

AUSTRIA

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:-

I feel as though I were back in a newspaper office with the typewriters clicking, the telegraph machines ticking, the linotypes clacking. The news from Austria comes crackling over the air in the most bewildering fashion.

Here's our first news on this today.

The most pathetic thing in it that struck my eye was the apparently desperate, helpless fight the Socialists are keeping up against the Government. Obviously outnumbered. Licked. Their leaders being tried by Courts Martial and strung up out of hand.

Nevertheless they are continuing to fight saying:

"We have nothing to lose but our lives." For instance in the charming town of Ebensee the rebels won a temporary victory. They captured the town and surrounding villages. Barricades are up on all the avenues and boulevards leading into the town.

^{the}
Socialists, determined to fight it out to the bitter end, are keeping the Government troops back with machine guns. But they haven't a chance. This is made obvious in the latest radiogram from Vienna which says: "Railway service throughout Austria is normal again."

The cohorts of the Red Flag have done their ~~utmost~~ ^{utmost}. They have fought to the last ditch. But they ~~are~~ ^{seem to be} hopelessly licked. Now comes the question what will this mean to the history of Europe; to the history of the world at large?

~~But~~ ^{But along} comes another radiogram from Vienna. Just as Chancellor Dollfuss ~~had~~ had confidently announced that the trouble was all cleaned up there was a new explosion. From a totally unexpected quarter another force of Socialists equipped with a fresh supply of arms and ammunition made a flank attack on ^{the} Government troops.

And they recaptured the Carl Marx House.

One of the highlights of the fighting day before yesterday was the bombardment by artillery of that huge tenement house in the heart of Vienna, the Karl Marx House, the home of more than twelve thousand Socialists. It was also one of the most beautiful of the modern buildings in Vienna. The Government troops shelled it to pieces and captured it. Today however, the Socialists swooped down again and ~~was~~ reoccupied that shell torn, tragic building. ^{And after} desperate fighting, ^{they} got possession of the Franz Josef Railway station, ^{which} they are turning ~~it~~ into a warehouse to store arms and ammunition.

One of the suburbs of Vienna is a mass of flames ^{tonight}. ^{And} Then here comes the rumor that an army of forty thousand Socialists are marching on Vienna. ^{In fact} ~~and~~ it is said that the rebels hope to be reinforced by twenty thousand more of their party from Czechoslovakia. ~~And so like the shifting colors of a kaleidoscope, the reports drift~~

Wiseacres have been prophesying that the big powers would have to thrust their paws into the boiling Austrian soup. That seems more likely ^{now} than ever. ~~A radiogram from London reports that~~ the Austrian Ambassador to the Court of St. James paid a visit today to King George's Foreign Secretary. His Excellency, The Austrian Ambassador made no bones about the purpose of his call. He intimated that his country would welcome the help of England, France and Italy. He wants the big powers to declare formally that the independence of Austria must be maintained. In other words Austria asks for intervention by John Bull, by France and by Mussolini.

This is curious: the name of the Austrian Ambassador in London is Baron Frankenstein. Remember Frankenstein, the weird monster, which a scientist created in his laboratory, and which then became a thing of menacing terror! It would seem that Austria itself, created ^{at} Versailles, has become a Frankenstein. *That is a menace to the peace of the world.*

FRANCE

In France the New Prime Minister ^{has just} had his first run-in with the Chamber of Deputies. M. Doumergue implored the legislators to help the government and to do their utmost to bring France back to normal conditions.

^{And} Doumergue did not have any too easy a time of it. His oration was punctuated with howls from the Communists, the most polite of which ^{was} the shrill yell, "Assassin." It must be fun to be a French Deputy, if you've got the right kind of vocabulary ^{and a flare for investive.}

The gist of the seventy-year old Premier's address was that the Deputies should help him restore the confidence of the people. The only way to do this he said was to balance the budget, stabilize the currency and preserve the parliamentary institutions of France.--- keep France from putting on a fancy shirt and going Fascist.

50
For all the heckling M. Doumergue's speech was a success. ^{the} Deputies gave him a vote of confidence, -- four-hundred ^{and} two to one-twenty-five; which is no mean majority.

EUROPEAN RADIO WAR

And here's something about another war, a war that is going on all the time. It's a radio war. In Europe, countries are so close to each other that the stations of one nation are able to send their propaganda thundering over the air to the other side of the continent. That's one nuisance we are free from. In Germany the Nazi stations direct their messages to Austria, to Poland, to the Saar. Italian stations are doing the same in the direction of the Balkans, and so on.

The London Sunday Express declares that these messages are translated into the languages of the country for which they are intended. But in some countries as soon as a propaganda message comes across the aerial borders the government stations immediately do what they can to drown it out. The Sunday Express gives a picture of Chaotic conditions in the European air.

