

Good Evening, Everybody:

Sensations were popping fast today as an aftermath of that boxfight between Ernie Schaaf, the heavyweight from Boston, and Primo Carnera, the mountainous Italian. After the brain specialists got through operating on Schaaf last night, they announced that the operation had been successful, and that the patient was resting, but they declined to commit themselves as to whether he would recover. At four o'clock this morning Schaaf died.

Several bits of information then came out, one by one. First of all, it became known that the dead prizefighter had suffered from a bad case of influenza two weeks before the fight; that he was still in a weakened condition and that, as a matter of fact, he never should have been allowed to go into the ring. ~~in that condition.~~

To be quite fair, ^{his friends} ~~he was~~ urged ^{him} either to cancel or ask for a postponement, but he declined to do so.

Then came a disagreement between the doctors. The

LEAD - 2

operation on Schaaf was conducted by several of the most eminent surgeons in the country. When he died they declared the cause ~~of his death~~ was the cumulative effect of the injuries he sustained from Carnera in the fight. But then an autopsy was conducted by the Medical Examiner of New York City. After the autopsy Dr. Charles Norris, Chief Medical Examiner, announced that the fighter's death was the result of natural causes, and not from any injuries he sustained in the bout. ~~Dr. Norris declared that death resulted from pressure by a substance within the cranium. He added that the nature of that substance will have to be determined by a microscopic analysis. Thus~~ The Chief Medical Examiner is at direct variance with the surgeons who performed the operation. And Buck Norris, as he is known to his intimate friends, is a man of not only supreme skill, ~~and~~ distinction, ~~but~~ ^{and integrity —} also absolutely disinterested.

Primo Carnera, who was obviously as dismayed as anybody at this tragic outcome of the fight, was placed under technical

arrest on ~~the~~[^] charge of homicide. There are no less than three distinct investigations going on, one by the police, another by the District Attorney, and another by the New York ~~Boxing~~ Boxing Commission.

It is ~~believed~~ possible that this affair will ~~mean~~^{mean} the end of legalized boxing contests in New York State. Not merely the upstate legislators who tend to side with the ladies and the clergy who think all boxing should be prohibited, but even the Democrats from the big cities are giving tongue to an outcry against ~~boxing~~^{prize fighting} in general.

An ironic fact in this connection is related by Jack Kofod. It has frequently been observed that Carnera for all his size and strength did not punch particularly hard. He ~~was~~ was once asked why. And the big Italian replied that he was afraid to let go with all his strength for fear he might kill somebody. In point of fact, the blow with which he knocked ~~Ernie Schaff out~~^{at} was a left jab to the jaw which onlookers describe as hardly ~~strong~~^{still} enough to kill a mosquito.

You'll find the whole story in your paper tonight.

BANKS

(Astounding news comes from Michigan today. Governor Comstock has ordered all the banks in the State closed for a period of eight days. This affects ^{over five} ~~four~~ hundred ^{financial} ~~and twenty state~~ ~~institutions throughout Michigan.~~ ~~banks, fourteen trust companies, and some hundred national banks.~~

The suddenness of this order has caught the principal towns and cities unaware, especially Detroit, ~~the~~ automobile capital ~~of~~ ^{the world.}

Shop keepers in Detroit are preparing food coupons. Business men and city officials are conferring on means of feeding that huge city without banking facilities. The merchants, especially those that deal in groceries and other necessities of life, are up against a difficult problem. On the one hand they can't cash checks. On the other hand few of them are in a position to extend unlimited credit.

The State of Michigan itself was caught short by this bank moratorium. It has to meet a payroll of half a million dollars tomorrow, and the State Treasurer announced that only thirty-five hundred dollars in cash is on hand.

The moratorium was declared as the result of a conference

in Detroit in which more than a score of bankers, businessmen and industrial leaders took part. It was in response to their direct request that Governor Comstock issued the order.

Secretary of Commerce, Chapin, hurriedly summoned for the purpose from Washington, was present at this conference which lasted all night. An under-secretary of the Treasury was also there.

(10) The Michigan Governor laid the situation squarely at the door of Henry Ford. The Governor explains it as follows:

A Detroit Trust Company has been doing a general banking business. When its assets shrank it wanted to get out of banking and in order to do that it would have to pay off its depositors in cash. Funds were not available for that purpose. The Company had borrowed fifteen millions from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, which was prepared to loan an additional twenty-three millions. But in order to make this possible the largest depositors ^{in the trust} ~~of the~~ company were asked to consent to subordinate their deposits to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation

which was to take over the quick assets and take care of the smaller depositors.

The largest single depositors in that trust company were General Motors, Chrysler and Ford. General Motors and Chrysler consented to subordinate their deposits. Ford refused, so tonight's papers give us the report.

