

ALLENBY

One of the great figures of our time, in fact one of the foremost military figures of all time, died today. And the whole British Empire mourns the passing of Field Marshal Viscount Allenby -- at the age of seventy-five.

I am tempted to devote my entire broadcast to him tonight, because it so happens that he influenced my life almost as much as any other human being. I knew him during the World War and in later years as well. Night after night, year in and year out, from the platform in cities around the Globe, I told the story of his campaign.

He has sometimes been called "The Modern Richard Coeur de Lion." But he succeeded where Richard the Lion-hearted failed. For Allenby was the leader of the Allied -- mostly British -- armies which brought true the dream of Western peoples by sweeping the Turks from the Holy Land, by driving the armies of the Sultan from Beersheba, Gaza; Bethlehem, Nazareth and Damascus! -- liberator of Jerusalem!

Right now we are at the time of year when boys and girls are taking examinations, at school. And whenever a youngster tells

me what a tough time he has with his exams I enjoy telling him of what Field Marshal Allenby once said to me. He told me that in his youth he was a hopeless student, that he failed in his examinations time and again, and that he really became a soldier because his family decided he wasn't good for anything else.

As I recall it he first gained considerable fame in the war in South Africa. There he was in command of a column of cavalry. His soldiers liked him because he lived right with them, ate the same food, and wore the same clothes as an ordinary Tommy. He did this right from the time he was first made a Lieutenant in the Sixth Dragoons, until he was a full Colonel in South Africa.

Two Commanders-in-Chief leading the British forces against the Turks in the Near East had failed. Then a third Commander was sent out -- Allenby. The soldiers called him "The Bull," because you could hear his roar all the way from Dan to Beersheba. Generals' knees quaked when they came into his presence. But the Tommies loved him. He injected a new spirit into the army in the Sinai Desert. And from the time of

his arrival his troops never stopped until they had conquered both Palestine and Syria, in perhaps the greatest Cavalry campaign of all time, a campaign that military leaders look upon as a Cavalry model.

Physically, he was a giant. He may have failed in his examinations as a youth, but he was a scholar. I found that in addition to his being a great soldier he was ~~also~~ a master of Latin and Greek; and also a naturalist and a botanist. By the end of the campaign he knew the name of every wild flower and every animal and bird in the Holy Land. ^{Nearly all} Migratory birds stopped in Palestine on their way South, and it was a common thing, when I was with him, for the great Commander -in-Chief to slip off alone in the early morning, go down to a pond, and spend an hour or two there studying the migratory birds.

~~I recall once, in the Valley of the Jordan, just north of the Dead Sea, over a thousand feet below sea level, the heat was intense. Allenby's car got stuck in the white alkali mud, and wouldn't budge. The Commander in-Chief not only helped the~~

All the world has heard the story of his entry into Jerusalem. Some years before, the Kaiser had entered the Holy City. A special section of the wall was knocked down for him, so he could pass through where no human being had passed before. The Kaiser was mounted on a white charger, wearing his Imperial helmet. But Allenby, the man who had freed the Holy Land and liberated the Holy City -- when he entered Jerusalem, he simply walked in on foot through the old Jaffa Gate. He didn't even go in first, but had a number of officers precede him so that he would not be too prominent in our motion pictures.

Lawrence of Arabia was one of his proteges. Nearly all other army officers were impatient with Lawrence, couldn't understand him. But Allenby knew how to use his talents. And the success Lawrence had in Arabia was due largely to the help he received from Allenby.

A short time after the fall of Jerusalem his campaign entered on its second and last phase. He tricked the Turks with a camouflage army in the Jordan Valley, while the bulk of his forces concealed themselves in the orange groves many miles away near the shores of the Mediterranean. One morning when the Turks

were not looking for it, his troops, along the Mediterranean, smashed a hole in the Turkish line, and through that hole Allenby sent his ~~xxx~~ cavalry. And they never stopped until they had swept the Turks from northern Palestine, the land of Samaria and all Syria. That ended the Ottoman Empire.

The names of so called great men vanish quickly from the pages of history. But the name of Lord Allenby of Jerusalem and Armageddon will be there until the end of time. Well, perhaps I've already devoted more time than I should to telling you about Allenby. But, had it not been for him, it is unlikely that I would be a radio commentator today.