AIRMAIL

The excitement about the Air Mail investigation is beginning to subside. Things ran along more rational lines today, but there is a promise of more drama to come. An agreement has just been made between Senator Black, Chairman of the Committee investigating this airmail tangle and Senator Fess of Ohio, chief mogul of the Republicans. By this agreement Walter Brown, Former Postmaster General will take the witness stand next week and tell what he knows about the awarding of those much discussed Air Mail contracts. And, before Mr. Brown testifies he will sign a document waiving immunity from prosecution.

All this is the sequel to the scorching letter which Postmaster General Jim Farley wrote to Senator Black's in which Farley defended the government's stand in the Air Mail controversy. Former Post Master General Brown has promised to make his contribution to the show by issuing a statement answering categorically every accusation made against him by Jim Farley. And that ought to make the sparks fly.

AIR MAIL - 2

Mr. Farley has announced that he expects Senator Black's committee not to confine its investigation to Air Mail contracts. He invites the Senate also to put its scalpel into the mail contracts of the transatlantic lines.

contempt of their august body. Colonel L. H. Brittin took a similar "rep," as the boys say on Broadway. Mr.

MacCracken however, has taken his fight to the courts. He put up five thousand dollar bail today, and was released.

Colonel Brittin has decided not to waste any money. He's serving his ten day sentence.

MACCRACKEN

Some more legal proceedings are on in connection with that Air Mail affair. The former Assistant Secretary of Commerce is still playing ring around the rosy with the Senate. The Senate let him off with ten days in jail for contempt of their august body. Colonel L. H. Brittin took a similar "rap," as the boys say on Broadway. Mr. MacCracken however, has taken his fight to the courts. He put up five thousand dollar bail today, and was released. Colonel Brittin has decided not to waste any money. He's serving his ten day sentence.

The remainder has just sent word to the railroad executives asking them to pay me this out for another 6 months.

RAILROADS

53

I have just received some information from the office of the Wall Street Journal in Chicago which tells ^{us} that a conference of railroad executives have served notice that their employees must take a fifteen percent cut in wages. This fifteen percent cut takes the place of the ten percent cut the employees accepted a year ago.

Here's something later:
The President has just sent word to the railroad executives asking them to postpone this cut for another 6 months.

Navy

Well, somebody got promoted. A lot of fellows got promoted, and there is joy in the U. S. Navy tonight. President Roosevelt today issued an order raising forty-six Lieutenant Commanders to the rank of ~~Commanders~~.
Commander.

The most interesting of these is Lieutenant Commander Charles Rosendahl, the airship expert. He is admittedly the most competent dirigible commander in America. At one time he commanded the Los Angeles, and was then returned to sea duty. There ~~was~~ was some talk because he was not given command of the Akron, the giant airship which ended her career in disaster.

CERES

54

An interesting announcement was made by the State Department today. It concerns the staff of Bill Bullitt, our Ambassador at Moscow. Secretary Hull has appointed a well-known Philadelphia newspaper man to the trade-promotion-division of Bill Bullitt's Embassy. The newspaperman is Albert Francis Ceres, Junior, of Philadelphia. He is known in the newspaper world as Marine and Transportation Editor of the Public Ledger. But he is no mere desk and typewriter expert. He has been an Assistant Navigator, a Communication^s Officer, and a Watch Officer on active service in Uncle Sam's Navy. What is more, he holds a Chief Mate's license in the Merchant Marine.

RECOVERY

Here is an inside slant on the business of recovery. (The President of the American Bankers Association declared today that: "Even the most pessimistic person can no longer pretend that recovery is a myth or a rumor." He made this declaration in a speech to a confab of the American Bankers Association at the Waldor~~f~~ Astoria in New York. ^{TP}"There is nothing psychological about this recovery business," he added. "It is a concrete fact." Then he spoke a few confidential words to bankers. [✓]It is no longer necessary for them to continue on the basis of being more than a hundred percent liquid. Conditions, he told them, have materially changed. It now becomes necessary for banks to return to their normal occupation of lending money. ^{TP}He said in conclusion: "I confidently expect to see loan figures rise." More money lent by the banks -- and that in itself will be a big push for the business recovery that is underway.

55 →

HATS

56

About the strangest reason for throwing up a job comes from a bunch of men in New York. The Beaux Art Apartments, ~~on the East Side of the City,~~ near the East River, runs a line of buses to take ~~the~~ tenants to Rockefeller Center. Some of the elderly lady tenants became filled with compassion for the poor drivers of those buses because during the bitter cold weather they had no caps. So they said to the management: "You furnish your men with uniforms, why don't you provide them with caps in this zero ~~xx~~ weather?" The Answer invariably was:- "We do."

