

L. T. - SUNOCO, FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1935

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:-

There is an important announcement from Washington today. The National Park Service proclaims to the American people that the cherry blossoms in Washington will be in full bloom about April Fifth. And they'll stay in gorgeous bloom until about April tenth. They are the delight of travellers, those blossoming cherry trees in the national capital.

Of course, there are some other bits of news from Washington, a shade more important than trees. The House of Representatives took another vote on the bonus today. Yesterday the Congressman cast the majority of their ballots in favor of the Patman Bill. That really was an expression of preference for the Patman Bill, as against the Vinson Bill. And today the Lower House put the

formal finishing touches to the job by passing the Patman Bonus-
~~Bill~~ Inflation Bill by an overwhelming majority. The vote was
three hundred and eighteen to ninety. That's well above the
two-thirds ~~majority~~ necessary to pass the Bill over the President's
veto, which is sure to come.

^A~~That~~ Bill that wins such a smashing victory calls
for two billion dollars to be given to the veterans in immediate
payment of their adjusted compensation certificates -- the two
billion to be raised by injecting that $\$$ much inflation into the
nation's currency.

And, The President sent a message to Congress today calling for some legislation to deal with certain business practices. Mr. Roosevelt applied the ^{popular} word "chislers" to certain kinds of manufacturers and asked Congress to enact laws to compel these chislers to deal honestly with the public.

The President wants to extend federal regulation to food and drug advertising. At present the federal government has control over labels pasted on food and drug packages and bottles. It has the power to see that such labels are correct, not misleading -- and tell the truth about what's inside. But as things stand now the government has no control over advertising. The President wants to change that condition and ^{have} ~~put~~ a check-up on ^{all} food and drug advertising, just as ^{with} ~~on~~ food and drug labels -- to make the advertising correspond to the thing advertised.

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ROBINSON

And strong words of statesmanship were spoken by Democratic Leader, Senator Robinson, ~~and right~~^{when he} denounced various panaceas that are supposed to promote Utopia.

In an address to a section of the New York Board of Trade at the Waldorf-Astoria, he denounced Huey Long's Share-the-Wealth Plan as "a chase after a bag of gold at the rainbow's end." He added that it was a confiscation of wealth which would wreck the economic structure of the country. Then the Senator took a ~~xx~~ smack at the Townsend Plan too, saying that it would lead ~~x~~ to an unbearable tax burden and destructive inflation.

GASOLINE

The subject of taxes was discussed in a big way at Philadelphia last night - gasoline taxes. Fifteen thousand motorists jammed the Keystone Automobile Club in a mass protest against the way taxes on motor fuel have been increased and are being diverted to other uses than road-building. The huge gathering was addressed by Congressman Cartwright of Oklahoma, Chairman of the Roads Committee of the United States House of Representatives. He is a co-author of a huge bill concerning roads, which was passed by Congress last year. One clause in the bill penalizes states for employing motor funds for other than highway purposes.

In Washington there's one gala event that will not take place tomorrow night - the Annual ^{Banquet} ~~Banquet~~ of the Washington Correspondents, at the Willard, which the president invariably attends. It has been called off, postponed. The reason for this points to sad news - Colonel Louis McHenry Howe, the President's confidential Secretary, has taken a turn for the worse. It would be impossible for President Roosevelt to attend any gayety with Louis Howe so ill - the faithful friend and advisor who has stood beside him since the earliest days of his political career.

Nor, for that matter, could the newspapermen in Washington jubilate while Louis Howe lies in his sickbed. He is one of the men best liked by the journalists at the national capital.

HULL

Tonight's American political news takes us to the crisis in Europe:- The first time a member of the Administration has made a public statement denouncing German rearmament - though it's hardly strong enough to be called a denunciation. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, spoke a rather veiled rebuke. He didn't mention Germany by name. He merely said that the United States feels a good deal of concern about the way nations are showing tendencies to ignore treaty obligations. Does this mean the likelihood of a formal American protest to Germany?

However, Secretary Hull is said to feel strongly about European affairs. He has been in constant touch with Norman Davis Uncle Sam's Ambassador-at-Large. The two statesmen have been advising right along with President Roosevelt. There are said to be two schools of thought in Washington. Cordell Hull, an idealist, believes the President should send a strong message to Germany, protesting against the violation of the Treaty of Versailles. Of course, the United States government didn't sign that Treaty. But our own separate Treaty with Germany after the World War provides for the same arrangements concerning territory and armament as are incorporated in the Versailles document. Hence, the grounds for American protest.

The other school of thought is represented by the high army and navy command of the United States. The generals and the admirals are advising the President to keep the country out of the European tangle altogether and merely give us a stronger army and navy with which to meet any possible dangerous developments.

