

Good Evening, Everybody:

There was a grave disaster in New York today.

A steamer blew up in the East River. As a result between thirty and forty people are dead, many others are missing.

More than sixty are injured. *It's expected that the list of dead will mount to sixty.*

The vessel which blew up was an old steamboat built forty-four years ago to carry people on observation tours around New York harbor. This morning she was <sup>taking</sup> ~~carrying~~ mechanics and laborers to work on the new nine million dollar penitentiary on Riker's Island, ~~which for the benefit of people outside New York, I will explain is~~ in the East River.

Including the workmen and the crew she was carrying ~~altogether~~ 165 men this morning.

She had only gone about a hundred feet from her pier when there was a terrific roar. People ashore could see nothing for the hissing cloud of ~~xx~~ steam and smoke. But

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out of this cloud they could see bodies of men and masses of timber and debris catapulting into the air, and then disappearing again into the water. The description of the disaster in the New York Evening Post says that one limp body hurtled upward in a complete parabola and crashed against a window ~~xx~~ forty feet above ground and five hundred feet away from the boat. Other bodies were hurled ~~to a distance of~~ ~~several~~ hundred <sup>7</sup> feet. ~~W. J. S.~~

Splintered beams' were <sup>flung</sup> ~~xxxxx~~ far and wide. ~~in~~ ~~many directions also.~~ One of them almost demolished the bridge of another steamer ~~which was~~ docked more than a block away.

~~well,~~ As the breeze slowly lifted the cloud of steam and smoke, bystanders looked ~~xxxxx~~ for the old steamer. She had vanished. The ~~polluted~~ waters of the East River were spotted with bodies, but there were no signs of the vessel. Some of these bodies floated limply in the current. Others struggled and splashed.

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Within a few minutes ferryboats, steamers, launches, rowboats, fire department craft, and police patrol boats were tearing over the oily waters to save ~~such as were~~ <sup>those who could</sup> ~~in a condition to~~ be saved. The current is particularly swift in the East River in the neighborhood of ~~the disaster, and~~ <sup>Riker's Island and</sup> some ~~boats~~ <sup>bodies</sup> were carried five ~~miles~~ <sup>or six</sup> down stream.

Most of the victims were iron workers. Some of ~~them~~ were on their way to work for the first time in many months, <sup>and</sup> ~~it was a gala day for them.~~

One survivor relates that he was sitting in the bow of the boat talking politics with his mates. Suddenly ~~in~~ the explosion came. "It is hard", he said, "to realize just what happened. ~~The~~ <sup>merely</sup> He remembers that the ~~boat~~ <sup>vessel</sup> seemed to shake all over and ~~that~~ there was a report like an enormous firecracker exploding. Before he could realize what was happening he felt himself flying ~~into~~ <sup>through</sup> the air. When he struck the water he thought he must be dead - it seemed like another world. Then he goes on to say ~~it was a big surprise to find~~ <sup>"all of a sudden, to my surprise, I found</sup> myself swimming. I must have done that automatically when I struck the water," <sup>he added.</sup>

RUTH

Here's some news about royalty -- baseball royalty -- the Sultan of Swat.

The physician attending Babe Ruth, gave out an encouraging announcement today. The Big Bambino is in bed and resting, though somewhat restless. But his doctor believes that he will have the Sultan in condition to take part in the World Series against the Cubs on September 28th.

## TENNIS

The semi-finals in the National Tennis Championship were played off at Forest Hills today. Henri Cochet, the brilliant Frenchman, met Wilmer Allison of Texas, the Davis Cup veteran. It was the first time since Cochet defeated Allison some weeks ago in Paris in the Davis Cup matches. The result today was:- Cochet won the first set 6 - 1.

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The other match was that between Ellsworth Vines of California, and Vincent Sutter, the dashing lad from New Orleans who startled the tennis world by wiping out George Lott of Chicago yesterday. This match was a corker. It lasted for three hours -- five full sets, three going to deuce several times. In the end Vines won.

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By the way, I've been called down for relaying a phrase I got from some sporting page which called Johnnie Van Ryn a Philadelphian. East Orange-ites are indignant. They say Johnnie Van Ryn is a sunkist orange from East Orange, and they want the whole world to know it.

WHEAT

The government of Canada is about to make an important announcement to grain dealers. <sup>*It concerns*</sup> A monster wheat crop. A dispatch to the Montreal Star says that the Dominion Bureau of Statistics will issue its estimate tomorrow. This estimate will bring the information that Canada's wheat crop this year will be over a hundred million bushels more than last year. That will bring it up to around four hundred million bushels.

