

Good Evening, Everybody:

President Roosevelt sprang a surprise on the whole country today. Everybody had expected that the question of legalizing

beer would be deferred until after Congress had taken a recess

from its present extraordinary session. But <sup>(the President</sup> today ~~he~~ sent another <sup>one</sup>

<sup>of those</sup> brief message<sup>s</sup> ~~in which~~ <sup>for which he is becoming famous, and in it</sup> he asked Congress to make beer legal

immediately.) The message was only two sentences long, and it reads

as follows:

"I recommend to the Congress the passage of legislation for the immediate modification of the Volstedt Act in order to legalize the manufacture and sale of beer and other beverages of such alcoholic content as <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ permissible under the Constitution; and to provide through such manufacture and sale by substantial taxes a proper and much needed revenue to the government." And the President

<sup>in conclusion:-</sup> added: "I deem action at this time to be of the highest importance."

<sup>How's that for a short message. It probably breaks all records for brevity.</sup>  
<sup>Of course this is all a part of Mr. Roosevelt's economy and balancing the</sup>  
The President's advisors believe that the legalization

budget program.

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of beer would bring in more than a hundred and twenty-five millions a year to Uncle Sam's Treasury. ~~Incidentally, this is considered a moderate estimate, considerably below the figure claimed by the extreme advocates of beer. At the same time a hundred and twenty-five millions a year is not to be sneezed at, and it is sorely needed in order to balance that Budget.~~

Speaker Rainey told the correspondents that the House will act on the President's request before the expected recess. In fact, he said <sup>that</sup> "the Democratic leaders hope to get the beer bill through the House by Wednesday." ~~He said further that there have been plenty of hearings on beer legislation, and no more advocates on either side would be listened to by the House.~~

It is believed that the Senate will concur in the passage of a beer measure. ~~The vote on repeal shortly before the expiration of the Lame Duck Congress, indicates that wet senators have an ample majority.~~



BANKS

And now for the late banking news. (In all the twelve key cities of the U. S.A., ~~that is all~~ the Federal Reserve cities, ~~both~~ National and State banks threw open their doors.) In New York City, for instance, one hundred and thirty-five commercial banks, savings banks, and trust companies were doing complete business. *So says the N.Y. World-Telegram.* \*

A report in the New York Evening Post has it that the number was *including branches.* five hundred and eighty-eight. However that may be, in all Federal Reserve cities banking facilities were available to everybody. And the Secretary of the Treasury announces that the same condition will prevail in two hundred and fifty other big cities tomorrow. There will be additional openings on Wednesday and following days, just as fast as Treasury officials can inspect the conditions of the banks and their fitness to receive a license.

An important thing~~x~~ should be remembered. If your bank is not one of those that is opened today, tomorrow or Wednesday, don't rush to the conclusion that it is unsound. It simply means that the Federal officials haven't got around to inspect it yet.

~~This is~~ <sup>That's</sup> what the President <sup>told us last night,</sup> ~~of the United States~~ ~~is~~ said.

In most of the Federal Reserve cities business was resumed ~~quietly~~ quietly and on a normal basis without ~~any~~ excitement. In New York there was a tremendous rush of depositors. ~~Millions~~ <sup>Thousands</sup> of people thronged the banks ~~and~~ bringing in millions. Withdrawals, however, were quite normal. Banks have been instructed not to honor any withdrawals that seemed to indicate hoarding. In other words, you can get all the cash you want for legitimate business purposes. Savings bank withdrawals are restricted for the time being to twenty-five dollars a week. There is still a ban on gold payments, but foreign exchange transactions are permitted under restrictions. The Federal Reserve system has allowed hoarders four more days to return their gold and gold certificates. *The Secretary of the Treasury says the conduct of depositors has been admirable and that people in general are accepting the situation with sound common sense.* <sup>III</sup> The Stock Exchanges are still closed and likely to remain so for a few days, though brokers report they have numerous orders and are anxious to start doing business again. )



GOLD

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The gold rush continued today, the rush of people to windows of the Federal Reserve Banks to bring back the precious metal and gold certificates they've been hoarding. ~~The Depositors today~~ were as numerous as on any day last week, but they seemed to be of a different kind. Last week the people lined up to bring<sup>ing</sup> back gold ~~seemed to come from~~<sup>were of</sup> the well-to-do classes. Today they were not so prosperous looking, and observers declare they appeared to be of the small shopkeeper class. Some women came in bringing gold coins which they had been keeping for sentimental reasons.

## EUROPE

It's both remarkable and pleasant to observe that in other countries ~~the folks~~<sup>people</sup> seem to have ~~complete~~ confidence in Uncle Sam's dollar. Its price went up on the London Stock Exchange. In fact, it opened two cents higher than it was on March 3rd, ~~but~~ the day the bank ~~holiday was proclaimed.~~<sup>ing crisis really broke.</sup>

In Paris the dollar also took a jump. In fact, it went above par. Those who have been selling the dollar short were ~~badly~~ badly crushed. An American banker estimates that the bears in Europe lost some ten million dollars in this move.



