

*Wednesday  
Weekend*

Good Evening, Everybody:

The underworld made a snappy reply to Uncle Sam today. Just as the air was full of news that the Federal Government was taking a hand in a campaign to cope with the kidnaping situation ~~there came~~ <sup>along came</sup> a report of another daring abduction, in Brooklyn. The person kidnaped is a man who was engaged in the business of promoting sports. In fact his brother is quite well known in prizefight circles. The kidnaped man himself is described by his own brother as absolutely broke. One of his principal activities has been the managing of second rate fighters.

Nevertheless this man whose name is Nat Bass, is being held for ransom and the kidnapers demand the modest sum of thirty-five thousand dollars for him.

He was abducted outside the house of some friends in Brooklyn by three armed men who forced him to jump in a car and drove away with him.

Then again I learned from Jersey City that agents of

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the Department of Justice and county detectives are investigating the rumor of a plot to capture and hold the publisher of the Bergen Evening Record.

From the summer White House at Poughkeepsie <sup>I hear</sup> ~~learn~~ that Professor Raymond Moley, Assistant Secretary of State, has been ~~loaned~~ <sup>loaned</sup> to the Department of Justice for the next few months. Dr. Moley will take a temporary leave from the State Department and give the Department of Justice the benefit of his wide knowledge of crime in America. *He is an authority on it.*

N.B.C.

## ROOSEVELT

A cheery bit of information comes from Poughkeepsie today. President Roosevelt had a telephone conversation with the Treasury Department in Washington, after which he made an announcement. This announcement shows that Uncle Sam is exceedingly well off with plenty of cash in his jeans, ~~today~~. The financing that has been accomplished under the secretaryship of Mr. Woodin has provided a larger cash balance in the treasury than ever before in the history of the U.S.A. Mr. Roosevelt tells us that, that five hundred million dollar bond issue was over-subscribed six times. The consequence is that the country now has a cash balance of one billion five hundred million. The President admitted ~~that~~ he was exceedingly pleased and encouraged by this fact because for one thing it makes the financing of the government for the rest of the year much easier.

Incidentally Mr. Roosevelt seems able to withstand this torrid weather better than most of the rest of us. He had a press conference today ~~at~~ which he joked freely with the newspaper men. He told them of an amusing thing that happened recently. ~~Politix~~

A politician prominent in New York State was ill in the hospital and the President sent him some flowers. The politician wishing to thank the President picked up the telephone which was at the side of his bed and asked for the White House.

The next moment there was a tremendous hubbub outside the door of his room and two doctors with three nurses rushed in from the Psychopathic Ward. They thought the patient had gone crazy.

It is reported that the President will leave Hyde Park August 11th for Washington to make a personal inspection of the way things are going at the Capitol. While he is there he will motor to the Shenandoah Valley to inspect one of the Civilian Conservation Corps camps which he has not yet seen. --- and then back to Poughkeepsie.

N.B.C.

NAVY

Among the conferences held by the President was one with several chiefs of the Bureaus in the Navy Department including the Admiral in Command of naval operations, the chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, and the head of the Bureau of construction and Repair. They flew from Washington to Hyde Park in naval airplanes.

Those charges made by Senator Trammell, Chairman of the committee on naval affairs, charges of collusion between ship building companies in their bids on construction for the navy, have caused quite a hubbub in Washington. Secretary Swanson has ordered the heads of bureaus to investigate the Senator's accusations. Mr. Trammell claims that each of those companies when they submitted their bids knew all about the other bids.

N.B.C.

## INFLATION

For several months now business men and others have been speculating whether we were to have <sup>currency</sup> inflation, and if so, how soon. The Administration has kept silent on the matter and has shown an ~~an~~ obvious reluctance to discuss it. But the talk in Washington today is that some sort of inflationary measures are inevitable and before long. In fact, they say that something of this sort will come to pass within the next few weeks, if not much sooner. This may mean either a lowering of the gold ~~xxxp~~ content of the dollar, the purchase of large blocs of government securities by the Federal Reserve system, or both.

N.B.C.

## BANKS

One of the principal aims of Mr. Roosevelt's Administration is to bring about a normal flow of bank credit into the channels of business and industry. One plan to affect this is for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to buy preferred stocks of banks. You may have heard Jesse Jones, Chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, discussing this scheme over this network, Mr. Jones' remarks have the endorsement of the President.

