

L.T. - SUNOCO. FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1939.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

(The latest news is the worst of news, about the British submarine tragedy. For tragedy it seems to be. *At* Nine fifty-five P.M., London time, the ^{*British*} admiralty issued this pessimistic statement. It reads:- "The admiralty regret to state that hope of saving further lives is now diminishing.")

This grim announcement is taken to mean that the men ^{*in*} ~~of~~ the sunken submarine THETIS are not likely to be ^{*still*} alive. No sound has been heard in the foundered hull, not a signal for hours. The air by now must be almost exhausted. Desperate attempts are being made to raise the steel ^{*shell,*} ~~hull,~~ that living coffin. But it ^{'s} a difficult task. Divers report that the bow of the THETIS is deeply embedded in mud, and it will be ^{*hard to raise her.*} ~~difficult to raise the hull,~~ Even if they succeed, it will take several hours more - when all air will surely be exhausted. Such is the harrowing word that comes from Britain.

SUBMARINE

Today's news of the THETIS was harrowing; ~~with~~ ^{with} ~~alternation~~ ^{alternation} of hope and darkening fear. The word flashed that the sunken submarine had been found -- and not so completely sunken after all. (It was in shallow water, the after part of the boat sticking up above the surface. Fifteen feet of the tail was out of the water -- ~~the~~ ^{the} nose ~~was~~ buried in mud on the bottom.) It surely seemed it would not be difficult to rescue the men inside -- and England thrilled with hope. Plans were made to ~~cut~~ ^{cut} through the steel shell of the part above water, rip into it with acetylene torches and let the men out. ~~P~~ Meanwhile there were changing reports about the number of men inside -- ^{so} many more than normal, a large company of technicians from the submarine building plant in addition to the crew. At first the number was given at seventy odd, then eighty odd, (the latest figure is ninety-four -- that many men ^{were} trapped in the foundered submarine. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ A crew of fifty-eight and twenty-six civilians.) The excessive number of possible victims made the story of the THETIS one of exceptional anxiety and horror.

The word came ^{that} all were alive and well inside -- this information given by (signals rapped out on the steel hull. Then -- four men were out -- they escaped by means of the artificial "lung")

the contraption that permits men to breathe while getting out of a submarine and coming up ~~xxxxxx~~ through the water. The four popped to the surface one after another. The first to come up was Captain H.P.K. Oram, Commander of the Fifth British Submarine Flotilla. He had gone in the THETIS on ~~his practice~~ ^{its trial} dive which turned into disaster. And he was the first to escape in the artificial "lung" so that he, with his technical knowledge of conditions could supervise the rescue. ~~But those~~ ^{The others} who emerged were an officer of the THETIS, a civilian technician and a sailor.

The report that these survivors gave was not encouraging. They said the trapped men were suffering from bad air, the air becoming exhausted with so many men breathing ~~of~~ carbon-dioxide ^{forming} ~~and~~ ^{rapidly} the survivors themselves showed the effects of carbon-dioxide poisoning. Their gloomy report was borne out by the fact that the signals from the THETIS were growing weaker. Constantly from the inside messages were rapped out on the steel hull. But the rapping ~~was~~ ^{Then it stopped altogether.} becoming fainter. ^{And another} anxiety -- why did not still others emerge by means of the artificial "lung"? (After the four survivors came up -- no more.) There was a surmise that something might have gone wrong inside -- perhaps leeting the men out had let water in, too much water.

Worse still, the after-part of the submarine was above the surface because it was low tide and ^{now} the tide was rising again.

The tides are strong and high there on the west British coast. The THETIS was ^{upend} ~~standing~~ almost vertically on its nose, a rescue ship having pushed the stern up higher. (The tide was rushing in fast, and water was pushing strongly against the submarine standing on its head. It pushed the THETIS right over, and the stern disappeared in a swirl of water.)

The submarine was now entirely ~~but~~ below the surface, sunk one hundred percent, and there was no longer any chance to get through the steel shell with acetylene torches and get the

When the tide ran out - low water, the stern of the Thetis did not reappear.

The British have no rescue chamber, such as our own Navy-

diving-bell that saved thirty-three men trapped in the sunken

Over there - SQUALIS last week. Their only chance ~~is~~ now was to raise the sub,

Divers mobilized from everywhere hoist it above the surface. ~~Divers~~ descended with lines, placing

a steel cable^s for the hoisting operation. But time was running desperately short, and it takes a heart-breakingly long time to

raise a submarine. (The air running short inside, ^{no} more signals,

~~but~~ Silence! ^{the} and now, a gloomy report from the British Admiralty

saying that little hope is left. *The British people are remembering our*

own American story of the Squalis and saying why can't our Navy do what the Americans have done?

descended in relay.

KING

The story of the Thetis comes as a sombre depressing news to the Sovereigns of Great Britain on their Canadian tour.

