

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

~~The facts have been~~
Our ~~worst~~ fears ~~were~~ confirmed about the ~~China~~ Clipper.

The big plane is a hopeless wreck. But more tragic still, every man aboard, all seven, ~~of them~~, perished in the flaming wreckage. To the public at large, the most shocking part of it must be that the head of that ill-fated crew was ^{our friend, the veteran} ~~the supposedly infallible~~ Captain Ed Musick.

~~Everybody in the aviation world who heard the news today gasped in surprise and dismay, saying: "No! Impossible! Not Ed Musick!"~~

Ever since the ^{early days} ~~beginning~~ of Pan-Americans, ^{Airways he had} ~~with~~ been their star pilot — and especially in the ^{organized} trans-Pacific service, the fame of Ed Musick had ~~been~~ ^{gone to the ends of the earth.}

~~built up with the general public.~~ He was as noted for his caution, ^{— and noted for} for the sober, painstaking preparations he made, ~~as he was for the~~ ^{the} way he shunned publicity. ~~It came to him in spite of himself.~~

The ^{tragic} ~~pitiful~~ news of the ^{mid-ocean} ~~completeness~~ of the disaster was made public at half past three this afternoon by ^{Juan} ~~Warren~~ Trippe, President of Pan-American. As he put it: "The death of Captain Musick

and his crew is an irreparable loss to our Company and will be a distinct loss to American aviation." To which he added:

"Captain Musick had contributed much to American prestige in the air." And those sentiments are ~~pretty much~~ echoed by everybody

interested in ^{aerial} ~~area~~ transport.

Musick and his ^{companions met their fate} ~~colleagues died~~ about eight thirty

yesterday morning, Samoan time. The fire that destroyed them, as well as the Clipper, is described as ~~being~~ of unknown origin.

As ^{Juan} ~~Mr. Warren~~ Trippe ^{put it:-} ~~said~~ "I feel that Captain Musick and his flight crew are entirely blameless. ⁾ ~~Radio reports from the plane~~

~~prove that on this flight as on all previous occasions he carefully followed the most conservative operating technique possible.~~

The following, so far as we know now, is what happened:-

The Samoan Clipper was missing twenty-two hours and seven minutes.

Soon after taking off from Pago Pago, Ed Musick found a leak

in his oil line. Thereupon, he turned back to Samoa. So doing,

he notified the base stations that he was dumping excess gasoline,

~~This he was doing~~ in order to trim his ship to the proper weight

for landing. He radioed that he expected to come down ^{at} ~~to~~ Pago Pago in ten minutes. Just ten minutes from safety and in a flash the tragedy happened!

The conjecture of ~~mechanical~~ experts is that ~~this~~ ^{as it was dumped, - caught fire -} gasoline caught fire as it was falling into the ocean, ^{that this} ~~and that an~~ explosion ^{which} ~~destroyed~~ the Clipper. ^{ginted the gas coming from the leaks aboard the} All sorts of rumors came in over

the air. One, which seemed authentic, reported that a column of smoke had been seen rising from the water. ~~Other reports~~ ^{that this}

~~that waves near Tutuila were covered with "oil slick"~~ Uncle Sam's mine sweeper, the AVOCET, was sent to hunt for the wreckage ^{and}

[^] Early this afternoon, came a bulletin that a motor launch from the AVOCET had found the wreckage of the Samoan Clipper at a point fourteen miles northwest of Pago Pago. ~~It was not until an hour and a half later that Captain Musick and the six of his crew had also been given up for lost.~~

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RETAKE

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a way will be found to prevent a recurrence."

