

P.L. - Luroco. Friday, Jan. 24, 1941.

BILL

Today began stormily at the inquiry by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives. According to previous announcements, the Number One officers of the Army and Navy were to have testified concerning the Lease-Lend Bill for all-out aid to Britain. Chief of Staff General Marshal and Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Stark, were to have appeared. However, they failed to show up. They had been invited by Congressman Hamilton Fish, leader of the Republican minority on the Committee. The attitude was taken that the Chief of Staff and Chief of Naval Operations should come as witnesses invited by the whole committee, and not merely by the minority. Congressman Fish charged the appearance of the General and the Admiral was prevented by what he called - "the higher ups."

The Committee went into executive session, secret - to decide what should be done. The Republican minority refused to attend the executive session, held a meeting of their own - a split. The Democratic majority, after long deliberation, decided to invite General Marshal and Admiral Stark to appear and testify - but not in public. The Chief of Staff and Chief of Naval Operations are to give

their opinions to the Committee - at a closed session. This Congressman Fish and the minority denounced as a hush-hush policy, a gag rule.

(^{Fish}
He said the minority wanted the two high ranking officers to answer testimony given by Colonel Lindbergh yesterday. For example - Lindbergh's statement that this nation has only two hundred up-to-date front rank fighting planes - instead of two thousand five hundred as was stated by Secretary of the Navy Knox. More than anything else,) they want the Chief of Staff and the Chief of Naval Operations to comment on the Lindbergh opinion that this country cannot be invaded, is in no danger of attack. This was stated yesterday not only by Lindbergh but was corroborated by General Hugh Johnson of ~~the~~ World War and ~~later the~~ N.R.A. *fame.*

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The ~~A~~ controversy of whether or not this land of ours might be invaded is stirring ~~up~~ briskly. Today, one of Lindbergh's colleagues spoke up and took issue with the Lone Eagle. Clarence Chamberlain, who flew across the Atlantic in a famous voyage of the sky - shortly after Lindbergh made his own memorable flight.

Chamberlain said, "He doesn't know what he is talking about or else

he has been bitten by the Nazi bug." Then he proceeded to tell how the United States could be invaded. If we sit back and let the British fleet go under," Chamberlain explained, "the Japanese could keep our Pacific fleet so busy that the combined German and Italian remnants of the French and British fleets, could overcome our Atlantic fleet. Then Germany could establish air bases in Canada, which is close enough for effective bombing." Chamberlain advocated that we sever diplomatic relations with Germany, Italy, Japan and Russia. "We don't have to declare war," he said, "we're already in it. Sink the Japanese fleet on general principles," he went on, "then we could turn our attention to Europe." Well, Clarence certainly doesn't advocate half measures, he's for total war, or in a mere American phrase - "the whole hog."

Very different was the line of thought propounded by the first witness who appeared before the House Foreign Affairs Committee today. William R. Castle, former Under-Secretary of State. Served under President Hoover. Castle denied that we could be invaded, no matter what happened.

The following question was put to him:- "Do you believe that the capture of the British fleet would be dangerous to the United States"

"No, not dangerous," replied the one-time Assistant Secretary of State. "I think it would make our task more difficult," he qualified. "But I don't think the British fleet has always been our bulwark."

His testimony rose to the dramatic, when he denounced the present Lend-Lease Bill before Congress. He said it would make the power of the President supreme -- not only in this country but also in Great Britain. "At home," he declared, "Congress would be impotent. And in Britain - fear, rather than gratitude, would bring the British government to the feet of the American President," said he.

That led him to the following dark conclusion:- "We would have two dictators," added Castle. "One for the totalitarians, and one for the democracies."

There is an imposing amount of symbolism in the coming of Lord Halifax as British Ambassador to the United States - ~~a~~ symbolism of the unusual, a whole series of phases entirely ~~different~~ out of the ordinary. It was decidedly unusual for a British Foreign Secretary to resign that stately post to become Ambassador to Washington. It was extraordinary, when it was announced that Lord Halifax, though only an Ambassador now, would still rate as a Minister of the Crown, as if he were still a member of the London Cabinet.