In Canada this afternoon, the royal train was speeding

eastward, on its way to the United States - Washington. King George

and Queen Elizabeth left the wilderness resort in Jasper Park, and

heading for our part of their journey. now are speeding on to the United States part of their American trip.

The tragedy of the Thetis comes right after the most joyful part of the royal tour.

The news dispatches tell an idyllic story of the royal stop-off monarch stop over

in the wilderness of the Canadian Rockies. Royal formalities were

abandoned there, the sovereigns of Britain allowed to do as they

pleased. They went frolicking about, had fun with a ~~pink~~ bear cub and

its shaggy mother, joined hands and ran like youngsters through the

woods. It was all so idyllic and so touching that even the stern

strong superintendent of Jasper Park melted to a softened mood.

That rugged woodsman is not one who melts easily. "I'm not a

sentimental man," he said today, "but just to see the Queen look

at the King and see him smile back at her - it just made me want to

cry. If ever two people were in love, those two are." Thus spake

the strong and silent woodsman, ~~of the wilderness resort.~~

REFUGEES

Pitiful scenes were enacted ^{again} in Havana today. ~~On~~ the sea-wall of the Avenida Del Puerto, ~~hundreds~~ of people stood weeping and waving a tearful good-bye. They cried out a pathetic farewell to a ship that was leaving. They were Jewish people of Havana, and the ship was ~~a~~ ^{that} German liner ^{having} with the Hitler Swastika. They were (friends and relatives of the nine hundred and eighteen Jewish refugees, who were forced to depart from Cuban waters, ~~The friends and relatives~~ ran along the seawall to get a last look at those aboard, as the ship got under way and moved out of the harbor - returning to Hamburg, bound for Hitler's Germany.

Utter despair for the refugees! ~~aboard~~ Four of them are reported to have attempted suicide after the decree was issued yesterday - ~~with~~ ^{that} the Havana government would not let them ^{enter} ~~in~~ Cuba.) The Nazi captain said he was taking precautions against more suicide attempts. Small boats followed the liner through the harbor, anticipating that some of the refugees might leap overboard - to take their lives or try and swim ashore.

The German liner has been ordered to return to Hamburg.—

Unless it should be permitted to go some place else - some place that would admit the refugees. And the tragic thing is - that no place offers a welcome.

PALESTINE

New rioting, shooting and killing in Palestine, with a melodramatic incident reported from the City of Jaffa. A late dispatch tells how the Arab Mayor of Jaffa was sitting in a cafe. He's a member of the Arab moderate ^{party} ~~parliament~~ and favors the new British plan for an Arab-Jewish state, with Arabs in the majority - the plan the Jews so bitterly resent.

It isn't clear whether the Mayor of Jaffa was attacked today by Arab extremists or by Jewish Zionists. Anyway, here's what happened. ~~The Arab Mayor~~ ^{He} was sitting at a cafe table when a man approached and hurled a bomb at him. The Mayor was injured by the explosion, but contrived to get his pistol out and started shooting at the bomb thrower. He missed, however, and his assailant escaped.

RUSSIA

Today Soviet Russia gave a reply to Great Britain and France, in answer to the British-French proposal that the Soviets join the anti-aggression line-up against Hitler. There's no official revelation of what is stated in today's Moscow note, but informed opinion is that it ^{'s} along the lines of the speech made by Foreign Commissar Molotov two days ago. The Soviets want an outright military alliance, ^{while} ~~and~~ the British are for a conditional tie-up. The British-French proposal was a complicated sort of affair, according to which any military action to help the Red army would have to be through the League of Nations - the mechanism of the League to be employed.

This is one of the things the Soviets don't like. To them the League business sounds a bit like hedging. Molotov said that the British-French proposal didn't go far enough, and spoke about the possibility of Russia being used to pull chestnuts out of the fire. This is believed to be the tenor of today's Soviet reply - although it probably doesn't mention chestnuts.

SPAIN

Here's an echo of the Spanish Civil War. Yesterday we had the story of how the last Italian troops had left Spain, - Mussolini's men who had fought for Franco. Today there's word about Russians, - Soviet soldiers who fought for the defeated Loyalists. Ninety of them have left Spain - Soviet prisoners captured by Franco, and now released. A reminder of what an international affair that Spanish Civil War was - on both sides.

POPE

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Pope Pius the Twelfth today told about his effort in behalf of peace. Several months ago, the news informed us of a vatican peace move made by the veteran papal diplomat, who for so long was Secretary of State Cardinal Pacelli. He was negotiating with the various governments, sounding them out on the subject of averting war - that was in the dangerous hours of the German-Polish crisis, weeks ago.

