

Good Evening Everybody:

This may sound like an Irish bull, but the bit excitement of today is tomorrow. I mean, of course, that all eyes are focused on Washington, and there is terrific ~~interest~~ ^{interest} all over the country ~~concerning~~ ^{concerning} the inauguration. ~~of Franklin~~.

~~Roosevelt~~ Some thirty hours from now Franklin D. ^{elans} Roosevelt will have been sworn in as President of the ^{se} United States, ^{the second} Roosevelt to assume that office.

Already the capital is thronged with visitors from all over the country ~~and points~~ ^{as well as from points} ~~abroad~~ ^{abroad}. They are flocking in by rail, by motor and by air.

They say Democratic inaugurations are far more exciting than ~~the~~ ^{the} G.O.P. ~~variety~~ ^{variety}. The Democratic

donkey in the last few decades has had only about one chance in three or four to those of the G. O.P. ^{elephant, for such a pageant.} So the Democrats make it a far more popular ^{and spectacular} event.

The spirit of the day is to treat tomorrow as one of the grand national holidays. ~~But~~ The inclination seems to be

to lay troubles and fears aside and look at tomorrow's celebration as something that may bring fruitful results.

Washington is in a festive mood. George Van Slyke wires the New York Sun that an expectant and hopeful air fills the capital as the hour of inauguration approaches.

The new President is keeping his program a secret down to the last moment. And many ears are spread wide to catch the first notes of his inaugural address. What he says on several things, but especially about the banking situation, will have a tremendous meaning. *There were many conferences on this ~~subject~~ issue in the capital today.*

Of course, the banking situation is not the only serious subject on which the world is awaiting Mr. Roosevelt's words. There ~~is~~ ^{are} ~~the~~ ^{the} question's of the stabilization of the currency, the entire economic problem as it affects not only the internal affairs of the U. S. A., but international relations ^{too.} As George Van Slyke puts it, if Mr. Roosevelt comes out with a definite and clean cut plan of action, the effect will be electric throughout

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the world. That's what the country and the whole world are not merely waiting for but praying for.

Meanwhile Mr. Roosevelt declined to issue any statement on finances today. President Hoover took the same attitude.

(Not since the war has the atmosphere been so tense, not only in Washington, but throughout the nation. For instance, the members of the Banking Committee^s of ~~both~~ House of Representatives were advised to be ready to convene at any hour of the day or night to consider ^{special} legislation. ~~no statement was issued as to~~ ^{But there is optimism in the}

~~that this legislation might be~~ ^{air, the feeling that a change is coming}

Meanwhile the seventy-second Congress in the last twenty-four hours of its session was ~~favorably~~ feverishly at work trying to break the jam of legislation that had accumulated. Both houses were busily rushing through bill after bill, ~~for~~ appropriation^s and other measures, so as to leave no routine work unaccomplished before the automatic dissolution of Congress at noon tomorrow.

Later advices indicate that the extra session of Congress may be called far sooner than was expected. As things run now, it may take place early in March. ~~Some~~ ^{Some}

~~how early we do not yet know~~ say March 13th or even tomorrow — and that sounds hopeful.

A remarkable reaction was to be observed in New York today. The prices of stocks moved up. Trading was heavy. Some of the leading issues rose even more than four points. Together with this was a jump in the price of wheat which rose more than two cents a bushel. Prices ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ other markets showed corresponding strength.

Oh, yes, (thirty states of the Union have now taken measures to protect bank deposits.) This is further grounds for optimism. And here is more news that sounds good: -

BANKING

(Late this afternoon it became known that the committees of both the Senate and the House of Representatives were requested to stand by, and be ready to convene at a moment's notice. The purpose of this, it is understood, ^{ready} is to rush through legislation which will give Mr. Roosevelt practically dictatorial powers ^{over the} ~~in the~~ bank ~~ing~~.)

Similar powers have already been given to him in the post office, ^{treasury} and appropriation bills, clauses in these measures enable him to effect immediate and arbitrary reorganization of government bureaus without further consent of Congress, *this for the purpose of helpful economy.*

Later, still, more details concerning this emergency banking legislation became known. (Senator Gore of Oklahoma introduced a bill granting the new President practically autocratic power, ^{to safeguard} ~~power to secure~~ bank deposits in emergency conditions.)

Some such measure as this has been anticipated for several days.

At the same time Senator Dill of Washington made another

recommendation. Mr. Dill wants to authorize the Postal Savings

Banks of Uncle Sam to accept checking accounts. By this means
the public will be provided with ^{all the} currency ^{it needs} to transact daily
business. ~~In other words, the Washington Senator wants Uncle~~
~~Sam to go into the banking business on an even larger scale~~
~~than at present.~~

B. & O.

~~It seems I read on the top of the Baltimore and~~

There was a little confusion last night.

