

L.T. Sunoco. Friday, Sept. 16, 1938.

EUROPE.

The center of the world stage tonight is London.

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(Prime Minister Chamberlain returned home by plane today from his visit to Hitler.) There was a huge crowd at the air field, anxious, war frightened - and they received him from his peace-making mission with cheers. Just a few minutes before Chamberlain landed, another plane brought in Lord Runciman, from Czechoslovakia, the British nobleman who has been trying to mediate the quarrel between the Prague Government and the Sudeten Germans. So diplomatic action was converging there on the airfield at London.

With the arrival of Prime Minister Chamberlain, the moment he stepped out of the plane - a bulky letter was handed to him, a letter with a black border. That meant - a letter from King George the sixth, because the Court is in mourning for the death of Prince Arthur of Connaught, a cousin of the late King George the Fifth. The royal letter, edged in black, put emphasis on the gravity of the European crisis. An indication that the King himself is in close contact with the portentous doings of diplomacy, so anxious is the British monarch about the

peril of a world war. The Prime Minister instantly read the King's letter, four pages of letter - read it as he stood there on the airfield. Then he stepped to a microphone for a public statement.

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(He said he had a long talk with Hitler. "It was a frank talk", he explained, "but a friendly one," and I feel ~~them~~ thoroughly satisfied that each of us understands what is in the mind of the other.") He didn't elucidate the "frank talk." Didn't say what was in the mind of Hitler ^{or in his} ~~and his~~ own. Instead, he pointed out, "you will not, of course, expect me to discuss now what may be the results of our talk. I shall," he added, "be discussing them tonight with my colleagues and others - especially Lord Runciman." Then Chamberlain reverted to that second visit he's to make to Hitler. ("Later on, perhaps in a few days," said he, "I am going to have another talk with Herr Hitler.")

All this was in the high realm of statecraft, and then came a human touch - Chamberlain saying that for the next meeting Hitler would come half way to meet him. "He wishes," said

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Neville Chamberlain, "to spare an old man another such long journey." The long journey of the aged Prime Minister of Great Britain going to see the Nazi chief. - ~~More~~ emphasis on the dramatic singularity of the visit.

Immediately, after he left the airfield, Chamberlain called a meeting of the British Cabinet for tomorrow. And this evening he was received in audience by King George - to explain to his majesty the results of his talk with ~~Hitler~~ Hitler.

Though London is the center of the stage this evening, the doings of the Czechslovakia Government are vital action off on one side. (A decree was issued in Prague today, outlawing the Sudeten German party, ordering the abolition of the Nazi organization in Czechslovakia, their storm-groups to be disbanded, their property to be seized.) And new orders were issued for the disarmament of more and more of the Sudeten districts, the Germans ordered to give up their weapons - under pain of severe penalties. ~~The~~ And the Czechs were drawing up an indictment against Henlein, the Sudeten Fuehrer. He is ordered to trial, for high treason, ~~But~~, he has disappeared. Today's word seems to make it definite

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that he's in Germany. Moreover, the Czechslovak Government refuses to consider a plebiscite of the Sudeten Germans, utterly refuses to entertain any idea of letting that rebellious German minority have a vote of self-determination, whether or not to join the Nazi Reich.

All this seems to be dangerously provocative - ~~wily~~ with Hitler poised ready to strike, apparently. (The word from Berlin tonight is that the Nazi Fuehrer demands the outright annexation of the Sudeten areas - that was Hitler's point number one at his meeting with Prime Minister Chamberlain. And they say that Great Britain and France are inclined to see it the Hitler way.) But what if Czechslovakia should continue to refuse?

(The latest from London is that Chamberlain has told the King that Hitler demands annexation.)
~~A thorny question, and there's plenty of reason for a phrase used in own capital, in Washington today. President Roosevelt had a Cabinet meeting and the war peril was discussed. One~~

~~Cabinet member was asked whether the situation had improved~~

~~during the day. He answered, "No, it is still teetering."~~

~~Teetering on the brink that is the state of European affairs~~

~~tonight.~~

UN-AMERICAN.

