

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1941.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

An old but always picturesque ceremony was enacted in the British Parliament today. It was the opening of a new session with all the ancient rites ^{pre}described by the custom and tradition of the Mother of Parliaments, ^{and} conducted by King George himself, with Queen Elizabeth at his side. On either side of them were the hereditary Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, and the Lord ~~Great~~ Chamberlain, the Earl of Lancaster, both in khaki, *no ~~long~~er robes or coronets.*

The King today did not have the orb and sceptre in his hands nor the crown on his head. He made the customary speech from the throne dressed in the uniform of an admiral of the fleet.

6
1
Speaking about the session which just ended, the King declared that it was memorable because relations between Britain and the United States never have been closer than they are now.

he said
War aid from America has been sent over on a scale unexampled

He also told of
in history. ~~He said~~ the growing intimacy of the two countries

~~had been~~ strikingly illustrated by the meeting between Prime Minister

Churchill and President Roosevelt, as the King put it, "on the seas and oceans commanded by our two navies in closest fraternity."

He continued: "The chart that they agreed upon will stand as a beacon in history radiating resolution and ~~justice and~~ unselfish justice."

King George ~~was~~ said something we never expected to hear from the British throne, ^{These} ~~the~~ words: "I heartily welcome as an ally the great Union of Soviet Socialist Republics." And he added: "The heroic resistance of the armies of the Soviet Union ~~have~~ has won my deepest admiration." He said further: "In cooperation with the United States of America, my Empire is affording the Soviet Union all possible assistance against the common foe."

7
The British people were further cheered by some encouraging information from the Prime Minister, who spoke to the Commons after the King's opening speech. In the four months ending with October, said Churchill, ~~the~~ the British ~~losses~~ lost ^{but} seven hundred thousand tons of shipping, an average of only a hundred and eighty thousand tons a month. Then he pointed out ^{that} ~~this was a very favorable contrast to~~ ^{when} ~~that~~ the preceding months ending with June, ~~they~~ had lost over two million tons, or an average of five hundred thousand tons a month, ~~a very favorable contrast, as he put it.~~ This reduction in losses,

he added, has been accomplished in spite of the fact that there never have been more U-boats or long range ^{haze} aircraft than are working now. He declined to give exact figures on new shipbuilding, but he said that the United States are ^{launching} ~~building~~ merchant ships on a scale many times that of what the British could do. And he said: "If we are able to get through this year, we shall certainly find ourselves in a good supply of ships in Nineteen Forty-two, ^{he hoped, will there be} the freedom loving powers, ~~will be~~ possessed of large quantities of vessels in NineteenForty-three, which will enable operations to take place that are utterly beyond British resources at the present time."

Churchill reported that in the same four months, ending October, almost one million tons of enemy shipping have been destroyed, principally in the Mediterranean.

Then he revealed an interesting fact hitherto secret. It concerned something ~~he had~~ learned from remarks made by Rudolf Hess, the Number Two Nazi who flew to Britain. Churchill said: "In various remarks Deputy Fuehrer Hess has let ~~x~~ fall, nothing has been more clear than that Hitler relied upon a

starvation attack even more than an invasion to bring us to our knees." The people in Britain ^{," said he,} now have a supply of food stocks double what they had in Nineteen Thirty-Nine."

As for the Suez Canal, he reminded the people that Hitler promised to take it by last May, and at present the chances are that his promise will remain unfulfilled by Christmas.

He announced that he was not going to make any changes in his Cabinet, and ~~he~~ added: "I do not consider it necessary to alter ~~anything fundamental~~ in any fundamental manner the system or conduct of the war." At the same time he urged ^{the} people not to go in for too much wishful thinking, ^{saying that} ~~said~~ he did not desire to encourage either complacency or despondency in regard to the eastern front.

WAR

On that eastern front, the military ^{wisemen} ~~sharks~~ in London report that H₁ttler's offensive seems to have bogged down. Some of the observers make a good deal of capital out of the fact that the Nazi spokesmen in Berlin talk principally about the fighting in the Crimea. They say the Germans have battered a path clear through the peninsula all the way to the Straits of Kerch, at its extreme eastern end. In fact, the Nazi high command claims to have crossed the Straits of Kerch. But they admit that the Red defenders are established in a strong position on the other side of the Straits. The territory there is a small peninsula protected by waterways and ^{to the mainland of Georgia.} ~~connected by a narrow isthmus to the mainland of Georgia. The~~

Thus even the conquest of the Straits leaves the Germans with a tough job ahead of them.

