

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, April 28, 1941.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The most important word in America tonight is coal.

^{The} ~~That~~ ^{that} strike is threatening not only the defense program but the carrying on of the ^{nation's} ~~most~~ essential public works, ~~Public service~~ ^{that supply} ~~millions of us with~~ ^{For this there now} ~~companies furnishing~~ light and heat. ~~to millions of people have~~ ^{is} ~~only~~ enough coal to last for ^{about} two weeks.

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The Southern Railroad Company ^{today} ~~has~~ announced the cutting out of forty-two trains ~~xx~~ in order to have enough coal for its through mainline service. Twenty-one lines in southern states will have to do without trains because the road ^{5 have} ~~has~~ only enough coal for twenty days. Edward F. McGrady, Labor Advisor to the Secretary of War, ^{today} told the Senate Committee that if the mines ~~aren't~~ ^{not} opened promptly, the entire National Defense effort will be in great jeopardy. Fifteen major industries on the verge of being entirely without coal! Several of Uncle Sam's navy yards ^{with} ~~have~~ only fuel enough for ten days.

Secretary ~~Steve~~ Early at the White House announced that ^{the} President ~~Roosevelt~~ was putting in the entire day studying the situation and trying to work out some way of ending the deadlock. ^{Also} The Senate Committee investigating defense began its inquiring into the soft coal business.

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~~of course~~ the principal witness of the day was John L. Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers. ^{Lewis} He told the Senators that this coal shut-down had come about because the tail of the industry had undertaken vigorously to wag the dog. By the "tail" of ~~the~~ industry, Lewis obviously meant the Southern operators. But he characterized them further, declared they weren't real Southerners but Northern interests who called themselves Southern operators.

Before Lewis made his entrance, L.T. Putname of the Southern Operators had been on the stand. He offered a three-point plan for reopening the mines at once. Let the men go to work, ^{and do it} he suggested, under the terms of the contract which expired April First, plus a ten per cent per hour increase in wage rates.

Meanwhile, ^{for} negotiations to continue. Then, ~~next~~ ^{if} a settlement is

not reached in thirty days, submit the quarrel to the Mediation Board again with a definite promise to accept the findings of the Board. A Senator asked Putnam whether he would agree even if the Board wiped out that Southern differential which has been the bone that stuck in the craw of the Southerners? Putnam replied, "Yes. If we agreed to the arbitration, we'd have to submit."

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When Lewis got on the witness stand, Senator Tom Connally of Texas asked him about that forty cent wage differential between the North and South to which Lewis objected. Did Lewis insist on eliminating that? The union leader replied, "Yes, because when seventy per cent in industry agrees that someone is right and just, the minority might as well make up its mind and accept it."

Sen.
^ Connally then asked him whether he would be willing to reopen the mines both North and South for a dollar a day increase?

Lewis replied "No."

Sen.
Connally then put this question:- "So you're determined to see the defense program wrecked if it comes to that, in order to get your forty cents a day?"

That got Lewis's goat and he barked out:- "I didn't say

that." To which he added: "Don't you question my patriotism, Senator!" I'll not let even you put words in my mouth."

Later on, Lewis came to bat with an offer. He'll reopen the soft coal mines of the North within forty-eight hours if the Government will agree to feed and protect the miners in the South who will remain out of work until they can bring the Southern operators to terms.

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Previously, Charles F. O'Neill, who represented the Northern operators, said they were only too willing and anxious to ~~re~~ reopen their mines at once. The Northerners produce sixty to eighty per cent of all the soft coal in the country.

PERKINS

Loud cheers were heard today during the First Annual Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States at Washington. One of the members was making a speech about Secretary of Labor Miss Perkins. How long will it be, said that member, Roy Ingersoll of Chicago, before public opinion will become so aroused that it demands the resignation of Miss Perkins?

There were nearly a thousand businessmen at that meeting and

they all
~~everyone of them~~ jumped to *their* ~~his~~ feet cheering loudly.
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CANADA STRIKE

A steel strike in Canada! The government of the Dominion is trying to persuade some three thousand workers at Hamilton and Montreal, to go back to work. But the men refuse, and the C.I.O. leaders are threatening a general walkout of all the twenty thousand steel workers in Canada.

