

L.T. - SUN, THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1934.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Some real hot ~~NEW~~ news tonight, red hot from the field of honor. One of those long promised duels was fought in Paris today. And, of course, it was all about the now historic Stavisky scandal. This is only the first of many, if the boys keep their word.

The deadly combat was fought between a member of the Chamber of Deputies and an editor. The editor had written an article about the deputy which commented unkindly on the fact that Mr. ~~The~~ Deputy had divided his time between being <sup>a lawmaker</sup> ~~the deputy~~ and ~~being the~~ <sup>a</sup> lawyer for the late Russian bank embezzler, ~~Serge Stavisky~~.  
The Deputy felt <sup>grieved over these harsh words</sup> ~~hurt~~ and said the only thing that would <sup>soothe</sup> ~~make him~~ his wounded feelings would be to take ~~feel better would be~~ a shot at ~~Mr.~~ The Editor.

And so it all came off today. ~~Mr.~~ The Deputy, being the aggrieved party, had the choice of weapons. He chose the proverbial "pistols for two and coffee for one", pistols at twenty paces. And so it was all arranged according to the ~~code~~ <sup>Duello,</sup> the old Code of Honor.  
They met in a shivering cold wind. Mr. ~~The~~ Deputy had his shot

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At Mr. Editor, in fact two shots. Mr. Editor had the same number. They made four holes. Not in each other but in that gay Parisien atmosphere. One of the bullets nearly punctured the top hat of the Master of Ceremonies. The score: No runs, no hits, four errors.

The seconds declared honor was satisfied but the combatants were displeased. They wanted to go on blazing away. But the Code of Honor said No ! So, they ordered coffee for two.

Schoonmaker



## WELFARE ISLAND

That New York prison scandal is bigger than ever.

In some ways it's the most shocking scandal that ever broke in the United States. What makes it even worse is the revelation that the conditions unearthed by Mayor LaGuardia's Commissioner of Corrections, had been well known to many people for a long time. The Secretary of the New York Prisons Association sent a ~~xxx~~ detailed report last August to the official who was at that time Commissioner of Corrections, but nothing was done.

Commissioner MacCormick, who was one of the first men appointed by LaGuardia, has served for years in charge of Federal prisons. And this is what he says today about Welfare Island:- "It's the worst, most corrupt prison in the country. I found there a vicious circle of crime and depravity almost beyond belief."

The prison seems to have been controlled by two gangs of confirmed, dangerous professional criminals. These men and their henchmen lived in luxury at the expense of the other inmates & whom they robbed and swindled with absolute impunity. They stole the best of the food, which

they ate themselves, leaving only the spoiled remains for the fourteen hundred other prisoners. They controlled the sale of narcotics, gambling and all other privileges. The gangster bosses were quartered comfortably in the hospital. Less than one man in ten of the supposed patients in the hospital ward was actually sick. The leaders of these gangs had their own servants, one a collection of pigeons which some way were used to run drugs.

Commissioner MacCormick today found still more weapons in various hiding places.

The District Attorney of New York County today started an investigation. He's going to find out which political leaders were responsible for the privileges given to those gorillas. And the district attorney, though he's a Tammany man, says he will prosecute, no matter who is hit.

Today the echoes of this scandal are reverberating all over the country.



## INCOME TAX

~~The boys and girls in~~ The House of Representatives  
beginning to make up <sup>its</sup> ~~their~~ minds on just what our income tax  
is to be next year. The Ways and Means Committee of the House  
has been busy talking things over, and the outlook is for drastic  
revision of the present law. For one thing, the clause referring  
to capital gains and losses will be completely rewritten.

However, that refers only to corporations and the  
ultra rich. For the rest of us, the normal rate will be four per  
cent on the first four thousand dollars of taxable income.  
Surtaxes will begin after that. And there'll be no change in  
the allowances we get now for depreciation and all that sort of  
thing.

NBC

## BUSINESS

Some encouraging business news comes from the Motor Boat Show at the Grand Central Palace in New York. I have just received a Western Union Telegram from Jay Smith, President of the Chris Craft Corporation. He tells me that already the sales made at the show are equal to fifty-one percent of his company's entire volume of business in 1933. What's more, all these sales are backed up by cash deposits. Brother Chris Craft Smith tells me further that this is the largest volume of unfilled orders his company has had since 1928, and, it means a production schedule ahead that will compare favorably with 1929, their record year.

