

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A direct reply from President Roosevelt himself to John L. Lewis. It was addressed specifically ^{to} ~~at~~ one point that Lewis had made in his argument about the coal strike. That argument was that if his Union failed to win ^{a union} ~~an open~~ shop contract with the Captive Coal Mine operators, it would invalidate the Appalachian agreement between the Union and the commercial coal mine operators in the Appalachian area.

^{In} ~~To~~ that contention, President Roosevelt said John L. Lewis had not given a valid reason. Breaking his rule, the President permitted this direct quotation: "The Appalachian agreement in all commercial mines stands as it has ever since it went into operation, and no question involved in the Captive Coal strike would affect the pay or the hours or the collective bargaining recognition of the United Mine Workers in any of the Appalachian mines. Therefore,"

added Mr. Roosevelt, "I do not think that point A in Mr. Lewis's letter was a valid point."

Mr. Roosevelt was asked whether he meditated any new move to settle that ^a~~Captive~~ Coal ~~Mine~~ strike. ^{This}~~That question~~ he declined to answer. No news from him about that today, he said.

— o —

The reporters also asked him about today's conference at the White House with the railroad men. That ~~again~~ he declined to discuss. The railroads, for their part, said nothing had happened at the conference to alter the plans of the brotherhood to start a strike on December Seventh. However, the heads of both the Unions and the Companies are going to meet again tomorrow afternoon at the White House,

STRIKE FOLLOW LEAD

Sympathy strikes continue to spread. There are now twenty thousand miners out in commercial mines where the dispute with the steel companies is actually none of their business. There were more and more hints of violence. The Superintendent of State Police in West Virginia sent a hundred and seventy-^{five}~~xix~~ troopers to the region around Gary, where two negro miners were wounded this morning. They tried to rush a picket line, and were shot.

C.I.O. FOLLOW STRIKE

With all this going on, naturally the C.I.O. Convention at Detroit is the most interesting in its history. Today's meeting ^{was} ~~held with~~ ^{in the air,} ~~was crammed with~~ tension. There was any amount of speculation whether John Lewis, though no longer President, was holding onto his remote control of the ~~Industrial Congress that~~ ^{organization} he founded. It was believed that a test would come on the convention's answer to a ^{of this} ~~message from President Roosevelt,~~ ^{which came} ~~this took the form of~~ a personal letter addressed to Philip Murray, President of the C.I.O., and ^{In it} read to the convention. The President stated that the democratic freedoms in the United States are threatened by the menace of Hitlerism, and he continued:- "Unless those freedoms are protected from this world ^{scourge,} ~~search,~~ free trade unions and all other free trade will vanish." He said further: "We need guns, tanks, planes and ships and we must produce them without delay and without interruption and the American people and their government are determined that we shall have them."

The delegates welcomed these words with loud cheers though it was noticed that none of those from John Lewis's own union joined in the cheering. One speaker after another echoed

Pres,

[^]
~~Mrs~~ Roosevelt's words. The Committee on Resolutions asked the Convention to vote the support of the C.I.O. to President Roosevelt, but Murray stated earlier in the day that a reply would be drafted on some future date. However, late this afternoon, the delegates voted approval of President Roosevelt's message by acclamation. In fact, there was a long wild demonstration in which again the delegations controlled by John Lewis took no part, did not rise from their seats. The chair, however, ruled that the resolution had been adopted unanimously, to which there was no objection.

Lewis himself, for once, didn't have anything to say today, no fresh criticism ~~in~~ of the steel company heads. Incidentally, it was not the United States Steel Corporation that he picked on yesterday as being responsible for the failures of the companies to grant the union shop. It was Eugene Grace of Bethlehem. Anyway, his charge was repudiated and ^[all] the steel company heads declared they are absolutely united!

CONGRESS FOLLOW C.I.O.

— in Washington?

And what did Congress do? Nothing definite as yet, except prepare special legislation. ^{this} ~~In the~~ morning there was a long conference of leaders at the White House, after which Speaker Sam Rayburn said he did not think it would be a very long time before the House began passing anti-strike measures. Actually, there are several such bills before Congress, with both Representatives and Senators tumbling over themselves to offer their own measures.

To forestall the more hostile bills in the hopper, the Labor Committee of the House is at work on one that has been drafted by Congresswoman Mary Norton of New Jersey, Chairman of the Committee. She wouldn't tell what was in it, except that ^{it would} ~~the~~ shake up the National Defense Mediation Board ~~will be shaken up~~ and reestablished it on a new basis with power to issue injunctions against either party in a labor dispute ^{— either party that} ~~which~~ does not accept the findings of the Board. At the same time, the Congresswoman would not tell what ~~penalties~~ penalties would be incurred by disobedience.

