

L. T. - SUNOCO - WED., MARCH 11, 1936

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

"Curiouser and curiouser," said Alice in Wonderland. And the phrase fits the European situation today. These are tough times for news commentators trying to thread their ways through the labyrinthian paths of London diplomacy.

It's the old British game that Downing Street is playing. As in those fateful last weeks of July, Nineteen Fourteen, His Majesty's Foreign Office has the whole world guessing. Guessing and in Paris, cursing. Again the old familiar cry of "Perfidious Albion" echoes along the boulevards.

To be quite honest, all that is actually known, all the news that is definitely public property, can be put in the near corner of your eye. And so it will be, probably, until the conference in London on Saturday.

One French official is quoted as comparing this contest of wits to a poker game. And, he says, France holds a royal flush. And that always wins. But, the one obvious fact is that so far Hitler's bluff is good.

The only thing that is really clear about the British attitude, is that Downing Street seems to be functioning as a buffer between Berlin and Paris. Of course, the English want to conciliate the French. To this end they are being as firm with Germany as they can without being actually hostile. At the same time, they don't want to go to the length that the French demand. London is prepared to demand concessions from Germany to appease French wrath. But the word "sanctions" in this case still brings a mighty uneasy feeling at Whitehall.

There is nothing devious nor dubious about the French attitude. They are mad, and they don't care who knows it. They want those troops out of the Rhineland, vite, P.D.Q. Of course, the whole world is vastly excited today over the report that France will follow Germany and Japan in walking out of the League if she doesn't have her own way in this matter. On the other hand, that rumor has been denied. You can take your choice.

And today there's no equivocation at Moscow or among the nations of the Little Entente and the Balkan Entente. They

have notified Paris: "We are with you, whatever you do." And Mussolini stands where he stood on Monday. What he says amounts to the warning: "Count us out so long as those sanctions are imposed upon Italy."

In Paris, the news tension is tighter than ever. Wild rumors afloat. The latest, that no mere thirty thousand German troops have marched into the Rhineland. On the contrary, a tremendous concentration of arms and men. Paris has become so nervous that the censorship has been rigidly tightened. So much so that several messages have been suppressed which have already been published in Parisian newspapers.

And incidents on the Franco-German border have done nothing to sooth French fear. No fewer than six times in the last two days, German military planes have flown over French territory. French bombers and pursuit craft quickly chased them back. No shots fired - yet. But there's no telling when a nervous finger on the trigger of a machine gun may start something, something almost too cataclysmic to contemplate.

(Just what is Hitler up to? Well - he's just fingering his chips and standing pat. His answer to the world from the

Rhineland is: "Here we are; here we stay.") As for the
London conference, he says: "Yes, Germany will take part in
any meeting to bring about real, substantial peace." To which
he adds the warning: "But it's got to be understood that what
has happened in the Rhineland is an accomplished fact." And
furthermore, he says: "Any proposal to revive the Locarno
Treaties will be declined by Germany. The Locarno business is
dead and any negotiations not based on that understanding will
be futile."

(Hitler standing pat. The rest of the world running
around in circles.)

KING

A modest little item from London has aroused a veritable storm of curiosity all over the world. In old Peking, and in Mauchunk, Pennsylvania, on the shores of Lake Huron and Hudson's Bay, in Zanzibar and in New Zealand, people are asking one question:- "Who is she? Who is to be the Queen? Who is it King Edward the Eighth has in mind? Who is to marry?" Yes sir, the world is agog.

Everybody had given him up as an incurable bachelor. When he mounted the throne, George Bernard Shaw said: "He has got along all right without a wife so far, why should he change?"

(It was an ~~xx~~ amazed House of Commons which today heard King Edward's message: "His Majesty" it read, "desires that the contingency of his marriage should be taken into account." That meant, "Don't be stingy with the allowance, gentlemen, I'm may have a Queen as well as myself to support on the Civil List.")
In other words, he is not only thinking of marriage, but some think it will take place within the next few months,

Of course this announcement provides people with a new

past time. When you get tired of other games, you can join the international guessing contest, and help the King pick his bride.

