

STORM

R.I. - ~~News~~ *Friday, Sept. 30, 1939*

It's lucky that tonight we ~~can't say~~ *are not saying* - just one

hurricane after another. The Northeastern seaboard of the United States has been cleaning up and repairing the damage caused last week by that tropical tempest from the West Indies. And today once ~~xx~~ more from the sea a big wind came howling. ~~The~~ And some folks, anticipating the worst, said - just one hurricane after another. But it isn't that. It's just another storm, the commonplace kind - the sort of gale with which our northern Atlantic coast is long familiar.

The United States Weather Bureau announces that a heavy tempest is raging out at sea, the fringe of the wind ~~xx~~ *only a* sweeping the coast. ~~A~~ *hit at over a* forty mile gale, while the hurricane ~~blow as hard as a~~ *and* hundred miles an hour, ~~Today's~~ storm is not sweeping inland, as did the tropical blast.

~~It is x)~~ merely blowing along the coast. Still a forty mile gale is enough to disrupt the job of fixing up after the hurricane of last week.

DEMOCRATS

So (the "Draft Lehman" drive succeeded after all, in spite of all the Governor had said -- that he absolutely would not run. This afternoon the New York Democrats convention renominated him with a roar. So he's drafted. And, he has consented to run.)

His running mate, for Lieutenant-Governor, is to be his old friend and former counsel, Supreme Court Justice Charles Poletti of New York City -- put on the ticket to win the support of the American Labor Party. Justice Poletti is close to the labor organization - he represented its cause at the recent New York State Constitutional Convention. It is also said that the Poletti nomination for Lieutenant -Governor on the Democratic ticket is likely to win the support of New York's Mayor LaGuardia.

That mkes one wonder a bit. LaGuardia is a Republican, elected Mayor on a Fusion ticket - running with Tom Dewey - but then LaGuardia has been regarded by many as highly mercurial, in a political sense - not to be counted on so far as party lines are concerned. And he is closely affiliated with the American Labor Party. Still the Republican candidate for Governor is Thomas E. Dewey - the racket-busting District Attorney, who was elected on

the same ticket with LaGuardia. So we perceive the paradoxical possibility of Republican Mayor LaGuardia campaigning for the Democratic candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, while the Republican candidate for Governor is his own colleague, the dynamic District Attorney Tom Dewey. It seems strange, but then what could be stranger than politics?

RAILROADS

The Railroad Fact Find Board^{ing} met today. And, searching for facts, it got a lot of arguments. The railroads are demanding a fifteen percent wage cut, and the unions are opposing it. *Hence all the* ~~So you can see the cause for~~ argument.

The chief counsel for the railroads' joint conference committee told the board that the railroads face disaster unless their nine hundred thousand employees take the fifteen percent cut. He said that wages are unreasonably high, since railroad business is twenty percent lower than last year - and added that a quarter of a million railroad employees have lost their jobs because the companies didn't have the money to pay them the high wage scale.

To this the representatives of the union respond, saying that wages are not too high, and that what's needed is not a pay slash but a national program for coordinating the railroad business.

~~The fact finding board was appointed by President Roosevelt in an effort to avoid a national railroad strike. So it's listening to arguments to find facts.~~

GENERAL.

A retiring General of the United States Army made a statement today and instantly he was answered by the Secretary of War. Sounds as if it might be a controversy?-- **and it sure is.**

Major-General George Van Horn Moseley who has been commander of the Fourth Corps area today retired from active service. The moment he got out of the Army he took a lively crack at the Government. ~~He~~ said that twenty-six million people are now getting Government money -- some kind of relief or other. He called this Federal paternalism and added that if it went on it would lead to dictatorship. "The public debt is growing so fast it is becoming a public menace," quote the General. And he thereupon described the present Government policies in these words:-

"An indigestible mass of untried theories." And he added ~~these~~ further: ~~words:~~ "Visionary experiments doomed to failure!"

When the news got to Secretary of War Woodring, he bristled with indignation. He described General Moseley's

attack -- as "flagrantly disloyal." He explained it this way:

"Because," said the Secretary, "he was disappointed in his ambition to become chief of staff of the American armies, Major-General Moseley has celebrated his retirement from military service by assailing the Federal Government, and by inference attacking his Commander-in-Chief."

