

L.T.SUNOCO - April 7, 1933

Good Evening,Everybody:-

It now looks as though Washington,D.C.,within three weeks will be the most important center of news throughout the world. President Roosevelt's invitation to Prime Minister Ramsey MacDonald of Great Britain to come to Washington this month has been extended so that the conversations between John Bull and Uncle Same will take on a far wider scope than was indicated early this week.

Information comes from the State Department today that the President has extended an informal invitation to Italy to send a representative or representatives to the U.S.A. This information came out after the Italian Ambassador had visited the State Department and had a conference with Under-Secretary Bill Phillips.

~~would be pleased if Italy were represented at the conversations between President Roosevelt and Premier MacDonald.~~ ~~This~~ The informal suggestion will probably be followed up by a formal invitation. This comes on top of the announcement that France will send a delegation to Washington at the same time that Mr. MacDonald is talking to Mr. Roosevelt.

The report from Paris is that the French delegation will be headed by no less a potentate than the Prime Minister.

If Premier Mussolini himself were to head the delegation from Italy that would indeed be a story. It is said, however, that this is unlikely as the Duce hitherto seems to have made it a rule not to leave Italy and has always sent his foreign minister, Dino Grandi, to represent him on foreign missions.

Still later advices from Washington indicate that not only Great Britain, France and Italy, but Germany, also, will be represented at this Washington conference. An informal invitation was extended to the Hitler government ~~by~~ *through* the medium of the German Embassy in Washington late this afternoon.

It is understood that Mr. Roosevelt has intimated he would be particularly pleased if the heads of the governments came to Washington in person. That would mean a conference between Mr. Roosevelt, Prime Minister Ramsey MacDonald, Premier D'Aladier, Premier Benito Mussolini, and ^{*Chancellor*} Adolph Hitler.

And That ~~surely~~ would be a ~~the~~ gathering of potentates.

TARIFF

It is reported that President Roosevelt's next move in American domestic affairs will be the Tariff question. Washington reporters learned today that the leaders of Congress are expecting another important message next week accompanied by a bill on which Mr. Roosevelt's advisors are now at work. The gist of it will be a ten percent cut in Uncle Sam's tariff.

Mr. Roosevelt will again ask for broad authority. He wants Congress to enable him to negotiate Tariff agreements with all foreign countries. It is expected that the bill will give him extraordinary leeway in discussions to bring about a revival of trade all over the world.

LABOR

There has been a great to-do in manufacturing circles and also in labor circles over that bill for the thirty-hour week which the Senate passed. Labor, of course, is strong for it; manufacturers declare it would be ruinous. I have been wondering for sometime how Congress could dictate the length of the working day and the working week. It seems to take this form:- They would prohibit any inter-state transportation of goods made in factories where men ~~would~~ work more than five days a week, six hours a day.

Well, announcement comes today from Washington that this bill has been pigeon-holed for the time being, in the House ^{of Representatives.} It will be kept on the siding at any rate until all legislation that Mr. Roosevelt wants, the Reconstruction legislation has been put through.

Speaker Rainey in making this announcement said:-
"that bill sure has a lot of dynamite in it."

Incidentally, this bill is not ~~any~~ part of the President's program so far as Congress knows.

AKRON

The three survivors of the Akron told their stories to an Investigating Committee of Congress today. Lieutenant Commander Wiley gave his description of the disaster first and Bosun^smate Deal followed him. Deal told the Committee that about a quarter past eight while he was on duty Rear Admiral Moffeatt passed him. Deal said:- "Good evening, Admiral" and the admiral replied in kind. ~~The Bosunmate Deal~~ then said: "Admiral, you must like ^{flying on} this ship." The Admiral promptly replied: "I like it better than the Shenandoah". Deal then told the Committee that he was on his feet when the ship started going down by the tail. He noticed ~~the~~^a gas tank had dropped. The Akron slipped and Deal had to hold on. Then the lights went out and the ship's tail struck the water.

He swam around for twenty minutes until he saw some men clinging to a floating gas tank; he joined them but the high waves swept not only him, but the other men off. He grabbed a passing lifebuoy and remembers nothing further.

Moody Erwin, ^{the} metal-smith, said he was out on the keel^{of the Akron} when he saw one of the ship's girders carried away. When

the ship hit the water Erwin jumped through the fabric to the sea. "Then," he ~~said~~ "the ship fell on me and I dived under it and swam beneath the rigging." Erwin ~~said~~ told the Committee further that he and the other two survivors were floating for about thirty minutes before the German tanker "Phoebus" came ~~up~~ to the rescue. Speaking of the crew of the tanker, Erwin said: "those people sure treated us nice."

