

L.T. SUNOCO - WEDNESDAY, March 13, 1940

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Good Evening, Everybody:-

The whole world tonight realizes that the terms of the Russo-Finnish treaty are even worse than we thought they might be. The dispatch that was breathlessly handed to me last night three minutes after I began my broadcast, merely ~~foreshadowed~~ foreshadowed the grimness of the fate that had overtaken the Finns. And there is a sour paradox in the reaction coming in today from many lands.

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Of course a natural sigh of relief went up when the word came at eleven o'clock this morning that the order to cease firing had been given. But the cost of peace to the Finns is heavy and bitter. The latest on the closing of that chapter in history is a statement by President Roosevelt. "The ending of this war," says he, "does not yet clarify

the inherent right of small nations to the maintenance of their integrity against attack by superior force." The President then expressed his opinion of the terms, saying:- "It is clear that by virtue of an attack by a neighbor many times stronger, the Finns have been compelled to yield territory and to accept a material weakening of their own defense of their independence." Then he gave voice to a plea for Finland in the words:- "The people of Finland by their unexcelled valor and strong resistance in the face of overwhelming armed forces, have won the moral right to live in everlasting peace and independence in the land they have so bravely defended."

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Statesmen outside the White House were ~~fixx~~ more vernacular and less ceremonious in their opinion. Leading members of Congress pronounced the treaty as just a hold-up, and ^{as} another Hitler victory.

Earlier in the day, President Hoover pretty nearly summed up the feeling of a huge majority of the ~~people~~ people in this country, when he said:- "The treaty between Russia and Finland marks another sad day for civilization." Hoover made public a

cablegram he had received from President Kallio of Finland. It informed our Ex-President that the Finns have signed a compulsory peace. The Finnish chief magistrate also expressed the hope that the Finnish Relief Fund would continue to relieve the lot of those who are suffering on account of the war. And he added, ~~XXXXXX~~ that "our struggle for the right ~~XX~~ has given us the sympathy of the civilized world and that we shall not be left to our own resources in the work of reconstruction."

that he hoped) here are his words! -

Hoover, replying on behalf of the fund, answered that his organization would continue to do its utmost for the Finnish people.

Many observers were wondering whether that tragedy is really over. To be sure, Stalin promises an end of hostilities ~~and~~ *promises* to respect Finnish independence. But observers are remarking that if the Soviet Government doesn't keep its promises to Finland ~~about a hundred times~~ *any* better than it has kept its promises to Uncle Sam, the outlook for the Finns is indeed gloomy.

Incidentally, a grand jury in Washington handed down an indictment today against World Tourists, Incorporated, the

American branch of the Soviet travel service, and Jacob Razin, its director. The indictments charged failure to register with the State Department as foreign agents.

The outstanding hope for the Finnish people now lies in the new determination that has been inspired among all the Scandinavian countries. Norway and Sweden are going to get together with the Finns in a strong defensive alliance.

One of the outstanding ^{today} comments came from the Foreign Minister of Sweden. He admitted that the Swedes felt a little bit easier now that peace has been concluded, but he added:- "This does not mean that the danger is over." ^{then he} ~~and~~ explained that because of the changes in the Finnish frontier the Swedish position is worse ~~from the common point of view~~ than before the outbreak of the Russo-Finnish conflict. ^{He expressed} ~~Minister Guenther~~ regretted that Sweden had not been able to go openly to the help of ^{then} neighbors. "With heavy heart," he said, "we had to reject military intervention, but we did what we could by volunteers."

In London, bitter criticism of the British Government came from former Premier David Lloyd George ^{who} ~~It~~ seems pretty much

to have expressed the general British view in what he said.

"In my heart I am glad of the news today, glad that we did not get so deep into the mire that we could not dig ourselves out," said

he, and

Then he repeated words that he had used so dramatically ^(and effectively) when

he was the War Premier of Great Britain. Speaking about Finland,

he said:- "It is the old trouble^{of}-too late. Too late for

Czechoslovakia. Too late for Poland. Too late for Finland.

It is always too late, or too little, or both, and it is the road to disaster."

As for the Russians, ^{they were cheering today,} ~~they spoke and~~ behaved as though

they were ^a brave and gallant people who had won a brilliant victory against an overwhelming force of aggressive bullies. ^{well-} If the whole

thing weren't ^{not} so tragic, some of the Russian statements would give us something to laugh at. For instance, PRAVDA says that not only

the entire Soviet people but the working people of the whole world will welcome with tremendous satisfaction the new triumph of the

Soviet policy of peace. According to the records of the Finnish War Office, the policy of peace led to the death of ^{several} ~~two~~ hundred

^(perhaps fifteen) thousand Russians and ~~two~~ thousand Finns.

