

Good Evening, Everybody:

The whole world is waiting eagerly for that speech which Chancellor Hitler of Germany is to make on Wednesday, the speech before the Reichstag for the purpose of which the Nazi government made the astonishing move of convening the German parliament. A great deal depends on what the Chancellor tells the German deputies about armament.

It seems evident that unless the Nazis quit their sabre rattling, they will find a strong union of powers arrayed against them. Raymond Gram Swing cables the New York Evening Post that the policy of John Bull on this subject is clear. So far as the British are concerned, says Swing, the Germans can quit the Disarmament Conference if they choose. In other words, they can ~~pick their~~ take the British proposal for disarmament or leave it.

It ^{has} already been announced that France stands shoulder

to shoulder with John Bull on this question. As for what Uncle Sam will do, no announcement has been made in Washington. The State Department told ^{my colleague &} the N.B.C. ^{in Washington} today that it had nothing to say on the question at present. At the same time we learn that the attitude of the U. S. A. was expressed several days ago in a speech by Norman Davis, Uncle Sam's Ambassador at large.

The gist of what Mr. Davis said is that the United States Government regards ^{British} this plan as a most valuable contribution and as a definite and excellent step toward our ultimate objective, namely, a general reduction and limitation of armaments.

And here's another vital thing Mr. Davis said: "We shall, therefore, join with others in resisting any amendment which would unduly weaken it or which would jeopardize the nicely adjusted balance of this plan." ~~The amendment that~~ ^{Mr.} ~~Davis discussed was ever~~ ~~for a general arms reduction by nations.~~ Germany, of course, ^{has come out} ~~since~~ ^{And that's what's} ~~with~~ ^{made} a pronouncement that she will increase her armaments, ^{which is} causing all this political furor.

In other words, the situation precipitated by Germany's attitude in general and by the belligerent speech of Vice-chancellor von Papen in particular is a situation which everybody agrees is loaded with dynamite.

GOLD STAR

gathering in Europe, an While the War clouds seem to be
~~an~~ unusual group of women are assembling in

New York, a hundred and thirty-three gold star mothers from

— 133 mothers who hope there never will
twenty-eight states in the Union, ~~It is interesting to~~

~~note that~~ They ~~will be~~ ^{are} sailing for France to visit the

graves of their sons who died in the World War, ^{sailing} at the same

time that the powers of the World are ^{arguing} ~~arguing~~ ^{bartering} about disarmament

~~disarmament~~ in Geneva, and threatened with failure.

for another war.

One of the Army officers in charge of this group

of women told us that some of them cannot speak English.

One of them is an aged Italian lady, another is a Norwegian.

The group also includes a Pole and a full-blooded Indian from

Wisconsin. One of them is eighty-four years old.

~~It is~~ ^{It is} also of interest to observe that this is

one part of the War Department's appropriation that has not

been cut.

FARM RELIEF

The Federal government today took active steps towards stemming the tide of foreclosures on mortgage farms. This was in line with the statement issued by President Roosevelt last week when he signed the farm relief bill, the statement in which he urged creditors to postpone foreclosure proceedings. ~~on mortgaged farms.~~

I learn^{ed} by telephone from Washington that Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Chairman of the Federal Farm Board, today called in thirty-one representatives of the largest insurance companies in America. Mr. Morgenthau conferred with them on the proposal to write down the face value of farm mortgages held by the insurance companies, the idea being that they should accept bonds of the Federal Land Banks in exchange for their mortgages. Thus the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ government has ^{actually} started action to help the farmers three days after the signing of the bill. And that sounds like good work.

A.B.C.

SALES TAX

Any time you mention the phrase "sales Tax" in the U.S.A. you ask for trouble. It is almost as dangerous as mentioning religion.

As probably most of you know, President Roosevelt's advisors have been proposing to finance his Public Works program, the huge plan ~~which~~ on which he contemplates spending three-billion, three-hundred millions of dollars, by means of imposing a sales tax.

Many leaders of Congress have been ^{won over} ~~roused~~, to the nation that the best means of raising finances for ^{this} ~~the~~ gigantic program will be a tax of ^{maybe} ~~one~~ and one-eighth percent on everything you buy.

