

Good Evening, Everybody:

If you haven't already got out the old fur mittens and shaken up the furnace, you'd better hop to it. Uncle Sam's weather soothsayers tell us that for the Atlantic Coast states at any rate, the news ~~is~~ tonight -- 16° above, ~~is~~ sixteen degrees of frost. Gentlemen who wear beards are advised to get a shave to prevent icicles ^{from accumulating} ~~on the~~ ^{during the night.} ~~whiskers upon waking up in the morning.~~

DEBTS

So much for ~~King~~^{Jack} Frost. And now let's talk about John Bull. ~~xxxxxxx~~^{John is} going to pay Uncle Sam that ninety-five million ~~dollars debt installment~~ due December 15th. This apparently is positive. A dispatch to the New York Sun reports ~~it~~^{this} definitely from Paris in a statement made by Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald of Great Britain, *who is still in the French capitol.*

Mr. MacDonald broke the news to Premier Herriot of France, and it was made public after a ~~conference~~^{debt} ~~on the~~ ~~debt~~ between the two Prime Ministers. One feature of the dispatch is that ~~he~~ Ramsay MacDonald defied his doctors in going to Paris to attend this ~~debt conference~~^{meeting.} His health, as I mentioned some days ago, has not been of the best, and he has had to limit his official activities to the minimum.

The Prime Minister of France on his part declared that he was unable to say whether France would or would not pay her share of the instalment due next week. Mr. Herriot has to consult his parliament before he can guarantee anything.

The dispatch also says that the French tried to
~~convince~~ ^{persuade} the English that the two nations should combine and
present what is called a solid front on the debt question.
~~towards Uncle Sam.~~ On this point ^{the French Premier} ~~Mr. Herriot~~ was unable to
convince ^{the British Prime Minister.} ~~Mr. Ramsay MacDonald.~~

HOOVER

Lots of people have been wondering what will President Hoover do when he's no longer President Hoover. Well, a story in the New York World Telegram today brings the information that Mr. Hoover, when he is plain Mr. Hoover, will not follow the example of other retired presidents. He will not take any bread out of the mouths of us writers.

In other words, Mr. Hoover will not write for the magazines.

He will be ~~about~~ ^{in this century} ~~the first~~ ex-president ^{to} break away from tradition in that ^{respect.} ~~way this century.~~

The story says that Mr. Hoover's reasons for not wanting to write pieces for the papers and magazines are ~~exceedingly~~ chivalrous. His friends ^{declare} ~~say~~ that he does ^{it} ~~not~~ want to do anything ^{to} ~~that will~~ embarrass his successor. He will make no effort whatsoever to influence public opinion on national affairs.

It is already generally known that Mr. Hoover's personal fortune, ^{which} ~~which~~ though not large, was ~~for~~ comfortable, has shrunk as have those of many others all over the world.

Some people say that his income aside from his salary as president, is about thirty-five thousand a year. His closer friends ^{maintain that} ~~say~~ it is much less than that.

The first thing Mr. Hoover ^{will do} ~~does~~ after March 4th will be to rest. The only thing he has positively decided on is a fishing trip. And lots of ^{folks} ~~people~~ will envy him that.

BEER

The Ways and Means Committee of the House is hustling ~~up~~ as much as possible with its hearings on the troublesome beer question. Chairman Collier announced ~~today~~^S that he is going to do his utmost to bring the matter to a vote next week.

Some interesting statements came out in today's hearings. One of the witnesses was Dr. Henderson, Professor of Physiology at Yale University. Professor Henderson told the committee: "Beer of about four percent is not ~~noticeably~~^{appreciably} more intoxicating than an equal amount of coffee."

Dr. Henderson said further: "If no alcohol drink other than four per cent beer were known, the alcohol ^{is} problem would be no more serious than the problem of tobacco."

Then he told the committee that the best way to solve the ~~alcohol~~ problem would be to legalize beer and wine. Distilled spirits, he said, should be placed under the same control that the government now exercises over narcotics. Another thing he said was that the cocktail habit is a form of

drug addiction.

On the other hand Representative Stafford of Wisconsin, one of the anti-prohibition leaders, implored the committee not to try to legalize the sale of wine ~~today~~ now.

If Congress legalizes wine as well as beer, said Mr. Stafford, it will probably make the bill unconstitutional, and, therefore, defeat its own ends.