UN-AMERICAN.

(The Nazis in the United States were raked over the coals again today before the committee investigating un-American activities.) Investigator John C. Metcalf, who got into the German-American Bund as a member, testified that Nazi propaganda was issued in support of the American Federation of labor. That seems hardly such a heinous crime, talking up the A. F. of L. but then the testimony got around to the always interesting subject of money.

(Witness Metcalf referred to the statement of Bund leader Fritz Kuhn that his outfit has only sixty-five hundred members and that they are poor people. Strange, said the witness - because the Bund has spent nearly twenty-five thousand dollars for three camps alone.) "The fact is," swore Metcalf, "that Kuhn has planned to spend two million dollars for the construction of a building in or near New York City." The two million dollar building to be the headquarters of the Nazi German-American Bund. Also - the Bund intended to buy two thousand acres of land near the Canadian border.

The inference of all this ~~many~~ money testimony is -

where is the cash coming from? And that points back to

previous intimations that certain Fascist - minded ^{capitalists} ~~industrialists~~ *have been* ~~were~~ supporting the Nazi movement.

Meanwhile, the German Embassy has come out with a denial that the German diplomatic service over here has anything to do with the German-American Bund. So said Ambassador ~~Bischoff~~ Dieckhoff today to under-secretary Sumner Welles. He utterly denies.

EUROPE.

52
When Europe goes in for something, it certainly does plunge a hundred percent. A couple of days ago, the nations across the Atlantic were going for war in a big way, a hundred percent plunge right down to the depths of disaster. Now, having reversed themselves completely, they are having an orgy of peace. In an unrestrained way going after peace just as wildly as they were hot after war. They don't do things by halves over there.

(After the Big Four signed their agreement yesterday, and signed away Czechoslovakia while doing it - Prime Minister Chamberlain and Fuehrer Hitler had another meeting today. And they issued a statement that Great Britain and Germany would never go to war.) They told the world that the Czech^oslovak agreement was a symbol of just that, permanent peace between the two countries. They mentioned the British-German Naval Pact of nineteen thirty as also being a symbol of that same eternal friendship. We seem to remember that the British Naval Pact made France very angry at the time, but ~~they~~ then why ^{bring that up,} ~~call it~~ something like that, when everything is so sweet and lovely? Not only will Great Britain and Germany never go to war, but

EUROPE - 2.

they're also going to confer with each other on all International problems that arise.

The British Prime Minister confirmed yesterday's report that the Four Power negotiations had included more than the Czechslovak settlement, that they opened the way to negotiate for a general European system of peace. There ^{are} to be ~~some~~ more Four Power confer^{ences} ~~ences~~ on a larger scale, with an ambitious attempt to work out a pact whereby Great Britain, Germany, France and Italy would guarantee the peace of Europe.

The only fly in the peaceful ointment tonight is some slight misgiving about what the Poles are going to do. The brethren in Warsaw are not joining in ^{all this} ~~the~~ harmonious uplift ^{movement} with any spirit of abandonment. They ^{Poles are} ~~are~~ still breathing threats of war, say they'll invade the Teschen district tomorrow. The ^{ing} Czechslovak^s turned down the Polish ultimatum demanding a slice of Czechslovakia; and Warsaw is saying: "Let the soldiers march!" It would be a very buzzing and pesky fly in the ointment of peace if unfortunate Czechslovakia suffered a Polish invasion tomorrow. The Germans marching in unresisted and taking what

has been conceded to them, and the Poles storming in with a
~~an~~ warlike attack. However, it may still be that Warsaw will
not spoil the love feast quite so rudely and will have to be
content with the Four Power agreement which guarantees a
plebiscite in the Czechoslovak section claimed by Poland.

(The latest news
~~Tomorrow news will~~ tell us about German soldiers
trouping jubilantly across the Czechoslovak border and taking
possession of the fringes of territory assigned for the first
days occupation.) It ~~is~~ "Heil," and "Sieg Heil," all over
the place, one of those noisy Nazi carnivals with maybe Hitler
having another one of those triumphal entries for himself,
standing in the back of a car, ~~and sticking~~ his arm out in the
Nazi salute.

Czechslovakia dismembered in peace, also in pieces, with
maybe some warlike dismemberment, if the Poles should decide to
be mean and nasty.