And here's something from Akron, Ohio, the heart of the rubber factory belt. The increase in the sale of cars has the folks in that region on their toes. All the leading tire companies, Goodrich, Goodyear, Firestone and General, are giving their people an increase of ten percent in all their plants.



Captain Eddie  
Rickenbacker.

North American  
Aviation.

Jan. 25, 1934.

LOWELL THOMAS

Well, tonight we have as our guest one of the most important men in aviation, Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, an official of North American Aviation, affiliated with General Motors Corporation.

Eddie, I understand Transcontinental and Western Air, one of your lines, is getting a whole fleet of the fastest transport planes in the world. Give us the low down on this, will you?

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Capt. RICKENBACKER

Yes, Lowell, that is correct. In line with President Roosevelt's Recovery Program, we are spending \$3,500,000 for new planes, which will mean added employment for many men in the manufacturing end of the aviation business. We have purchased 41 Douglas 14-passenger Luxury airliners, each powered by two 700 horsepower Wright Cyclone engines, of the same type as that used by Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh on their recent flight covering all sides of the Atlantic ocean.

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LOWELL THOMAS

What is new about these planes?

CAPT. RICKENBACKER

We have reduced noise to an absolute minimum so you can fly across the country without feeling the usual effects of a long trip.

Another thing - these new ships will really fly with a full load on one engine. They are also equipped with Sperry automatic pilots that fly the ship on its true course without the need for human hands; in fact, they do everything except think for the human pilot.

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LOWELL THOMAS

How fast will these planes fly?

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CAPT. RICKENBACKER

They have a top speed of 217 miles an hour, but we plan to cruise them at 190, which will enable us to carry passengers and mail from New York to Los Angeles in 15 hours - dinner in New York and breakfast on the Pacific Coast. And speaking of the air mail, this is one of the new developments of our contract air mail lines which have made the service here a model for the

entire world. Only today, the British Parliament started to consider a plan for a new a~~il~~ mail system modeled after ours here in the United States. If we keep on with this work, we soon will be able to transport a whole Army and its supplies anywhere in the United States within twelve hours. That means everything to our national defense.

You know, Lowell, we think that wars are a thing of the past, but other nations don't think so. They are pumping ahead full steam, and I know that it would not pay this nation to let the others get ahead of us. And what the others are doing is to build up their air transport systems just as fast as possible, in order to keep technical development abreast of their rivals and be ready for any emergency. They are trying to capture the international trade routes of the world with the airplane, using the fastest means yet devised of getting from one place to another. Reliability and speed are most important, especially when the speed is more than three miles a minute.

Lowell, this is what we have been dreaming of and hoping for in air transportation, combining speed with the



comforts and quietude of your own home. This is why we are proud of these new transport planes which will fly from New York to Los Angeles, a distance of 2,650 miles, in 15 hours, three quarters of a day or - think of it - only 900 minutes.

## VETERANS

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The American Legion has hopes of getting more money for the veterans out of this session of Congress. Representatives of the Legion today submitted its program to a committee of the Senate.

One of the things they want is free hospital treatment for all veterans who are unable to pay for it. Also, compensation for all <sup>who are</sup> disabled, with the proviso that it <sup>be</sup> ~~be~~ up to Uncle Sam to prove that <sup>such</sup> ~~the~~ veterans did not get that way as a result of the War. At present the <sup>burden of</sup> ~~proof~~ <sup>proof</sup> is on the veteran. ~~that he did.~~

The Legion's program involves the outlay of forty million dollars over and above the twenty-one million compensation ~~which was~~ restored ~~by an~~ executive order of <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ President, Roosevelt.



## WEATHER

The Weather Man has something for us today. It looked as though this premature spring might last forever. But, the reports from Chicago show that Jack Frost is on the way; in fact for the Eastern states he's just around the corner. In the Middelwestern States the thermometer has already taken a big flop from forty-three to fifteen degrees, and the prophecy is: For tomorrow, snow, and I'm headed south for a broadcast from Washington and then the weekend in West Virginia.

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## TEMPLE

I paid a visit to Baalbek today, to that fabulous temple of Jupiter as it stands in ruins over in ancient Syria -- also as it was in the days of the Caesars when tens of thousands of pilgrims tramped to it to pay reverence to the old pagan god Baal whom the Romans identified with Jupiter.

