

Good Evening, Everybody:

It seems that the beautiful land of Evangeline was not the only part of Canada to suffer from those storms. A special story in the Montreal Star from Quebec brings the news that the peninsular of Gaspé was also devastated by a furious gale. In fact, the Star described it as one of the most disastrous storms in the history of the Province of Quebec. This will have special significance to fishing fans in the U.S.A., all of whom have either angled or hope to angle some day in the lovely rivers and streams of Gaspé.

Fishing craft were destroyed, boat houses were swept away, livestock carried off. Barges were sunk at their moorings. Wharves were carried away. Retaining walls were battered. In some parts of the peninsular everything that was not nailed down was swept away.

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PARIS

The news from Paris seems to indicate that France will be due for a change of government soon. A cable to the New York Sun reports that it is generally anticipated that the present Herriot cabinet will not last much beyond November. At that time Parliament will be in session again. France is faced with a deficit in its budget of two hundred and eighty million dollars. This, it is expected, will make the downfall of Mr. Herriot's cabinet inevitable.

RUSSIA

Not only Germany, but Soviet Russia is going to boycott the World Disarmament Conference at Geneva. When the steering committee of the conference convened today, there were no delegates from Germany. Chairman Arthur Henderson of Great Britain also informed the committee that the Russians have decided not to send any representatives. At least not until the conference has made decisions which promise real disarmament.

GHOST

There's another ghost story in today's news.

This one, too, comes from Pennsylvania.

A physician of the town of Paoli, in the Keystone state, was walking home last night, when a shadowy figure *like Washington Irving's "Scabod Crane"* came flying by on horseback. It passed the Doctor on the Darby Road a mile south of the Lancaster Pyke. What astonished the doctor is that the rider was clothed in a long blue military jacket, the tails of which flared out in the wind. An old-fashioned saber swung at his side. What was still more eerie is that the pounding hoofs of the horse made no sound whatsoever.

Suddenly it came to a stop, and just as suddenly it vanished from sight.

It was then recalled that there is a historical ghost in Paoli. It rides every *evening before* ~~night on the eve~~ of the anniversary of what historians call the Paoli massacre. That was the fight *during* ~~of~~ the American Revolution in which a

large force of British and Hessians fell unexpectedly upon ~~an~~ the famous Mad Antony Wayne and his Chester County militia. Fifty Americans perished at the end of the bayonet.

A story in the Pittsburgh Press relates that according to the legend the ghostly horseman resents people approaching. If you happen to be in Paoli, Pennsylvania, and see the Paoli ghost and ^{stroll towards it,} ~~walk out to it,~~ the mystical cavalier is likely to take off his head and hand it to you. The person who receives the head dies the following year.

The witness of this spectacle last night is ^{named} ^{appropriately enough} Dr. Antony Wayne Baugh. He's not only a thoroughly reputable physician, he's a teetotaler. Dr. Baugh adds that the rider did not try to hand him his head. ^{And he's rather pleased about that.}

GRAIN

It looks as though a tremendous shipment of grain were going out from Canada during the next few days. A dispatch to the Brooklyn Times relates that thirty-three vessels are now loading in the Port of Montreal. In the past twenty-four hours seven Lake ships freighted with wheat came down the St. Lawrence River to transfer their cargo. In addition to this, twenty-three tramp steamers have been chartered to carry grain out of Montreal. The total amount received in the Canadian port this year is nearly seventy-four million bushels, *eleven million more than last year.*

BASEBALL

This is open season for baseball prophecies.

Experts are busy comparing the Chicago Cubs and the New York Yankees and doping out which will win the World Series next week.

As far as I can make out from reading all the baseball professors' opinions, the conclusion to be drawn is something like this: On one hand the Cubs are sure to win. On the other hand, it is obvious to any sane observer that the Yankees cannot lose.

At any rate, it's sure to be an exciting series.

The rivalry between New York and Chicago is as keen today as it ~~was to be in the time~~ ^{was in the good old days} of ~~Frank Chance~~ ^{and Joe Tinker} when the Cubs used to meet the Giants to the accompaniment of pitched battles on the field and in the bleachers.

RAILROADS

As predicted the other day, a dictatorship has just been recommended for the railways of Canada. The Royal Commission made public its report today. After nine months' investigation the commission urges that a board of three members with absolute powers shall henceforth run the Dominion railroads, both the privately owned Canadian Pacific, the world-famous C.P.R. and the publicly, government-owned Canadian National. This means that the two roads, instead of competing, must cooperate.

MCKEE

(A mild bombshell was thrown into Tammany ranks in New York City this morning. Tammany, you may recall, wanted to hold an election for mayor to succeed the festive Jimmie Walker, and to renominate Jimmie himself. Partisans of Acting Mayor Joe McKee asked the courts to declare this illegal.

And this morning the Supreme Court gave the decision to Judge McKee.) According to this decision the next election for Mayor in New York cannot be held until 1933. Consequently Judge McKee holds his job, in which he's already made quite a spectacular record in these few short weeks -- and he'll hold it until January 1, 1934. That seems to put the kibosh on ex-Mayor Jimmie's hope for any immediate vindication by the people.

WISCONSIN

There has been quite an upheaval in the Middlewestern political world. (For the first time in thirty-two years the regular Republicans wrenched the control of ^{Wisconsin} ~~the state~~ away from the LaFollette family. The nomination for the governorship was won away from Governor Phillip LaFollette, younger son of the late Senator Fighting Bob. His successful rival is none other than Walter Kohler, the bathtub king) and a charming gentleman.

A dispatch to the Buffalo Evening News relates further that Senator Blaine, a LaFollette man, was defeated for renomination. The conqueror is a young editor named John Chapple. Editor Chapple had made an interesting campaign touring the state in a battered old car, talking about what he called the LaFollette racket.

