

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The trouble between Haiti and Santo Domingo was brought to our own doorstep today, when the Foreign Minister of Haiti and the Haitian Minister to the United States made personal representations to the State Department in Washington -- presented their case before Sumner Wells who is Acting Secretary of State, during the Canadian trip of Secretary Cordell Hull.

Is that West Indian disturbance any of our business?

Yes, says Acting Secretary Sumner Welles. Today he put it on the basis of that South American trip which President Roosevelt made some time ago -- the big Pan-American get-together at Buenos Aires. He pointed out that the Pan-American treaties signed make any threat of war between any American republics the business of all the American republics -- ourselves included.

So let's take a look at that West Indian flare-up, which promises to concern us today. Or rather, let's take a look at the Haitian side of it -- for that was presented in Washington today in

lurid colors. (The Haitian officials, calling at the State Department -- charged that several thousand Haitians had been killed by Dominicans. "Massacre", said they, "is the only word that can be used adequately to characterize such wholesale butchery." They declare that on the border of the two republics, Dominican soldiers machine-gunned the Haitians, clubbed them to death, threw some of them into the sea, burned others with gasoline -- a hideous reign of terror, claims Haiti.

It's a frontier incident. Small, crowded Haiti tends to push over into big and uncrowded Santo Domingo)-- Haitians drifting across the border. And that border drift has caused the present trouble, the Dominican frontier guards trying to keep the Haitians from coming in. Hence, the flare-up of shooting and violence. It's an explosive basket of trouble for our doorstep.

## TREATIES

We hear today that the United States participation in the Nine-Power Conference is merely - a first step. This was said by Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain in London. First step toward what? The Prime Minister declared that it's the first and most valuable step of President Roosevelt to enforce the sanctity of treaties. Well, there'll be a lot of enforcing. Meanwhile, the Brussels Conference is still deadlocked.

CHINA

( Today's defeat of the Chinese at Shanghai is an affair of strategy. The Chinese fought magnificently, beating back attacks on their lines. They lost because of position -- outflanked. They had to abandon Shanghai completely. That occurred today, ) and tonight the Japanese are on all sides of the City, the Chinese army retreating so fast it threatens to break up, demoralized -- a rout. The generals are trying to hold it together to dig in for a stand further back. Meanwhile, large forces of Chinese didn't get away fast enough and are trapped in the Pootung section. There they are determined to battle it out to the death, no surrender -- more suicide squads, battalions of the doomed.

( Military observers are wondering what the Japanese will do next, if the Chinese retreat goes on. Will they be satisfied with Shanghai and draw their lines some distance beyond the city - and stay there? Or will they strike on deeper in China, threatening Nanking perhaps? )

In northern China, too, the story is victory for Japan tonight. The troops of the Mikado have captured the important city of Taiyuan, for which they had been battling in a long drawn out fight. And in the north, too, the story is desperate Chinese bravery. The large garrison of Taiyuan is said to have been annihilated in the capture of the city. They fought to the end, the troops <sup>once a</sup> ~~that used to be~~ part of the Red army of China.

KONOYE

Several months ago we had as guest speaker on this Blue Sunoco program, a young Japanese who is a student at Princeton. He had in fact just been nominated as captain of the Princeton Golf Team. He was the junior Prince Konoye, son of the Prime Minister of Japan. I thought at the time that it might mean something for better Japanese-American relations -- the son of the head of the Tokyo government studying at Princeton. That was before the outbreak of war between Japan and China with its consequent straining of Japanese-American relations.

Today what do we find -- young Prince Konoye, the Princeton golf captain calling at the White House and submitting to President Roosevelt a personal letter from his father the Prime Minister -- a message of good will from Japan, a gesture of friendship in the present crisis. President Roosevelt, announced that he was "gratified". There's no further indication of the contents of the message. But we can once more reflect on the possible diplomatic benefit in the present Far Eastern trouble of having the son of Japan's Prime Minister a student at Princeton.

## ROOSEVELT

One of the most interesting bits of conversation I've listened to in a long time comes to mind this evening, as we go along to this next item of news. The chat I had was with Ex-President Hoover, and the news concerns President Roosevelt.

The former President was discussing the great weight of work borne by the Chief Magistrate of the United States, And today we find President Roosevelt telling his secretaries to go easy on appointments -- don't make a lot of engagements for the next several weeks. With Congress opening next Monday, it's a busy time for the man who lives in the White House. It hasn't been decided yet whether the President will appear in person before Congress when the new session begins on Monday. His special message will be read, and he may do it himself -- as he has done before. Or he may let it go in a more ordinary fashion -- with the clerk reading his special message.

