

Good Evening, Everybody:-

No doubt most of you heard the President's broadcast today. It has been on the air at so ~~many~~ many different hours. If so, then you know that the President made a public appeal to the nation at the same time he sent a message to Congress. The purpose, to keep the new army from melting away -- too soon.

The President stated that the international situation has now become so grave that the army should be maintained in effective strength, ready to defend this hemisphere.

Said Mr. Roosevelt, "We cannot afford to speculate with the security of America. German conquests or attacks which have continued uninterruptedly for several years, every move up and down, across Europe and into Asia, and into Africa," added the President, "has been conducted according to a time schedule, utilizing in every case an overwhelming superiority not only in materiel but in trained men as well. Each campaign," he went on, "has been based on disarming fear and gaining ~~the~~ time, until the German

government was fully ready to throw treaties and pacts to the winds. Each elimination of a victim," said he, "has brought the issue of Nazi domination closer to this hemisphere; while month by month their intrigues of propaganda and cons<sup>P</sup>iracy have sought to weaken every link in the ~~community~~ community of interests that should bind the Americas into a great western family."

And then the President came right to the point: "To weaken our army, at this particular time, " he declared, "would be an act of bad faith toward our neighbors."

He ended by saying that the responsibility ~~will~~ will rest with Congress. Therefore he asked the lawmakers to remove the limit they had clamped down on the number of selectees who may be drafted in any one year. According to the present law, that's nine hundred thousand. And he wants to retain six hundred thousand selectees plus the National Guardsmen and the reservists in active service now. It was observed that he did not ask Congress to allow him to send the National Guard and the drafted men outside the Western Hemisphere, away from our own possessions.

The first reaction in Congress to the President's message came from Representative May of Kentucky, Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee of the House, who said he expects a joint resolution declaring a state of national peril, to be passed by the House and Senate. Thereupon, by the terms of the Selective Service Law, it will be legal to keep the drafted men on active service for the duration of the emergency.

Soon after came action; in the Senate. The second-ranking Democratic member of the Foreign Relations Committee, ~~Senator~~ Senator Thomas of Utah, offered a resolution, using these words: "The Congress hereby expressly declares that a national emergency exists."

The President's message was broadcast on all the networks of the United States and Canada; then translated into six foreign languages and re-broadcast to the world by short wave.

DRAFT PROPERTY

The leader of the Democrats in the Senate made an admission today. Senator Barclay of Kentucky was mixing it up in a debate with Cotton Ed Smith of South Carolina on the Draft Property Bill. Cotton Ed is agin the bill, says it's enough to give every American citizen physical, moral and mental indigestion. He declared he could see no menace to American security except the possibility that some of those armies, when they cleaned up Europe, might try to take a bite out of us. Then said Cotton Ed:- "Some of the remarks about that Draft Property Bill sound as though the nation already were at war." It was then that <sup>Senate</sup> Leader Barkley retorted that if necessary he would not avoid a declaration of war. He voted for one back in Nineteen Seventee, he remark<sup>d</sup>ed and never wants to have to vote for another. But, he added, that if it's a last resort he will not shun voting for war again.

That wasn't the only hot argument in the debate today. *Sen,* Barkley's colleague, Happy Chandler of Kentucky, joined battle verbally with Senator Wheeler of Montana. Wheeler accused Chandler of wanting the nation to go to war. Happy Chandler came back at

him with the charge that he was trying to be the saviour of his country. Chandler then ~~xxx~~ demanded to know how in the so-and-so people can live in a world where everybody is mad at everybody else and ~~xxxxixix~~ stay in a good humor.

The end of it all was that the President's partisans won. The Senate passed the Draft Property Bill by a voice vote. So now it goes to the House. It wasn't the measure first offered, but a compromise, an act which would enable the President to commandeer private property after he has exhausted every other means of acquiring it.

FISHER

Professor Irving Fisher, for many years a famous Professor of Economics at Yale, has a warning for us. Inflation ahead if something isn't done about it.

We've been having inflation all along, ever since March, Nineteen Thirty-Three, haven't we? But, says, Professor Irving Fisher, so far this inflation has been beneficial. However, it has now reached a point where if it gets worse, and gradually it ~~is~~ is growing worse - it will be harmful. And something will have to be done.