CREDITS

Extra

As everybody expected, President Roosevelt today ordered the freezing of all credits and cash holdings belonging to Greeks or

Greek subjects. There are ~~about~~ *these over here,* between forty and fifty million dollars of ~~them~~ *1 1* including direct investments, gold and short term

credits.

Making
That ~~makes~~ *1* the fourteenth order of that sort ~~which~~ *that* the

President has issued in one year. ~~It swells~~ *now totals* the total of frozen

foreign funds and credits in the United States ~~to~~ *1* somewhere around four and

a half billion dollars.

WAR

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A new battle began today, the Battle of the Mediterranean.

It started somewhat cautiously, but that's no guarantee. For it was announced in Berlin that there ^{will} be no military pause following the Balkan campaign. ^{That} Hitler is not going to stop at any halfway measures. He's determined to destroy Britain's position and power in the Mediterranean completely. ^{So} The Nazi spokesman stated; ^{adding} definitely that their ~~XXXXX~~ generals attached the same importance to the war in the Mediterranean as they had to the Battle of the Atlantic. "War to a finish", they promise.

In Greece, the Nazi armies were engaged principally in mopping up. There still remain a handful of British troops fighting in the Peloponnesus. But that again is only a delaying action to complete the evacuation.

One part of the German claim is corroborated. The Nazis are boasting that they've captured an enormous amount of booty, a heavy supply of munitions and war material. The corroboration comes from Australia, where the War Minister said that a large

plume of
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booty had been sacrificed, because the Australian general had been instructed to remove his men first and not wait for munitions and

armament to be taken out. ~~first.~~

The Nazis claim that in one day alone they wiped out one hundred British aircraft in the Battle of Greece. There appears to be some evidence of that in reports from the British side that the retiring troops had not much help from aircraft. The Nazi military spokesman declares that of those hundred planes wiped out, in one day, sixty-three were destroyed on the ground. In other words, that Goering's air squadrons took the R.A.F. by surprise in an attack on an airport.

The British deny the Nazi claims that Panzer divisions and parachute troops took a huge toll of British soldiers. The German official news agency, reports triumphantly that the bodies of innumerable British soldiers have been carried by the waves on the shores of Greece. But all the British and Australian accounts are agreed that the evacuation was affected successfully with very little loss of life. And the big question in the Mediterranean tonight is, how soon will Hitler ~~begin~~ begin his dash for the Suez Canal, how soon will Spain be dragged in on an attack on Gibraltar?

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GIBRALTAR

The word is tonight that the British Navy may withdraw temporarily from the western end of the Mediterranean. An attack on Gibraltar according to reports is now a foregone conclusion. The Rock may still remain impregnable, even against the most modern of weapons, but it could hardly serve as a naval base in case of a Nazi attack through Spain. During the Spanish Civil War, the Germans built airdromes and artillery batteries which today cover Gibraltar harbor, docks and town with a ring of steel. The only chance the British would have of not only holding Gibraltar but of making use of it, would be for they themselves to occupy the Spanish territory which encircles it on three sides.

If the British Navy does evacuate the western Mediterranean, it won't be for the first time. But it will be the first time in a hundred and fifty years. During the Napoleonic Wars, Admiral Horatio Nelson informed his government that, in his words, "We cannot get another mast this side of Gibraltar." That was during the four-year blockade by the Spanish fleet.

AFRICA

The Nazis announce that two of their swift motorized columns have invaded Egypt, from Libya. It was assumed that this was the beginning of a new intensive spearhead thrust by the Nazis and Fascists a drive for the Suez Canal. But according to the British, the enemy only advanced some five or six miles into Egyptian territory, when there in the desert the Army of the Nile stopped, ~~and~~ held them up. Also at Tobruk, in Libya, the Australian troops defending the port have taken the initiative and have captured many more Italian soldiers and officers -- and some Germans.

To the East and south the British have stormed Dessye, the last remaining Italian stronghold in Ethiopia. And -- the Free French troops of General De Gaulle are on the advance in French Somaliland.

