

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:-

~~Real sensations popped today in three different parts of the world. Beginning at home, one of the most spectacular figures on Wall Street~~ <sup>(One of the most spectacular</sup> ~~has~~ disappeared, vanished, no trace of him. Jesse Livermore, variously known as the Boy Plunger, the wizard of Wall Street and the Cotton King. He has been widely celebrated as one of the most sensational and spectacular of all financial operators.)

What makes this tale still more poignant is that Jessie Livermore has been married barely a year. The conditions of his disappearance are these:- Yesterday afternoon at four o'clock he walked out of his apartment on Park Avenue, New York. He was supposed to meet his wife ~~in the evening.~~ She waited <sup>for</sup> ~~several~~ hours, ~~and not only did~~ he fail to show up, ~~but~~ she had no message or word from him. At midnight she became anxious, and notified the police.

Mrs. Livermore told the officers she thought her husband had been kidnapped. But <sup>the missing man's</sup> ~~Mr. Livermore's~~ attorney

told the <sup>police</sup>~~cops~~ that the so-called mystery man of Wall Street had been under a heavy mental strain for several weeks. Today not only the police, the Bureau of Missing Persons, but the operatives of Uncle Sam are combing all possible sources of information for some hint as to <sup>Jesse</sup>~~Mr~~ Livermore's whereabouts.



N.R.A.

( There are smiles today on the face of General Johnson, Administrator of N.<sup>A</sup>.A. In the first place, he said no fewer than two hundred and sixty-eight codes have already been approved. And in the next two weeks, before the end of the year, the General expects President Roosevelt to O.K. seventy-five more.) These, he says, will place eighty-five per cent of American industry under the control of N.R.A. codes.

~~In addition to this, the President today signed an executive order extending the Blue Eagle blanket agreement for four months. This was to expire New Year's Eve but under this new order the reemployment agreements continue from the first of the new year.~~

General Johnson said he is ~~very~~ pleased with the way the N.R.A. problems have been working out. Said he: "There never was a tougher job". ~~But he added~~ But he added that for the most part things are now functioning smoothly.

Someone asked him if he thought there would be any trouble over the Act in the approaching session of Congress. To this he replied: "Oh, I don't think so." But he added hastily, crossing his fingers: "I may be wrong."

~~Incidentally,~~ <sup>And</sup> Washington is going to extend relief to the small business man who <sup>has</sup> been ~~considerably~~ handicapped by ~~living up to~~ the N.R.A. codes. General Johnson and Senator Nye of North Dakota, have been discussing the establishment of a new N.R.A. Board. Business men with a small establishment will be able to submit their grievances to this Board, which will do its best to iron out all difficulties.

NBC



POWER

Now that Uncle Sam has gone into the business of developing and selling power, the states are beginning to follow suit. At any rate, California has. There was a special election on this subject yesterday and California okayed ~~it~~ by a large majority what is known as the Central Valley Water Project. It will do for Central Valley about what Uncle Sam is doing for the Tennessee Valley. Electrical power, and water for irrigation purposes.

NBC

## FARMERS

It's a case of three cheers down on the farm today. American agriculture is beginning to sit up and take notice even though some farmers may not have discovered it yet. At any rate, here 's what the new head of the A.A.A., the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, has to say. There has been an enormous increase in farm values, says Chester Davis.

Criticism or no criticism, the President's policies have been working out, he says. The purchase of gold and the operation of the Adjustment Act have brought more demand to use up the supply.

There's going to be a conference tomorrow between the big shots in the Department of Agriculture and farm leaders. Its purpose, to consider the future policy of the A.A.A. and possible amendments.

Nevertheless, all the expert observers are looking forward to a stormy time when Congress assembles ~~in~~ two weeks from today; and they say the Congressmen from the farm districts, are going to raise the biggest holler. The country Home



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Magazine, which makes a specialty of this subject, says that the bucolic law-makers are already nervous, jittery -- suffering from ants in the pants. The question everybody in Washington is asking today is: "Can President Roosevelt ride herd on those ~~jumping~~ leaping Congressmen -- keep them corralled?"

It means a great deal to all of us what the politicians in Washington do.

(LAUGH FROM GENERAL BUTLER)

Everybody is interested when Congress convenes.

(LAUGH FROM GENERAL BUTLER)

Important men those politicians!

(LAUGH FROM GENERAL BUTLER)

General Smedley  
D. Butler.

Marine.

Dec. 20, 1933.



