

Of course we'd all like to think there is going to be peace; ~~that~~ everything is going to be fine. We'd all like to think that. But is that what is going to happen.

Back in the 1930's Hitler organized his people and he published his book which could be read everywhere in which he declared that world conquest was his purpose. He was able to get supreme power in Germany. But the western nations did nothing to prepare to resist him. In 1938 he grabbed a large part of Czechoslovakia. Chamberlain from England went over and met him at Munich and Hitler promised not to take any more. They had a negotiation. They had an agreement. That settled it. He came back to England and I have at home a record of the words he publically declared.

He said, I have talked with Hitler and he has told me he has no further territorial designs. He said this means peace in our generation. He said, Why are we here digging trenches and making preparations? He said because of what happened in that little country of Czechoslovakia far away where we can hardly even pronounce the name! That's what Chamberlain said. England did practically nothing as Hitler reached out and reached out and carried out the program he had publicly announced he was going to carry on. If it had not been for the channel with that 13 miles of water which in those days was a formidable barrier, you can be sure that England like the rest of Europe would have fallen within a very few months. And Hitler today would be ruling all of ~~Europe~~ Europe.

Peace in our time. We want peace. We don't want preparations for war. We don't want to bother about war. Let's shut our eyes, and it will all go away. I don't think we here can have much effect upon what's going to happen. I think that there are forces--that there is teaching in our schools and has been for the last 40 years, that has affected most of our educated classes and that has affected practically all our journalists. There is a situation that we can do very little to affect. But I think it is a situation of which we need to be aware. Because its results will greatly affect our lives in the years that are ahead.

Hitler proceeded to attack and to conquer nation after nation, and the American Congress passes resolution after resolution that we should be neutral. We should do nothing to help any belligerent. We don't want war. It was forbidden for any American ship to carry any instrument of war. to any nation in Europe. I doubt if the U.S. would even have gotten into the war if Roosevelt had not by clever arrangement put the Japanese into such a situation that they had no choice except to make an attack. And they did it so skillfully at Pearl Harbour that the whole nation was aroused. Then we had a year and a half to two years to get ready, to get into production of munitions and what was necessary because we had the ocean protecting us on both sides. Today the ~~ocean~~ ocean is no longer a barrier.