

RUSSIA

Ah ha, ho ho -- and look what we have here. (Uncle Sam is going to recognize Russia! So it looks!

This has been in the air for months, in fact ever since Franklin Roosevelt climbed into the Presidential chair. But the prospect became concrete today when the White House gave out the story that the President has invited the Russian Government to send representatives to Washington to discuss problems of common interest to the two countries.) Simultaneously with this, Mr. Roosevelt disclosed the fact that Russia had accepted the invitation.

The negotiator on the Soviet side will be none other than Comrade Litvinof, the Soviet's commissar of foreign affairs. They tell me he's a shrewd egg, this Litvinof. He was head of Russia's delegation to the World Economic Conference at London, and they do say he was the only man who really accomplished anything of actual practical value for his country.

Officials in Washington cautiously underline the statement that this announcement does not necessarily mean recognition. But, here -- just consider the words used by President Roosevelt

in his invitation.

"It is most regrettable" he wrote "that these great peoples between whom a happy tradition and friendship existed for more than a century to their mutual advantage should now be without a practical method of communicating directly with each other." And that looks like recognition.

**NBC**

## FARMERS

The most serious topic of the day in America is the growing discontent in the Middle West.

The farmers threaten to declare what amounts to economic warfare on the Government in an attempt to enforce their wishes on the Administration. The Directors of the National Farmers Holiday Association have just held a secret meeting at St. Paul, Minnesota. Thereupon the National President of the Association announced today that the farmers' strike will begin tomorrow in twenty-five states. They claim this will mean a strike of no less than two million farmers.

In the strike proclamation it is stated that the farmers will refuse to sell any of their products or to buy anything but what is necessary to keep body and soul together. They will also refuse to meet capital payments on debts until farm prices are raised.

Meanwhile, in Washington, officials of the Administration are not idling. They are speeding things up to cope with this growing discontent in the Farm Belt.

One of the things that may be done will be to lend money

to the wheat farmers on the same basis as to the cotton farmers.

This, they say, will amount virtually to price fixing.

Then, too, George N. Peek, Administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, issued this statement:-

"I don't blame the farmers. All they are trying to do is to save their homes and I'd fight to hold mine. We in the West have been warning the East for twelve years that such situations as this would come up unless farmers' incomes were increased.

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NEBRASKA

Governor Langer of North Dakota ~~told me yesterday that~~ *tells me that he has*

~~he~~ had telegrams of sympathy from the Governors of several other states concerning his embargo on wheat. Evidently Governor Charles W. Bryan of Nebraska is not one of these. Governor Bryan is the brother of the late William Jennings ~~Bryan~~, the great Commoner. *The Nebraska*

~~governor~~ *He* says today that he has refused to approve any plans ~~for~~ *for* a wheat embargo in his state because as he puts it, ~~in his~~ *in his* words: "It is prohibited both by the State and the Federal Constitutions."

However, Governor Bryan has a remedy for the farmers' plight. What he would like to do would be to refund in cash the Fourth Liberty Loan Bonds so as to save sixty millions a year in interest. This money he would put in circulation among the farmers as well as among the veterans. Governor Bryan last year was opposed to cash payment of the adjusted compensation certificates to veterans, but he has changed his mind. He thinks big business is getting all the relief. He

described what is now being done by the Government~~x~~ as  
"Pouring funds in at the top." He says those funds do not ~~in~~  
reach the lower levels of the farmers and us ordinary  
citizens.

GENEVA

Chancellor Hitler is obviously ~~quite~~ on the level about withdrawing from the League of Nations. A communication reached the Secretariat of the League today containing the information that the German Consul General at Geneva will pay a visit to <sup>the</sup> League tomorrow morning <sup>thereupon</sup> ~~and will~~ formally and officially <sup>to</sup> present Germany's notice of withdrawal.

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JAPAN

*An appalling*  
~~A~~ ~~terrible~~ sea tragedy is reported from Japan. It was a fire on board the Steamer Yashima Maru. It destroyed the vessel entirely and her charred hulk sank in the ~~inland~~ *Sea of Japan* ~~see~~ this afternoon. This we learn through a wireless message from Tokio by way of London. Few details of the disaster are at hand so far, but it is known that two British ~~women~~ women, one of them the wife of an English naval officer, were among the dead.

