

1 GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

2 There has been a buzzing all over
3 the world today, especially in circles
4 that deal with international affairs.
5 In the capitals of all the important
6 countries, the gist of opinion seems to
7 be --HOOVER HAS TAKEN A HAND IN THE
8 GAME.

9 President Hoover has declared
10 that the United States government intends
11 to do something to help Germany in her
12 present economic plight. At 6:30 P. M.
13 this evening, the President issued a
14 statement that within three hours time
15 has been wirelessly and cabled to the
16 ends of the earth--a statement acclaimed
17 in a score of foreign capitals tonight.
18 This statement outlines a plan of action
19 that may well prove to be the temporary
20 solution to the present world-wide
21 economic crisis that mankind has been
22 hoping for.

23 Right in the middle of that crisis
24 is Germany, with all that reparations
25 money that she is called upon to pay, and

1 tonight the German leaders are praising
2 President Hoover's plan.

3 The President today held a series
4 of conferences with the leaders, both
5 Democratic and Republican, in the House
6 and Senate; also with secretaries of the
7 government departments in Washington,
8 and important financiers like General
9 Dawes and Owen Young.

10 During the day the United Press
11 interpreted the situation this way:-
12 The United States government may help
13 Germany indirectly by readjusting the
14 British war debt to the United States.
15 England has announced all along that if
16 her debt to the United States was cut
17 down, why she would cut down the debt
18 that Germany owes her.

19 Another thing that President
20 Hoover might do is to have the Federal
21 Reserve Bank of the United States advance
22 a large credit to Germany. Germany is in
23 the middle of a bad financial crisis, and
24 if somebody lent Fritz some money, he
25 might be able to straighten things out.

1 And so Uncle Sam may say:-
2 "Fritz, I can lend you a bit of spare
3 change, just to help tide things over."
4 And Fritz undoubtedly would say
5 dankeshon with much feeling.

6 It is pointed out that such a course
7 would probably have a psychological
8 effect even greater than the direct
9 financial effect. The United Press
10 reminds us of a time five years ago when
11 England was in a ticklish financial
12 position. Uncle Sam advanced a credit of
13 300 million to the Bank of England, and
14 that gave England so much encouragement
15 that she was able to get over her financial
16 troubles without touching a penny of the
17 money that had been placed to her credit.

18 And right along those lines comes
19 a report of the effect that the President's
20 new policy has had in Germany.
21 Everybody is bucked up over there.
22 Fritz is giving three cheers--or three
23 hochs, I should say.

24 And now tonight came the latest
25 development. President Hoover issued

1 his statement in which he proposes a
2 one-year suspension of both payments
3 on reparations and payments on war debts--
4 a one-year breathing spell for everybody.
5 The proposal is aimed to rescue Germany
6 from its financial plight, strengthen
7 the economic position of Europe and
8 indirectly of the United States and give
9 impetus to a business revival throughout
10 the whole world. / And that sounds like
11 big news indeed.

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1 They're having a complicated tangle
2 of politics over in Austria. The republic
3 on the ~~the~~ Danube is still without a
4 cabinet of ministers to carry on the
5 government.

6 The latest word^o is that Monseigneur^{ur}
7 Seipel, the ~~ecclesiastic~~ ecclesiastic
8 statesman, has failed in an attempt to
9 form a government. He tried to line up
10 a group of ministers ~~that~~^{who} would ~~get~~^{have} the
11 support of the Austrian Parliament. But
12 no^w he says ~~he~~^{it} can't ~~do it~~^{be done}.

13 Monseigneur^o Seipel is, ~~of course,~~
14 one of the most striking figures ~~among~~^{in all}
15 European ~~statesmen~~^{today}. He was a quiet,
16 modest parish priest when the strange
17 current of affairs at the end of the
18 World War put him at the head of the
19 Austrian ~~g~~overnment. And ever since he
20 has remained an outstanding political
21 figure. ~~He~~ declares that the situation
22 is serious, but not hopeless.

