

L.T.-SUNOCO. MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1942.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

All eyes are on Australia these days,
and tonight there ^{is} ~~is~~ a hopeful note in the news, though
not too optimistic. An American reporter cables from
Melbourne that the air forces of the Allies appear to
be growing stronger. ~~To be sure, that is a consummation~~
~~devotedly~~ ~~devoutly to be wished.~~ All ~~the~~ official
statements talk about Allied air operations, which
would indicate that ^{many} American planes ^{have} ~~had~~ been delivered
in that region. But, ~~the~~ military censorship in
Australia has grown extremely strict and forbids any
detailed reports of aerial activities by United States
flyers in the southwest Pacific.

Prime Minister Curtin of Australia at
^{today}
Canberra announced ~~that~~ a small force of Japanese

planes had carried out another raid on Port Darwin, fourteen heavy bombers in two formations. The official account is that there were some casualties but ^{that} small damage ^{was done. This constitutes} ~~That is~~ a denial of ~~the~~ Axis propaganda reports ~~of course~~ that the Japanese ~~had~~ ^{the} destroyed military installations at Darwin.

And here's a United States Army communique that sounds ~~like~~ ^{quite} significant. ^{Nine of} ~~Nine of~~ our Army fighter planes were on patrol north of Australia on March Fourteenth, fighter planes of the P-Forty type. They ran into large enemy ~~fighter~~ bombers escorted by Japanese fighter planes. Though greatly outnumbered, our planes attacked the enemy formation. One enemy fighter plane and one enemy bomber were shot down. One of our planes dashed headlong into an enemy fighter, ^{[a suicide dogfight — and} rammed him, ~~and the result was that~~ both planes were destroyed. ^{nine} Eight of our fighters returned to their bases.

undamaged.

Another communique from the War Department reports that an American flying fortress on reconnaissance patrol passed over the airdrome at Raboul on the island of New Britain, now held by the Japanese. ^{But that} ~~The~~ flying fortress did a little ~~bit~~ more ^{just} than reconnoitre; it dropped several bombs on the runways, caused considerable damage, and destroyed two enemy planes on the ground; ~~The bomber also~~ returned ^{ing} ~~ed~~ to its base undamaged.

It is figured ~~that~~ this episode brought up to five hundred and six the number of Japanese aircraft destroyed by United States naval and army forces in the Pacific and ~~the~~ Far East war zones.

Meanwhile, the United States Lend-Lease Mission ^{Capital of Australia,} has been at Canberra, [^] conferring on plans for American

CASEY

The Australian Minister at Washington uttered a loud note of warning today. In the Pacific war, he said, the United Nations have been on the defensive too long. *He added that the* It's time for an offensive. ~~The~~ only way to save ~~Australia~~ *TP* is by attack! *TP* The battle for Australia, declared Minister Casey, may be the last chance the United Nations have of making a stand and a come-back in the western Pacific. *TP* "We must attack," he said, "and go on attacking, while anything remains of us!"

LEAD : 4

help^{for} Australia, and Australian help ~~to~~[^] America.

W.C. Wassermann, the head of the ^{U.S.} mission, gave out

an interview in which he prophesied that the flow of material from the United States to Australia would soon become a mighty river.

NAVY COMMUNIQUE

Two more Japanese vessels destroyed, says the Navy. One, an enemy warship, was torpedoed by one of our submarines in Japanese waters. The other, a three thousand ton tanker sunk off the Philippines.

This means that our naval forces have now sunk sixty-four Japanese ships; and, the Army has accounted for some twenty-six.

BURMA

There was a bit of a lull in the fighting in Burma today. ^{Which may be} ~~It is~~ explained by the fact that the Japanese were mopping up in Rangoon and ~~the~~ surrounding country, particularly in the delta of the Irrawaddy River. TH The British Imperial forces took advantage of ~~this~~ to dig in, in south ^{-- and} central Burma, with a Chinese army at their side. Some military experts believe that the manpower of the ~~Japanese~~ ^{Chinese} may be enough to give the Imperials the balance of power in fighting on land. But the decisive factor still will remain - air power, and there ^{no indication} ~~is no information~~ that the British have enough of that to be able to meet the Japanese on equal terms.

No new fact of military significance comes up to allay the anxiety about India. The Indian Army, to be sure, has a million men, not counting reserves, but its mechanized motor equipment is limited and its air force negligible as compared with that of the Japanese.

