

L.T. - SUNOCO. TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 1940.

GOOD EVENING EVERY BODY:

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Philadelphia was a city of rumors today. With the convention adjourned from shortly after noon until ^{this evening} ~~ten thirty~~ ^{J.} tonight - the assembled hosts of delegates, newspaper men, radio people and visitors ~~had a great chance to put on a buzz of gossip~~ passing along reports about this delegation and that, ~~about that candidate or the other.~~

^{First} Let's take a look at the ascertainable facts:-
~~Wally~~ Congressman Joe Martin of Massachusetts made his address as permanent chairman of the convention. He spoke long and eloquently along lines that were not so different from those of the keynote speech last night - denouncing the New Deal, the administration war policy, championing freedom and democracy, and advocating a course of keeping the United States out of the war. Then came the adjournment - the adjournment of everybody except the platform-makers. They stuck to their task of carpentering ^e the planks - especially that crucial length of

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timber - the foreign policy plank concerning war. "America first", is the slogan, and the contest is ^ebtween the groups that are being called "isolationists" and "interventionists." The most likely compromise produced by the platform-makers is a proposed plank advocating aid to oppressed peoples, aid short of war. ~~Oppressed~~ Oppressed peoples - without any mention of the Allies. Or rather, there being only one ally left - without specific mention of Great Britain. ^WI could go on for half an hour with reports circulating about the platform puzzle, but the general facts are about what I have stated.

Concerning candidates - ~~New York District Attorney,~~

^{TOM E}
~~Thomas~~ Dewey today denied a rumor that has been circulating - that there's a deal between the Dewey forces and the supporters of Senator Taft, a combined attempt to stop Wilkie. Dewey called that - "phoney from beginning to end." And he stated:- "There is no deal pending or in prospect between me or my headquarters and any other candidate."

As for Candidate Wilkie, he spoke up today concerning the Roosevelt policy of reciprocal trade treaties. In the past,

Wilkie has been quoted as being in favor of those treaties.

Today he ^{said:} ~~said~~ - they're no longer an issue. The Wilkie attitude

is that the developments of the European War have put ~~the~~ trade

treaties in the background. "~~The importance of reciprocal~~

~~agreements has ceased to exist,~~" said he.

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CONVENTION SIDELIGHTS

The principal topic of conversation in Philadelphia today has been: after the first ballot which way will the delegates jump, ~~the~~ delegates ~~who are~~ pledged to vote on the first ballot for Dewey or Taft or Vandenberg, or some favorite son? And here is a bit of information that may or may not be accurate, and may or may not indicate anything. I'll pass it along and let you figure it out. The 'dope is that after the first ballot, when the pledged delegates are released they say that not many of them ~~will go to~~ are going to switch to Dewey, that he will lose strength from then on, that the trend will be to Taft, maybe, Hoover, maybe, depending of course to no small extent on that much awaited speech, the speech that will be one of the high spots in the long and spectacular career of Herbert Hoover. And, some of those delegates say they are going to switch to Willkie.

Does this mean that ~~Mr.~~ Dewey is out of the running?

His followers expect him to pick up strength again - after a few ballots.
Far from it. But, there is ~~no~~ more talk than ever of trying

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Tom Dewey
to get ~~him~~ to take the second place on the ticket. For some reason nearly everyone thinks that he would be the ideal man for Vice President. That he would be of enormous help in the

in the campaign, that ^{if elected} he would be at ^a ~~the~~ pivotal point ~~at the~~
in the national government, a participant in all cabinet meetings
for four years, and then the logical man in ~~1944~~ Nineteen
forty-four. That's what many are saying.

~~Today I heard very little talk about Senator~~
~~Vandenberg getting the nomination.~~ In the Convention Hall,
when you get away from the delegates on the floor, a thing
that struck me as curious was that nearly everyone ~~to~~ I
bumped into was a Willkie ~~xxxxxxx~~ supporters. But, right
now everybody is sitting back, waiting for tonight's speech,
~~the~~ ^{an} speech that ^{an} Ex-President ~~Hoover~~ will make. Advance

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copies of it have been turned over to the press. This is
always done with important speeches of this type. And, the
journalists who have taken time out to read it, who can't
wait until they hear it ~~xxxx~~ tonight, ^{in saying} are unanimous ⁱⁿ that
it is perhaps the greatest of all Hoover speeches. Personally
I prefer to wait and hear it, rather than read it ahead of time.
Because, on an occasion of this kind much not only depends on
what Hoover says, but how he says it, and the reaction of the
Republican Convention. Will it be stampeeded?