CANADA

A serious argument is cropping up between the United States and Canada. Uncle Sam has been seizing Canadian ships within the twelve mile limit from the Massachusetts Coast, on the grounds that they were ~~about to run rum into the~~ ^{rum runners,} ~~United States territory.~~

(D)

A dispatch to the New York World Telegram reports that the Canadian Minister has informed the State Department that his government can no longer tolerate such procedure. In short, Canada says she cannot recognize the right of Uncle Sam to seize ships, ^{outside the 3-mile limit —} even if they are suspected of being rum runners. ~~outside the three mile limit, except under the treaty between the two countries which permits such seizure within one hour's sailing off the United States shore.~~

This news came out only today, although the note was handed in to the State Department last Monday. Canada's argument in effect is that if Uncle Sam continues these seizures, Canada will stop cooperating with the United States government to prevent smuggling. The Canadian government also points out

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that this cooperation has almost done away with the running
~~is~~ of contraband into the United States, so far as Canadian
vessels are concerned.

PERSIA

It looks as though Uncle Sam were about to be drawn into a curious four-sided jam away off in Persia, in *the land of dates and Omar Khayyam.* And ~~it is~~ all on account of oil.

A dispatch to the Newark News relates that Great Britain today sent an ultimatum to Persia, ^{*This was*} because two weeks ago the Shah and his ministers revoked the British oil concession in that country. John Bull's ultimatum notifies the Shah of Persia that unless this cancellation is withdrawn before December 15th, the matter will be referred to the World Court at The Hague.

~~The four-sided nature of this controversy comes in this way:~~ When the ^{*Teheran*} ~~Persian~~ government cancelled the Anglo-Persian oil concession, many newspapers in London openly laid this action at the ~~doors~~ of the Soviet government. Russian agents, say some of the British, have long been intriguing in Persia against England. *Russia wants that oil.*

On top of this, the Izvestia, the official newspaper of the Soviet government, accused the British Secret Service of having tried to ^{*promote*} ~~ferment~~ the faking of

documents to implicate the Soviet government. ~~The~~
~~British~~ ^{London} government demanded an apology and ~~the Soviet~~ ^{Moscow}
~~government~~ refused.

Uncle Sam enters into this controversy unofficially.

But the dispatch says that the situation is loaded ~~with~~ ^{not only with oil but}

^{with} dynamite because it involves a struggle for control of
the world's oil ~~supply~~ supply. It has been openly reported
that American interests have been negotiating to step in and
obtain the oil concessions in Persia which ~~were~~ ^{were} withdraw
from Great Britain. These rumours have been denied on
Wall Street, but they keep cropping up.

American correspondents also were informed that
the Persian government had sent a military mission to the
U.S.A. to buy war supplies. This report was investigated
in Washington and found to be not quite true. There is
no official mission from Persia of that sort in the U.S.A.
But an officer of the Persian army has been in America for
some time, inspecting airplanes and machine guns.

BUTLER

People on both sides of the Atlantic will be interested in a couple ^{whose} engagement ^{has just been} announced. ~~today. The~~

The lady is Miss Sarah Schuyler Butler, daughter of the famous President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia University.

The groom to be is Captain Neville Lawrence of London, son of a distinguished official of the British government.

Miss Butler, ~~whose~~ ^{in tonight's papers} whose photographs show her as a

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woman of striking beauty, has been just as much interested in politics as her father. For ten years she ^{has} been vice-chairman of the Republican State Committee of New York, having been re-elected to that office five times. She ^{has} accompanied ~~Dr.~~ Butler to every Republican National Convention since 1912. When Miss Butler becomes Mrs. Lawrence, she expects to reside in London.

MA

Good old General Ma is in the limelight again today.

No, he's not dead this time ~~this is not~~ ^{- not to this} another reincarnation.

The information comes from a Japanese news agency that the

Japs have captured General Ma and also his ~~latter~~ ^{lately} adopted

colleague, the Chinese rebel, General Su.

General Ma certainly contributes his bit to swelling
the income of the cable companies.

400 guests of the Italian Chamber
of Commerce were feted on board the
first gyro-stabilized Atlantic
greyhound. Italian noblemen, many
American newspaper men, diplomats and
high ranking Italian naval officers crowded
the magnificent new Conte di Savoia. In fact
a nobleman by the same name a Count of
Savoy came with her on her maiden voyage
and is now at the Waldorf. The hero of
the hour today was still Gennaro
Amatrudda, the seaman who went over
the side in the rough sea and plugged
a hole in the great ship that might have brought
disaster

MALONEY - A

A dispatch to the Brooklyn Times Union this afternoon brings the information that the revolution which has been running distantly but energetically in Honduras for several weeks, is now about over. The rebels have been defeated on all sides by the government forces, and are now escaping ~~mm~~ over the frontier of Nicaragua.

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The most interesting thing about this revolution in Honduras is that it brings back into the public eye one of the most interesting of living American soldiers of fortune.