Among other things Mr. Jones said: "The Reconstruction Finance Corporation stands ready to advance approximately one billion dollars toward the purchase of preferred stock in sound banks, so as to strengthen capital structure and enable the banks to take ordinary business risks in extending credit." Mr. Jones said further that the increasing prices of commodity materials make it essential to have plenty of bank credit in order to finance the activities of industries.

NBC

COAL STRIKE

Affairs look no better in the coal mining districts of Pennsylvania. More mines are being closed. The Pittsburgh Coal Company shut down nine of its mines in order to beat the strikers to it. Six of these were in Allegheny County and three in Washington County.

Then this morning we learned that two of the mines of the Bethlehem Company are not operating today because of strikes.

This situation comes as rather a blow to the Administration of Nira. General Hugh Johnson flew to Harrisburg today accompanied by his chief advisor on labor questions. The General's purpose is to discuss things with the operators who hitherto have remained obdurate and resisted all efforts to call them into conference.

N.B.C.



## RAILROADS

There's still quite a good deal of wrangling going on about the salaries of railroad executives. As you may recall, Mr. Eastman, the Federal coordinator, had made emphatic the ~~xxx~~ position of the government that those salaries, that is the top notch salaries, should be substantially cut. Mr. Eastman, we understand, believes that ~~any person~~ in present conditions fifty thousand dollars should be the top ~~salary~~. On the other hand the railroad presidents say that it is up to the Board of Directors to decide how much they should be paid, ~~and that they should not be asked to lower their own wages.~~

A report from New York says that the coordinating committees representing the lines ~~of the~~ east, west, and south, had a secret meeting today. Though no announcement ~~was made~~ <sup>came forth</sup> it is understood that considerable progress has been made in this salary business.

N.B.C.

SWIMMING

(7)  
Well, they're picking on the good old English Channel again. An English miss who tried to swim from Dover to France six years ago made an attempt today to swim from France to Dover. ~~Well~~ She did not make it. She was obliged to quit at the end of eight hours ~~in which she had covered~~ <sup>after swimming</sup> ~~ten~~ ten miles. That put her half way across the Channel. Then she signalled to the rowboat that was following her to take her in. The young lady when she isn't trying to swim the Channel is a stenographer ~~in~~ in London.

N.B.C.

ANDERSEN

Waldorf

I ran across an interesting character in the corridors of the Waldorf this afternoon. He is Captain Magnus Andersen, one of the foremost navigators of Norway. Captain Anderson is 76 years old and has been <sup>going down to the sea in ships for</sup> ~~at sea~~ fifty-five years.

When the 1893 World's Fair was on, the Columbian Exposition, Captain Anderson, with a small crew, sailed the ship Viking, an exact copy of the old open Viking ships used in Leif Erikson's time, all the way across the Atlantic. The voyage took forty-three days from Norway to New York. The Viking was one of the exhibits at Chicago forty years ago.

Waldorf.

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WEATHER

The eastern states are still sweltering in the heat wave.

But be of good cheer. Uncle Sam's Weather Bureau promises you a

cooler night. ~~then last night~~ I wish it would provide us farmers with some rain. We sure need it!

The official thermometer in New York registered

ninety-five degrees in the shade at three P. M., a hundred and

fifteen degrees in the sun. But added to this was that ~~the~~ <sup>dam</sup> blasted

humidity which went as high as forty-two ~~x~~ per cent. Again many

offices and plants closed down at noon.

N.B.C.

## BATHING SUIT

Now for a really timely item. It was a day just like today at a seaside resort, and a lady guest of one of the hotels appeared in the dining room at teatime in a bathing suit. Aw, oh! The waitress approached her and informed her that the manager said that guests were positively not allowed to have tea in their swimming costumes. To which the lady replied: "o - o - o is that so. Well, you toddle right back and tell your manager I absolutely refuse to take my bathing suit off."

London Humorist.

HOLD-UP

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A melodrama that recalls the palmyest days of the dime novel, of the James Boys and the Quantrell <sup>Gang,</sup> took place in Kansas early this morning. The exact location was the small town of Weir City. As the early risers in Weir City went to work today they were halted on the Main Street by armed men and herded into the jail. There they found the town marshal and the telephone operators. Before those bandits got through there were some twenty people in the Weir City calaboose and all of them most respectable citizens.

~~Those~~ <sup>Six</sup> bandits had done the job, a job which <sup>even</sup> Jesse James would ~~hardly have sneered at~~ <sup>have approved.</sup> The town marshal was the first one they captured. Once they had him safe in the coop they broke into the bank, took out the safe, loaded it on a truck, and drove away.

