

L.T. SUNOCO. FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1940

(Governor Ralph Carr)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

I'm delighted indeed to pinch-hit for <sup>my friend</sup> Lowell Thomas,  
with whom I worked in our earlier newspaper days, particularly as  
this is a day when the news is of historic importance. Tonight  
one has the feeling of broadcasting a page of history that has  
just been made.

## ARMISTICE

This afternoon, at a quarter past three, Hitler, the Nazi Dictator, stepped into a railway dining car near the French town of <sup>Compiègne</sup> Compiègne. It was an old dining car which for years had been kept bright and trim - as a shrine of French victory. Today Hitler stalked in and sat down in the very chair which Marshal Roch occupied twenty-two years ago, when he dictated to defeated Germany the terms of utter defeat and surrender. With Hitler today was a party of the highest military and diplomatic officials of Germany, who took their places in the ~~dining~~ car. There was a brief wait. Then three French generals were ushered in - plenipotentiaries of defeated France. They had come to receive the terms of an armistice dictated by Germany. Hitler and his Nazis <sup>18</sup> arose to greet them, and stuck their arms out in a stiff Nazi salute. Then the proceedings began.

The ceremony was a symbolism by which Germany sought in its own mind to wipe out the humiliation of Nineteen~~Eighteen~~. It was a rub-it-in bit of ritual - making the enemy submit this time in exactly the same fashion as he made you submit the last time. The armistice ceremony of Nineteen~~Eighteen~~ was fairly closely

reproduced, except that it was the other way around, - Germany dictating ~~armistice~~ conditions to France, with Hitler playing the leading role.

The proceedings continued with Hitler turning to one of his chief commanders, Colonel-General Keitel. He told the general to read to the French ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ officers a preamble to the armistice conditions. Colonel-General Keitel read it - a preamble that began with a lot of Nazi rhetoric. It contained the familiar contention that the Germany army was really not defeated in Nineteen Eighteen, <sup>but that</sup> the war was lost by weakness and treachery at home, <sup>It</sup> and made recriminations about the harsh armistice that was forced on the Kaiser's army, and excoriated the drastic peace of Versailles that followed. The preamble spoke of the brave fight the French made in the present war, and paid a compliment to a valiant enemy.

All this elucution was more in the nature of a Nazi harangue than of military negotiations. But the preamble did get around to the subject of armistice terms, and General Keitel read off some very general conditions - rather vague. These were

under three headings. First - the German terms are such as to make sure that France will not be able to fight again in the present war, the French army to be rendered incapable of any further hostilities. The second article sounds decidedly ambiguous - puzzling. United Press gives it in these words:- "France must give Germany all assurances for waging the Reich's war against Great Britain." This, at the very least, is a demand to use French territory in attacking England.

Third - the armistice must include preliminaries for a peace agreement that will recompense Germany for Versailles. X This, perhaps, ties in with other reports - that Hitler doesn't intend to present France with terms for a final peace until the German struggle with Great Britain is over. Then, presumably, they plan some sort of peace conference.

This preamble is all that is made public, ~~by armistice~~ *It is* ~~the armistice conditions~~, and it tells us very little. *It is* <sub>1</sub> vague and obscure. When Colonel-General Keitel finished reading it, he handed to the French emissaries the real terms - a document *detailed* of precise conditions. That ended the ceremony. It lasted hardly

more than ten minutes. ~~Both parties left the~~ Then both parties left the historic dining car. Hitler strutted off amid a blare of military bands. The three French generals <sup>retired</sup> ~~went~~ to a tent provided for them nearby. There they had wire and wireless means of communicating with the French Government of General Petain. They examined the armistice conditions and transmitted them to the Petain ministry. Later on, shortly after six, they returned to the dining car and there met Colonel-General Keitel. They resumed negotiations with him, and then communicated <sup>once more</sup> with the Petain Government at Bordeaux.

~~Such was the way that today, the Ministry of France, received the full and exact terms which Nazi Germany demands for an armistice.~~ <sup>the armistice terms</sup> The word from Bordeaux is that ~~they~~ <sup>they</sup> will be considered by the French Council of Ministers, which is probably meeting tonight. After the Council ~~of Ministers~~ has come to a decision, France will make its reply to Germany. Then there will be a public statement of the armistice conditions. These at present, are still a well kept secret.

The latest from the armistice front - Hitler has ordered the historic dining car to be taken to Germany and set up in Berlin as a trophy of victory.

