

L.T. SUNOCO - TUESDAY, JULY 2, 1940

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:-

Ever since President Roosevelt announced the appointment of Colonel Frank Knox to be his new Secretary of the Navy, and Henry L. Stimson for War Secretary, we've been waiting for their appearance before the Senate Committees.

~~those appointments, and incidentally to put the new nominees~~
~~on the griddle. It was~~ a novel situation, two Republicans,

or, as some members of the party would say, "ex-Republicans",

stepping up to be okayed by ^{Congressional} ^(made up) committees of mostly Democrats.

On that subject there was one polite exchange of words ^{today.}

It was between Senator Happy Chandler of Kentucky and Henry L.

Stimson. The Kentucky Senator told Stimson that when he joins

Mr. Roosevelt's Cabinet, he may have to give up his right to be

a Republican for the time being. To which Stimson replied:-

"Let me amend that, Senator - my right to be a vocal Republican,"
meaning his right to speak as a Republican.

One of the matters on which we hoped to be enlightened

in these hearings was the boiling question of a Third Term for

Mr. Roosevelt. When Knox and Stimson were appointed, some people

assumed that the President had assured them ~~that~~ he would not run

for a Third Term. So of course the Senators asked them both.

Stimson said ~~xx~~ that while he was discussing his nomination with

Mr. Roosevelt, the words "third term" were never mentioned at any

time. That's what he told the Senate Committee on Military

Affairs. The Committee on Naval Affairs asked Colonel Knox the

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same question and he replied frankly, yes, the matter had been discussed, between him and the President. Everybody in the room drew a deep breath as the next question was asked. Well, what did the President say? That question Knox declined to answer. But he did say that ~~it~~ there had been no commitment between him and the President about a possible third term.

Colonel Knox said that he would not approve of sending an army overseas. But he was in favor of all possible help to the British, short of war. And that, he added, did not mean direct aid by the government of the United States, but help from private industry in America. He explained further that he was in favor of helping the British not because of any particular love for Britain or love for France, but love for the United States, and because the defeat of Britain means that Hitler might next turn ~~his~~ toward America.

Senator Rush Holt of West Virginia asked him

what he thought about affairs in the Far East. "A strong policy", replied Knox, but he wasn't in favor of applying it now. And anyway, he didn't want to be dogmatic about it.

Then Senato^r Walsh^{of Kansas} asked him a question which brought

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out an ominous fact. Would he change his opinion if he knew, what the Committee knows, that the United States alone is not in any position to wage war in the Far East? That stumped Colonel Knox for a second and he hesitated and admitted it would make a considerable difference. Senator Walsh said that the Committee had had that information direct from American naval officers.

The senators were about to take a vote on Colonel Knox, a vote which would undoubtedly have been favorable, when Senator Holt of West Virginia spoke up again and threw sand in the works. He asked the Committee to take a recess until tomorrow and as a reason he gave a statement printed by a Washington columnist. Helen Essary of the WASHINGTON TIMES-HERALD had quoted Colonel Knox as being in favor of sending an American expeditionary force to Europe. Colonel Knox quickly explained

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that any such statement did not represent his views and it must have been a mistake. Nevertheless, the West Virginia Senator insisted that the Committee should heed Helen Essary. So just as the vote was about to go through, the Committee changed its mind and took a recess until tomorrow.

The examination of Henry Stimson by the Military Affairs Committee had its high spot too. That was when Stimson became the receiving end for a barrage of tart questions from Senator Taft of Ohio. It was particularly pointed because of family association. When Robert Taft was a youngster in Ohio, Henry L. Stimson was Secretary of War to President William Howard Taft. So when the Ohio Senator was firing one question after another at him, Stimson replied that he was glad to answer not only for reasons of courtesy but of heredity. Later on Stimson didn't appear to be quite so glad. He bridled to the point of accusing the son of his former Chief of unfair cross-examination.

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One question that Taft asked of Stimson appeared to be more or less hypothetical. If the only thing to save Britain would be our entry into the war, would Stimson favor it even though Hitler had not attacked us? To that Stimson replied carefully that he would favor it only if it would help our defensive position. Then he added, and these words I quote:-

"I am rather saddened that you of all persons should make such an

unfair deduction." And he went on to say, "at present our own protection involves the preservation of the British fleet. But three years from now it might not."

