

L.T. SUNOCO. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1939.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The anti-Nazi disturbances in what used to be Czechoslovakia, climaxed tonight with a savage announcement -- nine Czech students have been executed by Nazi firing squads. This comes in an official German statement, which adds that the students were guilty of what the Nazis call "acts of resistance". Many others were arrested.

For several days now, students have been surging through the streets, shouting -- "Our Freedom!" And this one peculiar thing is to be noted -- a riot by students who are called "Fascists." This right wing group cried out against the Czech government in power, using the slogan -- "Away with the government that is paid by the English!" That sounds peculiar, paradoxical.

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Today's disturbance, however, is clear and comprehensible. The German announcement attributes the trouble to what it calls "Student intellectuals who have ~~proved~~ connections with Benes." Yes, Benes, the former President of Czechoslovakia and one of its founders, who was forced out when Hitler dismembered the small republic.

Today students at Prague staged a freedom demonstration - the most violent to date. They attacked the Germans. Nazi stormtroopers and members of the Gestapo secret police battled to suppress the outbreak. They occupied the University and other schools. They seized scores of students, singled out the leaders, and shot them - nine in all. This was followed by a Nazi decree ordering all the universities of Czechoslovakia ~~to be~~ closed for three years.

German reenforcements, stormtroopers and police, are streaming by the thousands into Prague, which tonight is like a city of the dead.

COUNCIL

Great Britain and France have formed a sweeping economic agreement - coordinating their war-time economic arrangements.

*This was announced today*  
~~This was announced today in a British-France statement~~ after a meeting of the Supreme War Council of the Allies. The British and French will have a joint program concerning munitions, aviation-equipment, raw materials, food, ships, etcetra. They'll pool their resources - and pool their purchases.

One of the most important angles is this:- the British and French, in buying war supplies abroad, will not compete against each other - ~~will not bid up the prices. against each other.~~

They'll lay out a mutual program in placing orders - will act as one. This happens in the third month of the present war. During the World War, it took the Allies several years to get around to the same sort of economic coordination.

ENGLISH GIRL

Today we have some elucidation in the singular case of the aristocratic English girl who has dedicated herself to the cause of Hitler and the Nazis. Her name is Unity Freeman-Mitford, a beauty of London society. Her father is Lord Rodesdale. She was prominent in England as a pro-Nazi, an admirer of Hitler. She went to Germany and became a friend of the Nazi Fuehrer. Now, with the war on, she is remaining in Germany, an expatriate from her own country. Singular conduct by the blonde beauty of the British peerage.

Today, The British ~~beauty~~ poet, Stanley Richardson, arrived in the United States with the story of an encounter he had with Miss Unity Freeman-Mitford. It happened last July, when the crisis was tense and the war was drawing near. *Bi-royt* Stanley Richardson tells of being in Bayreuth during the Wagner Festival, and there in a cafe he sat at a table with the daughter of Lord Rodesdale. ~~At this~~ He describes her as ~~very~~ blond and ~~very~~ beautiful, dignified and austere. Hitler has called her - the perfect type of Nordic beauty. At their table was Captain Buckner, a member of Hitler's personal bodyguard. And only two

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tables away sat Hitler himself. <sup>He</sup> The English poet expostulated with the British society girl - about her devotion to the Brown Shirt Dictator. ~~He says that even with Hitler's bodyguard at their own table and with the Nazi Fuehrer himself only two tables away, he informed her that she was making a fool of herself.~~ "I told her she was making an international ass of herself," he relates. "I told her that Hitler was to be compared to Father Divine in America; that he exercised a form of mass psychological effect in whipping the mob spirit to a frenzy."

What effect did that have on the daughter of Lord Rodesdale? None at all. She wouldn't listen. "She's just crazy in love with Hitler," Stanley Richardson said today. And he added that she thinks Hitler is - Christlike. "She believes he does all the things Christ set out to do," explains the poet. "She thinks the Germans are a superior race and thus should be supreme in the world." Well, that would make it appear as if the expatriate beauty of British society were, as the poet <sup>intimates:-</sup> ~~says~~ nuts about der Fuehrer. ~~crazy~~ "crazy in love with Hitler."

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"I told her," he continues, "that the Fuehrer would throw her over, and that ~~it would be~~ she would be a sorry girl.

But," he adds, "she has fallen under his spell, and it did no good." Such is the story we are told of the daughter of a British peer who has joined the enemies of her country.