THOMAS

52
Congressman J. Parnell Thomas of New Jersey has made an indignant complaint to the War Department. It concerns the seizure of the Air Associates airplane factory at Bendix, New Jersey. In a telegram to Under-Secretary Patterson, ^{Congressman} Thomas says he has heard that the War Department has insisted on the discharge of the management of the plant as the chief condition for its return to the rightful owners. And he says further that the Board of Directors were notified that they must do this at their meeting tonight. If this is ^{not} true, _^ says ~~xxx~~ the Congressman, Under-Secretary Patterson should wire the President of the Board of Directors to that effect. If it is true, he declares, then, as he puts it, "the basic principle of American democracy has been sold to the labor barons and one and a half million American boys now under arms are defending a hollow cause. Furthermore," he adds, "it means that the War Department is more interested in bowing to labor demands than ^{to} ~~in~~ defense production."

NAVY

The first American merchant ships to be equipped with arms for defense will be those plying to the British Isles and northern Europe. That was announced today by Secretary of the Navy Knox.

The next in line will be those plying to and from the Red Sea, and then after the vessels in the South Atlantic trade.

CUBA

Evidently Cuba is getting ready to line up with Uncle Sam for Western Hemisphere defense. One of the ^{Cuban} Senators today asked ^{his} ~~the~~ Congress to adopt a resolution authorizing President Fulgen^{ci}~~ti~~_o Baptista to place at the disposal of the United States all of Cuba's naval, military and aviation forces. Not only that, but also the strategic territory of the island including its coastline, bays, ports, railroads, landing fields, roads and any other facilities Cuba can offer. The resolution reads further that these are to be used for defense or offense purposes, in accordance with the judgment of the President of the United States.

^{Quite}
~~That's what you might call a sweeping resolution. To be sure,~~
~~it hasn't been adopted yet, just offered for consideration.~~

LIQUOR

The Police Department of Kansas City today was buying drinks for motor car drivers, ~~and it's~~ ^{all} in the interests of science and safety.

^{Keen on}
The K.C. cops have always been particularly devoted to the proposition that alcohol and motoring don't mix, ~~not even with Blue Sunoco.~~ ^{And} ^{is} ~~It is a matter of record that~~ the city's traffic safety division ~~has~~ ^{has} won award after award for its achievements in reducing the number of fatal automobile accidents. So today they fed liquor to thirty motorists of varying grades of devotion to alcohol - occasional drinkers, frequent drinkers, hard drinkers and even non-drinkers. The thirty included ^a ~~the~~ pillar ^{of} the church whose lips ~~will~~ never touch liquor and another man, not a pillar of the church, who makes a practice of taking a pint of red-eye every week before he drives out to his country place in the Ozarks. After feeding drinks to the thirty guinea pigs, the Kansas City officers, ^{human} ^{are this evening testing} with the help of scientists, ~~will test~~ their driving and their physical and mental reactions in general.

~~Hugh, have you got any new tests to talk about?~~

CLERGYMAN

The Fascist Government of Italy has arrested an American clergyman, the Reverend Hiram Woolf. The Fascisti are holding him on suspicion of espionage. He's Rector of the Episcopalian Church there, and the only American Rector left in Rome. As a matter of fact, Dr. Woolf was planning to hold a Thanksgiving Day service in his Church Thursday afternoon, at which he would have read President Roosevelt's Thanksgiving Day proclamation. Maybe that has something to do with it -- suspicion of espionage.

The Mussolini Government is not being any too lenient with the Episcopal Rector. He is being held incommunicado and our Embassy in Rome reports that this morning two Italian plainclothes men went to the Rectory while he was conducting choir practice. They searched the Rectory, seized all the visiting cards that had been left with Dr. Woolf, also ^{news} ~~the~~ bulletins that had been sent out by the Embassy.

the Rev. Hiram
This is the second time ^{he} ~~he~~ has been in hot water with the Axis authorities. He was Rector of the American Church at Dresden in Germany and returned ^{home} ~~in~~ June, Nineteen Forty, because the Nazis disapproved of him and the State Department advised him to come home. ~~According to his parents, the Nazis didn't like Dr. Woolf's religious tenets.~~

There might be food for mystery in the death of Ernst Udet - yes, there's no doubt of his death this time, and it's of great interest here. In addition to being the acknowledged brains of Goering's formidable air arm, this World War ace was well known in the United States. When he was over here some ten years ago, he did a lot of barnstorming, and stunt flying, and became pals with practically all of our own aces. And they all liked him, not only the pilots but the mechanics in the hangars.

