

Good Evening, Everybody:

The end of the New Year ~~festivities~~^{celebration} seems to have inspired ~~considerable~~ activity in several quarters of the world. News ~~comes~~^{has been streaming in} today from Asia, from Russia, from Germany, and from the U. S. A.

Let's begin with Washington, ~~D.C.~~ President Hoover, invigorated by his fishing trip in southern waters, had hardly got back to the capital ~~then~~^{when} he threw down the gauntlet to his opponents, particularly the opponents of the plan he proposed last month for consolidating and reorganizing several departments of the Federal government. A dispatch to the New York Evening Post quotes the President to the effect that "if Congress does not keep its hands off now, or if it gives larger powers to President-elect Roosevelt, no genuine reorganization will be achieved." Mr. Hoover goes further than that. He declares that the plan of the Democratic leaders

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of Congress, as he puts it, to "transfer the task of reorganization to my successor is simply a device to defeat my proposal." ~~Th~~ The President minced no words. He did not utter them in a message to Congress, but in a statement given out to the Washington correspondents.

The President's opponents on the Democratic side came right back at him. The Democratic leaders in the House went ahead with their plans to block Mr. Hoover's proposals. The Chairman of the Expenditures Committee has drawn up a resolution ~~is~~ which will throw a monkey wrench into the President's scheme and leave the job in the hands of Mr. Roosevelt. There's to be a meeting of the ~~expenditures~~ committee Thursday which will act on this resolution, and it is expected that it will be ~~reported on the floor of the House~~ brought up for debate on the floor of the House.

FARM RELIEF

The next ~~NEWS~~ piece from Washington is that the Democrats in Congress lived up to their promise on farm relief, that is, the promise made last week to bring in a bill. Chairman Jones of the Committee on Agriculture introduced ~~that~~ the measure to provide for what is known as the domestic allotment plan, which is sponsored by President-elect Roosevelt.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Evening* Ledger wires that unanimous consent was obtained for the Committee to sit all day, thus ~~enabling~~ giving the Committee until midnight tonight to file its report. Speaker Garner said he expected this bill to come up for debate on Thursday.

Preliminary rumblings indicate that this measure will not have any too smooth sailing. Representative Schaefer, of Wisconsin, arose ~~in~~ on the floor to ask Chairman Jones if this was the "Roosevelt plan for a billion dollar Democratic Sales Tax on the necessities of life." Chairman Jones did not

get time to answer. The pugnacious Mr. Blanton, of Texas, jumped immediately to his hind legs and shouted: "There is no such Democratic Sales Tax."

Well, evidently we may expect to see some fur flying when the debate on this bill starts.

Later in the afternoon it became evident that the committee did not ~~meet~~^{need} until midnight to report that bill ~~back to~~
the House. Chairman Jones, after a comparatively short session behind closed doors, announced that the House committee on Agriculture had approved the domestic allotment farm relief bill by a vote of fourteen to eight.

BORAH

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Senator Borah of Idaho sprang back into the limelight today with something in the nature of a bombshell. It became known that he is preparing a bill to reduce the purchasing power of the dollar.

A dispatch to the New York Sun says that this information became known in the course of a debate in the Senate today about currency.

It also became evident that Mr. Borah will have plenty of support for his idea. ~~Three Democratic Senators~~ Several other senators including three prominent Democrats, took the side ~~the~~ of the Idaho Republican.

WAR

Then in Asia things continue to pop today, especially guns and bombs. The Japs pressed a fierce attack on the port of Shanhaikwan by air, land and sea. For two countries who are officially not at war, The Chinese and Japanese are certainly doing a powerful lot of fighting. One wonders how much sc^rapⁱng they would have to be doing before they would be willing to declare a state of war.

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Shanhaikwan is the place where the great Chinese wall reaches the sea. If you believe the official communications from military headquarters of both nations, both sides have won. The commanding generals of the Mikado assert that Shanhaikwan has been captured and that John Chinaman is in hasty retreat toward Lwanchow. The Chinese high command_e says ^{that} the Japanese high command_e is a liar, and that the fighting little brown men from Nippon have been chased back with great loss.

