

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

~~Beginning with American affairs for a change, it~~
^{It} looks tonight as though we ~~might~~ ^{may} lose Harry Bridges, Pacific
^{leader,}
coast labor ~~tycoon~~. The latest official report ~~is dead against~~
~~him.~~ ~~It~~ isn't final, but it is quite definite.

~~You may recall that~~ quite a few months ago, Secretary
of Labor Perkins appointed Dr. James Landis, Dean of ~~the~~ Harvard
Law School, as a special examiner to ^{inquire} ~~examine~~ into the charges
against Bridges, charges that the Australian C.I.O. leader was a
Communist. Landis gave him what opponents of Bridges called a
whitewash, said that at the time of the examination, Bridges
was not a Red, not even a fellow traveler.

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But since ^{Dean} Landis conducted ^{that} ~~the~~ hearing, the law was
changed. Today, any alien who has ever ^{at any time} belonged to any party
which advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United

States by force and violence can be deported. Bridges is an alien, never ~~having been~~ naturalized.

Since the Landis inquiry, the Bridges affair ~~was~~ *has* ~~been in the hands of~~ *been in the hands of* ~~turned over entirely to~~ the Department of Justice. The

Department appointed Judge Charles B. Sears as a special examiner.

And his report, made public today, states emphatically that Bridges, whatever he is now, has been a Communist. Judge Sears further

recommends that Bridges be sent back to the land of the kangaroos, ~~and~~ *and the ducks billed platypus,* ~~the~~ wallabies, Sears declared there ~~is~~ *ix* is evidence that Bridges

cooperated with known members of ~~the~~ Communist Party and ~~f~~

affiliated organizations. ~~What's more, he~~ *And* ~~often~~ shares their views on political and social, and particularly labor questions..

~~And, added~~ *Said* Judge Sears, "I do not rely upon any single incident but rather upon a course of conduct extending from the year

Nineteen Thirty-Two and comprising a larger number of incidents.

These findings are subject to review by higher

authority and the lawyer for Bridges, who declared himself deeply

shocked, said he would fight right up to the court of last resort.

Marriner S. Eccles, Chairman of the Federal Reserve, spoke like a Dutch uncle, today, to the Banking Committee of the House of Representatives. He told the Congressmen that inflation runaway inflation, would be inevitable - unless for one thing we pay more taxes, even heavier than those imposed in the bill that law became last week. Also, said Eccles, there's got to be some form of control, not only on commodity prices but on wages and farm prices. The law now being considered by Congress, he said, does not go nearly far enough.

Chairman Eccles took quite a chance on making himself unpopular with the Congressmen, and indeed, with other government officials. Most of the other spokesmen for the Administration have lifted their voices against any ceiling on wages or farm prices. But not Eccles. Said he:- "You cannot be realistic about preventing inflation if you're going to let wages and ~~tax~~ salaries rise indiscriminately." And later he said: "It may be necessary, if we want to prevent inflation, to stretch the forty-hour week to forty-eight hours. In other words," he continued, "we may be forced to resort to the very system we would like to see defeated." And he added, "I sometimes fear that may be possible because it seems that the democratic processes don't work too efficiently;"

TAXES FOLLOW LaFOLLETTE

And here's a word of reassurance from Secretary Morgenthau of the Treasury. It may allay the anxieties aroused by his proposal that all corporation profits over six per cent ~~should~~ be taxed a hundred per cent. Morgenthau said today that he wouldn't have the draft of his plan ready to submit to Congress before January. Then he added that even if Congress passed it, it will not apply to Nineteen Forty-One. ~~business.~~

WAR

Britain's flying bombers ^{have done} ~~did~~ the unexpected. Instead of

their usual visit to Germany, they descended upon Italy with an

allout

raid that gave Mussolini's country its first real taste of air war. This is reported to mean that the British high command ^{is} ~~has~~

~~developed~~ ^{unleashing}

a campaign to blast Italy out of the Axis. The

heaviest bombers of the Royal Air Force were sent against Genoa,

Turin, Spezia and Milan. Great big Sterling and Wellington

long range planes made sixteen hundred mile round trips over

France and the Alps. They dropped their loads of bombs from

as low as three and even two thousand feet.