AUSTRALIA

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Rumblings of discontent among the people of Australia, have been squelched. A message was cabled today to Prime Minister Winston Churchill by the Acting Prime Minister of the Commonwealth. The gist of it was that Churchill has the full support of Australia, ~~in his great work.~~ That cable was sent after a meeting of the War Cabinet, and the Acting Prime Minister ~~isn~~ issued a statement that the government had evidence that attempts ^{had been} ~~were~~ made to send reports ^{up} ~~out~~ from Australia ^{giving} ~~which gave~~ an entirely false impression of the mood of the Australian people and the attitude of the government and Parliament. To which he added that firm steps have been taken to deal with ill-considered, ill-timed, and ill-informed comments.

PORTSMOUTH

The people of Portsmouth today were rumaging through the ruins of their homes, trying to find what was left of their belongings. The latest raid ~~that~~ the Nazis made on that naval base was the shortest, but also the severest. People throughout Britain were remarking today that the ^{recent} ~~latest~~ attacks of Goering's Air Corps had taken on an invasion pattern. Portsmouth is one of the principal bases of Britain's home fleet. In one section of the town, ^{single} every house has been made uninhabitable. Men, women and children are sleeping in schools, barns and even fields in case the ^{Nazis} ~~Huns~~ return tonight.

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BRITISH RAIDS

The Royal Air Force, for its part, was trying out a new high explosive, a particularly heavy one. They followed up their Saturday night attack on Hamburg with daylight raids yesterday. ^{Paying} ~~They paid~~ their compliments ^{not only} to Hamburg, ^(but) ~~also~~ to Emden.

One pilot in a plane ten miles away from the explosion said that the bombs caused havoc that looked like a volcanic eruption.

Even at ten miles ~~away~~ ^{appeared} the destruction ^{was} terrific. One raid on the big German naval base at Emden was made by a single plane, a new Sterling bomber ⁱⁿ full daylight and from a low altitude.

There's just one spot in the United States where no comment can be heard on the resignation of Colonel Lindbergh from the Army Reserve. That spot is the White House. President Roosevelt issued no remark whatsoever on the letter that Lindbergh addressed to him. Elsewhere, of course, the stepping out of the Flying Colonel has caused almost as big a sensation as the events that led to his receiving that commission in the Army Air Corps.

Lindbergh's letter to the President was phrased with full respect to Mr. Roosevelt's high position as President and Commander-in-Chief. In that capacity, Lindbergh wrote, the President ^{had} clearly implied that he, Lindbergh, was no longer of any use to this country as a reserve officer. Lindbergh then used these words: "In view of other implications that you, my President and my superior officer, have made concerning my loyalty to my country, my character and my motives, I can see no honorable alternative to tendering my resignation."

Lindbergh previously said he had hoped he might exercise his rights as an American citizen to speak his mind without giving up the privilege of serving his country as an Air Corps officer.

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He declared he took this action with the utmost regret, for, he said, "my relationship with the Air Corps is one of the things that has meant most to me in life." And he added: "I place it second only to my right as a citizen to speak freely to my fellow countrymen."

As was proper, Lindbergh sent his resignation to the War Department. Secretary Stimson has not yet accepted it. Ever since October, Nineteen Forty, there has been an army regulation that reserve officers on active duty cannot resign during the present emergency. However, Lindbergh is not on active duty. He was retired to the inactive list early this year. There's no ironclad rule to prevent ^{Sec.} Stimson's accepting ^{the Colonel's} that resignation and it will be entirely up to the Secretary.

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The specific words ^{from} by the President, which provoked Lindbergh's resignation were ^{Mr. Roosevelt's} his remarks last Friday comparing Lindbergh and other isolationists to the Copperheads of the Civil War. Then he added ^{what a pity it was} ~~that it was a pity~~ that people with such mentalities were in high places where they could write and talk.

One of the correspondents asked the President why the Army had not assigned the Flying Colonel to active duty. To that Mr. Roosevelt replied that he didn't know whether Lindbergh had resigned or not.

Hence the letter of resignation, and today's sensation that it has caused.

And now Hugh, would you say that Spring is really here?

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