

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:-

(In world politics the man of the hour appears to be Benito Mussolini. His plan to preserve the peace of Europe is the talk of diplomats, statesmen, and newspapers to the ends of the earth.) Evidently the Fascist chief had been thinking the matter over profoundly long before the visit of Prime Minister Ramsey MacDonald to Rome

Incidentally Mr. MacDonald and Sir John Simon left Rome today for Paris. They were escorted to the station in Rome by the Duce himself and a large crowd cheered the statesmen as the train moved out.

Premier Mussolini gave a brief interview to newspaper men today in which he said that the aim of his four power peace treaty is the establishment of peace in Europe for at least one generation. And then too, he said, "We do not desire to impose any decisions on other nations. We seek only to induce others to cooperate in establishing peace in Europe."

The gist of the Mussolini plan is virtually that of the Kellogg Pact, usually called the Pact of Paris. But the difference between that and the Mussolini plan is that the Italian leader puts teeth into his scheme. As has been seen in Manchuria, the Kellogg Treaty can be violated with impunity. This will not be the case with the Mussolini plan.

While the leader of Italian Fascism takes the center of the stage as the foremost agent for world peace, the Fascist government now in the saddle in Berlin seems to have a totally different complexion. As refugees from the Nazi reign of terror arrive in other countries, their stories are beginning to be printed in foreign newspapers.

We learn from the New York Times that some of these refugees are Americans, and Americans whose position and character lend sound authority to the tales they tell. While (most of the Nazi outrages are perpetrated on people of Jewish faith name, and origin,) even the non-Jewish Americans are finding the atmosphere of Germany uncomfortable, and, as some of them put it unsafe. Several Americans who have been in business in Germany are winding up their affairs and leaving the so-called Republic for good.

The stories of some of these outrages, says the New York Times, would be utterly unbelievable if they did not come from solid, substantial people. (Apparently Germany has been overwhelmed by a wave of Brown Shirt hoodlumism.) Parties of roughs in

the Nazi uniform armed with clubs and brass knuckles are attacking people on the streets and invading private houses. Some of these outrages have a distinct blackmail flavour. Victims have bought themselves free from attacks and outrages either by giving the Nazi hoodlums money or liquor.

The refugees are fleeing to France, to Belgium, to Italy, but principally to Switzerland. Thousands of these exiles are exceedingly poor and their hardship is extreme.

ABRUZZI

One of the most romantic men of our time has just passed on, ~~started on his greatest adventure.~~ Newspapers in America and other parts of the world had the news yesterday of the death of that great explorer, the Duke of the Abruzzi. But the news was only announced today in Italy, and now the entire Italian nation is in mourning. The news was held back until today in order not to interfere with the festivities yesterday in Rome in honor of Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald of Great Britain.

I suppose I am particularly interested in the Duke of ^{the} Abruzzi because of my interest in all men who follow trails of high adventure. Although a Prince of the House of Savoy, a Prince of Italy, his father happened to be King of Spain, King Amadeo I, who was forced to abdicate the Spanish throne in 1873. His father sent ^{the lad} ~~him~~ to sea as a cabin boy when he was six years old. At twenty he was the Commander of a gunboat leading an expedition against the obstreperous natives of Somaliland. At twenty-one he climbed the Matterhorn. Then on a cruise around the world he

decided to try and climb lofty Mt. St. Elias in Alaska, which he did, being the first man to reach ^{that} the ~~summit~~ ^{summit} of ~~that Alaskan monarch~~. When he was twenty-six he set forth for the North Pole, leading an expedition of Italians and Norwegians, and his expedition reached the farthest point north, up to that time. That was the cruise of the ship Stella Polaris.

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The Duke of the Abruzzi gained further fame in 1906 by conquering and exploring the almost legendary Mountains of the Moon in Central Africa. Then he fell in love with an American girl, the daughter of the wealthy ~~Senator~~ Senator Elkins of West Virginia. The romance was opposed by the Royal House of Italy, because she was a Commoner. For years it was the most colorful international romance of the day. They never married. The Duke of the Abruzzi remained single to the end, and continued recklessly risking his life on hazardous expeditions.

