

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:-

Today has been an odd one so far as heat and cold, drought and moisture are concerned. On the Eastern Seaboard we have been having a heat record for May. In fact, I drove down here to Atlantic City in my good car Methuselah, to escape it. But here's the cheery story:- Down at the bottom of the world, around the South Pole, Admiral Byrd reports seventy-two below. It is so cold they don't know what time it is. The lubricating oil in the clocks has frozen, and all the time pieces have stopped. They can't tell time by the sun, because they're now in the Antarctic polar season of six months night. Luckily there's the far-reaching voice of the radio to tell them the time of day.

In our own Middle West the drought is still ruining the wheat, while in the Argentine and in Chile, in South America, the wheat is still being washed away by the flooding rains.

they are also having a
In Russia ~~as in Kansas~~ ~~it~~ there ~~is~~ drought, a dry

spell so severe that the Soviet Government has taken drastic action. All able-bodied men have been mobilized ⁱⁿ ~~to~~ the drought area, carrying water in buckets to the parched fields. And men are ~~ix~~ being shipped from distant parts of Russia to take a hand in the bucket brigade in the vicinity of Azov ^{and near} ~~to~~ the Black Sea, where the drought is burning its blistering hottest.

FOLLOW WEATHER

But anyway, there's neither flood nor drought, ^{nor hot weather here} ~~here~~
^{along the famous Board Walk}
~~at the end of the Million Dollar Pier~~ at Atlantic City, where
I am broadcasting tonight. It's a balmy summer's evening, with
a breeze blowing from the sea.

^{by the way,}
Atlantic City ⁿ is in a state of preparation these days --
on the principal that as the ~~weather~~ winter was, so will the
summer be. Of course the ^{winter} ~~weather~~ was cold, and the summer
presumably will be warm. The similarity is that a good winter
resort season promises a good summer resort season. This angle
is analyzed by Roger Babson, the financial expert who gained
fame by predicting the 1929 crash. He says ^{it's a} ~~there's a~~ truism --
like two and two make four -- that summer recreation business can be
roughly measured by the resort trade of the previous winter.
He goes on to point out that California had a much better winter
season this year than last, and that Florida had a marvelous
year. I can bear him out on the subject of Florida. The resorts
were jammed with crowds ^{and} flowing with money. So Atlantic City is
all set for good summer trade that always follows a good winter's
trade.

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MONACO

For the last ten years, and even a little longer, there's been a good deal of argument about the money that other nations owe to Uncle Sam, and about the bonds of foreign countries that have been defaulted. But we seldom hear so much about the American bonds that have been defaulted. One such instance comes to light through a decision just rendered in the Supreme Court of the United States by Chief Justice Hughes.

In the first half of the last century several states of the Union issued bonds. Many of these bonds were sold abroad. The State of Mississippi for example, sold a hundred-thousand dollars' worth of bonds to the principality of Monaco. And the principality of Monaco has recently had the ~~quaint~~ quaint idea that it would like to have that money back. To which the answer of the State of Mississippi ~~is~~ is "Try and get it." So the principality applied to the Supreme Court for permission to sue Mississippi. The State replied that no suit could be brought without the consent of the State. And the State won't consent. So the principality of Monaco is just plumb out of luck.

COMMUNISTS.

It sounds strange to be hearing of Japan getting all hot and bothered over Communism. We've had plenty of talk from China about the Red menace and all that sort of thing. But I don't recall ever hearing any news of that kind from Japan.

So the report of a raid at which the police of Tokyo seized over seven hundred Reds is a trifle startling. However, the details of the raid indicate that if Communism is a peril in the Mikado's realm, it is not an awfully serious one. Fully one-half of the people arrested are students and so-called intellectuals, only some three hundred coming from the ranks of labor.

RIOTS

in this country
In the news of the strike riot, there appears the figure of a Congressman who is certainly a stormy petrel and a bad boy of Washington. Representative Francis Shoemaker of ~~Ma~~ Minnesota was in the thick of the battle at Minneapolis, scrapping like a wild-cat, striking right and left with a broomstick. Congressman or no congressman, he was arrested and dragged away to jail.

It was one of the liveliest strike riots on record, and came about when the men of the building trades walked out in sympathy with the striking truck drivers at Minneapolis. They decided to cut off the food supply for the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. They blocked the roads and stopped trucks carrying provisions. Strong forces of police were sent to break up the blockade, and that's when the fighting began. Officials of the Labor Board tried to stop the trouble by making speeches, but somebody threw a brick and somebody fired a revolver. And the next thing you know rocks were flying and clubs were thudding on all sides. More than forty policemen and strikers were injured. One policeman is reported to have been fatally hurt.

