

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1941.

The voice of a LaFollette was lifted up today to oppose the British Aid Bill. Not the Senator, but his brother, Phil, the former Governor of Wisconsin. The Ex-Governor argues that the passing of the bill eventually will mean the inevitable sending of American soldiers to Europe. Britain, he said, hasn't the slightest chance of giving Hitler that smashing knockout the administration is talking about, unless - unless aid he, we are prepared to furnish manpower.

LaFollette then gave an account of a conversation he said he had had with former Premier Daladier of France in February, Nineteen Thirty-Nine. Daladier had told him outright, he said, that France expected not only money and materials but also men from America to fight Germany. Adding that if we refused to send manpower, the British would be wise to make peace whenever they had any opportunity. Ex-Governor LaFollette then used these words:- "Somebody is being tragically fooled and,

as an American, I am apprehensive that it is ourselves and not those on the other side of the Atlantic."

He admitted that if it were a choice between a world dominated by Nazis or one dominated by the British, he would greatly prefer a British-dominated world. But he doesn't believe any such an alternative exists. No matter who wins the war, he went on, the United States will be faced by a united Europe.

One of the gravest perils to America, said LaFollette, is the way we under-estimate the large bloc of influential opinion in both France and Great Britain which feels much closer to Nazi dominated Germany than to the United States of America. He then brought up the Dusseldorf agreement of February, Nineteen Thirty-Nine. That, he declared, was a pact between the most powerful British industrialists and financiers and the most powerful Nazi industrialists and financiers. It was an agreement to divide the business of the world and specifically to collaborate against the United States. That Dusseldorf agreement between British and German industry, LaFollette continued, was made by British Tories after six years of Hitlerism, six years of

persecution, and six years of trade manipulation. Then he stated bluntly that the British industrialists had merely postponed the operation of that agreement for the duration of what they call the "emergency."

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The fear of invasion of the United States by the Nazis, he described as hysterical. And he denied that the United States is as weak and helpless as the administration supporters have maintained. ~~Then he cried:~~ "How much faith do you suppose the Latin-American countries would have in us after hearing us announce every hour of the day that we are weak and helpless, an easy prey for the mighty Germans?" *said Former Governor Lafollette.*

Norman Thomas, leader of the American Socialists, *heard today by* was the next witness ~~whom~~ the Senate Committee ~~heard~~. He told them substantially what he had told the Committee of the House. He declared that if the British Aid Bill were passed, democracy in America would be committing suicide on the off-chance that it might have to fight tomorrow. He repeated what he had told the Representatives, that the United States has not ~~the~~ power to

undertake the role of God or policeman to the whole world.

The bill, he said, increases the danger of finding ourselves

in total war. As for the fear of invasion which has been raised,

Norman Thomas

he described it as little short of criminal.

In the House, the latest guessing is that the bill will pass, *and by a wide* ~~by a fat~~ majority. ~~A hundred or a hundred and a quarter. It might be even more, said Speaker Sam Rayburn.~~

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And the administration won its first skirmish today; ~~it was~~ on a vote limiting the time of debate. Without a dissenting voice, the House agreed that there should be no more than three days of general discussion.

The activities of the British Ambassador, Lord Halifax, were angrily debated on the floor of the House today. Republican Congressman Dirksen of Illinois, demanded an explanation of the unusual visits which Halifax had made to Capitol Hill. He called not only on Vice-President Wallace but on Senator George, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, and Congressman Sol Bloom, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee

of the House. If Halifax on those visits has made any important disclosures, Congress ought to hear about them, said Dirksen.

Chairman Bloom resented this. He said the only thing unusual about Halifax's visits was for the gentleman from Illinois to ask such a question. He said ~~that~~ Viscount Halifax had called at his office, didn't sneak in, everybody knew about it. And he then ^{told} ~~informed~~ the House that the principal subject of their conversation was about the exhibit of the ancient document of the Magna Carter at the World's Fair in New York. Halifax, he said, had also asked him about the time table of the bill to aid Britain.