The Stimson attitude toward the European war can be summed up in this way. He favors any assistance to Britain that the United States can safely give -- and he emphasized "safely give" -- to guarantee Great Britain's keeping control of the North Atlantic.

Stimson's principal critic on the Committee was Senator Johnson of Colorado. He tried to make Stimson admit that he approved of stripping the defenses of the United States to help Great Britain. To that Stimson retorted that he objected to the word "strip" and said he had never heard of anybody advancing the idea of stripping America for the benefit of anybody else.

The Senate Committee finally decided to recommend the approval of Stimson's nomination by a vote of fourteen to three.

~~Republican Senator Thomas of Idaho, Farmer Labor Senator Lundeen
of Minnesota.~~

But before that vote was taken there was a closer fight in the ^e~~the~~ committee meeting. Several of the Senators wanted to subpoena Harry Woodring, who ~~and~~ suddenly resigned his job at the War Office in somewhat of a cloud of mystery. You will recall that there have been charges that Woodring had objected to sending American munitions to the British, ^{hence} ~~it was rumored that~~ ~~was why he~~ had resigned. It was to solve that mystery that some of the Senators wanted to subpoena Woodring. But, ~~that~~ was voted down eleven to five. The committee decided instead to write to Woodring and invite him to tell why he had resigned.—
~~That is,~~ if he wants to.

WHEELER

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A hat flies into the Democratic ring, the chapeaux of the Honorable Burton K. Wheeler, Senator from Montana. He'll be in the fight at the Chicago Convention for all he is worth, Roosevelt or no Roosevelt. ~~He~~ announced it in so many words today.

That offers a new excitement for the Chicago show.

Hitherto, the fighting Senator from Montana has said he would run for the presidency provided Mr. Roosevelt was out of the race.

But today at St. Louis Wheeler, declares ^{d that he's in the race.} ~~whether or not the~~

~~President becomes a candidate, he, Wheeler, will definitely~~

~~fight him for it.~~ However, he admitted by inference that he

didn't think he had much chance if Mr. Roosevelt wants the

nomination. But if the President does not run personally,

Wheeler thinks he stands a pretty good show to win. At the same

time, he believes that ^{F. D. R.} ~~the President~~ really has not actually made

up his mind yet.

WILLKIE

Another surprise from Candidate Wendell Willkie!

It astonishes not only the Republican Party but the whole country. The G.O.P. nominee has an idea for running his campaign that smashes all precedent ~~and example into smithereens~~. The idea is to have a general staff of three men to conduct the Republican fight.

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The Chairman of this Board will be a campaign manager. Cooperating with him will be the chairman of the Republican National Committee. But the Committee Chairman would be under the command of the campaign manager. The third member of the Board ~~xxx~~ would be a personal representative of Willkie himself. His part of the work would be rather special. It would be up to him to hustle out and round up groups of independent voters. No mean job at that, when you remember that the independent voters will decide the fatal day in November.

So far ~~xx~~ this is only an idea, not an accomplished fact. The squawks have not even begun to come in yet. One rather suspects that this announcement is in the nature of a trial balloon. If Willkie doesn't put his idea over, he will stick

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to the traditional plan of having his campaign run by the chairman of the Republican National Committee. Nobody knows who that is to be. Willkie's closest political friends are Sam Pryor, National Committeeman from Connecticut, and Harold Stassen, Governor of Minnesota. Stassen is up for reelection himself this year so he has to attend to his ^{Minnesota} knitting, ^{rather} ~~pretty~~ closely in his own state and couldn't take any important responsible job in the national campaign organization. Sam Pryor was one of

Willkie's most active lieutenants at Philadelphia. It has been whispered around the candidate's headquarters in New York that the job of rounding up the independent voters will be handed to Russell Davenport, ^{former} ~~He used to be~~ managing editor of FORTUNE Magazine ^{who} ~~and~~ threw up his job ~~of his own volition~~ to work for Willkie.

~~There's going to be a hot time in the old town of Elwood, Indiana, tonight. That's Willkie's home town, and Elwood is going to turn out en masse with a parade of every automobile in the place to ballyhoo Elwood's new favorite son.~~

RUMANIA

Unhappy Rumania tonight is in a state of almost complete turmoil. The actuality is bad enough, the rumors are worse.

