

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1938.

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GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The frost king struck a blow today at the hearts of all honeymooners. He created a disaster at Niagara, a place of sweet memories to many married couples. To begin with, the river was frozen solid. Then came the heavy gales of yesterday. ^{and} They broke up the ice in Lake Erie, ^{River.} and the upper Niagara. Huge masses were carried over the falls. ^D Early today that caused a jam which reached a height of sixty feet in some places. In fact, at one point the ice ^{jam} formed a natural bridge over the river. The chief of the reservation police at Niagara Falls pronounced it the worst blockade that had ever happened there since the jam of Nineteen ~~Nine~~. ^H Presently, ^{the ice} ~~it~~ threatened the historic Falls View ^B Bridge. All traffic from both sides was shut off when danger became imminent. Then observers saw irresistible masses of ice squeezing the abutments and the bridge began to buckle in the

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center. To the eyes of spectators it looked as though the bridge were moving down stream. The jam grew and grew until it was ninety feet high. And early this afternoon there was a roar like an explosion and one of the two giant steel arches ^{of the bridge} cracked off, a complete ruin.

That was on the American side of the river. A few minutes later, the arch on the Canadian side began to sway. Then the broken sections of the bridge began moving down the river threatening power plants and homes on both banks. One of the power companies on the Canadian side was obliged to shut down. The police on both shores had their hands full, pushing back spectators, Canadian and American crowds that watched the mighty spectacle.

It's a sad thing all round, though no lives were lost. For it was from this ^{wrecked} bridge that people got their best view of the famous spectacle of the Falls. The last reports of engineers were that the power supply of the entire district was threatened, since the hydro-electric plants on the American side are also in danger.

WEATHER FOLLOW LEAD

The crashing of that historic old bridge wasn't the only weather hazard today. There ^{rising} are floods in the Connecticut Valley. Not only the Connecticut River but the Farmington and Naugatuck are over their banks. ~~The~~ Low lying lands ~~are~~ under water. Not only farms but residence and business sections ~~are~~ damaged. The Park River has submerged several of the streets in Hartford. Ice jams ^{are being} ~~had to be~~ dynamited. ~~in several places. Main highways are under water. Pumps had to be manned to drain cellars.~~

The wintry gales ^{coming down} ~~that started~~ from Alaska have reached as far south as Florida. The entire population of Brooksville, Florida, rushed outdoors to watch the first snow that had fallen there in years.

In St. Louis, bandits took advantage of the cold wave in a particularly cruel way. They held up stores, robbed everybody they found there, and then compelled the victims to take off their pants. Pretty harsh treatment at ^{zero-weather} ~~a~~ time when pants are more than ever necessary.

~~Uncle Sam's weather prophet in Chicago says upper~~

EXPLORERS

Another polar expedition is ~~going~~ to be led by the famous Russian Professor, Otto Schmidt. ^{This time} ~~It will be~~ a relief expedition.

~~It's going~~ To bring back those Russian scientists who ^{have} ~~had~~ been drifting on an ice floe ^{across} ~~over~~ the Arctic Ocean since last May.

~~That's~~ The group ^{flown} ~~who were taken~~ by planes ~~right~~ to the Pole ^{and left} ~~itself~~ ^{there on the ice to} ~~and~~ established a station ~~there~~ for ^{Polar} ~~prolonged~~ observation.

Their station, carried by the Arctic drift which Nansen ^{discovered} ~~established~~ many years ago, has been moving all these months. The ice on which they are encamped is now ^{far far} ~~considerably~~ south of the Pole, ~~and is~~ close to the coast of Greenland, ^{approaching} ~~There it will soon run into~~ warmer waters, ^{where the ice flow will break up} ~~which naturally makes their position pretty~~ ~~and melt.~~ ~~hazardous.~~

However, a Soviet ice-breaker, a hundred miles away from them, has been in communication by radio.

ROOSEVELT

The topic that occupied all business men in America today was President Roosevelt's statement. The paragraph that they scanned most closely was the one that hinted at another huge pouring out of Uncle Sam's money. Some people interpret that as a threat. Unless business and industry will cut prices ~~and~~ ~~wixx~~ there will be another wave of that celebrated priming of the pump. And that, they say, means inflation, which has always been a calamity.

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At the same time ~~Uncle Dan Roper~~ Secretary of Commerce ^{Roper} made an announcement, Invitations are being sent to five hundred small business men in various parts of the country. They're being invited to come to Washington, to hold a conference and think up plans to ~~mx~~ end the recession. Then, they can select a committee to represent them which will meet the President and tell him their ideas.

