

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Neutrality Bill reached the floor of the United States Senate today, after the Foreign Relations Committee had completed the job of considering it, tinkering around with it and fixing it up. The Committee's labors were slowed down a bit, while various protests and representations were considered and debated. There was one protest, however, which was not considered or debated apparently -- a protest of a couple of ladies.

In the capital, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee was holding its meeting, when along came Katharine Curtis, Chairman of the Women's National Committee To Keep the United States Out Of War. I suppose alphabetically speaking, you could call this feminine organization the W-N-C-T-K-T-U-S-O-O-W. With the Chairman of all those letters, was Laura Ingalls, the airplane pilot. Ladybird Laura Ingalls made the front page the other day by flying over the White House and turning loose a shower of peace pamphlets. The Civil Aeronautics Authority didn't like this at all, and Ladybird

Laura got somewhat in dutch with them. Not a bit disconcerted, however, she appeared today with Katharine Curtis, Chairman of the W-N-C-T-K-T-U-S-O-O-W at the door of the Committee room, behind which closed door the Neutrality Bill was being considered.

The two ladies tried to get in and tell the Committee a thing or two about neutrality and keeping out of the war. But the cops wouldn't let them. Whereupon Ladybird Laura cried with high indignation:- "Imagine - holding hearings behind closed doors! This is a dictatorship already." They never did get in.

Meanwhile behind the closed door, which refused to open, The Senate Foreign Relations Committee was considering the other protests. The chief one was from the American shipping interests. The Committee made some concessions. The bill they turned out provides that American ships shall be permitted to trade with belligerent ports in the American waters of the Atlantic. According to that bill, American vessels will be allowed to go to such places as Canada, Bermuca and the British and French West Indies. This same applies to American airlines, and the sky servides have still further latitude.

American airliners will be permitted to go to possessions that belligerent nations own in the Pacific -- French and British colonies in the Pacific Ocean.

Senator Clark of Missouri gave an explanation of this. He said the Foreign Relations Committee considered the Pacific Ocean to be an American Lake. Yes? An American Lake, says the Mikado? I mean the Foreign Relations Committee.

Otherwise the Neutrality Bill follows the lines we've been hearing so much about. It incorporates President Roosevelt's request that the arms embargo be lifted. And it includes the cash-and-carry policy.

Tonight the bill is before the Senate as a whole, and the time for debate is at hand -- plenty of debate, apparently.

EUROPE

The focus of European news tonight is Moscow - strange how the Soviet capital is becoming the center of interest and speculation, and importance. (Hitler's Foreign Minister <sup>von</sup> Ribbentrop is being lavishly entertained - the festivities climaxing <sup>with</sup> a banquet given to him by Red Dictator Stalin and Soviet Foreign Commissar Molotov.) Nobody knows what schemes the Soviet chiefs and Hitler's plenipotentiary are hatching - but the worst is feared, <sup>maybe</sup> an official Hitler-Stalin war alliance, with the partitioning of eastern Europe between Germany and Russia, the Nazi and Communist powers dividing the small nations between them. Many surmise that Stalin is getting <sup>the</sup> a lion's share, ~~that he's in the driver's seat.~~

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(The latest Soviet menace points to the little Baltic Republic of Esthonia,) and tonight Esthonia seems to be at the vortex of danger. A couple of Soviet ships have been attacked by submarines, and Moscow is blaming Esthonia. Not that that small nation has any undersea fleet - the Soviets are saying that Esthonia harbored the submarine or submarines that did the attacking. Perhaps it may be the Polish undersea boat that got away, the story of whose escape we heard some days ago. Anyway, Moscow is making demands on Esthonia, and that small nation is in desperate fear of being gobbled up by the Red Bear.

WARSAW

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There is confusion about the status of Warsaw. The Germans after announcing the surrender yesterday are saying today that the formal occupation by Hitler's troops will ~~be~~ probably ~~take~~ take place tomorrow. Polish sources in Paris say that the city has not been surrendered, ~~in~~ but that negotiations for the capitulation are likely to take place tomorrow. Those Polish sources in Paris say that the civilians in Warsaw are demanding a surrender, because supplies of food and water are almost exhausted and they face starvation and thirst. It would seem that the defense of the brave and stricken Polish capital is at an end, although there is some uncertainty about the technicalities of surrender.

