

Good Evening, Everybody:-

Perhaps the most picturesque and dramatic event of today is going on in the ancient city of Moscow. (In the courtroom which was once upon a time known as the Blue Room of the famous Nobles Club in the Russian capital, a sensational trial began today, the trial of six British subjects ~~xxxx~~ and twelve citizens of the Soviet Union. They are charged by the Soviet political police with sabotage and spying.)

The courtroom was jammed with foreign newspaper correspondents and ambassadors and other diplomatic officers. A heavy guard of Red soldiers with rifles and fixed bayonets surrounded the scene of the trial. But there were no banners or slogans, and the atmosphere was described as being exceptionally dignified.

It is this trial which has shaken the relations between the Soviets and John Bull and brought about a serious international squabble.

Incidentally, it is of some interest in the U. S. A. that one of the three judges ~~who are~~ hearing this case is a man who was deported from this country.

The British Government has been vitally concerned over the trial of six of its nationals. The British ambassador to Moscow told the House of Commons that the trial would be a mockery and that there was no evidence against those six Britons. So (the first sensation came when one of those Englishman plead guilty. Eleven Russians did the same. The other five Englishmen and one remaining Russian pleaded not guilty.) As the indictment was read it revealed that one of the principal witnesses against the five Englishmen will be a woman. She is described by correspondents as a pretty Russian blonde, thirty-seven years old.

Later in the day the Englishman who pleaded guilty was called to the stand. There he made a confession that he had spied on the Soviet government. At the same time he made an effort to shield the five other Englishmen.

MANCHURIA

Heavy fighting is again reported from Manchuria. The Japanese claim that they have inflicted heavy losses on the Chinese. The Mikado's army is pushing a drive to clear all Chinese troops out of the region below the Great Wall. A battle which lasted forty-eight ~~xxxx~~ hours resulted in the Chinese being hurled back in confusion. So, says the Japanese communication, ~~that ends that.~~

FOLOW MANCHURIA

It is learned today that Japan has joined the list of nations sending special envoys to discuss the economic affairs of the world with President Roosevelt. The Mikado's delegation which will arrive in Washington some time in May will be headed by Viscount Ishii, formerly Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs.

At the same time comes the information that Premier Mussolini of Italy ~~is not~~ sent his ^{personal} regrets to the White House. ^{Mussolini} ~~he~~ will be represented in Washington by the Italian Minister of Finance.

ITALY

The real purpose of the visit of Vice Chancellor von Papen to Rome is beginning to come to light. At first it was thought the principal object of this trip was to conciliate the Pope. But now it turns out that ^{the} Vice Chancellor wants to revive the old triple alliance between Germany, Austria and Italy, which existed before the war. This time, however, Hungary is not to be included.

Hitherto premier Mussolini, although expressing friendship with Germany, has declined to enter into any specially close alliance. He also refused to consent to any union between Austria and Germany. The Duce, it is learned, is still determined to try to put through his four-power plan.

Incidentally Chancellor Dollfuss of Austria, as well as Vice Chancellor Von Papen, was received by the Italian Prime Minister. *He* *Chancellor*
Dollfuss made a hasty trip by airplane from Vienna to Rome.

GERMANY

The latest from Germany is that dangerously tense feeling has been ~~aroused~~ aroused between the Germans and the Poles. The atmosphere on that frontier is always highly charged. Today it is full of dynamite. H. R. Knickerbocker cables the New York Evening Post and the Philadelphia Public Ledger that even the governments of both Berlin and Warsaw are alarmed at the spread of war spirit.

A mob of Poles stoned the German Embassy in Warsaw, breaking the windows. In other Polish towns German Consulates were stoned and angry crowds stormed two ~~Germany~~ German newspaper buildings and German schools. In still other Polish cities all copies of German newspapers were seized in the streets and publicly burned.

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This uproar followed the arrest of three Polish students in the German city of Breslau.

Polish
Both the ~~Polish~~ and the German governments have become so concerned that they are taking measures to calm down popular indignation on both sides of the frontier.

Meanwhile newspapers are vehemently deploring the dismissal of Dr. Paul Schwarz, Germany's Consul in New York City. Dr. Schwarz received a communication from the Berlin Foreign office yesterday, telling

him that he had to take immediate and indefinite leave of absence.

Dr. Schwarz promptly replied by ^{cabling} ~~asking~~ his resignation, ~~at once~~. The reason was that Dr. Schwarz, a Republican and a Liberal, had ~~politically~~ political convictions unpleasing to the Nazi government.

Both the New York Herald Tribune and the New York Evening Post published editorials today proclaiming this as an absurd political blunder. They point out that the unusual popularity of Dr. Schwarz would have been invaluable as an antidote to the unpopularity aroused by some of the acts of the Hitler government.

