

L.T. - SUNOCO. FRIDAY, February 16, 1940.

(Shouting as we go on)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

If you hear any background noises during my broadcast tonight it will be because several hundred people are in the room with me. And some of them have driven several hundred miles through the snow to get here. But none of them had any trouble starting their cars no matter how far it was below zero this morning; and none of them had any trouble battling their way through snowdrifts no matter how deep the drifts. Why? Because they all had that Nu-Blue in their cars.

There are about three hundred of them sitting here with me, and they are all dealers and filling station men who see Nu-Blue. Tonight I'm broadcasting from their annual Winter banquet at the Hotel Marcy in Lake Placid. These fellows all seem to be in high spirits and they may occasionally interrupt me with a yell. I thought I'd better tell you just in case.

And they have plenty to shout about. This Nu-Blue they are putting in your cars has just about revolutionized the

gasoline industry.

But what's the news tonight?

REPUBLICANS

Here's the date for the Republican National Convention - June Twenty-fourth. And here's the city - Philadelphia. These two decisions were made today by the Republican National Committee, meeting in Washington.

As for the date -- there had been some guessing that the G.O.P. might try to hold its convention after the Democrats had held theirs. The Democratic National Committee named Chicago as the place, and left the date to be decided later on by National Chairman Jim Farley.

Well, today the Republican National Committee, meeting at the New Willard in Washington, didn't try to out-guess the Democrats on the subject of a date. Two motions were made, suggesting two dates. One - June Twenty-Fourth, the other - July First. Then the Committee took a vote, and selected the former.

As for the place -- there was a contest between Philadelphia and Chicago, with a slight mention of Fargo, Nebraska. When the vote was counted it showed sixty-seven for Philadelphia, thirty for Chicago, and two for the City on the plains of North Dakota. Philadelphia won by outbidding Chicago. The offer the

Windy City made was merely to pay the expenses of the convention, a probable Hundred and Twenty-five thousand dollars. The City of Brotherly Love offered a cash guarantee of Two Hundred Thousand dollars, with the promise of another Fifty Thousand. Total? A quarter of a million. And that was brotherly indeed. It was much too fraternal for the committee to reject.

These decisions were preceded by a challenge to the Democrats. Republican Chairman John Hamilton did the challenging. He called upon the Democrats to renominate President Roosevelt for a third term. In this way, said he, the voters may have a chance to kill three birds with one stone:- by defeating President Roosevelt, the New Deal and the Third-term- idea, all at one fell swoop. This brought an immediate counterblast from Democratic National Chairman Farley who proclaimed in ringing tones that the Democrats would win the election, no matter what, But then you would expect Sunny Jim to say that.

NAVY

Congress today voted against the proposal to fortify the Island of Guam. Another stage of a long drawn out controversy. The Navy wants to turn Guam into an Island stronghold of the Pacific. The argument against this is that fortifying the Island which is away over toward Japan, might be construed as a move against Japan -- it might increase the danger of war in the Pacific.

A couple of years ago Congress voted -- no. But in this year's budget, the Navy once more brought forward the project. In the money for the Fleet was a million dollar item for the Guam fortification.

Today in the Lower House, an amendment was introduced to eliminate the Million Dollar Guam item. And the motion was carried. The Republicans voted that way -- also a large element of Democrats. Thereupon, the House proceeded to pass the appropriation for the Navy -- over nine hundred and sixty million, almost a billion -- the largest sum of money Uncle Sam's Fleet has ever gotten in peace-time.

FLINT

The Captain of the City of Flint, Captain Gainard, was upheld today, The United States Bureau of Marine Inspection dismisses the charges made by the C.I.O. National Maritime Union.

The accusations were made by the Chief Cook and a Mess boy. They criticised the way Salty Captain Gainard handled the complicated situation after the American freighter had been seized by the Germans. The complaint was that he had failed to take the Flint out of the Soviet harbor of Murmansk, when the Red authorities gave permission. And, that the Captain had failed to communicate with the American Consul at the Norwegian Port of Tromsøe.

The Maritime Inspection Board remarks that not much attention is to be paid to the criticism of a cook and a mess boy. What would they know about Soviet Government decisions, and American Consular Affairs at a Norwegian port? As for the failure to leave Murmansk, the Board observes that when the Red authorities gave permission -- Captain Gainard had no clearance papers. They didn't give him those necessary documents. And as for failing to communicate with the American Consul at Tromsøe -- there is no American Consul at that port, all of which would make it appear that the cook and

the mess boy are not such accurate exponents of high international policy.

Captain Gainard cleared!

FINLAND

There's a Scandinavian report that the Premier and foreign Minister of Finland are going to London to ask for military aid -- going immediately, to make a personal plea to the headsof the British government. This might seem a reflection of a desperate situation for the Finns along the Mannerheim Line. Today's Moscow bulletin claims increasing success, claims to be pushing on toward a rail junction within a dozen miles of Viipuri, Finland's second largest city, and key point of the Mannerheim Line.

The account given by the Finns emphasizes the continuing power and fierceness of the Soviet drive, the bitter and relentless fighting, the overwhelming artillery fire from the Red guns, the huge Red forces thrown into the battle, the tremendous pressure of assault. But they claim that the Mannerheim Line is still intact and declare they'll defend it to death, trench by trench, foot by foot.

Of course it's apparent that the overwhelming forces of the Soviets must eventually batter through, if they can continue day after day, indefinitely -- that incessant blasting bombardment of hundreds of thousands of shells, and the incessant mass attack

with virtually unlimited fresh troops. So no wonder the Finnish Premier and Foreign Minister are going immediately to London to ask for military help. Going, that is if the story from Denmark is true.

