

Good Evening, Everybody:-

Grave affairs are afoot on the banks of the Seine. The grumblings over the Chautemp^S government reached a climax tonight. The Cabinet has been shaky ever since it proposed to give up a program for public works projects. That had been promised as a measure of relief for the workers. But France can't afford public works as well as its huge rearmament program.

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The Cabinet also wanted extraordinary powers from Parliament, ~~They demanded~~^{the} authority to run the country's financial affairs by decree. There^{has} been a tremendous volume of protest from ~~the manual labor, classes.~~ Streams of visitors ~~have been~~ pouring into the Prime Minister's palace. Most of them were working men, many ~~of them~~ white-haired, ~~dressed~~ in overalls, with wine bottles sticking out of their hip pockets. They ~~That~~ didn't make any row but left petitions and letters of protest.

There was an emergency meeting of the Cabinet tonight. Outside in the street angry crowds of workers and Communists were massed. They shouted "Give us our program." At seven o'clock ^{Paris time} premier Chautemps hurriedly left the Cabinet meeting, ~~and~~ went to a conference with former Premier leader of Edward Herriot, ^{the} radical Socialists. Before he left the resignations of the Cabinet were lying on the table, signed.

About an hour ago ^{the} a bulletin ~~was~~ flashed that ~~Premier~~ Chautemps^s and his colleagues have quit. [¶] Their government ~~had~~ lasted just forty days. ^{Chautemps} explained to newspaper men: "Our demand for exceptional measures was simply a question of honest common sense." Then he went on: "France is obliged to obtain exceptional credits to meet her security needs."

Tomorrow at nine-thirty, ~~he~~ Chautemps^s will appear in the Chamber of Deputies and ^{formally} announce the resignation of his entire Cabinet. — another Paris government falls.

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HUNGARY FOLLOW FRANCE

There was a cabinet resignation in Budapest too, but that one wasn't serious. The Prime Minister resigned. ~~But~~ The ink of his signature wasn't dry before Admiral Horthy, Regent of Hungary, asked him to form a new government. ~~Thereupon~~ The cabinet thereupon was quickly reconstructed, ~~Most of it~~ ^{ing} consists for the most part of members of the former cabinet. ~~It's called a cabinet of national concentration to~~ ^{They are now} ~~prepare~~ ^{ing} for a new loan of about two hundred million dollars; ~~that~~ ^{To} be used chiefly for rearmament, ~~which is the crux of the whole business.~~

AUSTRIA

Austria in a ferment again today. (Chancellor Schuschnigg made his long expected speech, over the radio, from Innsbruck. Soldiers on guard. The government had feared violent demonstrations by Nazis.

The speech was an appeal to Austrian workers. The Chancellor announced that there would be a plebiscite on Sunday, a general election. Austrians to decide whether their country shall remain an independent sovereign state, or join Germany.) The Chancellor addressed his appeal particularly to the Socialists. "Don't waste your energies trying to form a new popular front or coalition parties," said he. "What we want is an independent social-minded Austria. Christian, harmonious Austria!"

Wonder what that election on Sunday will show? A heavy Nazi vote, I predict. But not enough to swing Austria to Germany.

CHINA

A rather sensational report comes from China. The rumor is that the Japanese Major General, Doihara, has been assassinated. *Doihara, the supposed arch-conspirator who was called the Lawrence of Manchuria.* He was killed by an organization called the Red Spear, ~~its~~ one of the oldest secret societies in China. *The Red Spear* ~~It~~ dates from centuries back. ~~Its devotees call it a self-defense organization.~~ The Red Spears played an important part in the Boxer Rebellion. ~~Previous that~~ *Even before that they fought against* ~~to that, they were the most obdurate resisters against~~ the Manchu dynasty. Most of them are armed only with spears, ornamented with a red tassel. ~~The~~ ^A report ~~is~~ is that they revolted against the Japanese conquerors in the district northeast of Lonyang. They are supposed to have inflicted heavy casualties and killed Doihara, who was one of the most important officers of the Japanese high command. The rumor, however, is unconfirmed.

WHITNEY

After the bankruptcy of Richard Whitney and Company, one surprise follows another. The Attorney General of New York State lost no time starting an investigation. And the cashier of ~~that~~ ^{the} old, honorable and conservative firm gave astounding testimony. He told the Assistant Attorney General that four hundred thousand dollars worth of securities had been withdrawn from the accounts of customers. And the man who withdrew them, [?] Richard Whitney himself, head of the firm, former President of the New York Stock Exchange! That sensation was still quivering when ~~the~~ ^{Richard} Whitney added to it. He made public a statement amazingly frank and candid. Here's part of it: "In the first place I want to say emphatically that the difficulties in which the firm has become involved are the result of actions of which I alone am responsible." And he added: "None of my partners and no one but myself has or had any responsibility or participation."