For that reason Mr. Ford, or rather his company, is held to blame for the present situation. At least that is the way the newspaper accounts give us the story tonight. But you may find totally different reports by tomorrow in your favorite paper.

VALENTINE

A rather unusual event took place in Cincinnati today. The celebration of the 84th anniversary of the opening of one of the famous hotels of America, the Gibson House. Manager Schiffeler had a giant birthday cake seven feet high in the lobby today, seven layers of cake, each a foot thick. Yum, yum. The lobby was jammed and every one got a piece.

HOOVER

This whole affair probably accounts for the absence last night of Secretary Ogden Mills. I noticed that he was absent when President Hoover delivered his "farewell speech at the Lincoln Day dinner of the National Republican Club. Mr. Hoover's speech was couched in as sober and unsensational terms as any speech possibly could be. But it certainly gave everybody ample food for thought. Incidentally, everybody around me commented on the gracefulness with which he alluded to his defeat in the election, I mean when he said:-

" The people determined the election. Those of us who believe in popular government have no complaint."

HOLLAND

There have been ~~considerable~~ rumors current that Holland would join the countries who have gone off the gold standard.

These rumors were set at rest today. Announcement was made ~~in~~

Amsterdam that the kingdom of The Netherlands will not go off the gold standard.

SINGAPORE

An astonishing suggestion ^{has} come over the cables from London. ~~today,~~ No less a suggestion than that John Bull may offer Uncle Sam the use of his naval base at Singapore.

The story isn't entirely new. But it was revived strongly today owing to the latest turn in the relations between Great Britain and the United States. John Bull is beginning to alter his stand on the Manchurian question. Moreover, he is realizing that the Disarmament Conference is due for a flop, unless either Great Britain or the United States, or both, get busy.

John Bull is beginning to agree ^{with} ~~that~~ Uncle Sam that Japan is going too far in Manchuria. What is more, he is beginning to be afraid that if the Mikado's ^{Jingo boys} ~~side~~ carry out their announced intention of grabbing the entire province of Reyho from China, there'll be hostilities between the Chinese and the Japanese which may drag European nations into the quarrel.

Correspondents report that there ~~is~~ an increasing

tendency in British official circles to agree with those people who have been saying for some time that John Bull and Uncle Sam ought to get together to maintain the peace of the world.

7
There's no question, they ^{insist} ~~say~~, but that these two great nations combined could come pretty near ^{— "stop"} saying "no" to any other countries that proposed to fight, ~~and to making that no stick.~~

Permission to use the British naval base of Singapore will, of course, immensely strengthen Uncle Sam's Pacific fleet. At present if a battleship is disabled in the Pacific it has to be ^{and escorted} towed all the way to the Hawaiian Islands, to Pearl Harbor, ^{for} ~~to~~ repairs.

JAPAN

As for the Manchurian situation, the relations between China and Japan seem to ~~worse~~ ^{to still} ~~worse~~. In the first place, there comes a cable from Geneva that the League of Nations is abandoning all attempts to bring about a reconciliation between the two Far Eastern countries. The committee of the League sent a ~~communication~~ communication to the Japanese delegate to the effect that ~~the~~ Japan's suggestions in the matter could not be considered.

~~And~~ In Peiping everybody is expecting hostilities on a large scale. Japan has prepared three ultimatums ordering the Chinese to ~~clear~~ ^{clear right} out of the province of Reyho. The Acting Prime Minister of China, when informed of these ultimatums, declared that they would be emphatically rejected. Chinese troops, he said, will remain in Reyho and fight to the last ditch.

~~outside;~~ On the borders of Reyho, the Japs have concentrated a force estimated at no less than thirty thousand infantry backed up by modern artillery, tanks, armored trains,

JAPAN - 2

airplanes, and machine gun divisions.

Then from Tokio we learn that the Japanese Imperial Parliament today adopted the largest budget in the history of the nation. It was ^{put through by an impressive} ~~adopted by a~~ standing vote. In American ^{that budget} ~~money~~ amounts to some half billion dollars.

All of which news has a powerfully warlike sound.

LETICIA

Then there's ^{disturbing}~~real warlike~~ news from South America.

It ^{has}~~is~~ come to open hostilities between Peru and Colombia over the much disputed port of Leticia on the Upper Amazon River.

5

The long expected battle began today after one hundred years of peace between the two countries. According to the Commander of the Colombian forces, the Peruvians opened the fight when one of their planes bombed a Colombian gunboat lying in the Putumayo River. Thus the first bomb dropped in Brazilian waters. Advices from Bogota report that the Colombians repelled the Bolivian attack. It is generally believed that ~~a~~ more deadly warfare will follow.

GERMANY

Another disorderly episode took place in the building of the German parliament today. A committee was in session, the committee for the protection of civil rights which ~~is~~ continues to meet although the parliament has been dissolved. Some of you may recall that last week I reported that a meeting of this committee had been broken up by the Hitlerites protesting against the ^{chairman} ~~German~~ who is a Social-Democrat. Today the Nazis, as the Hitlerites are called, resorted to strong-arm methods.