In 1909 he broke all records in the Himalayas by climbing to an altitude of 24,600 feet. He was a Rear

Admiral in the war between Italy and Turkey, and in command at the bombardment of the city of Tripoli. During the World War he rescued 240,000 Serbian soldiers. Since the war he had continued his exploration in Africa, and also had been in charge of the colonization of Italian Somaliland, and only last year was the head of the giant Italian shipping merger, when all of Italy's great shipping lines were brought together.

~~Explorer, adventurer, naval commander in War time, diplomat, colonizer, shipping magnate, disappointed lover of an American heiress, Prince of the House of Savoy, one of the best known men of his time.~~ Few human beings have

lived as varied a life, or lives I should say, as Prince

Luigi Amadeo ^{Fair demands} Giuseppe Maria Ferdinando Francesco, ~~the Duke~~ ^{daylyer degli}

~~of the~~ Abruzzi, who has just died in the village of

Mogdishu in Italian Somaliland in Africa.

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RUSSIA

From London we learn that John Bull has decided to break off, or at any rate suspend negotiations of that trade treaty with Soviet Russia. This was announced by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the House of Commons today. His Majesty's Government reached this decision because ~~of~~ the Soviets have arrested six British subjects in Moscow, charging them with sabotage.

At the same time comes news from Washington indicating a probability that Uncle Sam may do the very opposite. He may abandon his hither-to rigid attitude of refusing to recognize the Soviet Government. This possibility was hinted at today after Philip LaFollette, brother of Senator Bob LaFollette, who has just returned from Russia, had a long conference at the White House with President Roosevelt.

TOWER

^{Many}
~~Most~~ people think of the Tower of London as a historic landmark, a picturesque relic visited mostly by American tourists. But every now and then the Tower serves one of its old historic purposes. For among other things, people accused of being traitors instead of being put in the common jail, were always sent to the Tower. For ~~in~~ the last few weeks such a person has been in the famous old Tower. He's an officer ~~of the~~ in an equally famous old Scottish Regiment, the Seaforth Highlanders, and he's accused of having sold his country for fifty pounds. Not much more than a hundred and sixty dollars.

The trial of this officer by court martial started today and the unusual nature of the trial has made it the center of equally unusual publicity. The ~~officer~~ authorities are charging that this young lieutenant, he's only twenty-four years old, sold the plans of a new and particularly effective tank developed by the British War Office to the agent of a foreign power.

What adds color to this trial is the fact that naturally

the court was in full uniform and the prisoner himself was in the full dress uniform of his regiment, the Seaforth Highlanders. On his head was the Glengarry bonnet, and he also wore the regimental kilt. But he did not have his Sam Brown belt because an officer being tried on such a charge is deprived of his sword.

And there's a dramatic story for you to follow in your paper.

MT. ALLISON

Several weeks ago Dr. Trueman, President of Mount Allison University, of Sackville, New Brunswick, was on the air with me. Since then news came from Sackville that one of the University buildings had been destroyed by fire, and now word comes through that two more of the principal buildings have gone up in flames. A staggering blow.

ZANGARA

(Giuseppe Zangara, the man who tried to assassinate President Roosevelt and ~~instead~~ killed Mayor Tony Cermak of Chicago, was executed today. He perished in the electric chair at the State prison in Raiford, Florida.) Almost the last things he said shortly before he died were a rude remark about capitalists, and an expression of astonishment that no news camera men were present. After he was strapped into the chair he called out to the Sheriff: "All right, push the button." To which the Sheriff replied: "Just a moment, Joe."

When the Chaplain, as usual, entered his cell before the execution, Zangara ordered him out. Nevertheless, the Chaplain remained and read him some verses of the Bible whether he liked it or not.

BEER

American history moved a step further, a slight step further in Washington today. The Conference Committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives were ironing out the differences of the two branches of the National Legislature over the beer bill. The most important thing the Committee did was to take the Representatives' side of the argument about the strength of beer. They recommended an alcoholic content of 3.2 by weight. That was the figure decided on in the House as against the three and five/hundredths percent, prescribed by the Senators. The conferrees likewise retained the McAdoo wine amendment which legalizes wines of a similar content. But they threw out the amendment of Senator Borah of Idaho which would have made necessary the employment of federal police to prevent the sale of beer to minors under the age of sixteen.

I have just been talking to Washington on the telephone and learn that the Senate adopted the report of the Conference Committee for 3.2 percent beer by a vote of 43 to 36. The House will confirm this tomorrow and the completed measure will be sent to the White House to be signed by the President.

