

L.T. - SUNOCO. FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1938.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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That anniversary of the destruction of the HINDENBURG brings with it a coincidence in the news. Dr. Hugo Eckener arrived in the United States today, to make an appeal for helium for German dirigibles. Tomorrow, just one year after the hydrogen-filled HINDENBURG blew up, he'll be stating his <sup>helium</sup> case for the ears of officials in Washington.

"I wants <sup>you</sup> to understand, said he, "that the Zeppelin can be of no military value now, even if helium is used. A Zeppelin in war may be shot down in ten minutes." That's his answer to the contention that the German Nazis would use American helium for war purposes.

~~"In the new Zeppelin," he explained, "we have made alterations - expecting to use helium. If we can't get it, we'll have to make still other alterations."~~

ROME

There was goose-stepping in Rome today, but it wasn't

so perfect they say. Mussolini showed Hitler the Italian

goose steppers he <sup>id</sup> ~~has~~ been training for the Fuehrer's visit,

and they say that Hitler and his Nazi aides looked <sup>down their noses</sup> with some

condescension on the stiff-legged stepping. No, not so

perfect, not such excellent rhythm, <sup>those</sup> ~~with~~ hundreds of legs

goose-stepping ~~was~~ one. <sup>if a Rome says that Nazi Goebbels failed to show up at an Italian official gathering because some Italian Jews were there.</sup>

More important is ~~the~~ a hint of the descisions the

two Dictators have arrived at. The United Press gives us

a report described as "from reliable sources". <sup>And-</sup> What's more

important -- from Nazi sources. This tells us that there

will be no military alliance between Italy ~~and~~ and Germany --

Mussolini and Hitler agreed on that. The Rome-Berlin axis

will remain as it <sup>is,</sup> an understanding and all that -- but no

alliance of arm <sup>ies,</sup> ~~ies,~~ fleets or air <sup>squadrons.</sup> ~~equipment.~~

The report relates what the Mussolini policy toward

Czechoslovakia is to be -- a friendly neutrality, hands off.

Italy will support neither Hitler in action toward Czechoslovakia

nor Britain and France in any attempt to stop Hitler action --

neutrality.

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FOREIGN RELATIONS

What's the American attitude toward the meeting of the two dictators in Rome - ~~is~~ <sup>and</sup> today's report of the decision<sup>s</sup> they've agreed upon? One American spoke up, ~~today~~, and he's in a key position. Key - that seems to be an apt simile for he's Senator Key Pitman, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

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Senator Pitman today told newspaper men that the peace of Europe depends upon the conference of those two dictators - and probably the peace of the world. The Senator's reasoning was this: If

Mussolini refuses to give Hitler a military alliance, <sup>which today's report indicates</sup> that will slow down the ambitions of Nazi Germany. If Mussolini gives Hitler

a straight out warning that Italy won't do anything to stop Great Britain and France in protecting Czechoslovakia, <sup>and that also is indicated</sup> ~~that will be~~

~~likely to check~~ <sup>then</sup> the Nazi ~~drive~~ drive in eastern Europe. <sup>is likely to</sup> ~~If the~~

~~be checked. Whereupon,~~ <sup>be checked. Whereupon,</sup> ~~Italian Duce does these things,~~ <sup>the</sup> the Senator thinks, ~~that~~ the Nazi

German policy will turn conservative, with the consolidation of the gains already made - instead of a drive toward new gains.

~~The Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee went so far as to suggest that Hitler and Mussolini, meeting in Rome, have "a splendid opportunity not only to settle the Spanish Civil~~

~~War peril right away but also to bring about an end of the fight  
between Japan and China.~~

Meanwhile, in Washington the drive continues to force the lifting of the American Neutrality Embargo against Spain. Today British voices were added to the chorus. A British organization called "The National Conference on Spain", cabled President Roosevelt and Senator Nye, and urged the passage of the Nye Resolution to lift the embargo. The idea is to open the way for shipments of American war supplies to the Spanish Left Wingers.

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The proponents point out that the embargo is not neutrality at all. The Italians and Germans are supplying Franco with all he needs, while Barcelona doesn't get enough from Soviet Russia. Therefore, our embargo acts against the Spanish radical side, and ~~therefore~~ puts us in a position of supporting Italy and Germany in Spain. ~~It~~ Sounds logical enough, but the logic on the other side goes this way - that if we were to lift the embargo and send war supplies to the Spanish Left Wingers, that would <sup>implicitly</sup> put us on the side of Soviet Russia. It seems to be rather a bad dilemma for Uncle Sam - lined up either with the Fascist dictators <sup>and</sup> ~~in~~ their suppression of

democracy or <sup>with</sup> the red dictator and his blood purges.

