

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Germans appear to be launching a new terrific drive against Moscow. This is indicated by advices from the Soviet government and from London. The Red Army tells of assaults repelled today, but indicates that an all-out offensive is driving against their lines. And the Soviets are reported bringing a new army of Arctic troops.

In the Crimea, Berlin claims its forces are near the all-important Soviet naval base, Sevastopol. There is some indication that the Nazis may be within cannon-shot of the city, and Berlin states that Sevastopol is out of action as a base for the Red Fleet. This is on the west of the large Crimean peninsula. At the east, the part of it that points right at the Caucasus area - Berlin announces the capture of the City of Feodosiya, and adds that the swiftly driving panzer forces are within sixty miles of Kerch, at the extreme eastern end of Crimea, where a finger of the peninsula almost touches the shore of the Caucasus.

## SINKINGS

It may ~~well~~ be that the Navy tanker SALINAS was torpedoed in the same U-boat attack in which the destroyer REUBEN JAMES was sunk. The two incidents occurred in the same general area, southwest of Iceland. The tanker was in convoy, and the destroyer was hit while protecting a convoy ~~against attack.~~

The torpedoing of the SALINAS occurred about a day before the sinking of the REUBEN JAMES. That's not too long a space of time to be included in one engagement with U-boats. The submarines attack <sup>with</sup> ~~in~~ what is called - "wolf pack" tactics, and may hang around a convoy for days. Last **F**riday, when the REUBEN JAMES was destroyed, the news was promptly connected with a bulletin issued in Berlin that day - a Nazi claim of heavy torpedo damage inflicted on a convoy. And it was surmised that the REUBEN JAMES had been a casualty of that engagement. So now maybe the same goes for the tanker SALINAS.

8  
The Navy states that the stricken craft has arrived safely at port, with no lives lost and no serious injuries - although the torpedo damage was severe. The Navy states that no details of the damage will be given, for that would only aid the Nazis - and adds that the news of the torpedoing of the SALINAS was withheld, kept a

secret, until the ship arrived safely at port.

The tanker was a big one, tonnage sixteen thousand ~~and~~ eight hundred. It was carrying a large cargo of oil - probably for the United States forces in Iceland. The SALINAS now makes four vessels of <sup>207</sup>~~the United States~~ Navy to have been attacked in the North Atlantic - the other three having been destroyers.

In the tragedy of U.S.S. REUBEN JAMES, the Navy Department announced today that they've abandoned hope of finding any of the ninety-five missing men. One startling fact is - that all the officers were lost, not an officer ~~was~~ saved. And the Navy announcement today gives us a probable reason for this. The REUBEN JAMES was attacked in the dark of night, and the torpedo apparently struck on the port side amidships. The vessel broke in two, the forward part sinking immediately. The after section plunged to the bottom a few minutes <sup>later,</sup> ~~afterwards,~~ This complete wrecking of the ship indicates how tremendously powerful the explosion was, so powerful - ~~that~~ it is believed ~~that~~ the powder magazines of the destroyer must have ~~been~~ blown up. In ships of

49

SINKINGS - 3

the REUBEN JAMES class, the powder magazines are situated right below the bridge - and that's where the officers would be. This is taken to explain the calamitous fact that all the officers were lost.

## NEUTRALITY

In the Senate neutrality debate, the principal event today was - Senator Lodge of Massachusetts declaring himself. Hitherto, he had been one of the Senators who were listed as doubtful regarding "the sending of <sup>U.S.</sup> ~~United States~~ merchant vessels to combat areas." But now the Massachusetts lawmaker is on record - he's against the proposal. The Senator today argued - there's no reason to send American commercial craft to war ports. They're not needed to carry Lend-Lease armament. "The evidence indicates," declares Senator Lodge, "that the main reason why more supplies have not arrived is because of domestic production difficulties, and not because of a crippling shipping shortage." He contended further that the lifting of the limitation zone from the Neutrality Act will take us further toward all-out war. He said there were ten million Germans under arms and any land invasion against them could not be tried with less than six million men. The United States, he added, has an army of a million and a half - and that's just about enough for the protection of this hemisphere.

In ~~xxx announcing himself~~, Senator Lodge went on record



Another voice in opposition to the ship proposal today was that of Senator Bilbo of Mississippi.

Of those in favor -- the principal speaker today was Senator Scott Lucas of Illinois -- who demanded that the Neutrality Law changes be enacted to oppose what he called "piracy and murder."