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~~In answer to which~~ Bloom had explained to ^{the Ambassador} ~~him~~ the method of procedure followed in Congress. That, he said, was the secret

that the gentleman from Illinois wants to know about, the kind of secret he wanted the whole world to know. To which ^{Bloom} ~~he~~ added:-

"^{We} ~~They~~ don't carry on the deliberations of the House Foreign Affairs Committee behind closed doors." ^{And} That remark was greeted with a

burst of loud, rude guffaws of laughter from the Republican side of the House. ^{Congressman} Dirksen took up the cudgels again, ^{and} said he had asked

his question in the utmost sincerity. Then he submitted that

it was extraordinary and unusual for an ambassador to contact
the Chairman of a foreign affairs committee for the purpose of
discussing^a time table.
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FRANCE

At the behest of Herr Hitler, Pierre Laval is restored to power. Such is the report from Vichy. One rumor has it that he is to be President of an executive committee of three, a triumvirate to wield power under Marshal Petain. Another report has it that Laval will stay in Paris as liaison between Berlin and Vichy.

Admiral Darlan, Petain's Minister of the Navy, arrived in Paris by special train this morning and began his negotiations with Hitler's men for the reconstruction of the French government. He arrived on the heels of the news that a new pro-Nazi party had been organized in Paris, calling itself the National Unity Party. This National Unity Party got a round of cheers in the Nazi newspapers in Berlin. On the other hand a broadcast from Vichy repudiated this Committee of National Unity, said it was nothing but a bunch of Cagouards, meaning hooded ones, a name given to the pro-Nazis of ~~PERH~~ pre-war vintage. The Paris press, which is of course controlled by the Nazis, comes out in praise of this new so-called Unity Party.

Observers of the French political scene were saying

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today that old Marshal Petain has been playing his cards shrewdly with regard to Laval. By his Fabian methods of delay, they point out, he has brought into the open the extent to which Laval is a mere puppet in the hands of Hitler.

Word also comes from Paris that a hundred Parisian policemen have been arrested by the German Gestapo.

WAR

The
The ~~west coast of the~~ Red Sea is again in the spotlight
tonight.
~~of the news.~~ The British armies advancing from the Anglo-Egyptian
Sudan, *pushing deeper and ~~west~~ deeper*
~~are forging ahead every day closer to the Red Sea ~~through~~~~
into
through, Italian Eritrea. Their latest achievement is the capture

of Barentu, a fortified and strategic Italian post forty miles
east of the frontier. There was no keen fighting over Barentu,
the Italians evacuated and retreated in orderly fashion.

According to unofficial reports, they have no chance to escape.

Though they fall back in good order, the only place to which they
can retreat is the Red Sea. And their only chance of being rescued
would be a strong squadron of Italian transport planes, which
doesn't seem to be forthcoming.

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The British are ~~also~~ penetrating further and further

into Ethiopia. The latest is that they ~~were~~ chasing the Italians
toward Gondar and capturing huge stores of war materials and
ammunition.

And South African forces are advancing from Kenya.

Further north and west in Libya, Sir Archibald Wavell is

concentrating his forces for a final attack on Benghazi, the last

Italian stronghold in eastern Libya.

Among the latest raids of the British Royal Air Force was a bombing attack on Sardinia. ~~That's~~ a place *that* ~~which~~ hasn't been in the news ~~up~~ until now, ~~although people have been wondering why no attempt was made in that direction.~~ The R.A.F. dropped aerial torpedoes in the heart of that ancient island, where the Italians had built ~~a~~ a dam which made the largest artificial lake in Europe. It's from this dam and lake that the Sardinians get most of their water and power. The Royal Air Force is also keeping a keen watch on all the Nazi-held Channel ports.

DUNKIRK

An amusing story of war is told by Douglas Williams, an old friend of this broadcast. For years Douglas was New York correspondent with the London Daily Telegraph, and often gave us stories and bits of information. Now Douglas Williams has a high post in London -- in the British Ministry of Information. Last Spring and early summer he went through the battle of France, and saw that famous evacuation of Dunkirk. He has published a book about it, just out in the United States, called -- "The Retreat from Dunkirk."