AUSTRIA

There are two things to be especially noted about the coup d'etat in Austria. One - it was so peaceful and quiet. The other that it has international implications so wide and deep.

We have two well known figures, Chancellor Schuschnigg and Vice-Chancellor Prince von Starhemberg. Schuschnigg is not such a flaring character, but Prince von Starhemberg is - a blue blood aristocrat, the Fascist power behind the Vienna government, the would-be Austrian Mussolini. Now a third personality appears, quite unknown on this side of the water - one Josef Reither. We are told that he is a powerful leader of the Peasants' party, whose importance has been increasing - in the background. Of recent days, Schuschnigg and Reither have been on the outs with the

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dictatorial Starhemberg, the man of power. ^{Today} ~~So now~~ the two went to President Miklas of Austria, told him they wouldn't work with Starhemberg any longer, and Chancellor Schuschnigg offered his resignation. Instead of accepting it, President Miklas turned around and gave Schuschnigg complete power, made him dictator of Austria - in silent partnership with Reither, the backstage peasant leader. And immediately they ousted Prince von Starhemberg as Vice-Chancellor. The latest word is that they are going to disarm and abolish the Heimwehr, which is Starhemberg's own private army, ^{and} on which his power has been based. ~~It~~ It was all done without a shot being fired, a ~~real~~ bloodless coup d'etat - although you can't tell what violence may develop when they start disarming the Heimwehr.

As for international complications - take the immediate event that caused Schuschnigg and Reither to take the supreme measure of tossing Starhemberg out. It was a telegram to Mussolini - sent by the Austrian Fascist Prince. Starhemberg is a tremendous admirer of the Duce. He has been the focus of Italian power and influence in Austria. He was scheduled to go

to Rome to attend a football match, and at the same time to confer with Mussolini about Austrian collaboration if Italy should withdraw from the League of Nations. But before going, he sent that telegram - in which he congratulated Mussolini effusively on his Ethiopian victory. He described the Italian-African success as "The triumph of Fascism over democratic dishonorableness and hypocrisy, and over democratic mendacity." Heavy words those!

The telegram was sent without the knowledge of the Vienna government, and when Schuschnigg and Reither learned about it, they objected strongly. They saw in the telegram an injudicious attack on the powers that have been opposing Italy, the League of Nations and Great Britain. To their mind it tended to put the Austrian government in dangerous opposition to those Powers.

So today's event in Austria is a blow to the Duce, a come-down to his prestige in central Europe. Vienna tells us that the policy of the new Schuschnigg dictatorship will be -- less Fascism and more freedom, and the cultivation of better

relations with Nazi Germany. At the same time we have late word this afternoon that Schuschnigg has telegraphed to Mussolini declaring that Austria is still Italy's friend - loyal to its alliance with Italy.

Schuschnigg is a blueblood, son of a brigadier-general of old imperial Austria-Hungary. The younger Schuschnigg became an officer too, fought in the World War and was captured by the Italians.

Cont His political partner, Reither, is no blueblood at all, but a peasant - a middleaged agrarian of the farms. However, the two men are at one in this, that they are both devoted Catholics, leaders of the Catholic Party. Schuschnigg entered politics as a disciple of the statesman priest, Monsignor Seipel, who for years was Chancellor of Austria. Schuschnigg looks like a bespectacled professor, a grave scholar who spends his spare time in his library.

Such is the man who tonight stands in supreme power at Europe's Number One danger point.

EXPLOSIONS

New Jersey's greatest explosion came into the news again tonight -- the Black Tom blow-up of twenty years ago. Those of us who remember the World War period only have to be reminded of ~~the~~ Black Tom and the way those tons upon tons of high explosives blew up. But a whole new generation has grown up since then, and they'll have to be told how Black Tom was a pier in Jersey City, center of munitions shipments to allied armies, a dock where barges of dynamite and high explosive shells were loaded.

