

Good Evening, Everybody:

It seems to have been just like old times in the new German parliament today. ^{Mr.} ~~Mr.~~ Knickerbocker cabled the New York Evening Post that (fists swung, chair legs were brandished, ink wells and books flew all over the Chamber of the Reichstag.) ~~fact~~

As the Post points out, for the first twenty-four hours of its life the new parliament was the best behaved ~~He~~ ^{He} ~~parliament~~ ^{parliament} ~~of this~~ ^{of} year (I've lost track ^{of} how many German parliaments have been elected this year.)

At any rate, the Reichstag today returned to its pugilistic tradition. (The Hitlerites and the Communists, finding words too feeble to express their feelings, took off their coats and just let themselves go.) The fighting began in the galleries. But the members soon followed ~~this~~ ^{this} example. ~~of the spectators.~~ The vice-president who was

LEAD - 2

presiding, rang his bell in vain until a crowd of Hitlerites and Communists swept him off his feet.

In fact, the din was so tremendous that nobody could hear the presiding officer when he declared the meeting suspended. So the fighting went on anyway.

An amusing feature of the row was that its origin was in the diplomats gallery which was supposed to be full of only sober ambassadors and attaches. Evidently, ^a ~~xx~~ Communist sympathizers had sneaked in among the ambassadors.

At a certain remark made by one of the speakers this Communist - he could hardly have been one of the ambassadors - gave vent to a loud hiss. That started it. The Hitlerite deputies in their storm troop uniforms swept down upon the Communists whom they outnumbered two to one. But the Reds defended themselves valiantly. ^{According to} ~~says~~ the report - One of them tore a telephone from the wall and broke it over the head of

^a
~~the~~ ~~xxx~~ Hitlerite deputy. Not only books and ink wells flew
^
through the room, but there was a veritable rain of spittoons
and ashtrays.

The fighting lasted a full half hour, and it
looked as though the police would have to be called in. But
finally the cooler heads among the deputies realized that the
riot was giving the government an excuse for dissolving the
parliament. So the battle ended as suddenly as it had begun.

DEBTS

The European debt puzzle, it seems, has brought the French government to the verge of a crisis. A story in the New York World Telegram announces that the knowledge that Italy and Great Britain are ready to pay the instalments due next week has sent the franc toppling down and the American dollar up. — *still going up today.*

The situation in Paris appears to be decidedly mixed. On the one hand the British are urging the French to pay Uncle Sam. Furthermore, John Bull says that if France pays Uncle Sam ~~she will have to pay~~ ~~that~~ France need not pay the instalment due the English, *that is right now,* ~~at the same time as~~ ~~the Americans.~~

On the other hand Premier Herriot will get into a jam with his parliament if he pays the U.S.A. A majority of the deputies are vehemently opposed to the payment. And the French Prime Minister is not anxious to lose his job.

Mr. Herriot told the reporters that his cabinet had ~~not~~ yet made no definite decision on the debt problem.

MITCHELL

The beer question which is now up before Congress was unexpectedly enlivened today by the Attorney General of the United States. Mr. Mitchell sent in his report in which he urged Congress if it intends to change the prohibition laws to change them "as quickly as possible." He adds the warning that if Congress delays action it will increase the crime problem through the country.

For the rest no substantial progress was made by Congress in this direction. The Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives began its hearings on Chairman Collier's bill to legalize the manufacture and sale of beer.

10
The principal witnesses today were ~~xxxx~~ representatives of the brewing interests. Among those present was Colonel Jake Ruppert, ^{picturesque} owner of the New York ~~Giants~~ ^{Yankees} — Babe Ruth's ^{boss.}

Attorneys for the brewers told the committee that the legalization of beer would immediately ~~put~~ put at least three hundred thousand men to work.

HOOVER

President Hoover today sent another message to the Congress. In this the President set forth the details of the economies that he urged upon senators and representatives in yesterday's message.

As the ^{Phila Evening Ledger}~~New York Evening Post~~ points out, the budget Mr. Hoover proposes entails net reductions of some 582 million dollars in Uncle Sam's expenditures. The ^{dispatch}~~Evening Post~~ declares that to accomplish these reductions Mr. Hoover handed Congress more political dynamite than in any previous message he has sent. He demanded cuts in allowances to veterans amounting to 127 millions. As outlined yesterday he demanded a reduction in salaries of all Federal employees earning more than a thousand ~~xx~~ a year:- This in addition to the cuts already imposed on ~~them~~ them. He slashes public works appropriations, also allowances to states for highways. Mr. Hoover ^{again} suggests a manufacture sales tax of two-and-a-quarter per cent, and ^{the continuation of}~~he wants~~ the Federal tax on gasoline ^{for}~~continued~~ another year.