SENATE

The United States Senate is the scene of ~~the~~ major excitement in the Capital today. The cause of it all, of course, is that economy bill for which the president asked and which the House rushed through on Saturday.

It's a bitter fight those Senators are having. The opposition, ~~THESE THESE THESE THESE~~ the champions of ~~THESE THESE THESE THESE~~ <sup>those</sup> veterans who want <sup>liberal</sup> ~~ample~~ compensation, are solidly organized. But apparently they <sup>are</sup> ~~are~~ in the minority.

They lost out on one test vote, ~~a resolution~~ <sup>a motion</sup> to sidetrack the bill by referring it to the Judiciary Committee. This was howled down, But Senator McCarron of Nevada, demanded a roll call, <sup>thereupon</sup> ~~his proposal was put to~~ ~~and lost;~~ ~~and the proposal lost by~~ a vote ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> sixty to twenty.

Senators came on to the floor their arms full of packages of telegrams protesting that they should not support the President. The debate is still going on. A vote might be had at any moment. <sup>They may be voting now.</sup>

AMBASSADOR

Another thing done<sup>d</sup> by the President today was to send in the names of several would-be ambassadors for the approval of the Senate. These nominations have been rumored before. Jesse Isidor Strauss, head of R. H. Macy and Company of New York, is to be Ambassador in Paris. Josephus Daniels, of North Carolina, former Secretary of the Navy, will go to Mexico City, and Robert W. Bingham, publisher of the Louisville Courier Journal, will go to the<sup>Court of</sup> St. James's, that is, provided the Senate approves.



## GERMANY

It still seems none too safe to be an American in Germany, just now. H. R. Knickerbocker cables the New York Evening Post and the Philadelphia Public Ledger that in spite of promises from the Hitler government, Americans continue to be beaten by ruffians in the uniform of Nazi storm troopers.

One man, a writer, was attacked without warning on the streets of Berlin Saturday night. A fellow in the uniform of a storm trooper beat him over the head with a heavy stick, abusing him with anti-Semitic insults. The American tried to defend himself. A Berlin policeman came along and arrested both the American and his assailant. But on the way to the police station the policeman allowed the Nazi Storm trooper to continue hitting the American. In fact, this was permitted even after they had reached the police station. Similar attacks are reported every day.

VIENNA

Rumors of an impending revolution come from Vienna.

Many political observers believe ~~an~~ a monarchistic uprising

is being plotted. It is even said that young Archduke

Otto, who would be Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary,

if there were an Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, is

either in Austria or some place near the border awaiting the

hour to be led triumphantly back into Vienna. The monarchistic

movement ~~in Austria~~ is said to be of Hitler origin. Military

guards have been strengthened around all public buildings in

Austria.



JAPAN

Heavy fighting is going on again around the Great Wall of China. The Japanese declare that five-hundred Chinese have been killed but that there are few casualties among the troops of the Mikado. The battle is still in progress.

Incidentally, John Bull revoked that embargo on the shipment of arms to China and Japan. This was announced today by the Honorable Stanley Baldwin in the House of Commons.

## WALDORF

A picturesque event is taking place in New York tonight, an event that brings back an endless stream of memories. They are celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the Waldorf-Astoria. Mr. Lucius Boomer, President of the Waldorf, will be the host to one hundred and fifty employees who have been in the service of the world-famous caravansary for ten years or more. The veteran of them all will be Oscar, Oscar who is the only one who was with the Waldorf when it opened forty years ago.

Tonight they are going to sit and talk of all that has happened and the interesting people they have known in those forty years, of how they entertained and served the King and Queen of Belgium, the Prince of Wales, King Carol of Roumania, the great marshals of France, Foch and Joffre, Lord Balfour, maharajahs of India, Marconi, Cardinal Mercier, Porfirio Diaz of Mexico, Lloyd George, Kitchener of Khartoum, and even Li Hung-Chang, the great Viceroy of China.



And they'll tell anecdotes of Admiral Dewey, Carnegie, Mark Twain, Buffalo Bill, the Roosevelts, the Vanderbilts, the Biltmores, the Astors, and the Waldorfs. And that ought to be an interesting moment when Oscar takes the floor to tell of all that he has seen in those forty years.

STONE

As Exalted Grand Giraffe of the Tall Story Club, I am sorry to have to report the death of a famous liar. His name ~~is~~ was Lewis Timothy Stone of Winsted, Connecticut. In fact, you might say that Lew Stone was the man who made Winsted famous.

By profession he was General Manager of that lively newspaper, The Winsted Citizen.