It is safe to say that nearly every radio in America will be ~~XXXXXX~~^{tuned} in to this Philadelphia Convention when Herbert Hoover steps before the microphones, *later this evening,* And, I have a hunch that he will get just about the greatest spontaneous ovation of his entire career, ~~And, there is hardly a person, anywhere who doesn't now feel that the former President did his best while in office, since then has been playing the main role of our foremost elder statesman, that he is one of the first first citizens of the world, perhaps our wisest man.~~

~~Yes, tonight is Hoover night in every even if Taft or Dewey or Willkie is nominated on Thursday or Friday.~~

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Here is a curious thing I ran into:- Ray Tucker, crack writer for Collier's told me a while ago, that the word was going around that Raymond Moley, Ex-New Deal Brain Truster had written the speech that former President Hoover will deliver tonight. What nonsense! The speech was written largely in the home of Senator Fred Wolcott, up in the Berkshire Hills. Every line of it written by Herbert Hoover hi self. In fact, since leaving the White House he has

prepared all of his speeches, turned them out with prodigious labor and it is safe to say that the one he is to deliver tonight was written by ^{himself} Hoover alone. And, there are ~~xxx~~ personal reasons why it couldn't possibly be written by Raymond Moley. Remember that message the Ex-President sent to the President when Moley's book about F.D.R. and the New Deal came out? ^{denounced Moley's attacks on the President} But, that is an illustration of what wild ^{during} stories make the rounds of a national ~~xxxxxx~~ political convention.

Yes, tonight is Hoover night even if Taft or Dewey or Willkie is nominated on Thurs. or Friday.

called
it a
betrayal.

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One important question was answered today in the British House of Commons - a question about the French fleet. It has been rumored that the bulk of the warships of France were under British control, and would not fall into the hands of the Germans. This is not true - according to the statement made by Prime Minister Churchill. He indicated that the French Government is turning over the bulk of the French navy to the Germans and the Italians, - in accordance with the terms of the armistice that went into effect today. The bulk of the French fleet, - although it is possible that the British may control some of the units. Prime Minister Churchill told a dramatic story about the French fleet, a story ~~which~~ all the more interesting - because it has an American angle. The United States figures in the drama that Winston Churchill unfolded.

On June the Thirteenth, twelve days ago - the Germans were hurling the full power of their tremendous drive, and the French command knew only too well that the armies of France were cracking badly. On that day, Prime Minister Churchill, accompanied by Lord Halifax and Lord Beaverbrook, conferred with

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French Premier Reynaud at Tours. Reynaud said that the military situation was such that France might have to call off the fight. He asked the British Prime Minister to release the French government from the pledge it made in its treaty with Great Britain - the promise not to make a separate peace or a separate armistice. To this, Reynaud added the promise that, in any event, the French fleet would never be allowed to fall into German hands. The British attitude was that if France were compelled to seek an armistice, London might agree - if the French navy were sent to British ports while armistice negotiations with Germany were being conducted.

But meanwhile Churchill and Reynaud ~~agreed to~~ ~~the~~ ~~British~~ ~~French~~ ~~agreement~~ ~~and~~ ~~decided~~ ~~to~~ ~~have~~ ~~one~~ ~~more~~ ~~try,~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~hope~~ ~~that~~ ~~France~~ ~~might~~ ~~yet~~ ~~be~~ ~~saved.~~ That's where the United States comes in. "We agreed," declared Prime Minister Churchill today, "that a further appeal should be made by Reynaud to the United States." To this he added:- "If the appeal were not sufficient to enable Reynaud to go on fighting - then we would

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meet again to take decisions in the light of the new facts."

TR So the French Premier sent an appeal to the United States - that emotional plea which was headlined at the time. "On the Sixteenth," Churchill today related, "I received a message from Reynaud saying that the American response was not satisfactory."