~~Ohio Railroad~~ I said that Mr. Roosevelt was leaving

New York for Washington by the ~~Marx~~ Pennsylvania ~~Railroad~~. Well,

an intimation to this effect had been given out presumably

with the object of making the police job of protecting the

President-elect more easy. As a matter of fact, Mr. Roosevelt

went to Washington over the B. & O. which ran a special train

for him.

CANADA TRAINS

The other night we had a news item regarding a train here in the States that travels at the rate of ninety miles in ninety minutes. Whereupon Mr. Spencer Horton of the Wolthausen Hat Company, Ltd., of Brockville, Ontario, dealer in high hats, wrote me that trains in Canada go as fast as that and think nothing of it. For instance, he points out that the Canadian National train leaves Montreal at four o'clock in the afternoon and makes the run to Brockville, Ontario, 124 miles, in 120 minutes, and makes one stop to boot.

JAPAN

There is one thing that must be said for the Japanese. Their army appears to be as smooth rolling a military machine as history ever knew. Even allowing for contradictory reports, it seems sure that they are ^{mopping} ~~wiping~~ up the province of Reyho like Mrs. Partington with her famous broom.

Advices from Shanghai, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ a usually reliable news center, indicate that Reyho City, the capital of the province, is being hurriedly evacuated by the Chinese. The big chiefs of the Chinese Army are said to be in headlong flight. And the rumors in Shanghai have it that the Chinese nationalist government contemplates the moving of the capital from Nanking to Shangsha.

The atmosphere in Shanghai is described ~~as~~ ~~being~~ exceedingly tense. Throughout China there is the fear that the Japanese invaders of Reyho will cross the Great Wall into China proper and threaten Peiping and Tientsin from the North. It may be remembered that the Japanese Foreign Office some days ago gave out a veiled but not very closely veiled intimation

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that this might happen.

The Commander of the Garrison of Tientsin has received a ^{request} ~~third~~ ~~request~~ from the Japanese to clear his troops out of the area immediately south of the Great Wall. This request was denied and in this he was supported by ^{what there is of the Chinese} ~~the~~ Government.

So from all accounts it looks ^{as though} John Chinaman were ^{taking} it on the chin.

A friend of mine who has just returned from the Far East, tells me he has observed with amazement the considerable pro-Chinese feeling throughout a large part of the U. S. A.

(I told him that this might be attributed to the fact that Americans are inclined to sympathize with the underdog, and also that we admire anybody who puts up a game fight.) My traveling friend tells me that throughout the Far East ~~the~~ the white men, American^s, Briton^s and other Europeans, are all pragmatically pro-Japanese. ¹ But that will have to be a story for another

day. Maybe I ^{can} ~~do~~ get my ^{old} friend, ^{Dr.} Herbert Adams Gibbons ^{of Princeton to} ~~1~~

explain ^{this} to us some Sunday afternoon. Incidentally, ~~1~~

long and

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American^s who ^{have long resided} ~~have been~~ in Asia seem to feel that Herbert

Gibbons is ^{one of} the best informed, keenest ~~xxx~~ and most honest of
^{present day}
all observers on Asiatic affairs.

EARTHQUAKE

While Japanese soldiers were sweeping through Reyho ~~like~~ in a triumphant march, the home country suffered a severe shock. An earthquake struck the northern coast of the island of Honshu. And as usual, after an earthquake, a huge tidal wave swept over the land. More than fifteen hundred people were killed, almost a thousand are missing, and three hundred and thirty-eight were injured. Some three thousand houses were washed away, over a thousand destroyed, and six thousand were flooded. Damage to electric light plants resulted in fires. There was tremendous excitement in Tokio, Yokahama, Kobe and Osaka, although little damage is reported in those

cities. This is a sketchy outline of a ~~great~~ catastrophe concerning which your newspaper will tell you more

CHINESE BOOK

A quite unusual book ^{has just} come to my attention,

~~the other day.~~ It is published by Dutton's and entitled:
STRANGE NEWS FROM CHINA. It is in fact the first Chinese
Cook book ever printed in English. The author, Townley
Searle, evidently is familiar with the cuisine of the
Celestial Realm, appreciates it, and knows how it should
be done. In addition to furnishing recipes for a host
of Chinese dishes that sound most delectable he tells
you where you can buy the ingredients, for, of course,
most Chinese cooking depends upon Chinese vegetables and
other things.