Then take the conveyance that has brought him across the ocean - no Clipper plane, no passenger liner, not even an ordinary warship. He comes on Britain's newest battleship, one of the mightiest - the thirty-five thousand ton monster, George the Sixth, on her maiden voyage. That assuredly is stately transportation for an ambassador. And now the reception of Lord Halifax is in the same proportion. This afternoon President Roosevelt, with high officials like Secretary of the Navy Knox and Admiral Stark, Chief of Naval Operations - motored to Annapolis. There ^{they} ~~he~~ boarded the yacht POTOMAC and put to sea to meet Battleship George the Sixth

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in Chesapeake Bay. The President going to receive the new British Ambassador.

Yes, all this is imposing symbolism ^{of} ~~in~~ the meaning of British-American relations today, and Washington is taking it as a sign of the importance of the Lend-Lease Bill before Congress.

Chesapeake Bay was shrouded in rain and fog this afternoon, Battleship George the Sixth invisible. The exact ~~events~~ ^{ceremony} ~~that occurred~~ aboard we don't know, but we are told that President Roosevelt will accompany Lord Halifax to shore, scheduled to arrive at Annapolis at seven o'clock - along about now.

RUMANIA

The most savage kind of news comes from Rumania, that kingdom in which bloodshed and politics have traditionally gone hand in hand. The revolt of the extremists of the Iron Guard was accompanied by vicious pogroms, the wholesale killing of Jews. We hear how the unfortunates were taken to ~~the~~ cellars, and ~~shot.~~ ~~XXXXXX~~ ^{shot.} The Iron Guard has always been a violently anti-Semitic affair, and the rebellion was staged by its most rabid extremists.

The government ~~apparently~~ has put down the insurrection - with Nazi German help, it appears. We are not told just what part was played by German troops, but in Bucharest today motorised Nazi units were rumbling through the streets. Isolated parties of the revolting terrorists are said to be still resisting, but are being mopped up. *6000 people killed,*

Premier Antonescu now appears as the leader of the Iron Guard, a leader crushing a seditious faction. He announces ruthless suppression - and equally ruthless punishment. Trials are to be held swiftly, and swiftly executed. It isn't difficult to guess what the penalties will be. Firing squads are commonplace

Here's the latest! - Antonescu has just signed a death warrant condemning his own vice premier who led the revolt.

MARCH OF DIMES

These are days when the dimes are marching.

So let's ^{have}~~see~~ a lot of them march right now. The employees of the Sun Oil Company, like those of other business houses throughout the country, are doing their bit in behalf of the President's Birthday Ball and the drive against infantile paralysis.

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I've a letter here from Kenody Ware, New York Regional Director for Nu-Blue Sunoco. He writes, "The two hundred and sixty-two employees of the New York District of the Sun Oil Company, together with my own personal staff, have asked that I turn over to you the two hundred and sixty-two dimes which accompany this note."

So here are the dimes. And here also is the one to receive them, the New York Director of the "March o' Dimes," Clay Morgan, Assistant to the President of the National Broadcasting Company.

MR. MORGAN:- Lowell, gifts like this are a tribute to the generous spirit that is sweeping this country -- in the fight against infantile paralysis. Everywhere business ^{employees are}~~concerns are~~

doing this same thing. And the march of their dimes is an
advance of the cause of humanity.

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I hope
L.T.:- ~~Out~~ they march by the tens of millions, Clay!

Nobody's ~~in~~ dime could be devoted to anything better.

The State of Georgia once again is trying to get the "fugitive from a chain gang". With a new Governor installed in Trenton, extradition papers have been forwarded once again.

Back in Nineteen Twenty-Two, Robert Elliott Burns was convicted of a hold-up in Georgia and sentenced to prison. That meant - the chain gang. He made a getaway, and fled to New Jersey, There he was located, and Georgia demanded his extradition. It was during this period, along about Nineteen Thirty-Two, that the case of George Elliott Burns flared into publicity. The demand for extradition was refused, and that produced an argument between Georgia and New Jersey. Burns wrote a book, which attracted plenty of attention, the book called "I Am A Fugitive From A Chain Gang." A successful motion picture was made of it.

A few days ago, Governor Moore stepped out of office at Trenton, and Charles Edison, former Secretary of the Navy, became New Jersey's governor. So right away Georgia renewed its effort to get back the fugitive from a chain gang. Governor Talmadge sent extradition papers, which were received today. What will new Governor Edison do? He gives no indication. He merely stated today that the application for extradition will be taken up in due course of events -- just routine.