And foremost among the rioters was a Congressman Shoemaker, although it does seem odd for a lawmaker of a land to be engaged in

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such lawless proceedings. But then this particular Congressman is quite an inflammatory character.

He's been in jail before, ^{in fact} was sentenced to a year in Leavenworth for sending defamatory matter through the mails. When he went to Congress, he tried to describe himself in his congressional biography with this sprightly sentence: "The first man who strayed from prison to Congress instead of from Congress to prison." But they wouldn't let that gem of wit and humor be put in the record.

A month ago Congressman Shoemaker bumped into a taxi ~~driver~~ in Washington and got into a row with the driver. He gave the driver a beating, knocked him flat, and then shouted: "I'm a Congressman; no one can arrest me."

But they did arrest him after the detectives spent two days trying to catch him. He was released on bail, and the bail was ~~very~~ forfeited because he never showed up for trial. And

And a couple of months before that he was arrested for punching a neighbor. He was annoyed by the neighbor's radio, and expressed his feelings with a punch in the jaw. Later on he explained: "I asked him like a gentleman over the phone to stop the racket. Then I went up and stopped it myself. But I got a doctor to

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sew him up." I suppose getting a doctor to sew him up was also acting like a gentleman.

So this is the gentleman of the House who was battling the ~~min~~ cops with a broomstick in the riot out in Minneapolis.

DARROW

In today's repercussions and echoings of that Darrow Report explosion we find one interesting angle. The Administration, of course, is trying to find what comfort it can ~~out of~~ⁱⁿ all the noise and fuss, ~~and~~ They say that it gives the New Deal leaders a chance to slide out from under the attack of radicalism; ~~Because~~, compared to Clarence Darrow and his report the President and his advisers look about as radical as the Daughters of the American Revolution. I suppose there's a good deal of sense in that. The violent radical attacks on the NRA will sound like a pretty good argument against the charge that revolution is in the saddle at Washington.

Meanwhile there are promises of new thunderings to come. Darrow declares that his blast against the NRA was mild and friendly, ~~for~~ compared with the uproarious denunciation he ~~still~~ intends to let loose.

51 { General Johnson is still demanding that the Darrow Board should be abolished right away. But they say the President won't do that. He'll just let the Board of the Darrow Committee die a

natural death, when ~~xxxxx~~ its term of existence expires on June 1st -- which of course comes to pretty much the same thing.

However, Senators Borah and Nye declare they are going to go right on with their fight against the monopolistic practices of the NRA. It was their complaints which led to the Darrow investigation. And it is said that Senator Nye suggested most of the members of the investigating committee.

There is talk of a general congressional inquiry into the NRA which, of course, would give the Republican members an eminent chance to train their heavy artillery on the whole Roosevelt program.

SOCIALISTS

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In that flaming political campaign six years ago when Hoover and Smith battled it out, there were two candidates on a ticket who didn't figure very largely in returns. One was the Socialist candidate for the presidency, the other the Socialist candidate for the governorship of New York. They are both in the headlines today, one in difficulties, the other victorious.

At Taylorville, Illinois, there was plenty of trouble, all because Norman Thomas wanted to make a speech. ~~The former~~ ^{He} ~~Socialist candidate for the presidency~~ appeared in a hot election campaign. A deputy sheriff, ~~who is also a candidate for Sheriff,~~ immediately arrested the former dignified candidate for the presidency, who is also an ordained minister and college professor. Then the deputy sheriff threw tear gas bombs to disperse the crowd. And that made it an exceedingly lively row. Today Norman Thomas is protesting to the governor and threatening to sue the county for false arrest.

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His running mate on the Socialist ticket in 1928, Louis Waldman, who vainly tried to be Governor of New York, is receiving congratulations down in Panama. He won his case in defending that ~~Exxx~~ ^{United States} Army corporal accused of transmitting military secrets to the ~~Communists~~ Communists. It turns out that the case hinged on a letter which the military authorities found in the Dead Letter office at Panama. Corporal ~~Osmond's~~ ^{Osman's} defense was that he had nothing watever to do with the incriminating letter. The evidence was circumstantial. And Louis Waldman, who took the case out of charity, has won the acquittal of his client. This definitely reverses a previous courtmartial which had sentenced the Corporal to military prison.

Of course one thing still remains unexplained and unsolved. The letter found in the Dead Letter office at Panama would seem to indicate that some sort of spy work was going on.

ADD SILVER

After the White House conferences with the silver senators we now have a hint of what happened to the gold that disappeared from the Federal Reserve weekly reports. We learned last week how twenty-one million dollars seemed to have mysteriously disappeared from the Federal Reserve ledgers. Financial experts hinted that the money might have been put into the stabilization fund. Apparently this was the case because large sums of that stabilization money have been used by the government to purchase silver.

