

RINGLING

Good Evening, Everybody:

Before I plunge into the news maybe I owe you an explanation. Last night I told about John Ringling owner of a certain circus, the biggest, the greatest and so on, you know. Well I told how John Ringling had lost both his legs. But just as I was saying So Long, Mr. Ringling himself telephoned to inform me that he had not lost his legs, he had not lost one leg, he had not even lost a little toe. And all I had time to do was blurt out that Mr. Ringling still had his legs.

Perhaps you wondered why I took off Mr. Ringling's legs and then put 'em back on again, all within fifteen minutes. Well, here's why:-

The story of Mr. Ringling's illness and operation was in the evening papers. But when I mentioned this <sup>the victim</sup> ~~Mr. Ringling~~ himself happened to be listening in, <sup>at a hotel at Coney Island.</sup> And with a chuckle he jumped to the telephone. Yes, and he said he didn't walk to the phone on his hands.

Coming back from Philadelphia today I saw a story in the Evening Public Ledger to this same effect. *What was actually the matter with Mr. R. was a blister on his instep.*

How did the story get out? Ah, that is a mystery that even my friend Dexter Fellowes, the veteran publicity chief of the World's Greatest Circus wires me that he can't explain. But - well, just wait till I see Dexter again. I'm going to suggest that Mr. Ringling blow him from that big cannon.

*By the way Coney Island is on fire. So far about 1,000,000 worth of property has*

DEBTS

Well, today the pendulum swings again in Europe. The situation looks more hopeful on that troublesome question of debts and reparations. A United Press dispatch ~~to~~ the Baltimore Evening Sun states that a cordial agreement has been reached between John Bull and his French neighbors. This announcement was made today in the House of Commons by <sup>Sir</sup> ~~Mr.~~ John Simon, ~~x~~ <sup>^</sup> ~~the~~ British Foreign Secretary.

It is described as an understanding on four points, and ~~is~~ designed to promote <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ spirit of cooperation <sup>that prevailed</sup> at Lausanne. <sup>^</sup> <sup>^</sup> <sup>^</sup> <sup>^</sup>

Here are the 4 points: -

It provides for exchange of views and complete candor and friendship, keeping each other mutually informed on any question affecting the European situation. <sup>Secondly, it</sup> ~~It also~~ entails working together with other delegates to find a disarmament solution fair to all the powers concerned. <sup>Third,</sup> ~~It also~~ cooperation in careful preparations for a world conference on economic problems. ~~and~~ <sup>Fourth,</sup>

~~Finally~~ France <sup>and</sup> <sup>to</sup> England ~~will~~ avoid any action that may discriminate against each other's interest. <sup>All of which</sup> ~~This~~ is preliminary <sup>^</sup>

to negotiations for a new Anglo French Commercial Treaty.

"This ~~principal action~~ is in no sense and on no point a special or exclusive affair", says Sir John Simon. He adds that he has seen representatives of Germany, Italy and Belgium, has given them copies of the agreement, and cordially invited them to join.

BRAZIL

From Brazil we learn that they are expecting a pitched battle soon. Armed conflict between the Federal troops and the rebels of Sao Paulo seem to be inevitable from observations

made today. A United Press dispatch to the Newark News, informs

us that the government issues no official statement. <sup>In fact there's a strict censorship over the cables.</sup> But it was

learned on high authority that the commander in chief of the

Federal troops was instructed to advance on Sao Paulo.

~~xxxx~~ Almost with the same breath we learn

that a revolution has broken out in Ecuador. <sup>That seems to</sup> ~~An armed revolt~~  
<sup>make it almost unanimous in South America,</sup>  
~~against the government was started today~~ A General Cordova,

one of probably numerous generals in that region, rebelled with

his whole battalion. In South America it takes a General not

a Major, to command a battalion.

Well, at any rate, General Cordova and his <sup>men, all</sup> ~~whole~~

<sup>six of them,</sup>  
~~battalion~~ erupted and proclaimed a dictator, by name Colonel

Luis Larrea Alba.

But it seems the government holds the General

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and the Colonel *lighter still*. They sent an officer *A lesser*  
rather lightly, ~~The officer they sent~~ out to subdue him. ~~is a~~  
mere Colonel. ~~I should say~~ *And* that's no way to treat a General. *rank*

Then from Peru comes the news that the leader of the  
Communistx rebels at Trujillo was beheaded by his followers.  
Those followers seem to be a serious minded lot. Their reason  
for beheading their chief was that he told them the rebellion was  
lost. It looks as though it doesn't pay to start a revolution  
in a country where if you lose the fight you also lose your —  
~~headpiece~~. *well, everything from the neck up.*

(10) And in Chile there were changes in the Cabinet. So  
far they are peaceful changes, and Senior Davila is still  
president of Chile. No bloodshed is reported in Chile this week.