And then he ~~And here follows another~~ ^{ed with} admission; ^{no2:-} "In the second place," ~~says Mr. Whitney~~ ^{said he:-} "I fully realize that certain of my actions have been wrong ^{and} ~~To which he adds~~ "I am determined to meet the consequences in the hope and expectation that thereby I can

contribute to improvement of the situation. And I want to do whatever lies in my power to repair the loss which anyone has suffered."

The shock of this on Wall Street may readily be imagined.

*I was talking about this to
I met, a group of Wall St. men
today. They were shaking their heads—
incredible, fantastic.*

T.V.A.

More sparks flew in the T.V.A. fight at Washington today.

~~There was~~ ^Q passage of angry words between two distinguished senators.

~~Senator~~ Bridges of New Hampshire opened the row. He put all the blame for the trouble on the dictatorial methods of Director Lilienthal, one of the two opposed to Dr. Arthur Morgan, Chairman of the Board. This was a reply to the speech of Senator Norris of Nebraska yesterday, who put all the burden on Dr. Morgan's jealousy. ² Senator Bridges demanded an open and thorough investigation. He went so far as to charge Director Lilienthal with being a Hitler in the State of Tennessee. And said the Senator: "People in east Tennessee are being forced to take electricity they don't want and a subsidy they didn't ask for at the expense of hundreds of millions of dollars of taxpayers' money."

Senator King of Utah joined Senator Bridges in asking for a congressional investigation. ^{To which} ~~Senator Norris expressed his~~ ^{replied:} grievance in no mean terms. ~~"I think it was a discourtesy," said the gentleman from Nebraska.~~ ^{"That's} ~~"It was unfair to me and to the Senate.~~

We already had a resolution pending proposing the thing that Senator Bridges desired to do."

RAILROADS

There has been groaning and moaning today in railroad circles. That increase in freight rates ^{while} ~~that~~ the I.C.C. granted yesterday isn't enough, they complain. And they point out ~~that~~ they ^{also} need ~~also~~ to charge more for passenger fares.

~~In this~~ The I.C.C. ^{contends} ~~has frequently pointed out~~ that railroad travel jumped enormously when fares in the east were reduced to two cents a mile. They also point to western railroads which reduced fares of their own accord and have made money doing it, getting more passengers.

Senator Wheeler of Montana plunged into the argument today. "We need the railroads," he pointed out. "And therefore they've got to be allowed to pay their way. Those freight rate increases will help ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ the ^w ~~railroads~~ only temporarily. Something more drastic has ~~got~~ to be done." ^{So he} ~~The Senator~~ will recommend to the President that the jurisdiction of the I.C.C. be extended, ^{to} ~~it will~~ cover every form of transportation in the United States, motor buses, airlines, even coastal shipping. The object: ~~should be~~ ~~fix~~ equitable rates to enable them all to compete profitably and ~~to~~ live, and to relieve ~~the~~ pressure on the railroads.

TAXES

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Straws in Congress continue to show a wind blowing against the White House. ^{Congress} ~~The House~~ took the bit in its teeth today, defied the threat of a presidential veto. ^{It} ~~That~~ was in the debate over the new Tax Bill. The Representatives voted, in committee of the whole, to cut out entirely the twenty per cent surtax on closely held corporations. That is what's known as the "Third Basket Tax." Congress had been warned that Mr. Roosevelt would veto the bill if that item was cut out. The vote against the White House was a hundred and eighty to a hundred and twenty-four. — which ~~It was a genuine~~ ^{came as a} surprise. ^{For} ~~so~~ everybody expected ^{the} ~~that~~ Tax Bill to be passed today. ^{Now} ~~But~~ in view of ~~that~~ vote, the chairman adjourned the session till tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT

There has been a lot of speculation in Washington *as to*
~~about~~ when Congress will adjourn. Gloomy prophets expected there
would be no holiday for the senators and representatives until
late in June, maybe July. But now there's one cheerful fact:—
Vice-President Garner has told his friends that he has a date to
go fishing in Texas soon after May Fifteenth. *Tact* Garner's
faculty for guessing right has ~~always~~ *often* been uncanny, ~~in the past,~~
following suit —
So many of the solons are making their vacation plans. Aside
from that, the rumor is plausible, *particularly* so since it
became known that President Roosevelt is going to keep hands off
Congress for the rest of the session. ~~He does not want to join~~
~~battle at this stage and certainly not over adjournment.~~

MOONEY

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Tom Mooney is to appear before the lower House of the California Legislature. ^{This is} ~~That~~ in connection with the pending resolution which, if adopted, will ^{again} ask Governor Merriam to pardon Mooney. Before adopting it, however, the California Assembly wants to question in person the man convicted of the Preparedness Day bombing in San Francisco twenty-two years ago. So Mooney, who claims he has been wrongfully imprisoned for twenty-two years, will appear before the legislators tomorrow.

