

L.J. - Sumoco. Thursday, Oct. 12, 1939. 2

CHAMBERLAIN

( Today marks the close of one phase of the present war - the peace offensive. The British reply to Hitler was stronger than the French reply. Prime Minister Chamberlain's rejection was more positively spoken than that given by Premier Daladier on Tuesday.) How shall we summarize it? That's easy. The Prime Minister of Great Britain did the job for us. At the end of his declaration to the House of Commons today, he said:- "I will sum up the attitude of His Majesty's Government as follows." And then he stated:- "Peace conditions cannot be acceptable which begin by condoning aggression. The proposals of the German Chancellor's speech are vague and uncertain and contain no suggestion for righting the wrongs done to Czechoslovakia and Poland."

Chamberlain continued his summarizing with this statement:- "Even if Herr Hitler's proposals were more closely confined and contained suggestions to right these wrongs, it would still be necessary to ask by what practical means the German Government intend to convince the world that aggressions will cease and that pledges will be kept. ( Past experience," he

continued, "shows that no reliance can be placed on the promises of the present German Government."

All of which once again states the Allied position - that even if Hitler did promise to be good, his promises could not be accepted. That's a dilemma! And, what's the way out? Chamberlain gave some sort of answer in these words:- "Acts, not words alone, must be forthcoming before we would be justified in ceasing to wage war to the utmost of our strength."

So the Prime Minister makes it a case of acts and not words - but acts of what sort? There's no answer to that. All we can say is that Chamberlain quite positively turned down Hitler's peace offer, but with that he left some sort of opening for Hitler to make still another offer - he didn't slam the door completely.

Now it remains to be seen what will happen. Will Hitler have another try at peace? It doesn't seem likely. Will the Nazi Fuehrer order a violent offensive - a blazing flare of war? Or will the present condition of half-war go on more or less - perhaps through the winter.

~~Americans with the deepest sympathy - an account of Finland, threatened by the giant power of Soviet Russia.~~

(The German response to Chamberlain is anger - and threats of swift strokes of war. *today*

*has* ~~in~~ *definitely put in* ~~today~~ <sup>^</sup> an appeal to Moscow in behalf of Finland, expressing

what the dispatch calls "earnest hope.") The United States

Ambassador to Soviet Russia told Stalin's Foreign Minister that

it was the earnest hope of the United States that the Soviets

would continue their peaceful relations with Finland. We can't

do anything ~~material~~ ~~materially~~ material<sup>y</sup> to help the Finns. We can

only exert what moral persuasion is in our power.

(The American action was followed by messages to Moscow sent by the three Scandinavian kingdoms of Sweden, Norway and

Denmark.) The Foreign Ministers of Stockholm, Oslo and Copenhagen

sent separate declarations to the ~~Soviet Government~~ <sup>Kremlin.</sup> These

separate declarations are identical. They read:- "All the

northern governments are carefully watching negotiations now

going on between the Soviets and Finland. They express their

desire," the declarations continue, "that the negotiations will confirm the friendly relations between Finland and the Soviet Union."

And, (this Scandinavian appeal adds the hope that the Soviets will do nothing to keep Finland from maintaining its neutral position. )

Meanwhile, the Finnish delegation to Moscow was being received by the officials of the Soviet Foreign Office. The word from Moscow is, that conferences were begun, but that the Soviet demands have not yet been made clear. The supposition is that the Soviets want to control islands belonging to Finland, and they say that Helsingfors would be willing to grant Moscow the right to fortify various islands in the Gulf of Finland, islands that dominate the approaches to Russian Leningrad. But not the Aaland Islands - for these control the waters between Finland and Sweden - and there's so much in common between those two neighboring nations. Still more firmly will Finland reject any Soviet proposition that would destroy the independence of the republic.

Indications continue today that Finland will fight -  
the cables bring new accounts of preparation for imminent war -  
although with hardly any chance against the overwhelming  
superiority of the Soviets. And the question is being asked -  
Will Russia fight? The question is based merely on the  
supposition that Stalin does not want any war of any kind,  
but wants to get what he can peaceably, without war.

FOLLOW FINLAND

Later reports indicate that the Soviet demands on ~~Finland~~ Finland may be of the broadest scope, -- not only the handing over of islands, but also permission for the establishment of Soviet naval and air bases on Finnish territory at the entrance of the gulf. There are even rumors that Stalin may demand concessions reaching over toward Norway. There is mention of Russian ambition directed toward a northern Norwegian port on the Atlantic -- not the Arctic. Any Soviet desire to get a outlet facing the open Atlantic is quite understandable. The Soviet Baltic ports in the Gulf of Finland are at the mercy of Germany while the ~~xxx~~ Arctic harbors are at the mercy of the ice.