It was midnight on the Thirtieth of July, 1916, when the cry of fire rose. A wild blaze had sprung up amid those ship-loads of deadly violence. In a few minutes the whole thing blew up, one ~~xxx~~ shattering, rending burst. And then another even more violent. For miles around, all over metropolitan New York shattering windows fell tinkling into streets. Bursting shells were hurled skyward like giant insane artillery fire, bombarding Ellis^S Island, bombarding the Statue of Liberty. The famed ~~R~~ Goddess still carries the scars where she was hit by missiles from Black Tom. ^P Burning, exploding barges drifted down New York Bay. And the New Jersey scene

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around Black Tom was one of indescribably^e devastation. Lives were lost and the damage ran into the tens of millions.

~~and~~ The word immediately flashed -- German spies, reports and rumors of secret agents with mysterious codes, ~~which~~ ^{striking} ~~struck~~ a blow at the Allied cause ^{by} ~~like~~ touching off ^{those} ~~the Allied~~ deposits of high explosive. There were investigations. It seemed only too likely that it was a wartime plot, but no absolute evidence was uncovered. ^{It} Later the affair went before the German-American Mixed Claims Commission, which was deciding on wartime questions between the United States and Germany. The American charges in the Black Tom explosion were dismissed,

^{It} Now, however, the case comes to the front once more. We hear from Washington today that the German-American Mixed Claims Commission has reopened the case, and Secretary of State Hull has appointed William D. Mitchell, Attorney General of the Hoover Administration, to present the American contention. New evidence is the reason. But what the new evidence may be is being kept a secret. We only know that it must concern wartime plotting and the doings of secret agents.

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This same development today ~~was~~ also includes another explosion, the wartime blowing up of the Kingsland Munitions factory. This happened six months after Black Tom. The whole T. N. T. factory went up in one stupendous blast. This also was supposed to be spy work, although that was never proved. But now the Mixed ^{Claims} Commission is reopening the Kingsland explosion also, reopening the charges that it was a secret agent plot.

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After these New Jersey explosions, let's take one that didn't happen -- ~~today's~~ ^{that} story of how lightning set fire to a giant gasoline tank at Summerville, New Jersey. The gods of the storm ~~were~~ blasting away with shattering thunder and lightning, when a bolt hit the gasoline tank. ~~and~~ Blue flames were creeping along the top. Nearby was another huge tank filled with illuminating gas. If number one went, number two would go also. It might blast the whole town of Summerville right out of existence. That's what George Creeley, the plant superintendent knew, as he saw the blue flames creeping along the ~~gasoline~~ tank. And did he run? ~~He ran~~ ^{Yes} to the tank, climb-

ed sixty feet to the top and with an explosion threatening any instant he beat out the flames.

Today George Creeley said: "It was only a part of the day's work."

of COUNTRY HOME. ~~MAGAZINE~~ ^{He} goes back to the old proverb that you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear. ^{And insists} ~~he says~~ you can.

A scientist named A.V. Little has just finished taking a sow's ear and making an exceedingly beautiful silk purse out of it.

58 { And this same scientist might just as well go back to that good old Shakespearian line about painting the lily. He' ^d ~~ll~~ paint the lily with - skimmed milk. Recently, he helped a paint manufacturer who was having trouble in making his paints stick on after they were brushed on. The remedy for that was - mix the paint with ^{casein} casein, which is made from skimmed milk.

JAPANESE TEACHERS

I suppose that dreams come true, and here's a case of Gilbert and Sullivan coming true. Fanciers of the Mikado, will hardly imagine that the merry doings of Koko, Poobah and Yum-yum have any relation to sober actualities in Japan. However, let's look at the news and we'll find that one of the most rollicking lines of the Mikado has come true - more or less. It's the song which tells how the emperor of Japan, determined to suppress the practice of flirting:

And he decreed in words succinct,
That all who flirted, leered or winked,
Unless connubially linked,
Should forthwith be beheaded."

The news we have from Tokyo does not say anything about beheading, but it does decree stern punishment - for male and female schoolteachers who flirt. A new educational order commands that schoolmasters and schoolmams shall be most circumspect. No unmarried man teacher is permitted to be an official of a girls' student club. Men teachers and women teachers are forbidden to walk to and from school together. And school principals are warned to keep a stern and exacting eye on the private lives of the teachers. That's what they say in word succinct. And I'll say in words equally succinct --

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.