ROBBERY

In St. Joseph, Missouri, a man was on trial before a justice of the peace, accused of robbery. The magistrate said to the complaining witness: "Point out the man who beat you over the head with a blackjack and robbed you of a hundred and eighty dollars." Whereupon the witness said: "There he is. I'm positive that's he." The man ~~who was~~ he was pointing at was the Assistant Prosecutor.

USED CAR WEEK

All over the country this week, people will see gigantic bonfires. Ancient motor cars, rattle-traps that used to be a menace to traffic on the highways, will be burned with public rejoicing. ~~in several cities.~~ One of the most spectacular of these bonfires will be lit at the east end of Belle Isle, Detroit, tonight. There'll be as many as five hundred ^{once epic and} ~~of these~~ ^{span new cars.} ~~once dangerous pieces of junk.~~ With the aid of a power crane, they'll be piled ~~up~~ in a huge ^f tower. ~~as high as possible.~~ They'll be drenched with gasoline and at eight o'clock, Mayor Redding of Detroit will ^{touch them off,} ~~light the fuse that sets the fire.~~ The blaze will be visible not only all over Detroit but across the river in Canada, and far down the shore of Lake Erie.

All this ~~is~~ a testimony to the success of National Used Car Exchange Week. ~~Every car that is burned means that its former owner has a better and safer one in its place.~~ Similar bonfires ~~have been planned in Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Buffalo, Fort Wayne, and numerous other cities.~~

STORM

Poor Los Angeles! The weather man has bad news for the City of the Angels. A ferocious storm is on its way toward the coast of southern California, ^{and} ~~it is~~ due to strike late tonight. Possibly its advance guard is upon the city now. At noon, Eastern Standard Time, the disturbance was out in the Pacific Ocean six hundred miles west of California. Storm warnings have been posted all the way south from Santa Barbara.

And, flood peril is returning to another ~~and remote~~ part of the globe. Recent floods raised havoc on the east coast of England. A large section of East Ang^{le}ia, the F^{en}a country, famous North Broads, is under water. All dykes are down, thousands upon thousands of farm lands inundated. ~~The sea has penetrated the Boards and dykes and interfered with the natural drainage of the land.~~ Tons upon tons of fresh water fish have been killed by the salt. The authorities are making hasty preparations to improvise levies and dykes. The spring tides are due and if another northeaster blows at the same time, there will be more disaster.

SHARK

Before I tell you the next story, I must emphasize the fact that it comes from a clergyman. To be precise, a Catholic missionary in the Fiji Islands. ^{Here on} ~~He comes back for~~ a visit telling ^{a new one,} ~~of a custom~~ among ~~those islanders that I for one never heard of.~~ Twice a year they go through a ceremony ~~which consists principally~~ of kissing sharks. ~~on their bellies.~~ They drive them into a large net, then dive down and apply that weird caress. ~~and~~ Says the Catholic priest: ^{applies the kiss the} "Once the native ~~kisses it, that~~ shark never moves again." And he added: "There seems to be some occult power that I can't define." In other words, when a shark is kissed by a Fiji islander, it stays kissed. ~~They can have my share.~~

STRANDED

In the high Rocky Mountains of Colorado, sixteen men went through an ordeal, ^{a near} ~~that almost became~~ tragic. For six days they were stranded in a freight train on Lizzard Head Pass, ~~that's~~ in the San Miguel Mountains, eleven thousand feet high. They were the crew of a freight train on the Rio Grande-Southern. ^{ff} Though the train had three locomotives, snows fell so thickly ~~that~~ they couldn't plow through, ~~The~~ drifts ~~piled up~~ twenty feet ^{high.} ~~deep.~~ For four days the men lived in ² ~~two~~ cabooses with nothing to eat but a sack of seed onions, nothing to drink but a little coffee. They were rescued ~~only~~ today.

ASTEROID

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~~just~~ in case you are interested

Somewhere in the empyrean, an asteroid is missing, a little star. It was first seen in Nineteen Thirty-Seven, approaching the earth. Astronomers measured it and figured it as being about two miles in diameter.

This little fragment of the sun came within half a million miles of our globe, nearer than any other solar object in history.

~~After being discovered and measured, it disappeared.~~ That's fortunate for us. If it had ever landed on the earth, it would have raised

considerable havoc. ^{Dr. Donald Mazer} ~~The~~ scientists of Harvard Observatory ^{tells me} ~~say~~ that

it could have wiped out the entire metropolitan area of ^{say} ~~a place like~~

New York, Chicago or Los Angeles. And if it had fallen into the ocean,

there would have been a tidal wave of cataclysmic proportion. ~~THE~~

Now it's missing. Seems to have gone away. Luckily. ~~But~~ Just as I'm about to go away - luckily perhaps.

And s-l-u-t-m.

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