At any rate, the upshot of the Wisconsin primaries seems to be that good old Wisconsin has had enough LaFollette in its diet for the time being.

MURRAY .

(Our picturesque friend, Alfalfa Bill Murray, is on the warpath again, with his walrus mustachos waving in the breeze. The Oklahoma Governor today pasted a decree of martial law on the Oklahoma City oil field. It affects the entire field except private residences. He has taken this step because there has been what amounts to an insurrection against his determination to curtail the production of oil in Oklahoma.) Alfalfa Bill issued a warning that any attempt of oil field workers, lawyers, or anybody else, to interfere with military control will be stopped by armed troops.

COMPETITION

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Few people realize the extent to which Uncle Sam competes with private industry in his own country. A committee of the House of Representatives has been investigating this matter. The Chairman of the committee announced today that this competition on the part of the ^{U.S.}~~United States~~ government costs the country's industries some five hundred million dollars a year. The government, it seems, is in the dairy business. It conducts cafeterias, food stores, clothing stores, and other concerns. *And that's news to me.*

LETTERS

Two letters that reached me in the mail recently form an interesting contrast. One of them is evidently from a Republican. He says: "You almost amused me tonight by saying 'I am non-partisan on the air!'" Then he asks ironically: "Is that what you call it?" He then proceeds to accuse me of being a rampant Democrat.

Another letter from an anti-Hooverite of Newark, N.J., accuses me of being a Hoover partisan and putting out what he calls Republican deception, G.O.P. hocus pocus.

So there you are. As the London cockney says:-
"You pays your money and you takes your choice." This reminds me somewhat of the old Aesop Fable of the aged man with his two sons and the donkey. They were so zealous trying to please all their critics that they finished by drowning in the river -- they and the donkey.

Anyhow, if you think I'm prejudiced, just forget it if you can -- and I'll do my level best to be neutral -- which means of course, that I'll satisfy neither side.

STORY

Here's a story that came in my mail today. An English guest in the world-famed Waldorf-Astoria Hotel was asking a clerk for some examples of American stories. The clerk replied that he couldn't think of any stories, but he propounded a conundrum to the Englishman, and the conundrum was this:-

My mother gave birth to a child. It was neither my brother nor my sister. Who was it?

The guest, after deep contemplation, replied: "I jolly well give it up. Who was it?"

And the clerk replied: "It was me." That's the way he said it, according to the yarn.

The Englishman memorized it, and this is the way he told it to a friend when he got back to England:

"I say, old chap. I heard a jolly conundrum in America. My mother gave birth to a child. It was nyther me brother nor me sister. Who was the little blighter?"

Of course his friend said he didn't know.

"Ha ha," guffawed the Englishman. "That's one on you, as they say in the States. Ha ha ha. It was the clerk in the Waldorf Hotel."

COAL FIELDS

The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia reported today that employment in the anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania increased ten and a half per cent from July to August. Pay rolls, on the other hand, increased almost twenty per cent.

TAXES

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An interesting survey of the taxes that have been plastered on the ^{users of} ~~usual~~ motor cars has been compiled by Alfred Reeves, Vice-President of the Automobile Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Reeves points out that your car is now the most highly taxed piece of property in the country. It is taxed twenty per cent of its average annual value during its seven year life.

And that's something worth thinking about.

MONEY

There seems to be substance to the reports that the hoarding of money in the United States has stopped. The Federal Reserve Board announces that savings are coming out of hoarding in substantial quantities. This can be

judged ^{by the government} ~~by the~~ ^{from the increased} amount of money in circulation. The

Federal Reserve Board says that between July 6th and the end of August some eighty-five million dollars returned into

circulation, *in other words came out of the old sock.*

SQUIRREL

Here's another one of those squirrel stories from Ohio. To be precise, this one comes from the pages of the Cleveland Press. A Cleveland gentleman named Reynolds shot his first squirrel yesterday. He put the animal in his back pocket. Then he went hunting for more squirrels, and was hiding behind a tree to spot them. Another hunter saw the tail of the dead squirrel protruding from Mr. Reynold's pocket, but did not see Mr. Reynolds. The other hunter fired and potted Mr. Reynolds in the southern exposure, and put him in the hospital.

I don't quite know what the moral of that story is. Tail lights for Ohio hunters, I suppose.

TREASURE HUNT

It seems we don't need to look as far away as Europe for treasure hunts. This very day in the waters of the Delaware, two modern ships are cruising in a search for Spanish pieces of eight. So says a dispatch in the Baltimore Evening Sun. These ships are looking for the wreck of a British sloop of war which went down on May 31, 1798. She carried ten million dollars in Spanish gold. This was the loot of two Spanish galleons which she had captured after leaving the West Indies. The place where she was sunk is near the quiet little fishing village of Lewes, Delaware.

Treasure hunters have been looking for her remains for one hundred and twenty-seven years. Recently an old map was discovered which filled the ^{searchers}~~treasure hunters~~ with new hopes. It is believed to be the oldest chart in existence, i.e. of ~~the~~ Delaware Bay, ~~and breakwater~~. It was found in the archives of the British Admiralty. The boats now hunting for this old treasure laden wreck belong to a Baltimore company. Their sponsors have serious hopes of finding ^{this Spanish gold,} ~~the treasure~~.

PRINCE

A ten-year-old lad figured prominently in the headlines today. His travels, his clothes, his ideas are being described as prominently as if he were a grown-up, in fact far more prominently than if he were a learned man.

The boy is the young Crown Prince Michael of Roumania. He arrived in Paris last night on his way to school in England. They dragged little Mike out of bed to face a cohort of reporters, though it was long past the royal bedtime.

And it may be your royal bedtime -- so maybe I'd better say -- SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.