

Good Evening, Everybody:

(Well, the Lame Duck session of the 72nd Congress of the United States convened today and got right down to business. And the very first shot out of the box was ~~that~~ ~~the~~ Speaker Garner's resolution for the repeal of the 18th Amendment. ^{It was defeated---} ~~was~~ lost by five votes. The score was 271 for outright repeal, and 144 against. ^{That's} ~~while this is~~ a large majority; ^{but it was} ~~it is~~ five votes short of the two-thirds necessary to carry a repeal resolution.)

The New York World Telegram declares that this ^{that} means ^{for} the last chance ^{for} a wet victory in this short session of Congress is gone. At the same time it is pointed out that this Congress which has voted 271 wet to 144 dry was elected in 1930 as a bone dry Congress.

The preliminary debate lasted only forty minutes. The galleries were packed as they ~~only~~ ^{only} are ^{only} on such exciting occasions as this. The correspondent of the New York

Sun points out that the House of Representatives broke all tradition by getting right down to business before so much as receiving President Hoover's message.

As for ^{it} the Senate, ^{--- simply} did no business ~~but~~ ^{- adjourned} adjourned immediately after convening, [^] out of respect to deceased members. ~~of that party.~~

(While Congress was meeting, three thousand hunger marchers were trying to organize a demonstration. But they were fooled by the police who prevented any approach to the capitol.) And the hungry ones had to take out their discontent in booing the cops. Vice-president Curtis agreed to receive a deputation of three, ~~But that is~~ as far as the marchers got.

WALKER

~~It~~ It turned out this afternoon that Senator Walker's sensational trip through the air from Denver to Washington was all in vain. Senator Walker, ^{is the man who} ~~it may be~~ ~~remembered~~, was appointed by the Governor of Colorado to fill the seat of Senator Waterman who died last summer. ^{FP} In the recent election Senator Walker, a Democrat, was defeated by Senator Schuyler, a Republican.)

But owing to a delay in the certification of the election, Senator Schuyler's credentials were not ready. So Senator Walker took this express trip by airplane in order to ^{help his party} ~~have a majority~~ in the Senate and enable them to organize a Democratic Senate.

~~But~~ When Senator Walker got there, he took his seat, but Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, ^{the Democratic leader} ~~is a Democrat, later~~ said he would make no attempt to take over control ~~of that body~~ of the Senate at this session. As ^{he} ~~the Senator~~ pointed out, it would be childish for the Democrats to reorganize the Senate for just a couple of days, ^{until the duly-elected Colorado Republican Senator takes his seat.}

DEBTS

A gloomy feeling ^{seems} ~~seems~~ to prevail ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ France on the debt question. A member of the French Chamber of Deputies told a correspondent today that "Great Britain slowly but surely is pushing France towards default on the American war debt." This deputy claims that France has been placed in a false light in America. John Bull, say the French, is the middleman of the war debts, controlling the whole machinery of the debt program. He says further that John Bull holds a club over Italy, Belgium, and France, because they are in debt not only to Uncle Sam, but also to Great Britain. The situation is that if France, Italy, and Belgium make any payments to the U.S.A., they will also have to make similar payments to England. And that, ~~that~~ so the story runs, is where the trouble lies.

Incidentally, there's considerable to do in France over President Hoover. ~~A considerable~~ ^{One} element in ~~the~~ French official circles claim^s that President Hoover in 1931 committed himself to a revision of the debts owed by

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Europe to the U.S. A. They claim that this commitment was made on the occasion of the visit of Premier Pierre Laval to Washington in 1931.

On the other hand, Premier Laval ^{ex-} ~~will~~ ^{intends to} arise in the French

Parliament shortly and deny that President Hoover ever did anything of the ~~xxx~~ sort. A dispatch to the New York Sun

says that Mr. Laval admits that President Hoover made no

commitment. ^{He says further} ~~and~~ that neither the President nor the French

Premier ~~expected~~ expected the Young plan to be annulled,

or France to ^{forgo} ~~give up~~ the payments due her under the Young

plan from Germany.

