

h.T. - Smoco Tues. Oct 24 '33

Good Evening Everybody:—
GOLD

(The gold program announced by President Roosevelt in his radio speech Sunday night, the program for the purchase of newly mined *American* gold by the government, will start in operation tomorrow. The treasury will make its first announcement of the price it is prepared to pay at ten o'clock in the morning.) I learn that this will be somewhat higher than the quotation of the money markets of London and Paris. The price is to be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury, by the head of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and by some representative of the President whose name will be made public later.

Meanwhile, one of ~~the~~ the first reactions to the President's declaration was observed on the Paris Bourse. Uncle Sam's dollar fell in price again to 17.45 Francs. At the same time, John Bull's Pound Sterling fell in value. This is attributed to the prospect that the new Cabinet may be headed by ^{Camille Shotonh} ~~Chautemps~~ and may include Joseph Caillaux, who is highly rated among men of finance. Newspaper readers with a good memory may recall that Mr. Caillaux is the statesman whose wife provided such a sensation in 1914 by killing the editor of one of the foremost French newspapers, ^{and Caillaux was} ~~in hot water all during the war - said to be pro-German.~~

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Prices in Wall Street continued to gain today. However, the brakes were put on the upward move, somewhat, by a fear that France and other gold nations of Europe may be forced off the gold standard. The Wall Street Journal tells us that ~~Max~~ some brokers are afraid this may disturb prices in the United States and cause the dollar to rise in Europe.

NBC

ROOSEVELT

The terrific amount of work which has fallen upon the President's shoulders in the last few days has told on his health. In addition to the ordinary routine of presidential labors, ~~the~~ Mr. Roosevelt ~~President~~ in five short days set going such important strokes as the opening of negotiations with Russia, tackling the farm strike situation, and finally, working out his policy on gold stabilization.

The White House gave out the information today that Mr. Roosevelt has developed a slight cold over night. He was not at the executive offices today but remained in the White House ~~himself~~ ^{properly where}. He attended to all the big affairs of state, including a cabinet meeting, ~~in his own quarters~~.

NBC

L.T. SUNOCO - Tuesday, October 24, 1933.

~~Good Evening, Everybody:~~

A significant part of today's news is that (the farm strike out in the middle west is not going so lustily.) Des Moines, Iowa, tells me that, though the forces of the National Farmers Holiday Association have pulled a cordon around the producing centers to prevent farm produce from getting on to the market, the cordon is not exceedingly effective. They have pickets mobilized at important corners and some trucks laden with ^{live-stock,} vegetables and other things to eat were stopped. However, plenty of trucks got through and the ~~indign~~ ^{violent} ~~and~~ ^{spirit} and enthusiasm ^{that marked} ~~of~~ the big strike ^{of last} ~~the~~ spring seemed to be conspicuously absent. There have been no riots, no clashes between holiday making farmers and deputy sheriffs. Furthermore, no such upheavals are expected.

Apparently, the leaders of the farmers are adopting new tactics. The pickets told the drivers that they have placed look-outs at the livestock market at Omaha and other places. There they will check up on the farmers who break the strike and attend to them when the time comes. The only ~~some~~ serious bit of violence reported is

the dumping of a couple loads of milk in Wisconsin.

The news from Washington on this subject corroborates the belief that this strike is a flop. R.B. Metcalf, who is the Nebraska organizer for the National Recovery Act, says the farmers throughout the country, by and large, are too patriotic at heart and cannot be worked up into any widespread and continued disorder. He ~~says~~ that so far as the people of Nebraska are concerned, they are backing up the N R A program whole-heartedly, even though many of them do not understand it. And he ~~said~~ ^{further} that as soon as farm prices rise, cooperation will be more energetic and more intelligent. In short, he concludes, "this farm strike cannot succeed."

NBC

COTTON STRIKE

The ^{local California} cotton strike is still going on in the San Joaquin Valley, ~~California~~. Some ten thousand cotton pickers are still out, quartered in makeshift unsanitary settlements, because the ^{cotton} ~~farmers offered~~ ^{growers} evicted them from the houses they had been occupying. The authorities are quite alarmed over the situation, fearing outbreaks of violence and ~~of~~ disease. Governor Rolph has sent a large force of state highway patrolmen to the scene to prevent any ~~disorder~~ ^{difficulty}. The sheriff of one county had asked for a detachment of the national guard, but the government declined.

