

## PAN-AMERICAN COFFEE BUREAU SERIES

November 30<sup>th</sup>, 1941

Description: ER discusses the United States' relationship with Latin America and the Good Neighbor policy with her guest, Nelson Rockefeller, who was the head of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

Participants: ER, Nelson Rockefeller, Dan Seymour, Leon Pearson

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[Dan Seymour:] Get more out of your work.

[Leon Pearson:] Get more fun.

[Dan Seymour:] Get more out of life, with coffee.

[Leon Pearson:] This is Leon Pearson, speaking for *the Pan-American Coffee Bureau*, which represents seven good neighbor coffee-growing nations, and presenting to American families your Sunday evening visit with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. This evening, Mrs. Roosevelt has as her guest Mr. Nelson Rockefeller, coordinator of Inter-American Affairs and recently appointed member of the Economic Defense Board. Mrs. Roosevelt will discuss with Mr. Rockefeller hemisphere defense and our Good Neighbor policy. But first, Dan Seymour has a word from our sponsors and your good neighbors, the *Pan-American Coffee Bureau*. (0:39)

[Dan Seymour:] Most important of all the products of our good neighbors, the republicans of Latin America, is the Americas' favorite drink, coffee. Did you ever stop to think every delicious aromatic cup of coffee you drink is actually a gesture of goodwill to the coffee growers of those interesting countries? Yes, and did you know that coffee will actually help you in your work? Help you get more out of every hour of relaxation? Prominent people, Americans who do things and do them successfully, are discovering that coffee gives them extra energy for their work, that coffee steadies their nerves under pressure or nerve strain. You too can do the same. Try an extra cup of coffee with your evening meal tonight. Try an extra cup with your lunch tomorrow. See how much more you get out of your work, how much more your evenings mean to you, how much more you get out of life with coffee.

[Leon Pearson:] Thank you, Dan Seymour. And now here's the *Pan-American Coffee Bureau's* Sunday evening news reviewer and news maker, to give us her usual interesting observations on the world we live in, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

[ER:] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I'm very happy to have Mr. Nelson Rockefeller with me tonight on this broadcast, because I've been seeing a good many of our neighbors to the south of us lately, and they've left me with a great many questions which I want to ask you, Mr. Rockefeller. You head up one of our defense agencies, and I wonder if you would tell us what the Office of Coordinator of Int-Inter-American Affairs does in our effort to defend democracy. (2:13)

[Nelson Rockefeller:] The duty of our office is to coordinate the work of all agencies, public and private, which are striving for hemisphere defense and for the complete effectiveness of the president's Good Neighbor policy.

[ER:] That sounds to me a very general and broad statement. Couldn't you give us some more details, Mr. Rockefeller?

[Nelson Rockefeller:] Well, for one thing, Mrs. Roosevelt, it's our job to know what we need from the other republics. Here I mean the materials we need for our defense and wellbeing, and what they need from us, at a time when normal trade and normal sources of supply are disrupted. And then to find out the means of getting their materials to our factories and getting our products to them. Of course, all of this involves problems of credit, priorities, and shipping.

[ER:] Yes, I can understand that, Mr. Rockefeller, because that same problem exists here in different parts of our own country, and some of our own [recording skips] of more than the emergency period, more even than material problems, don't they?

[Nelson Rockefeller:] Ours is really a far-reaching and permanent program from the economic standpoint. In addition, we must work in cooperation with all the other American republics, so that our twenty-one nations may come to understand one another, to help one another. Not only to ensure a stable and healthy economy throughout the Western world but to ensure a more complete spiritual and mental understanding on which a sound economy must be based. (3:45)

[ER:] Certainly it is necessary to make this period less difficult from the material standpoint, in all the Americas if we can do so, especially if we are forced to defend this hemisphere against armed aggression. But we need above all else a thorough understanding of our own democracy. If we're going to prevent the acceptance by our neighbors of propaganda in favor of dictatorships, we must know we have something worth defending against any threat, if we are to put our whole energies and our whole hearts into defense.

