

Lowell Thomas - Sun - Fri. Oct. 14 '32

EUROPE

The New York Evening Post sometime ago asked in large letters the question: "Can Europe come back?" ~~Then~~ To answer ~~this~~ the Post sent its Berlin correspondent, the brilliant H. R. Knickerbocker, on a tour of Europe. Knickerbocker is the man who won the Pulitzer Prize last year for his series of articles on Russia. The final ^{one} ~~article~~ of his series on Europe in general was published in the ^{N.Y. Eve.} Post today, summing up the result of his investigations.

And to the question - Can Europe come back - Mr. Knickerbocker answers emphatically - Yes, Europe is coming back. In order to make this answer, he traveled four thousand miles from the mud hovels of Budapest to the luxurious streets of Mayfair. Among other things, he says:

"The chief peril is past. The credit crisis in Europe is conquered. Stock prices have climbed. Commodity prices are going up. The capital market ^(the money market) is reviving. Then too, national bankruptcies have ceased. Governments continue to be stable.

Revolution anywhere is not to be seriously considered. War is more remote than ever. Furthermore, most of the great countries have balanced their budgets. Currencies no longer collapse. Every government is aiming a return to the gold standard. Trade barriers have ceased to grow like mushrooms.

Such is a brief summing up of Mr. Knickerbocker's inquiry into the state of Europe. And that ought to be encouraging here too.

MANCHURIA

~~The~~ Japanese army airplanes have been flying all over Manchuria dropping handbills printed in English. These handbills are warning Americans and other foreigners in Southeastern Manchuria to leave the area where the Japanese army is carrying on its campaign ^{of so-called} ~~for the~~ extermination of bandits. This they are warned to do in order to escape danger from the military ~~maneuvers~~ ^{maneuvers.} ~~movements.~~ The handbills were signed by the Commander in Chief of the Japanese Army in that District.

INSULL

(Samuel Insull appears to be safe in Greece, safe for thirty days, at any rate. The Foreign Office at Athens today announced that it will neither let him be extradited nor deport him.)

A dispatch to the Cleveland Press says that the Greek government does not consider Samuel Insull in the class of common criminals, which ^{it} is the custom to exchange by reciprocal agreements. His Greek visa is good for thirty days. If at the end of that time he is asked to leave, he can slip over the border to Bulgaria, with which country the United States has no extradition treaty.

The New York Sun today carries a curious story about Samuel Insull, The ~~man~~ ^{gist} of which is that in England the Chicago utilities potentate is known as a man of mystery. Of course, it is generally known by now that he was born in England and lived there until he emigrated to the States at the age of fourteen, *soon after to join Thos. Edison.* Today he seems to have quite a volume of investments in his native land. The curious thing about ~~him~~ ^{this} is that they are protected by

what the ^{N.Y.} Sun calls a legal hedge in the shape of a maze. It is a system of interlocking companies and directors^{ates} apparently designed to baffle any amount of investigation. Even his private country home, a large and luxurious estate, has been turned into a limited company.

CANADA

Canada's new tariff ^{that I have referred to so often recently} is already having one reaction.

A dispatch to the New York World Telegram from Washington indicates that this reaction will be a further exodus of ~~the~~ United States ^{branch} factories to Canadian soil. Only by this step can American manufacturers ward off ~~the~~ serious loss from the new trade agreements between the commonwealths of the British Empire.

PIRATE

Here's a latter day pirate story. A Chinese ~~xxx~~
steamer bound from ^{British} Hongkong to ^{French} Saigon was held up off the

China coast yesterday. She was boarded by Chinese pirates.

On board the vessel that was attacked were ^{passengers from both the U.S.A.} ~~both United States~~

and ~~Canadian passengers~~. But they were not injured. The

pirates seized the vessel, looked the British officers in their

cabins. Then without firing a shot they robbed the passengers,

after which they kidnapped five ^{of the} Chinese ^{on board} ~~passengers~~ and went

ashore in a small native junk.