## CABINET

There will be plenty of deliberating in Congress about the Stimson-Knox appointments. The naming of two prominent Republican leaders to the New Deal Cabinet must of course be confirmed by the United States Senate, and today it was decided to hold Senate committee hearings. These will be public.

Promptly today, the Military Affairs Committee of the Upper House, took up what is widely regarded as the formation of a war cabinet. The Republican members demanded - public hearings. In a caucus they insisted that Henry L. Stimson should be called upon to testify. "We agree," declared Republican Senator Austin, "that the proper procedure would be to invite Mr. Stimson to come before us." The Democratic members of the Committee did not oppose the idea. "Everybody appeared to be in agreement," So said the Chairman, Senator Shepard of Texas, and he added that the hearing would not be held until after the Republican National Convention. So it's decided. There will be public hearings, and the prominent Republican who was Secretary of State in the Hoover administration, will be asked plenty of questions about his appointment to the Cabinet of the New Deal. ~~and~~ ~~one~~ prominent angle will be - war. Henry L. Stimson is on record as a warm

advocate of aid to the Allies.

This same story applies to the other sensational appointment - that of Colonel Frank Knox, the Republican who ran for Vice-President in Nineteen Thirty-Six, to the post of Secretary of the Navy under President Roosevelt. This is in the jurisdiction of the Naval Affairs Committee of the Senate. The Committee will meet tomorrow, and is considered certain to decree public hearings with testimony by Colonel Knox - after the Republican convention.

Today, Colonel Knox accepted the nomination as Secretary of the Navy, and issued a statement of his position. "National defense," said Colonel Knox, "is not a partisan question. It should have the united support of people regardless of party." He added that he is taking the post because the President told him that he could be of service in the cause of preparedness.

We have some vague word about the letter of resignation that Secretary of War Woodring sent to the President when he stepped out yesterday and made way for the Stimson appointment. As Lowell Thomas told you last night, the White House described the letter as being very personal - too personal for publication. Today, associates of Woodring were saying that the letter was too hot for publication - so red hot that it was written on asbestos paper. There's no Washington hint of what was in the Woodring epistle, but ~~in~~ here's what may be a hint from Kansas.

It's a sensational story printed in the Topeka

"Capital" today and states that three weeks ago, Secretary Woodring informed friends that he would be - "forced to resign." Why would he be forced to resign? The Kansas newspaper quotes Woodring as having said, "I'm an advocate of adequate defense, but I'll never stand for sending American boys into Europe's shambles." And he is said to have added: ~~2~~ "There is a comparatively small clique of international financiers who want the United States to declare war and get into the European mess with everything we have - including our manpower." ~~So said Woodring, according to the Kansas @ newspaper.~~

Last night Lowell Thomas told the radio audience that London hailed the appointment of Stimson, because the British felt that Woodring was opposed to the sending of army war equipment across to the Allies. This was echoed today by the Kansas newspaper, which quotes the then Secretary of War as having said three weeks ago:- "They don't like me because I'm against stripping our own defenses for the sake of trying to stop Hitler three thousand miles away. Eventually," he is said to have added, "they will force me to resign."



This Kansas newspaper revelation was promptly followed by a demand in Congress - a demand that there be a joint congressional investigation of the resignation of Woodring and the appointment of Stimson. Representative Carlson of Kansas introduced a resolution <sup>that calls</sup> ~~called~~ for an inquiry into the allegation that Woodring was forced out because he opposed the stripping of the defenses of this nation.

<sup>in Philadelphia</sup>  
The Republicans <sup>have</sup> have officially rejected any notion of a coalition cabinet. They <sup>have</sup> stated, in formal terms, that the appointment of the two Republicans, Stimson and Knox, does not in any sense constitute a coalition, because the two appointees represent only themselves and not the Republican Party. This view is embodied in a unanimous resolution ~~xx~~ by the Republican National Committee, which reads:- "Having entered the Cabinet, Stimson and Knox are no longer qualified to speak as Republicans or for the Republican Party. Both men," adds the resolution, "have long desired to intervene in the affairs of Europe, and the Democratic Party now becomes the war party."

Ranking Republicans are speaking up in the strongest terms, emphasizing and re-emphasizing the fact that the new appointments do not constitute a coalition. Ex-President Hoover makes this statement. "There is no question of coalition involved," he declares, "the national issues remain exactly what they were."

And now it's time to hear from the sponsor.