RELIEF

~

Congress produced a little action on that unemployment relief bill today. The House of Representatives this afternoon passed a new draft of the measure, the two billion dollar measure which President Hoover vetoed ~~last week~~ <sup>the other day</sup> in its original form. The boys worked with record breaking speed on this new version.

As the Senate passed a similar measure last night, it's expected that a compromise between the two will be worked out in short order. And this will achieve a measure which they hope the President will not veto.

The revision was made along the line's ~~which it is~~ ~~to have been~~ understood ~~were~~ suggested, or at least approved by Mr. Hoover.

## PROHIBITION

The generals of the prohibition armies are now planning their strategy for the forthcoming campaign. We learn from a United Press dispatch to the Cleveland Press that they confidently expect to block all efforts to change or repeal the 18th amendment.

This dispatch from Washington says that heads of the Anti-Saloon League have agreed to concentrate on the election of Drys, ~~as~~ both Republican ~~&~~ and Democrat~~s~~ to every office from President to Constable. Despite the nomination of a Prohibition party candidate, there are indications that the organized prohibitionists will throw their support to President Hoover. On the other hand, they are saying in public that they have no intention of making prohibition a party issue.

"President Hoover's declarations down to date have been satisfactory", says Dr. Scott ~~McBridges~~ McBride, Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League.

But there's another piece of news not so consoling



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to the Prohibition forces. Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, whom we all thought a confirmed Dry, has come out ~~in~~ in favor of a change. He announced today that he is planning to offer a resolution to modify the 18th Amendment. He proposes to give back to the states the control of the liquor traffic. But he will reserve to the Federal government ~~authority~~ the power to prevent the return of the saloon.

CONGRESS

Here's a story from Washington that will test your sense of humor. As you know, Congress recently and reluctantly cut its own salaries. The boys didn't do it with any too much glee. But there'd been so much talk about their putting members of their family on the payroll. So they yielded to public opinion and took a cut in ~~their~~ wages.

But they seem to have found a way out. A copyright U. P. Dispatch to the <sup>Detroit News</sup>~~Newark News~~ has it that they have discovered a joker to protect Congressmen's wives, daughters, sons and other relatives from the full force of the new economy measure. The entire house membership is revising the payroll in accordance with the act. But the boys fixed the law so they could deal gently with the relatives. The dispatch adds that one Congressman from the Middle West has even increased his wife's salary - at the taxpayer's expense. An eastern Congressman has taken off one relative and substituted another at higher pay.

Comparatively few wives are being dropped from the payroll. This in spite of the fact that in other departments of the

government the law does not permit two members of the same family

to be employed at the same time. They say there's a laugh  
in that ~~laugh that one off~~ if you can find it.

HOOVER

Well, they're going to break the news to President Hoover that he's been renominated. <sup>Mr. Hoover</sup> ~~The President~~ must have been very anxious all this while not knowing the outcome of the Republican convention in Chicago only a month ago, but his doubts will be set at rest shortly. Congressman Snell, leader of the Republicans in the House of Representatives, and chairman of the Republican convention, will carry out the notification ceremonies.

These ceremonies are an interesting if slightly <sup>humorous</sup> ~~absurd~~ hold-over from the days when there was no such thing as a telegraph wire, to say nothing of telephones and radio. It was the custom for the foremost members of the political party to wait upon the candidate and notify him, <sup>because</sup> ~~because~~ a hundred years ago some of the notifiers had to travel on horseback a week or even longer to help bring the news to General Washington, or Mr. Jefferson, or Mr. Adams, or Mr. Monroe, and of course, also to <sup>Andrew</sup> ~~General~~ Jackson and many other historic

celebrities.

But the survival of this ancient ceremony strikes us a little bit strange today. ~~It comes all the more strangely since~~

Governor Roosevelt ~~'s stunt in flying to Chicago to receive~~ *already knows that he has been*  
~~this notification himself.~~ *nominated - I mean officially. And now*

~~At any rate,~~ they're going to break the big news

to Mr. Hoover.

McADOO

( They are still arguing over that 11th hour switch of the Texas and California delegations at the Democratic Convention - the switch which made the nomination of Franklin D. Roosevelt inevitable. Hitherto William McAdoo of California had been given the credit ~~for~~ as the author of this bit of strategy. But today a dispatch from Omaha has it that it was not McAdoo but <sup>picturesque</sup> Senator Tom Connolly of Texas who took the lead. )

It was Senator Connolly who approached Mr. McAdoo and suggested that the votes pledged to Speaker Garner should be thrown to the New York Governor, ~~then~~ He pleaded with Mr. McAdoo to take this step in order to avoid a long drawn out battle and a factional fight within the party. This was not done, however, until Speaker Garner's consent had been obtained.

When the proposal <sup>was made to the speaker</sup> offering him the vice-presidency if he would

yield, ~~was made to the speaker~~, he replied that he had been serving the Democratic Party for 28 years, and ~~so~~ <sup>no</sup> reason why he should not accept the offer. So there's a new page in political history. ~~serving the Democratic Party twenty-eight years and so no reason~~  
for you.

