

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Soviet Russia makes its official demand for reparations -- how much! and, when! (Ten billion dollars to be paid in twenty years. That's the stupendous burden the Soviets want to place on conquered Germany -- for Russia alone.

At the Moscow conference Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov presented the demand today) and explained that the Soviet expected the Germans to pay the ten billion dollars in the form ~~ix~~ of industrial plants and industrial production. He proposed that economic unity be restored in Germany to make it possible for the Germans to produce and pay. He demanded that the Ruhr, the industrial heart of Germany be placed under the control of the Big Four -- its resources and output to be used in paying. (Furthermore Soviet Russia wants the occupation of Germany to be continued until the last

dollar in reparations has been collected -- that to be accomplished in twenty years.)

The Soviet Foreign Minister declares that the ten billion dollars demanded is only one tenth of the direct damage done by the Hitler war machine in Russia, the total of which he placed at one hundred -and-twenty-eight billion. Molotov added that the war against Germany and Japan cost the Soviets three-hundred-and-fifty-seven billion dollars.

ADD MOSCOW

To the huge Soviet demand a reply was immediately made by our own Secretary of State, George Marshall. He declared that the Russians have already taken factories, equipment and industrial production out of Germany, a thing which Molotov himself admitted.) General Marshall pointed out that the seizures ~~of~~ the Soviets' have made tend to prevent the conquered German people from supporting themselves ~~the~~ the United States, meanwhile, ~~the~~ pouring out money to keep the Germans from perishing. The net result ~~is~~ is that we Americans have to make good for stuff the Soviets take.) Secretary of State Marshall told Molotov that this was not the sort of thing to go on in the reparations game. He said that ~~the net result of it all might be that~~

^{Wife}
↑ Americans might find themselves in a position of giving to the Germans what the Soviets take -- in effect Americans ~~footing~~ footing the reparations bill.

HOOVER

The War Department has ordered action on a recommendation made by former President Hoover. The American Army in Germany has been authorized to use surplus Army food to feed German children and aged persons in both the American and British zones.

In his recent tour studying food conditions in Europe, Herbert Hoover noted ^{the} desperate plight of ~~the~~ those two elements of the population in conquered Germany -- the very young and the very old. So now, surplus American Army supplies will be used ~~in~~ and soup kitchens will be opened for three and a half million children and a million of the aged.

SUBSTITUTE GREECE

In Washington, as the President's proposal for aid to Greece and Turkey goes before Congress in the form of a bill to be passed - ~~there's a~~ ^{there's a} warning from Senator Vandenberg of Michigan. He's all in favor of the Truman program for checking Communism. But late today he stated that there will have to be full public information on exactly what the administration intends to do. He said that the Senate will not vote the money for anti-Communist aid, unless there's a show down -- no secret diplomacy. Congress wants all the facts.

COMMUNISTS

The Supreme Court upholds the ~~xx~~ civil service right to fire Communists and fellow travellers. This verdict handed down by the nine Justices today gives the Civil Service Commission full legal authority for dismissing federal employees who are Communists or sympathize with the doctrines of the Reds.

The case before the Court concerned one Morton Friedman who was discharged from the War Manpower Commission in Nineteen-Forty-four on the ground that his loyalty to the United States was questioned. He admitted that he was a prominent leader of the American Peace Mobilization, an outfit belonging to ~~xxxx~~ the Communist Front. Friedman, moreover, conceded that he had ^{opposed} ~~supported~~ the entrance of this country into the European War -- until Soviet Russia was attacked by Nazi Germany, after which -- he became an ~~xxxx~~ enthusiast for war, --- when Stalin was in it. In other words, the conflict against Hitler was wicked imperialism, until Stalin

got into it. Then, presto-chango, it became a war for democracy. ^{TP} This latter point was decisive in the case. It was the test. the government taking the view that anybody ^{(who} was against the war until Soviet Russia was involved was a follower of the Communist Party line. ~~(The~~

~~government contention was presented to the Supreme Court in the following words. "This shift in position was one of the tests recognized not only ~~but~~ by the Civil Service Commission for determining extreme Communistic sympathies, but also was a frequently employed test for determining Communist party-line affiliations."~~)

With this the nine Justices agree in a decision that ~~he~~ upholds the right of the Civil Service Commission to fire any federal employee who when submitted to the tests for Communism, shows the color of Red.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

Washington announces a joint American-Mexican program to irradicate the Foot-and-Mouth-Disease. Eighteen million dollars will be put up, ~~in~~ about half-and-half, to wipe out the malady that affects cattle south of the Rio Grande. ^{IP} Eighteen million dollars for the ~~same~~ foot and mouth disease -- sounds like a bonanza for the chiropodists and the dentists, those foot-and-mouth doctors.