When I talked with Ex-President Hoover, he said that when he got into that whirlwind of work in the White House -- he was curious to know just how busy other presidents had been in times gone by. So he investigated a bit, and found that in the old

days, the presidential job was much lighter -- as recently as the days of Theodore Roosevelt. He said he found the great T.R. seldom spent more than two hours a day in the executive office and sometimes didn't show up at all.

Then Herbert Hoover went on to tell how, when he took office, he was plagued with a lot of -- Indian wills. Every will an Indian made had to be signed and attested by the President the Indian being a word of the nation and the President being the Great White Father. Mr. Hoover said that all the documents he had to sign ran as high as two thousand a day.

He went to the Attorney General and asked -- couldn't the President of the United States make a power of attorney just as any ordinary citizen can? The Attorney General was shocked -- most unconventional, no precedent for it. But he finally had to admit that he could discover no legal reason why the idea wouldn't work. So President Hoover executed a power of attorney, which gave some of the department heads the right to sign those Indian Wills in lieu of the President.

All this comes to mind as this evening we find Mr.

Roosevelt telling his secretaries to go easy on making appointments. Today the President issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation , telling us what we have reason to be thankful for -- peace while other nations are at war. Thursday is Armistice Day so in solemn ceremony the President will lay a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Next Friday he'll attend a big event, the National Press Club Dinner. On Saturday he'll make a radio speech about the unemployment census. Monday Congress opens, and he may or may not deliver his special message in person.

On the Seventeenth, a radio pseech from Mount Vernon.

On the Twenty-Fifth, Thanksgiving Day ceremonies at the Infantile Foundation at Warm Springs, December Eleventh, the Gridiron Club Banquet and so on.

STRIKE

The Hudson Motor Car strike has been settled. Just announced. Eleven thousand workers in a walk-out -- now they go back on the job.

BANKER

A judge in Kansas City said today he was sorry to impose sentence, but he had to. The banker on trial had done brave things to pull the bank through <sup>the depression.</sup> He had used his own money to keep it from going on the rocks. And so he had saved the bank until recovery came. Then in better times, with the bank flourishing in fine shape, he embezzled, ~~it~~ stole forty-four thousand dollars from it, robbed the bank he had saved. "Just a good man gone wrong," said the judge regretfully, as he had to impose a two-year sentence. *Came through the Depression - couldn't stand Prosperity.*

LIQUOR

The enemies of demon rum seem to have an idea out in California. At Berkley, the representatives of sixty-two churches demand that if anybody is hurt by a drunken driver, why let the liquor interests pay for it. They propose that a special tax be put on the hard stuff to build a fund, the fund to be used to pay the hospital bills of people injured by drunken drivers.

## BASEBALL

They pinned a medal on Joe Medwick today. He has been voted the most valuable player in the National League, the slugging out-fielder and battling fire-eater of the Gas House Gang., the St. Louis Cards. Gabby Hartnett of the Chicago Cubs was second.

SPY

A weird spy story from France -- concerning Major Ladoux of the wartime French Intelligence Service. It was he who tracked down Mata Hari in the most sensational of all World War Spy cases. Major Ladoux died four years ago, and today his widow charges his death to an espionage plot of fantastic ~~subtlety~~ <sup>subtlety</sup>. He was sent a photograph of a notorious woman German spy, whom he was trying to catch. The photograph was infected with microbes of a mysterious malady of the throat. ~~Ex~~ As he studied the photograph he contracted the malady -- and thus a spy plot removed a dangerous enemy, the ~~French~~ French Intelligence officer who tracked ~~ed~~ down Mata Hari.

FONTANGES

The prize for diplomacy tonight must go, not to any of those statesmen in Europe, but to our own Department of Immigration.

