

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1941.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Sure this has been an historic day. Somewhere in Europe two men met secretly, the two arch dictators, Hitler and Mussolini, men of destiny, so their followers think. Over here the United States was inaugurating a President, a President whose hope it is to upset the plans of those men of destiny; frustrate their world conquest plans. As the least known verse of the British national anthem puts it, "to confound their politics, frustrate their knavish tricks."

That clandestine meeting in Europe lent additional drama and color to the third inauguration of Mr. Roosevelt. It hardly needed any additional color for the first inauguration of a third term president was by itself a red letter day for American history books, the milestone of a tradition smashed. Then too, that useful planet, the sun, did

its own bit of tradition-breaking by shining upon the third term President. I believe it's almost the first ^(sunny inaugural) time within the history of living newspapermen, ~~that the sun has shown on~~ *But the last wind* ~~fairly chilled the narrow boxes of the huge~~ *inaugural ceremonies.* ~~multitude that thronged the capital.~~

There was a touch of melodrama too, three men arrested, one of them carrying a concealed deadly weapon. It wasn't during the inauguration that they were collared by the police, but in the afternoon. A couple of them appeared to be relatively harmless. One of them was a fellow who yelled at the President while he was driving from the White House to the Capitol for his inauguration. It isn't yet revealed what he yelled, but at any rate the ^{police} ~~cops~~ *pl* ~~icked~~ him up, and asked him some questions. Again, an elderly man, seventy years old, from Maryland, strolled along Pennsylvania Avenue with a faded army campaign hat on his head and a sword in his hand. When the police asked him, what ^{was} ~~s~~ the idea, he said he wanted to protect the President. So they gave him a chance to protect the President at the station house.

The man who carried the ^{deadly} weapon was a forty-five year old barber, dressed in an American Legion uniform. He was loitering in front of the White House near the Court of Freedom ~~reviewing~~ stand from which Mr. Roosevelt was to ^{review} ~~watch~~ the inaugural parade. ^{It} It would have taken a miracle for anybody of suspicious appearance or intention to elude the police in Washington today. Never before had so many cops been put on the job for an inauguration. It didn't take the officers long to spot the fact that the man in the legion uniform had ^{something} ~~concealed~~ concealed inside his ^{tunic.} ~~shirt.~~ When they searched him they found it to be a thirty-eight calibre revolver. They aren't ^{not} giving out his name or saying anything about him, except that he was taken to the hospital for observation, and ^{that} ~~the~~ pistol ^{hidden} ~~concealed~~ inside his ^{clothes} ~~tunic~~ was loaded and in good conditions.

There were two thousand uniformed police on the ^{watch} ~~job~~ to say nothing of detectives in plain clothes. There was a cop every eight feet all the way from the White House to the Capitol. Every officer in the District of Columbia, the Washington city police, the United States Park police, the

Capitol guard, the Building Guard, the Secret Service, ^{all} were out in force. Besides that, eighty detectives and three hundred ^{picked} uniformed policemen were borrowed from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston and Wilmington. The car in which the President rode was escorted by four army combat cars, literally bristling with weapons equipped as they would be for a battle. ^{Ahead of him also} were ^{forty} motorcycle officers.

Before the President took his oath and made his inaugural address, an old and ^{and popular} familiar public figure performed his last official act at Washington. The honorable John Nance Garner, ^{for a quarter-century} ~~for years~~ one of the most redoubtable members of Congress, former Speaker of the House, now a former Vice-President, administered the oath of office to the ~~man~~ man who succeeds him, ^{Agard} Henry ~~W~~ Wallace. ^{Jack} Garner preserved his homespun humor to the last. He didn't have a top-hat and he was derved if he was going to buy one. So he borrowed one from a newspaperman, Bascom Timmons, the Washington correspondent for a string of Texas papers. ~~Timmons~~ Timmons's hat was way too small for him, but that didn't faeze the ex-Vice-President. "That's all right," said Garner, "you don't have to wear the darn thing, you just carry it." After he had performed

his role in today's performance, he got on the train for Uvalde, Texas, for a week of personal isolation, ^{as he put it. So,} ~~he said,~~ John Nance

Garner tonight is a private citizen for the first time in forty-six years!

President Roosevelt's third inaugural address was an apostrophe to democracy, ^{and} ~~Indeed, it was~~ more than that, ^{It was} ~~It was~~ ^{a challenge} ~~a defiance~~ to the enemies of democracy. "There are men," he said,

"who believe that for some unexplained reason, ~~xx~~ tyranny and slavery become the surging wave of the future and that ~~the~~ freedom is an ebbing tide. But we Americans," he cried, "know that this is not true."

