

Every now and then an unexpected stroke of humor comes from Russia. Moscow today announced the appointment of a new ~~new~~ Ambassador to Berlin. The name of the new Ambassador is Suritz. And <sup>Comrade</sup> ~~Mr.~~ Suritz is Jewish. However, ~~Berlin has most politely acquiesced.~~ Of course it is an iron-clad rule that no ambassador is appointed anywhere unless the government to which he is accredited says he is welcome. And the <sup>anti-semitic</sup> German Foreign Office has extended a hospitable glad hand to the Jewish Ambassador from Moscow.

As a matter of fact, the retiring Russian Ambassador to Berlin was also Jewish. But most Germans didn't know it.

~~In Washington it has been revealed that the head of the ~~American~~ firm doing American publicity for German railroads is a Jew.~~

NAZI FOLLOW SOVIET

At the same time, an American citizen of Jewish blood was put on trial in Breslau. He made uncomplimentary remarks about Hitler. That's what the Nazis say. However, the American who is on trial says he never did. He claims he wasn't in Germany at the time he is accused of having made those ~~disparaging~~ disparaging remarks. It must be comforting to him to know that Uncle Sam's Consul is standing by, ready to help.

MARK

If French experts don't miss their guess, Germany is in for grave trouble. Of course, one might say that possibly the wish is father to the thought. ~~At any rate, there is~~ a whisper<sup>is</sup> going around in ~~public~~ <sup>French</sup> official ~~and political~~ circles that ~~there is a~~ ~~fair chance that~~ the reign of Hitler may <sup>soon</sup> collapse. ~~It is all over~~ <sup>And all because</sup>

of money. The price of the German Mark has been dropping noticeably in Paris. In three days it has dropped forty points. And that's ~~is~~ a big drop.

Naturally, it is too early for even the French to predict anything. But they say that this might foreshadow the collapse of Germany's entire economic structure. And if that fell, the Nazis would have a tough time keeping themselves in power. <sup>This</sup>

<sup>drop of the mark</sup>  
~~course this~~ produces an exceedingly nervous tension in European money markets. But the French, as may well be imagined, are shedding no tears over the prospect of misfortune to Hitler and his merry men.

## DEBTS

Most of Europe is cheering the English stand on the debts - the candid default. Italy is among the countries that approve. In fact, though nothing has been announced yet, it is expected that at any moment the Duce may join the roll call of defaulters.

Some people in England think that John Bull should follow Uncle Sam's example and that the British Parliament should pass legislation similar to the Johnson Bill. This suggestion has been made by a noble Lord in the House of Peers. He thinks that countries ~~who are~~ in default to Great Britain should be barred from getting credit there.

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If that were done, it might bring about an entirely new set-up in this debt situation. However, my observers tell me it is hardly possible any bill like the Johnson Bill could get ~~any~~ through the British Parliament. England is so much of a banking, money lending, credit extending nation.

## SPAIN

The Spanish omelet is frying hot and ~~is~~ sizzling. The Republic faces the worst labor crisis in its history. More than a million farm workers and artisans are out. With crops almost ripe in many parts of the peninsula, not a hand is being turned to harvest them. Ten workers have been killed, more than a hundred wounded. <sup>And any</sup> ~~the~~ strike situation in Spain is loaded with far more dynamite than ~~it is~~ over here. Naturally the extremist parties, the Communists and the Royalists, see a chance for turning the crisis to their advantage.

A general has been assassinated:—General Berenguer, brother of the former Premier of that name. He was shot while strolling through the garden with his sister. Some people believe the bullet was intended for his brother, the politician.

And today there is a huge military guard around the official residence of President Zamora, with rumors of a plot to kidnap and assassinate the President.

CUBA

And how about Cuba? Well, a bomb explosion in Havana, right in the heart of the shopping district, killed one person and wounded another. From elsewhere come stories of fires, perhaps incendiary.

There was an emergency meeting of President Mendieta with leaders of his party, and this was attended by General Menocal, who was President before Machado. That would seem to indicate an attempt at some sort of compromise.

## DISARMAMENT

The Disarmament Conference is <sup>still</sup> on at Geneva, but the news is <sup>is</sup> Armament. First comes Uncle Sam announcing the construction of twenty-four new battleships. Secretary Swanson has ordered the laying of the keels for four cruisers, six submarines, fourteen destroyers; - forty billion dollars' worth.

At the Conference the French Foreign Minister was offering <sup>a</sup> ~~is~~ compromise suggestion on disarmament, while his government announced that it was going to spend two hundred and eight million dollars on a new defense program. The French War Minister makes no bones about it. He says it is aimed against Germany.