Today's agreement promises to eliminate a problem that has caused Mexican cattle to be barred from the United States, -- the threat all along ~~xxxx~~ having been that the Foot and Mouth disease might spread across the border and infect American cattle. So now the United States will put up money to reimburse Mexicans for cattle that will have to be destroyed, while the Mexican government will pay the indemnities for sheep and hogs -- infected with the foot and mouth disease. An eighteen million dollar effort, nine million for the foot, nine million for the mouth, ~~in~~ we suppose.

NUREMBERG

One of the final secrets of Nuremberg was disclosed today -- the disposition of the bodies of the Nazis who were hanged, and of Goering, who killed himself. The moment the final grim scene of the executions had been enacted, the American Army in Germany closed down a veil of concealment -- nothing revealed about what had been done with the bodies of the Nazi leaders. Now, however, rumors have leaked out and *the disclosure is as follows: --* ~~today, the official disclosure was made.~~

The Allied authorities were determined there should be no tomb or grave of Goering and the other Nazis -- no place that might be turned into a shrine by ~~Maxim~~ Nazi fanatics of the future. So the bodies were cremated, and the ashes were strewn in a river. They were poured into a stream that flows into the River Isar -- which, in turn, empties into the Danube. Maybe the Nazis would have preferred the Rhine, with its Germanic legends, -- ~~maxi~~ But the ashes dissipating in the water, drifted from the ~~ixxx~~

Isar to the Danube and down the Danube into the Black Sea.

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WEATHER - ENGLAND

In London today the weather authorities predicted new storms and a new deluge of rain. The forecast is:-- flood conditions ^(will grow) ~~XXXXXX~~ worse -- after the stupendous gales and pouring rain that caused wide-spread havoc -- bringing to a climax Britain's worst winter in many years.

The weather experts explained today that this latest outbreak of the elements was, in fact, two storms. One swept ^{from the west} ~~east~~ across St. George's Channel from the direction of Ireland, the other ~~blew from the west~~ ^{with} ~~the west~~ ~~the tempest being~~ centered in the English Channel. Britain assailed by gales, from ^{west} ~~west~~ and ^{south} ~~west~~, a double blast ^{ing} ~~of~~ of wind and water created the worst flood conditions in fifty years.

In places the wind blew at a hundred miles an hour. -- And, says the London dispatch, it flattened buildings like wartime bombing. And wartime days were recalled, as squads of police wearing Army helmets dug into wreckage to bring out victims

much as rescue work was done amid the debris of bombing in the days of the great blitz. Sixty buildings were blown down in Birmingham alone. The casualties of the wind are reckoned ~~at~~ half-a-dozen ~~people~~ ~~are~~ killed and hundreds injured.

In the county of Suffolk farmers organized ~~gangs~~ ^{posses} to hunt ~~men~~ for missing haystacks, haystacks blown away by the tempest. From one field alone five ~~have been~~ ^{haystacks} disappeared -- haystacks ~~chipped~~ ^{swirling} into the air and carried away by the big wind. I don't know how much hay the salvage gangs will be able to salvage. ^{TR} The flood hit London hard, it washed out the water supply of London's East End -- flood waters ~~putting the kibosh on the~~ ^{ruining the} drinking water. So today, four hundred British Army trucks ~~are~~ were mobilized to carry water to the crowded East End, with its ^{as many} million people. ^{TR} The River Thames is so badly flooded that the historic city of Reading was inundated -- although Reading is a mile from the River. Across the Thames, not far from London,

is the Royal town of Windsor which tonight is virtually marooned, almost completely cut off by the flood -- Windsor, the old-time playground of Kings and Queens, and of Shakespeare's Merry Wives.

Eton had to close down today. That most aristocratic of schools washed out, eleven-hundred boys sent home -- and tonight those famous playing fields of Eton are under water -- good for boating instead of cricket.

On the coast of England, old time sea-faring people declare that last night was the wildest in many years. Waves a hundred feet high broke on rocky shores. It must have been tough on the lighthouse keepers and their daughters.

