

Good Evening, Everybody:

One of the most important persons in America today is the Weather Man, so I might as well begin by telling you what he has to say.

It's going to be milder tomorrow, and in spite of the clouds and a chilly feeling in the air, Uncle Sam's meteorological sharks can find no evidence of any more snow. The winds today <sup>are</sup> from the southwest, and are likely to continue from ~~somewhere in~~ that direction, *that is,*

~~This forecast is~~ for the Atlantic States.

The temperature tomorrow morning should be around twenty-two. It won't be much higher even though the winds will be mild. And there's not much probability of our snow blanket melting. *Which will please all*

The storm that passed over the Atlantic seaboard Saturday is now out at sea, making things lively for ocean

travelers.

What my friend Doc Kimball calls a "deep low" is coming down from the far Northwest. Also pressure is low over Western Canada and Alaska. Therefore, there's no sign of the immediate approach of another cold wave.

In some quarters the snowstorm was a god-send. According to a report in the New York Sun no less than forty thousand of the unemployed have been put to work to clear the streets of <sup>Greater</sup> New York. ~~City~~ If you had one-tenth of what it will cost Father Knickerbocker to remove the snow, you might have an exceedingly Merry Christmas. The total cost of this snowstorm to the wise men of Gotham will be in the neighborhood of one and a half million dollars. And one thing it proves is that thousands of the jobless are genuinely eager for work.

Francis

GERMANY

Now for another bit of news that sounds encouraging.  
It comes from Germany.

According to this <sup>item</sup> the world economic crisis is over.  
The depression may last sometime, but the crisis is past, the  
downward movement is checked, and the only way in which business  
can go now is up.

H. R. Knickerbocker cables the New York Evening  
Post that this is the result of a survey made by the German  
Institute for Business Research. This is supposed to be the  
most scientific institute of its kind on the continent, and  
one of the soundest and ~~also~~ most conservative in the world.

The New York <sup>Evening</sup> Post points out that this statement  
has come from several other sources, but this is the first  
time the German institute has risked its reputation on any such  
diagnosis.

Francis

HAMBURGER

Many Germans today are quite excited over the "Flying Hamburger". This is not the place for a laugh. The Flying Hamburger is not a winged sandwich, nor a steak that has ~~been~~ <sup>become</sup> ~~so~~ <sup>so venerable</sup> so high that it can move of its own accord. The Flying Hamburger is an express train from Berlin to Hamburg.

A dispatch to the Philadelphia Evening Ledger reports that railway engineers believe this flying Hamburger is of immense importance to the railroad world. It may be as significant to American roads which are suffering from motor bus competition, as to those in Europe.

The Flying Hamburger is a train driven by a Diesel engine. Its first trip was made from Berlin to Hamburg in two hours and twenty minutes. This effected what Germans claim to be a world's record - an average of almost eighty miles an hour for a distance of one hundred and eighty-five miles. It reached a speed of sixty-five miles an hour on the sharpest curves and one hundred and six miles an hour on straightaways.

DEBTS

President Hoover's ~~long~~ expected message to Congress - that is, his second message on the debt question - was made public late this afternoon. A dispatch to the New York World-Telegram describes its contents as "an epochal plan for prompt and coordinated action on the revision of war debts, collaboration between all the nations of the world on the economic situation and disarmament."

The message makes no reference indicating that Mr. Hoover wants Congress to consider cancellation of the debts. He made it plain that every reduction in debt payments must be compensated for in some other way by the nation whose debt is reduced.

The gist of Mr. Hoover's plan is ~~an~~ <sup>a United States</sup> delegation to the World Disarmament Conference at Geneva which would also negotiate on war debts. In other words, he proposes that the war debt question and the disarmament question be linked up. Mr. Hoover also hinted broadly that Uncle Sam should not even discuss debt revision with countries, which like France and Belgium had

defaulted on their December debt payment.

This United States delegation, said the President, should be ~~by~~-partisan. He adds ~~further~~ the statement: "I propose to seek the cooperation of president-elect Roosevelt." <sup>f</sup>

10  
The President, of course, asks Congress to ~~propose~~ ~~misxideax~~ approve his idea. But if Congress does not approve, the grapevine reports have it that Mr. Hoover will go ahead anyway, and appoint his two-party delegation.

