

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

(Brazil goes Fascist!)

Fascism has definitely crossed the Atlantic and taken a large foothold in the western hemisphere. Brazil tonight is a corporative state. Not only the national but all the state legislative bodies have been abolished, and a new constitution has been proclaimed. And with it a dictator.

But, the government is not taken over by the Green Shirts, the Integrelistas, as the Brazilian Fascist Party is called.

(The government remains firmly in the hands of President Getulio Vargas. And he will remain as the head of the New Fascist Government.)

All opposition leaders have left the country, fled for their lives.

And -- hundreds upon hundreds of Communists are under arrest.

Soon after this much news leaked out of Brazil the mailed fist of the censor was clamped down ruthlessly. The headquarters of the United Press in New York City telephoned

its office in Rio de Janeiro at a quarter past one this afternoon. When the call was put through, Herbert Clark, who represents the U.P. in Rio, said to his home office: "Under strict orders from the censor, I can give you no further information on the situation." ^{news} The official information was issued by the censor of the Police Department. It read as follows: "After a meeting held this morning at Ghanabra Palace, the Minister of Justice announced a new constitution for the Republic which will be published today and has just been promulgated." ^{It goes on to say:-} "Ipso facto, the federal senate and chamber and also the state legislatures and municipal councils have been dissolved. At eight o'clock this evening President Vargas will speak to the country by radio."

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As a matter of cold fact, President Vargas has been virtually dictator of Brazil under martial law almost ever since the Communist Revolution of two years ago. ^{Now} The crisis in the coffee market ~~has what~~ brought about this latest move.

This information was received in Washington with gravity and dismay. The diplomats of all the Americas are

asking themselves: "How long will it take for this disease to spread?" Which will be the next Fascist state in the Western Hemisphere? And there's another momentous question: "Will Brazil join the Rome-Berlin axis?" Will it become a party to the so-called Anti-Communist Treaty between Germany, Italy and Japan?

And here's something more. That news from Rio De Janeiro also caused great alarm in Buenos Aires. The officials of the Argentine government find serious cause for worry in the situation.

ADD LEAD

Just a moment, here's something that just came over the cables from Rio. The censor has issued a communication saying: "All these changes were brought about quietly and have for their purpose the assurance of national peace." And the censor says further: "The new constitution will be submitted to a vote of all the people. "

"There will be a parliament," adds the censor, "and a concentrative council of national economy."

At about the same time, the Foreign Minister of Brazil announced that there would be no change in the country's foreign policy. "No foundation to the reports that Brazil may join Italy, Japan and Germany in an anti-communist pact."

BRUSSELS

Early today, only the most lugubrious reports came from across the water about that Brussels conference over the Far Eastern situation. The delegates seemed to be deadlocked and it was announced that the French and British representatives were working tooth and nail trying to save the day. But a few minutes ago, a cable came in, carrying the news of a definite, concrete plan, which is now being seriously considered. That plan is for the leading powers, including the United States, to say to Japan: "If you won't talk peace, we'll send armies and munitions to China and give the Chinese government credit."

Information that came in still later tends to show that the announcement of this plan may be a bit of diplomatic poker-playing. For actually, the conference has not yet received Japan's official reply to the invitation to attend. So any plan to help China must be nebulous. And, we learn, neither the United States nor any other first class power has bound itself to adopt any such suggestion. As a matter of fact, if such a plan were to be put into effect, it would be next door to war with Japan -- and that might mean World War.

DRUM

One of the generals of Uncle Sam's Army took a crack today at people who advocate isolation for America. Major General Hugh Drum, Commander of the Sixth Corps Area, made a speech to the Chicago Association of Commerce. And in it he said: "The people who would have us stay at home and build a great wall around our borders are nothing but Rip Van Winkles." (And he went on: "There are advocates in our country who would limit our national defense responsibilities to the continental United States, who would close our harbors and foreign trade, abolish our merchant marine and deny protection to our ocean and air commerce." And, said Major General Drum: "They have completely misread the lessons of history.")