Still another report has it that the Chinese asked for a truce and that peace negotiations are under way. This report comes from Changchun, capital of Manchukuo. So there you are.

MOSCOW

~~From Moscow~~ The news from Moscow begins with an execution, or rather with a sentence of death. The New Year seems to have inspired the Soviet leaders with ^{at} lethal ideas. The men sentenced to death were three of the highest officials of the Communist party in ^{the} Ukraine. Eight others were sentenced to imprisonment. They were convicted of treason, the treason being acts of sabotage against the government's grain policy.

Then, a cable to the New York Herald Tribune reports that a number of American citizens, some of them American born, are being held in Russia without their consent, and for what amounts to a demand for ransom by the Soviet government. These Americans it is said, have been trying for years to obtain permission to return to the United States. The ^{Russian} government, ~~says~~ the report, declines to give this permission without the payment of a fine amounting to two hundred and eighty-five dollars for each person.

The Soviet authorities defend themselves

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with the claim that most of these Americans voluntarily gave up their American citizenship only to regret it later. On the other hand the correspondent of the Herald Tribune is informed that some of them did nothing of the sort. They went through formalities which they did not understand and did not realize that they were renouncing their rights as nephews and nieces of Uncle Sam.

Another piece of news from Russia is that an ice-breaker of the Soviet government is believed to be lost after a collision with an iceberg in northern waters. The vessel carried a crew of one hundred, all of whom are ^{reported} ~~believed~~ to have perished. The ~~x~~ ice-breaker in question was the one which helped in the search for General Nobile when his airship ^{crashed} crashed in the Arctic.

GALES

Old Father Neptune is among those who felt their
oats around New Year's Day. Huge gales are reported from
mid-Atlantic. No less than ten large liners are delayed,
anywhere from twelve ~~ix~~ hours to two days. For instance,
the Bremen due this morning will not reach America until
Thursday, and the Leviathan due early tomorrow will not get
in until Friday evening.

WALDORF

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Many people feel that we are on the verge of a great religious movement. At any rate, religious leaders of all denominations and faiths seem to feel this is so. And today New York newspapers are commenting on the arrival of a whole army of Evangelists who are known as the Oxford Group. There are fifty of these men and women and quite an unusual company they are. They have just entered the United States after a tour of Canada, where they held immense meetings and where they were even entertained by the Prime Minister of the Dominion, Mr. Bennett.

Among the fifty in this Oxford group are a Vice-admiral of the British Navy, a learned Professor from Oxford, England, a lady-in-waiting to the late Empress of Germany, an eminent leader from South Africa, and many more including one named Bill Pickle, -- not Dill Pickle, but Bill Pickle, who is described in today's newspapers as a reformed bootlegger.

Upon their arrival in New York they all made their headquarters at the Waldorf Astoria, and they were welcomed by such eminent Divines as Bishop Manning, Bishop Francis McConnell, and so on. They say they are out to cure the world's troubles. What they are attempting is described as "a great international movement, something that will save the world from its present condition." It is ^{said to be} ~~described as being~~ entirely non-denominational.

FOOTBALL

It appears there were two battles at the famous Rose Bowl

in Pasadena, California. One of course, was the football

game in which the Pittsburgh Panthers ^{received an unholy trouncing, a record} ~~sustained a record~~

defeat at the hands of the Southern California Trojans.

today we learn that

But there was another battle outside the gate, --

a riot between a crowd of some five hundred men and women

and a squad of Pasadena police. The five hundred ~~XXXXXXXX~~

wanted in and the police wanted them out because they said

the Bowl was already full. The five hundred tried to keep on

going in and finally the cops had to use tear gas. Twenty-

seven persons were arrested and half a hundred policemen in

sunny Pasadena are nursing bruises today.