But the objection to this form of taxation has been so strong that the Administration's advisors have a new idea. It won't be a sales tax - it will be ^{called} a re-employment tax. For instance, if you go to a store and buy something for two dollars, you may have to pay two-dollars and two cents. Instead of paying a sales tax, you can console yourself with the idea that it is ~~an~~ a re-employment tax and that your two cents is contributed toward

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making a job for someone, and so on. It is believed that
the President will issue a message on this subject within a day
or so.

M.B.C.

World Conference

~~Good Evening, Everybody.~~

Many people have been writing in to ask what about this world economic conference in London next month. We hear ~~a great deal of~~ ^{much about} the great things it is expected to accomplish in the way of restoring prosperity for the world in general and to ~~us in~~ the good old U.S.A. in particular. ^P Just exactly what can the world economic conference do?

Well, Secretary of State Hull issued a statement on this subject today, ~~which comes in very useful.~~ Said the Secretary: "The big point in the conference is whether the important commercial nations are going to ~~show a willingness~~ ^{real} ~~declare a will~~ ^{show a willingness} and disposition to enter into a program for international trade recovery." ^{Then he added:}

"It is also a point whether these nations are disposed to carry it out in its fundamental aspects."

Referring to the nations, Mr. Hull continued:

Conference

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"They can accomplish several important things, including stabilization of currency, and a permanent agreement not to increase obstruction of the movement of international capital and goods. They also can gradually approach the international standardization of money. They can formulate the policy and declare the economies for dealing with monetary standardization.

5) "And these things," he added, "would unshackle some of the very serious phases of the world economic situation." *Those were Mr. Cordell Hull's words.*

It is now impossible to get imports into London, Liverpool, Calcutta, and Shanghai. An artificial price level has been hammered down much lower than it would be under normal conditions. The world economic conference should alleviate that situation.

ABC

WASHINGTON

Well, Congress is looking forward to a breathing spell. On June 10th they will adjourn and go home or elsewhere for a rest. At any rate, so the boys hope. This, the first Democratic Congress in twelve years, is within a month of being ~~x~~ through with its work.

Before the Congressional boys and girls go home, however, they will have to take up such important matters as the unemployment relief, economic situations and dealings with foreign countries, the arms parley, and the sales tax.

In ~~the~~ two months ~~the~~ Congress ^{animated} ~~headed~~ by the New Deal spirit, already has legislated more new laws and reliefs than ~~has been done~~ ^{were} and accomplished in the ~~last~~ ^{previous} four years. That's what Congressional leaders and Washington observers declared.

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ABC

MILK

Your daily quart of milk has become a serious political problem. In some states, such as New York, the government, that is the State government, has had to intervene and attempt to control the situation. In Wisconsin where no such action has been taken, there have been disturbances, riots, fights, even to the use of tear gas bombs.

Crowds of angry dairy farmers who have not been getting ~~en~~ enough for their milk, have been dumping tons of precious fluid from the cow on the roadside. One mob of four hundred in Wisconsin became so menacing that it took deputy sheriffs armed with tear gas to disperse them. ~~When housewives~~

When housewives opened their kitchen doors in almost every big city in New York State, ^{also in} and Chicago, they found ~~an~~ a ~~neatly~~ ~~printed~~ message explaining that beginning today milk was one cent a quart higher. In New York, as in Illinois, this move has been made to give ~~farm~~ relief to the dairy~~man~~ farmer, the man who feeds and milks the cows and prepares the milk for delivery to the city. In New York City alone, the Board of Health told ^{us today} ~~the N.Y.C.~~ three

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and a half million quarts of milk are consumed daily. This means that thirty-five thousand dollars will come out of New York milk drinkers' pockets, to be distributed to the dairymen ^{every day.} When you count the pennies coming from some of the big ~~city~~ cities ~~in New York~~ ~~Syracuse, Albany, Rochester, Buffalo, etc.~~ the daily yield will be about sixty thousand dollars, or ~~about~~ twenty million dollars a year. ^{I hope it gets to the farmers.} Chicago alone is expected to contribute four million dollars a year to ^{Mr.} ~~the~~ farmer, ~~which he hasn't been getting.~~

And that ought to be good news for ^{my neighbors} ~~the farmer.~~ ^λ
in the country.

A.B.C.

PANTS POCKETS

Husbands certainly are out of luck in California. A lady in Los Angeles brought suit for divorce and the grievance she had against her husband was ^{that} he objected to her going through his pants pockets at night while he was ~~awake~~ asleep.

