

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The alarming thing about the shut-down of power in the Saginaw Valley of Michigan, is that it's what they call "runaway strike." The electricity was shut off by the Union, without the knowledge and consent of the Union leaders. That raises the question: Now that the C.I.O. has enrolled some millions of workers, can it hold them in line? Can John L. Lewis and his lieutenants guarantee that agreements will be kept after they have been made?

The sequence of events is this : the Union leaders in Washington came to an agreement with the employers. When news of the agreement reached Michigan, the employees were dissatisfied. So at two-thirty this morning they pulled the switches in Flint, darkening the entire city right in the middle of the night. Six hours later they turned off the power at the plant which is the main source of power for the entire system of the

Saginaw Valley- crippling more than a score of cities.

This meant that factories public buildings, hotels , were all completely deprived of electricity. However, hospitals, homes and some stores were served with current. To make the tie-up complete and proof against rescue, the streets outside the power plants were blockaded with trucks.

Every industry paralyzed. Four hundred and fifty thousand people affected. Newspapers unable to publish. More than forty thousand workers in General Motors factories are thrown out of work in Flint alone.

Homer Martin, President of the Automobile Workers Union, declared: "This is absurd; it is an unauthorized strike; the power will be back on before noon." That he said this morning. But this afternoon the power is still off. The news aroused and apparently exasperated Governor Frank Murphy who was in Pittsburg. "All power must be restored before nightfall," he said. "I will personally see to it." To back up his statement he telephoned orders to the National Guard and the State Police to hold themselves in readiness to enforce his order.

In Washington, John L. Lewis, head of the C.I.O. was equally perturbed and anxious for that "runaway strike" to be ended.

In the steel strike, Governor Davey of Ohio, has called a conference. "The situation is fraught with the ominous possibility of rioting, bloodshed, loss of life," he declared. So he sent telegrams to the strike leaders and executives of the Republic Steel Company and the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company. In those wires he said: "You cannot refrain from fair discussion of the problem."

At Monroe, Michigan, Tom Girdler, Chairman of Republic Steel, vows he'll open his plant there tomorrow morning. He says two-thirds of the workers have voted to return to their jobs. The C. I.O. vow they'll stop it; send reinforcements from outside to prevent that plant from reopening. The Mayor of Monree vows he'll maintain law and order and protect the workers at all costs. He has had a large force of special emergency police sworn in. Many of them are veterans of the World War. It looks as though something would have to

be done over night or there may be violence at Monroe in the morning.

State of Louisiana sends an ambassador to Washington. Louisiana's embassy was opened in Washington today in the most dignified and glittering circumstances. Joe entered in the plane and systems required while Governor Leche and other Louisiana state officials initiated the move-back which is the subject of the Bayou State.

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office in Washington. Governor Leche appointed Earl Christenberry, with the title of Director of Public Relations. Young Mr. Christenberry used to be one of Huey Long's principal aides.

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50

LOUISIANA

Here's a new departure in diplomacy. The Sovereign State of Louisiana sends an ambassador to ^{Washington.} ~~Uncle Sam.~~ Louisiana's embassy was opened ~~in Washington~~ today in the most convivial and glittering circumstances. Ice clinked in the glasses and syphons squirted while Governor Leche and other Louisiana State officials initiated the three-room suite which is the embassy of the Bayou State.

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Over ~~the~~ highball glasses Director Christenberry admitted that something more than publicity was the goal of his work.

"It's sort of like Louisiana's embassy," he avowed. But he strenuously denied that lobbying was his job. "Our idea is to see that federal matters involving Louisiana are carried through with as little red tape as possible."

Washington cynics declare that the real object of that embassy is to get a larger share from the federal pork barrel. The Congressional delegation has not been obtaining enough of Uncle Sam's gravy for the state. Hence, the embassy.

POPE

In Rome the Pope said today:- "Conditions in Nazi Germany are so grave, so threatening and so dolorous for Catholics that they cause one to weep." Such was today's comment by the head of the Roman Catholic Church to a group of Bavarians who had made the pilgrimage to the Vatican.

