

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 1931

ITALY

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

There's one exceedingly important bit of news tonight. The Italian government announced today that it intends to put the Hoover plan into effect at once. Mussolini isn't even going to wait for the issue of the negotiations now going on between the French and American governments. He declares that so far as Italy is concerned the Hoover plan is O.K. and he is putting it into effect right away.

So far as reparations go, the Italian government will not ask Germany to make the payments which are due this year. Fritz will not have to shell out one pfennig to the Duce. Well, President Hoover's plan calls for a suspension of war debt payments as well as reparations, but the Italians aren't taking any advantage of this. They won't hold up their payments to the United States this year for the very simple reason that they came through with their annual instalment to Uncle Sam on June 15th, and they don't owe any more for another year.

1 ~~rest of the year.~~

2 Italy's new move on the checker-
3 board of international politics is
4 interpreted as a powerful bit of
5 pressure brought to bear to persuade
6 France to ^{obay} ~~accept~~ the plan proposed
7 by the President of the United States.
8 In London the British authorities are
9 ~~xx~~ greatly pleased, and ~~xx~~ when the
10 American officials in Washington heard
11 that Mussolini was putting the Hoover
12 plan into effect right away on his
13 own account, why they were tickled
14 pink. Italy is, thus, the first
15 country to fall actively into line
16 with President Hoover's plan for a
17 year's suspension of reparations and
18 war debts.

1 This week's issue of the Literary
2 Digest tells us about one bit of
3 Hoover economy ~~which has~~ ^{that is} provoked ~~ing~~
4 a few differences of opinion. The
5 United States Navy in cutting down
6 expenses is preparing to abandon the
7 naval base at Guam.

8 The Digest quotes the Chicago
9 Tribune ~~is~~ saying that naval experts
10 have decided that as a base for our
11 fleet Guam isn't of any more use.

12 The reason, as the Digest points
13 out, is that the United States govern-
14 ment has already promised by treaty
15 not to fortify Guam any further. ~~and~~
16 As the situation now stands the island
17 could easily be captured in wartime, ^{so}
18 We might as well abandon it as a naval
19 base.

20 The Boston Herald points out that
21 Guam as a naval station might be
22 important as a defense for the
23 Philippine Islands, ^{and} that if we ever
24 had occasion to defend the Philippines
25 ~~that~~ we might be sorry ~~that~~ we didn't
fortify Guam and make it available as a
center of naval power in the mid-Pacific.

1 Well, folks, what do you say.

2 Let's all cut our own salaries^{ies}.

3 But wait a minute. I've been
4 reading that line out of a dispatch here
5 and what I mean to say is that it's
6 the boys down in Georgia^{ia} who are saying -
7 "let's cut our own salaries."

8 The idea was started ~~by~~ by
9 Governor Russell of Georgia who has proposed
10 to the State Legislature that all state
11 salaries, including his own, be cut from
12 five to ten per cent. This Associated
13 Press dispatch doesn't say how many or
14 how loud the cheers were when the idea
15 was propounded. But anyway, the Georgia
16 legislators are now considering that
17 proposed cut in their own salaries.

18 The reason is - economy. It's
19 to tide the state over for a couple of
20 years.

21 In fact, the salary cut is
22 proposed for only a ~~couple of~~^{two} years.
23 At the end of that time I suppose the
24 wages of the state employees would be
25 put back to where they are now.

1 And that Georgia governor is not
2 only proposing to slash his own salary,
3 but also to cut down his term of office.
4 He wants his term to be reduced by all
5 of six months. He is begging to be
6 ~~allowed~~ ^{allowed} to step out of the governor's
7 chair six months before he's supposed to.

8 The reason is that there is an
9 awkward interval between the time when
10 a governor of Georgia is elected and the
11 time when he takes office. He is elected
12 in ~~XXXXXX~~ November and doesn't become
13 governor until the following June, and
14 Governor Russell says this causes much
15 confusion. Therefore, he would like to
16 have governors hereafter inaugurated
17 in January, two months after they are
18 elected, instead of eight months. He
19 is quite willing to quit his job in
20 January instead of in June.

21 Well, it all sounds very noble
22 and high minded, and we seem to have a
23 picture of the Governor of Georgia hitting
24 himself a couple of times on the head
25 with a mallet - all in ~~a~~ ^{the} ~~very~~ genuine
interest of the public.

1 There's a bad situation in the
2 city of Salonica in Greece. All today
3 there have been riots between the
4 Greeks and the Jews. Savage fighting
5 raged in the streets. The United
6 Press gives the casualties as ten
7 killed and fifty wounded.