~~Incidentally,~~ There were no passengers aboard, the
Samoan Clipper, ^{She} was carrying ~~nothing but~~ air express, ^{and her} ~~in addition~~
~~crew of seven.~~

~~to the crew~~ The circumstances of this giant Clipper perishing
so tragically in the Pacific Ocean, make this ^{one of} the most dramatic

of all airplane tragedies. But ⁱⁿ ~~as a matter of fact, in point of~~

~~numbers,~~ ^{the crash} that disaster last Monday, in Montana, ^{more lives} ~~was more serious~~
~~since ten people, including passengers, perished.~~
^{were lost.}

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CRASH FOLLOW LEAD

The President of Northwest Airlines announced today that all ships of the same model as the one that crashed near ^{Montana,} ~~Bouzeman~~, have been grounded. Said Mr. Hunter of the Northwest Company:- "Our investigation of the circumstances surrounding the crash ~~near Bouzeman~~ indicates ~~to us~~ that the accident was not due to weather conditions, visibility, nor human error, ~~of either the pilot or the ground crew.~~ The ship was on its course and maintaining proper altitude when misfortune overtook it. Therefore," adds the President of Northwest Airlines, "We have grounded all ships of this model until we receive the official report, ⁾ ~~of the qualified investigators."~~ ~~And he adds: "We will maintain regular passenger service with ships of another model."~~

WEATHER

Apparently we're in for a ~~real bout~~ of severe weather.

That's what we learn from ~~indications~~ to the north ^{where} ~~the~~

~~The people of~~ western Ontario ^{has} ~~have~~ been bucking the worst

snowstorm in many winters, ~~with snow falling heavily all over~~

~~that part of the province, traffic crawling over the highways~~

~~and roads, and a constant stream of accident reports pouring in.~~

The Dominion Observatory of Toronto predicts that it will ^{get} ~~get~~

worse before it gets better.

^{has fallen}
Snow ~~fell~~ for fifteen hours in Philadelphia, three

people died in northern Pennsylvania, and one in southern New Jersey.

^{There have been}
~~There were~~ scores of accidents.

ACCIDENT

For example (A blinding) has just
~~The terrific~~ snowstorm caused a peculiar accident in

Ontario. ~~First of all,~~ The Michigan Central's crack train, the Wolverine, was stalled on the main line near Fletcher, Ontario, on account of engine trouble. It was an awkward time because another fast train on the same line, the DETROITER, was expected at any moment. ~~So~~ To avoid a collision, the station agent at Fletcher threw a switch, then ran out ^{to} ~~hell bent for election to~~ flag the engineer of the DETROITER. The snowstorm was so blinding that the engineer couldn't see the station ~~eng~~ agent's flag. Tearing along at sixty miles an hour, he ran through the switch, and tore a corner from the station. The wrecked locomotive then plunged twelve feet down an embankment, dragging two baggage cars after it.

By a ^{mir}acle of good fortune, the fourteen passenger coaches ~~that he was pulling~~ remained on the rails. Fortunately, also, the injuries to the engineer and fireman were only slight.

CONFERENCE

There's going to be a big conference at the White House
next week, *— a still bigger one.* Fifty of the biggest tycoons of American business will
meet with President Roosevelt on January Nineteenth. There they
will discuss methods by which the government can get together with
business to put an end to the recession. The men who have been
invited and accepted the invitation are practically the same as
the personnel of the Business Advisory Council to the Secretary
of Commerce.

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RELIEF

Capital and labor are in agreement on one thing.

Both employers and employed believe that the railroads should be allowed to raise passenger and freight rates. That developed today at a hearing of the Senate Committee investigating unemployment. J. J. Pelley, President of the Association of American Railroads, was the chief spokesman. Said he:- "If the Interstate Commerce Commission will allow those increases in rates, the incomes of the railroads will go up half a billion dollars a year, railroads will need new equipment, a hundred and fifty thousand men now jobless will be employed." And representatives of labor concur in the notion.

RAILROADS FOLLOW RELIEF

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At the same time, a railroad president was telling another Senate Committee that the half billion dollar road increase would be no better than a shot in the arm for half the railroads.

"Fifty per cent of the railroad companies in the country will be insolvent anyway by the end of Nineteen Thirty-Eight." So said President Taplin of the Pittsburgh and West Virginia line.