In spite of these warlike details, the dove of peace did a bit of cooing. Louis Barthou, the French Foreign Minister, offered an apology for the attack he had made on Arthur Henderson, President of the Conference. Said he, with that suave French politeness:- "Mr. Henderson and I showed our youth and our tempers like school boys. Today we must show our age and our public spirit."

Here's an interesting idea proposed at Geneva: An offensive and defensive alliance against Japan between Uncle Sam and the Soviet. The idea originates, not with the American delegates, but with Litvinoff, the Soviet Commissar. Perhaps Comrade Litvinoff has never heard of the old American principle, first stated by George Washington: "No entangling foreign alliances."

I wonder what George Washington would think about such an entangling alliance with Red Communist Russia.

Anyway its more ~~defence~~ <sup>soldiers</sup> for France  
and more warships for the U. S. A.



## FLIGHT

Uncle Sam's fleet anchored in New York harbor came as the climax of an exciting trip <sup>for me</sup> today. I flew up from Washington by Eastern Air. The big Curtiss Condor, <sup>roared along</sup> ~~kept all the way~~ at from six to seven thousand feet, in and out, soaring over a sea of clouds, ~~and~~ weaving among ~~these~~ sky mountains of dazzling ~~snow~~ white. *And then -*

At Newark Airport Major Peyton Gibson, Director of Curtis Field, took me in a Curtis King Bird and flew me up the Hudson to see the fleet from the air. And that climaxed a day of marvelous flying.

The ships of War were swarming with people. And, I could almost say swarming with airplanes. That <sup>was what</sup> ~~is the thing that~~ struck me most - those two huge airplane carriers, their decks <sup>completely</sup> covered with planes. And the battleships too, each with planes on deck. *And* When you look from above, you are hit right between the eyes by the most vivid possible indication of the huge part that aviation is playing in naval matters - the importance <sup>today</sup> of air power to sea power.

STOCK EXCHANGE

I talked to a financial expert in Wall Street today, and asked him how the Street was taking the new dispensation-- now that the President has just signed the Fletcher-Raeburn Bill for the regulation of stock exchanges throughout the country.

"I'd say it's something like a baseball game," he replied, "in which the rules had been changed -- a new set of rules slapped into effect. A lot of the players have been arguing against the new rules and there has been a lot of loud palaver and acrimonious controversy. However, the new rules go into effect. So, what do the players do? They holler:- 'Play ball'. They take their positions in the field, and go on playing the game."

"That," my informant <sup>added</sup> ~~went on~~, "is about the way things are in Wall Street. The Stock Exchange and the brokers have accepted the new regulations with a distinctly sporting spirit. And they've come around to the opinion that after all the new rules maybe all for the best."

Well, ~~I'd say~~ that's fair enough! There were plenty of

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kicks, hard kicks, high kicks, swift kicks about the  
scheme to regulate the stock exchanges. There were  
amendments that removed some of the features that  
produced the most complaints. With the President's signature  
on the Fletcher-Raeburn bill it's all over now, save for the  
appointment of the control board that is to keep an eye on  
the business <sup>of dealing</sup> in securities. The President right now is  
making his selections. There is a good deal of speculation  
about who the five members of the control board will be.  
One rumor is that Ferdinand Pecora, the demon investigator  
of the great banking pro<sup>be</sup> will be one of the five.

## STRIKE

If there's a general strike in the steel industry, one plant ~~that~~ will not be affected, the factory at Wierton, West Virginia. This is the one about which there has been so much talk, because of its defiance of the N.R.A.

I just learned from Jack Larkin, Chairman of the Employees' Committee at Wierton, that they held a poll of ten thousand steel workers in Wierton, West Virginia, and in Steubenville, Ohio. The result is that ninety-five per cent of the steel workers in those two places want to go on working. "No strike for them", they say.

As for the conflict between the ~~Away~~ Amalgamated Union and the steel magnates, it appears to be, once more, up to the President. General Johnson and Donald Richberg have done their utmost to bring the two sides together. But, both stand pat.

However, there was the same ominous deadlock in the automobile industry several months ago. But, there was no strike.

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More rioting in Ohio! One man shot. Not Toledo this time, Cincinnati, at the plant of Remington-Rand.

STRIKE - 2

And they seem to be having almost a reign of terror in Alabama. Bomb explosions; homes of non-union miners dynamited, or set afire with torches. A pitched battle was averted only when a detachment of national guardsmen showed up on the scene. But no serious casualties have been reported as yet.

INSULL

On trial -- two fallen lords of finance.