His greatest stunt was at the National Air Races in Cleveland in Nineteen Thirty-One - when he bewildered and startled everybody, including our own most daredevil fliers, by picking up a handkerchief, off the ground, with the wing of his plane. Two years later, he was over here again. Presumably he was in this country because he had gone broke in Germany building planes. I met him here and there - and there was no doubt ^{about} ~~that~~ his being a man of infinite charm. Here in the U.S.A. Udet learned plenty more about airplane construction; while he taught some of our own men a few tricks in flying. Udet in fact, was well known all over the world, because he flew nearly everywhere. But it was here that he first saw our fliers practicing the dive bombing tactics - the

stunt he took home, and that the Nazis subsequently developed and made so devastating.

Inasmuch as he made a failure of his own airplane factory at Augsburg in Nineteen Twenty-Six, it did seem rather odd that Goering should have picked on him to build that terrific plane armada with which Hitler has conquered nearly all Europe.

Udet was great friends with the American colony in Berlin, but when he was made boss of the works in the Air Ministry, he had to drop his American acquaintances. He said as recently as last July that he had regretted this.

Last July we had reports over here that Colonel General Udet had committed suicide. He himself thought that story a great joke.

As a fighting ace in the last World War, he was acknowledged second only to von Richthofen. Udet was credited with having brought down sixty-two ~~maplanes~~ airplanes. It would have been just like him to have been indulging his passion for daredevil stunts as a test pilot. But ^A a late report from the official Nazi news agency states that he was experimenting with a new type of firearm. Being a dardvil, that sounds plausible.

JAPAN

General Tojo, Premier of Japan, appeared before his Parliament today and uttered a note of defiance to anybody whom it may concern. Speaking in his capacity of War Minister, Premier ~~General~~ Tojo declared that the armed forces of the Mikado were fully prepared to meet any eventualities and changes in the situation.

That's the way he put it, with emphasis!

After him arose Admiral Shamida, the Mikado's Minister of the Navy,

^{to}
~~and~~ announced that the Japanese Navy has completed all necessary preparations.

Premier Tojo further told the Japanese Diet that he

^{is}
~~was~~ full of grim determination to cope with the present situation.

Thereupon the House of Peers voted a huge appropriation for more anti-aircraft defenses. And the lower House of the Japanese Parliament adopted a resolution calling upon the government to go ahead with its policy for a new order in the Far East.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Admiral Nomura and Special Envoy

Kurusu were closeted for two hours and three-quarters with ~~our own~~

that phenomenally long
Secretary Hull. When ~~the~~ conference was over, of course nobody told

anything worth hearing. The Secretary informed the reporters that

they discussed generalities rather than matters of ~~some~~ a special

which
nature. Then he gave a hint ~~that~~ might mean something. The

conversation would be resumed tomorrow, he said, if the Japanese diplomats are ready to continue. The implication there is that ^{Sec.} Hull ^{had} laid down broad general principles which might disincline the Japanese to continue negotiating. The guessing in Washington is that they will communicate what they learned to Tokyo and wait for the reaction of their government at home. It was learned that an interpreter was present, translating some of ^{Mr.} Hull's phrases into Japanese to prevent any misunderstanding.

The Washington correspondents noticed that both Nomura and Kurusu seemed to be quite cheerful as they left the State Department. A reporter asked Ambassador Nomura whether he still felt as hopeful as he did when he went in. Nomura replied yes, that he still is hopeful.

^{Ambass -}
And Nomura came back at the reporters with a question:-
"Why are the newspapers so gloomy? We," he stated, "are very hopeful." Then he continued: "You Americans are always in a fighting mood. Why are you so war-minded?"

Special Envoy Kurusu wasn't so chatty, but he offered one suggestion with the words, "We have had naval holidays. Why don't we have a press holiday?"

9/14
Irony, what?

BRITAIN

Here's a bulletin just in from London. It's a big shake-up in the British high command. General Sir John Dill is out. In his place as Cheif of the Imperial Staff is General Sir Allen Brooke, Commander-in-Chief of the home forces.

The announcement from the British War office makes it clear that Churchill in future is going to rely on young, vigorous generals, versed in the latest, most modern tactics and strategy. Sir John Dill will retire.

Naturally, this arouses the specualation whether it means more aggressive strategy.