Secretary of the Treasury Mills also sent in his annual report. In this the Secretary showed that Uncle Sam's deficit in June will be one billion, 146 million. Mr. Mills points out that the nuisance taxes have been a failure.

RUSSIA

8

Some rather astonishing news on the subject of Russia comes today from Washington. A dispatch to the Brooklyn Times Union reports that a majority of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is ^{now} in favor of Uncle Sam recognizing the Soviet Government. This, as everybody knows, has been a point of serious discussion among not only politicians but American business men for years. Hitherto the Senate has stood firmly against any diplomatic relations between Uncle Sam and the Soviet. Today a canvass of the Foreign Relations Committee shows that nine of its members, including Chairman Borah of Idaho, are in favor of recognizing Russia. Five are positively against, ~~while~~ seven are on the fence.

HUNGER MARCHERS

Well, the hunger marchers in Washington turned out to be like the famous king who marched his army up a hill and marched them down again.

A dispatch to the New York Sun reports that the marchers evacuated Washington. To call them marchers is hardly accurate, because they all came and went quite comfortably in trucks.

REQUIEM

A remarkable musical performance took place in Berlin today. A musician was on trial for killing his wife. He was convicted and the judge asked him whether he had anything to say before he was sentenced. Said the musician: "I would like to play my trumpet for the last time."

Well, the request was granted. In a hushed courtroom the musician played the famous air from Verdi's Rigoletto, ~~La~~ La Donna ^a E Mobile, which, as many people know, means - how fickle is woman.

7

BUSINESS

Now for an item that ought to encourage us. A report in the Automotive Daily News informs us that the output of automobiles in Detroit for November is twenty per cent. higher than that in the preceding month. The same paper has a dispatch from ^{New York}~~Detroit~~ quoting a big financial ^{ng}~~ing~~ company to the effect that the outlook for 1933 in the motor industry is exceedingly hopeful. Millions of people want new cars, says the report, and enough millions actually need them to provide one of the greatest markets we have thus far seen.

MURDER

That murder mystery out in Long Beach, California, ^{that I told}

^{about last night} is on the point of being solved. That is, so say the police. The clue was given by the widow of the ~~exit~~ colorful adventurer who among other occupations, used to be a German spy. The police are looking for an English sailor whom the so-called Captain Wanderwell is believed to have discharged in Panama after an argument about wages.

(6) The Lord Edward Montague who ^{was} ~~is~~ among the guests aboard Wanderwell's yacht and arrested as a material witness, is now said to be the second son of the Duke of Manchester. His mother was Helena Zimmerman of Cincinnati.

CHEST

By the same token there's quite a murder mystery in New York. The New York Sun reports that the clue in this case is a toy cedar chest. The victim was a fifty-eight year old bachelor who was found murdered in his apartment. Clutched in his hand was the toy chest which he had told friends he intended to use to keep valuable papers.

MARRIAGE

now for a

~~Here's an interesting~~ matrimonial item. ~~It~~

it comes

~~comes~~ Curiously enough from the Medical School of Northwestern

University. A lecturer in that school advises his students

if they are thinking of marriage, to let the girl do the

"Young men —

proposing. Said this doctor: "Marry the girl who chooses

you. As a rule the girls choose well. Woman is conservative

and less apt to marry on short notice." And the doctor

added: "Too many people marry out of ~~curiosity~~xxx

curiosity, just as ~~they go for~~ a joy ride in an airplane

to see what it's like."

5-

CATHOLIC GUILD

An unusual development was reported today in the theatrical world. It is sponsored by the Catholic Actors Guild. This guild is organizing a circuit of church theatres. Several hundreds of churches have halls and ~~halls~~ auditoriums which are capable of housing good stage ~~production~~ production.⁵

The idea is to form companies which will tour these church halls and auditoriums with suitable plays.

This would not only provide work for unemployed actors. It would also help the poor of the various parishes in which these performances are to be given.

It may be recalled that once upon a time it was no unusual thing for theatrical performances to be given in churches and cathedrals. In fact, ~~the~~ ^{originally} shows were organized and produced by the clergy themselves. ~~In fact,~~ In the Middle Ages, as historians tell us, the church was the mainstay of the theatre, or rather, I should say, the only theatrical performances known in those times were given by the clergy.