As for the rights of the case, a fact-finding committee of N R A workers has been investigating the claims of the strikers. This committee has reported to George Creel, head of the N R A ~~Committee~~ ^{reported} in California, that a compromise between what the strikers want and what the cotton ^{growers} ~~farmers~~ offer will be the same thing. The ^{growers} ~~farmers~~ have been paying sixty cents a hundredweight and the strikers demand a dollar. The Committee suggests eighty cents. It looks as though both sides would agree to this compromise, only the ^{growers} ~~farmers~~ attach a string to their consent. They ask the federal government to guarantee a selling price for cotton one cent a pound higher than

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the existing price. In other words, although they would pay their pickers only twenty cents a hundredweight more than they have been doing, they want Uncle Sam to stake them to a rise of one dollar a hundredweight. They seem to be a modest lot!

NBC

RACKETS

The Copeland Committee of the United States Senate continued its investigation into racketeering and other crimes, at Chicago today. The principal suggestion offered by witnesses such as chiefs of police, judges, mayors and other officials, was that the courts should be free from political influence.

(None of the witnesses suggested how this might be achieved.)

One of the witnesses before the Committee today was the celebrated Mr. Factor, popularly known as Jake-the-Barber, the gentleman whom British authorities would like to see in connection with his financial activities in London which cost English investors several millions of pounds. The committee was questioning Mr. Factor concerning the kidnapping of himself and his son.

Prof. Douglas of the University of Chicago made an interesting remark concerning Mr. Factor. Said Dr. Douglas:- "England gave us Sam Insull and we gave England Jake-the-Barber." And he added, "As usual in international transactions, John Bull got the better of the swap, and got off easy."

General S. Leslie
Kincaid.

Hotelier.

Oct. 24, 1933.

INTRODUCTION TO GENERAL KINCAID

In my recent travels I have noticed one particularly good sign. This was that wherever I have been, the hotels seem to be a great deal livelier than for several years. People are not only staying in hotels, but they seem to me to be frequenting the restaurants of the big hotels more than they were.

I wonder if I am right. There is someone in the studio with me tonight who certainly ought to know. He is General J. Leslie Kincaid. General Kincaid has many decorations from different governments for his record as a soldier, and they have now given him the formidable job of directing no less than fifty hotels. He and Mr. Lucius Boomer of the Waldorf seem to be the Nation's hosts. How about it, General? Have you noticed any changes in the people ^{hotels?} Do they seem to be cheerier? Have their tastes and habits altered in the last few months?

FOR GENERAL KINCAID

I am happy to say that they have. A large section of the public have been giving us the go-by for a couple of years. But now the hotel man's soul is gladdened by the sight of comfortable sized crowds in his restaurants.

And their tastes are changing too. All my head waiters tell me that people are eating with a great deal more discrimination. Hitherto the majority of people have been selecting meals consisting principally of one large portion. Their bill of fare today is more varied. Both the traveling public and the people who live at hotels are eating more like epicures. They want smaller portions, but they want an infinitely wider variety of dishes.

Another thing that we might observe is that people are more cheerful and leisurely over their meals. They used to rush through them with the idea of just stoking in enough fuel to keep them going. Today they are eating for the pleasure of it, and meals are once again becoming lively, cheerful affairs. Also I am glad to say the folks are spending more money ~~x~~ for their repasts.

And that's the sort of sight a hotel man likes to see whether he has fifty of them or just one.

FRANCE

Yes, General that sounds like a sign of returning good times. And now General while you help yourself to the cavaire I'll see if there is any more spice in today's news. I regret to say that the most shocking railroad accident of the year is reported from France. In fact, it has created such a sensation that it has almost distracted public attention from today's resignation of the French Cabinet.

The tragedy occurred at dawn this morning. One of the crack French trains, the express from Cherbourg to Paris, plunged off a high viaduct into the Rouloir River near Evreux, some sixty miles west of Paris. The engine took a baggage car and three coaches with it.

The bodies of twenty-two passengers have been recovered. But a wireless message from Paris, informs me that some thirty-three more were gravely injured. No Americans were aboard so far as we have been able to learn. Later advices indicate that the train may have been deliberately wrecked. The French police suspect that someone tampered with the rails on the western side of the viaduct.

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A hundred and eighty people were arrested in a riot outside the Chamber of Deputies - a riot which took place while the French members of Parliament were turning in that vote of no confidence in the financial policy of Prime Minister Daladier.