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The American supporters of the Spanish Left Wingers are taking quite an anti-British slant. They declare that our embargo is supporting the present British policy of tossing Left Wing Spain to the Fascists, parallel action with Great Britain against Barcelona. On the other side of the fence we have the reasoning that, if we pursued parallel action with Great Britain when it seemed to lead to the danger of war, why kick about parallel action when the Chamberlain government seems to be establishing some sort of stability and peace?

## REFUGEES

Few ~~new~~ voices have been raised against the administration policy of welcoming the refugees from Germany and Austria and other non-democratic nations. But today we have a warning - from the American Legion. The National Americanism Commission of the Legion, meeting at Indianapolis, comes forth with a declaration in opposition to any refugee welcome in excess of the quotas.

~~The Americanism Commission denounces any legislation that will raise or enlarge the immigration quotas in favor of the refugees.~~

The Chairman specifically attacked three bills now ~~now~~ before Congress, bills that would open the way to unlimited refugee immigration from Europe.

He put it this way:- "The powers that would be conferred under these resolutions," he declared, "are so unlimited in scope as to make impossible of comprehension the extent to which our present number of unemployed and indigent residents might be increased."

Along with this warning, we have the fact that one of the most distinguished of German refugees is delivering a lecture tonight in New York, Carnegie Hall. Thomas Mann, the best known of living German novelists, *who wants to become an American.*

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CHINA

The word from China is startling indeed - the Chinese Red army battling the Japanese within twelve miles of Peiping. It was months ago that the Mikado's regiments pushed from the Peiping section all the way to the Yellow River, seizing all of North China. So it's surprising indeed to find that the Chinese Communist forces have pushed so far into the supposedly occupied northern provinces - all the way to the old capital.

Today the Japanese closed the gates of Peiping, and made an intensive search of the city for enemies. They say the sound of gunfire could be heard from the battleline in the distance. Wild rumors circulated among the Chinese in Peiping - that the city was about to be captured, and there was word everywhere about the Red Napoleon. <sup>R</sup> That Red Napoleon gives us a cue as to what probably has happened. He is Chu Teh, the veteran Communist fighter, whose long suit is - guerilla tactics. <sup>He</sup> ~~He has well~~ organized the Red Chinese army for that style of irregular fighting <sup>which</sup> ~~has~~ has harrassed the Japanese so much. We are told that the Mikado's forces in the Peiping area have been weakened by the <sup>of</sup> sending heavy forces to the big battle in the Shantung Province. The Red Napoleon has taken

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advantage of that weakening, and his guerilla fighters have filtered in, with raids and ambushes, the stealthy tactics of irregular troops. That seems to be the explanation of the report - ~~the~~ Chinese fighting near the outskirts of Peiping, <sup>not so far</sup> ~~and its ancient~~ ~~gates~~ from the Marco Polo Gate.

WAGE-HOUR

The fight for the Wage-Hour Bill climaxed with a rush in Washington -- a rush of signatures. The bill is tied up in committee and the only way to get it out is by a petition with plenty of signatures. So today they signed and signed. Congresswoman Mary Norton, who is leading the fight to get the bill out of committee, said she would be satisfied with a hundred and seventy names signed to the document. But the signatures came so fast that they numbered two hundred and eighteen before the name-writing was over.

FARM MAGAZINE

I can sympathize with Dr. Glenn Frank, who wanted to tell the Senate Lobby Inquiry Committee a few things about the financing of magazines - but ~~he~~ wasn't allowed to. He wanted to explain that mighty few magazines make any money the first couple of years of their existence - they nearly always begin by losing. True, only too true - and most of them end by losing.

It all concerns a farm magazine which the Lobby Inquiry Committee is investigating, on the supposition that it is strictly a propaganda affair. <sup>Glenn</sup> ~~Dr.~~ Frank replies, no such thing, it's strictly a business proposition. It is admitted that the magazine has lost money by the hundreds of thousands of dollars, with various people giving it financial support. ~~There's a surprise~~ And there's <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>that well-known Maine potato farmer,</sup> surprise - <sup>^</sup> Rudy Vallee, among them. You don't think of a crooner being so keen about <sup>farm</sup> journalism. But Rudy Vallee says he lent ten thousand dollars to the publication and later on took ten thousand dollars' worth of stock in payment.

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All this leads to the senatorial accusation that <sup>the</sup> ~~a~~ magazine is a subsidized affair - for propaganda purposes. And

right there is where ~~Dr.~~ Glenn Frank's argument comes in, that when a magazine begins by losing money that doesn't prove propaganda, because most of them start with losses. — <sup>and end the same way.</sup>

HAGUE

The congressional invasion of Jersey City, scheduled for tomorrow night, is working up to plenty of excitement. Congressmen Jerry O'Connell and William Bernard, of the liberal group, may have some trouble when they try to make their scheduled speech at Journal Square. ~~without a permit from the Hague authorities.~~ They intend to harangue the multitude with denunciations of Mayor Frank Hague and his Jersey City dictatorship - as the liberals are calling it.

