

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Armistice Day in the United States was symbolized by a simple wreath of white chrysanthemums which President Roosevelt placed on the tomb of the Unknown soldier during the two minutes of Silence. The day here was as quiet as the silence and the chrysanthemums -- the whole nation commemorating with reminiscent reflection.

Armistice Day was more eventful for the British. In addition to all of his international troubles, bluff Old John Bull ran into a string of awkward incidents peculiar to the occasion. The first of these concerns that melancholy Duke who seems destined to endless misadventure. All England this evening seems to be shocked at the latest blow suffered by the man who was Edward the Eighth.

There was an Armistice Day rally of the British Legion in Paris, and the Legionnaires gathered in the Anglican Church of St. George for the two minutes of silence. Their former King was to have been with them -- but the rector of the church spoke unfriendly words. He said that personally he was not so keen about

the presence of the Duke and Duchess, and added reflections about marriage which pointed sharply at the divorces of ^{Wally.} ~~the Duchess~~. Later on the rector

tried to take it back, and said he would apologize. But ~~meanwhile~~ the Duke stayed away from the two minutes of silence in

St. George's Church. Later the British Legionnaires asked him to join them for a ceremony at Notre Dame. That ancient Gothic

cathedral is not so persnickety about its welcome. But the Duke replied "No", he wouldn't attend. ^{He declined} ~~He declined~~ in these words:

"As the observance of the two minutes of silence which it was my desire to pass in church with you has gone by, I feel it would be now be inappropriate to be present this afternoon."

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All this aroused out-spoken indignation among the members of the British Legion. They consider ~~the~~ the Duke one of them, a World War veteran. The Duke himself is said to be bitter, feeling that he is being persecuted. And late word this afternoon is that ~~maxix~~ all England is indignant about the Armistice Day incident, even in circles hostile to the one-time monarch. So this day of commemoration ^{of} the end of the World War stirs up another storm in that series of storms which began with a royal romance and a constitutional crisis.

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Then in London there was a disturbance when George the Sixth and Queen Elizabeth presided over the Armistice Day commemoration at the Cenotaph. ~~The~~ A man broke through the crowd, a one-time ~~XXXXXX~~ inmate of an insane asylum. He dashed through yelling at the King -- "This is all ~~hypocrysy~~ hypocrisy, Down with war! No more war." ^{he cried.} Policemen seized him and hustled him away -- but not before his yell of war and hypocrisy had gotten into the broadcast of the occasion. The microphone picked it up, and the disturbance shrilled from the loud speakers of all England.

Furthermore, in London -- a man was rowing a boat in the pond at Regents' Park, a middle-aged chap who was ~~filled~~ full of the mood of Armistice Day. As he paddled along the time for the two minutes of silence came, and instantly he arose to stand at attention. The boat began to rock, and overboard he went with a big splash. He scrambled and he struggled, sputtering and blowing, ~~and~~ and found the water only waist deep. He got to his feet his Armistice Day spirit not at all dimmed. He stood ^{there} ~~was~~ ^{half-submerged} at rigid attention for the remainder of the two minutes

of silence, while the boat drifted away.

Yes the British had some awkward incidents on Armistice Day, not including the fact that the Irish ~~xx~~ tried to blow up Dublin Castle. A bomb blew the British coat-of-arms into smithereens there at that ancient fortress for so many centuries the stronghold of British power on the ~~the~~ Ould Sod. They're running out of brick-bats in Ireland so they're using bombs.

BRAZIL

Today in Rio de Janeiro, the ministers of President Vargas handed in their resignations, and that cleared the way for the new Fascist government. So today, officially and formally, the great South American Republic became the first nation of the Western Hemisphere to adopt the political system invented by Benito Mussolini. From Rio the word ^{again} flashed - that Brazil has no intention of joining the German-Italian-Japanese pact against Communism. Brazil has no intention of forming an ideological link with Europe.

But Rome instantly chimes in with word that Italy would be delighted to have Brazil become a member of the Fascist union against Communism. Rome says, however, that there has been no formal invitation.

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Germany hails the Fascist coup d'etat at Rio with enthusiasm. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ One official source in Berlin gives us the opinion that Brazil is not likely to join the anti-Communist line-up -- not alone, but expects that it may happen in conjunction with other Latin-American republics - a sort of South American union against Communism.

