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Once more Ireland has placed ~~xxx~~ England in a tough spot, but then Ireland has a way of doing that. This time it is something really delicate, a mighty fine point.

An Irish ~~xxx~~ minister is being sent to Rome, accredited to King Victor Emanuel. And both President DeValera and the Free State Parliament agreed that his Italian Majesty is to be styled ^l -- King and Emperor, recognizing him as Emperor of Ethiopia. This by inference emphasizes Mussolini's conquests, which London has refrained from doing.

Now -- London gets ~~it~~ into it this way. The credentials of the Irish minister to Rome must be signed by King George who is recognized ^{as} the sovereign of Ireland, though Dublin repudiates the authority of the British Government. If King George signs ^{that means} he recognizes King Emperor Victor Emanuel as Sovereign of Ethiopia, recognizes Mussolini's conquest.

Yet, he can hardly refuse to sign -- because it is

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no business of his English government.-- That's the Irish

view. *He will* ~~He can~~ affix his royal signature as sovereign of

Ireland acting for his Irish government. *All of which is* ~~None~~ of London's

business say the Irish.

So, we may find the British King recognizing

Mussolini's conquest of Ethiopia, which the British Empire

refuses to do. A neat Irish paradox.

CHINA

(The full story of the PANAY was finally available today. Official reports were filed by survivors in Shanghai. Three points are to be noted:-

First - it is completely confirmed that the attack was deliberate, and no accident. The Japanese planes bombed from high altitude and from low altitude. ^{also} ~~and~~ there was machine-gunning from the Japanese planes and Japanese ships. The American flag was plainly visible, flying all the time.)

Secondly - and here's something for thought by military students. The bombing first was from high altitude, some survivors say ten thousand feet. Yet the first two bombs scored hits. ^{One} struck the deck of the PANAY. The other may have hit in the water alongside, but it ^{also} ~~it~~ damaged the vessel. This is a reminder of the Spanish bombing of the German battleship DEUTSCHLAND ^{when} ~~then~~ two bombs were dropped and both scored direct hits. *Sky attack on war-ships seems to be effective.*

Thirdly - all reports feature the heroism of the American crew. With bombs bursting, [!]terrific explosions, [!]the sailors of

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the PANAY leaped to their guns. They could only fire machine guns, and one witness tells of bullet holes in the Japanese planes - which could be seen when they dived low. One officer of the PANAY was wounded in the throat and couldn't speak to give orders. He wrote his orders on a pad and handed them to the sailors.

Heroism aboard ~~the~~ United States warship - that becomes ^{the dominant} ~~a common~~ theme, as the story of the PANAY was rounded out today.

The latest is a dispatch from Admiral Yarnel, Commander of the American warships at Shanghai. He lists eleven of the survivors as wounded, five seriously, ~~wounded~~. All this adds to the diplomatic tension, which still continues.

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President Roosevelt waxed eloquent today - in one word. In fact, that one word constituted just about the whole press conference at the White House. The main thing discussed was the proposed Ludlow Amendment to the Constitution - which, except in case of actual attack and invasion, would forbid the United States government to declare war without taking a vote of the people.

~~How come,~~ Is that in accord with the principles of representative government? Does it jibe with the idea of the people acting through their representatives? That was what the President ~~is~~ was asked today, and his answer was not only eloquent, but also compendious and ~~con~~ⁱⁿclusive. Just one word, just one syllable - "No!"

The more one thinks about that war referendum idea, the more the logic seems to go this way:- The-League-of-Nations-stand against declarers of war ~~is~~^{has} merely promot~~ing~~ undeclared wars. So, if our Constitution were to forbid the declaration of war without a time taking referendum, our government might be put in a ~~dilemma~~ dilemma which might persuade it to wage war without declaring it. "Peace, it's wonderful!" as Father Divine says.

But you have a tough time promoting it. War is easy to promote

but you have a tough time ^{when you've got it.} ~~to get it~~ Well, maybe some day we'll

have Utopia.

WASHINGTON

Today Congress dragged on with its debates, wrangling about the Farm Bill and the Wage-Hour Bill. The White House is urging - "get it over with, get it to a vote."

The Farm Bill is ready for final debate--^(but) there won't be so much debate apparently. The lawmakers have agreed to cut it down. Senator Barkley, the Democratic leader, said: "Boys, let's limit the eloquence." And they agreed - a unanimous agreement that no senator shall orate for more than one 5-minute period. In that way they expect to get through before Christmas.