One of the Hitlerite leaders went up to this Socialist ^{- Democrat Chairman} ~~German~~ and threw him out of his chair, and told him he was a "Marxist and a liar and hence unfit to preside at any committee meeting." Thereupon the members of all of the Socialist, Communist, and People's parties walked out of the room.

4
One deputy of the People's party stopped in the doorway to light a cigar, and a Hitlerite knocked the cigar out of his mouth and knocked the deputy through the doorway.

At that point the meeting was declared closed with no further casualties.

SLEEP

Out in Oak Park, Illinois, there's a girl who has been asleep for one whole year. Just a year ago today her mother telephoned the family physician that the girl had been drowsy for several days and finally dropped off into a sleep from which they were unable to ~~wake~~^{arouse} her. ~~up~~

In the course of these twelve months physicians from several parts of the country have been doing their utmost — ~~and~~ exhausting the resources of their science in an effort to ~~awaken~~ this girl, ~~who is twenty-seven years old~~. She still continues in her coma.

The family are keeping a huge box of ^{newspaper} clippings to entertain her when she does finally wake up, ~~about herself which they expect to show her the day she wakes up~~

ZANGWILL

Mrs. Israel Zangwill, widow of the famous writer, the man who wrote *Children of the Ghetto*, *Passing of the 3rd Floor Back* and *The Melting Pot*, and so on, is in this country.

3
She is at work on a biography of her husband, and is trying to collect all of his letters.

In London, years ago, Israel Zangwill wrote me a most amusing letter that I hope I can find for her. The Zionist movement was at its height. The Jews and Arabs were at swords' points in Palestine. Emir Feisal, now King of Bagdad, King of Iraq, had just taken the throne of Syria. He was ruling at Damascus. That was before the French pushed him off his throne -- before he became King of Bagdad.

I happened to be on my way to the Orient and Israel Zangwill knew that I was going to stop in the Near East. So he wrote me a letter asking me to deliver a message to King Feisal of Syria, advising ~~him~~ ^{the King} how to solve once and for all the Arab-Jewish trouble in Palestine. Mr. Zangwill said: "Tell your friend, King Feisal, that the best way, the only way to clear up the difficulty in Palestine, is for him to get all of his Arabs to move out of

ZANGWILL - 2

that country."

Mrs. Zangwill would like to have her husband's letters sent to her at the Hotel Wellington, New York City, before she sails for England, next week.

BEER

2
The long expected proposal for the repeal of the 18th Amendment came up in the United States Senate today, and the first development to show its head was a filibuster by dry senators.

This filibuster is being led by Senator Borah of Idaho and Senator Sheppard ~~by~~ of Texas. Mr. Borah took the ground that there are more important issues before the country today than prohibition, and that Congress should ~~leave~~ the question alone for the time being. Senator Sheppard, one of the authors of the 18th Amendment, warned the Senate that he would use every weapon at his command to defeat any proposal to allow the states to reconsider prohibition.

HUEY

Evidently there are ~~considerable~~ disagreements in the Long family of New Orleans, yes, the Long family of which our friend, Senator Kingfish Huey, is the most notorious member.

A Senate Committee is down in New Orleans investigating the election of Mr. Overton, the Kingfish's ^{Senatorial} candidate who won last November. Huey's brother, Earl, was on the witness stand. In the course of his testimony he told the Senators: "My brother told me Harry Able, a ~~xx~~ representative of the Power interests, had given him ^(Huey) ten thousand dollars."

At that point the proceedings were interrupted by a loud noise from Senator Huey who shouted out: "You're a liar."

Then He continued to give ^{his} ~~his~~ brother ^{Earl} the lie on several other ^{counts} ~~accounts~~.

VALENTINE

By the way, I forgot to mention that ^{today is} the feast of ^{good old} St. Valentine. ~~Valentine's Day~~ Perhaps I should have reminded you last night, but the truth is I forgot it myself. But there is one man in New York who did not forget. He's a prisoner at the New York County Jail, serving a term for contempt of court in not having paid his alimony to the little woman. He is in short, a member of that famous institution known popularly as the Alimony Club. Well, this Alimony Club member, imprisoned as he

was, did not forget his duty to his "best friend and severest critic," ^{quote —} He has sent ^{end quote.} ^{the little woman} a postcard with a picture of the jail.

Underneath was a love thought ^{that read} as follows: ~~Dear xxx Wifie xxx Wif xxx~~

"Dear Wifie: Wish you were here." Love. ~~Signed Pete~~

Well ^{Jimmy Wallington is} ~~signed~~

Well, ^{Jimmy Wallington is} ~~Jimmie Wallington is~~ making signs to me that he

wishes I were not here, so

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.