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All over the Soviet Union, the conclusion of the peace ~~XXXX~~
was celebrated ^{today} with the loudest sort of jubilation and praises of
what the Russians call ^{"our"} "the valorous Red army." The valorous
Red army went on bombing the Finns long after the Finns had
stopped fighting. ^{incidentally} [^] [^] So the correspondents
wired us ~~arrived~~ from Finland.
~~could, evidently in a hurry to beat the deadline of the Armistice.~~

GERMANS

The Nazis are also ~~palpably~~ rejoicing, though they couch their glee with a little more restraint than the Bolsheviks.

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The tone of everything that was said and written in Hitler's land is a Nazi triumph plainly conveyed the feeling that the peace ~~was a Nazi~~ as well as a triumph ~~for the Reds.~~ ^{for the Reds.}

The most flamboyant rejoicing came from Field Marshal Hermann Goering, speaking through the newspaper that he owns. Goering ~~has~~ interpreted ^S the Russo-Finnish Treaty ~~as amounting to the fact~~ ^{the failure of} ~~that~~ England's attempt at a flank attack against Germany. ~~has failed.~~

The Goering ~~is~~ organ draws the conclusion that the Allies are now in for a defeat so terrific that it ~~isn't~~ ^{is only} possible to ~~do more than~~ ^{final} guess at its ramifications and effects.

GUNMAN

from London in no time fired on an Amritsar mob.

Assassination in London! While Britain is in the throes of war, a gunman from Hindustan got in his deadly work. ^{It's} ~~of course it's~~ all a part of the troubles ~~that~~ the British ~~Government~~ are having in India. The outcome was tragic enough. The assassination killed a celebrated pro-consul, wounded a cabinet minister and two other government officials.

A public meeting to discuss British affairs in Asia was being held at Caxton Hall. The place was crowded. The meeting was about over, when a stocky, dark, thick-set Hindu was seen walking down the hall towards the press ~~and~~ table. Suddenly, four shots rang out in quick succession, and four men at the speakers table fell.

One of them was Sir Michael O'Dwyer, former Lieutenant-Governor of

In fact he was Lieut. Gov. in Lahore at the time
the Punjab. [^] Lord Zetland, Secretary of State for India, presided

at the meeting, and one of the bullets hit him also. But his wound

was only slight. Two other titled luminaries, Sir Louis Dane and

Lord Lamington, a former Governor of Bombay, were hit by bullets.

For a moment there was danger of a stampede in that crowded hall,

but a couple of men jumped on the assassin, seized him and took his

gun.

of the terrible Amritsar affair when the troops

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PLANES

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There's another row on in Washington, a squabble over the fighting planes that the British and French military mission wants to buy over here. It was brought into the open today by Louis Johnson, Assistant Secretary of War, ^{who} ~~he~~ let forth a loud complaint against the proposal to allow the Allies to buy ^{planes} ~~airships~~ that have been built for Uncle Sam. The report is that the foreign military mission has tried to get seven different types released to them, ^{types} whose plans are supposed to be an American military secret.

^{all} This is part of the program to buy a billion dollars' worth of war munitions in ^{the U.S.A.} ~~America~~. Of course no aircraft manufacturer may sell to a foreign government without the permission of the Joint Aeronautical Board of the Army and Navy. And Johnson admits that his complaint ^{is} a trifle premature, ^{that the} ~~the~~ question has not come up so far. ^{That the} ~~The~~ proposal ^{to} ~~would~~ divert those seven secret types of planes to the British and French has merely been reported. But, said Johnson, the heavy purchases that the Allies have already made here have delayed ~~the~~ delivery of planes to Uncle Sam. They have also boosted the cost of our own defense ~~in~~ ^{aircraft}.

Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin put his oar into the squabble in the shape of a resolution. LaFollette wants a congressional inquiry into ~~that situation~~ ^{all this.} Meanwhile, it ~~has~~ ^{is} ~~been~~ announced that Secretary of War Woodring ~~himself would~~ ^{will} testify tomorrow before a sub-committee of the Military Affairs Committee of the House.

WIRE TAPPING

Extra

Some members of Congress are furious over reports that detectives have been tapping the telephone wires of important personages. The Interstate Commerce Commission of the Senate introduced a resolution that twenty-five thousand dollars should be appropriated for an investigation. The cause of that resolution was an ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ accusation by Senator Green of Rhode Island that the wires of several officials in that state had been tapped.

Thereupon Senator Rush Holt of ~~Weston~~ West Virginia, jumped in with a still more dramatic charge. He said that government agents have been listening in on telephone conversations of even United States Senators.

