

Good Evening, Everybody:

Uncle Sam's Naval court of Inquiry into the Akron disaster began today at Lakehurst, New Jersey. The session had hardly begun before word arrived that the body of Rear Admiral William A. Moffett had been ~~located and recovered~~^{found} some forty miles out at sea, opposite Beachhaven, New Jersey. Admiral Moffett's body was recovered only a short distance away from the place where the remains of Commander McCord, Skipper of the Akron, and Commander Berry, head of the Naval Air Station at Lakehurst, New Jersey, were found yesterday afternoon.

Today's hearing started quietly. The first witness and the principal witness was Lieutenant Commander Wiley. But a sensation developed when the court learned that the Akron put out ~~into the air~~ on her fatal cruise practically without any life saving apparatus. Only one parachute was aboard the giant dirigible,

and one life raft, one life raft for seventy three men. It was learned that the crew's life preservers today are all in the lockers at the Akron's hangar at Lakehurst.

The courts also made a similar discovery regarding the blimp J-3, which set out the day after the wreck of the Akron to search for survivors and was herself wrecked. Lieutenant Commander Cummins, who commanded the J-3, was the only man aboard who carried a life jacket, ^{and he} ~~Commander Cummins~~ was one of the two of the J-3 who perished in the waves.

Another new fact came out at the hearing this afternoon, ^{#2} ~~the~~ fact that Commander Wiley had not made public before. While the Akron was fighting that storm off the coast of New Jersey, Commander McCord ordered a change in ~~her~~ ^{a change} course of fifteen degrees. If that order had been properly followed out, it would have taken the ship outside ~~of~~ the storm area. But the crew misunderstood their commander. Instead of making a turn of fifteen degrees they shifted fifty degrees, thus sending the Akron back into the thick

of the lightning and the raging winds.

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In Washington the scope of the investigation into the Akron disaster is going to be considerably widened. Congress will make it the occasion for an inquiry into airship disasters in general, as well as the Akron catastrophe in particular. It will be a joint committee of Congress which will do this probing, as the headline writers call it.

This will bring into the open some sharp, not to say acrimonious differences of opinion among officers of the Navy itself. The thing air officers have for years been up in arms against is the Navy's policy of giving the final say-so on aerial matters to what they call "battleship admirals" who know nothing about aircraft.

One of the things the battleship Admirals do, say these young officers, is to take a young man who has developed particular knowledge and efficiency in the ways of the air, and send him to sea aboard a battleship. This the air specialists consider to be wrong. They point to the case of Lieutenant Al Williams.

the former crack Navy pilot. Al was for quite a while engaged in experimental construction work for the Navy. Just as he was on the verge of developing a real fast Navy ship he was taken off ~~duty~~ ^{this} and sent to sea. Both he and others protested, but the protests were not heeded, so Lieutenant Williams resigned and is now in civilian ^{employ,} ~~service,~~ and, say his former colleagues, Uncle Sam has lost the services of a brilliant ^{airman.} ~~aeronaut.~~ They point ~~out~~ also to ~~the fact that~~ Commander Rosendahl, who commanded the Shenandoah, ^{and who} is now serving on the battleship West Virginia. There all his knowledge of and experience in aeronautics is of no use to the Navy whatsoever. This is one of the topics of conversation in official Washington today. So says Ray Tucker.

SHOALS

10

President Roosevelt's long expected message on the subject of Muscle Shoals was sent to Congress today. Mr. Roosevelt's project for rehabilitation ^{and} using this magnificent white elephant is even more stupendous than has been anticipated.

He asks Congress to create a Tennessee Valley Authority. This would be a semi-public corporation. It would be, as the President says, clothed with the power of the government but possessed of the flexibility and initiative of a private enterprise.) He asks Congress to give this Tennessee Valley Authority broad powers ^{for} ~~on~~ planning, conservation, and development. The idea of this Tennessee Valley Authority is somewhat along the lines of the Port of New York Authority, a body controlled in partnership by the States of New York and New Jersey. The Port Authority of New York has planned and built many superb projects including the Hudson Vehicular Tunnel under the Hudson River, the magnificent George Washington Bridge over the Hudson and several other ^{great} ~~superb~~ bridges in the

Greater New York area.

9
The President took occasion to point out that one thing the United States as a whole has lacked in its history is, adequate planning. The country, as he puts it, has "just growed" like Topsy.

