

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

(The latest from Rome. Chamberlain and Mussolini had a most satisfactory conversation. So goes the unofficial report. Chamberlain smoothing out all the difficult points at issue between France and Italy. Mussolini will not demand any territory from France. Italy's so called "natural aspirations" will be satisfied with concessions concerning the Ethiopian Railway, the Suez Canal, and certain rights for Italians in Tunisia.)

The day ended in Rome with a sumptuous banquet that Mussolini staged at the Venezia Palace. There were almost a thousand guests. They rose to their feet as one man when Chamberlain said: "I raise my glass to His Majesty, the King of Italy - and Emperor of Ethiopia." The toast continued --"and to the welfare and prospertiy ~~for~~ of the people over whom he rules!"

You will notice the Prime Minister of Great Briatin said: "Emperor of Ethiopia." Confirming in theatrical fashion British recognition of the Ethopian conquest.

Chamberlain in his speech also said: "I have come here in

pursuit of the policy for which I stand - a policy of friendship with all and enmity with none." ~~And he added: "That policy is directed to a just and peaceful solution of international difficulties by the method of negotiations."~~

~~Platitudes and far from startling, but significant, at its time and place.~~

The British Prime Minister then let out a piece of real news. He and Mussolini have added to the agreement that they made last November. On January of each year Great Britain and Italy will exchange military information.

Mussolini on his part said: "That agreement ~~not only reconstituted the friendship of our two countries on a new plane as well as in a new African and Mediterranean reality, but it also~~
^S opened the way for collaboration, ^A *"And then he* ~~an element which is necessary to peace in Europe and which we hope will be both lasting and fruitful."~~

~~He also~~ poured a shower of flowers upon what he called "the understanding spirit" of Prime Minister Chamberlain.

BERLIN FOLLOW CHAMBERLAIN

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The most important fact concerning Italian affairs today comes out of Berlin. It's an editorial in the German newspaper which is recognized as the organ of ~~Joseph~~ von Ribbentrop, Hitler's Foreign Minister. ~~So it may be safely accepted as official~~ an official announcement, ~~and it's~~ a grave one. What it amounts to is that Hitler finally has come out in support of Mussolini's claims in the Mediterranean. This ~~voice of~~ ^{editorial} Ribbentrop says: "It is to be hoped that Chamberlain's visit to Rome will result in satisfying the expectations of Germany's friend, Italy." Then it continues: "Italy's position in the Mediterranean has completely changed. A new great power has arisen."

~~So that leaves only one interpretation.~~

SPAIN

In Spain, another Franco victory. On the southern front in Catalonia, the Nationalist armies ^{have} blasted their way still further toward Tarragona. They stormed and captured the hills overlooking Mont Blanch and took possession of a town just north of Falset. Both of those are important. That means they're well on their way to the Mediterranean. The seaport of Tarragona is the last big Republican stronghold between Franco's armies and Barcelona.

The insurgents' claim is backed up by ^{admissions} ~~news~~ from the Republican side. ~~In addition to capturing that important keypoint, the Rebels also took many prisoners.~~

But here's a later dispatch. Franco's armies have entered Mont Blanch and they're now only twenty miles from Tarragona. The government armies have fallen back on the outskirts of Tarragona, where they had prepared a last strong line of defense.

PALESTINE

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In the Holy City of Jerusalem, another important trial was held today. The defendants, four British policemen. The charge against them [?] ~~was~~ The premeditated murder of an Arab prisoner in Jaffa last October.

Their defense was that the Arab tried to escape from them while they were taking him from Jaffa to Tel Aviv. The outcome of the trial was that they were found not guilty of willful, deliberate murder. But they were convicted on minor charges. One was found guilty of attempted manslaughter, ^{and} sentenced to three years. The other three British ~~cop~~ ^{policemen} were declared guilty of having attempted to cause grievous bodily harm, ^{one gets} ~~and one gets~~ a year in jail, the other ~~two~~ parolled on bond

Storrs.

Jan. 11, 1939.

INTRO TO SIR RONALD STORRS

To most of us the present-day problem in Palestine, the conflict between the Arabs and Jews, is a complete riddle, a puzzle that is too much for mankind, ~~before which he stands bewildered, helpless.~~ If there be a man on earth who understands it, he sits beside me, here at the microphone tonight. He has just landed on these shores. (In fact, if I were asked to pick out the most glamorous and romantic figure in our present-day world, he would be my candidate.)