23 The New York Evening Post comments
24 that this sounds^{just} like Vienna, where
25 they're always optimistic. When things

are going from bad to worse, the good-natured Austrian shrugs his shoulders, says something as cheery as he can, and then starts figuring on some such serious matter as how he's going to take an outing over the weekend. Meanwhile another prominent Austrian has tried to form a cabinet and has failed.

The foreign bankers who have lent money to Austria demand that the politicians in Vienna balance its budget -- that is, that it doesn't go on spending more money than its got.

The Austrian farmers, on the other hand, want the government to spend more money for farm relief, and right away.

The Socialists insist that there must be a lot of social welfare schemes and that the government has got to help the working man. And that costs money.

The average Austrian has one particularly clear idea, which is that he doesn't want any more taxes.

All of which tangles the situation still further.

It is believed that the President

1 of Austria will have to take the bull
2 by the horns. He'll simply have to
3 appoint a cabinet and then tell the
4 Austrian Parliament that they'll have
5 **■** to support the ministers, or heaven
6 knows what will happen to the country.

7 In other words, the political
8 situation [^]looks blue [^] ^{than ever} on the beautiful
9 Blue Danube.

1 Tonight strong forces of soldiers
2 are patrolling the streets of the city of
3 Oviedo, in Spain. They've been having
4 Communistic riots in Oviedo. One person
5 was killed, and 16 were injured.

6 ~~The Associated Press states that~~
7 ~~the~~ trouble began when a conservative
8 Republican candidate was making a speech
9 in a theater. A mob of 10,000 radicals
10 stormed the theater. They charged
11 inside, some of them crying: LONG LIVE
12 SOVIET RUSSIA. There was a fierce hand
13 to hand fight between the Communists and
14 the audience. ~~in the theater.~~

15 ~~And so~~ the troops were called out,
16 and are now under strict orders to
17 squelch any attempt to start more trouble.

BURMA

Now comes a dispatch from a far off Oriental land. And it tells us of some things that have a strangely American sound. The country in question is Burma, the land of pagodas, where the mighty Irrawaddy River is the broad highway from Rangoon to Mandalay.

As the Associated Press tells us, there has been plenty of trouble out in Burma of late -- one revolt after another. The reason is said to be the depression. Burma has a farm problem. Only the women do most of the work over there, while the men gamble and enjoy life. Well, one of the important crops of the country is cotton, and prices are down. The troubles of King Cotton are annoying in Burma just as they are "away down South in Dixie" over here.

Our largest agricultural problem is wheat, the low price of wheat, and the over-production of wheat. In Burma it's rice, the low price of rice, and the over-production of rice.

The British authorities in Burma are tackling the question of farm relief. They're making loans to the farmers and are easing up on taxes.

And Burma has its unemployment problem. The land is full of Chinese and Hindus who compete for jobs with the native Burmese. There's bitter feeling against both the Chinese and the Hindus, especially against the Hindus. And thousands of worshippers of Vishnu and Shiva are going back to their native land in the valley of the Ganges or on the great plateau of the Deccan.

Yes, naturally there's a tinkle of temple bells and a far away Oriental flavor to any news from Burma, but some of it does sound strangely like Iowa and Illinois.

1 Oh, Yeah? It's fine old scholarly
2 English. What is? Oh, yeah!

3 In the current issue of the Literary
4 Digest is a brief article which reminds
5 us that many peculiar American expressions
6 are really old English out of Shakespeare
7 or Chaucer.

8 The Digest quotes a scholarly
9 letter, written to the ^{ultra-conservative} London Morning
10 Post, in which a learned Englishman
11 discusses the matter of "oh, yeah".

12 He declares that he is astonished
13 that some Englishmen take exception to
14 that particular Americanism, because
15 "yeah" may be more classically correct
16 than "yes". He admits that the American
17 "yep" ~~is~~ for "yes" is not correct. But he
18 finds that it has an amusing crispness.

