

L.T. - SUNOCO. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1940.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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First, let's take the war at sea - the maritime angle of the conflict has become dominant these past few days. The war at sea brings us some news on a closely related topic - British food supply. Britain is putting into effect a series of measures to lessen the effect of the Nazi blockade, the attempt to starve out the island nation.

Lord Woolton, Minister of Food, today announced a complete ban on the shipment of various kinds of fruit - apples, apricots, grapes, bananas and maybe others. These come in by ship, and the cargo space is needed for more necessary material. The Minister of Food likewise announced that Britain may have to do with less meat for the dinner table. ~~Speaking of the normal supplies of meat brought by ship, he said: "We may indeed find ourselves no longer able to afford space for it." Cut down the~~

There is a lack of refrigeration tonnage.

Britain's milk supply is affected. Today the Food Ministry announced a reduction in the amount of milk that householders may buy during the winter.

There's to be a general extension of rationing. The Food ministry is reported to be working out new plans. There's to be communal feeding on a much larger scale. They say it's more economical than the ordinary way of people dining in their homes, making individual purchases of food and preparing it individually. So canteens are to be established in factories, schools, and other places. There, masses of people will throng and dine on food provided by government kitchens -- not at home.

There's one ameliorating fact to offset the grim announcement made in the House of Commons yesterday -- that the sinking of ships has reached the high point of the perilous year of Nineteen Seventeen. That was when the German submarine campaign seemed on the verge of starving Britain. The country is better off this time -- in having vast food reserves piled up.

London has some new information about Nazi surface raiders on the rampage. Several surface raiders are known to be on the high sea -- on in ~~the~~ the North Atlantic and

possibly two. And there's certainly one in the Indian Ocean.

What kind of vessel is it? This question was answered by

survivors of ^{the} a British steamer, PORT BRISBANE. They were

rescued by an Australian warship, and one of their officers ^{is} ~~was~~

quoted as ^{saying} ~~declaring~~ that the raider is an armed merchant ship.

He tells the story in these words:- "I saw the armed

merchantman firing from about a mile and a half away," he relates.

"The PORT BRISBANE was hit about eight times on her main deck.

I ordered my men into a lifeboat, and we later saw the raider

close in." ~~So it's a converted merchant vessel, armed and on a~~

~~career of destruction in southern waters.~~

The crisis of the war at sea is raising the British cry increasingly ~~of~~ - "Knock Italy out of the war!" Britain is unable to cope adequately with the Nazi campaign of destruction on the ocean, because so much of the British fleet has to be kept in the Mediterranean - to check the Fascist naval power there.

Yesterday in the House of Commons former Secretary for War

Hore-Belisha demanded a decisive blow against Italy, ~~so the~~

~~British Mediterranean fleet might be released to act against the~~

~~German blockade.~~ Today Hore-Belisha repeated this demand in stronger terms. He declared that a concentrated attack on Italy might prove to be the turning point of the war. He said that Italian cities should be bombed. ~~Have the R.A.F. blast the Fascist ports, as well as the Nazi centers.~~ "Only when Italy has been put out of the war," declare Hore-Belisha, "will Britain be able to measure herself against the real enemy - Germany." ~~The illumination, he added, would check the ambitions of Spain and also would persuade the French colonial armies to take the side of Great Britain.~~

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Meanwhile, Rome is announcing a naval victory. The Italians have not been having so many successes to report of late - but the bulletin from Rome claims that the Italian fleet clashed with the British off the coast of Sardinia, and had the best of it. This is described as having occurred yesterday afternoon, and ~~may~~^s refer to the story we had last evening from London. London merely reported an exchange of cannon fire at long range, with the Italian ships retreating. The story that Rome tells is this:- The Italian squadron clashed

with British war vessels headed by two battleships. There was a heavy exchange of shell fire and the Fascist guns scored direct hits on two British cruisers, one of the Kent class, the other of the Birmingham class. One Italian destroyer was heavily damaged, and a British shell hit a ten thousand ton cruiser. The shell, however, was a dud and failed to explode, ^{says} ~~said~~ Rome.

After this exchange of gunfire, the Italian version goes on, the British fleet retired, steaming westward. It was followed by Fascist bombers, which attacked with a rain of high explosive. Heavy calibre bombs, declares Rome, hit a cruiser, an aircraft carrier and a battleship. The explosion set the battleship afire.