WEATHER-COAST

Coming by train to Portland, coming along the glorious Columbia River, it was like a plunge into springtime, the balmy season of greening trees and blossoming flowers -- for spring certainly has arrived in Oregon. Then getting down to the business of going through the news, I promptly found a startling phenomenon of early spring:

The swallows of San Juan Capistrano have arrived - two days early. A thing that hasn't happened in one-hundred-and-sixty-eight years, according to California tradition.

In all that thime the schedule of the swallows has nct varied by as much as a single day. They fly away from the old Mission on October Twenty-Eight, the day of San Juan, and return in the Spring, on March Nineteenth, the day of San Jose. But this morning lo and behold the swallows came flocking back, winging to their nesting places under the eaves of the old mission. That's two days ahead of schedule. This being the day of San Patricio. Which, incase you don't know

Spanish, is Saint Patrick's day -- March seventeenth.

All of which suggests the theological problem --
have the swallows deserted San Jose for San Patricio?

Lee Moran, head of the National Automobile
Dealers Association, wires me: "Maybe the swallows had
a tail wind. "Maybe they did have a tail wind -- the
first in one-hundred-and-sixty-eight years!

WRECK

That great rescue in mid-Pacific was an affair of desperate urgency. After the stern of the tanker Dearborn, ~~which~~ ^{-- the ship that} broke in two in a storm, -- had drifted ever since last Wednesday, the Navy rescue men reckoned that the battered fragment of ~~the tanker~~ ^{the} would sink during the night. So that's why they took the ~~most~~ ^{perilous} chance today, ^{with a} Navy amphibious craft sending ^{ing} lifeboats -- in a heavy gale, that same gale which for days had been blowing up to sixty knots.

A newspaper man, an eye-witness out there in mid-Pacific, tells of the rescue of twenty-two survivors, and states "seven rescuers were tossed into the turbulent waters and three life boats were smashed to kindling or capsized, before the tiny troupe of cold and wet survivors were taken off."

MARGARET

The musical news tonight tells of two-hundred-and-fifty telegrams, telegrams to the White House -- which usually gets messages ~~xxx~~ opposing questions of Statecraft or twisters of hot politics. However, when the President's daughter makes her debut as a coloratura soprano -- why then - the White House floats off on the wings of music into the realm of soaring melody. So the two hundred telegrams today were congratulations on the first public appearance of soprano Margaret Truman.

The music critics in Detroit, where she sang last night with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, were unanimous in applause -- saying the President's daughter, singing light coloratura songs was excellent in poise, technique and musicianship, though perhaps a trifle nervous, as a soprano always is at her debut. *— or anyone else for that matter.* At the White House the following inquiry was made today!— In those two-hundred-and-fifty telegrams of congratulations, were there any offers for appearances in opera, radio or motion

MARGARET - - 2

pictures? To this the White House gives no answer, but it would be surprising indeed if some smart impressario didn't have an inspiration -- a performance featuring the President's daughter.

And now Nelson, after your two weeks at Sun Valley you should be refreshed and inspired. So Nelson now back to you.

GREECE

The latest congressional news today will be the introduction of a bill to enact President Truman's policy of aid to Greece and Turkey -- in opposition to Communism. All day long there was word from Washington about this new turn of American foreign policy -- with the House of Representatives scheduled to receive the bill as the day ended in Washington.

One outstanding development was a declaration by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. of Massachusetts, who put himself on record. He stated that he was all together in favor of the new Truman foreign policy. He said that if Congress ^{(rejected} ~~rejected~~ the Presidential proposal to help Greece and Turkey, it would mean that in his words: "the last hope of ever organizing peace would vanish". (However, Senator Lodge ~~warned~~ warned against the contradictory policy of resisting communism in one place and appearing to support it in other places. He meant the obfuscated notion of using American supplies, such as UNRRA

relief, to aid those same communist dictatorships which ~~are~~ our foreign policy is resisting.)

Still another Senator, Ferguson of Michigan, made a demand for a disclosure of possible secret agreements. He said that, before Congress acts on the Truman proposal to block communism in the Near East, ^{the people of this} ~~the~~ country should be told whether or not there are any war-time understandings still in the realm of mystery. Senator Ferguson declared that he was referring to the dealings that went on between the late President ~~Truman~~ Roosevelt and Soviet Russia. He mentioned, in particular, the Yalta Conference, that historic parley between Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill, at which so many concessions were ~~made~~ by the Late President to the Soviets. The Senator wanted to ~~know~~ know, are any of the F.D.R. agreements at Yalta still being kept a secret? (~~He said he was referring especially to diplomatic understandings about spheres of influence to be divided between Soviet Russia and Great Britain.~~)