Lew Stone was famous for his animal whoppers. It was he who invented the ~~famous~~<sup>gorgeous</sup> yarn of the cat with the hairlip that whistled Yankee Doodle. Also of the female bulldog that sat for three weeks on eggs that had been abandoned by the mother hen. It was Lew Stone also who told of the man who kept flies off his bald pate by painting a picture of a spider on top of his head. Another one of his was ~~that one~~<sup>that</sup> about the cow ~~which~~ was so shaken by an explosion in the garage next door that she gave butter instead of milk.

His fanciful tales were known the world over. Many a yarn that first saw printer's ink in Winsted would come back to



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Winsted over a press association wire by way of San Francisco,  
Honolulu, Hongkong, Cairo, London and Dublin.

No doubt about it, Lew Stone was not merely a Connecticut  
institution. He was international. *And now he's probably  
telling tall stories to Saint Peter.*

## EARTHQUAKE

Mother Earth is still doing a fandango ~~down~~ in Southern California. They had another quake at dawn this morning; a shock that drove thousands of <sup>Iowans, Kansans and Nebraskans, as well as Native Sons</sup> ~~Southern Californians~~ out of bed, though it didn't do much <sup>harm.</sup> ~~damage~~. There were no calls for the ambulance and ~~it~~ the only damage was the final shaking down of some walls that were already on the verge of collapse from previous shocks. The total number of dead now is <sup>said to be one</sup> ~~up to a~~ hundred and nineteen.

As later reports come in, they indicate that the first estimates of the damage wrought were if anything too <sup>mild</sup> ~~high~~. It looks today as though the property loss in the four hundred square miles which were shaken up would amount to not less than sixty million dollars. The heaviest ~~a~~ part of the damage seems to have been in the seaside resort of Long Beach. Buildings were also shaken down in Compton, <sup>San Pedro,</sup> Huntington, Los Angeles, and other of the smaller cities in that country.

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But considerable injury has been done to the nerves of the inhabitants and visitors in Southern California. Evelyn Seeley



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reports to the New York World Telegram that the population seems to have the jitters. This series of quakes has been lasting now for three days. There have been a number of major ~~shocks~~ shocks estimated anywhere between thirty and fifty. This doesn't count hundreds of minor shivers of the earth's surface.

~~At the~~ At the same time there's no panic. Hundreds of people are <sup>still</sup> camping out under tents and other temporary shelters. But they are being plentifully fed by various relief organizations.

Uncle Sam's sailors and marines are on the job to keep order, and they have their own way of preventing some greedy merchants from taking advantage of the general distress <sup>by</sup> profiteering.

~~One~~ One grocer was charging forty-five cents a dozen for eggs. A sailor with fixed bayonet was standing outside his doorway to warn buyers away. The greedy grocer soon closed his shop. Similar measures were employed at other stores.

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When the <sup>big quake came</sup> One inhabitant of Long Beach was imprisoned in his own cellar for fifty-one hours and twenty minutes. He dug himself

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out last night with <sup>the baby's</sup> a toy shovel.

<sup>Another</sup> ~~one~~ inhabitant ~~of~~ Long Beach <sup>er</sup> was in luck. On ~~the~~ a <sup>structure</sup> ~~building~~ that he owned hung a sign "This building to be wrecked."

Well, it won't cost him anything to wreck that building. The job was done for him by the earthquake. Well, it's an ill wind — and you know the rest of it.



MOVIES

I heard an interesting rumor today. It was not printed in any newspaper but it had <sup>3</sup> wide currency. The yarn is that Hollywood will move to Long Island. That does not mean, of course, physical Hollywood, or any of the <sup>numerous curious</sup> ~~curious~~ houses that adorn the Hollywood hills. But they say that the earthquake coming on top of the banking crisis has brought about a situation which makes it desirable to move the big movie talkie-squawkie <sup>studios,</sup> or whatever you care to call them, east to Long Island. And that will please a lot of exiles from New York.

DEACON

Bill McGeehan in the New York Herald Tribune this morning tells an interesting bit of history. It concerns a gentleman named Deacon Jones of San Francisco. The Deacon was a little colored prize-fighter, a lightweight about the size of Joe Wolcott. Early one morning several years ago Deacon Jones went into a bar in San Francisco and demanded a drink. ~~A gentleman,~~ Alex Greggaines, <sup>the gent</sup> who owned the bar, refused to serve him. Then said the Deacon: "Mr. Greggaines, if Ah don't get a drink Ah'm gonna tear this place down." Thereupon he grabbed the edge of the bar and started to shake it.

Just then the San Francisco earthquake happened. The bottles dropped off the shelves, the mirror dropped off the wall. The chandeliers fell and plaster dropped all over <sup>the floor,</sup> ~~the place.~~ In fact, within five seconds the entire place was a wreck.

A good deal of the wreckage fell on <sup>the</sup> Deacon, ~~Jones.~~ As he pulled himself loose he was overcome with remorse and, said he: "Gee, Mr. Greggaines is sure gonna be sore at me for what I done



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to this place."

And Jimmie Wallington is going to be sore at me if I  
don't get away from the mike and say

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.