

Good Evening, Everybody:-

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Let's begin with ^a~~the~~ weather report. It's foggy around here, ^{warm}~~medium temperatures~~ in the Middle West, ~~was~~ ^{medium} down in Texas -- and there's a violent storm on Jupiter. Yes, the planet Jupiter. An immense and terrific tempest is blasting that distant heavenly body, millions of miles away from us. The atmosphere of ^aJupiter is swirling with a raging violence over an area two thousand miles wide and ~~two~~ twenty thousand miles long.

This ^{astral}~~planetary~~ weather report comes from the astronomers who are studying a white patch of disturbance that has appeared near the Equator of Jupiter, and they explain that it is a planetary tornado that will make our ~~terrestrial~~ ^{terrestrial} hurricanes and typhoons seem like ^agentle zephyr in June.

Some more talk about the weather comes from the scientists who have been studying a giant sun spot, a sun spot sixteen thousand miles wide which appeared recently on the

eastern rim of the solar disc. And they say that is what has been causing the unseasonable weather of late, the high winds -- and in the far west an unusually hot spring.

Along with this we find the English newspapers complaining about a protracted drought in England. A drought on John Bull's rainy island is just about like a flood in the Sahara Desert. The Thames and the Avon and the Humber and all those other rivers famous in song and story are way down and the water supply is low in many places. They say that unless they have a real old-fashioned moist and rainy English summer conditions may become serious. Maybe that's because of the sun spot. Maybe that dark spot on the sun may also be the cause of the giant storm on Jupiter.

The effect of sun spots on our earthly weather has been a fascinating theory. And it would be supremely fascinating if science could show that the sun spots have a governing effect on the weather of all the planets of the solar system.

PARIS

A storm on Jupiter. Yes, and a storm in France --
a human storm.

Some of the French Communists ought to take a look
at the calendar. May Day is over. But they don't seem to
know it. A force of two thousand extra police are still on
guard, following a pitched battle in the streets of Paris early
this morning.

I just learned an interesting thing about May Day.
I thought it was a European invention, but it's nothing of the
sort. The man who established May the first as a day of
demonstration for labor was the late Samuel Gompers who for
such a long time was head of the American Federation of Labor.
European Socialists took it up at the urgent persuasion of
Gompers, and the Communists followed suit.

GERMANY

It was certainly a sharp and drastic retort that Germany's Hitlerite government made to the burning of that big hall in Augsburg on May Day. Berlin has promulgated a decree, adding to the number of ~~fff~~ offenses punishable in the Fatherland by death. Capital punishment is to be inflicted for all acts of treason against the state.

More significant still are the changes made by Chancellor Hitler's men in German court procedure. These changes make it look as though people accused of treason will have a hard time being acquitted. They will be tried by a court consisting partly of laymen. ~~Only two of the judges need to be actually jurists.~~ This means that ~~xx~~ prominent and devout Nazis will sit on the bench to try people accused of offenses against the Nazi government.

That looks bad for two Communist leaders who have been held in jail for months awaiting trial for treason. One of these two is Ernst Torgler, who was acquitted last year of having set fire to the Reichstag. Despite his acquittal, he is still in jail and will soon have to undergo another trial.

SPAIN

It seems strange to hear of Socialist leaders speaking in favor of political persecutions. Yet that is what the attitude of the Socialists in the Spanish Cortes looks like. When Spain's Parliament reassembled, one of the principal speeches was an attack on the Amnesty Bill, the bill that let hundreds of political prisoners out of prison and cut short the exile of nine thousand more. It was this bill that led to the resignation of the Cabinet of Senor Lerroux. ~~The new Premier, Ricardo Samper, defended his predecessor and said his own program would be the same as that of the Lerroux Cabinet.~~

Evidently, the new government is firmly in the saddle , because the Cortes gave it a vote of confidence, two hundred and seventeen to forty-seven.

CUBA

Ex-President Machado of Cuba, wherever he is hiding, must be exceedingly interested in the news from Havana. While the General is dodging Uncle Sam's agents, one of his principal enemies is in hot water. Probably he will chuckle over the information that Colonel Batista, the head of the Cuban Army, has been cited for contempt by the Supreme Court of that Republic. The precise offense is that he refused to turn over to the civil authorities two of his men accused of murder.

