for the Leftist cause in Spain. Almost immediately he was wounded, but quickly returned to the fighting. And he was in the thick of it in the **I**nternational **B**rigade's last battle. Barcelona disbanding its foreign volunteers, there was just one more fight for them on the Ebro front. James Lardner went out with a party into No Man's Land. At night they stumbled into a detachment of Franco's **M**oors. The last young Lardner's companions saw of him was when he went ahead. Then there was a swift ~~burst~~ burst of rifle fire and hand grenade explosions. Thereafter he was missing. Now comes the word that he was *not killed but was* captured by the **M**oors, and is a prisoner *at Saragosa.*

Today the Chinese report a big victory a hundred miles northeast of Hankow. That bit of geography, even if it's victorious geography, doesn't sound so good for China. Because "northeast of Hankow" means that the Japanese have driven far inland, pushed on to regions behind the Chinese capital and the great armies defending it.

In that threatening area, is the Japanese Fifteenth Division, commanded by no less a dignitary than a prince. His Highness Prince Naruhiko. The princely division was expected to be the first to reach Hankow and storm into the city.

The defending Chinese commander is General Li. Sounds familiar, General Lee. But it's not Marse Robert of Civil War fame. It's a Chinese General Le, who reports that he has defeated Prince Naruhiko. He says his troops drove in a flanking manoeuvre and inflicted a heavy defeat on the princely division. The Japanese lines collapsed. A disorderly retreat; with the abandonment of tanks, trucks and cannon.

The Japanese account of the battle is hardly the same. It admits that three divisions of General Le's troops did penetrate



prince Naruhiko's line, but claims the Japanese are striking back with a flanking manoeuvre of their own and that now Prince Naruhiko is surrounding General Li.

## POLITICS

At Saratoga Springs today, there was vociferous cheering for -- Bleakley. William F. Bleakley, the former Supreme Court Justice who was Republican candidate for Governor in Nineteen Thirty-Six, and got licked. (The Republican convention making the gubernatorial nomination, yelled its head off) for Bleakley. No, his name wasn't being presented -- he was presenting a name. That's what Bleakley did. You know how an orator, making anomination, lets fly with all the eloquence he has, praising the candidate he is presenting -- without naming him, until the very end, dragging out the suspense, although everybody knows the candidate he's going to name.

So Nominator Bleakley today declaimed like this: "No man in public life," he orated, "has greater courage than the man whose name I am about to present. No man in public life," he waxes still more fervently, "has ever stood more solidly behind the enforcement of laws than the man whose name I am about to give you. I present to you," he thundered, "the name of a man who will lead the Republican party ~~far~~ to victory." And he climaxed: "I nominate as the candidate of the Republican party for the office of Governor of the State of New York ....." then he finally got around to the



name. He ended the suspense by saying what everybody knew he'd say :-"Thomas E. Dewey".

Whereupon (the crowded hall almost burst with cheers, and the usual stampede parade around the aisles went milling to a deafening chant of -- "Dewey! Dewey! Dewey!") One Spanish-American war veteran absent-mindedly thought he was back in the days of forty odd years ago, the battle of Manila Bay fought all over again, the crowds roaring with cheers for Admiral Dewey, Dewey, Dewey.

And who will the Democratic candidate be? I don't know, you don't know. The Democrats don't know. Their convention opened today at Rochester, with Jim Farley doing the opening. In case you don't know who Jim is, I'll give you

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his titles:- Postmaster General of the United States, National Chairman of the Democratic party, and State Chairman of the New York Democratic party. A man of partys is Jim, a party man.

(The Democrats are sorely in need of a candidate for they know that Racket Buster Dewey has all kinds of political strength with the voters of the State. It will take quite a Democratic vote magician to beat him.) So the Democrats of Rochester are debating no mere nomination - they're talking about drafting. "Draft Lehman," is the slogan. The present Governor, with his stunning record as a vote-getting magician, is by all odds the best Democratic bet against Dewey, *they are saying* Governor Lehman, who is attending the convention, isn't saying anything, but the convention talk is that he'll accept and consent to be drafted. He's a party veteran, and veterans know what it is to be drafted - ask the American Legion.



## TORNADO.

The tornado at Charleston, South Carolina, today did not hit hardest in the business or more ~~expensive~~ expensive residential areas. But it did strike just where it could play the most spectacular havoc. The old slave market section is one of the historic parts of Charleston, down on the water front where slave auctions were held in the days before the war -- *the* Civil War. It doesn't sound so aristocratic or elegant, and it's a place of *frame* buildings and flimsy houses -- just the sort of thing for the violent twisting wind to reduce to wreckage.

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The tornado today cut a swath through the old slave market section, blasting along a curved path of devastation. Streets cluttered with roofs blown off. The City Hall lost its roof, and so did a hotel and a school. The annex of a church blown away. Homes by the scores ripped to bits. Damage in the millions and more than a score of lives lost. The wild wind was followed by a terrific downpour of rain, and that caused a flood. Communications down everywhere, the tornado area isolated. The details have only just come in -- an account of *the ruin left by the twister. In fact two twisters -- one right after the other.*

PRAYER FOLLOW LEAD.

*And now to return to Europe and its problems again for a*

ment: - ~~And~~ Prayers were answered today, prayers for peace.

There was a world-wide supplication, addressed to the radio and the world, *which many of you heard.* by Pope Pius in Rome, <sup>^</sup> The Pontiff spoke an affecting plea, which can be summarized in these words of his: "While mankind is under the fear and distress of war," explained Pope Pius, "we raise a prayer for peace."

In New York there was a city-wide five minute prayer. On the stroke of half past twelve, church bells rang all over the metropolis. From twelve thirty to twelve thirty-five, places of worship were open for throngs to come and pray, this five minute period was initiated by a proclamation from *the* City Hall, Mayor LaGuardia asking that all churches and synagogues be open for the five minute period and that all New Yorkers pray for the peace of the world.

I have a telegram here from Dover, New Jersey, which tells me that tomorrow the people of Dover will observe a minute of silence at noon and the whole town will take time off, school children and adults, to hold a mass prayer meeting for peace. This is by proclamation of the Mayor and was wired



to me by the local Blue Sunoco dealers. <sup>Tonight</sup> ~~Now~~ it seems <sup>that</sup> ~~in~~ Dover  
can pray in thanksgiving.

And President Roosevelt today called upon the <sup>entire</sup> nation  
to pray - on Sunday. The President phrased his summons in  
accordance with the good news of the day. He asked us to  
supplicate for the continued peace of the world.

It was said today at the White House, <sup>that</sup> the President  
has received stacks of telegrams from clergy and churches and  
religious organizations, asking the head of the nation to set  
aside a day <sup>to</sup> ~~to~~ pray <sup>may</sup> ~~or~~ that war <sup>might</sup> ~~might~~ be averted. The  
President has not proclaimed such a day formally, but he is  
asking the American people to join on Sunday in praying for -  
continued peace. — and s-l-u-t-m.