GOVERNMENT FINANCE

(Today, the public debt of the United States hit a new high peak. Thirty-seven billion, five hundred and sixty-two million dollars.) That's how much Uncle Sam owes - more than he ever owed before. This we learn as the six month period of the Treasury ^fiscal year draws to a close. And ~~there's~~ ^{it's} nothing to holler Hallelujah about.

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However, we find a bit of a paradox when we ^scan the other figures the Treasury Department released today. Expenses for the six month period - three billion four hundred million. Last year for the same period - three billion one hundred million. Expenses went up this year. Income for the six month period - two billion seven hundred million. For the same period last year - one billion eight hundred million. Government income also went up. In the red this year, six hundred and eighty-eight million dollars. In the red last year one billion two hundred million. We're running less in the red this year than we did last.

So, why the increase in the public debt? Why the headline-
"Public Debt hits an all-time high?" The answer is that the Treasury sold an issue of bonds which pushed the debt figure up.

When they pay off some bonds, as they're soon going to do, the *debt* figure will shrink, ~~the debt~~. So today's record-breaking peak of public debt is soon to be lowered a little. Let's hope so.

CROPS FOLLOW GOVERNMENT FINANCE

Figures don't sound so musical, but let's have some more of them -- for these will be sweet and tuneful to the agricultural ear. Farm income this year - eight billion, five hundred million. Last year it was seven billion, eight hundred and twentymillion. In the depths of the depression, Nineteen Thirty-Two, it was four billion, three hundred million. It is almost double since then -- according to figures given out today by the Department of Agriculture. In the recession farm income doesn't seem to have receded so much.

But here's one gentleman who has receded -- right into jail. He's a New York promotor whose scheme should warn investors. He took in half a million dollars from fifteen hundred people. His company was supposed to invest the money in high grade securities. He did invest the cash, but on his own account. Instead of buying stocks for the benefit of the people who put their money in, he margined stocks in a gambling game of his own.

He guessed wrong, he didn't foresee the recession -- the decline of the market. And the half a million dollar investment of those fifteen hundred people was wiped out. They lost their money, the promotor lost his liberty, for a while -- arrested today.

REPUBLICANS

The newly appointed chairman of the newly formed Republican policy committee got an immediate cheer today. "Most admirable," said the man who was most responsible for the idea of having the G.O.P. draw up a pre-campaign declaration of principle and policy. And that means Herbert Hoover of course. The ex-President, who must regard the whole business as his own brainchild, declared that Glenn Frank will be most admirable as chairman of the one hundred Republican leaders who will proclaim the new gospel of Republicanism.

Glenn Frank of course is remembered as the President of the University of Wisconsin who got out after a controversy with the La Follette group that dominates Wisconsin politics. He has been a foremost G.O.P. speaker for a long time -- usually classed as a liberal, though ex-President Hoover refused to comment on that angle.

Today he was asked: "Is Glenn Frank a Liberal?" To which he replied: "I don't know how you classify people these days." He doesn't -- and neither do most of us. How old is Anne, Who killed Cock Robin? And what is a Liberal?

ALCATRAZ

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Last night's excitement about Alcatraz turns into a mystery today -- no sign of the two convicts who escaped from the escape-proof prison. The only ^{clear sign is} ~~clue~~ how they got out. They were working in a shop where prisoners make mats. They broke through a window, climbed ~~xxx~~ down the steep rocky slope of the island fortress, and forced an iron gate there ~~x~~ with a jimmy. That took them to the water's edge. What then? Nobody knows.

The prison authorities today make no mention of the ^{— perhaps an underworld speedboat —} possibility that a boat [^] may have been waiting for them -- presumably [^] ~~ix~~ any such boat would have been seen by the guards on the walls. ~~The~~ Only two other possibilities remain. The escapers may have found refuge in one of the caves that honeycomb the cliff-like sides of Alcatraz Island. Today the prison authorities ~~ix~~ pointed out that these caves are submerged at high tide -- and ^{anybody} ~~xxx~~ [^] in them would be drowned. The other possibility is -- swimming to the mainland. more than a mile away -- not too far for a powerful swimmer. But the prison authorities pointed ~~ed~~ out -- that the water is exceedingly cold, that the current

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runs swiftly between the island and the shore and it was so foggy yesterday that a swimmer would be likely to lose his direction.