MICHIGAN

The Folks in Michigan are <sup>all upset over</sup> ~~up on their ear about~~ the proposed fifty per cent reduction in new motor cars. Governor Murray van Wagoner of Michigan is going to fly to Washington tomorrow to protest. And on the side of the Governor are C.I.O. union officials. They agree that if ~~that~~ <sup>a</sup> ~~is~~ fifty per cent cut is enforced, it will bring about a serious dislocation of employment. As for the State of Michigan, it will lose thirty million dollars a year <sup>in</sup> revenue. To prevent so many men being thrown out of employment, <sup>the</sup> Governor ~~van Wagoner~~ will ask the federal government to make it a gradual reduction, not so sudden and drastic.

PAPER

Yellow journalism from coast to coast. All on account of the defense program. It's a matter of chemistry. The paper on which your newspapers and magazines are printed, is made white by the use of chlorine. But chlorine happens to be one of the chemicals that we hear will now have to be rationed.



BOLIVIA

Here's the latest on the expulsion of the Nazi Minister to Bolivia: a report from LaPaz, that the German legation has demanded proof of the charges made by the Bolivian government, charges that Minister Wendler had been guilty of subversive activities. But the Bolivian government stands pat, and says it doesn't have to prove anything -- doesn't even have to explain, that any government has the right to declare any diplomat persona non grata - a person not wanted.

What reaction in Washington? Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles says the United States promises full assistance to the Bolivian government in case the ousting of the Nazi Minister becomes an international incident. Sumner Welles adds that Minister Wendler will not be allowed to go home by way of the United States, nor will he be permitted on any U. S. soil, anywhere.

Sumner Welles also disclosed today that our State Department has information to the effect that Adolf Hitler is planning to attack another country after he has mopped up Russia -- after -- if he does. Acting Secretary Welles declined to specify what country; but the guessing is that Spain, Portugal and

Gibraltar will be his goal. After Russia a march through Spain.

Sumner Welles didn't exactly mention Spain; but, he took occasion to contradict a recent statement by Dictator Franco -- when Spain's ruler charged the United States with helping the Spanish people only in return for promises of support to another country, meaning Great Britain. This assertion by Franco, <sup>said</sup> /Acting Secretary of State Welles, was not true. That the American Red Cross has given a great deal of help in Spain. The only condition being that Spain must remain at peace.

MacVEIGH

Today we get some post

~~modern~~ Here's information about that disastrous Battle of Crete.

The invasion took the British completely by surprise, declares

Lincoln MacVeigh, ~~who was~~ our Minister to Greece, <sup>who</sup> ~~The diplomat~~

returned to America today. The Germans compelled him to return

home by way of Vienna and Berlin, and wouldn't let him leave

Berlin until the battle was all over.

~~#~~ He says

The Nazis <sup>got ready</sup> ~~began to prepare~~ for the attack on Crete

immediately after they ~~had~~ occupied Athens. Of course, nobody

was allowed to report it, but MacVeigh says, surely the British

must have had agents in Athens. Nobody in the Greek capital could

have had any doubt as to what was going on.

Diplomat MacVeigh reports that <sup>recently</sup> when he left Berlin,

the Nazis were evidently preparing for something big, something

aside from the Russian war. He assumed that what they were working

up to was an outbreak of more intensive air raids on Britain.

~~#~~ He reports that British bombers have done quite a bit of damage

in Berlin, <sup>that</sup> but you have to hunt for it. For instance, the once

royal opera house is completely burned out, <sup>one of the few</sup> ~~It is the only~~ buildings

in Berlin that would be any serious loss. ~~in that city of hideous~~

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A story that comes out of Moscow today is of guerrilla warfare. It's proceeding on a huge scale, says Lozovsky, the Soviet spokesman. Guerrilla fighting was a **great** feature of the Franco-Prussian War of Eighteen Seventy. It then was known to be chiefly of nuisance value. ~~It was~~ exasperating to the Prussians, <sup>and</sup> provoked them to savage retaliation. But it had no serious military value. So it will now be interesting to observe whether it can have any military <sup>effect on</sup> ~~value in~~ Hitler's invasion of Russia.

Lozovsky says the Red guerrillas are raising havoc with Nazi communications and causing huge losses. But the Germans make light of it. Lozovsky declares further that hundreds of villages and towns in the rear of the German advance lines are still occupied by the Russians. It is these towns and villages that are used as bases for the organizing and operating of guerrillas.