London and Paris are worried by this newest Fascist ~~scope~~^{stroke-}
and Washington is bothered most of all. President Roosevelt ^{at}
Buenos Aires, took his stand on
~~committed to doctrine of~~ democracy ^{and} Pan-Americanism. But
suppose the southern republics should drift toward Fascism ^{and}
Pan-Americanism. That would be awkward for the leadership of the
United States in the affairs of this hemisphere.

There is international concern likewise because of the
suspension of the payment of foreign debts. Trading in Brazilian
bonds was suspended in London today. And in Washington a study
of the records of the Department of Commerce shows that Brazil
owes some three hundred and sixty million dollars to Americans.
This is no debt to the United States Government, but to private
bond-holders.

But just how far is the new government of Brazil Fascist?
A mere dictatorship doesn't make it so, for dictators ^{are} an old
story in Latin-America. The significant thing as reported today
concerns the ^{government} ~~everything~~ body that is to rule over national economy.
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That seems to be the Fascist core of the new Brazilian set-up,
for the legislative body governing economics looks very much like

the corporative state of Mussolini, according to which the nation is supposed to be ruled by a parliament of industry, guilds, "corporations," as the Italians call *them*.

STORM

The greatest of oceans is kicking up its mighty heels these days, all the way across its vast spaces. From Nome, Alaska, to Manila. There's distance for you! Last night we heard of a violent storm lashing the waterfront, at Nome, with the wild breakers flooding up into the town.

And today on the other side of the Pacific, the word is storm, typhoon at Manila. The tropical twister at the island of Luzon blew down villages and smashed communications far and wide. Fishing boats foundered in the boiling sea, and a British steamer was driven ashore by the battering violence of the gale. A few casualties are reported, and many are missing.

SCRANTON FIRE

The coal mine fire at Scranton was checked today - confined to an area of a hundred feet square. They are completely surrounding the underground fire with a safety wall, thereby keeping it from spreading.

The Mayor of Scranton wires me that last night's story was overly alarmist - no danger from fumes seeping to the surface, no chance of a dangerous cave-in. And the reports of the mine inspectors today bear out the assurance of the Mayor.

FIRE

New York had a dramatic fire today, a rather historical affair. The Cosmopolitan Hotel, ^{is} not such a magnificent up-to-date hostelry - but it was a glittering social center of New York in the middle of the last century. It ranked with the old and long

defunct Astor House, ^{as a haunt} of the Nineteenth Century smart set. ~~the~~ Today

the upper floor of that ancient caravansery burst into blaze today,

and guests were trapped. A couple, a man and a woman, got to

the roof, and there the firemen rescued them. Cheers for

Fireman Charles Roscher who took the frightened couple, one under

each arm, and held them, while his partners lowered him by a rope

from the roof all the way down. Others had narrow escapes -

several injuries, no fatalities.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Talking on long distance with Washington today, I was told - "We're interested in keeping the public reminded about the unemployment census," *said Frank Wilson, assistant to Earl Biggers.*

I said, "Sure, I'll pass the word along, and give another mention of the count of the jobless which will begin on November Sixteenth, next Wednesday. But," I added, "give me some entertaining angle about it."

"All right," was the reply, "how is this?"

~~So I got the entertaining angle, which tells that,~~

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there are thirty-one million, two hundred and fifty thousand families in the United States. Each is to receive a postal card of unemployment questions. In addition, cards will be sent to a whole myriad of other places, hotels with transients, settlement houses, flop houses. The giant job of distribution will be handled by the postal service department with its three hundred and thirty-seven thousand employees. The actual delivery of the cards will be done by eighty-eight thousand mailmen.

"We're expected to have the distribution done in

two days," ~~was told.~~ *Frank Wilson told me.*

"Two days is a brief time for such a huge job," I commented.

"That's what we thought," the reply came back. "We put it up to the Post Office Department, and they just laughed and jeered."

"I don't blame them," I said. "How long a time did they demand?"

said Frank,
"Oh," ~~the word snapped back,~~ "they said they'd do it in one day!"

So one day it will be, twenty-four hours for the mailmen to distribute those tens of millions of unemployment cards.