So the Alcatraz assumption tonight is that the two escaping convicts, a robber and a kidnapper -- were drowned.

But if they weren't they'd like it thought that they were!

WRECK

A railroad wreck without fatalities. On the Pere Marquette near Detroit, train derailed. Three coaches went smashing down a five foot embankment. Passengers were tossed about for a terrifying experience -- twenty injured.

In Bolivia eight persons were killed -- that was a plane crash. An airliner -- not American -- flying across the Andes flew straight into a mountainside -- with the usual fatal shattering results.

And England had a tragedy of military aviation. Royal Air Force planes were flying at Chichester. Two fighting craft collided in the air, both pilots killed.

SHIPS

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Tonight the United States liner PRESIDENT HOOVER is ^{still} aground on the rocks off the island of Formosa - ~~and~~ ^{as} she has been for some days. Aboard the ship is part of the crew, sailors, firemen, engine room workers - helping in the work of salvage. By wireless they heard about the accusations that ^{some of the} passengers have made - of drunkenness, rowdiness and abuse by some of the crew during the time of shipwreck, peril and rescue. They've also heard of the declarations by Senator Copeland. Today, for example, the New York lawmaker declared that the Senate Maritime Committee will investigate charges of sailor insubordination and drunkenness aboard the HOOVER - a formal senatorial ^{inquiry} ~~inquiry~~.

Furthermore, the New York Senator ~~xx~~ declared he would recommend that no government money be put into merchant ship construction until we ^{have} straightened out labor relations on ships at sea - discipline.

To all of this a reply is made today by the men still aboard the grounded liner. They sent a message to the ~~AMERICAN~~ Marine Firemen's Union, which reads: "We, the remaining crew in all

departments deny drunkenness or abuse of passengers. We remained aboard throughout and performed ^{our} duty at all times, which is confirmed by ship's officers. We demand retraction of Copeland accusation." So reads the declaration.

Well, it's to be pointed out that the story we had yesterday made no charge against the crew in ^{general}. It said that most of the men kept discipline, while about a dozen misbehaved.

Yesterday we found that our own American labor troubles at sea were matched by British difficulties of the same sort - a strike on a Bermuda liner. Tonight we find that our own mishap of the American liner on a reef is matched by a similar British misadventure. Off the coast of South Africa, a British passenger ship ran on the rocks today. It's a Blue Star liner and its name is STUART STAR. **And It** seems to be a bit ill-starred, for tonight the big ^{boat} ~~bulk~~ is firmly jammed on a reef. Passengers have been taken ashore. The crew is staying aboard - for tonight the sea is calm and the sky is clear off the coast of South Africa.

ITALIAN FLOOD

Here's a bit of foreign news about a flood and a river, and a bridge that is in danger. Not a big river, not a big bridge - it's only the historic memories that are great. For it's the River Tiber, and the Milvian Bridge.

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The Tiber is rather small and yellow and unimpressive, but it was made immortal by the Eternal City. The Milvian Bridge is ~~not~~ neither long nor grandiose, but it's Rome's oldest span across the river, the ancient masonry rebuilt and repaired time after time through the ages. And it's Rome's most historic bridge, for it was there that Constantine won the Roman Empire and became the first Christian Emperor. At the Battle of the Milvian Bridge Constantine saw in the sky a Cross, with the legend - "In this sign thou shalt conquer!"

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Today's dispatch from Rome says it has been raining for the past twenty-four hours, a heavy torrent. The Tiber is rising swiftly, and is threatening to overflow into the streets. And the Roman bridges are threatened, even the modern ones. The menace is the greatest to the oldest - the Milvian Bridge, where with the sign of the Cross Constantine conquered.

ELECTION

Hot election news. First returns in, big returns. It's that Soviet election -- the first count has been made. The big idea was for everybody to go to the polls and vote in that democratic festival of the ballot. Today's dispatch from Moscow tells us how many did vote, 94 million were qualified, and nearly all cast their ballots -- 91 million of them did.

Now, all that remains is to find out how those 91 million voted, although it's easy to guess. In Russia people don't vote against Red Dictator Stalin. What, never? Well, hardly ever -- as they say in "Pinafore." *and s-l-u-Monday.*

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