The latest reports I've received carried the information that the President of the Republic has been conferring with the leaders of the principal parties in France. It is expected that either Monsieur Sarrut or Chautemps will be the new premier.

NBC

Schoonmaker

BULLS

An accident of a different sort is reported from another part of France. The express from Madrid to Paris was nearing the frontier between France and Spain when around the curve suddenly appeared a large drove of pugnacious Spanish cattle. It so happened that there was not a single bull fighter on the whole train. Apparently, the bulls realized this so they charged the locomotive.

The usual number of bulls killed during a "corrida", as the Spanish call an afternoon's entertainment at the bull ring, is only six. But the train did a better job than that. It killed eight of them, without any of the red ~~tape~~^{capas} and preliminaries used by the matadores.

The train came to a halt and the crew got out to clear the track. But the remainder of the herd were not in the least daunted. They charged those trainmen and chased them back on the train.

Then ensued a typical continental scene. Passengers poked their heads out of the windows, shouting advice to the trainmen, but not offering any assistance. The trainmen, from the safety of the coach platforms, shouted back. Finally, the engineer won the

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battle. He grew restless and ^{blew}~~dro~~ a terrific blow on his whistle.

Thereupon the bulls decided to call it a day.

Schoonmaker

OIL

From time to time you may have had a doctor's prescription which advised you to "take three drops on a lump of sugar". Have you ever wondered how big is a drop? In case you're curious, here's some information, and it comes from a strange source -- the laboratories of the General Electric Company. Dr. L. R. Koller of the Research Staff of the General Electric has been investigating the question and finds that in the case of the new General Electric oil burning furnace, a drop of the fuel averages only two thousandths of an inch in diameter. Consequently, the drop you feed to yourself by doctor's prescription contains millions of times the volume of a drop of atomized oil.

The Research Laboratory of General Electric has gone further than this. It has taken a single globule of ordinary furnace oil, no bigger than the head of a safety match, and broken it down to more than a hundred million particles.

There's one of the miracles of modern science for you.

CRASH

This afternoon in a dense fog fifteen miles off the California coast, the crack new United States cruiser "Chicago," was rammed by a British Tanker, Silver Palm.

So sudden was the collision that two men, one of them a Lieutenant, were swept overboard and drowned. Two others were seriously injured, on the Chicago.

The crash occurred this afternoon as the Chicago was steaming from San Pedro to Mare Island. She was about 100 miles from Mare Island when the crash took place. According to Naval radio she was proceeding slowly. Only her water-tight compartments saved the ship from going down. Her steel plates were ripped apart by the force of the crash.

The British tanker, on its way to India, returned to San Francisco for repairs.

ZEPPELIN

The great German dirigible, the Graf Zeppelin, is paying us another visit and has almost reached her destination. In fact, she ought to be approaching Akron, Ohio, at this moment. The Radio Marine Corporation station ~~at~~ ^{at} Chatham, Massachusetts, intercepted a message from the Graf ^{a little while ago,} ~~at half past two.~~ This message reported that the giant blimp, with Commander Eckener at the controls, was over Richmond, Kentucky, at ~~that~~ time.

NBC

DUTCH WEST INDIES - ENDING

(1)

A week or so ago I had an item about the coral island of Aruba, off the coast of Venezuela. A former resident of Aruba, with the unusual name of John Smith, writes me from Austin, Texas. He says that next to Aruba is the island of Curazao, shaped like a horseshoe. At the mouth of the horseshoe, on both sides, is the ^{Dutch West Indian} town of Willemstad. There is a wooden pontoon bridge across the channel. It is about 225 feet long, for pedestrians, and one lane for motor traffic. It costs ten cents ~~xx~~ in Dutch money to drive across in your car, two cents if you walk across with shoes on, free if you are barefoot.

Mr. John Smith says that the classic story of the island concerns a certain visitor in Curazao who got gloriously spiflicated on Curazao antidote for snake bite. He wanted to cross that pontoon bridge but he didn't want to pay. So he took off his shoes. Barefoot there were no charges. But when he got to the other side it cost him ten dollars to have a doctor take the splinters out of his feet.

Well, unlike that pedestrian of Curazao, I'm
not ~~spiff~~ spiflicated, but perhaps it's time for me to take
off my shoes and softly tiptoe away from this mike. And
SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

L.T.
Personal Corres.