I wonder whether the Major General was taking a crack at my friend, Major General Smedley Butler, "Old Gimlet Eye", as the marines used to call him. For Butler had been one of the foremost advocates of isolation. ~~xx~~ He wants an amendment to the Constitution forbidding the sending of any armed forces of Uncle Sam's out of the ^{U.S.A.} ~~United States mainland.~~

TAXES

The complaints of business men against the undistributed profits tax came to a head today. A sub-committee of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives was at work this afternoon discussing these complaints with officials of the Treasury. It looked today as though the government might be about to do something positive and constructive, ~~about the state of affairs which everybody has agreed to call a "business recession."~~

There was a conference at the White House today. President Roosevelt called on four of the country's ^{well known} ~~foremost~~ business leaders to attend. ~~the conference.~~ The men he called in were General Robert E. Wood, President of Sears-Roebuck; Gerard Swope, President of General Electric^{ric;}; Henderson Turner of New York, President of the Turner Construction Company, and S. Sloan Colt, a banker. Edward F. McGrady, formerly Assistant Secretary of Labor but now with the Radio Corporation of America, was also invited. Marriner S. Eccles, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, and Isidor Logan, head of the Statistical Bureau of the Department of Labor, were present to lend expert official advice.

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After the meeting was over, an announcement was made by Mr. Eccles. The remedy upon which these magnificoes decided ~~for the so-called "recession"~~ is a large scale, nationwide program to encourage the building of private homes. President Roosevelt hopes to enlist private capital in the campaign. ^{no} ~~but~~ *Federal money will be spent. But* [^] Mr. Eccles said maybe some government aid in the shape of a new law might be necessary in order to encourage private capital to come in. "The hope is to have a large volume of housing next year," said the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

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And there's going to be an important announcement about the administration's spending policy next year. Mr. Morgenthau, Secretary of the Treasury, and Senator Byrd of Virginia, will deliver ~~the~~ addresses before the Academy of Political Science in New York tonight. The subject will be, "Government Expenditure." And the advance dope is that Secretary Morgenthau will take this opportunity of telling the country what the government is going to do about balancing the budget and cutting down expenses.

FOOTBALL

There's excitement in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Rumors recently reached the startled ears of the University officials that some of the Michigan graduates had been trying to help hurry up Yost and Coach Kipke -- subsidizing freshmen who had shown distinction in athletics. So the faculty has begun an investigation. If those rumors turn out to be true, says the Chairman of the Board of Athletic Control, those hired athletes will be forbidden to take part in any inter-collegiate games, race meets, and so on.

And -- it appears that the investigation is favored by the eminent Mr. Harry Kipke, head football coach. More cynical observers are commenting that the University of Michigan officials are a trifle late. Several years ago, the Carnegie Foundation conducted a similar investigation and published far and wide charges that nearly every high-powered football team had salaried players in its lineup.

And here's an interesting bit from Ithaca, New York.

Cornell University announces that it has adopted the same rules as those that govern sports at Princeton, Yale and Harvard. The essence of those rules is that all who take part in any sport must furnish the authorities with full information as to any financial help they receive and from whom it is received.

NEW BEDFORD

A sophomore in the Textile High School at New Bedford, Massachusetts, was working in the laboratory. In the absence of the instructor, he was making an experiment with some chemicals, an experiment which was not in the textbooks. Suddenly there was a terrific explosion! In ^{a few}~~fifteen~~ seconds that laboratory was a wreck and the school building burst into flames. Every window in ~~that building~~ ^{the school} and in the houses nearby was shaken to smithereens. The fire was soon extinguished. But six ~~students in that~~ high school ^{students} were injured and the author of the experiment may not live to tell the tale.