Today the Jersey City police announced that the two Congressmen will not be permitted to speak. They'll not be allowed to create a disturbance - say the cops. (Daniel Casey, Commissioner of Public Safety, expressed it this way.

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"What Congressmen O'Connell and Bernard and their imported Reds may do toward creating a disturbance cannot be foretold at this time." So he says, and adds: "But the public can rest assured that the Jersey City Police Department will not permit them to infringe upon the rights of our citizens."

All of which is received with cheers by various groups, especially war veterans, who are mobilizing against the

congressional invasion. There ~~is even~~ has even been a threat that the war veterans would be on the job armed with lengths of rubber hose. <sup>R</sup>To this Congressman Bernard made a reply today, saying:

"Threats like this naturally make <sup>all the</sup> me <sup>^</sup>more determined to go there."

He defies the war veterans and their lengths of rubber hose.

And the Congressman issues the ringing defiance: "Jersey City is

still legally a part of the United States." *To which the echo responds: "or is it."*

DERBY

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Today at Louisville, Kentucky they slammed closed the lid of a box -- and the field for tomorrow's Kentucky Derby was set and definite. The closing of the lid was the deadline, and in the box were slips of paper naming the entries. Ten entries, ten slips of paper, marked with the queer names given to race horses -- Fighting Fox, The Chief, Bull Lea, Dauber, Menow, Lawrin, Can't Wait, Co-Sport, Elooto and Mountain Ridge. In that list Stagehand is not mentioned. There had been some hope that the ailing thoroughbred, once so greatly favored, might be able to run, but not at all. This morning found Stagehand with a fever, coughing, sore throat.

With the smallest field in years, but a mighty classy field, Louisville tonight is the usual scene of crowded ~~excite~~ excitement, everybody in the world there, merriment and the talk of horses -- the usual night before the Derby.

FAT LADY

Now, who would want to poison the fat lady. It seems incredible even to ask. Yet suspicion is voiced that Doris Bleau, the seven hundred and fourteen pound fat lady of the circus, may have been poisoned.

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At Miami the state's attorney today ordered an autopsy, after a brother and sister of the fat lady declared their suspicion - slow poisoning. In her illness the fat lady lost a hundred and forty-four pounds, shrank from seven hundred and fourteen to five hundred and seventy pounds. Physicians diagnosed the case as - a heart ailment complicated by overweight. But now the sinister surmise of murder is raised - the murder of the fat lady.

ROMANCE

You'd certainly vow it was the truest of true love, when they call each other by such sweet fond names. He called her - his "Little Flower." Sometimes he named her - "the Duchess," which made her feel stately and proud. She called him - "Sweetie Pie." ~~They murmured soft phrases, wrote and telegraphed to each other with those doting endearments - his "Little Flower", "the Duchess", and "Sweetie Pie."~~ Yes, indeed, it must have been true love.

So it pains me to relate that today Sweetie Pie, a big six-footer of twenty-seven, was hauled into a Chicago felony court on the charge of operating a confidence game at the expense of his Little Flower. She's a widow of forty-one. Little Flower charges that Sweetie Pie promised to marry her, got six thousand dollars from her, and then married another woman. So Sweetie Pie ~~turned into~~ acute indigestion, ~~and was raspberries with the~~ <sup>became</sup> <sup>for her - and the</sup> Little Flower <sup>was raspberries.</sup>

PREACHER

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At Springfield, Vermont, the local Methodist congregation is in an uproar - and all because of <sup>the</sup> a preacher. What did he do?

Well, last Sunday instead of preaching - he went fishing. It was the first day of the trout season, and the Reverend Lawrence

LaRowe, did not appear at the church, <sup>did not</sup> take his place in the

pulpit, <sup>did not</sup> read the Scriptural text, <sup>did not</sup> and preach a sermon about

— <sup>did not even show up for the collection.</sup> sin and salvation. <sup>^</sup> Instead, he sent a substitute preacher to

do that. The pastor himself got out his reel and rod, fish hooks and flies, and sojourned to a trout pool where they were biting.

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He did go, however - to a nearby church and attended service so it couldn't be said exactly that he had devoted the entire

<sup>The point is: -</sup> Lord's Day to fishing. <sup>^</sup> Did he catch anything? Sure - he caught eight trout.

All of this caused considerable agitation in the ~~congregation~~ congregation - plenty of talk. And today the church board of trustees voted to call the Reverend LaRowe for an accounting - why the fishing instead of the preaching?

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The pastor defends himself with an observation on the quiet and tranquility of fishing, much more quiet than preaching.

"Quiet," says he, "is one of the things this mad rushing age needs."

True, very true - and now, so far as this broadcast is concerned, let's have a couple of days of quiet. And - SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.

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