---

The Right-Honorable Stanley Baldwin, speaking for the British government, made a statement to the House of Commons today on ~~British~~ John Bull's <sup>slant on</sup> ~~angle of~~ the debt problem. Said Mr. Baldwin: "The United States government has agreed to enter into joint examination with us on the whole question." Us, of course, meaning the British government.

FOLLOW DEBTS.

In Paris the general sentiment among French members of Parliament was that they should "wait for Roosevelt." This is the <sup>report from</sup> ~~principal sentiment reported by~~ American correspondents.

Meanwhile Senator Paul-Boncour was holding his first cabinet meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to prepare a ~~xx~~ declaration to present to the Chamber of Deputies. ~~Mr.~~ Premier Paul-Boncour, who is his own Minister of Foreign Affairs, declined to make any definite statement outlining the future action of the French Government on the debt question.

A dispatch to the New York World-Telegram informs us that official circles in France are <sup>also</sup> talking about a board of experts to examine into the problem of France's debt to Uncle Sam. This statement, however, was not official.

MAHONEY

Another American <sup>has been</sup> ~~was~~ brutally beaten in the streets of Paris. A San Francisco physician was walking along the boulevards when he saw a mob gathered around an Englishman. When he stopped to learn what was going on he heard someone shout: "There's another sacre American." The next thing he knew the mob was on him and he was knocked to the ground by a dozen blows. His front teeth were broken off to the roots by the heels of men who trampled on him.

The San Francisco physician who was thus treated, fought with the American army in France. In fact, he was awarded the French Croix de guerre.



Francis  
MARSHES

( Over in Italy a new town was dedicated today. It is called Littoria, ~~and~~ It is situated in the Pontine Marshes -- or rather what used to be the Pontine Marshes. ) Well, that does give us a chance to remember our high school Roman history. Let's see, that old Roman history used to tell us that the Pontine Marshes were a great pestilential area of swampland south of Rome, full of mosquitoes and malaria. Draining the Pontine Marshes <sup>is</sup> ~~for~~ one of the oldest of human tasks. The Romans did their best at it twenty-five <sup>hundred</sup> years ago. Many centuries later the medieval popes tried their hand at it. But still the Pontine Marshes remained (some of the most pestilential, and certainly the most famous swampland in the world.

Five years ago Mussolini undertook the job. An immense reclamation drainage operation has been underway. The idea is to turn the historic Pontine Marshes into rich agricultural land. And today the victory was celebrated. )  
A special cable to New York's Italian newspaper, Il Progresso, relates how Mussolini himself presided at the dedication of the new town. He made one of his ringing speeches in which he declared

Francis

~~7~~ (7)

that a nation always wins new land by means of war. "But this,"  
he ~~added~~ added, "is the kind of war that we prefer" -- meaning  
war against the stubborn opposition of nature.

Francis

VALLEY FORGE

There was a historic anniversary <sup>in the U.S.A.</sup> today. The 155th anniversary of the beginning of George Washington's encampment **at** Valley Forge. It was observed right on the spot amid scenes that might have been an almost photographic reproduction of the original. *The weather did its part to make it realistic.*

Francis  
BABY

There was an unusual sort of passenger in an airplane today - a five months old baby. It left Boston this morning in a basket for a trip of fifteen hundred miles. I might add that ~~the~~ the child's parents <sup>are along.</sup> ~~were with it,~~ <sup>The baby</sup> ~~I might add~~

~~It~~ is going to visit relatives <sup>way</sup> out in South Dakota, probably one of the youngest passengers <sup>to</sup> ~~that~~ ever <sup>to</sup> traveled through the air. So far as I know no baby has yet been born in ~~an~~ an airplane.

Francis  
HUNTERS

Oh yes, and here's another weather

item:- In addition to the hardships caused in cities, the

blizzard did plenty in the wide open spaces. <sup>In</sup> New Jersey, which some

people regard as the wide open spaces - in New Jersey, newspapers report that hundreds of gunners out for deer in the

~~New Jersey~~ woods, were trapped by the storm.

The deer season in New Jersey began Saturday, to last only five days. One hunter died of heart disease caused by the exertion of wading through the thick snow. Another was suffocated to death, several ~~others~~ were reported missing. Hundreds were driven to their homes, probably the best place for them, because the driving snow made any progress along the ~~deers runs~~ <sup>deer runs</sup> impossible. Deer were plentiful in several parts of ~~New~~ Jersey, but the weather favored them. The snow was so thick that the hunters couldn't even see to shoot each other, as they usually do.