8 The Jewish quarter was set
9 ablaze, and they say 200 houses ^{went up in flames.} ~~burnt~~

10 The Greek government is trying to get
11 control of the situation, and may have
12 to declare martial law. ^{Salonica, during}

13 the world war, you'll recall, was the head-
14 quarters of the Allied Armies fighting
15 on the Balkan Front. It is one of the
16 most cosmopolitan cities in the eastern
17 mediterranean. During the World War it was
18 the scene of riots - and was destroyed
19 by fire. ~~shortly before I arrived there.~~
20 I recall it as a city of charred ruins
21 and a harbor crowded with lovely sail
22 boats, ~~its swarming with~~

AVIATORS

Well, it must have been a large evening up at Edmonton, Canada. The round-the-world flyers, Post and Gatty, as you of course know by now reached Edmonton safely and now they have only one more long flight ahead of them.

Those two chaps, now that their record-making round-the world flight is within a short distance of success, have been having a few breath-taking experiences. They took off from Solomon, Alaska, last night, - near Nome. And as Gatty started the propeller one blade clipped his arm and gave him a nasty bruise. But it didn't disable him, and the next thing you know he and Post were headed for the city of Fairbanks in the heart of Alaska.

And today when they took off from Fairbanks to fly to Edmonton, why, they had a bit of trouble getting their plane into the air. They tried one take-off and failed. The ship was so heavily loaded they couldn't get her off the ground.

Their second attempt was successful, but they just barely escaped disaster. The heavy plane lifted off the ground, but she didn't climb fast. The daring aviators had to struggle

to keep the ship from hitting a wood-pile. The Associated Press says they just skimmed over that wood-pile, missing it by inches. The United Press comes along with the detail that they also just missed hitting the tops of some trees.

But any way, they got safely into the sky and then headed down past Mr. McKinley the highest peak in North America on past the vast ice fields around Mt. St. Elias, over the Upper Yukon where the gold seekers toiled on the trail of '98 and then across northwest Canada.

And now from Edmonton their course will lie across the vast plains of Canada and the United States, which ought to be the easiest lap of their breathless dash around the globe.

1 This evening a long, slender,
2 cigar shaped body is driving northwestward
3 through the sky. It's the Graf Zeppelin
4 which started out today on a cruise to
5 Iceland.

6 No, the big ship is not on her way
7 to make that flight to the North Pole
8 which has been talked about so much.
9 She's just making a practice spin to
10 the Northern regions. The Associated
11 Press gives her itinerary as - Iceland
12 and then back home.

13 In July the Graf expects to
14 carry the practice trip idea a little
15 further. She'll make a tour over Franz
16 Josef Land, and do a bit of Arctic
17 exploration.

18 Then later in the summer ^{perhaps} the
19 big flight will come off, the destination
20 being the North Pole, ~~to meet Sir Hubert Wilkins~~
~~and his submarine, the Nautilus.~~

21 In other words the big German
22 dirigible is working gradually into that
23 North Pole flight. The idea is to take
24 a spin in moderately northern regions,
25 and then the next time to push farther
north, and then finally to the Pole.

BALLOON

I suppose we've all thought about what would happen if an airplane or a balloon came down in the middle of a big city. That sort of thing has happened a time or two, and here's another incident to add to the book. The city of Lille, is one of the great cities of France. It has tall buildings and traffic-congested streets -- just like any other metropolitan area.

Word has just come of how Lille has been having a bit of bad weather and how a balloon, a free balloon drifting with the wind, got into trouble over the town and started to sink to earth. Down it came, with the gondola dangling and swinging beneath the huge gas bag. And in the gondola were several members of the Northern Aeronautical Association who had been out for a free balloon ride.

The falling balloon came down between rows of buildings, right into a street. It bumped against the buildings on either side and then got hung on the trolley wires of a street-car line.

Naturally there was a huge crowd on the street, and the

people helped the aeronauts out of their dangling gondola.

The big bag still hanging on the wires, slowly settled. And that's where the only casualties came in. The gas in the bag was forced out, and several people nearby dropped to the ground half asphyxiated. They had to be taken away and revived.

And the citizens of Lille had a grand show when that free balloon plopped right in the middle of the city.

1 Well, I guess any of us would be
2 a bit embarrassed to walk up to a
3 parked car of ours and find it was
4 already occupied -- that is, occupied
5 by a swarm of bees.

6 It happened on a busy street in
7 Albany, New York. The Associated Press
8 tells us as a bit of background that a
9 large swarm of bees has been wandering
10 around in Albany. The industrious
11 insects finally picked a parked car and
12 settled down on it. Maybe they thought
13 it was a beehive. And there they were,
14 crawling over the hood ^{and} the steering
15 wheel; and there were a few hundred of
16 them on the seat, just waiting for
17 somebody to step in and sit down.

18 Anyway, when the owner of the
19 car came he found the bees in full
20 possession of his bus. Naturally he
21 was a bit embarrassed and didn't know
22 what to do. He was afraid that if he
23 tried to drive the insects away they
24 might be a bit annoyed and take their
25 spite out on him. I suppose he could

1 see himself tearing down the street
2 pursued by a swarm of bees.