~~The Nazis acknowledge they have not yet taken Sevastopol, although they are at the water's edge on most of the other shores of the Crimea.~~

It is noted that the Nazis aren't talking much about the rest of the eastern front. Their acknowledgement that the last hundred milometers are the hardest is taken to mean that H₁ttler is

getting his people ready for the bad news that he can't keep his promise of taking Moscow this winter. ~~That's the interpretation of some observers. We've noticed in the past that when the Nazi high command says little for several days on end, that sign is frequently the prelude to the announcement of a spectacular success.~~

~~However,~~ One fact is definite. Three weeks ago, Hitler's communique from headquarters announced that his advance guard was within sixty kilometers of Moscow. Today the Nazis are speaking of a hundred. And it seems to be a fact that the drive on Moscow has been stopped everywhere except in one sector, that is around Tula, about a hundred kilometers to the south. There, the Germans are launching one attack after another, but they admit that none of them has made any headway.

HUNTZIGER

The crash of an airplane in Southern France killed one of the principal members of Marshal Petain's cabinet. General Charles Huntziger, Minister of War, and seven other people perished, ~~horribly~~, burned to death.

Huntziger had been making a tour of inspection of the French Military establishment in North Africa. *the party*
~~He was~~ flying back to make a report to Marshal Petain, took off from Algiers, flew across the Mediterranean in spite of bad weather, *and* then crashed on the western slopes of the Black Mountains.

Gen. Huntziger, you may remember, was one of the delegates who had the tragic duty of signing the Armistice imposed on the French by Hitler, signing it in the same car in which twenty-two years earlier the Germans had surrendered to the Allies.

NEUTRALITY

The fight in the House over neutrality began with a gain for the opposition. *And it came as* ~~It was~~ quite a surprise for the leaders of the

forces ~~that~~ ^{ing} support the President. Two big ~~time~~ Southern Democrats

ran out on the Administration and did it in ^{such} a fashion as to make ^{it all}

rather ~~it quite~~ spectacular. One of ~~them was~~ ^{these is} Representative Richards of

South Carolina, third ranking member of the House Committee on

Foreign Affairs. *Richards* Hitherto, ~~he~~ has backed staunchly all of

The Gentlemen from South Carolina President Roosevelt's foreign policies. ~~He~~ announced that he ~~was~~

is against the bill as passed by the Senators, because "if the House

adopts it too, we will be totally engulfed in the boiling caldron

of war." Thereupon, the isolationists made a surprise move.

Congressman Ham Fish, their leader, announced that one-half of the

speaking time allotted to the opposition would be under control of

Congressman Richards.

The other Southern Democrat who walked out on the

Administration was Howard Smith of Virginia, up to now also a

Smith of Virginia strong supporter of the President. Said ~~he~~ "I have reached the

parting of the ways and can support no further steps towards war."

He explained it this way:—

~~And he explained:~~ "We are ill equipped and ill prepared."

Congressman
A

Smith said further that he would return to the New Deal

fold as soon as the President takes a firm stand on the labor

Adding: —
A issue. ~~And he said:~~ "We cannot solve the troubles of the whole world until we are able to govern ourselves."

3
Correspondents noticed that before the debate began, the isolationists were extremely busy all over the capital, holding conferences and planning their strategy. Republican Congressman Murray of Wisconsin offered a ~~prediction that~~ prophecy that no fewer than seventy-three other Democrats besides Richards and Smith would bolt, and that would give the opposition more than enough to defeat the bill.

Speaker Sam Rayburn, however, assures us that the Administration has a substantial majority which can't be shaken.

BIOFF

A few months ago William Bioff was a name of terror for everybody in show business on the Pacific Coast. He had the entire motion picture industry intimidated, from the assistant property man on the set to the mogul in his mahogany office. Today he is ^a convicted ~~and~~ sentenced to ten years in prison and fined twenty thousand dollars. His confederate, George E. Browne, nominally his boss as President of the Stage Hands ^{Union,} got off more easily, only eight years, ^{plus the} ~~and~~ twenty thousand dollar fine. The United States Attorney in his address to the court, pointed out that Browne was the weaker character of the two, although he had higher rank in the Union.

54
When Federal Judge Knox imposed the sentence, he used these words: "Great as is my sympathy for the avowed object of labor, I have never been able to see why labor leaders should be entitled to any special dispensation of mercy. These men have violated the laws of the United States and also betrayed a sacred trust. ^{added the Federal Judge,} The defendants," ~~he declared,~~ "have shown themselves to be dishonest in heart, in mind and in action. They have disgraced and dishonored the cause of union labor, dealt it a blow which will leave ^a ~~its~~ scar [^] for years to come."