Does this mean that some members of the Mendieta government are after the scalp of the former sergeant who has become the military big shot of Cuba? Naturally, he is not liked any too well by the former officers of the army, many of them graduates of our own West Point. Batista has made no secret of his opinion of regular army officers. So when he is brought to trial for contempt, there ought to be some fireworks.

BEAR

I see there was a lot of excitement in the Central
Park Zoo in New York when a big bear got loose and went charging
along, driving people right and left. Nobody seriously hurt.
Those are the "bear" facts. ~~All of which reminds me that~~

BEAR

All of which reminds me that I have heaped up in my office a whole stack of letters and telegrams on a subject that I haven't mentioned lately - that bear of mine. They've piled up in my absence. All sorts of questions and suggestions.

A communication from Peggy Lou Carns of Altoona, Pennsylvania, reads this way, "I am a little girl seven years old. Tell me how your bear is? Does it like to play? Or is it a big bear?"

It isn't so big as bears go, Peggy, and whether it likes to play or not - I don't know. Nobody has gone into the cage to strike Mr. Bear's nose or tickle his ears.

"You talk of your bear that won't sleep", wires Selma Adams. "But what about my duck that won't take a bath?"

The thing that bothers me now is - what shall I name the bear? He's frisky and lively and I feel he should have a name. But what shall it be? What name should a bear bear?

YEMEN

The king of coffee is dead. And the kingdom of coffee is in trouble. Certainly the honor of being called the coffee monarchy must be given to the fabulous land of the Yemen, with its famous city of Mocha, the name of which stands as the symbol and pride of the fragrant brown bean that gives us our morning libation. The Zaidi Iman Yahya, the Lord of Yemen, has died, not at the height of his fortune, but at the depth of his misfortune. Tonight he is among the Houris of Paradise. And he might better be there than in his own fair kingdom of coffee -- for Ibn Saud, the fanatical, is raging with the terror of war in the land of Yemen.

Few corners of the earth are more legendary and fascinating than that southwest section of the great Arabian peninsula. The Yemen, were the desert blooms like a rose is a land of that mysterious conquering race of ancient times, the Sabians. For an age it has flourished as the original garden of coffee.

Its king, its Iman, reigned for many a year as a great potentate of that remote region. But out there in that peninsula of desert camels and romance is Ibn Saud, ruler of

YEMEN

the Wahabis, those fierce Puritans of modern Arabia. And Ibn Saud has built an empire of the desert and threatens to seize everything in Arabia. And it was the hard luck of the Iman of Yemen, just as it once was the hard luck of King Hussem of Mecca, to get into difficulties with Ibn Saud. A war has been raging for some time now, strangely enough such modernities as airplanes, radio and tanks have played their part in that war of the primitive desert. Ibn Saud, the Puritan, went modern. And Ibn Saud is the conqueror. The fighting men of the Yemen have been beaten and disorganized. And right now the land of coffee is the spoil of the enemy, while as usual, British warships are standing off the coast ready to guard British interests. And the Iman of the Yemen may well have felt that this climax of disaster was a good time to pass along to the gardens and fountains of Paradise where the gazelle-eyed maidens smile upon the Faithful.

JAPAN

Here's Japan again. I thought we were all through with Far Eastern affairs for a few days. But here the Mikado's realm crops up again. Not in a warlike way this time, --- though there is talk of trade war.

Both England and Uncle Sam have become tremendously exercised over the tremendous gains made by Japanese commerce. The clever men of Nippon are taking our markets away from us in many places of the world, particularly South America, the Philippines and India.

Last year Japanese exports to Argentina and Brazil were doubled; to Peru, Chile and Uruguay, quadrupled; and over the rest of South America they increased three hundred per cent. The Japanese are under-selling us in the Philippines; and under-selling John Bull in the vast market in India with its 350,000, 000 buyers.

The British Cabinet is worried to the point of threatening to confine the Nipponese to trade quotas in all the King's realm. And the United States Chamber of Commerce now meeting in Washington is also concerned.

N.R.A.

There is one angle of General Johnson's address to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce that impresses me particularly. And it will encourage a great many business men; The General went on record against price-fixing, which has been a dangerous feature of the reign of the Blue Eagle.

At the same time the General was making his announcement, an ironic coincidence occurred on Staten Island, New York. It was rather similar to that of the tailor in Jersey City who went to jail because he pressed a suit of clothes for thirty-five cents instead of the code price of forty. On Staten Island a small lumber man is being punished because he sold a screen door for seven dollars and fifty cents, in violation of the price fixed by the Code. Yes, General Johnson, that's price-fixing.