STOCKS

Here's news for stock brokers and other financial wizards.

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The stock market these days is not the dullest in history. It's drowsy and dead all right, very little trading, but back in eighteen ~~hundred~~ thirty they had a record low - a day on which only thirty-one shares changed hands in the course of two transactions.

Things aren't that quiet these days in Wall Street, although the moguls of finance haven't seen such little activity in many a year.

Casey Hogate, editor of the Wall Street Journal, tells me it is all because of the peculiar condition of uncertainty just now. There seem to be reasons why the market should go down and there seem to be reasons why the market should go up. People don't want to buy stocks because they're afraid the various regulation bills in Washington will drive stocks down. On the other hand, people don't want to sell stocks, because they anticipate such inflationary measures as the Silver Bill will send stocks up. And that makes it a kind of ~~dilemma~~ dilemma, unwilling to buy, unwilling to sell, and naturally there's stagnation in Wall Street.

PEDDLER

~~At the first glance~~ This next item ^{is} ~~seems to be~~ the most extreme version of the old story of the beggar who has all sorts of wealth hidden away. In Chicago there's a man who goes around selling matches. In his pocket he carries a judgment in his favor for three hundred and thirty-three thousand dollars. And he is the owner of a seat on the Chicago Stock Exchange.

~~But~~ There's a curious twist to the story. A few years ago, James L. Cook was a Chicago millionaire. The crash wiped ~~it~~ out his fortune. And today he's selling matches. He has that huge judgment against men who he claims tricked him out of a fortune. ^{But} He can't collect it. ~~But~~ He still keeps his seat on the Stock Exchange, and won't sell it. "I might need it again sometime", he explains.

We've had plenty of strange stories of fantastic reversals of fortune when the crash came. This one seems to be the most singular of all - the man who sells matches on the street and owns a seat on the Stock Exchange!

LT in
Atlantic
City.

May 227

1934.

PRESS

Everything is ^{cool} ~~quiet and placid~~ ^{windy, and rather boisterous} this evening out ^{here} at the end of this ^{1/2 mile long} ~~great~~ Steel Pier at Atlantic City. I have been hearing things today which indicate that a couple of weeks from now this great Steel Pier is going to be the scene of loud and hilarious festivities. There will be a gathering of prominent newspaper men from all over who will attend the National Headliners Frolic. This is the annual event sponsored by the Atlantic City Press Club, in which the men who gather and write the news ^{from all over America} are given all the entertainment that Atlantic City can afford. And that's plenty. ^{Plus the ocean breeze.}

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And that ~~brings~~ us to the loud subject of a jazz band at the White House. The first gentleman and the first lady are throwing a party to newspapermen and when the question of music came up, the young people of the White House had their say. The Marine Band is splendid they admitted - for concert music. But for dancing there's nothing like a jazz band. So a jazz band it will be, blaring and thumping in the august halls of the presidential mansion.

COLLEGE

They're going to teach physics at West Point, and Vassar girls can get married. That's the masculine and feminine news in the collegiate world.

It seems odd that West Point should have been getting along for all these years without a department of physics, but they have a lot of curious traditional military ways up there on the Hudson where we get our generals. A bill, passed by Congress ~~and the White House~~, provides that hereafter the ^{Cadets} ~~candidates~~ will be annoyed by physics, in addition to other annoyances.

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The marriage situation ~~at~~ Vassar evokes sentimental reflections. Looking at a bunch of Vassar girls, you feel inclined to run to the nearest church steeple and start ringing wedding bells. And then a few marriage certificates can always be judiciously distributed among the girls. But heretofore women's colleges have frowned on Dan Cupid, especially when he brings a wedding ring along - although the little fellow has sometimes been known to forget the ring. So Vassar is establishing quite an innovation in permitting the girls to get married and still go on with their college work. They won't have to get married secretly any more.

But it is not to boost orange blossoms of romance so much as

the text books and doctors' degrees of sociology, chemistry and economics. It has been said that education doesn't help marriage. At Vassar they expect marriage to help education. Maybe when a girl has a husband she'll find trigonometry and astrophysics less of a bore - by comparison. Or maybe after a few domestic battles she'll have a better understanding of the wars of Caesar and Alexander. But the local college newspaper advocates marriage for co-eds because - as the charming editress expresses it -- "of the emotional security it would afford them while they were undertaking the work of obtaining an education."

I always thought that we husbands were useful chiefly for providing financial security, if any, but it seems that we provide emotional security also. And ain't we the benefactors?

But I'm afraid that all this romance about Vassar girls is disturbing my own emotional security so much that I'd better say, SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.