

P.T. - Sunoco. Wed., April 12, 1939.

Tonight the world awaits

~~The whole world is waiting for~~ that special <sup>session</sup> ~~meeting~~ of

the British Parliament tomorrow. <sup>And,</sup> It bids fair to be as historic

~~a session~~ as the one last September, <sup>just</sup> before the Munich Conference;

~~I mean~~ the one which was so dramatically interrupted by a telegram

from Hitler, <sup>which was</sup> handed to Chamberlain on the floor of the House, the wire

inviting him to Munich. The scene tomorrow may be <sup>almost as</sup> ~~even more~~

theatrical since England and France are avowedly today in <sup>a</sup> more

aggressive mood.

<sup>The world</sup> ~~of course everybody~~ is waiting feverishly for the

announcement ~~that~~ the British Prime Minister <sup>is to</sup> ~~will~~ make to the

House of Commons. But some of it is discounted, since broad

intimations have leaked out of the nature of not only Chamberlain's

announcement but the one to be made by Premier Daladier in Paris.

The word from London is that Britain and France will proclaim

their firm resolution to protect Greece and Turkey from the fate

of Albania. (Chamberlain and Daladier will issue a specific

warning to both Mussolini and Hitler that any more aggression

threatening the interests of Britain and France will be met by war.

The report is that Daladier's language will be even stronger than

{ ~~that of Chamberlain.~~

47  
Chamberlain, everybody expects, will firmly condemn Mussolini's actions in Albania. He will also for the first time define clearly what the British government means by the status quo in the Mediterranean. The idea of that will be to rob Mussolini of any excuse for such strokes as the annexation of Albania. The Italian defense of <sup>which</sup> ~~that~~ was that it does not upset the celebrated status quo. (Chamberlain also assured the House of Commons that he is continuing to negotiate with other powers, including Russia and Roumania, to establish an alliance to maintain European security.

2  
We hear from London that Daladier and Chamberlain agreed upon this late this afternoon because they had not received any definite promise from Mussolini to withdraw his troops from Spain. On the other hand, an official announcement from Rome reports that General Gambara, who commanded the Italian troops in Spain, had a long conference with Mussolini at the Venezia Palace over <sup>the withdrawal of troops.</sup> ~~removing those Fascists from Spain.~~

There's another report from Rome obviously intended to offset the promise of Great Britain and France to give military

48  
protection to Greece. It <sup>s</sup>was an official statement by the Italian government, and it <sup>proclaims</sup>announced a message delivered to the Foreign Office by the Greek Minister. This message said: "The Greek Minister has been authorized by the Greek Premier to express his warmest thanks for the communication made to him on April Tenth in the name of Premier Mussolini." That communication from Mussolini contained definite promises that the Fascist government will respect the integrity of Greece, her frontiers on land as well as at sea. The message continues: "His Excellency, General Metaxas, acknowledges with complete satisfaction Senor Mussolini's assurances, and General Metaxas is convinced that no developments can possibly arise to disturb the traditional ~~frankish greek~~ friendship between the two countries." The message concludes:- "General Metaxas sees the beginning of a new period of cordiality."

2 } ~~That~~ Sounds curious in the face of the French and British intention to protect the integrity of Greece.

JUGOSLAVIA FOLLOW EUROPE

Then comes an alarmist dispatch concerning Jugoslavia.

49  
A reports <sup>of</sup> a secret agreement between Jugoslavia and Italy. It was published tonight in a Paris newspaper which professes to have the news direct from Belgrade. The report is that the Italian and Jugoslav governments have agreed ~~with~~ that Mussolini should have Albania as well as a small piece of Jugoslavia nextdoor. In return for that, Jugoslavia is to get Salonika and other Greek territory. At the same time, Bulgaria is to get back from Roumania the territory that she lost in the World War as well as part of the seacoast of Greece and an important harbor. However, the dispatch adds that this secret agreement was made with the former government of Jugoslavia which has since been overthrown.

ROUMANIA

( Then there's the Roumanian question. It is understood in London that King Carol has warned France and England that he will <sup>definitely</sup> have to throw in his lot with Germany and Italy unless England hurries up with her guarantees of protection. So far Chamberlain has made no definite statement about Roumania. The warning from Bucharest is couched in such strong language that it's almost an ultimatum. )

PLOT

5-0

A plot to murder Hitler is supposed to have been unearthed by the Nazis secret police. The idea? ~~was~~ <sup>to</sup> shoot him a couple of weeks ago while the new battleship TIRPITZ was being launched. The Gestapo arrested the conspirators ~~on the day before~~ <sup>who are</sup> ~~They're~~ <sup>who</sup> said to be Czechs ~~and to~~ <sup>who</sup> have confessed. ~~As a matter of~~ <sup>at the</sup> ~~launching~~ <sup>fact</sup> Hitler spoke behind a sheet of bulletproof glass, ~~which~~ <sup>this</sup> was explained at the time as a protection from the wind.

