

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 1940.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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~~Here's~~ News indeed from Europe, war news, though not ~~as yet any big~~ battle. The British war cabinet is reorganized! Winston Churchill, ~~the~~ colorful First Lord of the Admiralty, steps up ^{to} ~~and takes~~ an office that gives even wider scope for his dynamic energy. He does not, however, ^{as yet} supersede Neville Chamberlain. The Prime Minister stays put. The new post of Winston Churchill is evidently a new title in the British governmental hierarchy that of Senior Defense Minister, That means he has direct control of every branch of King George's military establishment, the Navy, which the British look upon as the senior service, the Army, and the Air Force. ~~In other words, he is still First Lord.~~ He also is supreme boss of a branch of war work now considered as important as any fighting arm:- service of supply.

The sudden fashion in which this Cabinet upheaval was announced is more dramatic than the act itself. Criticism has been raging for weeks, ~~throughout King George's realm,~~ ~~superficially polite but really bitter~~ ~~animadversions against~~

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~~several of Chamberlain's colleagues.~~ ^{Now} The most criticized men have either been dropped out or shifted to other posts within the Cabinet. Most important of ~~them was~~ ^{all,} Lord Chatfield, Minister of Defense Coordination. ~~He drops out of the Government,~~ ^{Yes out} entirely. Inside circles around Westminster saw some inkling of this when the Supreme Allied War Council met last week and Lord Chatfield was conspicuous by his absence. But there was no indication that this change would happen so quickly.

Two other Ministers had been the object of unfavorable comment in the newspapers in the Parliament and on the streets. Sir Kingsley Wood, Air Minister, was considered to have fallen down on his job. He stepped ^S ~~out~~ out, though not down. His new title is Lord Privy Seal. That's an ancient British title and the man who holds it is considered fifth in importance among the officers of state. Actually, he has no salary and no job, just sits in on Cabinet meetings. ^R The ~~new~~ Air Minister is a man the whole world has heard about, Sir Samuel Hoare, part author of the Hoare-Laval Agreement that caused such a rumpus when Mussolini was taking over Ethiopia. Though that ^{episode} ~~episode~~ discredited him, Hoare has always

been rated high.

~~been rated one of the ablest of Britain's public men. He is also~~

~~one of Chamberlain's closest friends. But though Hoare is now~~

Air Minister, ~~he evidently~~ ^{is} serves under Winston Churchill, the

Senior Minister of Defense.

Herbert Morrison, Minister of Food, had a tough job. The

~~public~~ ^{public} and ~~people~~ didn't like the way he ran it. He becomes Postmaster

General and the new Food Minister is Lord Woolton, a British

manufacturing tycoon, who has for a long time advised the

Government on economics and finance.

And ~~Those are~~ ^{not} the only changes in the Chamberlain Cabinet,

for there was a general shifting around of Ministers in jobs,

but the ones ~~are~~ ^{I have} mentioned are ~~those easiest for us to understand.~~ ^{most important.}

~~As was observed,~~ It has been hinted for a long time that

~~Winston~~ Churchill would get a more important job, ~~even that he~~ ^{perhaps}

~~might~~ replace Chamberlain. Nevertheless, the announcement of this

change which almost amounts to a revolution inside the Cabinet,

~~is~~ ^{is} ~~was almost~~ startling. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ^{Here's something curious:} ~~And I just learned that the~~

~~the~~ ^{the} circumstances of the announcement had a touch of comedy ^{today.} Most of

King George's subjects learned the news through a Nazi broadcast

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from Berlin. And this is how it happened:~ The news was given out to British editors with instructions that it should not be released until tomorrow morning, which would have meant about eight o'clock Eastern Standard Time in the U.S.A. But the Nazis got wind of it, got the whole story with complete details. So they broke the news, broke it across the North Sea, much to the chagrin of the British newspapers. ~~But the Nazis reckoned, of course, that the restrictions of a news release date are hardly binding upon an enemy government.~~

And as a matter of fact, if the Germans hadn't beaten the British newspaper men to their own news, ^{we} I wouldn't be able to tell you about it now *on this side of the ocean.*

SHIPS FOLLOW LEAD

A bulletin that came in from Rome five minutes ago reports that British ships are in the Mediterranean, British warships, stopping vessels of every nationality. The report adds that the Italians are angry about it. If true, this means that the British Government is already tightening its blockade and it seems to indicate that the Churchill regime is already at work.

REYNAUD

~~There's a good deal of news today that I shall have to dismiss pretty briefly since the primary elections in our own country and the Cabinet changes in London have first call on a glimpse at some of the happenings our interest. So here's what went on elsewhere.~~

While Chamberlain was reorganizing his Government, Paul Reynaud, Premier of France, was broadcasting to the United States. He spoke in English, fluently and lucidly. The gist of his remarks was couched in American idiom; ^{For instance he said: "No} "phoney" peace; and he added:- "I didn't know this word 'phoney' before the war and I suppose that it means counterfeit." Then he repeated emphatically, "There's nothing phoney or counterfeit about this war in any respect."