(The supposition is of course that he will follow precedent and select a wife of royal blood.) There aren't so many of them left.

While he was Prince of Wales, his name was coupled with several royal highnesses. There were of course the Princesses Ingrid, Astrid and Marthe of Sweden; the plump little Princess Juliana of Holland, Princess Marie-Jose of Belgium, Beatriz of Spain, the Princesses Yolanda and Mafalda of Italy, Ileana of Roumania, Marina of Greece, Marguerita of Denmark. Most of those royal ladies are now married, one of them to the King's own brother. As a matter of fact, the field of unmarried princesses has narrowed down to about five: Just about the only eligible highnesses are Juliana of the Netherlands, Irene, Catherine and Eugenie of Greece, and the Grand Duchess Kyra of Russia.

That gives rise to the speculation whether King Edward will follow the example of his sister and two brothers and look among the British peerage for his bride. And there's ample precedent for that. It used to be customary for kings of England to marry English women. Only within the last two hundred years

or so, have these royal international marriages for political reasons been considered compulsory. And, King Edward himself, when he was Prince of Wales, once made a jocular remark: "Mother wants me to buy British, when I take a wife."

In England, of course, the news has been recieved with elation. A married king, they believe, will mean a more lively court. And that's always welcome because it stimulates business.

ETHIOPIA

The bombing of more villages in Ethiopia gave rise to a grim rumor. Seven missionaries ~~were~~ reported missing after Mussolini's armies renewed their drive on the southern front.

Three of ^{them} ~~the missionaries~~ Americans. This afternoon, however, we learn that the rumor was a mistake. All seven of those missionaries were found, not only safe, but unharmed. The only deaths reported in the ~~the~~ ^{being} airplane raids ~~were~~ fifty natives.

(The Ethiopians themselves are convinced that the raid means that the big march on Addis Ababa, so long expected, is about to begin. And if General Graziani is really in earnest this time, there's ~~no~~ little doubt about the outcome. Addis Ababa, they say, is doomed.)

So it sounds strange to hear ^{that} ~~of a victory for~~ Addis Ababa ^{has won a victory.} Yes, a long and bitter struggle in which the warriors of Haile Selassie's capital won the day. The struggle took place within right ~~in~~ the limits of Ethiopia's metropolis. Hundreds of white clad black-men, carrying their huge spears and swords, took part in the encounter.

But there was ~~no~~ bloodshed. It was a football

match, a soccer game. With Mussolini's airplanes at hand with Marshal Badoglio's forces to the north, and General Granziani's southern army closing in on them, the subjects of the King of Kings chose that time for a soccer game. The first they had played in two years. Addis Ababa against Diredawa. Addis won, three goals to two.

POLITICS

(The returns from New Hampshire as they come in today, bring good cheer for the New Deal! A delegation pledged solidly to renominate Franklin D. Roosevelt.

But what of the Republicans? Whom do the G.O.P. followers of the elephant pick for their candidate? Colonel Frank Knox, editor and owner of the CHICAGO DAILY NEWS and of an influential paper in New Hampshire.)

The Massachusetts primaries will be held next month, and up to now, the poli signs pointed to a hot opposition from the anti-Roosevelt Democrats. But those signs are fading. One leader of the President's opponents is former Governor Ely, the man who put Al Smith's name before the Convention in Nineteen Thirty-two. But now ex-Governor Ely announces that he's out of the fight. And that disposes of one of Mr. Roosevelt's foremost antagonists.

Then, there ~~we~~ are two Senators, Dave Walsh and Marcus Coolidge, both of whom had their axes sharpened for the New Deal, though Senator Walsh at first championed many of the

President's measures. Now apparently both are back in the fold.

They have accepted positions as delegates on the Roosevelt slate, the slate hand-picked by sunny Jim Farley. That's the reason why Joe Ely quit. The desertion of Walsh and Coolidge from the anti-Roosevelt banner left Little Joe out in the cold.