It was late this afternoon before the people who had been thrown into the jail were able to attract attention and get help. But half an hour after they did get ~~out~~ a posse was on the trail and a company of the Kansas National Guard was mobilized to help in the pursuit with the services of an airplane to boot. They

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soon discovered the truck with the safe aboard stuck in the mud near Coffeyville, Kansas. Yes sir the same Coffeyville, where the James Boys once ran wild. Well, the safe was recovered undamaged and the last thing I heard was that the bandits had been surrounded, but not taken prisoners.

N.B.C.

HUSBAND

<sup>a newspaper</sup>  
The Herald of Paintsville, Kentucky, reports a touching

episode. Deputy Sheriff Leonard Horn of Paintsville, was walking  
down the court house steps when he was accosted by a weeping

woman. Said she: "Oh <sup>oh oh - my poor</sup> Mr. Sheriff, ~~my~~ husband has disappeared."  
^ ^

Then she added: "Here is his picture. I want to find him. <sup>oh oh!</sup>"

The Deputy Sheriff gazed at the photograph, then looked  
up and said: "Why?"

Paintsville Herald



## HONEY

Whom would you select for the meanest man in the world?

The Journal Sentinel of Winston Salem, North Carolina, has a new candidate for this title.

A farmer near Winston Salem returned to his place ~~after~~  
~~a short absence~~ the other day and discovered that he had <sup>had</sup> a visitor  
in his absence. This visitor was a honey thief. He ~~was~~ not  
only had stolen honey, but had set fire to the hives. And to do  
this he had used the pages of a Bible. In order to ~~swipe~~ a few  
measly pounds of honey he destroyed thousands of bees, <sup>had</sup> ~~anyone of~~  
~~which was undoubtedly worth more than himself~~

Can you ~~imagine~~ match or surpass the Journal  
Sentinel's idea of the ~~W~~ world's meanest man.

Winston Salem Journal Sentinel

RACING

Here's something to excite the people who like to spend their money betting it on the ponies. A telephone message from Chicago predicts a racetrack scandal that involves almost every stable in the United States. That sounds like a tremendous order.

The investigators of Uncle Sam's narcotic Bureau have been doing a little prowling around the racetracks in the last few months. And evidently they've been extremely busy. Indeed they were making arrests as long ago as last September and their investigation has covered tracks around Chicago, New Orleans, Miami, Lexington, Laurel, Baltimore, and other places. Altogether twenty-five arrests were made at southern tracks alone.

Ralph Oyler, head of Uncle Sam's narcotic investigation says: "Shooting horses with dope before races has been a common practice practically everywhere." And now the government is ready to blow the lid off this scandal and reveal facts which will show people who bet just what they've been betting on.

N.B.C.

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## BASEBALL

Old timers among the baseball fans will be digging up memories of one old time star. You remember Billie Sullivan, the famous catcher of the White Sox in bygone days. Well, his son Billie, Jr. is going to take another whack at following in papa's footsteps. ~~For the third season~~ Billie will put on the mask for his father's club.

Hal Totten, N.B.C. baseball expert, tells me that Billie *each season has* ~~has always~~ started late because he wanted to finish his law school *work* at Notre Dame University. In his first season he played third base and piled up a record of making more errors than anybody else in the American League. ~~He~~ But they kept him in the line-up because of his ~~xxx~~ hitting. Last year young Billie Sullivan tried first base. After a few weeks of that Lew Fonsēca, manager of the White Sox shifted him into his father's old place behind the plate.

When it came to signing a new contract Billie stipulated that he should not have to catch. Well when he first joined the Club this season they tried him on first base again, but he did so poorly at that, that they told him he would either catch or go back to the bushes. So Billie Sullivan will catch.  
N.B.C.

JOHNSON

They have just been obliged to put in a special switch-board in General Hugh Johnson's office in the great Department of Commerce Building in Washington, and also additional telephone service in the Hotel Willard, adjacent to the Department of Commerce Building, where many of the public hearings are being held. General Hugh Johnson's phone is reputed to be the busiest in Washington these days. In fact, job hunters and code committees keep it hot.

CEMETERY ENDING

In a flying publication called SKY LINES I came across an odd item. A colored boy was strolling through a cemetery reading the inscriptions on the tombstones. He came to one which read "Not dead, just sleeping."

Scratching his head the negro boy remarked: "He sure ain't foolin' nobody but hisself."

My time's up now, and if I keep on broadcastin', I'll be foolin' nobody but myself, and talkin' to nobody but myself, so --

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.