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Another event in Paris was a trial before a French Military Tribunal, a trial of forty-four Communists who used to be members of the Chamber of Deputies. X Nine of those thirty-five decamped some time ago and are fugitives. All forty-four were found guilty. The nine fugitives were sentenced in their absence to five years in prison. The thirty-five who were present were sentenced to various terms - twenty-seven of

them were sentenced to five years, eight to four years.

They were all fined in addition. But sentences were suspended upon eight *of them*.

MARSHALL

One highly
~~Today's~~ most significant comment on the war in Europe came

today from the mouth of an American soldier. The importance of the comment lies not so much in what that American soldier said but in what he implied. And the soldier was none other than General George C. Marshall, Chief-of-Staff of ~~the United States~~ *Uncle Sam's* Army. He was talking to a sub-committee of the House of Representatives on Appropriations and ~~he~~ gave the Congressmen a warning. "If Europe blazes in the late spring or summer," said our Chief-of-Staff, "we must put our house in order before the sparks reach the Western Hemisphere." Then he urged the Congressmen to face the facts of the existing crisis abroad.

"If the situation grows more desperate," he declared, "we should add to the number of seasoned troops in the regular army and the National Guard. But," he added, "these should be only temporary measures. Nevertheless, they should be taken definitely, step by step, to fortify ourselves against the possibility of chaotic world conditions."

What the Army wants from Congress is two hundred and forty million dollars' worth of equipment, ammunition, rifles, artillery, *and* tanks. We need enough of that, he said, to furnish a protective force

of about a million men, one million men which the Army would be prepared to put in the field within four months after outbreak of any war. But without that equipment, any number of men would be useless, *said our chief of staff.*

CONTEST

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Here's something that makes me stop and think -- think about China and the war in the Far East. It's been days or perhaps a couple of weeks since I had occasion to tell anything about Japanese invasion and Chinese resistance. Yet the war is still on, with many a new event and crisis -- that same China war which a couple of years ago filled the headlines and took a large place in any news broadcast.

The answer is of course that the conflict in Europe ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{is} overshadowing the events ~~eclipsed the battle~~ in China. We Americans seem to be much more interested in the clash of the Allies and Germany -- yes, more interesting -- but ^{actually} which [^] concerns our interest more? I've been thinking about this, and alot of other people will be thinking about it -- because of a new essay contest that was announced today; ~~is~~ ^{is} an attempt to develop American interest in the Far East. ~~is~~ ^{is} offers ^{is} a series of prizes to college students, prizes for the best essays on ~~the~~ ^{the} theme: "Our Stake in the Future of China." The China Essay ~~Contest~~, ^{all American} working through academic institutions, seeks to make us more aware of the importance of the Far Eastern struggle to this nation. ^{with handsome prizes for the winners.}

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All of which reminded me how little attention in the news of late has been paid to the Far East. So tonight let's take a look across the Pacific and see what's happening on those Asiatic shores.

CHINA

Great Britain will not recognize the puppet government of China, supported by the Japanese. There had been rumors that she would, especially after the speech made in Tokyo last month by Sir Robert Craige^{ys}y, His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador to Japan. That speech by Craige^{ys}y was criticized as vehemently as the one that our own Minister, Jimmy Cromwell, made in Toronto. So today the ^{British} Foreign Under-Secretary made a statement in the House of Commons. There is no question of the government's ~~xxxxx~~ changing its viewpoint regarding the legitimate government of China or the British desire to see a settlement of the Chinese-Japanese dispute on equitable terms, *said* he.

FLOOD

A couple of years ago I wrote a book called "Hungry Waters", which was a picturesque way of describing a story about floods. *And*

My principal memory of the job of writing that tome is that it taught me a lot of the geography of my *native land* ~~own country~~ that I didn't

know before, including names of rivers, and so ~~forth~~ *on.*

now, In the last few days I've ~~learned about even~~ *been reminded of* more rivers, *and some I had forgotten.*

some that I hadn't heard of before, [^] For instance, the Chemung. It

sounds like the name of a big stream in China, doesn't it? On the contrary, it's in New York State, also the Chenango. The news from the Chemung and the Chenango, also the Susquehanna, is more favorable tonight - their waters are receding. Not so the Genesee, however.

It reached a six and a half foot flood crest last night, and as the

weather ~~shows~~ *man* [^] announce there's more rain ahead, there ~~is~~ *may be* trouble

around the City of Rochester, New York, in fact scores of families

in that part of New York State found themselves unexpectedly living

on islands, islands made by the flood, and ~~they~~ had to be rescued

by Coast Guardsmen, deputy sheriffs and volunteers. As a matter of fact, heavy rain started falling throughout up-state New York before noon *today.*

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In Pennsylvania it seems that ~~all~~ danger has passed.