The complaints kept pouring in, so the management called the drivers into the office saying:- "Look here, you fellows, why don't you wear your caps?" To which the reply was:- "Boss, we can't wear no caps during this cold weather. If we do we'll catch cold." Nevertheless the management insisted. So the men replied: "If we got to wear caps, we quit. We ain't going to catch cold for nobody."

POLICE

A funny cop and robber story comes from Chicago.

A couple of cops in a radio car were having a hot discussion about where they should park their car. In the middle of the argument a man with a gun in his hand ran up to them.

(Cough) Up too late last night I guess.

"Get out and give me that car!" He shouted.

The robber with the gun had just finished holding up a drug store and was making his getaway. Well, at any rate, he stopped the argument. The cops jumped on him, and took him away to the lock-up. Then, I suppose, they started arguing all over again.

Bill Smith.

Grandson of
Coughdrop man.

Feb. 15, 1934.

INTRODUCTION TO BILL SMITH

(COUGH)

This cough of mine is rather embarrassing, because I am broadcasting from Poughkeepsie tonight, Poughkeepsie ~~is~~ the home of the oleaginous cough-drop. In fact there are so many cough-drops in Poughkeepsie that nobody here ever has laryngitis, bronchitis or even whooping-cough. If I were broadcasting from the White House or Buckingham Palace it might be all right to break into a hearty - (cough) -- but not here in Poughkeepsie. And it's particularly embarrassing because sitting at my side here at the Nelson House, is one of the Smith Brothers.

Bill Smith is a Grandson of one of the original bewhiskered Smith Brothers, who made the human throat cough-drop conscious -- you know those two distinguished statesmen with the spinach.

Poughkeepsie the cough-drop capitol of the world-- producer of the licorishy larynx lozenger and of beautiful

Phil Mylod.

Introducing LT
at a banquet
in Poughkeepsie.

Feb. 16, 1934.

L.T., SUNOCO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1934

FOR PHIL MYLOD

(Sound of banquet and rapping of gavel)

Wait a minute - this is not Lowell Thomas speaking. This is not an NBC studio in New York. This is Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County -- a banquet at the Nelson House. And around the festive board are gathered three hundred and forty-six equally festive Dutchess Countyites, including our festive neighbor, Lowell Thomas. Lowell has his sheaf of news dispatches all mixed up with his knives and forks and cheese and salad. But he's getting them straightened out while I get silence for him.

(Some more pounding of the gavel.)

(ASIDE) Say Lowell, you've got your dispatch about the bomb explosion in your soup.

And now ladies and gentlemen let's hear today's news from Lowell Thomas.

~~news from Lowell Thomas.~~

L. T.

Right Phil! GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY. That was
Phil Mylod speaking, a local leading light, a power in
Poughkeepsie politics.

That dispatch you just rescued from the
hot soup is hot news.

BOMB

Boy, oh boy, what a boy! Yes, and what a bomb!

A dairyman out in Chicago has been underselling his competitors. Today somebody threw a large sputtering fizzing bomb through the front door of his dairy. Two AIR MAIL brawny husky full-grown men were there. And what do you suppose they did? You've guessed it. They figured they were in the soup and they ran for their lives. But there was a fourteen-year old errand boy in the place too. He didn't run. He picked up that bomb and threw it out into the street where it exploded instantly. If the lad had not been that brave, the whole building would have been blown to smithereens. As it was, a motor car standing in the street was blasted to bits, and every window for blocks around was shattered by the force of the explosion. Give the little boy a hand.

AIR MAIL.

The big air mail companies ^{have} lost the first round of their fight with the Government, the fight to retain the contracts cancelled by the Postmaster General. Federal Judge Knox in New York heard today the application of T W A for an injunction against Mr. Farley. The T W A lawyers claimed that the Postmaster General did not have authority to cancel these contracts and that he was depriving them of property without due process of law. It was a hard fought battle with the United States Attorney and the corporations' counsel hammering at each other. When the argument was over the Federal Court denied the application for an injunction. The Government wins.

METEOR.

7

An American Airways pilot was flying a mail plane from Fort Worth to Little Rock, Arkansas, last night. Suddenly a light from the sky flared into his eyes ~~so~~ almost blinding him. -It was a flaming meteor. It seemed to be headed straight for the plane. The pilot tried to dodge that ~~meteor~~ dazzling meteor. He tried to maneauver his plane, changing his course, and putting on speed. * In his report he relates: "I banked sharply to the right, and the meteor seemed barely to miss the plane. It was a dazzling blue white light. I could not tell just how big it was but it looked enormous.