The Government of Sweden today faced a crisis concerning Finland. Today's word from Stockholm is that there was a stormy cabinet meeting, which finally gave its approval to an announcement earlier in the day. This was a declaration of Stockholm policy -- that Sweden will remain neutral, the decision was centered on two points. Firstly -- Sweden will not send military aid to Finland, supplies and munitions? Yes, the kind of selling of goods that is permitted by recognized laws of neutrality. But no soldiers, Second -- Sweden will not permit foreign troops to cross its territory, on the way to Finland. At first impression, this might seem to apply to the volunteers that various nations are dispatching to the aid of the bravely fighting republic. But a later interpretation indicates that it does not apply to volunteers, but only to regular troops. That is to say, if the Allies should want to send their regular armed forces into Finland, these would

not be allowed to cross Swedish territory. Volunteers are another matter -- a private affair.

* In our own country -- a good word for Finland was spoken today by Federal Loan Administrator, Jesse Jones. Testifying at a hearing by the House Banking Committee, Jesse Jones discussed the loan the Reconstruction Finance Committee is making to Finland. What are the chances of that loan being paid back? The Federal Administrator said -- excellent. Jesse Jones declared that he believed Finland would survive the Red invasion, as many a nation has survived attack and even conquest. And if Finland survives, Finland will pay -- as Finland has always paid.

CHAMPIONS - LAKE PLACID

The three hundred Blue Sunoco dealers who are sitting around me at this banquet table look as though they want to do some more shouting. I've managed to keep them quiet so far. But now I think I'll give them a chance to let off steam. I'll do this by pointing out a few world's champions who are here with us -- skaters, skiers, and fellows who go tearing down the icy run in the Olympic Bob Sled races.

Here sits Gene Turner, U. S. National Skating Champion.

Also Norah McCarthy, Canadian National Champion.

And a little fourteen year old English girl, now a pro, who is one of the skating sensations of the world -- Hazel Franklin.

Jack Garren of the Olympic Arena here, and Sam Packer of the Lake Placid Club have just brought them into the banquet. Tonight and tomorrow night they are all taking part in the annual Winter Skating Carnival at the Olympic Arena.

Here also sits the veteran of so many international bobsled races and captain of the American Olympic teams, winner of many sensational and hair-raising races, Hubert Stevens. (Applause)

The two-man International Bob Sled races are to be staged here

tomorrow and the four-man on Monday. I happen to be specially interested this year because I am offering the cups in connection with both races. Here they are. How fast do the bobs travel down that mile and a half ice chute, Hubert?

And here is another captain of three different American Olympic teams, a famous ski-jumper -- a champion of champions. I'll tell you a little story about him before I point him out.

It takes plenty of nerve to go whistling through the air like a bird off one of those big Olympic jumps. And the fellows who do it with the most success usually have been at it all their lives.

Well the incident I am going to mention occurred at the Olympic games in 1928, in Switzerland, at St. Moritz. This man, -- I'll point him out and tell you his name in a moment -- was the captain of the American team. Twelve days before the finals he took a terrific spill on a practice jump and tore all the ligaments on the inside of one knee, and was in a hospital. But, by the day before the Olympic jump-off he could walk a few steps, but he couldn't bend his knee. It was still swollen to twice its normal

size. However, he had his friends help him to the top of the Olympic Hill. There he managed to get on his skis, and then he made two jumps -- one of about a hundred and sixty-five feet, and the other of a hundred and eighty-five, which put him among the winners. Then they took him back to bed.

Here he sits. Captain of three American Olympic teams:-
Nineteen Twenty-Eight at St. Moritz; Nineteen Thirty-Two at Lake Placid; Nineteen Thirty-Six at Garmich Partenkirchen in Bavaria.
His name is Rolf Monsen.

WEATHER

There are more stories of storm tonight. The blizzard on land has been followed by wild tempests on the sea. Off the New England Coast, ships in trouble, one Boston fishing trawler was kept afloat all the long stormy day by a bucket brigade. Wallowing in the heavy sea, her hold filling with water, the crew battling desperately with buckets passed from hand to hand.

Off Cape Hatteras, a fishing craft was sighted --"a drifting derelict" a helpless battered hulk drifting before the wind, not a soul aboard. Later came word the crew had been picked up by a passing ship.

At Provincetown, the art colony on Cape Cod, the oldest summer theatre in the United States has been pounded to wreckage tonight. A theatre on a wharf! The stormy seas crashed it so hard today that it started to break up; the oldest summer theatre, being washed away as wreckage, Floating debris, scenery, costumes, stage effects. Dramatic spoil of the sea.

At Winthrop, Massachusetts, they are eating lobster. The tempest has washed a huge harvest of lobsters onto the beach. Some three thousand Crustaceans have been gathered by the natives. It's

the first lobster harvest since the great storm of Eighteen Eighty-eight and the folks at Winthrop are having lobster for dinner, for supper, for breakfast.

La Rue.

Feb. 16, 1940.

HUSBANDS

Here's a question for all you husbands and wives to debate, though I think your wife should have the final say. Who is the best husband in the United States? That problem was taken up, -- no not by an organization dedicated to the cause of marriage but by the Divorce Reform League. Just how the Superlative excellence of a husband can be connected with divorce I don't quite understand. But anyway, the divorce Reform League today comes out with a selection.

And Number One on the list, the best husband in this fair land is President Roosevelt. The Divorce Reform League explains this choice by saying that the President is not one of those old fashioned husbands who believe that a wife's place is in the home. No, apparently he isn't or if he is -- it doesn't make any difference. But anyway, is it so awful to say that woman's place is in the home, when the home in question is the White House?

Let's ask that one of Hugh James who is in New York waiting to say So Long for me. What would your answer be, Hugh?