One story is about a British force desperately besieged in the City of Arras. Yet, of course, the English tommies found a way to get in a game of football. In the muddy court yard they played with a zest, until somebody kicked the football over a wall, and away it went.

The next thing, beyond that wall an alarm, a bomb. Somebody over there spied a bomb, and a guard was posted around it -- to keep people away. Much excitement. Finally a French expert of high explosive appeared. He examined the sinister object. It was the football, muddy, with a wicked appearance -- looking very much like a bomb.

SUPREME COURT

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Today we had the most graphic illustration yet of the change that has come over the Supreme Court of the United States. In Nineteen Eighteen, the Justices then sitting handed down a famous decision, in the case of Hammer versus Dagenhart. It was a ruling that precipitated ~~many~~ storms of discussion and criticism, ~~all over the United States~~, a five-to-four verdict which declared that the law passed by Congress forbidding child labor was unconstitutional. That Hammer versus Dagenhart decision is now reversed, for a unanimous ruling today declares that the Wage-Hour Law, the most bitterly criticized of all New Deal reforms, is perfectly constitutional.

The Department of Justice had brought action against a labor company in Georgia and a group of small cotton mills. The Attorney General charged that those firms had broken the Wage-Hour Law, ^{by} refused ^{ing} to pay the minimum hourly wage, refused ^{ing} to pay time-and-a-half overtime. The companies fought the case ^{for} on the grounds that ~~hard, declared~~ the law was against the Constitution. A federal district court judge ~~down-south~~ agreed with the companies, ^{and} quashed

the indictments. Now the Supreme Court overrules the lower judges, and pronounces the law valid - without a dissenting voice.

There's legal history in today's decision, a decision of national importance to employers and employees.

MRS. R.

There seems to be a
~~Everybody has been talking about that~~ parting of the ways
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between the First Lady of the Land and the American Youth Congress.

~~It has been recalled that~~ last year Mrs. Roosevelt vigorously

championed the A.Y.C., denied that it was a Communist Front

She organization, attended the meetings, *and* made a speech to the delegates,
^ ^
and ~~even arranged for accommodations for them at some of the hotels.~~
to get accommodation at
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A dozen of them were even guests at the White House. But this

year she's not going to have anything to do with them, will have

no part *in* ~~of~~ their meetings at Washington next weekend. And she
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explained:

She agrees with them on many of the things they wish to see accomplished in this country, but not with their attitude on foreign policy. She considers a right attitude on ~~the~~ foreign policy important and more or less fundamental in order to achieve later on the things we ~~wish~~ wish to achieve in this country.

One questioner tried to pin her down *to saying* ~~with admitting~~
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that she has washed her hands of the American Youth Congress

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because she found out that it was a Communist mob. That she would not admit. But she acknowledges that she knows that some of the members are Communists who in turn influence others.

HERMIT

In Boise, Idaho, the folks blinked their eyes, and said, "Well, well, it must be Daniel Boone come to life."

There, walking down State Street in Boise was a tall, lean fellow, wearing a coonskin cap and a buckskin suit. Over his shoulder he carried a hand-made Flintlock rifle and a powder horn. At his heels trotted his dog, Hector.

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For nine years that young fellow, a University graduate by the way, had been living in a cabin on Five Mile Creek, north of Boise, in a region famous for ~~the~~ deer, antelope, and mountain sheep. For nine years the young fellow, Ambrose Hart, had been living in a cabin on Five Mile Creek, killing his own food, making his own clothes, and living on fifty dollars a year. For nine years he has been happy, cut off from the world. But he explained today that civilization had caught up with him. A modern road to ^a new mining development was too much for him. So out he had come with his Daniel Boone rifle to see what all the shouting and shooting's about -- and to help Uncle Sam if he's needed.

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59 1/4 And now Hugh, where do we go from here?