One of the great jurists ~~in~~ they have in the Golden State gave the lady her decree out of hand. This Pacific Coast Blackstone declares that the little woman has a perfect right to go through your pants at night if the contents of the pocket represent your earnings. Out there what a man earns is not his. Half of it belongs to his wife, whether she's done anything to deserve it or not.

The California Rhadamanthus does not say what right your best friend and severest critic has to grab ^{your} poker winnings. Maybe that's another story.

A.B.C.

STRIKE

Foreign observers have frequently complained that American university undergraduates are much too orderly. You ~~never~~^{seldom} find undergrads in the U.S.A. as you do in some of the Spanish speaking countries, ~~forming~~ fomenting riots, let alone revolutions.

But today some three hundred of Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler's lads at Columbia University, ~~New York~~, tried to give an imitation of a Communist strike. The cause of it all was the firing of an instructor in Economics, who belongs to what is grandiloquently called the left wing. Dr. Butler, the President of the University, declared this instructor had been dismissed because he was not in Dr. Butler's estimation, a good instructor. A lot of the students with whom he was ~~very~~ popular, have been claiming that he was thrown out because of his revolutionary leanings.

So today they had a riot on the Columbia campus. One of the speakers was Diego Rivera, the ^{Communist} Mexican Fresco painter, who got himself in the limelight recently by putting out Red

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propaganda in one of the mural decorations of ^{that mammoth new} ~~the~~ R.C.A. building
in New York.

The audience consisted of considerably more than three hundred would-be striking students. There were about two thousand others gathered around as spectators.

Before long eggs were flying through the air, eggs of uncertain vintage, fists were used freely, and finally four squads of policemen appeared on the scene. They had a grand mill for some thirty minutes, at the end of which the rebellious undergraduates were routed and one of them was arrested.

All of which I suppose may be counted among the ~~gayeties~~ gayeties of student life.



A.B.C.

TALL

Mr. Joseph De Forge of Boston, Mass. has a complaint to make against the Tall Story Club. Brother De Forge writes ~~me~~ us: "My mother who believes anything she hears, went out after one of your broadcasts and bought some Blue Sonoco and put it in my father's coffee."

Well, Mr. De Forge goes on to say that his father felt so good after drinking ^{it} ~~that Blue Sonoco~~ that he went out and got himself two jobs and he wasn't even unemployed. — *didn't need either of them.*

I'll have to remember that. Maybe the information will come in useful some day.

ODDITY

Several weeks ago I made a terrible attempt to pronounce the name of a lake over in Massachusetts. The name goes something like this:

Chau goga gog man goga gog chau buna gunga maug

Now a letter has just arrived from W.L.Redfern of Holyoke, Massachusetts, telling me what it all means. It comes from a remark that an old Indian Chieftain once made. This is what he said. This is what the whole thing means:

"What is on this side belongs to me

"What is on that side belongs to you

"What is in the middle belongs to both of us."

So, there you are. That is what you are talking about when you tell your friends that you are going to go canoeing with your sweetie on lake Chau goga gog man goga gog chau buna gunga maug. You see I was wrong. When you pronounce the name of that lake you are not swearing at all.

Letters have been coming in from all over the country thanking me for having Russell Millward, the explorer, as my guest the other night, the explorer who had never made a speech in his life, and who holds the world's record for exploration on foot. Mr. Millward for twenty some years represented large American firms in the hot countries. In particular he has been responsible for much of the mahogany found, and also for the ~~chicle~~ chicle that has enabled Americans to have their all-important chewing gum.

Mr. Millward has faced the firing squad on a number of occasions. He has explored almost every mile of that mysterious region known as Yucatan, where the natives are the fiercest in Mexico. He told me that he had three rules for conduct among so-called savage peoples. He didn't have a chance to mention them the other evening, so I'll give them to you now:

First, pay for what you get when you get it.

Second, Attend to your own personal affairs. Third, and most important, don't fool with their women.

L.T.

ENDING -- DOCTOR

Mrs. Willis Baker of Troy, Pa., sends me an item.

The family medical man had just dropped in to pay a call.

Naturally, his patient wanted to know how he was getting along.

So he said:

"Doctor, how are my chances?"

To which the Doctor gave the optimistic reply:

"Oh, pretty good; but if I were you, I wouldn't start reading any continued stories."

And then, unless that patient was too all in to move, I would bet that doctor ducked and said:

"So Long until tomorrow.

L.T.