Today's debate went on to the President's disclosure that the government has in its possession a secret map illustrating the Nazi intentions for the division of South America. Also - a secret plan to abolish Christianity. Senator Worth Clark of Indiana called the map - "this old chestnut". He said that the NEW YORK TIMES had printed a similar chart last June, so it was an old story.

At this point Senator Wheeler chimed in with reference to another previous map circulated way back in Ninteen Twenty. This chart purported to show how Soviet Russia intended to take over the Western Hemisphere. It was circulated by the late and mendacious Gaston Means. Senator Wheeler today said it was a fake.

The secret plan to abolish Christianity was ridiculed by Senator Worth Clark, who pointed out that a similar document had been published previously by the Christian Science Monitor and therefore ~~i~~ was hardly a secret.

WILLKIE

Republican leadership in Congress is trying to avoid a split over the Willkie issue. Today, G.O.P. National Chairman Congressman Joe Martin announced that he is making moves to head off the Republican Isolationist drive to toss Willkie out of the Party. It might very well cause an internal split, and that's what Republican leadership wants to avoid.

National Chairman Joe Martin takes the view that the G.O.P. will have its big chance in next year's congressional elections. He believes the staggering new taxes will operate against the administration, and also -- the drift of the nation toward war. Hence, a big factional fight and a split within the G.O.P. would spoil the rosy outlook.

Joe Martin said that in the Congressional elections next year, Willkie will not play the part that some people have been suggesting. The Congressmen didn't expand on that, but I suppose it refers to the idea that Willkie will campaign against those Republican candidates that do not support the Roosevelt foreign policy. Willkie & won't do any such thing - is the Joe Martin contention today.

## ELECTION

In New York City the polling places close at seven, so in a few minutes the big job of vote counting will be under way. Nothing is really known thus far except that probably about ~~two~~ two million, two hundred thousand New Yorkers cast their ballots. The last minute odds favored LaGuardia to beat O'Dwyer by a narrow margin, ~~much narrower than the majority by which the Mayor was reelected the last time.~~

President Roosevelt, who came out in support of LaGuardia, couldn't vote for him - the President being a citizen of Dutchess County. Up in his own neighborhood, <sup>F. D. R.</sup> ~~he~~ endorsed a couple of candidates - one for Town Supervisor and the other for Highway Superintendent. Those are not such top ranking posts of government, of course, but you know how important the right kind of Highway Superintendent can be in a small town. <sup>I do.</sup> The President, voting at Hyde Park, cast his ballot for a whole series of candidates, such as ~~District Attorney~~, Town Clerk, Justice of the Peace, Town Councilman, County Assessor and School Director. And at Hyde Park those officers are just as important as Secretary of the State or Chief of Naval Operations in Washington.



The President and the First Lady went to the polls in company with royalty - Crown Princess Juliana of the Netherlands. Her Royal Highness, heir to the throne of Holland, observed with keen interest the ways of American democracy - especially as it concerned the Town Clerk, the Justice of the Peace, and the Town Councilman.

CRASHES

2-4

Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives are making inquiries into the series of commercial aviation accidents that <sup>over</sup> ~~American~~ airlines have been having. And today Congressman Knutson of Minnesota demanded that the military crashes be investigated as well. He stated that since September Ninth, there have been twenty-three air disasters, both civilian and military. "Here we are at peace," he exclaimed, "and in less than two months we have lost a hundred and twelve Americans through these accidents."

Today brought its quota of bad aviation news. This morning we were told of a Navy bomber crashing somewhere in the Atlantic area. The Navy didn't say just where. Later during the day it was indicated that the bomber hit the side of a mountain on an island - though we are not told what island. It might have been Iceland, perhaps Newfoundland, or maybe some other place. Twelve men lost. The plane had been missing since Sunday morning.

Later in the day, came news of an army fighterplane falling onto a house at Glendale, California. The plane came spiraling down with part of its tail apparently breaking off.

It burst into flames as it hit. The pilot lost his life. In the house on which the plane fell, smashing and exploding, nobody was injured.