~~When this story of an Italian naval victory reached London, the British Admiralty stated that an official announcement would be made later, giving the British version with full details. Thus far the London announcement has not come over the press wire.~~
IP ~~claiming that units of the Italian Fleet were damaged, and that the British cruiser Berwick was hit twice.~~
now gave its latest version,
Here's the latest - another Italian claim of victory

at sea, today. It comes in the form of a radio broadcast picked up from Rome, and declares that Italian dive bombers late this

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afternoon attacked British naval units at sea to the west of Malta. Here's the claim the Rome broadcast makes:- "Big bombs were dropped on enemy ships," it declares. "Details are not yet available," it adds, "but it is believed that the bombardment was very effective."

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On the land side - the Greeks report that they scored a major success today in the capture of Argyrokastron. That's an important Italian base in southern Albania. The conflict there is said to have been the most savage and deadly of the Greek-Italian clash. The Italian Commander-in-Chief ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ Albania, we are told, ordered that Argyrokastron must be defended to the last man. It was the fiercest kind of struggle as the Greeks fought their way ~~to~~ through the town in house to house fighting. They were supported by the bombing of British war planes. After hours of battle, the Greek forces took Argyrokastron, and at last reports the Italians were said to be retreating along the coast.

BOMBING

In the war of the air it's the same give and take -- the Nazis bombing and the British striking back with thundering blows against important points in Germany and the occupied countries.

There's just one turn of novelty, and this occurs in London. The British capitol is being bombed once again tonight, and the word flashes that the R.A.F. is using night fighter planes against the bombers of Germany. That is -- fighter planes especially equipped for air battle in the darkness, that fantastic kind of combat. London thinks that ^{this} ~~is~~ is the case. It was observed that when the air raid alarm sounded tonight, and the Nazi planes came over -- the sky was promptly filled with the beams of searchlights. All possible searchlights were used. But there was not so much anti-aircraft fire. ~~That~~ distinguishing feature of an air raid was largely lacking. There were only sporadic bursts fired by the guns. And London took this to mean that the anti-aircraft fire was being withheld -- for fear of hitting British planes in the sky -- R.A.F. fighters whizzing through the darkness, seeking to spot Nazi bombers and shoot them down.

This supposition is the more dramatic because of an article which appeared today in the ace magazine of British Aviation, called, "The Airplane." Subject ~~such~~ was night bombing, and the opinion was expressed

^{the} that British would not be able to check the Nazi ^{night} ~~air~~ raiders for
 at least another year, or possibly longer. The authoratative
 magazine put it in these terms:- "There's no single technical
 device which will solve the problem. The improved dectectors~~a~~ devices,
 ground barrages and so forth can hinder but never stop the night
 raiders. What is required," declared the authoratative journal,
 "is a fighter which affords good visability for the crew, yet which
 does not sacrifice too much speed, range ^{or} ~~of~~ gun power." In other
 words -- a fighting plane ^{equipped for} that ~~are~~ spotting an enemy bomber in the
 darkness ^{by new sensitive mechanisms.} ~~possibly by means of a powerful searchlight.~~ The magazine
 concludes:- "Such a ^{design} ~~device~~ should be pressed at once -- with
 probable trials ^{next winter.}" Meaning -- ^{--- a successful} a night fighting plane ~~is not~~
^{is not} to be expected for another year.

Yet tonight, -in London the anti-aircraft barrage against the
 bombers is little or nothing at all, ^l leading to the belief that
 British night fighting planes right now are battling against the air
 raid squadrons.

RUMANIA

The frightful terror in Rumania continues - Iron Guardists killing prominent political opponents in savage vengeance. Both the Bucharest government and the official Iron Guard leadership expressed their strong disapproval of the murderous deed that made a grizzly headline yesterday - the execution of three score of victims, a former Premier, other high political personalities and lesser ones. And both the government and the Iron Guard leadership are trying to stop a continuance of the terror. ~~This~~ ^(W) we hear ~~is~~ ^{it's}

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^ the doing of an extremist faction of the Iron Guards, a faction that bitterly seeks blood vengeance for the many executions of Iron Guard members during the reign of King Carol.

