

Good Evening, Everybody:

More news from General ~~Italo~~ Balbo, Premier Mussolini's active and flying Air Minister. (General Balbo, beard, armada and all, are on American soil. ^{They made it!} They've jumped the North Atlantic. They took off from the harbor of Reykjavik, ~~in~~ Iceland at three o'clock this morning, Eastern Daylight Time, and the vanguard of the Armada alighted on the water outside Cartwright, Labrador, at twenty minutes past one this afternoon, Eastern Daylight Time.)

I learned direct by telephone from the Radio Station at ^{Labrador,} Battle Harbor, that Balbo's own ship was the first to glide down on to the waters of Sandwich Bay, ^{— the first to reach North America.} Thereafter the planes under his command kept coming in squads of three and four at a time, ^{just streaming down out of the North Atlantic sky.} The weather on the Labrador Coast itself was clear

enough. But it seems that for a considerable part of the flight

Italy's crack airmen had plenty of fog and wind to overcome. This hop of fifteen hundred miles was the longest span scheduled on the flight to Chicago for the Italian airmen. ^{They hope to fly} N.B.C.

^{ago.}
on toward Chicago tomorrow. Well, that's great and by the way Balbo's last group of planes just landed a moment ago.

MATTERN

The Soviet Government is certainly laying itself out to help our stranded round the world flier, Jimmie Mattern. A wireless message I have just received from Moscow by way of London tells me that one of Russia's ace fliers, a pilot named Levanievsky, is on his way to ~~and~~ ^{remote} Anadyr, in Siberia, where Jimmie has been stranded. Levanievsky will take Jimmie in a Soviet Government seaplane direct to Nome, Alaska. Uncle Sam's Coast Guard destroyer Northland which is cruising in ^{the} neighboring ^{good} ~~waters~~, has been unable to proceed to Jimmie's rescue because of the complicated negotiations that have to be gone through to permit an American ship to enter Russian waters. So the Moscow government is sending ^{the} a seaplane ^{for} ~~to~~ Jimmie as a ^{graceful, magnanimous} short cut out of the difficulty.

N.B.C.

LINDBERGH

The Lindberghs are continuing on their way ^{too.} They took off shortly before noon today from Halifax, Nova Scotia, ^{up the coast} ~~on their way~~ to Labrador ^{then to} and Greenland. The Radio Marine Corporation of America received a wireless sent by Colonel Lindbergh, but it did not say where he would land. They probably will stop at St. John's, Newfoundland, for the night.

N.B.C.

CONFERENCE

Today There was another switch at the World Economic Conference in London. Uncle Sam's delegation executed ~~another~~ ^{more} one of those about-face maneuvers and in the words of my informant, astonished the French ^{again.} ~~once more.~~ A wireless from London has it that the Americans ^{have} abandoned the policy that had been laid down for prolonging the conference, and cut down still further the few remaining topics to be discussed.

This ^{word} was broken to the Conference by a statement from Senator Key Pittman of Nevada. Senator Pittman conveyed to the Conference communication from the American Federal Reserve System. This communication said that any action by the Conference to bring about international cooperation between the Central Banking Systems of the various countries would at present be premature. The joker in this is that it has ~~not~~ eliminated the last surviving question of any real importance that was left for the conference to consider.

Meanwhile, however, the conference tried to make a

CONFERENCE - 2

fresh spurt with its discussions ~~of~~ on economics and trade.

A new sub-sub-committee was appointed to consider the question of the production and marketing of tin. That hardly sounds like a world shattering topic.

I ~~heard~~ ~~that~~ the conference will soon hold a plenary session, that is, a session of all the delegates to consider a complete recess, ~~that is,~~ unless the question of international monetary relations is opened up again.

And the news from Washington on this subject is that President Roosevelt expects the conference may adjourn along in August, but only for a month. I learned by telephone from the White House that this is based on the belief that the European delegates will want to take a vacation about that time. At least that's how they put it at the White House.

Incidentally, a recess of this kind was foreseen by the President when Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald of Great Britain paid his preliminary visit to Washington last April. Mr.

10

CONFERENCE - 3

Roosevelt said that he and Mr. MacDonald were joking about the possibility of an adjournment at the opening of the British grouse shooting season which comes the 12th of August. It is proverbially difficult ~~to~~ to induce any of the English ruling classes to stay on the job in the grouse season.