ROOSEVELT

A significant bit of information comes from Washington today. President Roosevelt is considering a program to control production.

It is described by somebody who is said to be close to the White House, *described* as a program to help the country lift itself out of the present morass of foolish overproduction. In other words Mr. Roosevelt contemplates applying to industry a measure of the control that he expects to use over farming.

This program has not crystalized into shape as a bill, but is at present merely tentative.

Incidentally White House reporters learned that the President does not favor the thirty-hour-week bill of Senator Black., the measure to confine working hours to six hours a day, five days a week, which was passed by the Senate. Mr. Roosevelt's principal aim is to spread employment among a much larger number of people and to prevent any one individual from working too many hours.

Obviously, this is a piece of news known as a trial ~~hot air~~ balloon. It comes from the White House, and not from the President himself, and ^{it is} ~~it is~~ floated into the air to see how people will take it.

PAN AMERICAN

By the way, President Roosevelt made a speech today. The occasion was the Washington celebration of Pan American Day. The President spoke to the diplomats of twenty American nations, at a session of the Government Board of the Pan American Union.

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One important point in his speech was to deplore the warfare between Paraguay and Bolivia, and between Peru and Colombia, the wars that are ~~marked~~ officially not wars at all, because they never were declared. He describes such goings-on as a step backward.

But the President made a few more important suggestions. He urged diplomats in American countries to abolish all artificial barriers and restrictions ~~which~~ which now hamper the flow of trade between the peoples of the American republics. He declared that the role of the United States in Pan American affairs was that of a good neighbor, and he added, "Never have the need and benefits of neighborly cooperation in every form of human activity been so evident as today."

One part of today's ceremony was the presentation by the Venezuelan Minister of a bust of General Francisco Miranda, the great Venezuelan liberator. This bust was placed in the Hall of Americas in Washington.

H
The nomination of Ruth Bryan Owen as Uncle Sam's Minister to Denmark was sent to the Senate today by President Roosevelt. The President also nominated Mayor Jim Curley of Boston as ambassador to Poland.

I ran across an interesting paragraph ^{about Mrs. Owen.} ~~in the New York~~

~~She today on the subject of Uncle Sam's new Ambassador to Denmark.~~ This new Ambassador has more than one distinction.

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In the first place, she's the first woman ever to get an ambassadorial job. In the second place, she's the daughter of the late William Jennings Bryan. ~~Her name, of course, is Ruth Bryan Owen.~~

But that isn't all. It seems that Mrs. ~~Owen~~ Owen is an expert on the Concertina, can play the mouth organ like a professional, is good at snake charming, polo, and swimming. In addition to this she can sing, put up a tent; and broil trout in the open, as they say, "like nobody's business."

Well, Denmark is getting a picturesque example of American womanhood.

BUCK

Pearl Buck[^], the Presbyterian Missionary and novelist, whose book ^{Lemon} on China achieved such extraordinary popularity, is on the carpet. Some of her remarks about missionaries have aroused the indignation of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

The New Brunswick Presbytery is holding a meeting in Trenton New Jersey, and there it became known that the Board of Foreign Missions is seriously considering ~~with~~ whether Mrs. Buck should be removed as a Presbyterian missionary. In the January issue of Harper's Magazine she wrote an article on foreign missions. Some of the remarks she made aroused the ire of other missionaries and of officials of the Board. And many Presbyterians are demanding that she be discharged.

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MOTORS

I am in Philadelphia tonight. Here at the Elks Hall at 8 o'clock, a meeting that concerns automobile & highway legislation. I am to speak, also Mr. Kelley and Mr. J. Howard Pelt, head of Sun Oil.

Sun Oil.

H
The Vice President of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce has been making a trip throughout the Middle West, visiting the leading motor car factories and dealers. At the end of his trip he told the Automotive Daily News that the figures for retail sales of cars and trucks in the last three weeks will be a pleasant surprise when the results are finally tabulated. In other words there has been a substantial improvement in the market for both passenger cars and trucks. This will hasten ^{the recovery of} the automobile industry. ~~necessary~~
He also said that what the Automotive industry principally needs at the moment is a general increase in prices.

FOLLOW MOTORS

Another cheering bit of news is that a regular wave of buying is reported from all over the country. It looks as though everybody in the U.S.A. who has any money is rushing into the stores to spend some of it for Easter. As one report has it, the nation's purse strings have been loosened. Credit has eased up and in fact the stores report that hundreds of millions of dollars are being spent. These reports come from Chicago, New York, Buffalo, Boston, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Kansas City, New Haven, St. Louis, and a long list of other trade ~~and~~ centers East, West, North and South.