To run hurriedly over his record: an Oriental scholar of vast experience, a master of many difficult languages, Oriental secretary to the Government of Egypt before the World War; an associate of such **legendary** figures as Lord Cromer and Lord Kitchener; the man who actually took T. E. Lawrence to Arabia at the time when Lawrence went into the desert to join the Arabs. Without him there might have been no Lawrence.

Then, when Allenby drove the Turks from Jerusalem, the man who is sitting here beside me was made the first Christian Governor of the Holy City since the days of the Crusades, first Military Governor, and then Civil Governor.

Afterward he became Governor of the Island of Cypress, after that Governor of Northern Rhodesia, and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's forces in that part of Africa.

His name is Sir Ronald Storrs.

Recently, after all these years, he has written the thrilling story of his life, just published in this country by putnam, "The Memoirs of Sir Ronald Storrs," a book as fascinating as T.E. Lawrence's "Revolt in the Desert." It already has gone into many editions in European countries. In fact, they have actually printed it in Jerusalem, a three-volume edition in Hebrew.

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Sir Ronald, I happen to be deeply indebted to you. More than twenty years ago we lived in the same building, just outside the old walls of Jerusalem. Your army had just driven out the Turks. At that time you were General Ronald Storrs, Governor of Jerusalem. One day, in the Holy City, I encountered Lawrence; it seemed to me that he surely was someone unusual, dressed as he was in Arab costume. So I went to your ~~palace~~ palace near Damascus Gate and asked if you knew who this

beardless chap in Arab Costume, ~~could be whom I had seen on the~~
~~Street called Straight~~ Do you remember that day, Sir Ronald
Storrs?

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SIR RONALD: As if it were yesterday. You came to my first
headquarters just outside the Jaffa Gate and I was able to
deliver the goods on the spot, producing Lawrence from a balcony
where he had fled as he invariably did on hearing a visitor
announced.

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L.T.:- And by the way, Sir Ronald, I understand you are
in this country for a speaking tour, telling of your experiences
in the Palestine Campaign, and also telling the intimate story of
Lawrence as you only can tell it. Over here there have been
many strange rumors concerning Lawrence of Arabia. For instance,
we are even told that it was not Lawrence who was killed on that
motorcycle in England several years ago. The rumor is that
Lawrence is not dead. What can you tell us of that?

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SIR RONALD:- Alas! I am tragically able to contradict such legends -- which by the way long circulated after the death of Napoleon and of Lord Kitchener; for it was my sad honour to watch two hours by his dead body, to screw down his coffin, and to be chief pallbearer, lowering him into the earth.

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L.T.:- ~~One more question, Sir Ronald, I would like to~~
~~to turn over my entire hour to you. I believe the radio~~
~~audience would like it also. But I still have a number of other~~
~~news items tonight. Before I get on with them,~~ Just one more
question: Here in America, and in Europe as well, many
people say: "Well, after all, was this man Lawrence such a
great personality? Was he really a great man? Sir Ronald,
I am under the impression that you knew him more intimately
than any other man. ~~Where I knew him for only a short time~~
~~in Arabia, you had known him for years.~~ What do you think?
Was he really great?

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Sir Ronald:- Outstandingly, unmistakably, unforgettably.

I've served great men, Cromer, Kitchener, Asquith, Allenby;

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I know greatness when I meet it. Every word he said held
your memory.

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L.T.:- Many thanks, Sir Ronald Storrs, And to the radio audience:

Qx You have just heard the voice of the man whom I regard

as the most romantic and glamorous figure in all the world

today, ~~associate of Lawrence of Arabia, first Christian~~

~~Governor of Jerusalem since the days of Godfrey de Bullion~~

~~and Richard the Lion-Hearted, centuries ago. We are fortunate~~

~~to have him as our guest in America, and you will be lucky~~

~~if you have a chance to hear him an evening, in person.~~

FRANKFURTER

There was a dramatic interview at a hearing before the Senate Committee this afternoon, ~~It was~~ the Committee on Judiciary, considering ~~the claims of~~ Professor Felix Frankfurter ^{for} the U. S. Supreme Court. One of the witnesses was ~~a gentleman named~~ Allen Zoll, Executive Vice-President of the American Federation Against Communism. Zoll was protesting against Frankfurter because he's a Jew. And he said: "Frankfurter's confirmation would do more than any other occurrence in years to intensify the spreading anti-Jewish feeling."

Up jumped Senator ~~Walter~~ Borah of Idaho, angrily shaking his leonine head. ^{Cried Borah: -} ~~and, he cried,~~ "I do not intend to listen to any argument based on race." Then he turned on Zoll with the words, "You are attempting to raise in this Committee the same question that is now drenching Europe in bloodshed."