The statement he made when he quit had quite a sting to it.

Said he: "It is impossible to beat the greatest patronage machine this nation has ever seen." And for a whip-lash he added: "One lone man cannot beat four billion dollars."

But there's a different story from Rhode Island.

A Republican victory. That's significant. You may remember that last August there was an election in Rhode Island, fought squarely on the issue of pro or anti-New Deal. The New Deal lost out, the Republican congressman, Charles F. Risk, was elected.

Today's Rhode Island story is not about a congressional election. The Rhode Islanders were voting on a convention to amend the state Constitution. If the proposition had won out,

the state's ninety-four year old state Constitution would have had some radical patches sewn into the seat of its pants. The Republican Party in Rhode Island fought the idea tooth and nail, fought and won. There will be no constitutional convention at this time in Roger Williams' State.

Political observers tell us that that Republican victory is really significant. They say the congressional election of last August was the beginning of a revolt against the New Deal and that the defeat of the convention idea shows the revolt is growing and will continue to grow until November.

TAXES

Mr. Taxpayer gets a slight - a very slight break this year. Since March fifteenth falls on Sunday, he has until midnight on Monday to mail his return. And don't forget the check.

Uncle Sam needs the money, needs it badly. And he needs it all the more because his chances of collecting the money that he lent to Europe in Nineteen Nineteen are just about as good as they were a year ago, nil.

Senator McAdoo of California made a suggestion on this subject. He proposes that Congress should set up a War Debt Commission. Such a Commission would have a tough job bringing about a settlement that would be final and satisfactory.

At present the debt is piling up at the rate of two hundred million dollars a year.

BROTHERS

Out of New York's sombre criminal courts comes a tale that reads like an ancient classic legend. A tale of a brother's love so profound as to be unbelievable.

A few months ago, a milliner's shop was robbed. The thieves got about eight thousand dollars' worth of goods. One of them, a young hoodlum, was promptly arrested. There was no difficulty about his conviction. He pleaded guilty. But, said the police, "Who was your accomplice? Who helped you pull this job?" The thief answered with the name "Sanguedolce". The cops promptly arrested a man named Salvatore Sanguedolce. When they stuck him in the line-up at headquarters, the milliner identified him as one of the men who had robbed him. Subsequently, the jury convicted him, pronounced him guilty although the other robber, the one who had confessed to the crime, declared stoutly: "He ain't the guy."

John ~~MacDonald~~ MacDonald, the prosecutor who obtained that conviction, wasn't satisfied. He felt uneasy doubts that he might have been ^{putting away} ~~convicting~~ an innocent man. He investigated further. And this is what he learned.

There are two Sanguedolces. Salvatore, the one who is

convicted, is the elder brother, twenty-one years old. His younger brother, Alfredo, is only twenty. When the police called at the Sanguedolce home after the robbery, Alfredo was out. Salvatore answered the door. He made no protest when he was arrested, accompanied the police in silence. All the time he was in jail, and throughout his trial, he said nothing. Not until he had been convicted did he open his mouth. Then he said: "I know nothing about the robbery. My Mother was always worried about my brother. All the time he was getting into jams. So when the cops called, I went to the station. I thought he just got into some other fool scrap. When I heard what he was accused of, I decided to stick along and say nothing. I ~~XXXXXXX~~ thought it was the best thing to do. My Mother was always worrying about the kid, so I thought what I was doing was the way to save her from worrying about him any worse. That's how it all happened. Anyway, I don't know for sure that my brother had anything to do with the robbery."

When Prosecutor MacDonald heard this story, he went before the trial judge and moved that the verdict of the jury

be set aside. The judge took the motion under advisement. But now if Salvatore is set free, the young brother he protected would also go free. The only evidence that the State had in the case was the identification of the milliner, and the milliner identified the wrong brother. So Salvatore's sacrifice may not have been in vain. And,

SOLONG UNTIL TOMORROW.