ART

Philadelphia has taken a flyer in art. It was announced today that the Philadelphia Art Museum has acquired a famous painting, "The Bathers", by Cezanne. Many art critics regard it as Cezanne's greatest masterpiece. Now it goes to the Philadelphia Museum. This reminds one of a line in Gilbert and Sullivan - where His Lordship threatens the paintings of his ancestors, tells them that if they don't behave themselves he'll put them in 'an art museum where nobody will ever see them. But it's so different in art-loving Philadelphia.

NOBEL PRIZE

An American won half of the Nobel Prize today -- Dr. Clinton Davisson of the Bell Telephone Company's laboratory in New York. The prize for physics is divided between him and Professor G.P. Thomson of London, who gets the other half.

GUN

The other night I told about a weird gamble with death, almost incredible - a boy killed, taking a one-to-six chance with one cartridge in a ~~six shooter~~ six shooter.

Today, there's another case of that fantastic madness. They're calling it a game, a morbid thriller. At Logan, Utah, a man tried it, spun a chamber of the revolver, so he couldn't tell whether or not the cartridge was in a position to fire. He put the gun to his head and pulled the trigger. The revolver clicked - he had won. ~~That's it~~ With wild bravado he tried it again. And once more he won. Then a third ^{try} ~~time~~, this time there was a roar and he fell dead.

In our previous story of this insanity, the one-in-six game was represented as being imitated ^{from} Red Russia. But I have letters today telling that it was a wild stunt of maniac bravado in the old days of the Czar.

SCHMELING

Prize fight question Number One these days is -- "How will Max Schmeling fighting Champion Joe Louis next year, be affected by his long lay-off?" It will then be two years since the black browed German knocked out the Brown Bomber. One answer is -- that it won't be any lay-off for Schmeling between now and next June.

Landing in New York today he was told that his manager had signed him up to a ten round bout in December with Harry Thomas of Chicago. Schmeling shook his head in disapproval. "Nein," he growled, "No ten rounds. I want to fight fifteen." The comparatively aging Teuton feels that he needs plenty of rounds of preliminary Battling before he tries to put that right hand smash on Joe Louis' jaw again.

Schmeling denied that he will fight Walter Neusel in Germany -- it will be Ben Ford, a South African. After that, he's likely to have another tune up scrap with some American fighter in Miami.

CHINA

(Today an official spokesman of the Chinese Army admitted that all resistance to Japan at Shanghai was at an end.) The regiments of Nanking have been ordered to retreat. And so the Japanese conquest of the metropolis on the China coast is this evening official and complete. ^{Hence} ~~and so~~ that long episode of horror and flame, bombing of a city, havoc of battle among a swarming population, is ^{over.} ~~at an end.~~

(The Chinese Army is retreating fast, fleeing they say. The Japanese are pushing on after them, with a thrust of rapid columns.)

Flushed with victory, the Tokyo generals are saying that the issue of the war now depends upon Chiang Kai-shek. Will they drive on to Nanking? "Ask Chiang Kai-shek," is their answer. They indicate that unless the Nanking government sues for peace, they'll swarm right on to the nationalist capital.

Yes, they're flushed with victory, those warlords of Japan. ^{And} They're talking ominously about the International Settlement at Shanghai, saying that the Settlement authorities are favoring the Chinese, haven't been neutral enough to suit

the Japanese taste. "I am disappointed," declared General Matsui, the Mikado's commander today. "I am afraid cooperation cannot be continued." And that sounds as if the Japanese might have some idea of taking over the International Settlement.

All of which brings sharp word from London -- if there's any move against the Settlement, the British will resist. "Open fire immediately" -- that's the London command.

Late word comes that the British newspaper man who was machine-gunned in the Shanghai fighting line, has died -- Pembroke Stephens of the "London Daily Telegraph."

BOYCOTT

The girls of Smith College are international idealists, and they say it with stockings. A hundred members of the Smith Chapter of the Students Union today decided on action against Japan, and on the top of the flag pole they nailed - a stocking. "No more silken hose," cry the Smith girls - "because so much of our silk is imported from Japan."

They voted to wear - lisle mesh, which is made of cotton and comes from places like Alabama. And Alabama is not invading China. The ban on silk stockings is one shape of the boycott idea - shapely, I should say. We've heard about masculine shirt sleeve diplomacy, but this is ^{femine} ~~stocking~~ ^{statecraft,} ~~diplomacy~~ which is a step ^{or a run further} further and more pleasant to behold. — hold, hold, and s-l-u-t-m.

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