4

well, Gilbert T. Hodges, one of the heads of the New York Sun, reminded me today that this is the fiftieth birthday of

the Argosy; fifty years ago a young man named Frank Munsey,

who had come from Maine with forty dollars in cash and

boundless enthusiasm, launched ^a ~~the~~ magazine. Its first serial

was entitled "Do and Dare," or "A Brave Boy's Fight for Fortune."

The author was Horatio Alger, Jr. *And the name of the magazine?*

during those 50 yrs.
Others who wrote for the magazine were Oliver Optic,

G. A. Henty, Sydney Porter, before he started using the pen name

Branch
O. Henry; also James ~~Brink~~ Cabell, Ellis Parker Butler, Ella

Wheeler Wilcox, Mary Roberts Rinehart, Channing Pollock, Jesse

Lasky, Zane Grey, Edgar Rice Burroughs, E. Phillips Oppenheim,

and so on. *My friend* ~~The famous~~ Bob Davis was editor for years.

Fifty years! That's ~~a lot~~ longer than most
magazines survive in this country.

HEAD

3

You may have heard of big game hunters who do their hunting by mail. That is to say, there are gentlemen who like to adorn their houses with the heads of mighty antlered deer, moose and big horned sheep. ~~The~~ An investigation sometimes brings it to light that they have bought these decorations. In fact, some men make collections of heads without ever having pulled the trigger of a rifle.

Well, a story in the New York Sun relates that for a long time the record set of sheep horns existed up in Bronxville. A New York banker who is also an expert game hunter and ~~also~~ an expert on heads, heard about this and went to examine them. They certainly were a superb looking pair of horns. The owner had paid no less than thirty-five hundred dollars for them. But when the experts examined them, what did they discover? That magnificent set of horns was entirely synthetic. They were not the horns of wild sheep at all. Common or Garden domestic rams had furnished the ^{wool} horns.

~~THESE~~ They had been neatly and ~~most~~ skilfully dove-tailed and glued together so as to produce this record size.

~~IT~~ It seems there are people who make it their business to fool collectors in this way. They fake the heads of mule deer, big horned sheep, mountain goats, caribou, ^{hartebeest, impala, ibex, ~~oryx~~ ^{ovis poli} and so on,} ~~and what have you.~~ The profit in the racket became so large that one taxidermist in New York ~~city~~ set up a regular factory of synthetic heads.

2

MA

Well, who should be back in the news again but our dear old friend General Ma. You may remember that we had the famous motherly Chinese General and hero dead and buried several times. ^{Several} ~~Two~~ months ago, if I remember rightly, the

General had returned to his ^{celestial} fore-fathers, ~~and fore-mamas~~ ^{in fact General} Ma had gone to join his ^{celestial} ma-ma.

But today a dispatch to the New York Herald Tribune announces that the Japanese Foreign Office admits that this so often resuscitated officer - I think he ought to be Al Jolson's favorite general - is alive once ^{again. At} ~~more well, at~~ any rate, he's alive.

The Japanese were rather proud when they announced a few months ago that he'd been killed in a battle north of Harbin. Evidently they ~~xxxxx~~ got the wrong man in that battle.

General ^{now} Ma has joined forces with the Chinese rebel General Su. Evidently ~~this~~ ^{is} ~~worthy~~ ^{Ma} patriot is indestructible. ~~He~~

~~ought to be the hero of a new Many song for Al Jolson.~~

PANTS

There's an old proverb about the man who laughs last.

A story which comes from Chicago today brings it to mind.

A Chicago gentleman named Joseph Drouse was aroused early

this morning by a knocking at his front door. When he

opened it he found on his doorstep his cousin, Mr. Charles

Gurke. Mr. ^{Sherkin}~~Gurke~~ - I mean Gurke - stood there shivering

in his underwear.

The sight of his relative's plight struck Mr. Drouse as funny, and he exclaimed: "Ha, ha, ha, what the deuce happened to you?"

And the cousin ^{chattered in reply} ~~exclaimed~~: "I ^{g-g-got} ~~got~~ robbed. Three

^{+ - + - +} fellows [^] took my money, my clothes, ^{p - p - p -} my pants, everything except my shoes and underwear. Let me in, I'm ^{c - c - c} cold."

As he let the cousin in, Mr. Drouse said once more: "Ha, ha, ha, ~~xxxx~~ that sure is funny. Come on in."

Then said Mr. Gurke: "Oh, you think it's funny, do you. ~~well~~ you know ^{your} ~~that~~ automobile ^{that} you loaned me ^{well,} ~~they~~ took that too." ^{And so long until t-t-t. morrow.}
~~The question is which part of the episode is the funnier.~~