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Commander Wiley read to the Committee the report which the Navy Department made public yesterday. *If course there are no conclusions yet.*

GERMANY

Another sign of the times to show that the Republic is practically a thing of the past in Germany, made its appearance today. The Hitler~~ite~~ Government took a direct slam at the Republican constitution when it announced that titles, medals, ribbons, and other distinctions so common in ~~Imperial~~ Imperial Germany were to be reinstated. All such titles, and decorations were abolished under the Republic, but now they will be ~~be~~ brought into use again as a reward for services.

Titles and decorations will be conferred by the President. They will ~~be~~ differ from the old titles in one respect in that they can be recalled. In the old days if a man was made a Herr Geheimrat -- a Mr. Privy Counsellor -- he was a Mr. Privy Counsellor for life. Apparently under the new regime he will only be a Mr. Privy Counsellor during his good behavior. (Incidentally the thousands of Mr. Privy Counsellors in the old empire never by any chance, were called upon to sit in the Privy Council. It was a purely decorative title.) There was also another title called Wirkliche Geheimrat, which means real Privy Counsellor. The

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difference between a Mr. Privy Counsellor and a real Privy
Counsellor was that the latter used to be addressed as
Excellency, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ which would almost put him in
the same class as a general. ¶ This announcement comes on top of
Hitler's statement last night that only three hundred and
thirty people had been killed in the process of establishing
the ^{Nazi} revolution, or as he called it, the rebirth of Germany.

Forty thousand were wounded, and a hundred thousand individuals
have been kicked out of their jobs. The German Chancellor made
this statement as an antidote to the stories that great numbers
of people have been killed. H. R. Knickerbocker in the
N.Y. Eve. Post & Trib. Public Ledger, claims
that 40,000 people are in prison in Germany today,
political prisoners who are in jail for opposing Chancellor
Adolph.

FOLLOW GERMANY

The head of the Reichsbank, the German National Bank, made a statement today which has considerable bearing on the proposal to boycott German goods because of the treatment of the Jews. Doctor Schacht, who was appointed head of the bank by the Hitler Government said that unless Germany's export trade were improved she might be unable to pay private debts as well as those of the government. He did not say this in so many words but his statement contained that implication.

DUELLING

Another interesting morsel from the Fatherland is that the Nazis are restoring the code du^lello. Under the Republic ^{duelling was theoretically} ~~this custom was~~ wiped out. Now ~~you~~ it is not only permitted, it is compulsory.

Three of the German states had passed laws directed particularly against duelling at the universities. Those states were Prussia, ^Bar~~den~~, and Bavaria, and all three of them have just repealed ~~these~~ laws.

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Newspaper organs of the Nazi party are loudly jubilant over this. They say that duelling strengthens and steels not only the body but the spirit. The repeal of these laws against duelling will restore the sound healthy idea that a man should take a weapon in his hand to avenge an insult instead of going before a judge.

So the old-time German student with his face covered with saber scars will once more be a frequent and popular spectacle in the Fatherland.

DRYS

Leaders of the Dry forces today issued statements deploring the return of the stuff that comes in seidels. Mrs. Boole spoke for the W.C.T.U., Dr. Leigh Colvin for the United Committee for Law Enforcement, and Fred Victor for the Anti-Saloon League. They all agreed that the ~~regulation~~^{legalization} of the 3.2 per cent stuff was a great national calamity. But they hope it will lead to such excesses that the ~~repeal~~^{repeal} of the Eighteenth Amendment will be prevented. Dr. Colvin and Mr. Victor declared this 3.2 per cent ^{liquid} was intoxicating and a habit-forming narcotic drug. They said that selling it was shameful and deplorable.

On the other hand many people were wondering whether the Dry leaders were right in declaring this 3.2 per cent stuff intoxicating.

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The Jersey Observer sent out one of its veteran reporters to ~~investigate~~^{see if he could get tight on it,} and he reported that after seventeen ~~ten-ounce~~ glasses, he felt no effects, *so he said.*

The report of the Jersey Observer is confirmed in other sources. The general verdict seems to be that in order

LEGION OF VALOR

It may sound incredible, but here's what happened. I attended a celebration of Army Day with a crowd of fighting men, Army, Navy, Marines and Air Service. The men present were the wearers of Uncle Sam's highest decorations, the Congressional Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross. And there was not a drop to drink - not even 3.2. Yet they all seemed to have a good time. The occasion was also to organize ~~xxxx~~ the N.Y. Chapter of The Legion of Valor, and to get ready for a national convention of Medal of Honor and D.S.C. men. George Bremen, the sailor who rushed into the blazing ammunition magazine and saved so many ~~men~~ of his pals on the Kearsage long years ago was there. Men of the Rainbow Division, the 3rd, the 26th, the 27th, the 79th. Capt. Richard Pearson Hobson who helped bottle up the Spanish Fleet in Santiago Harbor, John McCloy who has two medals of Honor and more decorations than a British Field Marshal.