RIOT

And ^{another riot story -} here's ~~strange news to come~~ from the West Indies ^{of all places.}

We usually associate the islands in the Caribbean with the idea of places where people go to have a good time. But today the cables carry the description of a riot in Kingston, Jamaica. And the rioters were British soldiers.

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It seems that some of the ~~lands~~ ^{Too much Jamaica rum I suppose.} of the Northumberland Fusileers were out on a binge. [^] There was a brawl and a lusty Fusileer got on the receiving end of a brackbat thrown with enthusiasm by a civilian. This enraged his comrades ^{who} ~~and they~~ ran amuck. A dispatch to the Newark News relates that they held up street cars and automobiles, broke ~~x~~ hundreds of panes of glass, beat up stray civilians, and defied their own officers.

The riots lasted four hours until the rampaging Tommies were finally corraled in their barracks. ^{Yes, that West Indian rum is potent stuff, dynamite, sometimes.}

CHRISTMAS TREE

What would you do if you took a nap in an arm chair near the Christmas tree and woke up unexpectedly to find a large, full size motor car parked by the tree? Well, that's what happened to a lady in Chicago.

3 ~~The~~ story in the Brooklyn Times Union says the lady was more than astonished when she woke up and found what looked like a belated gift from Santa Claus. But what did not look like a gift from Santa Claus or anybody else, was a stranger sitting at the wheel of this machine. The stranger was the dean of the Lewis Institute in Chicago. Now deans have to hear a good many explanations. This dean had to make one ~~explanation~~ and I wonder what he felt like when he made it. He had to explain to the lady that his car had been in danger of hitting another car in the street. He swerved to avoid ^{the} car and crashed right through the wall of the home where the lady was taking a nap beside the Christmas tree.

ADELINE

Now for a bit of real sentiment. It concerns Sweet Adeline. Yes, the same old Sweet Adeline who has moved ~~me~~ ~~many~~ so many of us to sing, especially around about the third or fourth glass of gingerale. Good old Sweet Adeline. How many of us have lifted our voices in those barbershop strains. Perhaps I should ask how many of us have not?

Sweet Adeline got into the news today. A story in the New York Sun revealed the fact that the publishers of that famous song netted more than two million dollars - netted, mind you. The composer and the writer of the lyrics got the noble sum of five thousand dollars. The writer of the lyrics, Dick Gerard, is a clerk in the Post Office in Jamaica, Long Island. He got four thousand of that five. The composer of the tune getting the other thousand. *Who got the 2,000,000? The publishers!*

CRUISE

Last night I was obliged to interrupt myself right in the middle of one news item. As a result a number of listeners-in have ^{phoned and} written asking for the rest of the story. It was ~~that~~ story about the sixty-four men and women who were sailing from California on an old windjammer.

I had read the item in the Beacon News of Beacon, New York, and hadn't seen it elsewhere, although it undoubtedly has been published far and wide. Well, on that windjammer are sixty-four artists, doctors, writers, engineers, lawyers, nurses, retired businessmen, dentists, and -- to make sure that life will not be too dull on board ~~that crew~~ -- a political refugee from the Irish Free State ^{is going along.}

They are ~~not~~ going any place in particular.

Their principal purpose is ^{just} to get away from civilization.

When they were asked the question: ~~xxxxxxx~~ "What will you do when you come back?" they replied: "We don't know and we don't care. -- Spinach to all you slaves of civilization!"

They propose to visit islands in the South Pacific, Java, Bali, Ceylon, Madagascar, in short the islands of the

Well —

Blessed. I've been there, and most of them are
^
blessed with heat and rain.

~~very~~ ^{idea —} It's nice if you can afford it. I wouldn't
^
mind a jaunt myself.

GOLD

But I haven't enough gold. And by the way, how much gold do you suppose there is in the world? A story in the newspapers of the country tells us that there is eleven billion three hundred and eleven million dollars worth. Of this about ~~for~~ four billion dollars in gold, more than one-third of it all, is held in the U.S.A.

Here's hoping you get your share in 1933, and
SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.