

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A bulletin is just in -- with a sensational report, if true. It comes from London, and the dispatch relates that the official Italian radio station at Rome has broadcast the announcement that Japan denounces the anti-Comintern pact.

If that is a fact, it will be a great relief to Great Britain and France, When Stalin, after throwing in with Hitler, concluded a truce in the Far East with Japan, we expected to hear next that Japan was also climbing on the Nazi-Bolshevik bandwagon. That would have meant, of course, that Britain and France might have Japan as well as Hitler and possibly Stalin to fight. But the denunciation of the anti-Comintern pact if true would mean a big gain to the Allies.

BERLIN

Hitler's much expected speech to the Reichstag will be made on Friday. The German Chancellor will address his hand-picked deputies at noon, six o'clock our time.

It is also announced from Berlin that the Nazis expect a visit from the Soviet Premier and Foreign Minister Molotov.

ESTHONIA

There's fresh anxiety in Esthonia tonight. Stalin has made ~~fresh~~^{more} demands upon that unhappy little country, wants more land than he asked at first, more air bases. At least it is so reported; ~~unofficially. The report comes from the capital of~~ Finland. The Finns say that there was a furious outbreak of protest in the Esthonian capital and that the Soviet delegation has to be guarded by Esthonian troops, protected from public indignation.

RUSSIANS

A curious aspect of the European situation is pointed out today. On the face of it, Stalin and his Soviet Union, though officially neutral, have actually acted on the side of Hitler. But, at the same time, Stalin is supplying France and Britain with exports, chiefly lumber.

It was made known today that the Soviet has chartered Norwegian ships to carry lumber and wood pulp to Britain and France, around the North Cape. They're taking that route to avoid the German blockade of the Baltic. The Soviets have also tried to get Danish and Swedish ships. The Norwegians accepted the charter but the Danes and Swedes feel rather cagey, being so close to Germany.

SWEDEN

Still another government refuses to recognize the fourth partition of Poland. Sweden today formally and officially showed her disapproval of the Russian ~~and~~ German conquest. The Swedish government so informed the Polish Minister to Stockholm.

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In other words, the British will make peace with Germany when the Germans throw the Nazis out of the window. They will have to change their form of government to suit the British before the British will talk turkey.

At exactly the same time Premier Daladier of France repeated the steadfast attitude of his country. "France does not wish any longer to live in the state of insecurity of the last few years." So said the French Premier to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies. "France refuses to bow to violence and accomplished facts. She will stand with Great Britain in this war that has been imposed on us."

HALIFAX

British Foreign Secretary Halifax uttered a curious and cautious arrangement of words in the House of Lords today. His Lordship said, ~~that~~, speaking for the Chamberlain government, "we are ready and anxious to join hands with Germany in the work of real world reconstruction. But," he added, "we could not accept reassurances from the present German government. Assurances from the present German government," ^{he repeated,} ~~he declared,~~ "are not enough to guarantee peace."

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EMPIRE

King George's overseas dominions are going to send cabinet ministers to London. That is, for the purpose of perfecting their arrangements for empire defense. Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa are ~~xx~~ each sending one member of the government to take part in the imperial war cabinet. The announcement was made *today* by Anthony Eden, Secretary for the Dominions. They will ^{all} discuss ~~the best~~ way^s of coordinating the war activities of each of the dominions with Great Britain and with each other.

NAVAL PATROLS

There are ~~quite~~ some headaches developing over the declaration at Panama, the three hundred mile neutrality zone around the western continents. ^{Am} ~~A~~ ~~quite~~ unexpected teaser raised its head today. Will the declaration of Panama allow German shipping the freedom of that neutrality zone? There are eighty German merchant vessels interned in neutral ports of both North and South America, mostly South America and the West Indies. The largest number of them are at Curacao, the Dutch port where the liqueur comes from. Only one of them in this country, a freighter in Boston harbor. Now if the declaration of Panama is to be taken literally, those German ships will be free to ply between North and South America and the Caribbean, provided they stick within that three hundred mile zone.

Then there's the question of the reception of the declaration by belligerent nations. Here's a British attitude. The TIMES of London editorially declares that any action taken ~~by the American~~ by the American Navy to enforce prohibitions contained in the Panama declaration would have no sanction in international law and such action would amount to an act of war and nothing else. There is no indication yet of what the German

attitude would be.

Then there's the question of how to patrol that three hundred mile zone. The burden would obviously fall upon Uncle Sam's navy and a terrific burden it would be. All the other republics in America put together, have a total of only six battleships, thirty-seven destroyers, and twenty-two submarines. Then again, how would a nation be punished for breaking that quarantine?

A movement was started today to get Mr. Roosevelt to urge the war-making nations in Europe to quit, declare an armistice. A resolution to this effect was offered in the Senate by Senator Johnson of Colorado. The Westerner finds that the time is auspicious for the United States to use its best efforts to promote an immediate armistice. His resolution was read out in the Senate Chamber today while everybody was waiting for the Neutrality debate to go on. The resolution was then handed over to the Foreign Relations Committee for consideration.