MUSIC

557  
I have just been talking to a worried musician. ~~He is~~  
Orchestra conductor Fritz Busch, who directs New York's latest  
operatic venture -- the New Opera Company. Dr. Busch has been  
making a ~~current~~ musical sensation with superb performances of  
Verdi's opera - Macbeth. So what has <sup>he</sup> ~~Dr. Fritz Busch~~ to worry  
about? ~~The answer is~~ <sup>Oh,</sup> ~~he's~~ <sup>^</sup> afraid of meeting one of his fellow  
orchestra conductors, the Spanish Maestro Iturbi. Here's the  
story.

Dr. Busch told me that in South America, ~~at Buenos Aires,~~  
he went to a rehearsal where Iturbi was getting the orchestra  
ready for a concert. ~~And~~ The German conductor was much impressed  
by the jokes. Dr. Busch explained to me that when a conductor  
takes ~~charge~~ of a new orchestra, it's important for him to  
establish cordial ~~and friendly~~ relations with the musicians. And  
for this, there's nothing better than a few ~~well-asserted~~ jokes,  
at rehearsal.

The German conductor knew some Spanish, but not too much,  
while the Maestro from Spain could wisecrack in the purest Castillian.  
He'd say in a racy fashion -- "Sometimes the second trombone sounds

56  
like the bellowing of my grandfather's oxen." And that would get a laugh from the Argentino orchestra players.

Dr. Busch was so impressed by Iturbi's rehearsal jokes, that he wrote down a few ~~of them~~ -- to use on his own. Then he tried them on the next South American orchestra that he himself had to conduct -- at Montevideo. At rehearsal the Doctor regaled the musicians with the Iturbi jokes, and the best relations were established.

Then Dr. Busch ~~happened to notice one thing,~~ <sup>and that</sup> The next conductor scheduled to conduct that Montevideo orchestra -- was Iturbi. ~~He was~~ <sup>Due</sup> in a couple of days.

"What happened?" I asked.

"Poor Iturbi!" the Doctor <sup>sighed,</sup> ~~exclaimed with a sigh.~~ <sup>He</sup> And he told me how shortly after the Iturbi concert he met some of the Montevideo musicians. They said - "You know, Dr. Busch, this Iturbi imitates you. At rehearsal - he told us the same jokes ~~that~~ you told us."

"No," cried the bedevilled Germans, "I learned those jokes from him."

But the musicians were not to be fooled. "No, no, Dr. Busch," said they <sup>musicians,</sup> "We know -- you are too modest. You don't want to have it said - but Iturbi swipes your jokes."

So now, with all the brilliant success that the New Opera Company has been making with Verdi's Macbeth, the hero of the occasion is worried. Iturbi is now in the United States and Dr. Busch is afraid to meet him.



## HALIFAX

Today's egg and tomato attack on Lord Halifax happened as the Ambassador was entering the Chancery of the Catholic Archbishop of Detroit -- for a conference with the Archbishop. The building was opicketed by a group of women who carried placards reading - "Down with England!" And - "To Halifax with Halifax." The Ambassador <sup>has</sup> encountered that kind of picketing before, but this time it went further. He was assailed with a barrage of eggs and tomatoes, hurled by the women pickets. A detective inspector, was hit by an egg. And the spattering egg smeared the coat of the Ambassador.

The Detroit police promptly started an inquiry, and investigated the pickets-- who belonged to an organization called "American Mothers."

It's a bit disillusioning. Here we've been thinking that motherhood was something gentle and loving, but apparently that maternal instinct can also lead to the tossing of ripe tomatoes and eggs at ambassadors.

AMBASSADOR

In London today a statement was made that United States Ambassador John G. Winant is not qualified for his job. Who made this attack on the American envoy? Why, Ambassador Winant himself. At a luncheon given today by the Overseas League he said: "I really have no qualifications as an Ambassador."

8/2  
What's the matter? Why does he think he's not up to snuff for diplomacy in England? Ambassador Winant explained that he never could figure out the ways of the British. And he cited an incident on a trip to London years ago.

"We were asked to Buckingham Palace for tea," he related, "and wanted to be very correct. I remember getting a tall hat - the first I had ever worn - and a tall coat. We presented ourselves," he added, "but everyone else wore a straw hat and a short coat."

9  
That sort of thing can be embarrassing, especially in London, but it was only the beginning. "A few days later," said the Ambassador, "we were asked to the races. I told a friend I would not make a fool of myself again. So I wore a short coat and a straw hat. Everyone else," <sup>he went on,</sup> ~~he concluded,~~ "had on a tall hat and

a tail coat." Wrong again.

An now, Hugh, put us right again!