It has been rumored that the Vatican was about to reach a compromise with the Hitler regime. But today's statement is being interpreted as a notification that the Holy See stands pat in its attitude towards Berlin.

While the Pope was thus addressing his German pilgrims, one of the important Nazi newspapers was publishing a quaint suggestion. "Let the Pope pay a visit to Germany and see conditions for himself," says the editor.

BERLIN

As for Adolph Hitler, the word is that he is preparing another coup d'etat. Danzig this time. Such is the thunderbolt suddenly and unexpectedly let loose in Europe today, also that the Fuehrer is going to grab not only Danzig but the portions of Silesia that the Allies returned to Poland.

Of course this isn't entirely unexpected. From the first, Hitler has made no secret of his intention. In fact he has boasted that he would restore to the Fatherland all the territory lost at Versailles. All this is only a question of time.

Today's ominous rumors were released by the indiscretion of a Nazi leader in East Prussia. This leader let slip the fact that Fuehrer Hitler, accompanied by several hundred officials, would pay a visit to the historic castle of Marienburg, a week from next Saturday. Marienburg in the Fourteenth Century was the seat of the Grand Mater of the Teutonic Order who used to rule East Prussia with an iron hand. Now, that

visit a week from Saturday was supposed to be a surprise. So this announcement let slip by that local Nazi big-wig has stirred up terrific consternation. For with it comes the report of large and mysterious troop movements in northeastern Germany. And one thing is not a rumor. The chief of the German Police suddenly appeared in Danzig and conducted an inspection of the formidable S.S. (Schutz Staffel Guards). Of these ~~xxx~~ there are no fewer than nine thousand ^{and} ~~a formidable~~ ^a well disciplined body of militia, in the Free City of Danzig. Marienburg is only thirty miles away from Danzig. The Fuehrer's purpose in visiting the seat of the Teutonic Masters is to make a speech. Thereafter, it is said, two of his principal lieutenants will dash over into the Free City and presumably accomplish the long expected seizure.

53
It should be added that these rumors are laughed at in Poland, ~~which would be~~ ^{the country} vitally affected by any such fresh breach of the Versailles Treaty.

For some seventeen years, the world has been wrestling desperately with ^{the} ~~a~~ problem:- how to disarm. President Roosevelt some time ago said sweepingly: "The way to disarm is to disarm." Mussolini pointed out last week that if all the nations promptly stopped their armament programs, millions of workers would be suddenly jobless all over the world and we'd have another depression.

Now comes a new and highly plausible proposal. ~~It is over~~ Its author is no less than the Premier of France, ~~Monsieur~~ Leon Blum. "We can stop this terrific armament race that is rushing the world to catastrophe," he said, "and here's how:- Let all the principal powers publish ~~and~~ frankly and freely the complete details of their armament programs, with costs. That done, let them promise - and keep the promise - not to exceed those programs."

Such is the proposal outlined by France's Premier to Scripps-Howard's Foreign Editor, William Philip Simms. It's the second in a series of ~~remarkable~~ interviews that ~~Phil~~ Simms is gathering in Europe, and I quote from it by permission of the NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM.

Monsieur Blum agrees with Mussolini that sudden and

54

instantaneous stopping of armament would be impossible.

"But," he said, "If they would agree not to extend their present ~~conditions~~ programs, their industries would have time to adjust themselves to new conditions." In other words they could change over gradually, easily and naturally from the wholesale manufacture of war machinery to the making of useful peace-time equipment."

That statement, when cabled to England, let loose a flood of conjecturing. "Does that mean they intend to come back to England?" was one question. And some newspapers are hinting that the Duke may intend to serve on the boards of charitable institutions.

Whatever the meaning of that somewhat cryptic announcement may be, the Duchess has started her career of usefulness by encouraging painting among the mail boys of Wasserleoburg. Some of the local youngsters had been reaping a harvest of pennies shading balls, when the Duke and Duchess played tennis. An ultimatum was issued today by the Duchess that all boys wishing such jobs must be painted every day.

WINDSOR

The Duke of Windsor declines to step from his throne into the ranks of the idle rich. So runs the gist of an official statement from Wasserleonburg in Austria, the honeymoon castle, ~~of their Royal Highnesses~~. The announcement was made by Lieutenant Dudley Forwood, the Duke's equerry. "Their Royal Highnesses," he said, "intend to lead a private but useful life."

