

Good Evening, Everybody:

Today's news from Washington indicates that (President Roosevelt's administration finds itself in a peculiar sort of jam. And this situation arises because the President's program has already become to a certain degree successful. Commodity prices have gone up and you might think everybody would be tickled to death over that. But with the rise of commodity prices there has come also an increase in ~~the cost of~~ the household ~~budget~~ budget and while onepart of the population is cheering, the other part is yawping terrifically.)

The loudest yawps ^{that have been heard in} ~~have poured into~~ Washington ^{have been} on the subject of bread which went up one cent a pound. You may recall that this was foreshadowed last week in a news item from Chicago. Complaints were made to Washington and the Secretary of Agriculture made representations to the Department of Justice, and today Attorney

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General Cummings announced that he will conduct a vigorous investigation into this concerted action to raise prices ^{and} to find out whether there has been any violation of the anti-trust laws. A dispatch from Washington quotes Mr. Cummings to the effect that he has a corps of agents of the Department of Justice investigating these increases in North Dakota and other states throughout the West and Middlewest.

However, it was said in Washington official circles that these investigations are not expected to result in any particularly vehement prosecution^s. At the same time it is expected to discourage further advances in the price of necessities.

High officials of the administration tell me that the position of ^{the} Secretary of Agriculture in this situation is politically speaking, exceedingly delicate. On the one hand Mr. Wallace with his campaign to control the amount of acreage has contributed to the rise in the price of wheat. TH Then too, the ~~Administration~~ Administrator of the National Recovery Act has urged all employers

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to increase wages and shorten hours. Naturally such steps ~~will~~ must bring about an advance in the price of things we eat and drink.

Those things are all epitomized in bread. You might say it is a case of "pull devil, pull baker." If wheat goes up, it is inevitable that bread should cost more. ~~One~~ One trend of the public mind seems to want the price of wheat to go up without bringing bread along with it. ^W Secretary Wallace, they say, would like to convince the public that food is costing more not because of the administration's program to raise prices, but because the bakers are pyramiding taxes and doing a bit of profiteering.

N.B.C.

RECOVERY

Well, another telephone communication ^{direct} from Washington brings ^{me} the information that the President's Industrial Recovery program became a real thing today. (General Johnson, Administrator of the NIRA, as the Recovery Act is ^{now} called, has the President's Okay on the code formulated by the Textile Industry. And with this in his possession he announced that codes of other industries will be ready for government ^{scrutiny} ~~inspection~~ within the next few days.)

In the argument over wages in the Cotton Industry the labor spokesmen gained a point. The code establishes a minimum wage of twelve dollars for the South and thirteen dollars in the North. With this goes a maximum week of forty hours.

(The Chairman of the United States Steel Corporation held a conference with the President today after which he announced that the steel code will soon be ready to be submitted to the government.) At the same time General Johnson disclosed the fact that the steel industry has already submitted three codes each of which he has turned down because not one of them complied with the

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requirements of the NIRA.

(And by the way,

~~In~~ In Washington they are calling the National Industrial Recovery Act NIRA, just as in England they call the defense of the Realm Act DORA.)

Then again operators of bituminous coal mines and leaders of the Union from fourteen states, were conferring in Washington today. They tell us that they will have their code ready in a day or so.

* * * *

~~We~~ have information too from Mr. Ickes, the Secretary of the Interior. This concerns the enforcement of the Public Works program. Mr. Ickes says that although there have been what he calls most gratifying gains in industry and employment, the Administration's program must not be slowed up in the slightest degree until those gains are made sure, and consolidated. The Congress authorized the government to spend three billion three hundred millions on public works. But, says Secretary Ickes, this expenditure will be ended as soon as general conditions justify it. In other they hope not to be obliged to spend it all.
N.B.C.

RAILROADS

Now for an equally important part of the President's program, I mean the railroad situation. An announcement was made today by Joseph Eastman, former member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and now Federal Coordinator of Transportation. Coordinator Eastman reported that ^{the} organization of the New Deal for railroads has been completed. He will hold a meeting Friday with the three committees appointed to coordinate the three big regional groups of railway lines. Mr. Eastman will then explain to them the purpose of the Emergency Railroad bill and the way it is expected to be operated.

N.B.C.