This campaign began at a psychological moment. The blow was delivered just as Mussolini's people were told the bad news of what their rationing is going to be ^{this winter} ~~from now on~~. And what a

rationing it is! Only a third as much coal as they had last ^{oo!} ~~more~~ ^{if you think it doesn't get cold in sunny Italy, think again.} winter, and that was little enough. People depending upon coal

may have hot water only three times a week. The rationing of food is going to be equally drastic. For instance, ^{Italians} ~~people~~ who draw cornmeal must take less bread. The rationing also applies to clothes. The sale of any clothing, hats, furs or textiles,

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for fuel

is forbidden for fifteen days, until a new rationing system is made public.

All of which is not calculated to cheer the subjects of Mussolini for the part they have to play in Hitler's war.

Almost as

~~Even more~~ dramatic is the big battle reported by

Rome today. According to the Fascist high command, it was a naval battle, a startling ~~xi~~ victory for the Italian air arm, the loss of three British cruisers, a British battleship torpedoed and seriously damaged, and three other British men-o-war damaged. That's the Italian story and it's told in great detail. The Fascists even name the capital ship which they say they torpedoed. They declare it to have been ~~the~~ H.M.S. NELSON, one of the proudest battle wagons of King George's fleet.

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They go on to say that all this happened in an attack on a convoy which was moving American war materials through the Straits of Gibraltar to the Middle Eastern front. The battle, say the Italians, took place on Saturday and lasted ten hours, and they add it raged ~~still~~ ^{so} furiously ~~with~~ ^{that} the colonel commanding

the Italian forces ^{was} killed, also three squadron commanders.

Mussolini's official news agency even tells the name of ~~that~~ Commander, Hellmuth Seidler - obviously a German. And it goes on to allege that no fewer than seventeen Italian torpedo plane squadron commanders were in action, and that seven of them were veterans of the Spanish Civil War.

That's the Italian side of the story, told with great corroborative detail. The British Admiralty replied with one word - "laughable." Even before the Italian communique had been published, the Admiralty had announced the safe passage of a large convoy through the Mediterranean, only one freighter lost, one British man-o-war slightly damaged.

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A spokesman of the Admiralty said, "As we tell the truth we can ~~xxxxxxx~~ sit back and have a good laugh." And then they added that, according to the Italian claims, the entire British Mediterranean fleet had been sunk not once, but many times over.

And here's a message that comes direct from a battleship with the British Mediterranean fleet. It states that the

battleships of the eastern fleet, accompanied by cruisers and destroyers, under the command of Sir Andrew Brown Cunningham, have been operating for two days out of Alexandria, without catching so much as a glimpse of any enemy unit either in the air, on the surface or underseas.

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In Russia, M_oscow was reporting with considerable exultation that winter is acoming['] in. Snow around the Kremlin itself, while in the extreme northwest the invading Nazi troops are snowbound. The Soviet spokesman claims that this will bring a hardship to H_ittler's men while Red troops are quartered comfortably in deep dugouts. In the region along the western Dvina, the G_erman are up against particularly hard sufferings from cold, rain, mud and ice. *So say the Reds.*

M_oscow dispatches go on to report advances in the center, two villages recaptured by the Reds southwest of Bryansk. And they declare that the Russian advance is progressing through a regular cemetery of tanks, broken machinery abandoned by the Germans when their offensive broke down.

That's the Russian side of the picture. ^{More spectacular}
still, is the story of the spread of the underground war against
~~the~~ Nazi domination throughout Europe. The latest sensation
comes from Czechoslovakia and it's confirmed by stories from
Berlin. The Nazis admit that they were obliged to arrest
General Elias, Premier of the ~~Protectorate~~ Protectorate of
Czechoslovakia, dominated by Nazi rule. He is charged with
activities inimical to Germany. The Nazis declare further that
they executed six other Czechoslovaks. London says twenty, and
that they include two former high officers of the Czechoslovak
army. Dr. Benes, the exiled President of Czechoslovakia,
declares that he has information that the Nazis are about to
start a new wave of terror in his country.