This session-extraordinary of the League Council will be devoted exclusively to a discussion of Germany's attitude of the Versailles Treaty.

The rest of the news consists mostly of opinions, surmises, rumors. In other words, talk. There hasn't been such vain talk in a long time. In the lofty sanctuaries of diplomacy, the conversation is pretty much the same as when a couple of fellows are discussing things in general or ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ corner of Main Street. It is about the possibility of war, and with all sorts of people predicting with the greatest earnestness that another great war is about to break out. And of course in all places also is the deliver of pessimistic and halfhearted as in Paris. In the Chamber of Deputies, British Parliament are showing particular aptness to make parades and speeches, make all sorts of promises of military preparation.

GERMANY

On the other side of the Atlantic, today's central interest is in a rather loud sounding proclamation by the League of Nations. The League is going ^{to} deliberate Germany's action and is summoning the Council to meet in extraordinary session during the first week in April. This session-extraordinary of the League Council will be devoted exclusively to a discussion of Germany's defiance of the Versailles Treaty.

The rest of the news consists mostly of opinions, surmises, rumors. In other words, talk. There hasn't been such ominous talk in a long time. In the lofty sanctuaries of diplomacy, the conversation is pretty much the same as when a couple of fellows are discussing things in general on ~~xxxxxxxx~~ ^a the corner of Main Street. It is about the possibility of war, ~~xxx~~ with all sorts of people predicting with the greatest earnestness that another great war is about to break out. And of course in no place else is the palaver so pessimistic and belligerent as in Paris. In the Chamber of Deputies, excited Frenchmen are shouting ^{that} hostilities are about to ~~begin popping~~ and suggesting ~~nearly~~ all sorts of measures of military preparation.

But, is the likelihood of war so great? ^{It} Maybe it's the wise thing, as it certainly is the sensible thing - ^{to} string along with [^] one cool-minded Frenchman who is keeping his head. He's important too, Foreign Minister Laval. He's telling people not to take the war scare too seriously. He's a hundred per cent of the belief that diplomatic manoeuvring and peace-making will prevent any disastrous international explosion.

From London, which has hitherto been the center of mild and hopeful procedure, the word is not so reassuring. They say that the heads of the British government are convinced that the diplomatic ~~business~~ ~~of~~ ~~Sir~~ ~~John~~ visit of Sir John Simon ^{to} ^{this weekend} Berlin [^] will be useless and futile - that Hitler will refuse to listen to the protests and remonstrances that Sir John will make concerning German rearmament. And this dubious skepticism seems to be founded on portentous actualities. For, not only are the Nazis going swiftly ahead with their determination to build a great war machine on land, but now Hitler is talking navy too. He wants to build up the German fleet with a huge increase - more than double. Germany wants ~~the~~ squadrons on the ocean as big as those of France and Italy. Both of these Mediterranean Powers are now on pretty much

the same naval terms - Italy's fleet a little smaller than France's. With the United States and Great Britain as the premier naval powers, and Japan in ~~the~~ second place, you could fairly assign France and Italy to a joint position in third place. Now Germany wants to share that third place.

This in turn harks back to that much discussed Berlin Visit of Sir John Simon. It looks as if Hitler, so far from listening to British protests about the Germany army, is going to ask His Majesty's foreign ^{secretary}~~representative~~ to agree to that increase of the German navy. Somebody comes to complain about something you've done and you respond by telling him you want to do something more. No wonder London is skeptical about the results Sir John is likely to attain!

There's a mild bit of surprise in one report that comes from Berlin. It relates that the German military leaders are not entirely in agreement with Der Fuehrer in kicking the Versailles Treaty down the stairs. They say that some of the high ranking German generals are afraid that Hitler has acted with too much preemptory ~~and~~ violence. As military experts, they know quite well that Germany, though in the process of arming ~~is~~ feverish

haste, could not fight any real war with the immensely developed military machine of France. In fact, there are many Germans who have a lot of misgiving about Der Fuehrer's sudden outbreak of world defiance. It is being said around that Hitler has illusions of grandeur; that his swollen notions of German greatness are out of balance. They add that what's in his head is really an old theory attributed to Bismarck, that it's in the destiny of Germany to extend her power from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea. ~~And that~~ Hitler feels ^{that} he's the one to do it. The Baltic ~~ix~~ to the Black Sea would mean a German conquest of Austria, Hungary and Roumania, with possibilities of Czechoslovakia thrown in. It does sound like ~~a regular maniac~~ ^{a megalomaniac} pipe dream.