EINSTEIN

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 There's quite a ^{tempest in a teapot about the impending} ~~to do~~ about the proposed visit

of Dr. Albert Einstein to the U. S. A. ~~next month.~~ Professor Einstein was to come here to lecture at ^{Princeton,} ~~a California University.~~

But the other day an organization called the Woman Patriot Corporation of Brookline, Massachusetts, sent in a demand to the States Department that Dr. Einstein be barred from the United States on the ground that he is a Communist.

As the story in the New York Evening Post points out, this ^{alleged} patriotic organization seemed to take no heed that Dr. Einstein has ^{already} been received and congratulated by the President of the United States, has been given the freedom of the City of New York, and an official reception, as well as in ^{many} ~~most of the~~ other cities of the U. S. A. Well, at any ~~rate,~~ they protested.

Dr. Einstein was ^{astonished} ~~surprised~~ the other day when upon applying for a consular visa on his passport, he was notified to present himself at the United States

Abraham
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~~GENERAL~~ Consulate General in Berlin. Usually when the famous scientist comes to these shores, he gets a visa without even raising a finger for it.

But this time he had to stand up, so the story says, just like a school boy before an American Consular official who ~~asked him~~ cross-questioned him about his political beliefs. In fact, the distinguished scientist was given what amounts to a third degree by this Consular official of Uncle Sam's. He took it meekly for a while, then rose and ^{walked out} announcing that if he doesn't receive the visa within twenty-four hours, he will cancel his trip to the United States and all his engagements in America.

Dr. Abraham
Wolfson.

author: Spinoza

A Life of Reason

Dec. 5, 1932.

INTRO TO WOLFSON

~~The world is full of interesting people. We all know that. And I feel as though I've met more than my share of them. They are all around us. And often we don't realize it. For instance, In New York city at present there is a Jewish gentleman whose parents were exceedingly pious. They wanted their son to be a rabbi. He wanted to study medicine. Financial obstacles interfered, so he taught Hebrew and paid his way through a dental college. He became a ~~ix~~ distinguished and ~~very~~ successful leader of his profession. Then when he had enough money he retired to devote the rest of his days to a life of contemplation. ~~He's something of a philosopher now.~~~~

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whom he tries to emulate,
~~and~~ his personal hero₁ is a man who has been dead for three hundred years; - ~~That man's name is~~ Spinoza. ~~In fact this year is the Spinoza Tercentenary.~~ The name of my New York friend ~~ix~~ is Dr. Abraham Wolfson, and he has just written a fascinating biography entitled "Spinoza -- a Life of Reason."

SPINOZA

L.T.: Now Dr. Wolfson, would you mind refreshing our memories as to just who Spinoza was?

Dr. W.: He was a Jewish philosopher, one of the greatest philosophers that ever lived, but his fellow Jews excommunicated him. He was born just three hundred years ago. And now the entire educated world is celebrating that three hundredth anniversary.

L.T.: Dr. Wolfson, I know what I am going to ask you is unfair. You have just written a book that answers my question in full. But in a sentence or two, why is it that the educated world is now so interested in Spinoza?

Dr. W.: Because he gave us a new faith, a new conception of God, a conception of God that men of science can accept. The great Einstein, sometime ago, was asked: "Do you believe in God?" Einstein replied: "Yes, I believe in the God of Spinoza."

L.T.: Just one more question before I go on with the daily news. What was he like? I mean, what sort of a life did he live, and was he persecuted?

Dr. W.: He lived what he preached. His thought and his life were beautifully harmonized. He refused pensions and honors. When he was twenty-four years old he was excommunicated by his fellow Jews in Holland. Then ~~his~~^{for} twenty years he lived alone, continuing his work as a philosopher, and earning his ~~own~~ living ~~xxx~~ grinding lenses for opticians. For he was a scientist as well as a philosopher. He died at the age of forty-four.