The Susquehanna was dropping all night and all day on a two hundred

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mile front. The refugees, who number up in the thousands, had the exacting task of going back to their homes ~~and~~^{to} start cleaning ~~out~~^{out} the mud, ~~that covers them.~~

And here's flood news from Europe, news that may have a significant bearing on the war. In Belgrade, capital of Jugoslavia, there are at least a million acres under the water that should have been in the beds of the beautiful blue Danube and the Sava. That of course means that the ice is going out, the ice in the past historically severe winter, which for months put a stop to all river traffic on the Danube. Now the traffic is interrupted, but only temporarily. All the same, that flood in southeastern Europe is reported as the most severe in sixty years.

CONTEMPT

In St. Louis, an editor and cartoonist were sentenced to jail today. A Circuit Judge in St. Louis imposed that sentence on Ralph Coghlan, chief editorial writer of the famous POST-DISPATCH, one of the greatest newspapers in the country, and ^{also on} Cartoonist Daniel R. Fitzpatrick, ^{The judge found} ~~finding~~ them guilty of contempt of court. The managing editor had also been cited, but the case against him was dismissed because the court held that a managing editor has nothing to do with editorial comment. The Pulitzer Publishing Company, publisher of the paper, was also found guilty and fined two thousand dollars. Editorial Writer Coghlan received a two hundred dollar fine and twenty days in jail; Cartoonist Fitzpatrick a hundred dollars and ten days in jail.

^{Oh - some} ~~and~~ What's it all about? A severe criticism of the judge who imposed that sentence. It all arises out of labor troubles between the motion picture operators' union and the motion picture theatre owners in St. Louis. A ^{fellow} ~~man~~ named Nick, who used to be ^{\$10,000} head of the union, was charged with having accepted a bribe from the theatre owners, Nick and a state legislator named Brady. The judge of one Circuit Court dismissed the charges against Nick and Brady.

Another Circuit Judge in a civil suit, ~~fixed the~~ found them guilty and ordered Nick to pay ten thousand dollars into the treasury of his union.

This was the subject of most caustic comment and cartooning in the ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH, *famous for its,* ~~one of the few remaining papers in the country that conducts crusades of that sort.~~ Hence that ¹ jail sentence on the newspaper men today. The first case of that sort that has cropped up in several years.

PRIMARIES

Those primary elections in Wisconsin and New York, have the whole country talking. Around every cracker barrel -- or what takes the place of a cracker barrel in a modern store, the gossips were discussing the returns, principally those in Wisconsin. Decidedly, politics are getting hot, hot and interesting. Apparently the vote for Tom Dewey in the Badger State, where he led Michigan⁵ Senator Vandenberg by almost two-to-one, was the dramatic focus of most ~~in~~ arguments.

A lot of deductions are being made from the ~~in~~ balloting in Wisconsin. Republican leaders throughout the nation were particularly jubilant earlier in the day when the ~~early~~ figures tended to show that more Republicans went to the poles than Democrats. Later tabulations corrected that, ~~impression, and left~~ the facts standing the other way, ~~but not by a wide~~ ^{but only by a narrow} margin. And anyway you look at those Wisconsin figures, they show a revolutionary change in Wisconsin sentiment from Nineteen Thirty-Six, when President Roosevelt swept the state by a large majority. And so the Republicans are still jubilant, they point to the plain fact that Republican sympathies are on the climb.

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But one voice in Washington spoke up to throw in a bit of verbal cold water. It was the voice of Progressive Senator La Follette. He declared that those returns don't mean so much because the Progressives, his own supporters, did not go to the polls. And it becomes more than ever clear that the LaFollettes hold the balance of power in their state.

Another fact emerges clearly from the adding machines in Milwaukee: the Wisconsin Democrats have no prejudices against

As you know
a third term. [^]The President led the primary polls over Vice President Garner by three to one.

One of the interesting comments on the primary elections came from Dallas, Texas, uttered by E. B. Germany, Chairman of the Garner-for-President National Committee. Garner's Chairman

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said that the Wisconsin results ^{do} clearly show that the two-term tradition will be respected. He added that Mr. Roosevelt could not be elected if nominated and ^{that the} ^{notion} a third term [^] is dead. He said

^{Mr.} further that [^]Roosevelt's vote was swollen by an army of job-holders and check receivers.

New Yorkers voted pretty much like the folks in Wisconsin.

Dewey leads, ~~the rest nowhere.~~ The New York delegation, ninety-two

strong, will go to Philadelphia uninstructed. But on the first ballot at least seventy-seven of those ninety-two will be for *Dewey.*

~~Manhattan's prosecutor~~

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On the other side of the fence, it's Roosevelt in New York also. In four congressional districts, candidates who wanted to go to the convention and vote against a third term were signally defeated.

59 1/4 And now Hugh what's on your mind tonight?