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55

Whatever the meaning of that somewhat mystic announcement may be, the Duchess has started her career of usefulness by encouraging bathing among the small boys of Wasserleonburg. Some of the local youngsters had been reaping a harvest of pennies chasing balls, when the Duke and Duchess played tennis. An ultimatum was issued today by the Duchess that all boys wishing such jobs must ^{take a} ~~be~~ bathed every day.

~~One of the rumors that trickled through the portals~~

An incident in Cambridge shows that bitter feeling over the abdication of King Edward the Eighth still exists. An under-graduate of the University published a new magazine, which he called "Revolt." The moment it caught the eyes of the authorities, it was promptly suppressed. "Down with the Anglican Church which threw out our King!" it said. That was too much for even the somewhat liberal faculty of old Cambridge. They promptly confiscated all copies. Whereupon the young publisher resigned from the University in disgust.

SHAW

56

I'm going to try something rash tonight. I'm going to get in an argument. Who's the one person in the world with whom it's the most perilous to get into a controversy? You might say Jack Dempsey^{or} - George Bernard Shaw., I think Dempsey is probably the safer of the two, but I'm going to pick on Shaw. It's a good maxim - pick on Shaw, and duck. But never mind, here goes:

I have an article ~~here appearing in~~ ^{from} the English magazine TIME AND TIDE. Or rather, it's a letter written by the great Irish playwright and monkey wrench tosser. In it Shaw takes apart nothing less than the Coronation. The sharp Shavian wit pokes holes in the golden fabric of that venerable ceremony in Westminster Abbey. He calls for a "Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Royal Personages." He laughs at those thousand year old tomfooleries. He jeers at the symbolism of the ritual, calling it unreal, not modern, belonging to the dead past, opposed to modern actualities.

"In the Coronation," writes George Bernard Shaw, "the symbols are not merely obsolete. They symbolize conditions that have been reversed. They represent the king's investment with powers that he no longer wields, and of which it has cost us two

57
revolutions and several regicides to deprive him."

The answer is - true, but what of it? Do symbols always have to express present-day realities? Must they necessarily stand for things that are here with us? Maybe the magic of the Coronation was because its symbols betokened something unreal, something of a bygone past. Maybe the English people reveled in that medieval ritual, because it took them out of the present-day into a land of make-believe. Maybe that's what symbols are for - escape from reality, flight into make-believe. Maybe symbolism always expresses the unreal, the obsolete - things vanished.

Let's go on to Shaw's most telling bit of irony, in which he jibes at the Coronation symbols of kingly power and sovereign authority - the present day British king having mighty little power or authority. "If," writes Shaw, "the sword and the orb and the sceptre are to symbolize actual historical truth, they should be violently snatched by the Prime Minister from the hands of the monarch, who should thereupon swear never to make any attempt to take them back."

58
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58 1/2

That sounds reasonable enough. But what about the Middle Ages, from which the Coronation symbols have descended? Did those tokens of power and authority then express reality - the facts? Did the medieval English kings possess so mighty a sovereign sway? Were they absolute monarchs? Not at all - they were usually helpless before the power of the nobility. The feudal lords were predominant. The medieval king was often little more than a figurehead, just as the modern king is today. They gave him all the glittering paraphernalia of sovereignty, but kept the actual sovereignty away from him. The symbols were obsolete and unreal, then - as they are now. Great nobles ran the show then, as the Prime Minister does now.

59

As for symbols that express reality and are significant of the actualities of our modern world - I want to ask George Bernard Shaw one thing. Has he seen any of them? Has he seen the kind of symbolism that represents the machine age, the modern era of mechanism, symbols of the clangor of steel, and the impetus of power? We've got a few arty art examples over here in America, that I'd like to show him, and I bet he ~~would~~ scream for something

obsolete and medieval. I can imagine George Bernard Shaw tearing

his beard and yelling - take me back to the Coronation!

And now, ~~the ducking~~ *take me back - back home* and SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

9 1/4