STOCKS

(It was a tough day on Wall Street. The prices of stocks dropped anywhere from one to six points.) Not since November, last ~~year~~ ^{fall} has the New York Exchange seen such excitement and hectic activity. Several times the ticker tape was behind the market. ~~The prices of bonds also went down, as well as of wheat.~~

~~Some~~ Commentators explained this as a reaction to President Roosevelt's statement. ~~But~~ Others pointed out that this flurry of selling followed immediately upon the announcement that several important companies skipped their dividends, and a couple of mines in the west were shut down throwing more men out of jobs.

LABOR

Once again there's a glimmer of hope for peace in the labor world. The olive branch ~~was~~^{is} held out by President Green of the American Federation. He made a statement at Miami that had all the ring of sincerity. ^{Here it is: -} Any time the C.I.O. makes the first move, it will find the Federation willing and ready to meet it half way.

Then Mr. Green made the situation more clear. He said that at the last conference the Federation had suggested a compromise, a plan by which organized labor might be united. Everybody on the Committee for Industrial Organization had accepted it. But Chairman John L. Lewis put his foot down.

~~ss~~Said Mr. Green today at Miami:- "Any time Mr. Lewis changes his mind, we will be more than willing. We're not meeting here in belligerent attitude. It's up to Mr. Lewis."

ADD LABOR

While the leaders of the Federation were meeting in Miami, John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers ^{presided over} ~~had~~ a convention in Washington. ^{Chairman} ~~Chairman~~ Lewis made a prompt reply to ^{President} ~~Chairman~~ Green's offer. "The C.I.O.," he said, "is also willing to make peace on certain conditions. The principal condition would be a plan by which either the American Federation would absorb the C.I.O. or the other way around." And he said:- "If the Federation really wants peace, here's what I'll do:- I'll recommend to the four million members of the C.I.O. that next Tuesday they march into the Federation, horse, foot and artillery." "But," he added, "the Federation must issue charters to C.I.O. units and later call a convention to arrange details."

Then he continued:- "If the Federation leaders do not care for this, here's another idea:- Let the entire membership of the Federation next Tuesday march into the C.I.O., horse, foot and artillery. And I can promise that the C.I.O. will issue charters to all their units and later call a convention to arrange details."

A university Professor offered a recipe for prosperity today. It was Professor James Harvey Rogers of Yale. His recipe isn't exactly new. In fact the plan has been followed by ~~both~~ Hitler, ^{and Britain} ~~and~~ Mussolini, - armament. Let Uncle Sam spend even more hundreds of millions than he ~~is~~ now, ^{far} ~~to build~~ airplanes, tanks, warships. That's what Professor Rogers told the Women's Conference on National Defense in Washington. He said:- "A speedy rearmament program would, ~~in my opinion,~~ do more than anything else to dispel the present situation and ~~to~~ restore to the peace-loving countries the dominating influence in world affairs."

The Senate Committee on the Navy did not hear Professor Rogers say this. But while he was speaking it was endorsing the House Program for Naval Appropriations, not only endorsing it but increasing it.

SUN - CARS

A couple of weeks ago the news gave us the explanation that the recession in the automobile business was caused by ~~ix~~ the falling demand for used cars. Brand new automobiles were not the crux of the situation -- it was the used car market. And today we find at Columbus Ohio they're taking action along the line of that idea -- a used car exposition. Right out in the main streets, ^{all through} ~~of~~ the business district, ^{a huge} ~~an~~ auto show, thrilling illumination and the festooning of ~~ix~~ flags. This coming Friday and Saturday the business streets of Columbus will be aglow with the first ^{vast} ~~an~~ out-door used car exposition on record.

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TAXES

The statesmen of Philadelphia are in a wrangle over taxes. ~~the~~ That vexed problem of the sales tax. The City Council passed an ordinance levying two per cent on all sales except food and necessities. ~~the~~ Almost exactly the same as the sales levy ~~that~~ Mayor LaGuardia imposed in New York. Out of the funds that it produces, Father Knickerbocker pays his bill for relief of the unemployed. There was a good deal of grumbling about it, in fact there still is, though New York has objected to it ^{more} as a nuisance rather than as an imposition. However, it has been accepted by the Gothamites and on the whole has been considered an unfortunate necessity. Many states have sales taxes and have stuck to them for several years. New Jersey tried it out a couple of years ago but the complaints were so clamorous that it was revoked.