EMBARGO

The embargo debate in the Senate brought forward ~~two~~ <sup>a</sup> Number One spokesmen today, ~~one~~, Senator ~~Robert W.~~ LaFollete of Wisconsin - Young Bob, whose father, Old Bob, stood a dramatic figure in opposing the entrance of the United States into the first World War back in Nineteen Seventeen. Young Bob today took <sup>the</sup> ~~a~~ stand against any idea of the United States entering the present war, a stand reminiscent of his father twenty-three years ago. All the senators are pretty much in agreement with that, the particular point being - what about the repeal of the Arms Embargo? The present-day Senator LaFollete is an isolationist, and his attitude <sup>could not</sup> ~~cannot~~ be in doubt. <sup>TP</sup> ~~He spoke in vigorous~~ ~~opposition to repeal of that embargo which prohibits the sale of~~ ~~American war materials to any nation at war. He declared that if we~~ ~~went ahead and sold, it would surely lead us into the war. And~~ <sup>TP</sup> ~~He~~ spoke on broad phases of American foreign policy, ~~He~~ attacked the notion that we should repeal the Arms Embargo because it's to our interest that Great Britain and France should win. "I question seriously the assumption," said he, "that because we're dependent on the British Navy, we must be irrevocably

committed to the vagaries of British foreign policy." And he put it this way:- "It is preferable to have satisfied nations as neighbors," said he, "but it is not so necessary as to make us fight a costly overseas war every twenty years."

ARMY

Today

They had an uproarious time at Aberdeen, Maryland - uproar plus! It was a spectacular exhibition of the latest weapons of war, most of which are explosive - and noisy. The bang up show was staged by the Army Ordnance Association, which is composed of manufacturers who make war munitions. On the scene were five thousand members of the Ordnance Association, lots of Congressmen, and scores of high army officers.

Out on the field sixteen inch guns on mobile carriages fired shells of twenty-one hundred pounds of high explosives thirty miles across Chesapeake Bay. A fourteen inch ~~xxxxxxx~~ seacoast cannon blasted away with fifteen hundred pound shells. The latest of anti-aircraft guns fired high aloft at targets towed by airplanes. A squadron of bombers swooped down and showered the earth with three hundred pound bombs. And there were two thousand pound bombs bursting and thundering. New anti-tank guns were in action. Also - the new <sup>S</sup> semi-automatic Garand rifle, which the Army is adopting. It's five times as powerful as the standard Springfield rifle the Army uses now.

With all those weapons of war blasting away in a spectacular display, the noise was stupendous. The spectators

had to stuff their ears with cotton. The explosives rocked them right back on their heels. Windows of automobiles had to be rolled down to keep them from being shattered by the detonations.

It was <sup>battle equipment</sup> the greatest exhibition of ~~war weapons~~ ever staged in this country, - and, the loudest.

that military dignity three years ago, when he was secretary to his father at the White House. Jimmy accompanied the President to a stately Pan-American Conference at Buenos Aires, and in order that he might have sufficient dignity among the brass hats at P.A., he was made a Lieutenant-Colonel of Maxine the Marine Reserves. Since then James Roosevelt has become a motion picture executive in Hollywood, and you don't have to be a Lieutenant-Colonel to get on out there - just being the President's son is enough.

Oh, for that matter - being an able and competent <sup>as Jimmy is</sup> ~~executive~~ <sub>to go</sub>

resigning today, Jimmy Roosevelt asked that he be appointed as a Captain of the Marine Corps Reserves. A captaincy, he says, would fit him a lot better. The Marine Corps Headquarters responds - okay. After they've unwound the necessary red tape, Lieutenant-Colonel Jimmy will become Captain <sup>Jimmy will be promoted to</sup>

JIMMY ROOSEVELT

Lieutenant-Colonel Jimmy Roosevelt has demoted himself - that's about what it comes to. The President's eldest son today sent in his resignation to the Marine Corps, explaining that he thought that the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel was too high and lofty for him - in view of his age and military experience. He acquired that military dignity three years ago, when he was secretary to his father at the White House. Jimmy accompanied the President to a stately Pan-American Conference at Buenos Aires, and in order that he might have sufficient dignity among the brass hats at B.A., he was made a Lieutenant-Colonel of ~~Marine~~ the Marine Reserves. Since then James Roosevelt has become a motion picture executive in Hollywood, and you don't have to be a Lieutenant-Colonel to get on out there - just being the President's son is enough.