NEUTRALITY

There was another big crowd in the Senate Chamber at Washington today, a packed audience for the continuation of the neutrality debate. ~~The~~ ^{on} ~~attentiveness~~ was more notable in the audience than among the Senators. It looked as though a goodly proportion of our legislators were either at the Yankee Stadium or huddled around a radio listening to the game. This annoyed ~~Senator~~ Tom Connally, the tall, drawling Senator from Texas. He was obviously nettled that his colleagues were more interested in the fight between the New York Yankees and the Cincinnati Reds than ^{in the fight} ~~was~~ between Hitler and France and Britain. There were only about twenty Senators present as he opened, ^{and} he remarked caustically: "Mr. President, I realize there's a World Series going on, but there's another World Series going on in Europe." And he added: "That's the World Series with which I am more concerned." Then he extended his oratorical claws and said: "The absence of some Senators is at times advantageous."

For the rest, the gentleman from Texas spoke in behalf of the bill that President Roosevelt wants, repeal of the present Neutrality Act and substitution of the cash-and-carry plan.

He started with a graceful tribute to Senator Borah's speech on Monday, but he added: "Oratory is not going to win this war. The Siegfried Line will not be broken by oratory. We've got to deal with these things concretely."

With that remark, the Texas Senator almost pointedly hinted at an attitude that could hardly be called neutral. Other speakers in favor of the administration measure have carefully avoided saying that the embargo on arms and munitions should be lifted in order to help France and Britain.

CONANT

Neutrality does not seem to appeal to some college presidents. The other day the President of Yale expressed some decidedly unneutral opinions to the freshman class. ^{He} said the success of Hitler will be disastrous. Today, President Conant of Harvard echoed the sentiments of the Yale prexy. Said he:-
"The defeat of Great Britain and France would jeopardise the hope of free institutions as a basis of modern civilization."

And Harvard's president apparently disapproves of the aim of Congress to keep the United States out of war. In a letter to ^{and former Presidential Candidate} former Governor Landon of Kansas, President Conant said:

"In the discussion in Congress, it seems the only matter before the country is how to keep the United States out of war." And ^{added} ~~says~~ President Conant:- "This attitude is as potentially dangerous as war hysteria."

One sentence in Landon's reply ~~to Conant~~ seems particularly pointed. "There's only one people and one nation that have my immediate concern and interest," wrote Landon to Conant, "and that is the United States of America."

KUHN

Fritz Kuhn, Fuehrer of the Deutsch-America Bund, had another setback in court today. His attorneys applied for a reduction of his fifty thousand dollar bail. Some of the Nazis in New York held a meeting the other day to raise that fifty thousand ~~dollars~~. The amount subscribed was ^{just} a hundred and eighty-nine ^{bucks.} So Kuhn's lawyers complained to the New York Supreme Court that the bail is excessive and prohibitive. The answer was that in the opinion of the court the bail should be increased rather than reduced.

The American Fuehrer's lawyers seem to have been rather out of luck. ~~in that court.~~ The judge presiding was Justice Aaron J. Levy.

BERGDOLL

It was a bad day in court for Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, the draft dodger. The assistant prosecutor, Captain Dillin, argued his side of the case before the court martial. And said he:- "The attempt of Bergdoll to get out of a term in prison by means of the statute of limitations was an insult to ordinary intelligence. Bergdoll," said Captain Dillon, "appears before this court and brazenly says that ^{he} out-foxed the United States Government and therefore is entitled to get the grace of the government as expressed in the statute."

The officers constituting the court agreed with the prosecutor. The statute of limitations does not apply to the case of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll. The court ruled, that, as it was May Twenty-First, Nineteen Twenty, when Bergdoll escaped from a military guard in Philadlephis it happened in time of war. Congress had not yet declared a state of peace with Germany. The statute of limitations does not apply in war-time, therefore it does not apply to Bergdoll.

BASEBALL

The opening of the World Series provided quite a surprise. Oh yes, I know, most people expected the Yankees to win. But they did it in a most unexpected way. Instead of blasting their way to victory with their usual fusillade of slugging, the Bronx fence-busters won the day by fielding so clean, so expert, so adroit, it was amazing.

Many a time I have sat in the Yankee Stadium watching the Yankees win with a terrific barrage of fence-busting hits. But today it wasn't that, it was the Yankee infield that seemed little short of miraculous. Three double plays in one World Series game! The redhot combination of Frankie Crosetti, Flash Gordon and Dahlgren worked with a finesse and precision which recalled the palmiest days of baseball fielding, the famous Tinker-to-Evers-toChance combination, that used to move baseball reporters to poetry.

It sure was tough luck on the Cincinnati pitcher, Paul Derringer. To have pitched such a beautiful game as he did and then be defeated by the breaks in the last inning! By the narrow score of two-to-one! Nevertheless, the baseball world is ringing with Derringer's praise tonight. He turned in a great job. But that

brilliant infield behind Red Ruffing, won the day for the Yanks.

But tomorrow is another day, and another game. Maybe it will be a Red Day.

ASTROLOGY

Over in France there's a professor at a School of Mines with a sideline of astrology. He's looking at the stars about the war. He predicted that it would happen. Knew the war was inevitable, all because of the approach of Mars to the earth. The red planet, in the opinion of the astrologer, has a particular effect upon Hitler. He was born at seven o'clock in the evening of April Twentieth, Eighteen Eighty-Nine, under the sign of Mars. And Uranus was also rising in the sky about that time. That made him a man addicted to sudden and violent decision.

This professor points out that every astrologer in the last four hundred years has been predicting a great upheaval in Nineteen Thirty-Nine. The first of the soothsayers to prophesy that was the famous Nostradamus.

The stars have not told this professor-astrologer when the war would end. But he's gazing hard. And Hugh, at what are you gazing so hard?