~~All this~~ <sup>The</sup> news comes not from Berlin but from a newspaper in London.

LIBYA

There was a big show today in Mussolini's African colony of Libya. It was a military demonstration, tanks and motorized heavy cannon doing an act while <sup>Capronis</sup>~~Bellanca~~ and other crack bombers and pursuit planes gave a spectacle overhead. Ordinarily, that might be just another war game show. Today it had some significance, for it was all in honor of Adolf Hitler's Number Two man, Colonel-General and Field Marshal Goering, Minister of Aviation. (He was the guest of Marshal Italo Balbo, who Mussolini is supposed to have sent to Libya as Governor-General to get him out of the way. Goering and Balbo watched the show from a high point overlooking the surroundings of Tripoli.)

SOUTH POLE

51  
While Hitler was annexing Czechoslovakia, one of his faithful captains was taking over a slice of territory larger than all of Greater Germany. The Swastika now flies over two hundred and thirty-one thousand, six hundred and sixty square miles on the Antarctic Continent.

An expedition left Hamburg last December, headed by an experienced explorer, Captain Rithscher. Not merely one flag but hundreds of them are scattered over the Antarctic. They were dropped by flying boats which flew for more than seven thousand miles.

The explorers <sup>say they</sup> photographed a hundred thousand square miles of territory hitherto unknown, ~~while a hundred and thirty thousand square miles were discovered and surveyed.~~

The Nazis consider this ~~quite~~ a feather in their cap as it gives them a German sphere of interest, ~~most important,~~ for <sup>catching</sup> whales.

ALBANIA

52

A new crown was offered today to His Majesty, Victor Emanuel, King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia. (The Constitutional Assembly of Albania today invited King Victor Emanuel to be their king. The invitation took the form of a resolution adopted unanimously by the Assembly.) Of course this happened under the vigilant eye of Mussolini's Foreign Minister and son-in-law, Count Ciano. The ancient crown of the Albanian kings, the crown of the national hero, Skanderbeg, is a leather war helmet with a goat's head on top of it. If Victor Emanuel accepts, he will have to ask the permission of Adolf Hitler. Why? That historic goat's head is in the museum at Vienna and can only be removed by consent of the Nazi Fuehrer. — who might be glad to make Victor Emanuel the goat.

The Constitutional Assembly of necessity abolished the old government of the country and virtually accepted the ~~protectorship~~ protectorship of Italy. However, the resolution stipulates that Albania remains a separate state but enters into personal union with Italy through the person of the Italian king. The Albanians would also retain their national flag. <sup>It</sup> Most important of all, the Assembly stipulates that the Italian army shall protect the frontiers of Albania.

FLEET

There <sup>is</sup> ~~is going~~ to be a big naval demonstration by Uncle Sam's fleet. ~~It will be~~ <sup>The</sup> the first of its kind since Nineteen Thirty-Four. ~~Claude Swanson~~ <sup>The</sup> Secretary of the Navy, will hold a review <sup>on</sup> <sub>^</sub> April Twenty-Seventh, off Cape Henry, Virginia. ~~The~~ ~~Commander in Chief~~ <sub>^</sub> Admiral Bloch, will lead a fleet consisting of eight battleships, four aircraft carriers, five heavy cruisers, eleven light cruisers and ~~xx~~ <sup>— some</sup> many others, <sub>^</sub> seventy warships in all. <sup>and</sup>

The column will be sixteen and a half miles long.

GASOLINE

Now - a bit about business; ~~a thumb-nail business~~

~~editorial~~ Forty years ago Henry Ford threw up his job as engineer for the Detroit Edison Company and started to build automobiles. At that time there were about 8000 cars in the country using some 80,000 gallons of gasoline a year - <sup>only</sup> enough to run the cars of today for one-hour-and-a-half. Henry Ford believed there was a market for millions of cars, if they were good enough and cheap enough, and he believed he could build

them <sup>that way. But</sup> ~~good and cheap~~ <sup>all</sup> Where would the gasoline come from to run millions of cars? That didn't bother <sup>Henry. Not Henry.</sup> ~~him~~ He guessed the oil industry would somehow find the gas. <sup>We</sup> ~~you~~ all know the rest

of the story. <sup>Ford</sup> ~~He~~ built the cars, people bought them, and the oil industry provided the motor fuel. <sup>Also -</sup> Year by year the cars

<sup>grew</sup> ~~and got~~ cheaper and more numerous. The gasoline likewise became ~~cheaper~~ cheaper, and there was always plenty of it. The two industries have been growing side by side for forty years, twin testimony of the soundness of the American system of free enterprise.