LABOR

There's much ado about labor in the capital tonight, and no surprise to anyone. When that late bulletin came over the wire Monday night, announcing that the National Defense Mediation Board had decided against the open shop in the Captive Coal Mine, it was obvious that a row was imminent. ^{Tonight the} ~~The~~ Government ~~tonight~~ is faced with the beginning of an almost total walkout of C.I.O. leaders from Government boards. ^{Today} ~~Last night~~ on top of the withdrawal of Murray and Kennedy from the Mediation Board, comes the resignation of John ^{Owens} ~~Owens~~, a C.I.O. leader in Ohio, from his job as Labor Relations Consultant of the Office of Production Management. Also, ^{there is a story} ~~it is reported but not confirmed~~, that the President has received the resignation of two other C.I.O. men from the Mediation Board.

^{reported} all It is ~~said~~ that this has caused no little concern at the White House. This doesn't come from the President himself, who has a cold and wasn't saying anything. But Secretary William Hassett told the correspondents that this apparent split with the C.I.O. ^{is} ~~was very~~ much on the President's mind. Hassett also protested that it was immature, as he called it, to describe the situation

as a row between Mr. Roosevelt and John Lewis. If there is any quarrel, said Hassett, it is between the United Mine Workers and the United States Government.

One thing seems pretty sure: If Lewis calls a strike in the Captive Coal Mines, the Army will take over. Officers of Uncle Sam have been in Pittsburgh gathering plans and blueprints of all the mines. And ~~it is reported that~~ the minute the strike is called, the Government will seize all the reserves of coal at the mines and also at the steel mills. This coal will be rationed among the steel companies.

56
Later in the afternoon, there was a real surprise, an expression of sympathy with the C.I.O. from the ranks of the American Federation of Labor. George Meany, Secretary-Treasurer of the A.F. of L. declared publicly that he absolutely disagrees with the National Mediation Board's ruling against a closed shop in the Captive Coal Mines.

It so happens that Meany himself is a member of that Mediation Board, but during most of the hearings on that coal business an alternate sat for him.

Meany added, however, that as the ruling of the Board was a majority decision, he thought that in the interests of national defense, all parties to the controversy should abide by it.

And here's a still later development, President Roosevelt takes a hand. He has asked the heads of the United Mine Workers and the steel companies to come to the White House Friday morning and talk with him personally.

From one labor dispute there's good news - peace. The striking building trades workers on projects for the United States Navy at San Diego went back to work at noon today.

RAILROADS

Every day it becomes more evident that the ^{railroad} unions mean ^{that} ^{will} business; they ^{will} strike if they don't get their terms. Here's a bulletin from Chicago ^{saying} that the big five brotherhoods are perfecting their plans for a ^{mass} ~~big~~ walkout. They have divided the railroads of the country into three groups. The men of one group will stop ^{at} work six o'clock Sunday morning, December Seventh. The men on the second group of lines will strike December Eighth, and the third December Ninth. They explain that this is going to be done to prevent the strike from becoming unwieldy. One group is eastern, one western, and another southern, but the brotherhood chiefs refuse to say which group will strike first.

ELEPHANTS

After ten of their elephants died of poisoning at Atlanta, Georgia, the Ringling Circus heads promptly put a detective on the job. ~~And~~ Today the sleuth reports that their poisoning was undoubtedly deliberate, a mass murder of animals and an inside job. The official veterinarian of the State of Georgia, made an autopsy and his diagnoses was the same, arsenic ~~poisoning~~ poisoning, deliberate, criminal.

The circus is at Augusta today and a report quotes the boss of the bulls as saying that six other elephants in the herd are showing similar symptoms to those that were killed last week. But

it is too early yet to determine whether their case is the same,

and too early to tell whether they too have one foot in Elephant Heaven.
too.

PANTIES

8 1/2

Here's a serious item from London that I almost forgot. It concerns P.A. - well, some of the clothes that ladies wear. It's a problem that has vexed the British High Command for quite a while, we hear. English women who join the Auxiliary Territorial Service are furnished with clothing as well as board, lodging and wages. The clothing includes not only uniforms but what goes underneath. The things underneath were really nice, as one lady put it, but ~~not~~ they were not pink, and that caused trouble.

9

~~But~~ Now the Government wants two hundred thousand more recruits for that service, and in order to encourage recruiting a brilliant British Major has made a ruling that the girls in the Auxiliary Territorial Service may buy their own underclothes, pink, red, or any color they choose. — Just

a 1/4

a war time luxury to ponder over as we listen to Hugh.