The Germans on their part, <sup>declare</sup> ~~say~~ that a great Polish fortress near Warsaw yielded to Hitler's army today.

BRITISH NAVY

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Once again today a flat and downright contradiction -- German claim and British denial. Berlin announces officially today that <sup>X</sup> German war planes bombed a British heavy cruiser and hit it. The Nazi dispatch specifies that the sky attack took place in Scottish waters near the Firth of Forth -- that's the site of a great British Naval Base. A five hundred and fifty pound bomb hit the heavy cruiser <sup>with</sup> ~~in~~ a terrific explosion -- that's another specific claim made by the Germans. The British respond with a complete and categorical denial saying no such attack had taken place -- sheer nonsense says London.

Yesterday's contradiction continued today -- the German assertion and the British denial <sup>al</sup> ~~is~~ that the Hitler air squadron sank a great airplane carrier and damaged a battleship. Berlin now names the airplane carrier as -- "The Arc Royal". And Nazi dispatches today taunted the British with -- "where is the Arc Royal?" To which the British announce <sup>unofficially</sup> ~~is~~ -- that the Arc Royal is

safe, sound and undamaged -- and, now is at the position to which it is assigned by Admiralty orders.

We Americans have been plentifully warned how false war claims are likely to be. Today's story repeats yesterday's account ~~and~~ of rival statements so completely contradictory <sup>that it's all</sup> ~~it is rather~~ amazing.

## BANKERS

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The danger of the United States being drawn into the war was considered from a financial standpoint today. Robert M. Hanes, the newly elected President of the American Bankers Association, told what war would probably do to the public debt, In addressing the bankers' convention at Seattle, he reminded the financiers that right now the public debt of the United States stands at forty-five billion dollars. "If," said he, "we are drawn into the war now raging in Europe, it may well go up to eighty billion."

And he raised the question - "Could this nation carry and pay off a public debt so huge without danger to our democratic system?"

Might not the government have to take such power as to put us in peril of dictatorship. "Remember," declared the new President of the Bankers Association, "it was the staggering economic burden which was ~~based~~ <sup>placed</sup> on Germany, that made Hitler possible."

We frequently hear that x if we get into the war we may lose our democracy. From the viewpoint of the financier, that danger might come through an eighty billion dollar public debt.



EMPLOYMENT

( This evening we have ~~some~~ figures that show a recent and consistent decline in unemployment. During the month of August, the number of jobless decreased <sup>by</sup> four and three-tenths per cent. So says the National Industrial Conference Board. )

It is worth while to take a look at the figures that tell the story of unemployment, that evil which we know to be so menacing. At the height of the boom era, in Nineteen Twenty-Nine, there were in this country four hundred and sixty-nine thousand people unemployed, less than half a million. In the depth of the depression, in Nineteen Thirty-Eight, the unemployment total was more than fourteen million and seven hundred thousand, <sup>— rising</sup> toward fifteen million. After various ups and downs, the figure in August of last year was ten million ~~and~~ six hundred thousand. Coming down to this year, the summer just passed - the month of July gave an unemployment figure of nine million, eight hundred and fifty-two thousand. ~~That figure~~ <sup>it has</sup> now ~~has~~ decreased to nine million, four hundred and twenty-four thousand. ( The National Industrial Conference attributes the <sup>recent</sup> decline in unemployment to a general upswing in business, and <sup>some</sup> ~~much~~ of this can probably be laid to the war in Europe. )

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BERGDOLL

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The trial of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll brought the draft dodger's two children to the witness stand today -- a twelve year old boy and a eleven year old girl. The testimony of the youngsters corroborated Bergdoll's story that of the nineteen years since his escape he spent seven years in the United States -- though he was thought to be a fugitive abroad. The defense lawyers in the <sup>military trial</sup> ~~middle of the trial~~ are making a point of this, because it has a technical bearing on their claim that the charges of desertion and escape against Bergdoll are outlawed by the statute <sup>t</sup> ~~of~~ limitations.

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LEGION

The American Legion chose its new National Commander today. He is Raymond J. Kelly of Detroit, ~~and he is~~ a Corporation Counsel. During the war he was in the artillery and served nearly a year in France -- coming back home as a Lieutenant in command of a coast artillery battery. During succeeding years, he has risen high in the affairs of the American Legion, and now takes its highest position -- the Twenty<sup>not</sup>Fifth National Commander.