So he wants the putting to use of Muscle Shoals to be more than just that. (He wants the Tennessee Valley Authority not only to develop electric power but to have them provide for flood control, soil erosion, forestry and also the distribution ~~of~~ and ~~the~~ diversification of industry.)

During his campaign last Fall, the President said a good deal on this subject. He thinks the country ought in a similar way plan developments in the Colorado River, Columbia River and the St. Lawrence. ~~area~~

At any rate his plan will put to work that huge plant at Muscle Shoals, which has been idle and useless ever since the war. It will also give employment to many thousands.

In one paragraph of his message, Mr. Roosevelt says:
"It is clear that the Muscle Shoals development is but a small

SHOALS..3

part of the potential public usefulness of the entire
Tennessee River."

(8)

HARRIMAN There was a dramatic scene in the Federal Court today.

Joseph W. Harriman, founder and ^{former} chairman of the Board of the Harriman National Trust Company, was arraigned, ~~today in~~ ~~the Federal Court at New York.~~ He was taken in a private ambulance from his home. ~~and carried out~~ ^{N.Y.} In the Federal Building he was carried up the elevator in a stretcher. He then was rolled into the courtroom on a wheel chair.

When the Clerk of the Court asked him how he ~~pleaded,~~ he rose from his wheel chair, ^{tattered,} and said in ^{his} ~~an~~ exhausted voice: "Not guilty." Harriman was then released in twenty-five thousand dollars bail. ~~HARRIMAN~~

^{The sick man} ~~Harriman~~ was accompanied into court by his wife, his physician, and three lawyers. He is sixty-five years old.

The arraignment of Harriman was the occasion of a stiff argument between lawyers. The Banker's Counsel had placed great emphasis both in court and in statements to reporters on his client's poor health, saying that his appearance in court was directly against the advice of physicians and might seriously endanger his life.

The United States Attorney claimed that Mr. Harriman's counsel was trying his case in the newspapers. He said that the repeated statements about Mr. Harriman's health amounted in fact to a plea of guilty with a plea in extenuation.

The arraignment of Harriman follows the announcement that depositors in his bank will get a hundred cents on the dollar. The Secretary of the Treasury this morning announced that the Manufacturers Trust Company had taken over the assets of the Harriman Bank and will pay depositors in full.

So there's at least one happy ending to this drama.

VAN DYKE

Not only old Princetonians, but many people in the reading public ~~will~~ are regretting the death of Dr. Henry Van Dyke. Dr. Van Dyke died today at his home in Princeton. He had his eightieth birthday last November.

Henry Van Dyke was known in a wide variety of fields. He was not only a professor, but a writer of considerable celebrity, and during the war Uncle Sam's Ambassador to the Netherlands.

EINSTEIN

6
When Dr. Albert Einstein announced that he would not return to his native Fatherland, a good many people wondered what he would do. ~~because~~ Einstein renounced his German citizenship because of the Nazi agitation against Jews.

News comes from Madrid today that Dr. Einstein will become a professor at the University of Madrid. He had already accepted an invitation to take the chair of mathematics in the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton. This he will begin when he comes to the U. S. A. next autumn. *So will be holding 2 chairs.*

The Minister of Public Instruction ^{in Spain} ~~of the Spanish~~ Republic expressed himself as highly jubilant that Dr. Einstein had accepted his invitation.

SEAPLANES

A world's record was broken today. A young Italian naval officer drove a seaplane at the rate of six hundred and ninety kilometers an hour~~x~~. This is the equivalent of four hundred twenty-eight and a half miles an hour. The previous record was made by an English flight lieutenant two years ago. His speed was six hundred and fifty-five kilometers an hour. ^{So the Italian flew} Four hundred and twenty-eight miles an hour! -- wow! -- ~~that means~~ more than seven miles a minute.

REVOLUTION

5

They had a revolution in Europe last week, but the world at large has only just heard of it. The scene was the *tiny* Republic of Andorra which nestles ^{*high up*} in the Pyrenees between France and Spain.

Andorra for a long time has been considered practically a model community. One of its enviable qualities was that it had no laws and no lawyers. Andorra also had no votes. That is, no votes for everybody. ~~■~~ For sometime the Andorrans, hearing about events in the world outside, have been clamoring for universal suffrage. The governing council of the Republic has always said nothing doing. Andorra always got along very well without general elections, and why not let well enough alone.