Two kinds of testimony were given today in the investigation of un-American activities testimony - formal and informal. The informal was unusual and unparliamentary indeed.

First the formal, in which a witness told the Dies Committee about Communism and the Transport Workers Union of America. The chief witness was John J. Murphy. He used to be a member of the Union and also used to be a Communist. He made charges against Transport Union President Michael J. Quill, who is also a New York City councilman. He swore that Union President city councilman Quill is a Red, a Communist. And, moreover, he declared that in the Transport Union nobody can get anywhere unless he's a member of the Communist party.

Now for the informal testimony - Union President city councilman Quill - uttering a vehement denial. He led an expeditionary force to the New York building where the hearing is being held, sixty of his Union colleagues in a fleet of taxi-cabs. The expeditionary force, however, made no attempt to penetrate the committee hearing on the sixteenth floor. They went no further than the steps in front of the building. There

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they gave their testimony in the form of a public meeting.

Surrounded by his followers, Quill made a speech denouncing the witness Murphy, who had denounced him. Quill called Murphy - a stooge for the Capitalists. He called other anti-Communist witnesses before the committee - stool pigeons. In his harangue he denied that he was a Communist, denied that he or any of his associates were affiliated with the Reds. He also denied that the Transport Union paid any attention to the political or religious beliefs of its members.

Who is and who is not a Red? That is the question constantly before the committee investigating un-Americanism. Today the question was answered in two contrasting ways - officially and unofficially.

AUTO WORKERS.

There's peace in the Auto Workers' Union. Today they settled the bitter factional fight between Union President Homer Martin and the group of officers expelled on charges of Communism. The executive board of the U. A. W., meeting in Detroit, adopted the Peace Plan proposed by C. I. O. chief John L. Lewis -- his plan, with modifications.

Auto Union President Homer Martin, leader of the fight against the expelled officers, was opposed to the Lewis Peace Plan. But when he saw the executive board was going to adopt it he agreed to it -- with changes. Thus the Board voted the agreement, without breaking with the Union President.

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What about those ousted U. A. W. officers? The ones tossed out on charges of wanting to turn the Union over to the Reds? Arbitration - their case is to be arbitrated by a special committee. And all disputes in the Auto Workers' Union hereafter are to be brought before a committee for mediation. These are the principal terms in the agreement adopted today -- patching up the split in the U. A. W.

DOCTORS.

Today in Chicago, the house of delegates of the American Medical Association gathered ⁱⁿ extraordinary session. Extraordinary session - is the way the convention was styled, and it certainly is out of the ordinary. For the third time in its history, the American ~~Medic~~ Medical Association has summoned its delegates for a special meeting. The reason - the drive the Government is making against the Medical Societies for organized medicine, they'd have to decide what to do about under the anti-Trust laws. And that is because the Doctors are in opposition to the program of socialized medicine advocated by President Roosevelt's conference on national health. So the extraordinary session has gathered to decide what's to be done about it.

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Today, the assembled Doctors listened to plenty of denunciation of that socialized medicine plan which the National Health Conference recommended to Congress - an eight hundred and fifty million dollar plan. "State medicine" is one of the epithets cast, and - "political control of Doctors." The Presidential Health Conference was called a gathering of labor leaders, radicals, government employees, and only a few physicians.

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Dr. Irving Abell, the association President, addressed the Doctors, and said: "Forces of propaganda have apparently made a studied effort to indicate that the American Medical Association opposes all changes and is essentially a stand-pat organization." That he called - "An outrageous misstatement."

The Doctors were told that as the policy making body for organized medicine, they'd have to decide what to do about Government suits against the medical societies under the anti-Trust law. It's up to them, their president said, to find ways of providing better medical care at lower cost - all this without tampering with the ^a~~the~~ ancient and strict code of ethics *of the* ~~of~~ medical profession.