Next came Senator Wheeler of Montana, Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee, who laid the offense at the door of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

all This seems to be another consequence of the whispering campaign that has been going on for several weeks against the F.B.I. The belief ^{*has been*} ~~is~~ that this whispering campaign originated with Communist and Nazi agents who have resented the activities of the G-men in ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ running down the activities of secret operatives

EMBARGO

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For two weeks there has been an embargo in Boston, an embargo on coastwise freight from New England to ports in the south. This had been declared by ship owners because of a strike in southern ports, longshoremen out on the waterfronts south of Norfolk, ~~Virginia~~. But today came word that the strike had been settled, so one Boston shipping company lifted the embargo. Two others will restore freight service to the south next week.

DAMS

More fun in Oklahoma! Seventy National Guardsmen marched to the dam which the federal government is building on the Grand River. They were in full panoply of war, tear ^{Gas} bombs, rifles, and even machine guns. The soldiers ~~were~~ were there ready to take action, the minute they ~~get~~ got word that Governor Leon Phillips of Oklahoma has declared martial law. And the expectation is that he will ~~be~~ so declare at any moment.

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This is the culmination of an argument several months long between ^{the Oklahoma governor} ~~Phillips~~ and the federal government. Oklahoma's Governor is red-headed and weighs more than three hundred pounds. Although a Democrat, he's an anti-New Dealer. He wants Uncle Sam to pay Oklahoma eight hundred and fifty thousand dollars for rebuilding the highways and bridges that have been made necessary because of that dam. Washington has offered to settle for three hundred and fifty thousand dollars and Phillips, ~~is~~ shaking his red head angrily, says it's not enough. So there are those Guardsmen armed to the teeth, ready for action on Uncle Sam's men of the dam.

POLITICS

Those primary elections in New Hampshire bring that vexatious third term business back on to the carpet. The Democrats in the granite state elected delegates pledged to the President. And that means that the New Hampshire delegation at the convention must vote solidly for the President, unless he releases them.

This news, added to other figures previously established, brings a startling calculation from Washington. Observers who have been adding the figures together, estimate that when the Democratic convention meets in Chicago on July Fifteenth, the largest block of the delegates whose hands are tied by instructions will belong to Mr. Roosevelt.

And what of the Republicans in the New Hampshire primary? Among the delegates are two United States Senators, Tobey and Bridges. Former Senator George H. Moses of the sarcastic tongue, will ^{also} be among those present at Philadelphia. But the New Hampshire delegation will have no fetters at the convention, no pledges. However, as Senator Styles Bridges had the heaviest vote, this was interpreted by the ~~Senator's~~ Senator's friends as a definite declaration that he is New Hampshire's favorite son.

TORNADOES

Here's another sign that spring is coming - one of the unpleasant signs. The tornado season has begun in the south.

Twisting, whirling, screaming storms tore across the western part of Louisiana and the eastern part of Texas ~~in~~ ^{during} the night. ^{and} When ^{today}

~~day~~ dawned and the authorities were able to take a toll, it was found that thirteen people had been killed and scores injured.

The worst of those corkscrew gales cut a swath four miles wide through Shreveport, Louisiana, ~~tearing along at a speed of seventy miles an hour.~~

FUGITIVES

Out in New Mexico, four young men went wild and wooly west, ~~the other night~~. Two of them, ~~incidentally~~, came from Fort Wayne, Indiana, the other two from Sacramento, California. They were prisoners in the jail at Gallup, New Mexico, and on Monday night they staged a crush out, overpowered the sheriff, tied him to a bunk, seized his gun and forced the deputy sheriff to equip them with pistols.

But their days of freedom were not long. New Mexico state troopers corralled them today on the highway between Santa Fe and Las Vegas. There was a gunfight in the best "Diamond Dick" tradition, a gunfight that ended with two of the would-be desperadoes wounded and in the hospital, their confederates back in jail again.

GINGER

A well-known personage of the stage and screen appeared in a court of law in southern California today. It was Miss Ginger Rogers, and she was there to get a divorce from Lew Ayres. A description of the proceedings relates that Miss Rogers' eyes filled with tears as she told what happened when she was Mrs. Ayres. And she was dressed to fit the roll of a weeping wife, clad in black from top to toe even to her gloves and purse.

And, it was a sombre tale she told the judge. Her husband, she said, told her to get out, and there was nothing else to do. Then, said she, he tole me he was sending me home to mother, so I went hometo mother.

When all was over, the court pronounced Ginger Rogers duly divorced from Lew Ayres. And thus ended another Hollywood chapter.

And now for a chapter on Nu Blue Sunoco from Hugh James.