What was the response ~~of the various governments~~ to the papal plea? That question was answered today by Pope Pius the Twelfth - addressing the College of Cardinals. All the governments responded favorably to the vatican peace plea. All expressed their desire to maintain peace - the dictatorships as well as the democracies. Pope Pius told the Cardinals today the result was so encouraging that he intends to make further moves to promote permanent peace.

NAVY

25
The Navy today signed contracts to shell out a lot of money and get a lot of new sea power. The amount of money - three hundred and fifty million dollars. The amount of sea power - twenty-four new warships. Nearly half of the huge sum is being put in just two ~~n~~ vessels, but they will be the world's biggest battleships, sea giants of forty-five thousand tons each, to be built ~~by~~ at a cost of eighty million dollars each. Among the other ships are four light cruisers, eight destroyers, and seven submarines - the largest warship building program the United States has ever put on in peace-time.

ROOSEVELT

We're told today about last night's big dinner at the White House, - the President dining a group of the biggest of big business men, and conferring with them. Secretary of Commerce Harry Hopkins today described the President as being - very pleased. Presidential pleasure over the big business dining and conferring. Hopkins added that the business men made various suggestions - prominent being the advice that the National Labor Relations Act be changed. The industrialists told the President that this was one thing that business needed, - alterations ~~in~~ that Wagner Act governing labor relations, which has aroused so much controversy.

GOLF

56

In Philadelphia golfers are in a fever, discussing the United States Open Golf Championship Tournament which will be staged at ~~the~~ the Philadelphia Country Club next week. I had a talk on the phone today with ^{golfer} Max Leister of the Sun Oil Company, who has a hand in the staging of the tournament, and Max tells me the Spring Mills course is going to prove one of the finest tests in the thirty-eight^{years of} open championship. The greatest golfers will be out there socking the ball, ~~golfers like~~ Ralph Guldahl, defending ~~the~~ champion, Sam Snead, Henry Picard, ~~and~~ Gene Sarazen. Gene will be playing in his twentieth consecutive open ~~championship.~~

He believes that in the Philadelphia event, two hundred and eighty-eight or two hundred and eighty-nine will win. Champion Guldahl thinks the winning score will be lower. He thinks the golfer who wins will have to average as low as seventy-one strokes for each round - or two hundred and eighty-four strokes for all four rounds.

That's the way the golfers are sizing things up as the time for the big golfing classic draws near in Philadelphia.

KIDNAP

Philadelphia's kidnapping case turns into a pitiful story of distracted emotion. Yesterday, a five months old baby, Gerald McCroghan, was left in his baby carriage on the street - while his mother went into a store to shop. When she returned, the child was gone, stolen from the carriage. That began a tense kidnap ordeal for the frantic parents and the searching police.

Today, five months old Gerald McCroghan was found - safe and sound, and well cared for. The kidnapper was an eighteen year old girl, whose own baby had died. And this is the pitiful story she tells about how she snatched the McCroghan child.

"I walked past the baby carriage yesterday," she says, "and the more I looked at him the more I wanted him. He reminded me of my own baby. I thought that if I took him, I could get the father of my baby to marry me." She took the kidnapped child to the man in question, and ~~the little boy was in their possession when~~ convinced him that it was his own. Little Gerald, McCroghan, when found, was in their possession. Tonight ~~was found~~ the distracted girl is under arrest, with the man saying she needn't worry, he'll stick by her.

ROSS

The Arizona man who says he's Charlie Ross is certainly in dead earnest about it. Gustave Blair claims he is that famous Charlie Ross, who as a child of four was kidnapped in Philadelphia sixty-five years ago - one of the most celebrated of all kidnappings. Blair's claim has been upheld in legal proceedings. A decision by an Arizona court has verified his contention that he is indeed Charlie Ross. The Ross family in Philadelphia, however, refuses to recognize him.

Blair is in Philadelphia - and today it's announced that he will make a dramatic gesture to assert his claim. He is sixty-nine. He and his wife have five grown-up children. July the First is the sixty-fifth anniversary of the kidnapping of Charlie Ross - and on that day Blair will remarry his wife, will ~~re-~~ marry ^{under} ~~her~~ with the name of Charlie Ross. Wedding bells to chime out to emphasize his contention that he is that child of long ago now grown up and grown old.

MULE

8 1/2

If you've ever seen an army mule, you'll have noticed the expression on the critter's face. An army mule has a languid look, meditative, contemplative - as if in a trance. In other words, sleepy. Now it would appear that the military authorities of the nation are out to change the expression on the army mule's face - change that drowsy look. They've found that the mule looks sleepy, because he is sleepy - suffers from sleeping sickness. The army, after much research, has obtained nine hundred and fifty cubic centimeters of sleeping sickness vaccine, and with this they're going to vaccinate the army mules. So hereafter those mules will be distinguished by an expression of extreme vivacity, with the snapping of eyes and the wagging of ears - alert and sprightly mules.

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8 1/4

They'll probably bite harder than ever. S-L-Monday