But, the N.R.A. Administration is apparently sold on the idea that you can catch more flies with molasses than with vinegar. ~~Persuasion~~ Persuasion, not force, is to be the order of the day. The General admits that the Blue Eagle will have not only his tail feathers but his wing feathers plucked unless given public support.

CODE (FOLLOW N.R.A.)

And Mr. Henry I. Harriman, President of the United States Chamber of Commerce, made a singularly apt prophecy. He predicted, among other things, that the courts would refuse to permit the Code authorities "to make rules for the local butcher baker, and barber," as he put it.

And here too we find a coincidence. While Mr. Harriman was making that prophecy, it had already come true. A federal judge in Louisville, Kentucky, was restraining the government from enforcing the Soft Coal Code on mine owners in Kentucky who did not care for it. "Congress has no power to regulate local business affairs" said the Judge in effect. And among the other important events was a slashing attack on the New Deal by Silas Strawn, Chicago's leading light of the law.

MONEY

Uncle Sam woke up this morning with the comfortable discovery that he doesn't owe as much money as he thought he did. Still, the public debt is quite a sum, just a little matter of twenty-six billion^s. However, ^{even that's} ~~that is much~~ better than twenty-nine billion^s!

In the last ten months, the Treasury shelled out something over six billions, and this is ^{only} a little bit more than half what was ~~estimated~~ ^{expected}.

But let ~~us~~ ^{us} not cheer too soon. We are spending nineteen million dollars a day! [!] And, the Treasury is collecting only eight. Try that on your adding machine.

SILVER

The late William Jennings Bryan, as any school child knows, once made the ringing statement, "You shall not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold!" If he were alive, he would undoubtedly cheer the action of Senator Thomas of Oklahoma, who seems to be trying to crucify the Administration supporters in the Senate on a cross of silver. After the President and his followers have done their best to sidestep silver legislation during this session, the gentleman from Oklahoma threw a monkey wrench into the machinery. The Senators were peacefully discussing the Loan Bill of Senator Glass, which would authorize the government to make large loans to suffering industries. In ^{Senator} rushed ~~Mr.~~ Thomas with an amendment which would remonetize silver.

There are sixteen points in his plan, and ^{all of them} ~~whatever else it~~ *have the gleaming white glint of silver.* ~~might do, if it became law, it would certainly bring joy to the~~ hearts of the silver states of the Union.

KIDNAP

Another chapter is being written in the harrowing story of little eight year old June Robles, who was kidnapped in Arizona. Incidentally, in this new chapter there is a ~~touching~~ gesture of friendship from Mexico to Uncle Sam. The government of our neighbor to the south has joined in the hunt for the abducted little girl. Governor Villareal of the State of Tamaulipas has mobilized the agents of his secret service and ordered them to comb the countryside along the border. *The Mexicans are pushing the man-hunt while the American authorities, at the request of the parents, are inactive -- waiting.* There is still no word from the kidnappers. The family

have had no news about the child, although they have widely advertised the fact that the fifteen thousand dollar ransom money is all ready ~~in~~ in five, ten and twenty dollar bills.

This case is ^{an} exceptionally pitiful ^{instance of} ~~an~~ that common feature of kidnappings, the helplessness of both relatives and authorities.

Slow

~~I feel~~ I have a personal interest in this story
from ^{the grand old State of} Kentucky. ^{Ruby} Governor ^{Lafoon} has received threatening
letters demanding that he pardon a certain criminal. One
letter was signed "Dillinger Squad #13." A guard has been
put on duty at the Governor's mansion. I observe it's a squad
of police. You'd suppose it would be a guard of Kentucky
Colonels. With all of those ^{he has appointed,} Colonels ^{of his} the Governor
of Kentucky ought to be able to defend himself ^{even} against Dillinger
and ^{and Jesse James and} Napoleon ^{rolled} into one.

The Governor has issued a formal statement concerning
those threatening letters. "All I need is five minutes' notice
if anyone makes an attempt on my life," he declares. "I'll
outrun them in spite of my game leg."

What I want to know is why the Governor of Kentucky
should talk about running when he has all those Kentucky
Colonels to summon to his aid. I'm one of them, and I'm willing
to do my duty. I'm willing to lead a thousand or two of my
fellow Kentucky colonels, and we'll walk right up to Dillinger
and say -- SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.