However, one hopeful note was heard^{and that} at the
annual session of the Indian House of Princes,^{those}
glittering rajahs, maharajahs, nawabs, ^{Gaikwars, and Nizams} ~~potentates~~, whose
lineage goes back to the days of Alexander the Great,
and whose fortunes are uncountable.^{TP} The Marquess of
Linlithgow, Viceroy and Governor-General^{of India,} said to the
Princes that he entertained no manner of doubt about
the final victory of the Allied nations. "It was only
a matter of time," he declared.^{TP} The House of Princes,
for its part,^{once more} expressed its loyalty to the British,
^{and its} ~~once more and~~ determination to help ~~them~~ for all the
Princes are worth. They also made plans to receive
Sir Stafford-Cripps, the special envoy sent by
Prime Minister Churchill.

WELLES

Hitler's flamboyant speech of yesterday was answered today by A^ucting Secretary of State Sumner Welles. That speech by the Fuehrer, said Welles, left implicit in every word and every phrase Hitler's own recognition of his impending downfall and ~~of~~ the inevitable defeat of the German army and its conquest.

PS Sumner
^

Welles used these words:- "The technique of the subtle, monstrous lies which Hitler has made his own, unfortunately deluded many people during the earlier years of Hitlerism. Today, however, his declarations and promises are recognized everywhere as being but a tissue of lies. There is increasing evidence," declared ^{on 7} ~~the~~ ^{of State,} A^ucting Secretary, "that the German people themselves, like the people of Italy, fully recognize this fact. For this reason," he continued,

"it is doubtful whether any useful purpose would be served by making any extended comment on Hitler's latest speech."

Summer

Welles also spoke about the magnificent resistance of the Russian armies and of the defeats which they ~~we~~ ^{have} inflicted on the forces of Hitlerism.

These, he pointed out, are the armies whose annihilation Hitler announced many months ago.

In London, military observers construed Hitler's promise to defeat Russia in the forthcoming summer as an acknowledgment that the Soviet winter campaign had been effective. They also point out in London that previously Hitler had promised his people that the Russians would be defeated in the *And* Spring. Now he has postponed it again. Evidently,

he will wait until the end of the mud season, which

follows the Russian winter. He doesn't intend to run any risk of having all that new equipment bogged down in the mire.

FREIGHTERS

~~On the other hand, we have the news of two~~

Two more of our

~~of our own~~ freighters torpedoed in Caribbean waters.

52 Also
~~and~~ a Chilean steamship sunk thirty-seven miles off

on
~~the~~ Atlantic coast, ~~of the United States~~. A survivor

from the Chilean vessel
~~related~~ that the torpedo from the

enemy submarine ~~had just~~ ripped her apart and ~~sunk her~~ *sent her*

down in
~~within~~ six minutes.

The survivors from the Caribbean torpedoing
were brought into a Cuban port. Both ships had been
loaded with sugar.

There was ^{considerable} ~~a great~~ to-do ~~in~~ Washington today

over the resignation of Robert R. Guthrie as head of the textile branch of the War Production Board.

Senator Mead of New York was quick to announce that the Committee investigating the war effort will make

an immediate inquiry into the charges ~~that~~ Guthrie

made when he resigned on Saturday, ^{when he} ~~He~~ declared that

he was quitting because he was unable to make any

progress, that trade associations in the textile

industries had resisted all attempts to convert their

factories to war work, and there had been opposition

even within the ranks of the War Production Board.

Senator Truman of Missouri, Chairman of the investigating committee, made the comment that he had

found the war effort shot through with men interested

primarily in serving their own interests. ^{The Senator added} ~~He declared~~

that there was delay not only in textiles but aluminum,

steel, rubber, ships and nearly all other portions of the procurement program -- delay for selfish reasons.

On the other hand, Donald Nelson, head of W.P.B., lost no time in writing a letter in rebuttal to Senator Truman. The gist of the letter was that if Guthrie hadn't made any progress, it was his own fault.

8 Congressman Taber of New York made a sensational statement before the Women's National Republican Club in New York City today. He declared that "everyone in Washington seems to be trying his best to put the defense program across with the exception of "what he termed "a certain group."

 "How much longer," said the Congressman, "must Harry Hopkins, with his proved incompetence, have the major say in our defense program?" Then he asked, "How much longer are we to put up with Madam Perkins' and her obstruction of the defense program, the Farm Security Administration and its Communistic farm program?" He also paid his compliments to Secretary Harold Ickes.

 As for the President, Congressman Taber added:- "Let Mr. Roosevelt come all out for defense and there will be unity such as we have never seen before."

LABOR

The rebellion in Congress against ^{the} President
~~so-called~~ ~~Roosevelt's~~ pro-labor policies reared its head again
today. The leader of the movement once more is
Congressman Howard Smith of Virginia, ^{who is not} ~~He is nothing~~
daunted by the defeat of his last bill to abolish the
forty-hour week for the duration of the war. He
offered another measure today even more drastic.
This bill would make it unlawful during the emergency
for any naval contractor to make a contract with any
labor union that restricts its hours to forty a week,
and requires overtime for work in excess of forty
hours a week or for work on Saturdays, holidays and
Sundays.