INTRO TO GENERAL BUTLER

It seems I am getting the raspberries from a visitor here in the studio. Maybe you recognize that raucous laugh. I am being heckled by General Smedley D. Butler. The Fighting Marine and I have been out autographing books this afternoon, OLD GIMLET EYE, my latest, which tells of General Butler's fights and frolics in a dozen wars. I knew he had writer's cramp at Wanamaker's, but General -- you seem also to be afflicted with an acute case of cynicism and skeptical disillusionment on this topic of politics. Why all the merriment?

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I was thinking about a story I told today --  
at that luncheon you ~~was~~ took me to, Lowell - the Circus  
Saints and Sinners, at the Hotel Gotham. Where you and  
Gene Tunney and Tony Sarg and the boys had a circus with me!  
The yarn about politicians -- that one where a surgeon was  
telling how surgeons and surgery came first in the creation  
of this world. "You will remember," said the surgeon, "how  
that rib was extracted from Adam's side. That was surgery.  
So we surgeons came first."

Then ~~an~~ an architect spoke up and said:- "Yes,  
but before that -- the Lord made the Firmament out of chaos.  
And that was architecture."

"Ho ho," roared the politician. "You are both  
wrong. We politicians came first. We politicians make all  
the chaos!"

And believe me, they've been making it ever since!



## BUDGET

Those were sharp words from Old Gimlet Eye. And now General let's see if we can find any more chaos! Oh, yes the Budget. One of the most painful jobs facing Congress is that ever-lasting problem, the budget. The White House announced today that President Roosevelt is now completing his work on Uncle Sam's next financial program - the budget for the fiscal year 1934 and 5. In fact, he expects to have it ready next Wednesday.

Incidentally, I ran across some figures in a book today, some figures which we should all keep in mind. The book is called "The Tax Racket", by Professor Ray Untereiner of the California Institute of Technology.

The Professor points out that in 1929, the total of all taxation, - government, state and city, in the United States came to eleven and a half billion dollars. That means an average of ninety four dollars and thirty-five cents for every man, woman and child - except that it's father, not the wife or child who foots the bill.

IN 1890 the tax burden was only eight hundred and fifty-five million, or thirteen dollars and fifty-six cents for each person. Since 1915 taxes in this country have increased

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almost two hundred percent.

How about scaling them down a bit Uncle? All in favor say "Aye".

(Chorus of "aye" from all in the studio.)

Prosper



COAST GUARD

Advices from Washington today indicate that there's some truth in ~~that~~ rumor that Uncle Sam's ancient and honorable Coast Guard service may be absorbed by Uncle Sam's *equally ~~ancient~~ and honorable* Navy. An official statement was issued at the White House, admitting that this idea is being studied. There's nothing final about it yet. The idea is that the Coast Guard would become a corp<sup>s</sup> in the Navy Department with its own officers, just as the Leathernecks, Uncle Sam's marines, are ~~today~~ *-- much to the distress of General Smedley Butler,* under the control of the Navy. But the principal benefit of this scheme would be the saving of money. Also, more navy officers are ~~exceeded~~ graduated from Annapolis every year than can be properly taken care of in the Navy. So it is suggested that the superfluous officers could be assigned to the Coast Guard.

~~XXXXXXXX~~

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VACATION

Government employees are going to receive some acknowledgment for the unusual amount of hard work they've had to do since March 4th. The President signed an executive order today allowing them not only next Saturday off, <sup>as an extra Xmas holiday,</sup> but also December 30th. This will give them a full three-day holiday for both Christmas and New Year's. Said Mr. Roosevelt: "This is <sup>by way</sup> ~~done as an evidence~~ of appreciation of the hard work they have done."

NBC

## KIDNAPPING

And in a Chicago court we have a peculiar situation of a young woman accused of kidnapping her own child.

Several years ago there was a divorce. The husband was awarded the small son. Both husband and wife remarried, she having permission to see the child once a week.

Last Wednesday she went to see her son and met him on the way to school. He seemed under-nourished. Then she looked into his lunch box and saw such a meager meal that she took the boy away with her. Now it's in the South Bend Courts as kidnapping.

NBC



TENANT

A strange incident in Chicago. A mother with two children owed the landlord eighty four dollars and couldn't pay. The landlord obtained an eviction order. The woman barricaded herself in her apartment; and when they came to turn her out, she fired a gun through the door. The shot missed the landlord's wife by a hair's ~~breadth~~ breadth. So the landlord called the cops, and they had to use a tear gas bomb. Thereupon the mother was arrested, charged with assault and attempt to commit murder.