*The Soviet Spokesman*  
~~Lozovsky~~ also claims that in spite of the prowess of the German air force, it has not succeeded in disrupting the Soviet railroad system, ~~for all its constant bombing~~. Incidentally, there was an air raid in Moscow today, the fifth since the war started. The Moscovites took it in their stride, and Lozovsky

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reports that the Soviet air defenses are so strong that the Germans <sup>fliers</sup> couldn't get within a hundred miles of the capital.

Then we learn that Dictator Stalin has shaken up his defense organization again: - ~~He appointed four~~ <sup>ing</sup> He appointed four new Vice-Commissars of Defense. They now have eleven of these. One, ~~of them is~~ a tank troop specialist, another an aviation general, and one ~~is~~ a political commissar.

The Russians admitted there was heavy fighting around Smolensk and Polotsk-Nevel - ~~that's~~ near the Polish border - and Novograd <sup>Volynsk.</sup> ~~Polensk.~~ But they deny that the Germans have made any headway in the last twenty-four hours, and they claim the Red front is again fairly stabilized.

Now let's take a look at the Nazi side of the story.

They've annihilated six Red divisions, they say, and <sup>have</sup> trapped a large number of others. That part of it sounds pretty vague. But it's described as an official report. Then D.N.B., Goebbels's news agency, claims that those Red divisions trapped by the Nazis, are north of Vitebsk. Low flying German planes are blasting at the Russians east of Smolensk. That would indicate, if true, that the invaders are approaching Moscow.

A story comes from London ~~in~~ of the party played by Americans, in a battle. But, only a sham battle.

Some American business men are members of the British Home Guard. Part of the British Army held manoeuvres Saturday night and the Americans took part. They were led by a Virginia general, Wade Hayes who used to be on the staff of General Pershing. The Americans even organized a group of Fifth Columnists to make the war game realistic. Two of these were Mr. and Mrs. P. K. Horner of St. Louis. Mr. Horner is a mining engineer. The Horners played on a golf course near the headquarters of a British division and so scouted the lay-out. With this and other information gathered by those American Home Guards they found a break in the defenses of the division, sneaked up to Divisional Headquarters, broke a window, tossed in a bunch of tear gas bombs and firecrackers and wrecked the entire divisional command. Officers from the ranks of General down ran out of headquarters with tears running down their faces, gasping and choking. Thereupon the American Fifth Columnists grabbed the telephone system the staff maps, and the entire plans for the division. In half an hour they had made an end of the war.



Today the story leaked out, and all England is said to be laughing. It is even reported that one consequence will be a shake-up on the staff.



FIELDS

Around the beginning of this century, no visitor to New York had really seen the city unless his visit had included Weber and Fields' Music Hall. <sup>For long years</sup> ~~It's pretty safe to say that~~ they were the most famous of all teams of comedians, though the ~~rising~~ <sup>of today</sup> generation knows of them only by <sup>vague</sup> hearsay. <sup>However</sup> Their celebrity and their influence <sup>did</sup> reach down even to the present day. Lew Fields, who died today at Hollywood, was in ~~the~~ seventy-fifth year of his life. He was the tall thin member of the team. The fat one, his pal and partner, Joe Weber, was at his bedside.

For more than a generation, these funny men were ~~more~~ than a couple of successful comedians - they were a national institution. To say their humor was broad, would be an under-statement. It was emphatically and avowedly low comedy, with a result that it appealed to people of all kinds and all ~~sizes of~~ brows, high <sup>and</sup> ~~or~~ low. The Columbia University professor was just as much a regular goer to Weber and Fields' Music Hall as the news-boy who saved his pennies for a seat in the gallery. <sup>TP</sup> Lew and Joe never feared competition. They surrounded themselves

with top-notchers, Lillian Russell, for instance; Peter Dailey  
one a great name in American theatrical history; David Warfield,  
Fay Templeton, and so on. Weber and Fields were a national  
institution because they applied the acid medicien of slapstick  
humor to everything in American life.

## GNATS

Here's a weird story from Cleveland. A fire alarm was turned in, by telephone with the information that the Cleveland Terminal Tower was on fire. The person who called up announced that smoke was pouring out of the top floor of the tower. Immediately two trucks, a rescue squad, a hose company and three engine companies rushed to that tower, the tallest in Cleveland. They found neither fire nor smoke. The cloud of smoke that had been reported turned out to be a gigantic swarm of gnats, hundreds of millions of gnats.

Sounds like a tall story, Hugh.