3 But he got a break. It was his
4 lucky day. Another car drove up just
5 behind his, and the man in it was an
6 expert on bees. ^{In fact he} ~~he~~ was a keeper of bee-
7 hives. He just walked over and collected
8 the bees, put them in a box, and took
9 them home. ^{And} ~~Yes sir,~~ that was a break.

1 At Blacksmith Rapids, in northern
2 Canada, the Associated Press tells us
3 they have a floating-log bridge across
4 a stream. It was a good bridge until
5 the moose started to use it. A herd
6 of moose, deciding to cross the river
7 would use the bridge, and that banged it
8 up considerably.

9 But local inhabitants have a ^{full grown} pet
10 bear that is trained to do all sorts of
11 useful things. They taught the bear to
12 stand on the bridge as a guard and
13 stationed him there to keep the moose
14 away.

15 Well, old Mister Bear was doing
16 sentry duty when a herd of moose came
17 along and decided to cross. The bear
18 tried to shoo them away, and he got
19 into an argument with the big bull
20 moose that was leading the herd. There
21 was a lively battle ^{on the bridge.} The bear used his
22 claws, and the moose used his horns. The
23 next thing you know Old Mister Bear was
24 bounced off the bridge and was in the
25 water swimming.

1 And now the people of Blacksmith
2 Rapids, with the ^{heads of} moose still damaging
3 their bridge, are wondering how a
4 Bengal tiger would do! Or a bull elephant.

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1 There's another hot weather
2 item in the news this evening.

3 At Milwaukee Alphonse Arco
4 was so warm that he decided to lay
5 off during the heat of the day and take
6 a siesta. He picked out a nice bit
7 of ~~XXXXX~~ shady side street and lay
8 down and went to sleep. As the sun
9 moved overhead the shade moved and
10 turned into sunshine.

11 The tar of the pavement
12 melted and Arco still sleeping soundly
13 sank into the sticky, gluey stuff.
14 As evening came on and it got a bit
15 cooler, the tar became solid again,
16 and there was Arco stuck fast. He
17 couldn't budge. They had to dig up a
18 whole section of pavement to get the
19 man free. Then they broke chunks of
20 tar off him and sent him to a hospital
21 for scientific removal of the rest.
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1 Now let's get a strangle hold on
2 this next great problem of the day.
3 It's about strangle holds. In other
4 words when is a strangle hold not a
5 strangle hold? The answer is: when it's
6 a neck lock.

7 The sporting pages of the
8 newspapers today are discussing these
9 subtle perplexities. It all concerns
10 the big wrestling bout of last night,
11 which ended in a spectacular and
12 puzzling way, when Ray Steele, the
13 brawny German American was trying to take
14 the championship away from Jim Londos,
15 the Greek Adonis. And it was one
16 thumping, bumping affair of German-
17 American meeting Greek, or beef meeting
18 beef.

19 Let's use the old stock phrases
20 of the sports writers and talk about
21 the ponderous ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ pachyderms^S,
22 the battling behemoths and the
23 Gargantuan Goliaths. They were all of
24 that. Steele, the bigger man, seemed to
25 be having something the best of it.

1 He twisted and wrenched the Greek
2 ~~xxxxx~~ around in a way fit to pulverize
3 the bones of half a dozen ordinary men.
4 But in the end the Greek got him,
5 clamped a terrific hold on him and
6 pinned him to the mat. And the question
7 is:-was ~~xxx~~ it a strangle hold? Steele
8 roared that it was. He said that he
9 had been given the works in the shape
10 of an old-fashioned strangle-hold but
11 the Greek Adonis declares that it was
12 a neck lock, a new hold that he has
13 invented. He explains that he twists
14 his arms around his opponent's shoulders,
15 neck and head in such a way as to
16 reduce him to submission.

17 The profound distinction seems
18 to be that while the old-fashioned
19 stranglehold shuts off your wind-pipe,
20 this new fashioned neck lock ~~shuts~~ off
21 your jugular vein. In applying the hold *The*
22 Greek exerts a pressure against the
23 side of his opponent's neck and shuts
24 off the jugular.

25 Harry Greyson, writer on the

sporting page of the New York World Telegram sums the whole controversy up in one scientific phrase, He says it's a case of making "cider out of the Adams apple."

Not being an expert on these matters I can only pass the question along to the ladies and gentlemen of the radio audience and ask them to decide for themselves -- ,which would you prefer having your windpipe shut off or having your jugular vein shut off? Why not have some kind friend try both tricks out on you and see which you like best? But I suspect that in either event Harry Greyson is right and it's just a case of making "cider out of the Adams apple".

And that's all the news out of my Adams apple tonight -
and,

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.