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KING FEISAL

An interesting memorial service is going to be held in America this Sunday. There are many Syrians on this side of the ocean, and all who can get to New York will be present at a solemn oriental service in honor of the man who ruled as King of Baghdad, His Late Majesty, King Feisal of Iraq. It will be held in the Roerich Auditorium on Riverside Drive.

L.T.

Pete Knight.  
Oklahoman  
Lorne Luster.  
Oct. 20, 1933.

INTRO TO PETE KNIGHT

Here's one that I believe will interest every boy in the land, and a lot of grown-ups too:- Do you know the name of the World's Champion rider of wild horses, pitching broncs? Well, he's Pete Knight from Oklahoma.

Pete was born in Philadelphia. He went to Oklahoma when he was two years <sup>old</sup> and he's been riding ever since. When he was eleven his family moved to Calgary, in Western Canada.

Pete Knight owns a big ranch there. ~~But just for the fun of it he rides bucking horses, and for fifteen years he has followed the rodeos.~~ He won the famous Prince of Wales championship at <sup>the</sup> Calgary roundup. And he's been a winner year after year in rodeos everywhere. A few weeks ago he won the championship at the World's Fair in Chicago. Now he is ~~here~~ in New York for the rodeo at Madison Square Garden.

I thought a lot of you boys might be interested in meeting the World's Champion cow puncher, so I asked him to come along tonight. He's sitting right across from me, with his high-heeled boots, big hat, and the whole business.

LOWELL THOMAS AND PETE KNIGHT

L.T.:-

Pete, I happen to come from Colorado and I have a cattle ranch in the mountains, on the Ute Indian Reservation, near Durango. And, back here in the East, kids are always asking me this question: "Are there any real cowboys left out West?" What's your answer to that?

Pete Knight:- Lots of them! There are just about as many cowboys in the West as there ever were. There isn't as much ranching going on. But there are more rodeos. Whenever a Western kid gets pretty good at riding and breaking horses, he figures he might as well make some money. That's when he joins the rodeo.

L.T.:-

I wonder what your answer is going to be to this next one. What advice would you give an Eastern youngster if he said he wanted to be a cowboy?

Pete Knight:-

I'd tell him to leave it alone. It's too dangerous, unless you've been brought up to it from the time you are able to walk. ~~out~~ Out my way the boys who live on ranches just naturally learn to ride as soon as they learn to walk. They have their own amateur rodeos, and after a while they get pretty good.

L.T.:-

We all know there is a lot of difference in the way horses behave. But what's your idea about it? Does he buck because he's mean, or just for fun?

Pete:-

Oh, most horses just ~~seem to~~ like to buck. Here's something that most folks don't seem to know. A ~~real~~ thoroughbred does a better job of bucking, as a rule, than a wild horse. The wild one seems to wear himself out quicker. In this show here at Madison Square Garden we've got a horse called "Hell's Angels." So far no one has been able to ride him. He bucked them all off in Montana, and he has bucked 'em all off in this show. ~~So far I haven't drawn him. Some horses buck until they are twenty years old. The two toughest that I can recall were both Canadians, one named Fox and the other named Midnight.~~

L.T.:-

Judging from the way they carry men out of the arena on stretchers at the rodeo, it looks as though a lot of folks get hurt. For instance I understand <sup>some</sup> ~~two~~ of your pals ~~were hurt just the other night.~~ *have been hurt this week.*

Pete:-

6

Yep, there are some narrow escapes in this business. But so far I haven't been crippled up. The only time I ever had any real hard luck was when I was riding peacefully along at Calgary. My horse fell and slipped on my ankle and broke it. At a rodeo up in Great Falls, Montana, it looked like I was going to get killed. I was riding a bucking horse and he was going good. In fact he kicked so high that he kicked clear over. And he finished his somersault on top of me. However, for some queer reason it never hurt me at all, and I ~~inf~~ lived to win the show.

## FOOTBALL

The football season is getting into a really serious stage now. One of the things I would like to see is that encounter between Cornell and Syracuse at Ithaca - their first meeting in thirty-two years.

The background of this match is that in nine years, from 1891 to 1900, no Syracuse team was able to win. In fact, no Syracuse team could even as much score a single point on Cornell.

Among the other exciting games of tomorrow will be those between Columbia and Princeton, Yale and Brown, Notre Dame and Carnegie Tech; ~~the~~ Army and Illinois.

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Out on the Coast, Southern California will come up against Oregon State. And in the South, Tennessee will fight Alabama, and Georgia Tech will ~~be~~ play Tulane.