BASEBALL

The battle at Cincinnati ended today in weird fashion.

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The Reds won the game and captured the pennant with a display of fantastic baseball. Big Paul Derringer turned the trick. He's an ace pitcher, but his assortment of curves and fast balls was not so ace high today. The freakish thing is that he won the game by a fairly tight score - five to three. The slugging St. Louis Cards slugged Derringer all over the place - got fourteen hits. In only one inning, the last, was the Cincinnati star able to hold the Cards without a hit. Yet, though they slammed him plenty, he ~~got~~ kept them from scoring. He was knocked around, until the pinch came, and then he bore down. He was there in the clutch, as the ball players say.)

In the seventh inning the St. Louis batters made four hits, but ~~Derringer bore down~~ and they couldn't score a run. <sup>TP</sup> So it's all over. Each team has three games to play, and if the Reds should lose a hundred per cent and the Cards should win by a similar figure - Cincinnati could still win the pennant, by the margin of half a game. To complete the freakishness

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Paul Crosley's ball players have climbed from last place to the pennant in 2 years.

Today a slogan was sounded. The ringing proclamation goes this way:- "Our battle now is against moderate drinking," it says. That sounds like a fitting shibboleth for the ancient and bibulous order of "old soaks". They're agin moderate drinking too.

~~Nothing of the sort.~~ <sup>However the</sup> The slogan was sounded today at the Convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, meeting at Rochester. The President of the W.C.T.U. is Miss Ida B. Wise Smith. She says, "Be wise and don't drink at all," *Smith.*

~~Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith~~ <sup>She</sup> told fifteen hundred Temperance Union Delegates that the boys who drink a little bit all the time are a menace. So therefore Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith sounded the slogan, "Our battle now is against moderate drinking." To which the old soak responds, "Hic, hic, ~~amen, amen~~ <sup>Hooray!</sup> He agrees."

## SHEEP

This evening we have a scientific report on the uses and benefits of counting sheep. The report is this: Counting sheep is an excellent way of discovering how many rams and ewes there are in the pasture, but that's all. It's no cure for insomnia, doesn't help you to go to sleep. Quite the contrary. It helps the insomniac person to stay awake.

This revolutionary doctrine was propounded by Dr. Louis Karnosh in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The doctor, moreover, comes forward with the glad news -- that insomnia is not such a bad thing after all. He should tell that to the guy who's rolling around in bed after four A.M.!

The doctor declares that most sorts of insomnia don't hurt your health or cause any loss of weight or vitality. It's just a loss of sleep.

If, in spite of these reassuring words, you should not enjoy those sleepless nights, the doctor tells you what to do about it. He says you should lie down, let your muscles relax, let your thoughts wander where they will, and don't do any mental exercise.

Above all -- don't count sheep!

MARRIED

5.8  
If a romantic young couple have their honeymoon interrupted by some unexpected event, it's only natural that they should want to renew it later on, although it might be much later on, as much maybe as seventy-eight years later on. That seems to be the case with Mr. and Mrs. George Goben of Lucas, Iowa. Their honeymoon was interrupted by the Civil War, and now they're resuming it during the days of the second World War.

~~Out in~~ Hollywood, ~~they~~ held a nationwide contest to find the longest married couple in the United States. The result of the contest was unexpectedly fortunate. They found a <sup>husband and</sup> ~~couple~~ <sub>^</sub> <sup>wife each</sup> <sub>^</sub> ninety-three years ~~old each, who have been uninterruptedly~~ married for seventy-eight years. Not only that, <sup>but</sup> ~~they had found that~~ <sub>^</sub> these two were on their honeymoon in Eighteen Sixty-One, when the Civil War call to the boys in blue, compelled them to hurry home. So now the contest turns into a long delayed renewal of that interrupted honeymoon of so many years ago.

As a romantic close for this romantic story, we are told that Mr. and Mrs. Goben will make a trip to New York and there they will attend the premier of a motion picture feature



which is appropriately named - "Eternally Yours."

I suspect the Hollywood press agent has a hand in all this, ~~ix~~ but then the European war press agents are grabbing so much space with their propaganda, that - why not give the Hollywood space-grabber<sup>s</sup> a break! *And a-l-u-t-m.*

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