Congressman Smith for this bill has adopted
shrewd parliamentary tactics. He made it apply only
to work for the Navy. Consequently, the bill will be

considered by the Naval Affairs Committee of the House, who will undoubtedly approve it. If it were made inclusive like the last measure ~~that~~ Smith offered, it would go to the Labor Committee, which would turn it down. ^H He intends to introduce a similar bill to govern actions of army contractors; ^{which} ~~and that~~ will be referred to the House Committee on Military Affairs.

TAXES

In order to raise more than nine billion dollars by a sales tax, that tax would have to go as high as ten per cent on everything. So says the Treasury of the United States. The Treasury was getting up these figures for the information of the Ways and Means Committee of the House, which has been leaning towards a sales tax - which the Treasury opposes!

In order to raise more than nine billion by that ten per cent tax, the tax would even have to be put on purchases made by the federal government; also by state and municipal governments, and by war contractors. Says the Treasury:- If you exclude all those, even an over-all ten per cent sales tax would yield only four billion, six hundred and thirty-two million.

ELEANOR

5p
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt made the suggestion today that Labor ~~should~~ take its overtime pay in defense bonds. And ^{said she} she believed that workingmen would be willing to do ^{so,} it, provided ~~of course that xxxixixix~~ capitalists also took all their profits over three per cent in defense bonds.

One of ^{the} ~~the~~ reporters at her press conference today asked the First Lady how she would list herself if all women are obliged to register. She replied that she would describe herself as a housewife, with some experience in writing and lecturing. "I am very bad at cooking," admitted the First Lady, "but I'm a wonderful home nurse." She added that she could also do translation work from French, German and Italian if she brushed up on her vocabulary a bit. And that ^{that she} ~~also~~ she could drive a car; but ^{that she} ~~but~~ was no good at fixing the motor or changing a tire.

PONTIAC PLAN

The automobile city of Pontiac, Michigan, has been trying ^{an} ~~out a plan and~~ experiment which the rest of the country ^{is watching. A plan for} ~~will do well to watch. It's a~~ ¹ ~~so economizing on~~ ¹ ~~scheme to save~~ transportation. There are two phases to this program, one of them is called the "Let's Ride Together" system, by which people who have to ^{drive} ~~ride~~ to work pool their cars. Factory workers arrange this through their union groups. ^{TP} One of the men directing the experiment declared that it will take a little time before this part of the program is completely worked out, but ^{that} ¹ it will probably be ~~fully~~ ^{perfected} ~~developed~~ by the end of the week. The purpose ^{being} ¹ ~~is~~ to raise the average number of riders per car.

The other principal essential in the Pontiac plan is a system of staggered hours. Half of the twenty thousand factory workers in Pontiac ^{going to} ~~went to~~ work on the hour, the others on the half hour.

The school hours for children are also staggered.

and all this so
~~They were so~~ arranged that by the time the factory

and school rush is over, the business and professional

people ~~went~~ *go* to work. ~~The~~ *#* Retail Merchants Association

has also changed the shopping hours ~~of~~ *by* opening their stores at ten

instead of nine, and closing at six instead of five.

~~That part of it still is in the experimental stage.~~

Pontiac was chosen as *the* a test city *for this.* ~~as planned~~

So chosen
by the State Highway Commissioner and a *group* ~~group~~ of

traffic engineers.

TORNADO

is rushing the season
Unquestionably Spring ~~is early~~ this year,

~~though it's wiser to say that with the fingers~~

But
~~crossed.~~ You never can tell what March will do, and

it may still have a blizzard in store for us. Still,

there are plenty of springlike signs. Among them,

the first tornado of the year. ~~It blew~~ in central

It
Illinois, ~~and~~ cut a path half a mile wide for a

distance of fifty miles in the richest farming country

of the state. Ten killed, at least fifty injured,

8 hr and much damage. Like all twisters, it did freakish

things, zig-zagged on a northeasterly course around

Illinois
the cities of Champaign, Urbana, St. Joe and Ogden.

~~Illinois~~. The worst damage was done at the little town

of Alvin, ~~in~~ Illinois; it was there that most of the

killed and injured lived.

Another harbinger of Spring is the opening of
the annual Flower Shows, always an event of peculiar

delight to garden fans and even for many who never so much as lift a trowel. The biggest shows are all opening on the same day this year - New York, Boston and Philadelphia. Even in the Flower Shows, the war motif appears, as for instance a new variety of flower named for General MacArthur. The Philadelphia, Boston and New York shows all made a particularly strong feature this year of vegetable gardens. Vegetables for Vitamins for Victory, is the slogan.

And Hugh what is
your slogan tonight?

9 1/2