If signed by the President tomorrow, beer can be sold on April 6th -- great Scott, that's my birthday, without any interference from Uncle Sam.

Mr. Roosevelt's signature was placed today on the economy bill. That leaves the farm relief and unemployment problems the only legislative measures left for this extraordinary session of the Congress to tackle.

FOLLOW BEER

On the subject of beer, the New York World Telegram has been making some interesting investigations. A lot of people have asked the question -- just how strong or rather how weak is three and five-hundredths percent beer? Well, the kind of beer that is being drunk in New York today, varies from about five and a half percent to six and thirty-four/hundredths percent. In other words, an average percentage by weight of 5.89. And it may be presumed that this is typical of the kind of beer that is being drunk today in other parts of the United States and wherever beer is being consumed on the so-called "Q.T."

As for pre-prohibition beer, in this country it varied from 2.16 percent to 3.90. These figures are from the Department of Agriculture in Washington. The strongest beer to be found in American today is in Hoboken, New Jersey. This is heresay.

German beers, famed the world over, you may be surprised to learn average around three percent.

ROOSEVELT

President Roosevelt today starts on the third week of his administration, and the Washington correspondents declare that he faces the most severe test of his capacity, a test more severe than any he has yet encountered. His agriculture relief bill is due to meet keen opposition, the boys say. Some elements in Congress are growing restive over the steamroller way in which these measures have been rushed through. They are not going to speed up on the President's three point agricultural program, as they did on the banking and economy bills. They want to examine and discuss this new measure, and, say the newspaper men, they want to talk for the record. They want to make remarks which they can send to their constituents, and say: "Look what good boys we are, and how we are looking after your interests."

Lots of the Representatives and Senators feel that Congress has been losing in importance. They think it's time to assert themselves and put up at least a show of not giving the President his own way too much.

Also, some of them would like to see what the President will do if he is opposed, ~~how~~ how he will handle Congress? Will he swing the big stick like his predecessor Theodore, or will he lecture the boys, as ~~Professor~~ ^{Dr.} Woodrow Wilson did?

Of course, any opposition ~~they~~ ^{Congressmen} put up will merely be for show. They all know that if they don't do something and do it quick, about the matters on which the country needs relief, they will arouse a storm of protest and anger from their constituents.

Such is the picture the Washington correspondents draw of the situation in the capital this week.

FLOWER SHOW

Though you may find it difficult to believe, spring is here. At any rate, the first day of spring begins officially in a couple of hours. In case you don't believe it, your Almanac should convince you. But another proof of the arrival of spring is the opening of America's ~~next~~ annual big flower show, the International show which opened this afternoon at the Grand Central Palace in New York. ~~This year~~ It is being run not only by the Horticultural Society, the New York Forest Club, the Garden Club of America, and the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, but the Federated Garden Clubs of New Jersey are also collaborating and competing.

Three of the gold medals to be awarded at this show have been sent by Premier Mussolini of Italy. They'll be given for the best entries in three different groups. The Royal Horticultural Society of England is also offering a cup, as well as the Dutch Government. One of the fascinating exhibits is a specimen of the Cocoloba tree from the Dutch East Indies. This tree has the largest leaves of any known plant. Some of them are as big as

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grand pianos. This is being shown on this continent for the first time. Anotherⁿ exhibit which attracted ^{the} curiosity of hundreds of visitors, was a new variety of rose called the Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It's a beautiful flower in yellow and apricot shades.

Newspaper men were commenting on the fact that J. Pierpont Morgan was one of the first visitors at the Palace, in fact he was there before the opening. He put aside the burdens of the banking world in order to see that the beautiful six foot lilies which he is exhibiting were properly arranged.

Many other names from the millionaires' club and the Social Register are to be found in the list of exhibitors.

PARROT ENDING

Here is another that I found in that splendid Canadian paper, The Sackville Tribune:

Brown said he could teach his parrot to say 'Hullo' and could do it in an hour. He started to do it, saying "hullo, hullo, hullo" over and over again, for thirty minutes, without the parrot paying the slightest attention to him.

At last the parrot turned his head, looked at Brown with a cold eye, and said ~~to him~~, "line busy."

That is what Jimmy Wallington is saying to me now, so, solong until tomorrow.