The President also said that every good European of the continental countries likes to spend August at one or another of the famous watering places, drinking terrible smelling waters and taking the "cure."

N.B.C.

HANOVER, PA.

On my way across Pennsylvania, by autogyro, today, I stopped for fuel on the outskirts of a town with a picturesque history, Hanover, Pa. A little over a year ago it was known as the waterless town, not because they had so much moonshine, but because the ^{privately}~~corporation~~-owned water plant had broken down. Naturally a citizens' emergency committee was gotten together in a hurry, headed by several of the directors of the Hanover Shoe Company. They waved their magic wands and the town took over the water system, and today it has one of the ideal, municipally-owned water systems of America, with everything taken care of for generations to come, and with a great reforestation plan for all the adjoining hills.

Hanover also has an unusual newspaper, the Evening Sun with, I believe, the biggest circulation of any paper in America in proportion to the population. Hanover has about twelve thousand people, and the Evening Sun has fifteen thousand circulation.

Also, the Adams Brothers have two Sunoco stations in Hanover that are worth visiting if you pass that way. While we

8

were gassing up the autogyro the attendant told me an interesting human interest bit. It seems that James Lick -- L-i-c-k -- who worked in a Hanover organ shop as a cabinet maker, fell in love with a Hanover girl, but she turned him down. James Lick, because of his bitter disappointment, left Pennsylvania, went to South America, then to California, renouncing women, religion, and the world in general. But he had a bit of luck with land investments in California, and built up a vast fortune. Part of it he spent erecting one of the great astronomical observatories of the world, the Lick Observatory, that we have all heard of.

L.T. Personal Corres.

RECOVERY

(More news from NIRA, the National Industrial Recovery Act. The ship building and ship repairing industry has prepared its code of fair competition and submitted it to Administrator General Johnson.) The General set July 19th as the date for hearings on this code. And the Steel industry announced that it too has a code almost ready for the scrutiny of the Administrator, the fourth code to be so submitted. It is hoped that this one will be found satisfactory.

(Three industries have been discussing their codes at big meetings at Waldorf Astoria in New York today:- hosiery, bolts and nuts, and ^{the} jewelers.) I understand they were holding hot sessions with everybody talking at once.

Incidentally here's another thing we learned from the White House today. President Roosevelt feels that the Industrial Recovery organization under General Johnson has made good progress. The President thinks this is particularly true when one considers the large number of industries involved and the fact that only two or three of them did any preliminary work on their codes. The President also feels that there is only a small minority of ~~in~~ industries who are not working faithfully to draw up their codes.

So, General Johnson is planning to save time by drafting a temporary blanket code which will cover the matters of wages in various industries that have not already submitted their ideas to the government.

BERLE

Another appointment was announced today in connection with President Roosevelt's so-called Brain Trust. Professor August Berle, Jr., one of the President's principal advisors, has been appointed special counsel to the Department of Agriculture. In this capacity he will help the Department work out the sugar trade agreement.

Professor Berle already has one job in the government. He is special Assistant to the Directors of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in which his function is to give advice on matters concerning the railroads.

N.B.C.

6

ARGENTINE

It looks as though reciprocal trade agreements between Uncle Sam and ~~the~~ Argentine Republic will soon become an accomplished fact. A stat^ument_A was issued by the White House today that President Roosevelt in the words of his famous cousin, is delighted at the suggestion.

Uncle Sam is ~~already~~ all ready to go ahead with formal disussions of these trade agreements with Argentina. In fact, acting Secretary of ~~the~~ State Phillips is already discussing details with the Argentine Ambassador.

I learned moreover that other ~~tr~~ade agreements are being cooked up with a number of countries. For instance, Norway and Sweden, Brazil, Columbia, and Chile. And negotiations are contemplated ~~that~~ with still more nations later on.

The principal things Argentina wants to sell us are mutton, fruit, and other agricultural produce. And in return it is expected that the Argentin^{ians}_A will spend the proceeds of their trade here for United States made goods.

N.B.C.

5
BOOTLEG OIL

An executive order was issued by the President today which will bring cheers to the mouth of everybody connected with the oil industry. This executive order prohibits traffic in petroleum unlawfully produced or withdrawn from storage. Of course, this order necessarily concerns only the transportation of oil in interstate or foreign commerce. What it means in short is that Federal Government is going to take a hand in ~~putting~~ cutting down traffic in bootleg oil and gasoline.

N.B.C.