WRECK

There ^{has been} ~~was~~ a thrilling rescue ~~today~~ off the Port of Cherbourg, France. Several days ago a party of well to do people including one American lady, started from South Hampton, England, for Egypt in a seaplane. It was piloted by an aviator who was a former Schneider cup champion. After starting from South Hampton a storm forced the plane to alight on the surface of the sea in Cherbourg Roads. There the party remained ~~x~~ for several days and nights. Last night a ^{still more} severe storm blew up. It flooded the ~~main~~ cabin, extinguished the lights, and tossed the passengers about until they were all prostrate. The American lady passenger sent up distress flares at three o'clock this morning. ^{Just why the} ~~after~~ lady did this the account doesn't make clear, ^{at any rate after} four hours of difficult maneuvering in the rough seas the travelers were rescued by a tug from Cherbourg ^{- just in the nick of time.} ~~and not a moment too soon.~~

EXPEDITION

An interesting expedition left New Haven, Connecticut, today. Though it's a scientific expedition, it has a decided ^{ly} romantic touch to it. The nine men and two women in the party hope to find proof of the existence of the much fabled ~~schooner~~ sunken continent of Atlantis.

A dispatch to the Hartford Times says they sailed in a trim two masted schooner. At the head of the expedition is a professor of botany. He is going to make comparisons of the plants and trees on the islands of the West Indies. By this means he hopes to prove that those islands were once mountain peaks connecting what is now Florida with the continent of South America. These discoveries it is expected will develop ^{new} theories about the famous lost Atlantis.

TALL

I have several prize winners here in the Sunoco Tall Story contest.

John P. Fisher of Kutztown, Pennsylvania, tells of a local gas station owner who decided to make a test. He put a gallon of Blue Sunoco in the car and told his assistant, Sam, just to keep on driving and see how far a gallon would take them. Then Sam was to telephone for some more gas.

The car started out. Three days went by, and no message from Sam. Then the phone rang.

"Say, boss", said Sam, "my gas tank isn't empty yet, but I need four new tires² right away."

Harry H. Staples of Hartford, Connecticut, relates how a friend of his named Bill was supposed to have the tank in his car full of Blue Sunoco, but he forgot to put in any gas at all. All the same, the car ran twenty-seven miles, just on Blue Sunoco's reputation.

~~Mrs. Foster Peck, of Springfield, Ohio, comes along~~

Incidentally, our Sunoco Tall Story contest is running along as uproariously as some of these cars we've just heard about. And plenty of the whoppers that have come in certainly do deserve to receive an autographed copy of the Tall Story book as a prize.

CARS

Here's an ^{item} ~~story~~ from Philadelphia which ought to interest everybody who owns or uses a ~~motor~~ car. ~~The~~ An article in the ~~Automobile~~ Automotive Daily News says that the railroads are going to make a drive against the free use of passenger cars on the highways of the country. At present they are concentrating on the motor truck. The falling off in railroad revenues has been attributed in large part to the profusion of motor trucks which travel the numerous excellent highways in the United States.

The Pennsylvania Division of the Highway ^{Use Conference} ~~Use Department~~ has issued a ^{pamphlet} ~~document~~ on the subject. It is written by ^{the} well known magazine author, ^{and advisor of Presidents} Judson C. ~~Witt~~ Welliver, ~~and advisor of the~~

"Railway passenger revenue has fallen ^{off over} ~~over~~ half a ~~billion~~ billion dollars ^{in the last ten years,} ~~in ten years~~ says Mr. Welliver. "Most of this loss is attributed by the railroads to the passenger ^{automobile.} ~~car~~. Hitherto very little has been said about this because railroads ~~hitherto~~ have not wished to antagonize the twenty-three million owners of cars in the United States. But if the railroads' war on the commercial car, the truck, is successful, then ~~in~~ the next assault

will be on passenger cars."

Tudson Welliver then issues an important warning.

He says that already in a number of states movements are on

foot to break up ^{those} ~~the~~ reciprocal arrangements whereby each

state opens its highways to passenger ~~x~~ cars licensed by other

states. Mr. Welliver indicates that what ^{rail} the roads want is

for high fees to be ^{charged all} ~~established on~~ cars that cross ~~the~~ state

lines.

JOHNSON

There is quite a bit of hubbub in Republican circles today. Senator Hiram Johnson of California ~~xxx~~ announced this morning that he cannot and will not support President Hoover for re-election.

A dispatch to the Newark News points out that though Senator Johnson is officially a Republican, there never has been any love lost between him and Mr. Hoover. So this piece of news is not quite as new as it seems.

~~This~~^f announcement was made in reply to a telegram from seventy newspaper publishers of Southern California who asked him to come out in favor of the President. The gist of Senator Johnson's ^{answer was} ~~reply is~~ that he is a progressive Republican and Mr. Hoover is not. *But that's just a continuation of an old animosity.*

HOOVER

There was a reception at the White House yesterday and it was noticed that President Hoover left early. This led to rumors about ~~Mr. Hoover's~~^{his} health, which ~~indicated~~^{intimated} that he had quit the reception because of physical exhaustion. It turns out that these rumors were not true.