ORPHAN

Here's a curious story of a grudge - enmity long continued. At Terre Haute, Indiana, an ex-convict broke into an orphan asylum - to get revenge. He hated that orphanage, had been brooding about it vindictively for eight years. He himself had been reared there, taken in as a child without parents. He didn't like the way he was treated, he resented the discipline, the rules and regulations, the classes and the studies. He blamed the orphanage for the fact that he later had been sent to a reformatory, blamed it also for his prison career.

He nursed that grudge along, until finally he decided to have revenge. The story today tells how this ex-convict broke into the orphanage. Pistol in hand, he threatened two women teachers, tied them up, bound their hands *and robbed them,* Three children came in. He frightened them with the pistol. And he shouted threats that he was going to blow the orphanage to bits with nitro-~~gly~~glycerine. All this sounds ~~very~~ ferocious. But it ended with an ignominious farce.

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In another part of the building, where they didn't know what was going on, a school bell was rung - calling of the children to classes. That familiar clanging frightened the

ex-convict with a grudge. Maybe it reminded him of those years ago when the school bell made him shuffle unwillingly to class - he always did hate study. Maybe he had the panicky feeling that ^{being} he was summoned again, would have to go back to 'rithmetic and spelling. Anyway, when he heard the bell, he fled in terror - dashed out of the building and away.

They caught him later, and he told the story of the grudge.

I wonder if they will
~~I suppose they ought to~~ send him to a dungeon cell where he'll hear the orphanage school bell ringing day and night? That would be a ^{abright} punishment ~~to fit the crime.~~

LIPSTICK

Over in war-time London, some people are seeing red in a controversy that is raging. Red as in Red Cross. Red as in lipstick.

Mrs. C. D. Fellowes is a fashionable woman of London. Dresses the fashionable way. Lipstick and all. She was Assistant Commandant of the Red Cross Hospital in Suffolk. That institution was visited by Brigadier General Sir Archibald Fraser, Director of the Suffolk Red Cross. When he saw the glowing lipstick the Assistant Commandant wore, he roared -- "Red lips and Red Cross? Never!" Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Fraser is eighty-six. He remembers the days when only some ladies used paint -- and you couldn't be sure they were ladies either. He handed down a ruling that Mrs. C.D. Fellowes should either renounce the lipstick or resign from the Red Cross. Headquarters backed him up. But Mrs. Fellowes was obdurate. In fact she was adamant. "They tell me," she exclaimed, "that I should regard the sacrifice of my lipstick as a contribution to the war effort. I think the whole contention is childish." She would neither resign nor wipe off her lipstick. As a sort of compromise, she discarded her Red Cross uniform, but continued her duties at the hospital in

ordinary street clothes. That came to the attention of Lady Oliver, in charge of women Red Cross Workers. She said:-

"I don't think the Assistant Commandant should be allowed to go about the hospital in civilian clothes." That complicated the

situation still further. The lipstick angle was pointed out to

Lady Oliver, and she took a moderate attitude. ~~She said~~ there was

no official ban on facial make-up. "But," she ^{proclaimed} ~~said~~ decisively,

"we think it should be inconspicuous." ~~That is to say, - not too red~~

~~A Red Cross officer's lips, for example, should not be as red as~~

~~the Red Cross. That's permitted to be as crimson, scarlet or~~

~~vermillion as it pleases.~~

Now, the whole thing is in the London papers with a lively argument going on - a storm of controversy raging around Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Fraser, Lady Oliver and Mrs.

Fellowes' lipstick.

Mrs. Fellowes' latest pronouncement is emphatic - spoken by those glowing lips. "It seems extraordinary that in this year Nineteen Forty-One, I should be told that I must not use lipstick on duty. I am a respectable married woman," says she

indignantly, "thirty-seven years old with a baby^{boy} of three. If I can't be left to decide for myself about lipstick, who can?"

This However, ~~it~~ does not completely solve the dilemma, because what about ladies who are not thirty-seven and married, and who have not a baby boy of thrée? They have also been known to use what you get in the drug store to produce those lips of coral, like the red rose, adding glamour to Cupid's bow. Whoa, what ho, ^{being seen} in archibald Fraser? And what ho, Hugh?

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