FIRE

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A peculiar danger is producing a state of alarm in and around Scranton, Pennsylvania, ^{in the world of coal.} ~~As everybody knows, there are large deposits of coal in that neighborhood.~~ The collapse of the roof ~~of~~ one of the subterranean tunnels broke a trolley wire which started a fire. And now flames are spreading three hundred and fifty feet below the streets and houses of north Scranton. A call for help was sent to Governor Earle today, asking him to use the resources of the state to extinguish that subterranean conflagration. If it isn't checked at once, hundreds of school boys and girls will be in danger from the deadly fumes which may seep to the surface of the earth. And if it gets ~~much~~ worse, the ten thousand inhabitants of north Scranton ~~will~~ ^{may} be imperiled.

POKER

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In a house on a New York street, a poker game has been going on for some time, a modest little game of draw with a two-bit limit. The noise of the chips had reached the ears of some of the neighbors and rumors began to creep around that district. The long arm of exaggeration ~~ran its course~~ did its usual work, but by the time those rumors crystalized, they had magnified that harmless little two-bit-game-of-draw into a huge crap game with gigantic stakes.

The rumors traveled as far as New York's underworld and three tough boys, gorillas, decided to stage a little hold-up. They walked in on that room, where the game was going on, gun in hand, and they found not only less but also more than they had expected. For right in the center of the room ~~was~~ was a squad of husky cops who had also heard those rumors, and ~~had accomplished~~ ^{were staging} a raid on what they thought was ^{a fabulous} a crap game. ~~It isn't difficult~~ ^{to imagine that these were three astonished thugs.} The plot of the play was quickly changed. Bullets flew and landed in the thick hides of the would-be bandits. Two of them were wounded and captured, the third making his getaway.

NOME

For three days a violent southeast storm has been raging along the Alaskan coast. It culminated today in mountainous seas that swept through the roadstead at Nome and went surging over the Gold Beach, into streets and houses.

The people of Nome had to quit the entire waterfront section of the city and take refuge on higher ground. Every house, every shop, every business building lining the seaward side of Front Street -- built on the sands -- was undermined. The great waves washed part of the hotel into the harbor and it is believed that the jetty and bridges over the Snake and Nome Rivers were destroyed. However, there was no loss of life as the people of Nome had plenty of warning. A storm like the wild scene in Goldwyn's HURRICANE, that opened on Broadway last night. But in Nome it was real.

MacDONALD

The British Parliament, at the suggestion of Prime Minister Chamberlain, adjourned today out of respect to the memory of Ramsay MacDonald who for so many years was ^a~~the~~ foremost member of the House of Commons.

In Washington President Roosevelt issued a formal statement with these words: "Because Ramsay MacDonald labored long and successfully for the good of his fellow men, he will be mourned by those throughout the world who called themselves liberals. I am glad to have known him as a friend and I deeply regret his death."

And Prime Minister MacKenzie-King of Canada also published a tribute to the once Laborite Prime Minister of England.

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Ramsay MacDonald, who rose from a humble lowland cottage to administer the world's greatest empire!

SNORTS

Now for an eyeful of late dispatches. Pope Pius today gave an audience to three hundred and eighty-seven newly married couples at the Vatican and appealed to them to raise large families.

A Fascist newspaper in Rome followed the example of the German press and flung a Bronx cheer at New York's Mayor LaGuardia.

Twelve Japanese airplanes flew over Nanking and dropped a load of bombs on the Chinese capitol. That seems to corroborate the report that the Japanese high command is starting a concerted drive to capture the seat of China's government.

Another attempt to form a new government in Belgium has failed. The gentleman who was Foreign Minister under former Premier Van Zeeland, tried twice to organize a new cabinet, and he's the third of Van Zeeland's colleagues vainly to make the attempt.

Francisco Franco, Spanish Nationalist Generalissimo, says he will not join the Rome-Berlin axis or the Italo-German-Japanese anti-Communist pact. He will, however, wipe out, that is, to put it politely, execute every so-called extremist in Spain.

He is also planning a mass offensive against the government forces at the end of this month. He says he expects to end that Civil War once and for all.

And my last flash is:- SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.