Samuel Insull must face the judge and jury. He has been claiming that it is illegal to try him because he was shanghaied from Turkey. But, the Judge replies:- "It is none of the business of this court to decide whether you were kidnapped or not. That's up to the State Department. Motion denied. You'll have to stand trial."

In the Federal Court in New York, Joseph W. Harriman, once head of the exceedingly rich Harriman National Bank, denied that he had made false entries in the books of his bank.

Yes, fallen lords of finance, castaways of the great storm of the depression.

## GOLF

A surprise at Philadelphia today - a golfing surprise, at the first session of the Thirty-eighth National Open Golf Championship at the Merion Cricket Club, where contrary to their predictions, the crack professionals and amateurs did not find the layout of the course as easy as they thought. The result of the first day gives testimony to the difficulty of that tricky course. By the time a majority of the first day's scores were compiled, none of those mighty men of golf managed to turn in a card of par. Wiffy Cox, Bobby Cruikshank and Charles Lacey were the leaders, with each a score of seventy-one -- one over par. Par was 70 - none made it. The scores ran as high as an eighty-three by Lawson Little, chap who won the British title recently. He broke his driver on the second hole and had to use his brassie thereafter. And that apparently blew his game sky high. Tomorrow the match continues at Merion, at Ardmore, outside Philadelphia.

## LOCUSTS.

The plague of locusts which has been devastating ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> parts of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> middle west has spread to Pennsylvania. <sup>Like the locust plagues of the Bible.</sup> An army of insects has descended upon the fair country around Avalon, Pennsylvania. Advancing on a five mile front the grasshoppers swept over everything. Over gardens and lawns, ~~they have been~~ <sup>locusts</sup> an inch deep. They settled so heavily on the trees that the limbs bent under their weight.

The folks there have been trying everything, kerosene sprays, shallow trenches and all the known methods of fighting the insects. <sup>Some of the most effective</sup> ~~The only serious~~ help they're getting is from blackbirds, squirrels and ~~st~~ cats. These swoop down on the outskirts of the locust army and gobbled up the stragglers. Enemies of the locusts and friends of the human race are those blackbirds, squirrels and cats.



RAIN

While one part of the country suffers from too little rain, another suffers from too much. There has been so much rain in Georgia and in North and South Carolina, that many growers are moaning. Some streets in Atlanta are said to be under water. Anyhow, it is reassuring to learn from the White House that there now is no danger of famine.

LUPESCU

"Goodbye, Magda; farewell!" said the Iron Guard of Roumania. They are a formidable Balkan outfit, somewhat like the Nazi Storm Troopers. So, Magda Lupescu, King Carol's red-headed friend, has departed from Roumania.

As long as the threats were directed only against her, the jade-eyed lady defied them. She went about unprotected and unaccompanied, along the boulevards of Bucharest.

But the Iron Guard made a still more ferocious gesture. If she did not leave, they said, they would start ruthless massacre of all the Jews. And the lady is a Jewess.

So the King's Favorite has gone to Switzerland. She has arrived at the beautiful resort of Montreux in one of the Roumanian royal cars, accompanied by a member of the Roumanian Cabinet, making no attempt to conceal her presence or identity. She speaks of Roumania as though she were homesick. She also complains of the high cost of living in Switzerland.

When the full story of this extraordinary woman, the story behind the story, is written, I'll venture to say that it will prove to be almost as interesting as that of Lola Montez, the beautiful Irish woman who caused the downfall of the

King of Bavaria and eventually died in California.

PEURTO RICO ENDING

Now folks speak up:- What is the difference between "caza" and "casar"? Who cares? Why the Peurto Ricans care. They're getting married in Peurto Rico, on all sides, everywhere, as fast as they can get married. And all because of the difference between "caza" and "casar."

Last week they had a radio broadcast, and radio broadcasts <sup>can</sup> cause trouble, especially in Peurto Rico. It was announced over the ether waves that after June tenth all "caza" would be prohibited. Now "caza" sounds like "casar", and thousands of Peurto Ricans understood the warning to be that all "casar" would be prohibited.

Those two words may sound a good deal alike, but they mean very different things. "caza" means "hunting", while "casar" means marriage. You see, there is a difference. So, that Peurto Rican broadcast was understood to mean that after June tenth all marriages would be prohibited--and you couldn't get married anymore in Peurto Rico.

That's why thousands of couples have been rushing the wedding bells and getting married while there was still time.

You can imagine the feelings of some of them when they find they've jumped hastily into matrimony, just because that radio news broadcaster got his tongue twisted and made "caza" sound like "casar".

That unlucky broadcaster must now feel like saying, "so long forever". But I've confused neither "caza" nor "casar" -- neither hunting nor marriage. So I'll merely say SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

# RETAKE

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