MOLONY

~~One of the most celebrated of the American soldiers of fortune of the day is in the news again.~~ I mean General Guy Molony, once a staunch lieutenant of

that famous and extraordinary fellow, General Lee Christmas, ^{and}

~~a former colleague of that ~~dispatch~~ picturesque fighter Major Christmas. The New York World Telegram points out~~

^{ref} ~~O'Reilly. The dispatch points out~~ that the curious thing about General Molony is that

^{at the head of the victorious} today he is ~~leading the~~ Federal forces of Honduras, ~~into the~~ ^{hot country - Banana republic -} the same ~~region~~ where he once led the rebels.

Like most of these soldiers of fortune, Molony has a colorful background. Many years ago Lee Christmas was an engineer on a banana train in Spanish Honduras. His personality seems ^{ed to strike} ~~to have struck~~ the fancy of the rebel party which wanted to ^{over} turn the government. ~~over~~ So they sent Lee Christmas to New Orleans to get up a filibustering force. Molony, who had already taken part in half a dozen revolutions, was engaged by General Christmas as commander of the machine-gun regiment. When Molony arrived in Honduras he found he was not only

the commander of the regiment. He was the whole darn regiment. The equipment consisted of one machine-gun and one burro.

In that campaign Molony was wounded twice.

Before that, however, he had fought for Uncle Sam in the Philippines. He had then enlisted in the British force against the Boers. Among his jobs for a while was that of chief of police in Guatemala City.

More recently General Molony, who in the states is known only as Colonel, had been running a brewery in San Pedro Sula. But when the smell of gunpowder^{again} filled the air of Honduras^{the other day,} ~~once more,~~ it was too much for Molony.

He offered his services to the Honduran government. So now he's ^{a victorious general down where yes} ~~General Guy Molony~~

^{they have plenty of Bananas.}

AIR

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The increase of air traffic in the U. S. A. continues to be confirmed from several sources. An article in this month's issue of the magazine Automotive Industries, reports that ~~the~~ air mileage ~~in the U. S. A.~~ rose to the extent of ten and a half million ^{miles} in 1931.

Automotive Industries quotes ^{my friend Clarence} Colonel [^] Young, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, for Aviation, to the effect that Federal airways maintained by the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce, were extended to nineteen and a half thousand miles. That means nineteen and a half thousand miles of routes fully lighted and equipped with radio.

This report says further that the steady increase in the number of pounds transmitted by air express, is bringing many operating companies ^{— to coin a new phrase —} ~~as they say~~ "out of the red". Throughout 1931 the scheduled airlines flew over forty-seven million miles. More than half a million passengers were carried and more than nine and a half million pounds of mail.

All of which is an interesting development in these times.

TAX PAYERS

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News comes from Chicago that the long-drawn-out taxpayers strike has ended. A dispatch to the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin reports that long lines of citizens can be seen every day now at the Tax Collector's office, waiting to pay the taxes due way back in 1930.

That's good news for the many thousands of people who work for Chicago and Cook County. Some of them, ~~in this territory,~~ including school teachers, policemen and firemen, are three months in arrears of their pay.

In other cities municipal employees are not so jubilant. The Bulletin records today that the City ~~Municipal~~ Council of Philadelphia which is desperately trying to save ~~many~~ money, is proposing to drop no less than fifteen hundred men and women off Philadelphia's payroll.

STAMPS

I am asked to remind you that the Christmas seal campaign is going on. These Christmas seals, as you may remember, are sold at a penny each, every day between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The profits ~~of this sale~~ are devoted to helping the work ~~which is~~ ^{done} by ^{some} two thousand ~~and eighty-four~~ American Associations for the prevention of tuberculosis. The funds support such activities as clinics, prevental work, *nursing service* social research, medical research, and education. Every seal you buy does some good in this direction. *And what cause could be more worthy than that?*

END

dignified
The Literary Digest ~~this week~~ quotes an interesting extract
that journal magazine
from Judge. A family living in Virginia had a new colored
maid from the country districts. The first morning of her
job Sarah, as the girl was called, went to answer the telephone.
The lady of the house observed that ~~she~~ *Sarah* did not bring back
any message. So she asked the girl: "Who was that, Sarah".

And Sarah replied: "Twasn't nobody, ma'm. Only
a lady who says ~~this is~~ *It's* long distance from New York'.

And I ~~says~~ *replies* to her: 'Yes, ~~manam~~ ma'am, it sho' is; ~~is~~ a long distance.'

*Well, it may be a long distance from Virginia to
New York but it's not a long distance to the end of
this broadcast. In fact there's just time to
to say so long until tomorrow.*