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These meditations turn our thoughts to Vienna, where we find the War Ministry has ordered all reserve officers to report for special instructions by March the thirtieth. The government has refused to confirm this report, which ~~is said to have been~~ ^{emulated} from military sources. All Austrian officers, they say, will be asked whether they are prepared to start in on a new course of military training. And the purpose of this would be to form a sketeton staff of officers around which a new large officers corps

could readily be assembled. ^π The Austrian government announced a few days ago that it would not follow Germany's treaty-breaking example and start rearming. ^π But, I wonder? The former Allied Powers are tremendously interested in keeping Germany from grabbing Austria, and with Germany rearmed, it would be ~~some might~~ ^{just a lot of} theoretical pedantry for France and Italy to insist that Austria preserve the Treaty inviolate, and remain powerless.

LAWSUIT

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Here's a story I wanted to tell last night, but didn't have the time. It concerns one of the most amazing lawsuits in the history of the courts - a lawsuit that has just been decided by a judge in Paris, after dragging along for sixty years. A French Court suing the Swiss City of Geneva for a legacy of a hundred million dollars - and the French Court denies the claim. The French Court ~~went~~ won't get the hundred million dollars, the City of Geneva will keep it.

It all goes back to royal affairs at the court of England, back to Eighteen twenty-five, when George the Fourth was on the throne. In that year, a nephew of the King arrived from Germany. The Georges of the Hanoverian Dynasty were Germans, and the King's nephew was the Duke of Brunswick. He was a young man, only twenty-nine, and at the British Court he fell deeply in love with the beautiful Lady Charlótte Colville. As she was not of royal blood, he couldn't marry her. He took her back to Brunswick and settled her at the Castle of Wessenden. The following year a daughter was born. The Duke issued Letters Patent, recognizing the child as his own and conferring on her the title of Countess of Colmar.

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Two years later, there was a quarrel between the Duke and Lady Charlotte Colville. She returned to England. The child remained with the Duke. Several years after that there was a revolution in Brunswick and the Duke was driven from his throne. He went to Paris. The little Countess of Colmar went with him. In his Parisian exile he became famous as an eccentric. He retained his vast private fortune, and money makes eccentricity more eccentric. For years he was one of the b*o*z*ar*re characters of the city that understands and tolerates. [¶] When the Countess of Colmar was sixteen, the event occurred which led to all the present day legal proceedings. The girl became a Catholic, The ~~excited~~ Duke was furious. He packed her off to London, trying to make her change her mind. He stopped her allowance, putting pressure on her. But she met a young French nobleman, Count Ulrich de Civry, and married him. And that ended the eccentric Duke's right to influence his daughter on the subject of ~~religion~~ religion. He never forgave her. [¶] He died in eighteen seventy-three, leaving a will which bequeathed all of his immense estate to the city of Geneva, on condition that the authorities of Geneva have his body petrified. He himself had invented a way to do the

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petrifying. And the City was to place him in a magnificent mausoleum. The Count de Civry and his Countess challenged the will, claiming that the Duke was not in his right mind when he made the strange testament and that they were the legal heirs. The City of Geneva denied this, and the case went dragging through the French courts.

One part of the evidence concerned documents in that august sanctuary, the British Museum, Letters Patent concerning the Countess of Colmar's birth. The originals were burned in the turmoil of the Brunswick revolution, which overthrew the Duke. Copies had been put on record in London - so claimed Count de Civry. But the City of Geneva protested that those copies now in the British Museum, are forgeries. And the City further claimed that the royal birth records of Brunswick had been falsified.

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The decision was eagerly awaited by the aristocracy of Europe, and now the verdict has come. The Count's claim, based on an old romantic story, is denied.

AN ARMY SPECTROGRAPH

Scientists are at work getting ready for the next balloon attempt to solve the mysteries of the stratosphere. Last year Captain Stevens, the famous high-altitude man of the army, and several colleagues, made that spectacular ascent from the Black Hills. That was the time when they all had to jump and come down in their parachutes. Well, Captain Stevens is getting ready to lead another expedition into the stratosphere.

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Some of the most important scientific work that is now being done in connection with the expedition is that of building a special spectrograph that will enable Captain Stevens to analyze the stratosphere; a qualitative and a quantitative study. Bausch and Lomb scientists of Rochester, are busy on this large spectograph. The optics in the instrument are ground to an accuracy of two one-millionths of an inch; or, if you prefer, about one-tenth of a wave length of light.

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I don't know just how this broadcast has worked out from a qualitative standpoint, but from a quantitative angle it has gone far enough, because my optics inform me that I am now about one-tenth of a wave length of light from the time when I should say -- SO LONG UNTIL Monday.

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