Borah was not the only Senator displeased, ~~by the~~ ^{others} ~~gentlemen named Zoll.~~ They interrupted ~~the~~ ^{the} witness frequently, and he was the target for biting remarks from ~~Uncle George~~ ^S Norris of Nebraska, and ~~Senator~~ Neely of West Virginia, Chairman of the Committee.

Meanwhile, (the Senate Commerce Committee had Secretary Harry Hopkins, on the grill,) and gave him the works.. At one time Hopkins referred to a radio speech he had made during the Supreme Court turmoil. He said he didn't believe his speech had any effect. Why? He was broadcasting at the same time that Charlie McCarthy was on the air. Said Hopkins: "I doubt whether anyone was listening to me." Up spoke Senator Bailey saying politely: "Then the country owes another debt of gratitude to Charlie;

He openly admitted being a New Delaer, a devoted partisan of President Roosevelt. In his own words: "If the Senate confirms me, it will do so knowing in advance that I am devoted to the President. I'm on his team, that's the whole story."

Among the Senators, the champion of Hopkins was Republican Hiram Johnson of California. He got angry. What annoyed the California Senator was the (dragging in ~~of~~ that famous quotation attributed to Hopkins: "We will spend and spend, tax and tax, elect and elect." Hopkins again denied vehemently that he had ever said anything of the sort.)

The Committee called in Arthur Krock, columnist of the NEW YORK TIMES who had reported that quotation. Also, Joseph Aslop,

correspondent. Both of them said they had reported the quotation in good faith, and were still convinced Hopkins had said it. But, as newspaper men, they refused to divulge their source of information.

Then up spake Senator Johnson with the words: "Let's either have the man who says Mr. Hopkins made this statement come and testify, or else let's drop the whole thing."

RELIEF

The mayors of the United States arise in protest against the cutting of the new relief appropriation. Those seven hundred and twenty-five millions recommended by the Sub-Committee will be woefully inadequate, say the mayors. If the House and Senate back ^{up} the Committee ~~up~~ more than a ^m billion workers will have to be dropped off the relief rolls by June Thirtieth. ~~That's the flat statement made by the United States Conference of~~ ^{The} Mayors.

~~They~~ declared that the eight hundred and seventy-five millions asked by the President, ^{is} ~~was~~ the absolute minimum. ^{What they} ~~As they said~~ ^{want are} ~~last Monday, the deficiency appropriation should be really~~ nine hundred and fifteen millions.

~~We shouldn't have to wait long to know what the House~~
~~decides.~~ ^{is} That relief bill is going to have the right of way in ^{Congress} ~~tomorrow.~~ ^{and about it} all debate will be shut off at two o'clock Friday ^{when they will vote.} ~~afternoon.~~ ^{So it will be ready to go up to the Senate} ~~by the end of the week.~~

SHARE CROPPERS

In southeast Missouri hundreds of share croppers evicted, homeless, camping out beside bonfires along a front of a hundred miles. More than five hundred families, both black and white.

This has aroused a storm in Washington; particularly in the Department of Agriculture, which has word that no fewer than seventeen hundred families have been evicted in Missouri, and the practice is spreading. The Department threatens to retaliate. One official said today: "We are determined to clean this up even if strong action is necessary." "All A.A.A. benefit payments," the Department declares, "will be withheld from any landlord shown to have evicted tenants or reduced their status to day laborers."

PRISONERS

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Another prison sensation in Philadelphia! For three days the deputy warden of the Philadelphia County Jail has been on trial, charged with murder in the second degree, and manslaughter. That's the consequence of the demise of four men in that prison last August, said to have been scalded to death. While that trial has been going on, two other prisoners in that same jail committed suicide. ~~They~~ Hanged themselves in their cells.

KENNEDY

Washington is still afloat with rumors about that secret evidence the two ambassadors gave to Congress -- Kennedy and Bullitt. One sensational rumor is:- John Bull is so anxious to avoid war with Germany that he'd even give Hitler an air base in Canada. That's supposed to have been s aid by Ambassador Joe Kennedy. A German air base in Canda! What would the Canadians say about that?

CHAPEREAU

The case of Jack Benny took a new turn today. Albert Chapereau, the man who confessed to doing the smuggling, has pleaded guilty to the indictments which name him and Benny together, accusing them of smuggling and conspiracy. This means that when the inimitable Jack comes to trial two weeks from now, Chapereau will be the principal government witness against him.

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