One of the pages that interested me was ⁱⁿ
~~the~~ chapter on wine. The only Chinese who ^{once went} ~~went~~ in for
drinking on a large scale, according to Mr. Searle, ^{were} ~~were~~
the literary gentry. John Chinaman for the most part is a
moderate drinker, but ^{in the good old days,} the poets and ~~other~~ literary lights
were not only permitted but expected to have an almost
fabulous capacity for the cup that cheers and inebriates.

It ~~was~~ considered a great mark of excellence to be able to drink much wine and literary men ~~were~~ supposed to excel in tsiew leang, which signifies wine capacity.

There is the story of a famous poet who had a great reputation as a wine ~~drinker~~ ^{bibber - Celestial brother to DM} and ~~was~~ ^{was} invited to dinner

by the Emperor. The Emperor in order to test the

capacity of the great poet ordered his sculptor to make a bronze statute of the exact size and model of his guest.

As the wine was served, for every cup that the guest drank

a similar cup was poured into an opening ⁱⁿ the head of the

bronze figure. This went on until the bronze figure over-

flowed,. The literary gentleman, says Mr. Searle, continued

at the table and arose from it ~~apparently~~ to all appearances,

reasonably sober. *And what a mighty man was he! He could outdrink his own hollow statue.*

China must indeed have been the Paradise for

literary men - in those days.

Marguerite de Soub.

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BERLIN

There's a touch of melodrama in the news from
Germany. ~~today~~. The old Imperial flag, the Kaiserlich ~~double~~ ^{Eagle banner}
~~is~~ ^{is again} flying ~~for~~ over many buildings. The occasion, ~~the~~ ^{the}
pre-election demonstration of the Nazis. The rain was pouring,
~~but~~ thousands of ~~xxxix~~ Fascist brown shirts did the goosestep
through the Brandenburg ~~Tow~~ ^{the great arch at the head of ~~the~~ Unter den Linden} and saluted the Hitler chiefs.

The Nazi's are still clamping down the gag on foreign
correspondents. Victor Schiff, Berlin correspondent of the
London Daily Herald, was arrested by the Nazi police and taken
into custody for examination. His apartment was ransacked
and several of his papers seized.

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LONDON

Developments in Germany have ~~xxxxxx~~ spread a feeling of ~~unpleasantness~~ ^{unpleasantness} throughout the realm of John Bull. Official circles obviously see a threat to the peace of Europe in the iron fist ~~and~~ steel ~~xxxxxx~~ helmet capers of Chancellor Hitler's boys.

For this reason it was announced today that the ^{British} ~~the~~ Cabinet has decided to send Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald and Sir John Simon, ~~the~~ the foreign secretary back to Geneva. There they will return to the disarmament conference and try to get some peaceful results. The idea will be to press for disarmament. From other European capitals we learn that the aggressive antics of the Hitler Government has spread a feeling of alarm throughout all

Europe. But there are many, many who take comfort in the fact that for the first time in many years Germany is being satisfied and stabilized.

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Ross Phillips of West Haven, Connecticut, sends me in some hot news. He says: "I have one of these new-fangled cars that can run like an impala or a gazelle with a lion after it. It ^{just naturally} runs fast enough, ~~as ~~fast~~~~, but the trouble is, every ~~th~~ time I get near a Sunoco gas station she speeds up and runs right out from under me. So I've tried some of this gas, and now my car goes so fast I have to keep resin on the brakes to keep it from running out from under me."

Well, that's pretty fast, but just wait until you hear the champion tall story of the week, the prize winner. I'll have it all ready for you Sunday afternoon at five o'clock, when I am on the air with my weekly summary.

EDUCATION

There are too darn many frills in the public schoolx education today. Now don't shoot. I'm not saying this off my own bat. This is the opinion of an eminent scientist, Professor Fantham. Dr. Fantham, a celebrated biologist, was recently called to the famous McGill University at Montreal, Canada. Dr. E. E. Free, in the Week's Science, quotes professor Fantham to the effect that too much public money is being spent for education with too little results. The frills, he says, should be left out unless they are paid for individually by the parents.

Here are what the eminent biologist considers as essentials in the public school curriculum: Reading, writing, arithmetic, the language of the country, a little history, some economic and human geography, biology, a brief outline of other sciences, and some one cultural subject, such as either singing or painting. Boys should be taught mechanical drawing and some manual art, such as woodwork. Girls should be instructed in needlework and cooking. (And a lot of husbands will agree with that.)

All the rest, Professor Fantham says are frills and it's because of them that taxes for education are so high.

DRIVER

Here's a paragraph I found in a German paper. There was a collision between two cars, one driven by a man and the other driven by a woman. A policeman who arrived at the scene said to the man: "You saw this lady driving towards you. Why didn't you give her half the road?" And the motorist replied: "Well, officer, I was going to as soon as I could discover which half she wanted."

Well, clear the tracks and
s-l-u - Sunday.