Only three women have the Distinguished Service Cross, and one of them was there - Beatrice Mary McDonald, who went right on caring for the wounded in spite of her own desperate wounds, also National Commander Edw'n Cooper, old Major "Coop" who's adventures

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trail I crossed so many times during The World War. These folks ~~are~~ are to this country what the wearers of the V.C. are to the British Empire. And I'd rather have a meal with them than any crowd I know.

Admiral Moffett who lost his life ~~in~~ the Akron disaster was one of their number, and they paid a special tribute to him.

It surely is the most distinctive organization in this country. They don't like to talk of their deeds and if you ask one how he got the D.S.C. or the still rarer Congressional Medal of Honor, his answer ~~will~~ usually is:- "Oh, I bought a general a drink," In fact that's their pass word.



Sporting circles throughout the United States will also be interested in a bill which was passed by the New York Assembly this afternoon. This repeals the law promoted by Chief Justice Hughes of the ^{United States} ~~Supreme Court~~ when he was Governor of New York State, the law against betting on the race track.

The passage of this bill by the New York Assembly is described in the newspapers as one of the big surprises of the season. It means that betting will be lawful once more on all the ~~xxxx~~ tracks in New York State, either for trotting races, running races, or steeplechases.

~~Tacked onto this bill is a provision which imposes a tax of eight per cent on the gross revenue of all race tracks. It is believed that this will bring in half a million dollars a year revenue into the State Treasury.~~

HOCKEY

(3) An important sporting event is due to take place tomorrow evening. It will be a hockey match at Toronto, when the New York Rangers and the Maple ^{Leaf} ~~Leaves~~, as the Toronto team is called, will play the second game of the series for the Stanley Cup, which is the principal prize in the hockey world.

It is going to be a closely fought game, probably fought in every sense of the word, because there seems to be something about hockey that prompts ~~the belief of~~ the players to use their sticks on something more than the puck. In fact there are frequent encounters when fists fly on the ice and free-for-alls are not unknown.

All the games will be played in Toronto this year because the ^{big clown and elephant} circus opens in Madison Square Garden, New York, tomorrow. This fact made the New York hockey fans so sore that the other night they booed the announcement of the opening of the circus. A real dyed-in-the-wool hockey fan is one of the most intense individuals on earth. *He has no use for the girl on the flying trapeze.*

BASEBALL

The happy days of baseball are close at hand.

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As the opening of the season approaches the experts are busy doing their usual prophesying. Fred Lieb of the New York Evening Post is one of them, and Fred is certainly loyal to his home town. He says the World Series will be played, ~~all five~~ all five or all seven games, within the bounds of Greater New York. He picks the Yankees to cop the flag in the American League and the Dodgers, the Brooklynites, to lead the National League.

Well, ~~it~~ there's nothing like being loyal to your own community even as a baseball prophet. I wonder what the folks are saying in Cincinnati, Detroit, Pittsburg, Cleve., + Boston?

WANTED: A WIFE

Here girls is your chance. Raymond Scherer of Bessemer, North Carolina, wants a wife. Evidently he thinks I'm a matrimonial bureau. Here's the way his letter reads:-

"Dear Mr. Thomas:- You are the only one I can think of who can help me out. What I want is a wife with a job that will support both of us until I can get back on my feet again. I am twenty-four years old. Six feet, three inches tall, weigh two-hundred and fifty pounds; brown hair and eyes; do not smoke or drink; have never had any love affairs, not even of the puppy love ~~type~~ variety. Am at home in almost any society. Everybody advises me to get married. Can you help me?"

There you are girls, a fine chance to help out a young fellow who doesn't ask for much; just ~~that you~~ ~~support him.~~ *three squares meals a day and to be supported in the luxury to which he is willing to become accustomed.*

ENDING

Whenever I want an unusual item all I have to do is consult my friend, the Editor of the Sackville Tribune, that interesting small-town newspaper in Eastern Canada.

For instance:-

"There was a timid knock at the door.

"If you please, kind lady,' said the beggar, 'I've lost my right leg.'

"Well,' snapped the woman as she slammed the door in his face, 'I haven't got it.'"

And now I think I'll go out and look for that poor man's lost leg, and So Long Until ~~Tomorrow~~ ^{Sunday.}