19 Then he goes on to point out that
20 "yeah" may be the original pronunciation
21 of the Biblical word which we pronounce
22 "yea"--y-e-a. He thinks that the clergy
23 altered the pronunciation of y-e-a to
24 make it rhyme ~~with~~ ⁱⁿ the well-known
25 expression--yea and nay. Maybe it would

1 be more correct to say "yeah and nay".

2 This erudite Englishman, ^{as the Lit. Dig. tells us,} supposes

3 ~~that the old pronunciation for~~
4 ~~"yea"--in other words,~~ ^{that} "yeah"--was

5 brought over to America by the Pilgrim
6 Fathers. I suppose he means that Miles
7 Standish and Governor Winslow said, "Oh,
8 yeah?"

9 Anyway, it's an interesting idea,
10 isn't it? And the answer is, "Oh, yeah?"

1 In an immense jungle region of
2 South America, one vast tangle of tropical
3 green, soldiers are moving about,
4 marching and countermarching--and trouble
5 is expected.

6 This vast stretch of equatorial
7 forest is called the Grand Chaco. It
8 lies south of the Amazon basin, on the
9 border ^{between} ~~of~~ Paraguay and Bolivia. This
10 miasmal green land, filled with wild
11 animals and half-tamed tribes of Indians,
12 has long been the source of a bitter
13 struggle between Bolivian and Paraguay.

14 The Associated Press reminds us
15 that in 1928 there was ugly fighting in
16 the ~~the~~ Grand Chaco between Bolivian and
17 Paraguayan ~~armies~~ soldiers. The other
18 Latin-American nations got together and
19 persuaded the two quarreling republics
20 to stop the scrap.

21 But now there are signs that the
22 old trouble is on again. Paraguayan
23 troops are said to have penetrated the
24 border-line territory, the No-man's-land
25 that both countries claim.

1 And in answer, Bolivia has ordered
2 two regiments of soldiers into the
3 disputed ~~■~~ region. They say the soldiers
4 of Paraguay have moved to take possession
5 ~~and~~ that the Bolivians on their side are
6 determined to force a showdown.

7 All of which makes it look as
8 though there might be fury and fighting
9 in that jungle-choked No-man's-land
10 ~~district~~ in the wilds of South America.

*Out if
necessary*

1 A suit for 105 million dollars
2 was filed in the courts today. Twenty-
3 six Russian corporations are suing
4 the Standard Oil Company of New York and
5 the Vacuum Oil Company.

6 These Russians state that under
7 the old Imperial Government of Russia
8 they held concessions in the Baku oil
9 fields. They say that when the
10 Bolsheviks got control of Russia, the
11 Soviet authorities seized these
12 concessions without any remuneration to
13 the owners.

14 Since then the oil from their
15 concessions has been sold to the big
16 American corporations. The amount of
17 that oil, they declare, comes to 35
18 million barrels.

19 And so, as the New York Evening
20 Post tells us, the statement is made that
21 the Standard and Vacuum Oil companies
22 have been buying from the Soviets oil
23 which did not legally belong to the
24 Soviets, but which, according to the law,
25 belonged to the 26 Russian firms that
have now gone to court about it.

1 Now wait a minute -- ^{here's something that's} ~~this is a~~
2 ~~little~~^a bit cheeky. I'll bet some of the
3 boys out in Chicago are up on their
4 hind legs.

5 Mayor Cermak of Chicago has
6 received a telegram from the Chamber
7 of Commerce of Salt Lake City. And the
8 Mayor promptly made that telegram
9 public to the indignant citizens of the
10 "windy city." The Associated Press
11 quotes ^{Salt Lake} the [^]telegram as follows --

12 NEWS DISPATCHES SAY YOUR CITY IS
13 BROKE. WHAT WILL YOU TAKE FOR WHAT YOU
14 HAVE LEFT? WE HAVE PLENTY OF MONEY FOR
15 INVESTMENT PURPOSES AND MIGHT BE
16 INDUCED TO BUY CHICAGO AND USE IT AS A
17 SUBURB.