NBC

ACCIDENT

A grim accident is reported from Crown Point, <sup>Indiana, IN</sup> ~~not~~  
<sup>Lake Michigan, not</sup>  
far from Chicago. A Chicago contractor, when times became  
slow, moved his family out to his summer home on the banks of  
the Fox River. One way in which he occupied himself was  
building an ice boat. In this he and his son went cruising  
yesterday, <sup>— cruising on the ice.</sup> Evidently, the craft got out of their control,  
because they slithered to a part of the river where the ice  
was too thin, and <sup>the ice boat crashed through</sup> ~~crashed~~ into the water.

(K)

The wife and mother of the two heard their cries for  
help. She rushed out with a rope, which she threw to her  
husband. He grabbed hold of it and his wife managed to pull  
him clear. But meanwhile the boy's body had floated under the  
ice. When the father tried to rescue his son, ~~they were both~~  
<sup>vanished.</sup> ~~dragged in.~~

~~This left the woman quite helpless. She ran miles  
across muddy fields to the nearest neighbor's house. A  
rescue squad was organized but the bodies of father and son  
are still missing.~~



SPIES

But ~~wait a bit, there's~~ another exciting story! The news tonight sounds as though it had been copied from an adventure magazine or a movie scenario. A big spy case has broken in Paris. In fact, the secret service headquarters on the banks of the Seine admit it is the most sensational espionage drama ~~that has broken~~ since the World War.

No less than twenty people were arrested today, accused of a conspiracy to ~~spy out and~~ sell to foreign powers ~~French~~ military secrets, ~~of the French government.~~

Among these twenty people arrested are an American named Robert Switz, <sup>said to be</sup> of Orange, New Jersey, and his wife. The French

gendarmes declare that they've been trailing Mr. and Mrs.

Switz for eight months. One thing that directed suspicion

against them was that they were too chatty with a couple of

Russians, who were themselves being investigated by the <sup>Parisien secret agents</sup> ~~copy~~

These Russians took it on the lam as soon as the arrest of the other people <sup>began</sup> ~~started~~

A wireless from Paris, via London, indicates that the plot involved furnishing other European powers with plans and specifications of French fortresses, munitions factories

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and men-o-war. It is hinted that still more people may land in the bastille before this case is ended.

NBC

## LAMA

Tonight in the monasteries of High Asia they are bewailing the passing of the world's strangest potentate. On the Roof of the World, yellow-robed monks are chanting fantastic dirges and spinning their prayer wheels for a thousand million prayers. (The Dalai Lama is dead, The Buddhist Pope -- ruler, not only spiritually, but temporally of that mystic and fabulous country of Tibet, has ascended to misty Nirvana. And the rumor current in Peking is that he died of poison.)

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Tibet is one of the most fascinating countries in the world. The Grand Lama, or ~~ix~~ Dalai Lama, as he is called, is supposed to be the living incarnation of Gautama Buddha, founder of Buddhism, which numbers more followers than any other religion. There in Tibet, for centuries, the Dalai Lamas have reigned over not only the souls but the bodies of their subjects. Their belief is that when the ~~body~~ body of one Dalai Lama passes on, the Buddha is still reincarnated in his successor, who is chosen by strange and mysterious rites.

There's another holy one in Central Asia, called the Tashi-Lama, but his influence and authority never were as wide as those of the Dalai Lama.



In the beginning of this century, when John Bull and Russia and China were all sparring for spheres of influence in the Himalyas, the Dalai Lama threw his influence against the British. This led to the famous expedition of Sir Francis Younghusband to Llahsa. Up to that time it was boasted that no foreigner had ever set foot in Lahassa, capital of Tibet. The Dalai Lama fled to China and the Tashu Lama was placed upon his throne.

Subsequently, the political scene was shifted, the Dalai Lama became friendly to the British and the Tashi Lama took the other side. So the Dalai Lama was reinstated,

And now they say he is dead -- poisoned. They say further that this may lead to guns popping, bombs being dropped, and swords flashing once more on the Himalayan plateaus, the Roof of the World.

LIVERMORE

Here's a late flash. Jesse Livermore has been found. He retruned home at 6:24 P. M. No explanation is given.



## DUEL

A terrific sabre duel was fought at Budapest recently and what do you suppose was the reason? A duel over dogs.

Both the combatants are leading dog experts in Hungary. As such, they frequently write articles for the newspapers. Recent articles written by both were so controversial that each dog expert felt he had been insulted by the other. I suppose one preferred dachshunds and the other Pekinese. And maybe one said the other's dog had fleas. Each felt he had been insulted. So these doggy Hungarians fought a wild duel with sabres. Both were severely wounded. As they were carried off the Field of Honor on stretchers they ~~defiantly~~ defiantly barked:-- "Well meet again!" And so will we, I hope, and --

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

L.T.