(What have they done about Madame de Fontanges? That is indeed a question of much finesse. They needed all their wits, those immigration officials of ours, in dealing with the case of the merry Madame who shot Count de Chambrun, former French Ambassador to Rome. <sup>Because he broke up her great romance, says she.</sup> She aimed at his heart and shot him in the knee.) Our own girl sharp-shooters usually do better than that. ¶ Now, suppose the Immigration Department were to admit Madame into this country of ours, bid her a cordial welcome - might that not offend the Count de Chambrun, who is a descendant of Lafayette? And he might cry - "Lafayette, they are not here!" ¶ But suppose they exclude Madame, and deport her? Ah, that would be a delicate problem. Because the reason <sup>for</sup> ~~departing a~~ <sup>usually</sup> ~~accorded the~~ fair lady is - moral turpitude. And we'll recall some cases of the sort in which our Immigration Department was laughed at - as with one lady deported, the Countess Cathcart, because the gentleman was not her husband, But, still more serious, (if they sent away Madame because of moral turpitude - would that not be an affirmation of her story about Mussolini?) By finding her guilty, we would also

find the Duce guilty. And that would be a high affair of state -  
convicting the Black Shirt Dictator <sup>in absentia - of moral turpitude</sup> ~~for moral turpitude~~. Of course,  
Mussolini and the Italians are not famous for drawing such a fine  
Puritanical line. In fact they call moral turpitude - l'amore, which  
sounds more romantic. Just the same, our wise men of immigration  
needed ~~need~~ the sharpest of wit in putting the United States of America on  
record in the case of Madame's <sup>alleged</sup> unforgettable three months with the  
Duce in Rome. They needed the subtlest wit.

And that's exactly what they displayed. Today, Rudolph  
Riner, Commissioner of Immigration at Ellis Island, announced -  
Madame de Fontanges will be deported. On what grounds? Why,  
moral turpitude. But what kind? Ah, that's the delicate question.  
Because moral turpitude is like charity, it covers a multitude of  
sins. It includes not only unforgettable months but also shooting.

(Our sagacious immigration men carefully avoid touching upon the  
romantic and perilous theme of Madame and Mussolini. They merely  
cite the fact, undisputed and quite safe, that Madame shot the  
descendant of Lafayette in the knee) and right now is under a  
suspended sentence of one year handed down by the French courts.

Yes, they used their wits, as is superbly shown in the official decision, which reads like this: Madame de Fontanges is to be deported "because of the commission of a crime involving moral turpitude, to wit, assault with a dangerous weapon." Now if that isn't witty, I'm the Duce!

But all this doesn't mean that Madame is leaving right away. She will still be with us for a while, to add to the gaiety of nations -- and the reporters. Today her lawyers immediately filed an appeal to Washington, and it will take three weeks before the final decision is made. During those three weeks, probably not so unforgettable as the famous three months, Madame will reside on Ellis Island. The immigration philosophers today explained that she'll sleep in a dormitory, and spend her days in a reception room where she can play cards or read a good book or stroll on the lawn.

WINDSOR

The Duke and Duchess are coming after all - so says today's report. Not right away, however - they'll wait until the furore has blown over. Sometime after Christmas, is the time set - then the Ex-King and his Duchess will visit the U.S.A. But it will be just a visit, purely social - no housing, no workers' welfare, nothing connected with labor.

Meanwhile, today in Reno, Mrs. Mary Kirk Raffray, girlhood and lifelong friend of the Duchess of Windsor, was granted a divorce, <sup>Whereupon she</sup> ~~and~~ formally confirmed the report that she is to marry Ernest Simpson, former husband of the Duchess.

VATICAN

There are to be five new cardinals -- that's the report from the Vatican. They say Pope Pius has decided to hold a Consistory in the middle of December and present five red hats -- one to ~~be given to~~ Monsignor Hinsley, Archbishop of Westminster, another to the Archbishop of Lyons. The others will ~~be given to~~<sup>go</sup> to officials at the Vatican. There are 64 cardinals ~~in~~ now and the new ones will bring the Sacred College to 69.

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KILLING

At Hollywood, metropolis of the movies, a fifteen year old boy had heard of some fantastic tales of terror about the Red Soviets of Russia. He was telling a boy pal that a Communist would take a revolver and put just one cartridge in the chamber, then spin the chamber at random, so they wouldn't know where the cartridge was at the end of the spin, whether it was <sup>set to shoot</sup> ~~in the chamber~~ or not - a one-<sup>to six</sup> ~~sixth~~ chance. And then <sup>they'd</sup> put the gun ~~to~~ the head of a prisoner and pull the trigger, nobody knowing whether the pistol would click harmlessly, or fire - a one-<sup>to</sup> ~~sixth~~ chance.

To demonstrate, the boy took a pistol, put one cartridge in, spun the chamber, put the gun to his <sup>own</sup> head and took the one to six chance. There was a crash of a shot - killed. <sup>The one to six</sup> ~~The chance~~ went against him.

Mad folly because of terror stories! <sup>and s-l-u-t-m.</sup>

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