Today at the trial of Fritz Kuhn they had all sorts of ups and downs - up ~~axis~~ onto the witness stand and down again. This, accompanied by incessant rowing and wrangling. The way the trial has been going for days, peppery arguments between the judge and Fritz's lawyer, Sabbatino. His Honor rebuking Sabbatino and Sabbatino talking back. And now today - the ups and downs.

First up was District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey. He stayed on the witness stand long enough to say a few things. Sabbatino called him for the defense in an attempt to show that the prosecution of the Fuehrer of the German-American Bund was for political reasons. ~~The District Attorney's office is doing the prosecuting. Dewey denied the political angle. But he made no secret of what he thought about Fritz Kuhn, called him a nuisance, said he was a menace.~~

Sabbatino demanded to know whether or not Dewey had any personal animus against Kuhn.

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"Never having seen the man before," Dewey retorted, "it would be impossible for me to have any personal animosity. And yet, I have considered him a nuisance to the community and probably a threat to civil liberties."

After the District Attorney stepped down from the witness stand, up stepped New York's Police Commissioner, Valentine. The judge didn't like the question Sabbatino wanted to ask, so Valentine stepped down.

Then up stepped Mayor LaGuardia, Sabbatino asked the Mayor whether he had written to Secretary Hull asking the State Department to withhold a passport for Fritz Kuhn. LaGuardia never answered that, because the judge interrupted and said the question was immaterial. That was the end for LaGuardia. He stepped down from the witness stand.

And so it went -- ups and downs.



ECUADOR

The death of the President of Ecuador is to be followed by elections within two months. President Narvaez succumbed to a long illness. His passing does not seem to indicate any political repercussions - just a prompt election to choose a new successor. All of this comes in the news <sup>as well as in</sup> ~~and I had~~ a cable <sup>traveller for</sup> ~~who lives in~~ ~~about it from John Oudine, an American~~

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World Letters - in  
Ecuador.

COURT

The appointment of a new Justice of the Supreme Court will wait until next year - so said President Roosevelt today. He's at Hyde Park, and he told the press conference that he does not intend to name a successor to fill the vacancy left by Justice Pierce Butler until after Congress has convened - that's in January. ~~(The President added that only some emergency could persuade him to make an appointment sooner and it's difficult to see what sort of emergency could hasten the nomination of a justice of the Supreme Court.)~~

As for who <sup>he</sup> ~~the new justice~~ would be, the President stated ~~that~~ he has given no thought as yet to the selection. Washington rumor, however, continues to mention Attorney General Frank Murphy.

G.E.

Two great figures of industry are retiring, both from the General Electric Company, Gerard Swope, its President, and Owen D. Young, Chairman of the Board. This was announced today. - They've reached the age limit for retirement.

Gerard Swope began his career as a helper in the Chicago shops of General Electric. He started in ~~with~~ <sup>earning</sup> a dollar a day, and ended by becoming President of that great concern and one of the nation's best known industrialists.

Owen D. Young, in his youth, wanted to work his way through Harvard, but was rejected. He had to content himself with a lesser institution of learning - working his way through. <sup>Then</sup> he became one of the top flight figures of American industry, ~~he~~ played an important part in the post-war finance of Europe, German reparations, international money arrangement, <sup>P</sup>rominent in American politics, ~~and~~ <sup>he</sup> forbade having his name put up at a Democratic national convention as a candidate for the presidency.

Two men, who started at the bottom, <sup>and</sup> now have stepped out of office at the top.

WEDDING

A strange and sombre ritual was enacted at Colebrook,  
New Hampshire. One hardly knows what to think of it, a wedding,  
a symbolical rite. The bride stood beside a coffin, in which lay  
the body of her bridegroom. They <sup>had been</sup> ~~were~~ engaged - Clayton Bennett  
and Ida Knapp, ~~and~~ they were to have been married today, <sup>Also</sup> ~~but~~, ~~as he~~  
was killed last Saturday in an automobile accident. <sup>However</sup> ~~But~~ Ida Knapp  
went through with the marriage ceremony at the appointed time.

The ~~time~~ ring was placed on her finger by the father of the man  
<sup>And she placed a ring on the finger of her</sup>  
she would have wedded. Then - the funeral was held.

Yes, strange and sombre indeed - a double ceremony of  
wedding and funeral.

had bridegroom.

DRUNK

Here's another one of those wisdom-of-Solomon court decisions. A man was arrested for being drunk and disorderly - for the twenty-third time. And in court he displayed considerable wisdom himself. He asked the judge to send him to jail, saying that he realized having been arrested twenty-three times for being drunk and disorderly was really too much.