54

KANSAS CITY

Some of the folks of Kansas City, Missouri, had hard things to say today about the condition of their city. And they said them to the judiciary committee of the Missouri Assembly. There's a bill pending to transfer the control of the K.C. Police Department to the Governor of the State. Judges, federal agents, lawyers, and business men went en mass to Jefferson City, Missouri, to beg that this law be passed. Kansas City, they said, is today the most corrupt, the most vice-ridden, the most wide open city in the nation. There's fraudulent voting, the police are easy to buy, sellers of narcotic drugs are peddling their stuff unhindered to high ~~class~~ school boys. And they used this phrase: "It is a city that is strangled politically and economically while policemen watch high crime and do nothing about it."

On the other hand, there was also a group of Kansas City business men who went to Jefferson City to protest against the bill, who say the reputation of their fair city is being slandered and the bill should be defeated.

Following on that piece of news, Commissioner Anslinger

55

of the Federal Narcotics Bureau announced that his men have just seized a tremendous quantity of narcotic drugs in Kansas City.

They found a ring operating there and thirteen men have been arrested by Uncle Sam's agents. <sup>Said</sup> ~~and~~ the Commissioner, ~~said~~

"The facts speak for themselves as to the importance of Kansas City as the capital of narcotics-distribution throughout the middlewest. Among those arrested," said Anslinger, "is a uniformed patrolman of the Kansas City police force. The Kansas City ring received its supplies from New York, where two men also have been arrested."

MURPHY FOLLOW KANSAS CITY

56

Meanwhile Uncle Sam's lawyers are busy preparing *for* the prosecution of Tom Pendergast, the Democratic pro-Roosevelt boss of Kansas City. After he was indicted last week, ~~charged with taking sucking his income taxes,~~ a formidable list of defense counsel was announced, mostly lawyers prominent in Missouri politics. But Attorney General ~~Frank~~ Murphy today says: "There won't be any undue delay in this case." And he ~~said also;~~ <sup>added!</sup> "The appointment of those political big-wigs as defense lawyers will make no difference to the Department of Justice."

TORRIO

A stocky middle-aged fellow stood up in a federal courtroom of New York today. It was noticed that he had his fingers crossed. And he had good reason for he was to receive a sentence from the judge. The little fellow with his fingers crossed was Johnny Torrio, formerly one of the most feared men in Chicago, a bootleg king. For holding out eighty-six thousand dollars on Uncle Sam ~~for income taxes,~~ Johnny gets two and a half years in the federal prison and after that he goes on probation for ten years. ~~He got~~ a light sentence because he had pleaded guilty. His brother-in-law <sup>was given</sup> ~~got~~ a suspended sentence of a year and a day, and the other men who went on trial with <sup>him got</sup> ~~the him~~ nine months in jail, <sup>and</sup> five years probation.

Oh, by the way, I almost forgot:- ~~Master~~ Torrio also must pay Uncle Sam a fine of a hundred thousand ~~dollars. I bet~~ ~~that's something he won't forget.~~

NEWS BOYS

There's a bit of encouragement today for youngsters who start their business careers by selling newspapers. Ever since the Wages and Hours Act was passed it has been a question whether this line of work would be closed to boys.

But a decision was made today by the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor. The provisions of the Act do not apply to children under the age of sixteen years who distribute newspapers unless they have to come in or about the plant at which the newspaper is manufactured.

At first hearing, that sounds as though it were prohibitive. As a matter of fact, it will be easy for newspaper publishers to distribute the papers to the boys from a wagon or, in case of papers too small to afford a wagon, from a hand cart round the corner from the newspaper office. ~~When you~~

58 1/2  
*So three cheers from the man*  
~~When you consider the number of~~ successful and even ~~some~~

famous men who started their careers as newsboys, ~~this sounds like~~  
~~common sense~~

ICKES

~~Harold Ickes~~, Secretary of the Interior, <sup>Ickes</sup> ~~gave vent to an~~  
~~unexpected bit of humor today.~~ He made a speech to the Newspaper  
Guild of New York, <sup>today,</sup> and the subject of it was:- "Newspaper  
Columnists." The Secretary of the Interior has been smarting  
for years under jabs that he has received from some of the columnists,  
particularly General Hugh Johnson. Ickes quoted a paragraph from  
one of the General's criticisms in which Johnson said: "Many of  
the men I criticize, including Harold Ickes and the President himself,  
are personal friends of mine." ~~That what the General said.~~  
To which Secretary Ickes <sup>replied</sup> ~~declared~~ today: "I don't know how the  
others feel about it but for my part I would that he loved me  
much, much less than he does." *o s-l-u-t-m.*

59

9/14