ROOSEVELT

We also have ~~a bit of~~ ^{direct} news from the White House. ~~today~~

(President Roosevelt has added two more college professors to his so-called Brain Trust. The two latest additions to this galaxy of cerebral ~~ix~~ tissue will help study the government's fiscal problems. In other words, money.

The White House gave out the information that these two new experts ~~will be~~ ^{are} Professor James H. Rogers of Yale, ~~University,~~ and Professor George Warren of Cornell.) Their primary functions will be to study the government problems for the conversion of treasury bonds. (~~At first hearing that may sound like a religious item, but I am informed bonds are not to be converted into Christianity, but to other bonds.~~)

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~~The~~ Professors Rogers and Warren were recommended to the White House by Secretary of Commerce Roper and Secretary of Agriculture Wallace. ~~The~~ Secretaries Roper and Warren tell us that these professors will concentrate on efforts to balance the Federal Budget.

houses on Capital Hill
N.B.C.

It looks as though we

¹ell
~~would~~
¹

see a complete ^{university} faculty ^{holding}

CONFERENCE

An unexpected bit of news comes from the World Economic Conference at London. Everything went smoothly today.

A wireless report informs me that a meeting was held which seems to have been a regular love feast. It was a conclave between the steering committee and the monetary committee. The monetary committee, you will remember, is the one where all the trouble over currency stabilization ~~is taking~~ ^{took} place.

When this meeting was over, James M. Cox, of Ohio, who is chairman of the ^{monetary} ~~committee~~, issued a statement saying: "Today was marked by better feeling on all sides."

Mr. Cox appointed a sub-committee to select topics that the monetary committee can discuss without getting into another jam. Concerning the continuation of the conference, we have conflicting reports. On the one hand, Raymong Gram Swing cables the New York Evening Post that a plan has been proposed to continue the conference for another two weeks, and then take a two months recess. It is said that this idea has the approval of Prime Minister

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Mr Ramsay MacDonald, President of the Conference.

On the other hand, a wireless report just received informs me that the secretariat to the League of Nations which has charge of the procedure of the conference, has decided that it should continue at least three weeks longer. And Secretary Hull, head of Uncle Sam's delegation, said he was confident that if the conference continued on the job ~~that~~ results would be obtained.

N.B.C.

Raymond Gram Swing - N.Y. Evening Post

DOLLAR

Another thing that happened in London was a further slide of Uncle Sam's dollar. It reached a new low level on the foreign exchange market in London. At one time today it ~~fell~~ fell so low that it reached almost the old parity of years ago when both John Bull and Uncle Sam were on the gold standard -- in other words, the dollar was at the point where it took four dollars and eighty-four cents to make one pound sterling. Later, however, our dollar went up again to four dollars and eighty cents.

The capers of the American dollar became the subject of debate in the House of Commons today. Neville Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the House that the depreciation of the dollar was a most disturbing factor. Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer said further that this fall was unnatural and artificial and had been brought about by speculation.

Mr. Chamberlain made this statement in the course of a speech opening ~~there~~ a debate on the subject of the Economic Conference. He told the ~~and the~~ House of Commons that the

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government hoped the conference would find some means of smoothing out the difficulties that it had encountered. He ^{went on to say} ~~said further~~ that there was reason to believe the various nations would come to an agreement eventually.

He also indicated that John Bull would follow the lead of President Roosevelt in the matter of raising commodity prices.

N.B.C.

MALLORCA

There was considerable excitement in Washington over five Americans who have been in a Spanish prison ever since the 11th of June. One of them ^{is} ~~was~~ a woman. The place where they ^{are} ~~were~~ imprisoned is the beautiful island of Mallorca in the ^{balmy} Balearic Islands ^{ed} ~~ed~~ off the Spanish coast.

One member of this party of Americans is accused of having assaulted a Spanish civil guard and for that the entire party has been languishing in the coop these four weeks.

A dispatch to the State ~~xx~~ Department at Washington reports that on June 17th our Ambassador in Spain, Claude Bowers, applied for the release of these prisoners. But because the assault is said to ^{have been} ~~be~~ committed on a guard, the offense is one that may have to be tried before a court martial. Consequently the negotiations have to be transacted through the Spanish war department.

Meanwhile the folks are still in the calaboose.