A dispatch to the Baltimore Evening Sun today quotes the White House physician as saying that the President is in excellent health. He left the reception as a matter of fact because in the course of shaking hands with some three thousand people his right hand was injured. The palm of the hand was black and blue and there were several small cuts on it. This was attributed to the prodigious number of ^{hearty} squeezes he had received and also to the fact that evidently some ^{body} ~~of the people~~ who shook the Presidential mit ~~were~~^{was} wearing a sharp ring.

So Mr. Hoover is quite fit to go to Cleveland tomorrow where he's to make another important address in his campaign for

re-election. A crowd of thirty thousand people is expected.

The Cleveland authorities have announced that no parades of any kind will be permitted, and that precautions have been taken to prevent any hostile demonstration.

Do you know that in many states registration is going on this week?
Over 15,000,000 citizens in the United States, men and women, eligible to vote, never vote at all.

They are taxpayers, just as well as those who always vote. Fifteen billion dollars is paid in taxes for national, state and local government in this country - all paid by citizens, non-voters as well as voters. These taxes are voted by representatives.

All those who have not voted heretofore and are eligible are urged to go immediately and register, and take their part in the coming election.

Citizens who do vote should get those who do not vote.

Wake up, non-voters!

FIRE

There was a fire today in Philadelphia at the new Thirtieth Street station of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Three firemen were overcome, considerable trackage was damaged, and trains were delayed, including several bound for Washington and New York. Outside of this no serious casualties were reported.

FARM

A LETTER ~~CAME~~ IN FROM SOMEWHERE TODAY, I FORGOT TO
LOOK AT THE POST MARK, AND IT WAS ANONYMOUS. BUT THE
WRITER OF IT SAID 'YOU OFTEN REFER TO THAT FARM, BUT
YOU NEVER TELL US WHERE IT IS, THE FARM WHERE YOU SPEAK
OF GOING ON FRIDAY NIGHTS'. THEN THE LETTER CONTINUES,
'I DON'T BELIEVE THERE IS ANY SUCH FARM'

WELL, I DON'T MIND TELLING WHERE IT IS. IT IS IN
THE HILLS, ABOUT 70 MILES ALMOST DUE NORTH OF NEW YORK
CITY, AND ABOUT 25 MILES BY AIR LINE EAST OF THE HUDSON
RIVER. IT IS IN ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SECTIONS OF
ALL NORTH AMERICA, - DUTCHESS COUNTY. A FAMOUS BRITISH
EXPLORER, CAPTAIN JOHN NOEL OF MOUNT EVEREST FAME, ONCE
TOLD ME THAT HE BELIEVED THE HILLS IN DUTCHESS COUNTY
NEW YORK WERE MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANY OTHER HILLS OR
MOUNTAINS IN THE WORLD. AND RIGHT NOW THEY ARE A RIOT
OF AUTUMN COLOR, MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN EVER.

(1)
And that's
where I'm ~~bound to~~ headed for tonight.
But before I run along here's an odd bit.

WORDS

Some curious newspaper man has been figuring up the amount of words that are being poured into the public ear, during this presidential campaign. A story in the Detroit News estimates that a torrent of language, some twenty billion words strong, is streaming forth from Chicago alone. And that, only from the Republican side of the fight. And the same thing is happening in New York at the Waldorf Astoria, where regiments ~~xxx~~ of stenographers are taking down and transcribing letters, articles, editorials, words, words, words.

Nobody has calculated the volume of the same article, gaseous article that is being manufactured for public consumption by the Democrats. We can depend on it that it isn't any smaller.

PRONUNCIATION

~~By the way~~ My pronunciation of the names of certain towns *is constantly getting me into hot water.* ~~adds considerably to my mail.~~ Here for instance,

is a letter from Pennsylvania calling me down for the way I spoke about a fair city in Western ^{Pa-}~~Pennsylvania~~ which is

spelled J - e - a - n - e - t - t - e. It seems I made ~~the~~ a grievous error in calling it Janet. As a matter of fact, it should have been pronounced Janetty. *At least so the letters say.*

But no less than seven people have written to me about the city of L - w - o - w in Poland. This incidentally, was a very well known city during the war, only at that time it was occupied by the Germans and known by the German name of Lemberg. Well, I have seven letters and a telegram telling me that the way to pronounce L - w - o - w is Lvooff. So there you are. Lvooff, Kvooff, and so long until Monday.