L.T.: I don't suppose a man of his type would be interested in marriage. Was he married, Doctor?

Dr. W.: The story goes that he loved a Dutch girl named Clara Marie Vandenenden. But Clara Marie turned him down. That was about the same time that he was excommunicated from

the Jewish Church. But most scholars who write on Spinoza hate to admit that he was so worldly as to fall in love with a woman. Personally, I like him all the better for it.

L.T.:- I think you're right, Dr. Wolfson. So do I.

FOOTBALL

Now for something that is setting the ~~football~~^{sports} world agog. (^{"Pop" Warner,} Glenn S. ~~Pop~~ Warner, one of the most famous ~~coaches~~^{football mentors} in the country, has resigned as head coach at Leland ~~Stanford~~ Stanford University, California. Pop ^{has} held that job eleven years now. His resignation comes at the end of the worst season he's ever had ~~while~~ at Palo Alto. The Stanford team was beaten four times and tied once this year.

The Philadelphia Evening Public Ledger announces on apparently sound authority, that Warner has been offered a similar job at Temple University in Philadelphia. The report says further that Temple is offering to pay Pop even

more than he ~~was~~^{has been} getting at ~~the~~ Stanford. *The Brooklyn Times confirms this. So it looks as tho Temple gets the great Pop Warner.* At the same time comes ~~the~~ news concerning another ^{equally} ~~of the most~~ famous ^{veteran} coaches. I mean Alonzo Stagg.

A dispatch in the Philadelphia Bulletin declares that Amos Alonzo who is sometimes called the Grand Old Man of the Midway, ~~is~~^{definitely}

will not have his job at the University of Chicago next year. His retirement, because of the age limit, is absolute.

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Chicago University's next athletic director will be

T. N. Metcalf, who now holds the same job at Iowa State.

~~There's no report on what Stagg will do when he leaves~~

~~Chicago.~~

The name of the paper was the Herald of the Ohio River. The name of that community was Cincinnati. And the name of the paper was the Sentinel, later changed to the Commercial Tribune.

The Ohio legislature recently appropriated money for a monument to the first editor. For long years it was the dominant paper in the Middle West. In 1870 it was bought and consolidated with the famous Cincinnati Enquirer.

The gathering I refer to took place in New York City at the Hotel Manhattan, and those in attendance were formerly members of the staff of that famous newspaper. The guest of honor was Charles W. Smith, former managing editor and now of the New York American. Other attendees were Martin McGuire of the New York Daily News, Earl Allen of the New York World-Telegram, Thomas A. Ryan of the New York Times, and the Editor of the New York Star, Bill Dwyer.

NEWSPAPER DINNER

I've just heard about an unusual gathering of newspaper men. More than 140 years ago the ~~xx~~ first newspaper made its appearance in the vast wilderness region then known as the Northwest Territory. It was published in a little community on the banks of the Ohio River. The name of that community was Cincinnati. And the name of the paper was the Centinel, later changed to the Commercial Tribune.

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The Ohio legislature recently appropriated money for a monument to the first editor. For long years it was the dominant paper in the Middle West. In 1930 it was bought and consolidated with the famous Cincinnati Enquirer.

The gathering I refer to took place in New York City at the Hotel Lexington, and those in attendance were formerly members of the staff of that famous newspaper. The guest of honor was Captain Wade Mountfortt, former managing editor and now of the New York American. Others attending were Martin Sommers of the New York Daily News, Carl Allen of the New York World-Telegram, Sherman Altick of the New York Sun, Roe Eastman of the New York Times, Bill Danziger

and Leon Benson of Paramount Publix, Jack Williams of Erwin-
Wasey, and Royal Ryan, Publicity Director for the Hotel
New Yorker, ~~who was the~~ ^{of the} last managing editor^s of the Cincinnati
Commercial Tribune.