## DEBTS

Uncle Sam will not have to wait for his payment of war debt instalments from Europe this year. A dispatch from Paris reports that France has agreed with John Bull not to ask Washington to postpone the payment which is due on the fifteenth of December. On that day France was scheduled to pay the United States about fifty million, Great Britain about a hundred and forty million. Other European nations are expected to follow the examples of Britain and France. On the other hand, Germany is due to pay us eight million ~~dollars~~<sup>at</sup> the end of this month and a story from Berlin says that the Germans probably will ask for a postponement.

BERLIN

From Berlin comes the information that President von Hindenburg received the presiding board of the new Reichstag, the German parliament today. A dispatch to the Cincinnati Post adds to this the report that the Parliament will be dissolved toward the end of next week. The Speaker of the House, who is <sup>a</sup> Lieutenant <sup>of</sup> Adolf Hitler, is believed to have suggested to the President that a combination of the Hitlerites and the Catholics will put the government on a firmer basis. To this suggestion no definite reply was given. ~~The~~ Chancellor <sup>von Papen</sup> will ~~x~~ go before the German Parliament on Monday with a decree for dissolution in his <sup>pocket.</sup> ~~hand.~~ ~~The audience lasted~~ ~~only twenty-five minutes.~~



SPAIN

These are bad days for ~~the~~ grandees of Spain. Most of the wealth of the Iberian Peninsula was, <sup>only</sup> in few hands.

The landed, or what was once known as the rich aristocracy, ~~own~~ <sup>ed</sup> most of the show. But this is going to be changed.

The young Spanish republic is on the verge of confiscating the lands of the <sup>Spanish</sup> grandees. A dispatch from Madrid reports that

a clause calling for confiscation ~~has~~ <sup>been</sup> included in the new plan for agrarian <sup>re-</sup> form. This clause was passed by an

overwhelming majority.

Some two and a half million acres is owned by about one hundred men. <sup>And</sup> When this is seized it will make the

Spanish government proprietor of cattle ranches and bull fight arenas. <sup>So it's</sup> *Adios to the Spanish grandees.*

## KNITTING

Then there is an interesting development in the land of John Bull. The weavers and wollen manufacturers are not delighted about it. Other people think it is a good idea.

~~But~~ The news is that English women are taking up knitting again. Not since the war has England seen such a flicking of knitting needles as is going on today. It is being taken up even ~~in~~ in fashionable circles. Women at seaside resorts knit between dips. Women of leisure knit when they are dummy in a bridge game. Working women knit between jobs. ~~So in England there will be some points once more to the old exaltation, "Tend to your knitting."~~ Merchants are not so keen about ~~this~~ it.

BUSINESS

Some business men in New England are feeling considerably cheered by the increasing prices in the wool market. A dispatch from Boston declares that there <sup>is</sup> also talk of a possibility of advances in the ~~xxxx~~ shoe trade.

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Bradstreet's Weekly Review <sup>states</sup> ~~says~~ today that the wool market is active and the volume of trading is beginning to resemble <sup>normal times.</sup> ~~the normal.~~ It adds that prices are increasing and grades. in practically all lines. The leather market continues active and fairly strong. Increasing business ~~has~~ also ~~been~~ <sup>reported in</sup> ~~noticed in several branches of~~ the clothing industry.

WAGES

There was a significant meeting in Chicago today. The vice-presidents of nine railroads and a number of other officials met to discuss another wage cut for all railroad employees. These officials represent lines serving all parts of the country. At the end of the meeting it was announced that these executives had voted to ~~dismiss~~ demand that all employees accept an additional reduction of 10% beginning February, 1933. Of course the unions are still to be heard from, and that may be another story.

## SATURDAY NIGHT BATH

Here's good news for all who still believe in that grand old American institution, the Saturday night bath, whether you take it in the washtub as I did when I was a youngster, or whether you take it in an exotic, frescoed modern tile bawth.

There's a medical convention in session in New York, and at the Hotel New Yorker, ~~at which~~ Dr. John Currence of the great New York Post Graduate Hospital solemnly informed the assembled medicoes that the good old Saturday night bath, with proper supervision, and some special variation, is one of the best cures for rheumatism.

The question is who has to supervise your bath and what are the variations. Personally I have a weakness for a bath without supervision. Now in Japan <sup>or Sweden ---</sup> -- oh well, I'd better tell that story some other time.

But there's another medical convention going on. This one in Ithaca, New York. That's the meeting of the American Psychological Association.