My visit to Baalbek was made here in the R.C.A. Building, Rockefeller Center, New York. There is here, on exposition, a replica of those prodigious ruins over in Syria. Also a reconstruction of the temple made by a French scientist after a lifelong study.

I had always heard about Baalbek from my father who considers them the greatest antiquities on this earth. I used to wonder as I stood gazing at those immense columns and cyclopean walls in which are embodied individual stones so great that they seemed a miracle. I wondered what that Syrian temple was like before the passing of time -- the wars of the Romans, the Saracens, and the Crusaders.

I saw it today. I saw it a dream-like vision of Greco-Roman art, immense and exquisite.

FIRE

4

Something terrible seems to have happened at Shanghai.

~~They have just handed me~~ <sup>Q</sup> <sup>stalea</sup> a radiogram that a ship burned to the water's edge. More than two hundred people perished.

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## DENTIST

The cops in Jersey City had a little surprise. My friends on the Jersey Journal tell me that they arrested a gentleman for reckless driving. He is a dentist. When they took him to the police station and questioned him, he permitted himself the exceedingly rash and inadvisable liberty of talking back to the cops. Then, when he was booked and charged with disorderly conduct, he suddenly collapsed. They called in a doctor to examine him and the doctor said he had a heart murmur. Thereupon, they loosened his clothes in order to bring him to, and in so doing they found in his pocket what seemed to be a fountain pen. One of the cops was examining the fountain pen and as he released the cap, there was a bang! And in two seconds the whole place became flooded with tear gas! It's just plain mysterious.

## EINSTEIN

(3) We learn something new today about the mathematic<sup>al</sup> wizard, Dr. Albert Einstein. The doctor and his Gnädigie Frau were visitors today at the White House. The President received them in the executive offices and the first thing Dr. Einstein's eye lit on was Mr. Roosevelt's famous collection of ~~xx~~ prints of ships. As you may know, it is one of the finest ~~collectionsxx collection~~ of its kind in the world. Dr. Einstein immediately burst into a glow of enthusiasm. It turned out that the President and his distinguished visitor found an immediate common interest. For, though it has not been generally known, the mathematician's principal hobby, next to playing the fiddle, <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ boating and sailing. So, instead of exchanging the usual empty formalities and artificial discourse, they promptly became absorbed in a long exchange of reminiscences about tacking and yaw~~ing~~ing and hauling on the main sheet and what's the matter with the spanker boom. It fortunately happened also that Mr. Roosevelt is the first president of the United States who speaks fluent German.

## FOLLOW EINSTEIN

Another thing we learn from the White House is that you will hear the President over the air on January 30th, the date of that extraordinary nation-wide celebration of his birthday. He will talk at a quarter past eleven Eastern Standard Time, for an entire hour. And his message will go out over some one hundred and fifty stations in this country. It will also be relayed abroad by short wave.

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## ICE CREAM

A gentleman of Freeport, New Jersey made a sentimental will -- delightfully sentimental. He left twenty-five thousand to the Monmouth Memorial Hospital. But here's the big point in that legacy. He provided that ten thousand dollars of it should be spent to buy ice cream every day for every child patient in the hospital.

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## DOG

A scene in a Magistrates Court in New York! An officer for the Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals decided that an Italian apple peddler's dog had an incurable form of distemper and should be destroyed.

So the dog and the apple peddler appeared in court before a woman magistrate. The magistrate said: "I am sorry but your dog must be killed." To which the apple peddler replied: "Before my dog is killed, I go to jail."

However, the magistrate insisted.

The peddler went tearfully to the rear of the courtroom and took the shivering dog on his knees, petting him, and weeping. The clerk called the next case, but in the middle of the proceedings the apple peddler flashed back before the magistrate, and cried out: "Judge, plizz why for you kill my dog? He'sa my bambino, da only bambino I got. I don't want him to die."

His distress was beyond ordinary court experience and lady magistrate said:- "Well, if you love Blackie so

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much that you are ready to fight for him, I suppose I'll have to give Blackie one more chance. Death sentence postponed. Let's see if the doctors can cure the dog." At that, the apple peddler grabbed up his precious dog crying:- "I'll get two, three, four doctors! Best in New York. I make 'em cure my Blackie. And let's hope they do and SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

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