[Nelson Rockefeller:] I certainly agree, Mrs. Roosevelt. It's mere oratory to say with glowing words that free, that democratic way of life is the best way, unless we prove it by the way people live in our democracies.

[ER:] Mr. Rockefeller, I want to be specific for a minute. We all read about loans made to the other republics, and about action taken here to help them in one way or another. I wish you'd tell us some of the things that the other republics have done to help us in our defense effort.

[Nelson Rockefeller:] Well, I can't tell you all in the few minutes we have, Mrs. Roosevelt, but I can cite a few outstanding examples. For instance, three of these republics are sending us almost all of their copper, a metal so urgently needed in our defense that this government now virtually forbids its use in anything but defense supplies. Again, the other republics have joined us in putting to work idle ships, ships of Axis powers or of countries occupied by them, which were lying in harbors in this hemisphere. Now many of these ships are engaged in carrying essential materials back and forth among the Americas. (5:37)

[ER:] We hear a great deal about Nazi propaganda in the other republics, and about their control of important air fields and airlines. What have the other countries done about that, Mr. Rockefeller?

[Nelson Rockefeller:] Our neighboring republics have taken definite and vigorous action against the Nazi propagandists, who seek to separate the people of this hemisphere. In several countries, airlines previously dominated by Nazis of fascist interests have been forced to give up their strategically located airfields, some of them near the Panama Canal. German and Italian pilots are no longer permitted to fly over the territories where they could so easily obtain information of military value to oversea dictators with ambitions to dominate the whole world. Furthermore, through the operation of the so-called blacklist, these enemies of democracy are being deprived of important sources of income. Sometime, Mrs. Roosevelt, I'd like to tell you, country by country, of the magnificent contribution the other republics have made to hemisphere defense [recording skips].

[ER:] I hope you will, Mr. Rockefeller. And I hope that every citizen of the United States will learn about the vital cooperation given by our good neighbors. Certainly if the other republics are sending us almost all of their strategic materials, we must let them have the products which are essential to their well-being.

[Nelson Rockefeller:] Beyond question, Mrs. Roosevelt. We can't expect them to let us have what we need if by doing so they deprive themselves of the necessities of their lives. And now, Mrs. Roosevelt, with your permission, I'd like to ask you a question. Is there anything that the OCD can do to help the people of the United States to know and understand sympathetically our neighbors of this hemisphere? (7:33)

[ER:] We have become alphabet-minded, haven't we? I was amused the other day, to hear that this habit has spread to England, and have an Englishman refer to the United Kingdom as the UK. I had to think for a second before I knew what he meant. So in answering your question, Mr. Rockefeller, I think I'd better say the work of the Office of Civilian Defense is carried out by state and local defense councils and volunteers in the various communities. We in the national office, and in the regional offices, give advice and guidance. I hope that many communities, as part of civilian defense, will undertake stimulating programs in hemisphere understanding, in learning the language, the history, the geography, and the culture of our neighbors. Can your office help our office plan such programs?

[Nelson Rockefeller:] Yes, indeed, Mrs. Roosevelt. We can furnish to you, or as a matter of fact, to any interested group in the Americas outlines of programs in hemisphere affairs and lists of sources of information. Many cities and towns are already carrying out extensive programs in all aspects of interchange among the Americas: cultural, educational, and economic.

[ER:] I'm glad to hear that, and I hope many more communities will do so - and not for just a day or a week devoted to inter-American affairs, but as a permanent part of their community life and their civilian defense of democracy. (9:16)

[Nelson Rockefeller:] I'm sure the OCD can be of tremendous value in promoting hemisphere understanding. You remember, Mrs. Roosevelt, that the delegates of the other countries in the Inter-American Commission of Women, at their recent meeting in Washington, unanimously adopted a resolution recommending that women plan programs similar to the OCD in their respective countries. Moreover, they asked the United States member, Miss Mary Winslow, who is also a member of our staff, to seek the cooperation of the OCD in setting up these programs.