AIRWAYS

By the way, here's a business item that seemed ^S~~ed to me~~ interesting. American Airways announces that they carried more than fourteen thousand passengers in the month of June. The Company's report points out that this is sixty-five per cent more than the passengers carried by all the airlines of the United States in the entire year of 1927.

In other words, the June traffic broke all records for that company.

N.B.C.

REPEAL

A curious situation developed in Springfield, Illinois, today. This is the day for the State Convention on Prohibition Repeal.

Now it so happens that there was a fire in the State House at Springfield yesterday which did considerable damage to one wing of the building including the ~~chamber~~^{hall} where the House of Representatives meet. This made it necessary to shift the conference to the Senate Chamber. But the Wet Leaders were afraid that the Dry forces might conjure up legal technicalities on this account. So Governor Horner of Illinois ^{as presiding officer} ~~called~~ the meeting to order in the ruins of the fire-damaged ~~chamber~~ hall and then took it over to the Senate Chamber for the real business of the day.

Incidentally, (Illinois is the tenth state to hold its repeal convention.)

NBC.

EARTHQUAKES

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Old Mother Earth seems to have been shaking herself considerably over the week-end. The seismograph at Fordham University yesterday recorded an unusual number of earthquakes. The first occurred at 9:40 Saturday night; ~~and~~ apparently ~~was~~ out at sea some 5,800 miles away from New York.

At twenty minutes to two Sunday morning the seismograph got on the job again, indicating that there was a quake somewhere in Central America about 2500 miles from New York.

There was another one about quarter to nine Sunday morning apparently in the same location as the first - way out at sea. And about half past eleven Sunday morning, there was still a fourth quake in Central America. *It seems as though the floor of the sea, somewhere, were talking to the mountains of Honduras.*

NBC.

LINDBERGH

Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh are prominent in the news once more. As you will recall, they are making a flight to survey the northern route to Europe for Pan-American Airways. They left New York yesterday afternoon, and expected to make their first stop at Halifax, Nova Scotia, but a heavy fog on the ~~Maine~~^{Maine} Coast obliged them to make a forced landing at South Warren, Maine, last night.

2 Today they stopped at North Haven, an island off the Maine coast where their eleven months old little ^{John}son is being taken care of by his two grandmothers at the summer home of Mrs. Dwight Morrow. Colonel Lindbergh's mother is spending the summer with Mrs. Morrow.

Officials of Pan American Airways tell me that the Lindberghs who are traveling in ~~in~~ a pontoon airplane by the way, will probably not take off for Labrador, their next stop, before tomorrow.

N.B.C.

RESCUE

A picturesque tale of ~~x~~ rescued seamen comes by way of Brownsville, Texas. A pilot of one of the giant passenger planes of ~~the~~ Pan American Airways, flying between Tampico and Brownsville, saw three men apparently stranded on a beach about eight miles south of Brownsville. The pilot of the passenger plane immediately radioed the airport at Brownsville and the authority^{ies} at the airport sent a second plane to look for the men.

The men were soon found and said they'd been in the water for eighteen hours and had been stranded on the beach for two days. In three days they had nothing either to eat or drink. It turned out that they were the only survivors from a schooner which sank in the Gulf of Mexico during that tropical hurricane ^{which} ~~there~~ swept over those waters last Thursday.

N.B.C.

FISH

The good fish stories this year seem to be coming from San Francisco. Another one leapt across the continent over the wires today.

The story begins last year. The hero and heroine are ~~Mr.~~ Mr. and Mrs. Martin Yates of San Francisco. Last summer they went fishing on the Rogue River where it is their custom to go every year.

Well, last year they had an accident. Their boat tipped over and kerplunk, to the bottom of the river went several hundred dollars worth of fishing tackle.

Now here's the sequel. ~~Mr.~~ Mrs. Yates cast her line into the water yesterday and at the ~~ft~~ very first cast she ~~seemed~~ seemed to have a strike. She reeled in and had a tough time doing it and expected a whale of a haul. When it came to the surface it wasn't exactly a whale, but it was even more of a surprise. There ~~is~~ on the end of Mrs. Yates's line was the ^{very valuable} rod and reel she lost the year before.

Let me know whether you believe that one and we'll see what next those anglers at the Golden Gate will have to tell next.

N.B.C. + - 2 - 4 - + - M.