But the judge said "No." He refused to send that two-fisted drinker to the jug. He suspended sentence, and spoke these words - "You only hurt yourself." I suppose the judge meant drunkenness is its own punishment, as many a fellow knows the morning after. In any case, the confirmed <sup>Topper</sup>~~rotator~~ was turned loose to go out and punish himself again, so I suppose ~~the~~ next ~~we~~ <sup>hearing about</sup> ~~time~~ will be his twenty-fourth arrest for being drunk and disorderly.

TRUCK DRIVER

And now - who's a gentleman? Why, a truck driver.

~~Who are the gentlemen of the highways? The answer is - the~~  
~~truck drivers.~~

Yesterday, Secretary of the Interior Ickes handed out a wordy lambasting to the boys who drive the big behemoths along the roads. But leave it to <sup>the</sup> truck drivers to give a reply. Did you ever get into an argument with one? Their spokesman today was John W. Lawrence, General Manager of the American Trucking ~~Association~~ Association, <sup>it</sup> ~~He~~ utterly denied ~~that the truck drivers were what~~ the Secretary called them - "peregrinating pests." He defended the perfect manners and exquisite courtesy of the truck drivers - their courtly deportment. Here's what he said:- "A couple of years ago we instituted a national truck driving championship, and that emphasized good deportment."

To that, the spokesman added an unforgettable aphorism. "The truck drivers," said he, "are the gentlemen of the highways."

And to think that our roughneck Secretary of the Interior talked yesterday about getting an armored tank <sup>in which to go</sup> ~~and go~~

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bumping ~~the~~ trucks off the road! <sup>R</sup> Today I got a telegram from one of those gentlemen of the highways, John Coleman, four fifty-one Norwood Avenue, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Here's what he wires:- "Can you arrange for me to be the first truck driver to pass Ickes in his armored car?"

Spoken like a perfect gentleman of the highway!

## STRETCH

Well, Kathleen Hildebrand slept late today, and that was better than stretching. Trying to get an aviator's license, she was an inch too short. So she stretched and stretched - as we heard last night. But she could gain only half an inch in stature. She had to come up for examination this afternoon, so what did she do? She stayed in bed until noon - because the doctors told her that people are taller when they first get up than they are later on. That's because their backbones are limbered out. Later in the day, apparently, we sort of slump down and our backbones get shorter and we're not so tall. So by staying in bed till noon Kathleen was absolutely at her maximum height when she appeared for the test. The doctor measured her height, and lo and behold, she was exactly five feet two - unless the doc stretched a point. So now she has ~~got~~ her junior college flying license.



FOOTBALL

They'll have no football for a year at Southwest High School, Kansas City. That was decreed by the Board of Education today. Last year the high school team won the championship for the Kansas City area. This year they had only one game to go to win the championship the second time. That game was played Wednesday night when the team copped the game and the championship.

Thereupon the student body went haywire. They stormed into theatres, whooping and hollering, and dashed out. They swarmed in stores and some swiped merchandise, while others contended themselves with destroying. They ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXX~~ went hooting down business streets and let the air out of automobile tires along the line, and they raised Cain with the cops. It was football madness run riot.

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Yesterday, the student body, having calmed down, waited gloomily for the retribution that would surely come. And today <sup>it</sup> came, retribution; - the word <sup>of</sup> doom. The Kansas City School Board decreed that the football crazy high school ~~x~~ shall have no football team next year. They'll have to find some other excuse for busting up the town.

TEACHERS

Here's a picture for the future. A schoolroom; the children file in; and at the teacher's desk stands a spectacular blonde, dazzling with glamour, oozing charm. Who is she? Why, that's teacher - dear children. At least it should be according to Dr. Clyde Hill, Chairman of the Education Department at Yale. The Doctor breaks into the news with a few recommendations for schoolteachers. He told of a few things that dear teacher needs. "A little more glamour," prescribed the Doctor, and he summarized it all in these memorable words:- "School teachers could afford to study the fine art of feminine witchery."

~~Feminine witchery, doctor?~~

Feminine witchery, doctor? You don't mean they should

look like a witch, do you? No, not at all. The doctor means

~~they should be bewitching. There's a subtle difference between~~

~~the words~~ boola.

To whom did the Yale pedagogue make these glamorous recommendations? Why, to the New England Association of School Superintendents. And you should have heard those frosty old boys cheer! And clap hands.

And now, Hugh, ~~what are you cheering about?~~

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