FOLLOW STRIKE

Out in Springfield, Illinois, the authorities have been expecting a siege. You may recall I mentioned yesterday that the Progressive Mine Workers Union had planned a demonstration at the Illinois capital as a protest against the failure to enforce the N. R. A. Coal Code. So the Illinois National Guard was mobilized, <sup>all ready</sup> ~~already~~ to handle what they called the "siege of Springfield."

But Major General Black, the head of the Illinois National Guard, tells me ~~that~~ <sup>the</sup> siege fizzled out in a drizzling rain. The consequence was that he didn't find it necessary to muster even so much as a company of infantrymen.

The General tells me an interesting thing. He says the sheriff of Sangamon County who is a devout Methodist, prayed all night for rain so that ~~there~~ there would be no disturbance. And, says that sheriff, God answered his prayers.

~~However, the train troops are still being held in readiness to get into action in case the miners decide to demonstrate anyway.~~



ANNIVERSARY

4

Every day my mail is full of birthday and anniversary letters, letters telling me about folks who are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversaries, towns that are two hundred years old, newspapers that are fifty years old, and so on.

One interesting letter of that type was handed to me just as I came into the studio a moment ago. It informs me that Palestine is one hundred years old. That startled me because I thought Palestine was one of the oldest countries in the world. Didn't Father Abraham live there at least four thousand years ago? Wasn't it in Palestine that King Solomon built his temple from the cedars of Lebanon some three thousand years ago? But upon looking a little closer I find that this Palestine is not the one where Jona<sup>h</sup> swallowed the whale. This Palestine is in Ohio, and they are celebrating the one hundredth anniversary tomorrow, with a tremendous ox roast; horseshoe pitching, marathon checker race, a kissing marathon; and old-time fiddlers will be there to whoop it up.

3

The members of the Tall Story Club of Ohio will probably attend the event in a body.

COMPANION

Ed Anthony tells me he's been doing some research work in the back files of the Woman's Home Companion. The reason being that this happens to be the sixtieth anniversary of the establishing of that magazine. Ed tells me that in the earliest issues of the Woman's Home Companion, the Big Bad Wolf, which all the country is singing and whistling about today, used to be a prominent fiction character. He says he found that few serials about Western life were complete without, not only one Big Bad Wolf, but whole troops of them who would not only howl at the door but lie in wait for lone travellers and devour them. Nobody in those days, says Anthony, would ever have thought of making the Big Bad Wolf a comic character. So today is the sixtieth birthday of the Woman's Home Companion.

L.T.

## ELECTION

Now, for something you all seem to have been waiting to hear about, even if you don't live in New York, news of the campaign for Mayor of New York. I have here the third week's tabulation of the Literary Digest poll. And these figures are surely interesting. This time all five boroughs of New York City are represented in the count, and the returns represent the tallies of 281,090 votes.

To get down to cases the colorful Major LaGuardia has increased his lead over Judge McKee. Of these 281,000 odd votes La Guardia has 136,379; McKee has 102,172; and Mr. O'Brien the present Mayor has 34,922.

NBC

CHICKEN

And now we come to an interesting slogan -- "Under the Chicken."

I saw in the papers that my old and formidable friend Mike Fiaschetti, who for years was the hard-boiled, rip-roaring head of the Italian Squad of the New York Police Department, has gone into politics.

The account said that the Fusion Forces in New York have appointed Mike to take charge of things over in Brooklyn -- just to be sure that there won't be any violence at the polls on Election Day. That gave me a smile because so far as violence is concerned, Mike will certainly be in his native element.

I saw him today and he told me a couple of political funnies. An old Italian brought his wife around to show her how to vote for LaGuardia on Election Day. The old woman had never voted, and she was all confused. Her husband got excited and pointed his finger at the majestic eagle which is the Fusion symbol and shouted: "Under the chicken, Under the chicken, dio mio, you ~~XXXX~~ gotta vote under the chicken."

And then Mike told me another one about an Italian barber who, in a political speech, was trying to explain the advantage of silence. He was trying to quote the old proverb to the effect that although eloquence may be silver, silence is golden. His English wasn't so good, and he shouted his oratory this way: "The talk--she is silver. But the shut-up,-- he is gold." Sounds like a da good idea, so let's have a da golden shup-up and

SO LONG UNTIL A MONDAY.

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