A story in the Ithaca Journal-News reports an

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interesting contribution by one of the neurological celebrities there. Neurological is a five barrelled word meaning nerve specialist.

Marriage, says this expert, is not a sedative. On the contrary it is distinctly hard on the nerves.

And then too, the psychological doctors were discussing the results of babies. The birth of the first baby does not upset the husband, <sup>they say.</sup> On the contrary it ~~is~~ <sup>has a</sup> distinctly calming influence. But on the wife it is exactly the opposite.

Well, these are words of wisdom indeed. Personally I didn't do much suffering when my son was born.

AIRPORT

Here's an item that may interest people who would like to go to Europe but don't like ocean travel. From time to time there have been projects for establishing floating airports in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. The latest is the plan of a German Air Service - the Lufthansa to be precise. This seems to be a little bit more than a project. A dispatch to the Trenton Times has it that the Lufthansa have already taken preliminary steps.

~~They're~~ <sup>First</sup> Their floating airport will be in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean, ~~this will be~~ for traffic between Pernambuco, ~~xxx~~ South America, and the coast of West Africa.

LIFE SAVER

My mention of the record of Captain Charles Scully who got ~~x~~ the Congressional Medal for saving more than four hundred lives, brought a letter from Lake Hopatcong.

~~This~~ W. J. Harris, Chairman of the Trustees of the Captain Sam Goodman Life Saving Fund, wants to call my attention, and ~~presumably~~ yours, ~~too~~, to another veteran life saver. This is Captain Sam Goodman at Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey. He has saved the lives of no less than 557 people.

Mr. Harris points out that Captain Goodman has given twenty-four years of work to ~~make~~<sup>making</sup> Lake Hopatcong safe for swimmers. He ~~x~~ adds the information that the life saving fund is for the purpose of providing equipment for life saving on the Lake.

Well here's to Captain Goodman, Capt. Scully and all others who save human life. I'd like to have them both around when I go swimming.



ROBBINS

Many people today are talking about the strange disappearance of an intimate friend of President Hoover. This is Colonel Raymond Robbins, well known among <sup>reformers</sup> ~~prohibition~~ ~~workers~~. A dispatch to the Indianapolis Times says that it was through Colonel Robbins's failure to keep a luncheon appointment with the President that his disappearance ~~was~~ first became known.

Robbins had an appointment with President Hoover at the White House last Tuesday. Upon inquiry it was learned that he disappeared from the City Club in New York the preceding Saturday. No trace of him has been found since. The Federal Government has put some of its crack secret service agents on the trail.

Mrs. Robbins told reporters that recently Colonel Robbins intimated <sup>that</sup> he was afraid his enemies were about to get him. In fact, he specifically feared something on the trip from Maine to Washington. He wrote her a note telling her in case he should disappear not to offer or let any of their

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friends offer a reward or ransom. It is said that Colonel

Robbins has received ~~many~~ numerous threats of murder

within the last twenty-five years.

ANDORRA

Here's a bit of international news for you. It comes from the Republic of Andorra, the tiny independent country that nestles <sup>high up in</sup> ~~at the foot of~~ the Pyrenees - Andorra, <sup>just</sup> <sup>about</sup> the smallest independent country in the world. It belongs to neither France nor Spain but <sup>has</sup> remained <sup>neutral</sup> ~~independent~~ through all wars and all treaties.

Well, a story in the <sup>n.y.</sup> Evening Post tonight carries the information that some young Andorrans are becoming restive. Among other unique characteristics, <sup>theirs</sup> ~~it~~ is the only country <sup>is</sup> in the world fortunate enough to have no lawyers. But the young men of the country who have been educated in the Universities of Paris and Madrid are <sup>itching</sup> to wear wigs and plead cases in their own country. But the <sup>country</sup> <sup>men</sup> ~~reply~~ to them, nay, nay. We've got along without lawyers all these centuries and what we see of countries that are overrun with lawyers doesn't give us any desire to change.

Andorra has no written code of laws. Its administration of justice is the most simple in the world. The

plaintiffs tell their stories, the defendants tell the stories. The judges pronounce their verdicts. There is no nonsense about adjournments. There are no doctors' certificates. There's no such thing as cases being balled up because witnesses do not show up. There are no lawyers' bills.

Andorra has had no murder cases for more than half a century, and only two cases of robbery since the end of the World War. They have no blackmail, no arson, no fraud.

That sounds like an ideal place -- almost as ideal as my farm where I'm headed for now -- and--

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.