THEFT

The New York police have been searching an apartment occupied by a quiet, commonplace couple. Man and wife - just plain nobodies, it seemed. And the cops have been finding money, money, money. Cash everywhere, tucked away in bureau drawers, on shelves, here, there and the next place. Under a pile of shirts ^{they} found ^a hundred dollars. The husband said he put the cash there, to buy a present for his wife, and then he forgot the bundle of bills. The apartment crammed with expensive furnishings - a series of sun lamps, a whole string of valuable cameras. Two guitars and a violin, though neither man nor wife could play any musical instrument. The kitchen fitted out with a wealth of the latest electrical appliances, although they never ate at home and never cooked anything. The wife had five hundred dollars worth of lingerie, and they drove in a flashy, costly automobile. Tonight these two are under arrest, charged with a singular life of larceny and splendor.

For thirteen years, the wife was a clerk in a stamp broker's office, the broker a millionaire British Army captain. Six years ago she got married, and later procured for her

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husband a job in the stamp broker's office - a job as a stamp ~~h~~ sorter. There he became acquainted with the values and the money involved in the ~~widexxx~~ widespread fad of stamp collecting. He also noticed that the millionaire English Army Captain kept no close account of his myriads of valuable stamps.

Soon ~~xx~~ an orgy of stamp stealing began, with the husband selling the stamps. It worked so well that he quit his job. Leaving his wife to continue working for the millionaire English Army Captain, he opened a stamp office of his own. He'd meet his wife at lunch, give her a list of the stamps for which he had orders, and she'd take them from the collection she handled. The stamp stealing came to a total of a hundred thousand dollars.

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They didn't know how to ~~xxxxx~~ spend the money. The best they could think of was - home, their apartment. They piled up splendors in their household. And there hid away their excess cash. This went on for several years, until finally they decided to quit the crooked game. The wife quit her job.

But meanwhile the millionaire British Army Captain finally missed some stamps, and became suspicious. He called in the police, and they laid a trap. It was the wife's last day in the office. The detectives placed thirty-eight dollars of marked money in a tempting place. And she took the bait. Although she was quitting the crookery that day, and although there were thousands of dollars of excess money at home, she couldn't resist the thirty-eight. She took it, and that led to the arrests. Today the mild, quiet couple confessed - their splurge of ill-gotten money and its splendors of home at an end - turned into a charge of grand larceny.

EYSTON.

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Last night I thought we had the year's dramatic climax of speed - with British John Cobb driving his monster racing car at more than three hundred and fifty miles an hour, thereby shattering the record. This evening however, the climax ~~xxxx~~ climb^s still higher, because today on the Bonneville Salt Flats of Utah British Captain Eyston went out and broke that record of yesterday.

He blazed along the first mile at three hundred and fifty-six and forty-four one hundredths miles an hour - and that was record-breaking speed indeed. Then on the second mile, the mile back, he went still faster, flashing along at three hundred and fifty-eight and fifty-seven one-hundredths miles an hour. So his average speed today was three hundred and fifty-seven and a half miles an hour.

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Any touch of drama beyond the mere speed? Just this - Eyston said he had some trouble on the return mile, because of a mirage. That's something to think about - seeing a mirage when ~~xxxx~~ you're traveling six miles a minute. Eyston said that down the long stretch of gleaming white salt there was some kind of visual illusion - and it obscured the end of the track.

Speeding into a mirage.

With that, we can call it an end of the speed season.

Eyston indicated that today's record-smashing was enough for the rest of the year, so far as he was concerned. He may return to those Utah Salt Flats next year and try to drive at an even greater speed than three hundred and fifty-seven and a half miles an hour.

As for John Cobb, ^{he} announced today that he won't try to break the Eyston record - not this year. He said his car needs some changes which can't be made in time for another record-breaking attempt this season. So today ends the speed duel between those two British prodigies of swiftness, the duel that caused records to go smash one after another.