"In Washington's ~~day~~," said Mr. Roosevelt, "the task of the people was to create and weld together a nation; in Lincoln's day to preserve that nation from disruption from within. In this day," he added, "the task of the people is to save that nation and its institutions from disruption from without."

He went on to say: "Democracy is not dying. We know it because we have seen it revived and grow." To which he added:

"We know it cannot die, because it is built on the unhampered initiative of individual men and women, because democracy alone has constructed an unlimited civilization capable of infinite progress in the improvement of human life. "

Oddly enough, the broadcasting of the inauguration and address was probably heard by as many or more British people than Americans. The word from London is that everybody throughout the Island, who could, flocked to the nearest radio. More than twenty million people in Great Britain, say the correspondents, were listening in.

That was due to some extent to the hour. When Mr. Roosevelt spoke, it was already six o'clock in the evening, Greenwich time, over there. So almost everybody was at liberty to listen, and the British Broadcasting Corporation had switched its usual six o'clock broadcast, to another hour.

ITALY

The meeting of the Duce and the Fuehrer ^{appears to have been the} ~~appeared to be a~~
signal for a fresh outburst of Italian energy. One manifestation
~~is~~ ^{is} a threat and a warning. One ~~of the~~ ^{news} Fascist ~~papers~~ ^s announced
a fresh blitzkrieg to begin whenever winter is over. That's
hardly news: ~~the British long since made the~~ ^{everybody has been making that} same prophecy.
But the gist of the Italian warning ^{is} ~~was~~ that the blitzkrieg ~~that~~
~~blooms~~ in the spring ~~tra-la~~, will surpass anything that Europe saw
last year. And while Mussolini was talking to Hitler, ~~his~~ editor,
Virginio Gayda, was complaining that many of the planes used by
the British in the north African campaign were made in America
as well as a large part of the trucks that the Australians used
in the desert.

But here's a more concrete symptom of the revival
of Fascist energy. ~~The~~ Athens reports that ~~the~~ ^{the} Piraeus, the classic
seaport of the old city, ^{has just been} ~~was~~ attacked by Italian bombers ~~twice in~~
~~one day.~~ ^{people say little} But ~~the~~ British Royal Air Force ~~declares~~ that they
~~didn't do much~~ damage ^{was done}.

And the high command of the Hellene army reports it has
information that General Cavallero, the new Italian Commander-in-Chief

ITALY

in Albania, ^{has some} ~~is planning a series of~~ new and daring military
^{up his sleeve.} tactics. He has brought thousands of Italian sappers over from
the mainland, and ^{he has} ~~conscripted a number of~~ Albanian laborers to
strengthen the fortifications of Berat and Valona, the two
principal Italian strongholds ^{in Albania.} The Greeks also report that fresh
Italian troops ~~were~~ ^{ing} poured into the front lines. Commander-in-Chief
Cavallero is believed to have made a wholesale shake-up of his
officers; ~~he~~ ^{ing} dismissed two generals, seven colonels, and scores of
majors, captains, and so ^{on,} ~~forth.~~

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HITLER*MUSSOLINI

There's one thing sure about the Nazi and Fascist rulers: they can effectively keep public affairs from the knowledge of the public. (What happened at that meeting between Hitler and Mussolini today nobody knows except Hitler and Mussolini. And, their Foreign Ministers, Ribbentrop and Ciano. All we get from the official statement is this:- "Hitler and Ill Duce had an intensive discussion in the spirit of cordial friendship between the two heads of government and in the close comradeship of battle between the German and Italian peoples." Then it added:- "It resulted in the complete agreement of views on all questions." To which the comment of one observer was, "If your house is on fire, you could hardly afford to disagree with the chief of the fire department."

AFRICA

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In Africa, the British forces are advancing on a new front. They have thrust their way into Eritrea, the Italian strip on the Red Sea, and have occupied two strongly fortified posts on the frontier between Eritrea and the Sudan. They were strongly fortified, so the British declaré, but not defended. The Italians ~~have~~ ^{had hurriedly} withdrawn their troops in expectation of the British advance.

The Cairo high command reports that the British have the Italians on the run in that part of Africa. British troops are in contact with the retreating enemy, is the way they phrase it.

LAVAL

The French government at Vichy gives out an explanation of that meeting between Marshal Petain and ~~the~~ former Vice-Premier Pierre Laval. But it's an explanation which doesn't say much and leaves room for a lot of guessing.