That apparently applied to the ^{answer}~~response~~ that President Roosevelt made to the French appeal - the United States was already doing what it could, ~~in~~ the administration policy of giving the Allies all aid short of war. This American reply being unsatisfactory, Reynaud proceeded to ask that France be released from the pledge not to make a separate armistice. What happened? What was the subsequent course of events? "I was preparing to go to see Reynaud," says Winston Churchill, "in fact was already on the train - when I received news that he had been overthrown." That's how the Prime Minister of Great Britain got the news that the new ministry of Marshal Petain had taken power.

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Churchill said today that he reminded the new French government that unless the French fleet were put under British control, London could not release Paris from its obligations under the Anglo-French Treaty. But it did no good. "It was with grief

and amazement," declares Winston Churchill, "that I read afterwards of the armistice terms which stated that the French fleet should be demobilized under German and Italian control." And Churchill made the pointed remark that the French warships are being turned over while they are still armed, guns in good order. He ridiculed the German pledge not to use the French fleet in the war against Great Britain. "We know the value of that," he snapped ironically.

The Prime Minister told the House of Commons today that the combined French, Italian and German navies would have a tonnage approximately equal to that of the British fleet. So what happens to the warships of France, what is done with them affects the safety of the British Empire. Affects British safety how much? Winston Churchill answered this question with these words:- "Powerfully, but not decisively."

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From all this it is only too apparent that the Germans and Italians have the bulk of the French fleet, and that the British do not expect them to keep their pledge that the squadrons turned over to them would not be used against Great

Britain. Also, that the British Prime Minister believes that if the French fleet is used in the attack on Britain, the effect will be - powerful but not decisive.

RED CROSS

I have a telegram here from the Red Cross. It states that the end of hostilities in France will not affect the Red Cross program of sending relief to the millions of refugees.

The telegram ^{speaks} ~~talks~~ in particular of the ^{hundreds} ~~millions~~ of children who are so pitifully in need of charity - that unfailing American

Red Cross
charity.

Along with this comes a question sent to me by a friend. He is Jacques Charmoz, French explorer and ^{flyer,} ~~athlete,~~ He suggests - Would the American nation be willing to extend a temporary hospitality to children of France, some of the myriads of orphans? Would it not be possible to work up a plan whereby French children could be brought over here to stay until the war horrors of Europe have ended? Children's camps might be established, where the smallest and most appealing of war refugees could live - to return to their native land later on. Such is the question propounded.

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JAPAN

There is one piece of news today that has attracted the sharpest attention in Washington - as why wouldn't it? The report that comes from the Far East may be as important as any of the tidings from the war area of Europe.

The Japanese battle fleet ~~is~~ on its way to the coast of Indo-China - that rich French possession in southern Asia. And Tokyo declares that hereafter it will consult the ^{native} ~~French~~ authorities in Indo-China and not the Government of France - on questions concerning that part of the world. Moreover, there are rumors that the Japanese intend to occupy some of the ports of French Indo-China, and that the Mikado's empire may declare a protectorate over that French possession. And also - ~~over~~ the Dutch East Indies.

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The comment in government quarters in Washington is ^{is probably} that the move of the Japanese fleet ~~was~~ something in the nature of a trial balloon - ~~the idea being~~ to see how the United States will react, ~~a sort of feeling the way.~~ Our own State Department has never made any declaration concerning the French colonies in southern Asia - although there have been strong American expressions

concerning the Dutch East Indies. Washington ~~has~~ warned Tokyo ^g
~~that any Japanese~~ ^{not to make any} move to grab the ^{Dutch} ~~Molliang~~ colonies, ~~will be~~
~~regarded as a serious affair.~~

58 1/2 Ah, but What about the fleet of the United States?

It's somewhere in the Pacific, having left Hawaii for an unknown destination. The movements of the fleet are being kept a close secret, though there's an insistent rumor that Uncle Sam's warships are on their way to the Panama Canal, for a passage into the Atlantic. ^{and} That points significantly ~~over~~ in the direction of Europe, where the storms of war are lowering over Great Britain.

59 There's another report - that the fleet may be on its way to the Philippines - to keep an eye on developments in Asia. That supposition, ~~of course,~~ ties in with the Japanese gestures toward Indo-China. Washington, ^{opinion} however, is inclined to think that ~~sailing~~ sailing east is more probable than sailing west - the Canal, not the Philippines. ^{And s-l-u-t-m.}

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