Senator Wheeler of Montana reminded Mr. Taplin that Congress was proposing a consolidation of railroads into four strong systems. To that said Mr. Taplin:- "You'll have to do it by force for I don't see how you're going to get solvent roads to take over the sick babies of their own free will and accord."

CARDOZO

Grave news comes from Washington about Associate Justice Cardozo of the Supreme Court. Not only is the condition of his heart no better today, but it has developed to a crisis that caused a conference of specialists to be summoned at three o'clock this afternoon. The minute this news was conveyed to the White House, the President and Mrs. Roosevelt called for their car and drove to Justice Cardozo's apartment. Mrs. Roosevelt went inside the apartment while the President remained in his car on the street. Cardozo was too ill ~~to~~ ^{to} even receive this unexpected visit of the First Lady. So she left a bouquet of flowers for the suffering judge.

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AMBASSADOR

There's going to be a new Ambassador from France to Washington. His name is ^{Dwitel} Rene Doynel de St. Quentin. He's one of the career men in France's diplomatic service. For a long while he has been Sub-Director of European Affairs at the Quaid'Orsai. For more than a year and a half he was French Ambassador to Rome but was never received by the King. Premier Mussolini declined to accept ^{his} ~~the~~ credentials ~~of Ambassador St. Quentin~~ because he was not accredited to King Victor Emanuel as "Emperor of Ethiopia." ~~This is because France, like most other League of Nations powers, has persisted in refusing to recognize the conquest. The consequence of that was, of course, that for all that time France has been without an envoy extraordinary and ambassador plenipotentiary in Rome.~~

FRANC

(The money markets of Europe ^{had} ~~were in a sad state of~~ the jitters today. It's all about the French Franc again. There were feverish hours on the Bourse, the stock exchange of Paris. ^{And-} ~~In fact,~~ the nervousness spread across the Channel to ^{London's} Threadneedle Street, where the price of the Franc also dropped.)

~~The situation was considered so ominous, that~~ Premier ^{today} Chaunteps had a private conference with his Finance Minister, George ^SBonnet, about the future of the Franc.

Later, ~~the situation was recognized frankly as a thorough financial crisis. It's attributed to heavy drains that have been made recently on the fund to equalize the exchange. To make matters worse,~~ ^{Large} volumes of capital have been ^{fleeing} ~~expelled~~ from France because the people who own it are alarmed about the social situation.) The government of Premier Chaunteps has been unable to stop the spread of social unrest. ~~In other words, we may expect startling things from Paris before long~~

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NORWAY

A bit of news from Norway ^{will bring pangs of jealousy} ~~may bring a sigh to the breath of~~

^{to} ~~some~~ American taxpayers. King Haakon opened the Parliament at Oslo

today, and it's interesting to learn that Norway has ^{not only a balanced budget but} a surplus in

her treasury. ~~with a balanced budget.~~

LONDON

(John Bull is building himself an air fleet of ten thousand fighting planes.) In other words, a force larger than those of Italy, Germany and Japan put together. Actually, (according to estimates, the total strength of Great Britain in the air will be twelve thousand, two hundred and fifty planes,) including all the reserves.

JAPAN

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The Mikado's government is going to send a new ultimatum to China. That's the rumor from Tokyo. It is supposed to be the first consequence of the imperial conference that Emperor Hirohito held yesterday. The text of the ultimatum will be: "Stop your fighting, or you'll be annihilated." The Japanese high command has made plans to invade and capture all the important parts of China. And they will do so unless the Chinese sue for peace. And, if the Chinese won't listen, the Mikado's government will finally declare war.

All this is unofficial. The proceedings of the imperial conference are held a strict secret. Nevertheless, the word is out that if Japan goes to the length of declaring war, the fighting and destruction that have gone on so far won't be a circumstance to ^{what} ~~xxx~~ will follow.

In the meantime Russia continues to move more troops and more munitions across Siberia. And the Japanese are worried about that!

STAR

Imagine if you can, a single star almost as big as the entire solar system, ~~that's~~ the system of which our own little old earth is just one minute part! To American astronomers belongs the credit for discovering ~~just~~ such a star. It was found and located definitely on the map of the heavens by the three chief scientists at the Yerkes Observatory, in ~~Williams Bay,~~ Wisconsin.