BASEBALL

The good old baseball season got underway in only a few of the cities where major League Games were scheduled. The most important of these was Washington, where President Roosevelt opened the season by throwing out the first ball for the game between the Senators and Connie Mack's Athletics.

The sun was shining bright in the District of Columbia, and twenty-five thousand ball-hungry fans were in the park. In the President's party were not only Mrs. Roosevelt, but Mr. and Mrs. Henry Morgenthau, the President's secretaries, Marvin McIntyre, and Stephen Early; and Colonel Starling, of the Secret Service.

The President threw out the ball according to tradition but the ball never got into the game. One of the Senators' utility infielders dashed out from the players' bench, grabbed the ball and seized it as a souvenir. Washington won -- 4 to 1.

Only one other game was played in the American League. That was at Detroit, between the Tigers and the Cleveland Indians. The National League had only one opening, and that at Cincinnati between the Reds and the Pittsburgh Pirates -- Pittsburgh won 4 to 1.

All three of the New York teams had to postpone because of the weather man wouldn't play ball.

SIAM

An event with a certain international color is reported today from no less a center of the higher learning than Princeton University. It concerns His Royal Highness Prince Prasob Mon Chaw Saksabster of Siam. HRH was also a member of the Campus Club, an exceedingly doggy organization, a club of not only well-to-do, but high-spirited young members of the Undergraduate body.

An announcement was made today by Dr. Christian Gauss, Dean of the University, that Prince Prasob Mon Chaw Saksabster, who is a nephew of Queen Rambas Barni, has resigned from the university. In fact, Dean Gauss let out the information that H.R.H. resigned after the Dean had informed him that the atmosphere at Princeton was not conducive to His Royal Highness's welfare.

In explanation Dean Gauss said to reporters: "The Prince is an Oriental, and he does not understand American ways." And the Dean went on to say he was told that he was not doing well here, and that he was not doing himself any good, so he resigned.

Simultaneously, with this story, a good deal is being made of the fact that the fashionable Campus Club is being reorganized and when it is reorganized not only Prince Prasob Mon Chaw Saksabster, but several

other young and high-spirited members will not be on the ~~note~~ *note*.

And maybe the decorous^{but}~~but~~ beautiful ~~little~~ town of Princeton

isn't boiling with chatter today about Prince Prasob Mon Chaw Suksabster.

This morning before the Empress of Britain carried him away from American shores, George Bernard Shaw opened up to the reporters. ~~Shaw said~~ He had refused to talk to them yesterday. One of them questioned him about his supposed insult to Helen Kellar, about which so much fuss had been made in the press. Mr. Shaw denies the story.

He declared the explanation to be simple:

"I complimented her," he said, "on the fact that she could hear and speak much better than the majority of her countrymen." And he added, "We parted on cordial and decent terms." He said further:-
"The reporter who wrote the story should have been shot."

Well, the reporter who wrote the story was Miss Helen Kellar herself, so ^{the final explanation may be that} evidently the great playwright did not express himself in terms that Miss Kellar understood.

Another reporter asked him about the suppression of war.

To which Shaw replied: "Why suppress war?"

He answered his own question by saying, "After all, war is only a method of killing people, and a great many people ought to be killed. Certainly," he added, "a great many English people."

Then one reporter asked, "How about the Irish?"

"Oh," replied Shaw, "almost all of the Irish."

Concerning Hitler the great Irishman said, "This Hitler business is too silly and too stupid. Hitler ceases to be an interesting man. It is those behind him who merit our attention."

Toward the conclusion of the interview he declared once more that he wasn't going to talk any more.

"My silence is extremely impressive, and I am not going to spoil it by making idiotic remarks. I have talked and talked until I'm nearly dead. I won't do any more talking at all."

If that's a promise, it will be interesting to see how well he keeps it, because if he does, it will be a record.

(1) That Shavian address at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York last night was received with mixed feelings. I went, and enjoyed it. It seemed to me a marvelous effort for a man 77 years old. Two solid hours! It poured out. No hemming and hawing. You could hear every word in the farthest gallery. And his material was interesting, most of the time. Sometimes dull. But what a titan the old patriarch is! However, some of the listeners were observed not to be listening at all. They were comfortably and anesthetically slumbering through a considerable part of the speech. My colleague, Heywood Brown, who admits in the New York World Telegram that for years he has been a worshipper at the Shavian shrine, describes it as a rambling, ~~but~~ badly organized and often ill-informed address. F

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address. For at least an hour, Brown confesses, he wished he hadn't come.

Shaw himself today told reporters that in his own opinion it was a badly bungled job. Some newspaper accounts describe his speech as one of the longest ever delivered in New York. One reporter says:

"Out of that magnificent pink and white beard issued the grand total of 16,345 words."

And now, out of my pink and white beard has issued all that my time will permit tonight, so, So Long Until Tomorrow.