18 Well, I know and admire both
19 Chicago and Salt Lake City. Salt Lake
20 City is a beautiful place, but even so,
21 I don't like to see ^{the Salt Lake folks} ~~it~~ picking ~~so hard~~
22 ~~on old Chicago~~ on my old home town - Chicago.

1 A tornado swept across the
2 southeastern part of Minnesota today.
3 It hit the town of Albert Lea, ^{south of Minneapolis and St. Paul.} Several
4 casualties were reported by the Associated
5 Press, and there was considerable damage
6 to property.

7 And almost at the same time another
8 tornado hit the town of Elk River.

9 Altogether, it was a day of
10 freak weather in Minnesota.

1 In Jersey City, New Jersey, there's
2 a beauty parlor that was the scene of
3 a peculiar robbery today.

4 A man walked in and said he was an
5 insect exterminator. It doesn't seem
6 exactly appropriate that a beauty parlor
7 should need the services of an insect
8 exterminator. But, anyway, the man said
9 he had been sent by the landlord to
10 exterminate the insects.

11 Well, the lady who ran the beauty
12 ~~shop~~ shop said O.K., and the insect
13 exterminator went to work. He started in
14 to fumigate, and what a fumigation that
15 was! He took two drinking cups, put some
16 powder in one and some acid in the other.
17 Then he poured the acid over the powder.
18 The result was an aroma, a perfume that
19 was something terrific. The beautician
20 and her assistant grabbed their noses
21 and ran into the street. They stayed
22 in the street until the clouds of perfume
23 had drifted away.

24 The United Press informs us that
25 when they returned, the insect exterminator

1 had disappeared. And so had \$250 and
2 a couple of diamond rings which the
3 beautician had left behind. The insects
4 also had disappeared.

5 Well, that's what I'd call a
6 lowdown trick. I suppose all we can do
7 is to think ^{up a few} ~~the~~ names of a few insects
8 to call that insect exterminator.

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1 I have a scientific communication
2 here on an exceedingly scientific
3 subject. The subject is petrified
4 forests. Few people are aware of the
5 remarkable wonders of the petrified
6 forests of our great country.

7 The Tall Story Club takes a great
8 interest in petrified forests, and,
9 in fact, spends much of its time
10 collecting petrified trees.

11 R. S. Steffens, of Jersey City,
12 New Jersey, has written a monograph
13 on petrified forests which reveals some
14 hitherto unknown facts.

15 Brother Steffens relates that he
16 was on a hunting trip in Northern
17 Maine several years ago, when one
18 night his French-Indian guide told him
19 about a petrified forest in Maine.

20 Here's the way the guide explained it:

21 "Oui, eet is wan ver beeg wood,
22 'bout tree days hike from here.

23 "Ver' few peepul know 'bout dis
24 petrified forest. C'est ver' hard to
25 get dere 'count^{wan} heavy underbrush and

swamp. I been dere wance and saw strange tings. In wan place, at top of big petrified tree sat wan ol' eagle, petrified, wid his wings spread just lak he was gettin' ready to fly. 'Bout fifty step away, behind fallen petrified tree was wan big Sioux Indian Brave on wan knee.

"Dis Indian was petrified hard just lak flint. And in his hand was wan petrified bow from which he'd just let fly arrow at dat ol' petrified eagle in de petrified tree. And by de bon Dieu! if dat arrow wasn't petrified in de air, half way between Indian and eagle."

At this point Mr. Steffens declares he felt that the story was becoming a bit tall. So he said:

"Now, see here, Louie, isn't that putting it just a bit strong to say that the arrow was petrified in mid-air? Why, don't you know about the law of gravity?"

"Eh, bien!" exclaimed the guide, "Dat law of gravity in dat forest she petrified too."

And that story leaves me a bit petrified. In fact,

END - 3

it leaves me so petrified that about all I can do is hope you're
not petrified too, and

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.