However, last Saturday five hundred citizens, a considerable percentage of the entire population of Andorra, marched into the Council Hall. Thereupon the Council changed its mind and said: "Oh, well, if you insist." So now Andorra~~mx~~ is to have universal suffrage just ~~like~~ ^{*as*} most of the rest of us.

And that was probably the most peaceful revolution in history. No shots, no dead, no injured.

SCOTTSBORO~~XXX~~

4

It looks as though the famous Scottsboro case, the case of the eight negroes, might come before the Supreme Court of the United States once more. The principal lawyer for the defense today declared that the jury's verdict, ~~which was in this morning's newspapers,~~ was a gross miscarriage of justice, the verdict finding a nineteen year old colored boy guilty and condemning him to death. Defense counsel lay great emphasis on the speech of one of the prosecutors, the speech in which the prosecutor told the jury that witnesses for the defense had been bought with Jew money from New York. The defense attorney ~~pointed out that~~ claimed that this was ~~an attempt to~~ a deliberate stirring up of ~~not only~~ not only race prejudice but sectional prejudice. He indicated that the appeal to higher courts will be based on this.

CANNON

Bishop James Cannon, Jr., the fighting prohibitionist Methodist Bishop of Virginia got into the news again today. ~~Hex~~ The Supreme Court of the United States handed down a decision against Bishop Cannon.

3

The Bishop and his Secretary were indicted and charged with having violated Uncle Sam's election laws in the 1928 presidential campaign against Al Smith. They were accused of having failed to report contributions which they received. They protested that the indictment was defective, and the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia decided against them. And now the Supreme Court of the United States has also decided against Bishop Cannon and his secretary. They are accused of having violated the Corrupt Practice^s Act.

BASEBALL

Well, baseball fans. This is the week and Wednesday is the day. The day when we go to the ball parks and wait for the umpire to shout: ~~play ball~~ play ball! I don't know how the rest of you fans feel about it, but to me it's always a long time between baseball seasons.

It is expected that even President Roosevelt and his Cabinet will take an afternoon off from the cares of the world on Wednesday. The President will throw out the ball for the first game of the season between ^{the} Washington ^{Senators} and Connie Mack's Athletics.

This promises to be an unusually exciting season.

So many things are in doubt. There are so many things the fans are wanting to know. For instance, will Babe Ruth continue to be the Sultan of Swat? And how about the Crown Prince, his partner, Lou Gehrig? ^{Or} Will Jimmie Fox, Connie Mack's big outfielder put the New York boys in the shade this year? Is Lefty Grove still the same lightning pitcher he has been the last two seasons? Will Hack Wilson again hit the apple ^{beyond} ~~out~~ the boundaries? Will

BASEBALL - 2

Dizzy Dean, the ace pitcher of the Cardinals, shine as he did before?

Well, everybody has his pet question. It's going to be a big day in eight cities on Wednesday.

Babe Ruth and the rest of
Colonel Jake Ruppert's Yankees will open the season at their ~~stadium~~ *with a game* stadium against the *Boston* Red Sox. *The* Cleveland Indians will meet the Detroit Tigers on the Tigers' home ground. In St. Louis the Browns will open against the Chicago White Sox.

As for the ~~Max~~ National League, the Boston ~~Browns~~ will start the ~~Chicago~~ season against the New York Giants. In Philadelphia the Phillies will play the Brooklyn Dodgers at Baker Bowl. At Cincinnati the Pittsburgh Pirates will ~~come to~~ play the Reds, and at Wrigley Field in Chicago the pennant winning Cubs will give a party for the St. Louis Cardinals.

Expert opinion, which we all take for what it's worth, dopes the New York Yankees to clean up in the American

League. In the National, ~~League~~, on the other hand, they expect a closer race, but a good many ~~of them~~ are picking the Pittsburgh Pirates for first place with the Chicago Cubs to give them a stiff tussle.

ENDING

The Reverend L. H. Eby of the Church of the Brethern,
otherwise known as The Dunkards, tells me about a trip he
made to a Dunkards Convention with twenty other Dunkards.
Some railroad official wired on ahead, saying:- "Prepare
to meet twenty Dunkards." The Telegraph Company
misunderstood it and changed it to "drunkards" and when
the train pulled in there were about forty special cops
down to meet them.

The Reverend ^{Mr.} Eby says that if you cut three letters
out of the word "depression", the three letters d, i and e,
the remaining letters spell - PRESS ON.

And, that is what it is time for me to do, ^{press on --} and solong
until tomorrow.