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The discovery is described modestly as one of the outstanding contributions to science made by the Yerkes Observatory in its four years' existence. To a layman, that sounds like a considerable under-statement. The learned gentlemen responsible for this feat are Dr. Otto Struve, Professor Gerald Kuiper, and Professor Bengt Stromgren. They've named their new star Epsilon Aurigae." And, says Dr. Struve, "If Epsilon Aurigae were placed in the center of our solar system, it would engulf all the planets as far as Uranus. Only Neptune and Pluto would remain outside."

It's interesting to learn that the discovery of a star is no accidental, sudden achievement. The finding of Epsilon

Aurigae is the culmination of work that has been going on since Eighteen Ninety-nine.

Amateur astronomers will be interested to learn that "one of the most startling results of the discovery was the detection of a shell of ionized gas in the outermost atmosphere surrounding ~~the stars~~ that incredibly gigantic star.

D.A.R.

Left-handed compliments flew through the air in Washington today. They flew between the United Mine Workers of America, the principal union controlled by John L. Lewis and that august organization of ladies known as the Daughters of the American Revolution. Two years ago, the D.A.R. allowed the Union to hold its biennial convention in Constitutional Hall, which is owned by the D.A.R. The Union applied again for the Nineteen Thirty-Eight Convention. This year they got a flat turn down. And the retort of the Union is that "the D.A.R. is an aristocratic high-hat institution whose members parade around like pea fowls in silks and sealskins and imagine themselves the elect of the human race."

A spokesman of the D.A.R. said the insult was a little far fetched. She pointed out that for one thing, sealskins are highly unfashionable. ~~And so long until tomorrow~~

RUNAWAYS

The police of Indiana and ~~the~~ surrounding states ~~have been~~
~~at work~~ ^{for} five days ^{over} ~~the~~ disappearance of a thirteen year old
school girl. She vanished from her parents' home at Bremen,
Indiana, last Friday. At the same time, a fourteen year old boy,
from one of the neighbors' family, was nowhere to be found.

Early this morning the cops of Miami, Florida, came upon
a car parked near the beach. In it, fast asleep, were a boy and a
girl. ~~They were the~~ ^{the} missing ^{runaways} couple from Bremen, Indiana. ~~The~~
~~slipping~~ ~~to~~ ~~mark~~ ~~is~~ ~~are~~ ~~aged~~ ~~fourteen~~ ~~years~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~couple~~ ~~had~~ ~~planned~~ ~~their~~

~~trip for several days.~~ The car belonged to the girl's parents.
They had with them when they left ^{home just} six dollars and a half in cash.

When that was gone, they sold the ^{car} radio for five dollars, and then
the horn for three and a half. ^{Next} ~~Then~~ they disposed of the seat covers,

and a spare tire. ^{Next} ~~and~~ the Eloping Juliet ^{sold her} overnight bag for another
six dollars and a half. They had ~~not~~ tried to get married, they
said, because they were afraid no state through which they drove
would issue them a license and that if they applied they might be
apprehended. ~~So there's joy today in two households in Bremen,~~

~~Indiana.~~

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PACIFIST

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Here's another bit of news showing how American university men feel about the "I won't go to war" movement. The DAILY BRUIN, newspaper of the Los Angeles division of the University of California, took a poll. They asked two hundred and ninety-one of the male under-graduates whether they would fight for their country in an aggressive war. Of those two hundred and ninety-one, two hundred and ten said flatly they would refuse to fight. Thirty others said:- "We'd wait until we were drafted." Only fifteen said: "Sure, we would fight. We'd volunteer."

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The remainder had various other suggestions. One ^{chap} ~~man~~ said he would start a munitions factory. Some said they would go to another country. Some said defiantly:- "We'd go to prison first." One of them ^{opined} ~~opined~~ that he would take "half a dozen blondes to the North Pole." *And s-l-u-t-m.*

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