[ER:] These women are so important as leaders in their own countries, and so sincerely and significantly interested in the defense of our hemisphere, it is gratifying that they should believe that our office can help them. Of course, we shall be delighted to give them full information about what we are doing, but after all, they will plan their programs to suit the needs of their people. A plan that succeeds in the United States might not succeed in another republic, just as a civilian defense program suited to a Midwestern city might not work in a city in New England. I'm sure, however, that we can learn many valuable things from the other republics after they get started. I hope we can continuously exchange experiences.

[Nelson Rockefeller:] You met these women from the other republics, didn't you, Mrs. Roosevelt?

[ER:] Yes, I did, Mr. Rockefeller. They came to a meeting called by Miss Eloise Davidson, who is in charge of women's activities in OCD, at which representatives of sixty-seven national women's organizations gathered, and we were particularly happy to have the representatives of the Inter-American Commission of Women join us in this meeting. Señora [Ana Rosa Schlieper de] Martinez Guerrero is the chairman, she comes from Buenos Aires in the Argentine, where the women run all the hospitals, and she is now sponsoring the first hospital built for workers. I was happy, too, to have them attend the reception

afterwards at the White House. I was especially impressed with the earnestness, the alertness, and the initiative of these women from the other republics. (11:26)

[Nelson Rockefeller:] You know, I think that the result of that meeting of women of the Americas constitute further proof that the better the countries of the Western hemisphere know one another, the more we like and respect one another, and the more we are eager to cooperate.

[ER:] That's true of all relationships. Personal knowledge of other people makes a tremendous difference. I should like to ask you, Mr. Rockefeller, do you believe that we can achieve hemisphere solidarity?

[Nelson Rockefeller:] Absolutely, Mrs. Roosevelt. There's no question in my mind but that we can. But we can't achieve it if we have the idea that solidarity means uniformity. We in this hemisphere are twenty-one different republics. We have different histories, all of them exciting, but we have the common history of hatred of oppression, and love for freedom and independence. True, we have different cultures, but each of our countries can find in all the others much that is new and inspiring. We have different resources, but our resources can supplement and benefit one another.

[ER:] That is very important for all of us to understand. After all, what we are defending is the right of every country to work out its own destiny in its own way, to live in peace and security, and have access to the good things of life. It is that right of peoples which Hitler seeks to destroy. You have confirmed my confidence that the countries of this hemisphere will never submit to foreign domination. Certainly all the varying peoples of this half of the world have the common heritage of resistance to any threat against our freedom and to any external domination. (13:12)

[Leon Pearson:] Thank you, Mrs. Roosevelt, and thank you, Mr. Nelson Rockefeller. I'm sure our listeners have a much keener understanding of hemisphere defense and the Good Neighbor policy. And now, Dan Seymour, I understand you have a message from Gary Cooper.

[Dan Seymour:] Yes, *the Pan-American Coffee Bureau* is honored to have Gary Cooper, star of the picture *Sergeant York* write us this message about coffee: "Whether it's a quick lunch on the Hollywood lot, or an afternoon bracer during the hard work of filming a picture, or the opener to a quiet relaxing evening at home, I sure enjoy a good satisfying cup of coffee. I find coffee gives me more energy, yes, and steadies my nerves. Coffee's my favorite drink." Why not take a tip from Gary Cooper, and the thousands of other successful Americans who are getting more out of life with coffee. Try drinking an extra cup of coffee with lunch, with the evening meal. See how coffee steadies your nerves, gives you more energy.

[Leon Pearson:] Next week at this time, Mrs. Roosevelt will be with us again to give us more of her interesting views on world affairs. Until then, this is Leon Pearson saying good evening for the *Pan-American Coffee Bureau*. And don't forget that good night cup of coffee. (14:23)

[Unknown announcer:] This is the National Broadcasting Company.

[NBC chimes]

(14:38)

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Transcribed from holdings at Franklin D. Roosevelt Library (FDRL)  
File(s): 46-5:29

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