Today the killing of two more important personalities is reported - both ~~xxxxxx~~ university professors. Both had been powers in Rumanian politics, one as Premier, the other as Minister of Finance. And both were known internationally, having given lectures in the capitals abroad. The former Premier, ~~was~~ Professor Jorda, ~~He~~ was head of the Bucharest Government in Nineteen Thirty-One and ~~in~~ Nineteen Thirty-Two. He was one of the world's authorities on Byzantine art, and was known in learned circles ^c
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here in the United States. He made several lecture tours in this country. (Today we are told that Professor Jorda, the former Premier, was taken from his country home, and shot.)

There are suggestions that this murderous outbreak of terror in Rumania may have international repercussions. The country may drift toward Anarchy, and this might jeopardize the workings of the Rumanian oil fields - which provide Nazi Germany with badly needed ^{petrol.} ~~gasoline~~. So the Germans might have to intervene, and take over the government of Rumania, police the land - and this might lead to complications with Soviet Russia, which is always interested in Rumanian affairs.

Here's later word: - German troops being hurried to Bucharest.

In our own country - late today Wm. F. Green was re-elected President of the A.F. of L. - by acclamation.

RACE

Thanksgiving Day in 16 states
and in

Today ~~an~~ Indiana State Policeman won a race. He set a new record for a cross-country run ~~of~~ ^{at} Detroit. Seems odd that a cop should be so speedy of foot, but all is made clear when you hear his name -- Don Lash. Don, flashed brilliantly at many a track meet, then joined the Indiana State Police. Today he got out his old running shoes and started in the ten thousand meter cross country run.

That Don Lash ~~had~~ set a record is not remarkable. But that anybody should have set a record today was something of a marvel. The track was a nightmare -- a sheet of ice, more like a skating rink. They had been having a blizzard conditions out in Michigan and to form a running ~~track~~ ^{course} a tractor cleared away the snow along a path fifteen feet wide. No sooner had the path been cleared than it ~~for~~ frosted -- a running track of ice. It was slip and slide, but nevertheless Don Lash ~~ran~~ ^{slipped and slid} for six-and-a-quarter-miles in thirty minutes and twenty-four second^s, which clipped nearly two minutes from the previous record -- which he himself set six years ago on a good track.

EXPLORATION

An expedition has recently emerged from the trackless jungles of the Amazon. Its leader is Charles Wragley of Columbia University. He told today how the expedition went seeking one of the fiercest tribes of the tropical inferno -- cannibals, the terrifying Tapirapes. The scientists wanted to study the customs of these man-eating savages, the Tapirapes.

After many days of arduous travel through the depths of the jungle, they came to the village of the Tapirapes. And what did they see? Or rather, what did they hear? A song, a familiar tune -- the old Scottish song, "Loch Lomond". This was indeed amazing. They entered the village, and found the Tapirapes having a song fest, lustily singing "Loch Lomond". And in English! The exploring party inquired, and found that these jungle cannibals had been visited by a Scottish missionary. It isn't said what happened to the missionary -- but: the Scottish dominee did succeed in teaching the Tapirapes how to sing his favorite song, that sentimental song of Scotland, before the Missionary disappeared.

The American explorers did not disappear. They stayed in the village for some days, and when they left they had the Tapirapes singing "Mademoiselle from Armentiers." You should have heard the happy Tapirapes bear down on that refrain Hinkey Dinkey, parlez-vous.

PROFESSOR

Here's a bit of news that must have been printed far and wide ^{today,} but it's so good it's worth repeating. It's just about the ultimate classic of all stories of absent-minded professors.

At Liberty, Missouri, Professor Chester Prince of the faculty of William Jewel College, decided that his house was too chilly - it's been cold out there in the middle west. The professor figured that the chill in the house was because of drafts that came from the attic. So he got himself a hammer, some nails and some boards, went up into the attic and got busy. He nailed a plank over every chink through which a draft might come.

The absent-minded professor did such a good job that when he got through he couldn't get out. He had nailed himself in, had boarded up the door! ^{Also he} He had nailed the planks on so tightly he couldn't get them off - and had to holler for help.

Luckily, the professor has two daughters and one of them was entertaining ^{the} ~~her~~ boyfriend at the time - he's good and husky. So they contrived to batter the door open and get the professor out.

And that brings us logically or illogically to Hugh James.