... that he picked up ~~...~~ on
a flying trip to the Near East. The Major had just flown
over Baghdad for 250 miles over ancient Babylon, Uruk
and Nineveh.

That night, with some British flying officers,
in the city of Mosul, he heard the tail wing tell story which
he thinks is the world's first. Here it is:

It concerns old Mr. Noah, his family, and all the
animals. Just imagine the world entirely covered with water.
Water, water everywhere, save for the few patches of land.
Then the waters began to recede. And all of a sudden the
Ark, with a bump, landed right on top of Mount Ararat. It
rained so hard that it stayed a while in the bottom. The serpent
appeared to be sorry, by the hole, and to save the occupants
of the Ark from drowning, stuck his tail through it.

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What would you say was the world's first Tall Story? I mean the first one ever told? Well, Major Lester Gardner, former publisher and head of the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce, sends me one that he picked up ~~when he was~~ ^{while} on a flying trip in the Near East. The Major had just flown ~~from~~ ^{from} Baghdad, ~~and~~ for 250 miles over ancient Babylon, Ctesiphon ^{Kūtee seefon} and Nineveh.

That night, with some British flying officers, in the city of Mosul, he heard the following Tall Story which he thinks is the world's first. Here it is:-

It concerns old Mr. Noah, his family, and all the animals. Just imagine the world entirely covered with water. Water, water everywhere, save for the Ark bobbing up and down. Then the waters began to recede. ~~xx~~ And all of a sudden the Ark, with a bump, landed right on ~~the~~ top of Mount Ararat. It bumped so hard that it stove a hole in the bottom. The serpent happened to be nearby, ^{saw} ~~he~~ the hole, and to save the occupants of the Ark from drowning, stuck his tail through it.

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But old Mr. Noah didn't know anything about this heroic act. And a few days later when the waters receded, to save mankind from a repetition of the troubles that arose concerning the serpent in the Garden of Eden, he burned the serpent on a funeral pyre. And the conclusion of the story as it was recounted to Major Gardner in the city of Mosul was, that "from the funeral pyre, as the serpent burned, there arose small particles which turned into insects. ^{And} that is the origin of the insects. ~~And~~ They went ~~forth~~ forth to plague mankind forever, just because of the ingratitude of Noah.

BRIDE FALNIS

Folks in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky have been flooding me with a clipping from the Cincinnati Times-Star. Not in a long, long time have I received so many copies of the same story.

Now the peculiar thing about this story is that it reports, as actual news, an old, old anecdote about - oh, I should say ^{almost as old as Noah,} ~~some twenty five years older than the Johnstown flood.~~ It's the story of the young ~~bride~~ bride who bought a turkey gobler on the hoof for Thanksgiving, and not having the heart to chop its head off, got the young groom to chloroform the ~~g~~ gobler. Thus chloroformed the gobler was plucked and put into the ice chest. Then, ^{on Thanksgiving day} ~~as many people would~~ ~~and most people should remember,~~ ^{Mr. Turk} Turk came to life, bolted out of the refrigerator ^{when} ~~the first time~~ Mrs. Newlywed opened the door, and ^{ran} ~~they were horrified by the sight of a perfectly~~ naked ~~turkey rampaging~~ all over their apartment ^{until} ~~h~~ ^{hubby} brought him down.

Well, somebody told this anecdote to what must

have been a very young reporter of the Cincinnati Times-
Star, because ^{my eminent friends on} the Times Star printed it as ^{spot} news. What is

more, Charlie Butler, control supervisor of W. L. W.

is one of those who send me a copy of the clipping. He

adds the information that he can vouch for its absolute

truth. Well, well Charlie, so they took you in too!

That yarn has been coming in as a
~~Evidently the chestnut crop is in fine condition~~

Tall Story on an average of once a
~~this year in Cincinnati~~
month.

Announcer Jimmy Wallington.
looks as tho he's about ready
to chloroform me — so, a-l-u-t-m