One of the most ominous is the report that Hungarian soldiers have crossed the frontier into Transylvania, the region taken from Hungary by the Treaty of Versailles, which the Magyars have never forgotten or forgiven. But that's only a report.

also
~~There's~~ a rumor of a Nazi plot to dethrone King Carol.

But there's nothing official on that. ~~Heads There are~~ also tales of panic, disorder and insubordination in King Carol's army. ~~It was told~~ that many soldiers have disobeyed orders, defied their officers, and gone over to the Soviet armies of the invading Russians. But that we have to discount because it comes from Soviet newspapers in Moscow. ~~The correspondent of~~ ~~ISVESTIA, for instances, wires his paper there's utter~~ ~~demoralization among the Rumanian forces:~~

~~The actuality is that deputies in the Hungarian Parliament made fiery speeches against Rumania. The gist of them was, "Let's ~~take~~ take by force what rightfully belongs to us."~~

~~On the other hand, the general mobilization of the Hungarian~~

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~~army, that was reported yesterday, has been postponed. The~~

The
Foreign Minister of Rumania announced publicly that King
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Carol's government had been advised by all friends and Allies to give in to the request of Russia for the surrender of Bessarabia and northern Bukavina. He didn't mention which friends and allies had so advised him. The Foreign Minister ended up his speech with a cry, "Long live King Carol and his dynasty!"

Then there was a riot at Galatz, an oil shipping port on the Danube River. The trouble was made by dock hands who wanted to return to their homes in Bessarabia. Police and soldiers fired on the rioters and three hundred of those dock hands were killed.

There was also a rumor that the Rumanian government had received concrete help from Hitler in the shape of two hundred bombers and large quantities of other war supplies. However, it is also explained that there's nothing out of the ordinary in this. It's in fulfilment of the trade treaty between Rumania and Berlin, under which the Nazis send planes and munitions in payment for oil.

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NOUMORA

And here's a story from Tokyo that should interest us.

A high ranking Japanese officer is about to pay a visit to the Philippines. This was publicly announced. That high ranking Japanese officer is no less than Admiral Noumora, who until recently was Foreign Minister and is now a member of the Supreme War Council of the Mikado's empire. He's going to visit first the Japanese mandated islands in the Carolines. Then he is going to Davao, where the Japanese have a huge colony, owning almost an entire province.

INTRO TO MR. HENRY

With ^Q~~the~~ World War going on, cities being bombed, ships torpedoed, and talk of big guns putting down a barrage at a distance of forty miles,~~at~~ it may seem insignificant to speak about the dangers of the Fourth of July -- firecrackers and traffic accidents.

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Still, we have frequently been told that far more people are killed in time of peace than in time of war, that is, more lose their lives in accidents than from wounds in battle. And, tonight I have invited the President of the American Automobile Association to tell us some things we should keep in mind over this long Fourth of July weekend.

Thomas P. Henry, President of the American Automobile Association. Mr. Henry, how can we cut down the toll of Fourth of July accidents?

MR. HENRY AND L.T.

MR. HENRY:- Well, Lowell, do you mind if I first mention what you have already referred to? Much of the news that you flash to us each night deals with the tragic waste of life and resources, the havoc of war. We Americans have been lucky to have escaped much of the on-rush of this devastating war that has spread around the globe. But, the loss of life in our own country, especially during Fourth of July week is something we should stop and think about. Every year hundreds of lives are lost, and thousands are injured in Fourth of July accidents.

AND the thought I want to put over tonight in the moment you have given to me is just this: Virtually every traffic accident analyzed by the American Automobile Association shows us that thoughtlessness and carelessness was the cause. I haven't time ~~to even~~ ^{to} enumerate the simple rules for care and caution. But, I would like to urge every driver and every pedestrian to take special care ^{over the} of Fourth of July. And, ~~even though I am the President of the American Automobile Association,~~ speaking just as a father ^{with} a family, let's all do something to hold down the number of accidents from fireworks.

(continued)

(cont.) Many thanks to you, Lowell, and to your Sun Oil -
Blue Sunoco sponsors who are allowing me to call this to the
attention of your millions of listeners.

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AFTER MR. HENRY

Words of wisdom, Mr. Henry, and here are some others with which you may agree. The New York State Commission for the Blind warns people about fireworks. There are no such things, says the Commission, as harmless fireworks. And that Commission ought to know. It says many of the people now blind lost their eyesight from the so-called harmless fireworks.

And on that not so cheerful note let's say

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