BUSINESS

Here's a business item. A big firm of distillers in Canada evidently is completely confident that prohibition will be repealed. This firm has filed plans for one of the largest distillers^y in the world, which it will build at Peoria, Illinois. It will cost a million dollars, and construction will begin quite soon.

N.B.C.

SMITH

Former Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York, seems to be following to a certain extent the footsteps of the late Calvin Coolidge. He has gone into the insurance business. The happy warrior in the brown derby has been elected a director in the New York Life.

N.B.C.

KIDNAP

(The legal forces of the United States are still completely at sea in the matter of those three audacious kidnappings that are at present occupying the attention of the authorities. And by legal forces I mean the police of two states, three cities, and the Federal Government.

Out in Illinois the law is baffled in the cases of both Jerome Factor, commonly known as Jake the Barber, and of August Luer, the rich banker and meat packer of Alton, Illinois.)
In the case of Mr. Luer, who as I mentioned yesterday, is seventy-seven years old and suffering from heart trouble, one hundred sheriff's deputies are scouring the countryside for information, twenty of the Illinois state police are on the job, as well as Uncle Sam's men. Chief of police Hart of Alton tells me that ~~XXXX~~ the Luer family is still waiting for some communication from the kidnappers to indicate how much ransom they demand.

In the case of Jake the Barber, there are rumors that his signet ring has been returned to the family. But the families

KIDNAP - 2

refuses to discuss the case at all.

3

Meanwhile in Albany, New York, a complete air of mystery seems to cover the case of young Jehn J. O'Connell, son of a prominent upstate New York politician. Rumors were rife that the family had paid one hundred thousand dollars, less than half of the quarter million first demanded. Also that the young man would soon be home. But there are no signs of him. Here again the Albany City police, New York state troopers, and agents of the Department of Justice are still on the search for the abducted young man. Chief of police Smurl told me on the telephone this afternoon that there were rumors by the score and half a dozen clues, but nothing really tangible to go on. Other police officials hinted that contact had been established ~~in~~ with the snatchers, but here again all information is ~~pretty~~ vague.

One thing seems pretty clear, however, in all these three cases. The law is helpless and the families of the abducted men instead of cooperating with the police are doing their utmost

KIDNAP - 3

to put the officers of the law ~~on the one~~² side and to compound
a felony by complying with the snatchers' demand for ransom.

(2) For to pay ransom in such a case, no matter how high the motive,
is actually nothing more or less than compounding a felony which
in itself is a felony.

XXXX

N.B.C.

COAST GUARD

Uncle Sam's Coast Guard boys certainly were busy in the North Atlantic today. No less than three messages for help were received at New York headquarters from the neighborhood of the Delaware Capes. The destroyer Niobe was sent out and had to take in tow two disabled schooners. And the destroyer Icarus in answer to ^{a call} ~~the S.O.S.~~ went to the assistance of a passenger steamer, ~~on~~ The Highland Bell², which was flying a distress signal thirty miles east of Cape May, New Jersey.

N.B.C.

HUSBAND

The current issue of the Literary Digest relates an interesting episode which ~~apparently~~ occurred in Boston. A certain newspaper employs a ~~young writer~~ hand writing expert to interpret the characters of such readers as choose to send in samples of their writing. An enthusiastic lady reader wrote a letter as follows: "Enclosed please find specimen of my fiance's handwriting. Can you tell me if he's likely to make a good husband?"

①
Back came the following reply: "No, my dear, I'm afraid your fiance will not make a good husband. He's been a pretty rotten one to me for three years. However, thanks for the evidence."

~~And so long until tomorrow.~~

Literary Digest.

WHALES

According to the Royal Gazette and Colonist of Hamilton, Bermuda, a British Research Ship with a crew of scientists has recently returned from Antarctic waters. Among other things, the professors made a study of the life and habits of whales. Are you interested in the home life of the whale? Well, if you are, here's something:-

The blue whale feeds on a small shrimplike creature, two inches long, known as the krill. The krill in turn feeds on diatoms, and the diatoms are plants that feed upon the nitrogen cells and carbon dioxides of sea water. Which all goes to prove the old saying was right, that:-

Great fleas have little fleas upon their backs to
bite 'em,
And little fleas have lesser fleas, and so on
ad infinitum,
And the great fleas themselves, in turn, have
greater fleas to go on;
While these again have greater still, and greater
still, and so on. Yes, it's a custom, even with
the whales. And -- SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.