From the rest of Europe come ~~similar~~ similar tales.
The newspapers of Paris tonight report that twenty more
Frenchmen, said to be Communists, have been executed by the Nazis.

TRANSPORT

A war story, from Canada.

A transport ready to sail. The soldiers going aboard took one look at the quarters assigned to them and said:- "Too dirty, too crowded." Whereupon they were moved to an upper deck being held for a contingent of Canadian and Australian flyers. When the flyers went aboard they were shown to the quarters originally assigned to the regular troops. Those aviators took one look and ~~XXXX~~ refused to sail -- two hundred and sixty of them. Also a ~~XXXX~~ group of twenty technicians from the U.S.A. -- civilians. They kicked too.

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The Canadian and Australian flyers were later assigned berths on another ship. P.S. Here's the sequel as it came over the press wires: When they landed on the other side they were court-martialed, grounded and deprived of their extra air pay. Theirs not to reason why -- even with the cockroaches.

SPIES

The Nazi spy service in this country was organized by an officer of the German Army. This came out today at ~~the~~ the spy trial in New York. Gustav Kaercher, one of the defendants who pleaded guilty to the indictment, was observed in Berlin as recently as a year-and-a-half ago, strutting proudly down Unter den Linden in the uniform of Hitler's army. And he used to be the leader of the Storm Troops of the Deutsch-America Bund on Staten Island. He was then a naturalized American citizen. A Nazi army officer, ~~and~~^{on} active duty, and a naturalized American citizen!

SMUTS

Here's another prophecy that Uncle Sam is going to jump into the war; soon. The latest prophet is General Jan Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa. General Smuts began by admitting that probably he shouldn't be saying such a thing in public; then he went on to say it anyway. He has no doubt that the time is near when America will be an active full-fledged participant.

Perhaps General Smuts had a political motive for such an unauthorized statement. From several ~~fm~~ sources we've been informed that he has a tough job on his hands keeping his own Boer countrymen in the war. We don't know how it stands at present, but not so many months ago, General Smuts had a majority of no more than four with him in the South African Parliament.

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Here's a word on the same subject from somebody who is a little closer even than the head of the government of South Africa. Our Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, just back from a visit of inspection to Bermuda says it isn't up to us. The Axis will do all the deciding as to whether and when we are to enter into a shooting war.

The First Lady of the Land started on her new job today. As Assistant Director of the Office of Civilian Defense. Reporters noted with interest that the Lady was on time to the dot. Her boss, Director Fiorello La Guardia, was almost three-quarters of an hour late. But that didn't feaze Mrs. ^{Roosevelt} ~~Roosevelt~~ who set to looking over her mail. She was busy at that when interrupted by the boss, who called upon her for the first task assigned to her. The pleasant chore of posing for the newsreels.

Reporters asked the First Lady how much she was getting in the wage envelope, whether it was one of those dollar-a-year things. She replied that she hadn't even asked. Would she be on the job every morning? The answer was: Every morning she doesn't have to be some other place.

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In a way, this was an historic event. Historians tell us this is the first time that a First Lady of the land has taken an official government position.

WEATHER

The Weather Man promises a break in the four week's drought that has been drying up the North Atlantic States. Occasional rains for Tuesday. That's the prediction. And the sooner the better. In New York State alone, more than ten thousand acres in the Adirondacks and Catskills have been blackened by forest fires. There were six new fires over the weekend; and, eighteen more are reported today. In other eastern states, wooded sections are tinder dry, and nearby residents are anxious.

FIGHT

Champion Joe Louis met Challenger Lou Nova at Madison Square Garden this morning. Not to fight. Just to weigh in. Nova turned out to be one-quarter of a pound heavier than the champ. The Brown Bomber, at two hundred and two and a quarter, is the heaviest he has ever been for a title right.

Joe showed up in a snappy sports outfit of chaste green.

The examining doctor reported that his blood pressure was a little bit lower than Nova's. From which some deduce that Nova, the amateur Yogi is more tense than the champ. And I'll bet he is even more tense along about now. But here is Hugh, who is never tense!