Or, for that matter - being ~~as~~ able and competent

*as Jimmy is said to be.*

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## RUSSIANS

At Orange, New Jersey, a mystery was solved today, a mystery of ten silent young men and their Hindu servants.

The town has a well known mansion, the old VanDyke home.

After being unoccupied for some time, the Van Dyke home recently acquired some tenants that excited the curiosity of the town.

Ten young men, who kept secluded among themselves, associated

with no one, spoke to no one. They were attended by swarthy

Hindu servants, who wore turbans and were as reticent as their masters.

~~Yesterday~~ <sup>Today</sup> one of the ten young men drove off in his car, and presently got into a smash-up. He was injured, taken to a hospital, and there he told the story. The ten mysterious young men are Soviet Russian technicians, sent over here to study American ways of making radio tubes. They took over the Van Dyke mansion and, not wanting any publicity, kept to themselves - with their Hindu servants.

A.F. of L.

The A.F. of L. elected a President today, the same one. William Green was chosen for the sixteenth time. He has been President of the American Federation of Labor ever since the death of Samuel Gompers, and he was reelected today by acclamation - no candidate opposing him.

His resignation was announced today at the Convention in Washington, and the Convention took immediate action in accepting the resignation. It adopted a unanimous resolution naming Frank Morrison Secretary Emeritus, with a retiring salary of six thousand dollars a year. A patriarch of the labor movement came out with honors.

In Washington today a labor organization was indicted, and the accusation is - violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. A Federal Grand Jury handed down a bill against the Washington Local of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

MORRISON

One of the best known figures of American Labor stepped out of active service today - Frank Morrison, Secretary and Treasurer of the A.F. of L. He's eighty years old and has been A.F. of L. Secretary and Treasurer since Eighteen Ninety-Six, forty-three years. Frank Morrison saw labor organizations grow from a membership of a few thousand to a roll call of millions. He said today that he is still in vigorous good health but thought that his important post in the Federation should be filled by a younger man.

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## KIDNAP

The police today solved a kidnap case, which had produced a manhunt far and wide over sections of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. As a result of the unraveling of the mystery, three men are in jail tonight, three sad and downcast fellows, who thought they were going to have such a ~~good time~~ *thundering good time.*

The kidnap sensation broke when Mrs. William R. Honey of Easton, Pennsylvania, got a telephone message that her husband had been kidnapped - her Honey had been abducted by snatchers. Like any affectionate and devoted wife, Mrs. Honey was frantic. She called in the police, begged them to find her Honey, and to rescue him from the kidnapers. Her appeals were so pathetic, that the noble cops were galvanized into determined action, and the manhunt was on.

*But,* The manhunt was off today when the police found Mrs. Honey's Honey at Newark, New Jersey - Honey and two other guys, supposedly the kidnapers. *They* ~~were~~ *turned out to be* pals of his, and the sad story goes as follows:

It was a jolly and festive night, and Honey ran across those two pals. They went to a ~~saloon~~ *tavern* to talk things over,

and feeling really festive, decided it would be a jolly idea to go to New York, and continue the celebration there - in the big town, along the Great White Way. The three jovial pals could have a lot of fun on Broadway. There was only one difficulty, as Honey pointed out - what about his wife? How could ~~he~~ <sup>Honey</sup> get away from Honey? He and his two pals thought that over while they had a few more drinks, and thought up a good one to tell wifie. They'd phone Mrs. Honey and tell her, <sup>that</sup> her Honey had been kidnapped - that would be a sufficient excuse to explain his absence. So they telephoned the kidnap message and started to drive for New York.

You can understand the feelings of the cops this evening, after all that manhunt, with only one thing to relieve their feelings. Today, being Columbus Day, all the judges were having a holiday. There was no judge available to release Honey and his two pals on bail. So they've got to stay in the hoosgow, where they are tonight, and will be until tomorrow -

when they're scheduled to face an irate judge. After the judge,

*And what a honeymoon that will be - and*  
Honey will have to face Mrs. Honey. ~~And now~~ <sup>^</sup> SO LONG UNTIL

TOMORROW.