One reason for ^{the conference} ~~it~~ was the campaign of criticism against the Vichy government, in Parisian newspapers. When Petain decided to deprive himself of the services of Laval, the reasons at the time could not be thoroughly explained to French opinion. So said an official radio announcement. The consequence was confusion, which the Paris press exploited and increased. Marshal Petain wanted to do away with any misunderstandings which could poison the relations between the German authorities and the French government. ^{Hence} ~~Therefore~~ his conversation with Laval.

The announcement went on to say that France lives under the same regime as before and will respect to the letter every line of the armistice convention. The French fleet will not be used against the British, but the French will continue to safeguard their empire.

^{just} It sounds reassuring; but, the world would still like to know what happened at that interview between Petain and the stormy petrel, Laval.

PLANES

Here's the latest report on the American war planes that were sent to Britain, the subject of so much argument. We are faced today with two contradictory statements. The discussion first came up when a correspondent returning from England said the American planes weren't of much use, ~~were~~ only ^{good} ~~being employed~~ for training.

Quentin Reynolds, correspondent for COLLIERS, took that report to Lord Beaverbrook, Minister of Aircraft Production.

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Beaverbrook described it as a scurrilous article, ^{So} ~~as~~ [^] Quentin Reynolds writes in the current issue of COLLIERS. Beaverbrook sent Reynolds to factories and airplane bases, and he was told ^{many} ~~most~~ complimentary things about ~~the~~ made-in-America ~~war~~ planes.

He quotes one British squadron leader ^{alone} as wishing that he had a thousand of ^{them} ~~such American planes~~.

Now here's another side to the story. It comes from a high official in charge of research for the Royal Air Force.

He told a group of American correspondents that if United States fighting planes are to compete on the best possible terms with German planes, American designers ^{should} ~~must~~ build more speed and

altitude into them. So Air Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding told a group of us at luncheon. As for the German planes that have been captured, the experts of the R. A.F. admire them immensely. Their material is good, construction excellent, and the equipment often ingenious. There's nothing ersatz about the German planes that the British have seen. They have examined thoroughly those they captured but could find no vital secrets in them. Just good design, good material, good construction. On the other hand, the British fighters haven't the same complimentary thing to say about Italian fighting planes.

STEEL

Here's a new record, ^{but} not in the world of sports, ~~but of~~
~~manufactures.~~ Steel is being turned out in terrific quantities
in the United States. The country's mills this week are operating
at ninety-nine points one per cent ~~of~~ capacity. ~~that is, theoretical~~
~~capacity.~~ And that, we ^{are told} ~~understand~~ is a record high, in point of
tonnage, higher even than that most spectacular of years,
Nineteen Twenty-Nine.

CREDITS

The President begins his third term with a word of encouragement from his Secretary of the Treasury. ^{See} Morgenthau issued a special statement for Inauguration Day, with the highly optimistic message that the credit of the United States has never been more soundly established, and, he adds that the dollar has ^{now} become ~~the~~ standard currency ~~of~~ the world ~~over~~.

Along with this reassurance comes a word of warning, ^{that} we must expect greater financial burdens. ^{Which} ~~That warning comes~~ is no surprise, ~~to be sure. And~~ Secretary Morgenthau also was paving the way for a new departure in public finance, which is going to stir up a lot of argument; ~~it's~~ that ever ticklish question of removing ~~the~~ tax exemptions from ^{U. S.} ~~Uncle Sam's~~ bonds. That's one ~~the~~ of the ways, says ^{the Treasury Secretary, by} ~~Morgenthau, in~~ which we must meet ^{our} ~~the~~ greater financial burdens ~~that face us.~~

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HOPKINS

There was a public meeting of workers at Glasgow, the great Scottish city where the British build so many ships.

The principal speech-maker was Prime Minister Winston Churchill himself. Sitting on the platform with him, was ~~our own~~ Harry Hopkins, ^{our} former Secretary of Commerce, former head of national relief, and now the President's personal envoy in London.

When the Prime Minister finished his address, the audience set up a steady cry of, ~~Harry, Harry~~ "Harry, Harry, Harry!" There was no keeping them quiet, so finally Harry arose from his chair, said he wasn't allowed to make a speech, did not intend to make a speech. However, he did permit himself to say one thing, and he put it in these words:- "I know that the vast majority of my countrymen carry for you in their hearts and prayers the confidence and assurance of ultimate victory over your enemy." And, as he sat down, the crowd yelled back a shout of, "Thanks, Harry!"

And now Hugh let's hear you so we can say: "Thanks, Hugh!"