~~why he should not accept the offer. So there's a new page~~

TRAPEZE

~~From~~ Here's a story from real life ~~that has~~ with  
to ~~my mind~~ a dramatic touch. It's the story of a young man who  
didn't keep his promise, though he broke it with the best of motives.  
I am indebted for this tale to my good friends on the Jersey <sup>city</sup> Journal,  
~~Jersey City.~~

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The hero of it is a young man named Edward Meredith.  
He used to be a trapeze artist. In 1925 he was seriously injured,  
whereupon his sister made him promise that he would never go up  
on a trapeze again. <sup>P</sup> Well, seven years pass ~~and~~ and hard times come  
to young Mr. Meredith. By this time he is 39 years old. A  
carnival came to the town of Carny, New Jersey, and being out of a  
job and hard pushed for money, he took this hazardous chance of  
mending the family fortune. He joined the carnival last night  
without letting his family know, and gave a show at Carny, New  
Jersey.

After being seven years out of the game, this

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trapeze artist had lost some of his former skill. While he was ~~for~~ forty feet up in the air, his foot slipped and he came crashing to the ground. He sustained quite serious injuries, and the authorities were anxious to notify his people. But though he gave his own name, he refused to disclose the whereabouts of his family. However, the authorities found out, and in so doing also discovered the reason for his secrecy. At any rate, the young man is in the hospital with a good deal more than a broken promise, <sup>altho they say</sup> ~~However, it is hoped that~~ he will recover. ~~And~~ ~~probably from now on he'll be a little bit suspicious about~~ ~~promises made to the family.~~



REYNOLDS

The death of Smith Reynolds, 21 year old bridegroom, of the charming ~~and intelligent~~ Libby Holman, seems destined to go down in <sup>records</sup> ~~history~~ as a mystery. The Coroner's ~~jury~~ jury at Winston-Salem, North Carolina, had returned what was called an open verdict. This ~~is~~ largely because the pistol with which young Reynolds was shot, was not found until five hours after the shooting.

It was announced yesterday that the case would be turned over to the Grand Jury. But today we learn that the Grand Jury ~~will be~~ <sup>was</sup> dissolved this afternoon without taking any action on the Reynolds case.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Reynolds, or Miss Holman as you ~~will~~ know her, ~~better~~, was allowed to return ~~home~~ to her childhood home in Cincinnati today. She left the train at a <sup>Cincinnati</sup> suburb ~~of Cincinnati~~ and drove to the house of her brother-in-law, <sup>She was covered</sup> ~~draped~~ from head to foot <sup>by</sup> ~~in~~ a bedsheet. This was done to shield her from the eyes of the curious. *None of the Reynolds family were at the station in Winston-Salem to see her off.*

BIRTHDAY

There was a monster birthday party in New York today, probably the biggest ~~party~~ of the year. There were six hundred guests, most of them under the age of 15. But the guest of honor was 28 years old. But even with 28 candles, there was plenty of room, for the birthday cake weighed some 200 pounds. It was a cake that probably most ~~birthday~~ children wouldn't consider a cake. It consisted entirely of pumpernickel —

German  
bread.

The rest of the menu was a bale of Timothy hay, three bushels of carrots, three bushels of turnips, three bushels of sugar beets. *How come? What's the gag? Well —*

The host was Dr. Reid Blair, director of the Bronx Zoo. The guest of honor goes by the name of Peter the Great.

You might easily call him great, because on this his 28th birthday ~~Peter~~ *Peter* he climbed on the scales and tipped the beam at 5200 pounds. *Wow!*

Yes, by this time you probably guessed it. Peter the Great is the Bronx Zoo prize hippopotamus. The heaviest hippopotamus in captivity, says Dr. Blair *throwing out his zoological chest, proudly.*

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A description of this function in the New York World  
Telegram <sup>tells us</sup> ~~says~~ the festivities were somewhat marred by a fight.  
But the fight did not take place in the hippopotamus's house.  
The ring was ~~xxxxxx~~ set in the reptile house. Dr. Blair  
had just imported with much pride a magnificent new King Cobra  
from Sumatra. His name is Prince, and he's twelve foot long.

Well, Prince's welcome was not unanimous. He was put  
in a cage with ~~Rajah~~ Rajah, a sixteen foot King Cobra, who's  
been on these shores several years. <sup>Rajah</sup> ~~He~~ turned out today to be a  
very inhospitable <sup>potentate. He pounced</sup> ~~cobra~~ ~~He set~~ on Prince and started to mop  
up the floor ~~of the cage~~ with him. Finally they had to turn the  
hose on Rajah to make him <sup>let loose of Prince.</sup> ~~turn his new guest loose.~~

And that seems to be a cue for me to <sup>let loose of</sup> ~~turn~~ the mike  
~~loose~~ and say so long until tomorrow.