CONGRATULATIONS.

5
Today was a day of congratulations for the four authors of the Four Power agreement. It is true that Czechoslovakia isn't doing much congratulating. (There is plenty of bitter feeling ~~at~~ Prague, the bitterness of enforced surrender. Czech crowds staged demonstrations today - in anger and protest. And, the Soviets are not wiring felicitations or sending flowers. They're calling the Peace Pact a sellout. But the rest of the world ^{seems to be} ~~is~~ happy about it all.) And in London, Paris, Rome and Berlin, today was a day of hymns of praise for Chamberlain, Daladier, Mussolini and Hitler. However, let's make note of a burst of cheers, not for any one of those statesmen - but for somebody else.

Today a woman well past middle life, came out of her house and ~~found~~ found the street thronged with people, who greeted her with shouts of acclaim. She was Mrs. Neville Chamberlain, wife of the Prime Minister of Great Britain. The word had got out that she intended to take a walk in St. James's Park. And that brought people thronging to Number ~~Ten~~ Ten Downing Street, the Prime Minister's home. ~~Tix~~ They cheered her to the echo.

CONGRATULATIONS - 2.

"Well done" the crowd sang out to her - "You have a grand old man." Mrs. Chamberlain tried to take her walk in St. James's Park, but had to cut it short - because everywhere she was recognized ^{and} ~~the~~ crowds gathered to applaud her. On her way back, a chorus of women surrounded her and sang, "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow".

That experience of Mrs. Neville Chamberlain today is the most telling sign of all - telling, shouting how overjoyed England is to be free of the horror of war.

(When the Prime Minister himself returned to England, an immense crowd received him with roaring cheers.) And on the London stock exchange today, the traders broke into a shout - "Three cheers for Chamberlain" and then in their jubilation they proceeded to bid prices up all over the place. Prices soared in all the great money markets of the world - our own Wall Street included.

(In Paris today one of the great French newspapers started a subscription to buy a house in France for Prime Minister Chamberlain.) The Paris *Soir* said: "It's to be a small, simple

CONGRATULATIONS - 3.

house near some River, because he likes fishing." The newspaper proposes that the French home to be given to Chamberlain be called - "The House of Peace", and further suggests that the land on which it stand be granted extra-territoriality, meaning virtually - British soil within France.

(When French Premier Daladier returned to his office in Paris, he found it simply crammed with flowers, his desk was heaped with telegrams and cables of congratulations.) In Italy, crowds roared for Mussolini, that repeat chorus of "Duce, Duce!"

(Naturally, the Italian Fascists are acclaiming the decisive part Mussolini played, in his last minute intervention with Hitler.) They say the Duce did the trick.

One interesting angle is the part President Roosevelt played. It develops now that in addition to his message to Mussolini, asking him to appeal to Hitler - the President sent a whole string of similar messages to various nations.) He communicated with the Governments of Japan, Brazil, Norway, etcetra asking them to appeal to Hitler for peace. A sort of round the world round robbin - with the Mussolini message just

CONGRATULATIONS - 4.

8

one of a whole lot. In fact, (it appears that, while the President's message was being sent to Rome, Mussolini was already making his fateful telephone call to Hitler, and the Four Power Peace Conference was already agreed upon.) The word from Rome is that when American Ambassador Phillips took the Presidential message to the Duce, the telephone call to Hitler had ~~just~~ been completed. And our Ambassador, upon arriving, was the first diplomat to be told about it. He communicated with Washington at once, and thereupon in Washington the President's message to Mussolini was made public. So the quick inference was that the F. D. R. plea to the Duce helped to bring about the momentous telephone call from Rome to Berlin. The coincidence was almost perfect. ~~another of these flashes of Roosevelt's luck.~~

8 1/2

One story gaining currency tells us that a decisive part in the whole business was played by the King of Italy and the Pope. The British asked Mussolini to intervene, and they were powerfully supported by King Victor Emanuel and Pope Pius. The report says that the Italian King threatened to abdicate,

if Mussolini didn't step in, straighten things out and avert a World War. If this is true then much of the credit should go to the forgotten King -- King Victor Emanuel.

Well -- maybe there's credit enough for all, and

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.