So that's what vexes Philadelphia today. Mayor Wilson, who is sick in bed, ~~has~~ sent a message to the Council that if the ordinance was sent to him he would promptly and emphatically veto it. What he wants instead is a city income tax. ^{Mayor} ~~the~~ Wilson claims that not only business men but civic groups, private citizens, and the labor unions, are on his side in opposing the sales tax.

CHINA

In China, two huge armies are facing each other tonight in the Yangtse Valley. General Chiang Kai-shek has constructed a long line of defense modeled after the famous French Maginot Line. The Chinese forces are massed along a lengthy string of concrete pill boxes, awaiting the Japanese attack. The Japanese are said to have landed an army of invaders at Lienyungkang. That's a seaport, the eastern terminus of the Lung Hai Railroad. The Chinese have been expecting them for some time, in fact ~~they~~ blew up the harbor works at Lienyungkang a month ago. *This newest Japanese move* ~~This~~ is believed to be a thrust by the Japanese high command to separate north China from south China. ~~So along that line of concrete pill boxes that Chiang Kai-shek has determined to make a crucial stand.~~ *crucial* The battle may begin at any moment, and the belief is that it will be a decisive one.

ETHIOPIA

News from Ethiopia, but the reports are conflicting.

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One side of the argument tells us that in the last two months six thousand of Mussolini's soldiers were killed, including native Askaris. The fighting took place in the northwestern part of Italy's new empire. What's more, three battalions of Italy's fighters from Eritrea deserted and joined the unconquered Ethiopian forces.

All of that comes from the Ethiopian Legation, which maintains a stubborn existence in London. And the prompt retort from Rome was: "Nonsense!" A spokesman of the Italian government says: "The source of the statement is enough to prove how unreliable it is." And he added: "It is obvious, it's to influence the Council of the League of Nations which is now meeting at Geneva."

SPAIN

The sky flashed its maximum
terror today — in Spain!

~~Here's news from Spain that sounds familiar.~~ (There has

been a continuous ^{air} bombardment of the government lines on the

Teruel front ^{going on} for nearly ten hours ^{now.} More than four hundred

warplanes, Italians and Germans, dropped ^{ing} their fifteen hundred

pound aerial torpedoes. ~~This is the greatest air-~~
~~It's believed to be the biggest aerial~~

raid ^{in the history of the world.} ~~The~~ The government press agency ^{admits} ~~demand~~s that they spread

death and destruction. ~~The~~ Bombs ~~were~~ dropped by the hundreds of

tons! The planes literally filled the sky like ~~huge~~ swarms of giant

starlings. Leading the attack was a squadron of black tipped

Heinkel bombers from Germany. ~~The~~ The purpose of the raid? ~~was~~ To

blast a path for Franco's infantry.) But the government press

department claims ~~that~~ it failed, that government forces advanced

in spite of that horrendous bombardment.

ARMAMENT

The race to build warships becomes more furious than ever. France is going to make a fresh spurt. Reports from Italy have ^{alarmed} ~~made~~ the French ~~more alarmed than ever~~. So the Chamber of Deputies will be asked to pass ^{huge} ~~more stupendous than~~ ~~ever~~. That was announced today by the Chairman of the Naval Committee of the Chamber. He said: "Italian naval armament threatens to surpass the French, especially in regard to submarines." With Mussolini lined up on the side of Hitler, France can't afford to let that happen.

Presumably, the next thing we'll hear will be another increase of Italy's fleets, and so forth, and so on, ad infinitum.

ZIONISTS

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The plight of Jews in Roumania is about to become an international problem. Under the government of Premier Goga, life in their own country promises to become intolerable. They want to go to Palestine. But if more Jews are admitted to Palestine, it will aggravate the already turbulent situation in the Holyland. So the British Mandate ~~of the~~ government is opposed to admitting them. The Zionists' Congress in Bucharest is about to appeal to the Mandate's Committee of the League of Nations about it.

FAT

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There's a red-haired lady in New York who has adopted an unusual occupation. She is founder, president and sole member of the Institute of Youthful Faces and Figures. The purpose of the Institute is to make the United States fat-conscious. In the course of her life work, she has been gathering some curious statistics. In this country there are two million, seven hundred and fifty thousand tons of fat people. If ~~they~~ ~~were~~ laid end to end at the Equator they would reach one and a third times around the earth.

Maybe it's unchivalrous to repeat this, but the lady says there are more fat women than there are fat men. And among the cities of the country, Chicago ranks first in the number of stout inhabitants. New York is second; Detroit third. And, which city do you suppose has the low record?

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San Francisco. The ~~northern~~ California sun must melt them — and s-l-u-t-m.