In Barnegat Bay a party of duck hunters were marooned three days on Egg Island.

# RETAKE

HUNTERS

Oh yes, and here's another weather

item:- In addition to the hardships caused in cities, the

blizzard did plenty in the wide open spaces. <sup>In</sup> New Jersey, <sup>which some</sup> ~~some~~ <sup>folks regard</sup> as the wide open spaces - in New Jersey, newspapers report that hundreds of gunners out for deer in the

~~New Jersey~~ woods, were trapped by the storm.

The deer season in New Jersey began Saturday, to last only five days. One hunter died of heart disease caused by the exertion of wading through the thick snow. Another was suffocated to death, several ~~others~~ were reported missing. Hundreds were driven to their homes, probably the best place for them, because the driving snow made any progress along the <sup>deer runs</sup> ~~driveways~~ impossible. Deer were plentiful in several parts of ~~New~~ Jersey, but the weather favored them. The snow was so thick that the hunters couldn't even see to shoot each other, as they usually do.

In Barnegat Bay a party of duck hunters were marooned three days on Egg Island.

Francis  
WIFE

(4) From Newport, Kentucky comes a story of a husband who asserted himself too strongly, that is, too strongly for his own good. His three year old child had climbed up on the dresser. Papa said: "Get down from there." Mama said: "You don't have to if you don't want to."

A dispatch to the Jersey Journal relates that Papa thereupon became infuriated, jumped to his feet and shouted: "Well, I'm ~~the~~ boss of this house."

Whereupon Mama shot him. *Mama love papa?*

Francis

BRIDES

Some writers have been spreading the rumor that owing to economic conditions young girls have been forced to marry men much older than themselves. This in order to take every possible precaution against the arrival of the well known wolf at the well known door.

This is not true in one district in the United States, the area in and around Philadelphia. A professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania, has been investigating the question. A story in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin shows that in less than eight per cent of the cases studied ~~was~~ the husband <sup>was</sup> more than ten years older than the bride. The majority of marriage licenses are still being taken out by people under twenty-seven. In one-tenth of all the couples the women were actually older than the men.



I suppose the same thing is happening all over America. At any rate, the boys and girls of New York City are subscribing to what is called the Share-A-Meal-Club.

The headquarters of the Emergency Relief Committee, which is at the Waldorf-Astoria, has been receiving an interesting response to the Share-A-Meal idea. A group of envelopes, all attached, are sent out to children. Each envelope has on it the name of a different sort of food, bread, milk, fruit, vegetables, and so on. The children who contribute put their money in whichever envelope they like. And it seems to make a rather fascinating game for them.

The members of the Relief Committee have been interested in seeing which envelopes were the most popular. Well, more than half the boys and girls placed their money in the envelope marked bread. <sup>The</sup> Next most popular <sup>is</sup> ~~comes~~ meat. Least popular of all -- yes, you've guessed it, it's the envelope marked spinach.

Francis  
RESCUE

(2)  
old city of

Among the feats achieved by the U. S. Coast Guard during the storm, was an exceedingly difficult rescue off *the grand* Lewes, Delaware. A ~~xxxxx~~<sup>tug-</sup>boat was towing a coal barge late Saturday afternoon when the tow rope broke in the heavy snowstorm. The tug apparently went on its way, leaving the coal barge to shift for itself. Aboard that barge were a sixty year old caretaker, <sup>his wife,</sup> a dog and cat. Word came to the Coastguard ~~x~~ station, and a cutter with nine Guardsmen went out after the barge. It took those nine Coast Guardsmen nine hours in the ice, snow and high waves to get a rope fastened ~~into-on~~ to that barge, enabling them to complete the rescue. The cat and the dog were saved too.

Incidentally, one body of men who will not be sorry when the 18th Amendment is repealed, are the United States Coast Guard. As everybody knows, ~~itx~~ it's a magnificent body of men, proud of their jobs, proud of their records. But, as a series of articles in the Philadelphia Evening Ledger points

Francis  
RESCUE - 2

out, they don't care for the job of hunting rum runners.

(1) As everybody knows, when this task was assigned to the Coast Guard, they took off their coats and did it, ~~xxx~~ did it honestly and well. But they're not proud of that part of their duties, and they'll be only too glad when they are relieved of them and allowed to concentrate on what they consider their prime object, which is to save human lives.