

Good Evening, Everybody:

1 This afternoon the French
2 government handed to the American
3 Government its reply to President
4 Hoover's proposal for a suspension
5 of reparations and war debts. The
6 French reply ^{always} ~~accepts~~ President Hoover's
7 plan, with-important-reservations - very
8 important as a matter of fact.

9 ~~The United Press gives a~~
10 ~~summary of the attitude which the~~
11 ~~authorities in Paris take.~~ They do not
12 agree with ~~the~~ President that Germany
13 shall be relieved of all reparations
14 payments for one year. Germany at
15 present is making two kinds of payments
16 under the Young plan. One kind of
17 payment is called obligatory and has
18 to be made. On top of that is an ^{second payment} ~~added~~
19 ~~amount~~ which is called conditional.
20 The Germans have to pay this as far
21 as they are able.

22 The French are willing to
23 call off these conditional ^{chunks of cash} ~~payments~~ for
24 a year, but they insist that Germany
25 shall kick in with the unconditional

1 payments. However, the French ~~do not~~
2 ~~demand these unconditional payments~~
3 ~~outright.~~ They propose that Germany
4 ~~should~~ hand over the money and put it
5 in the Bank of International Settlements
6 at Basel. This is a financial institution
7 which handles the reparations payments.
8 The money is to be placed in the bank
9 and then the bank will decide who is to
10 get it. If the bank thinks that any
11 nation involved is so bad^{ly} off financially
12 that it needs the money, why then that
13 nation will get as much as the bank
14 thinks fit. And Germany is included.
15 If the Bank of International Settlements
16 should decide that Germany needs the
17 money more than anybody else, why then
18 Germany would get it back, all of it
19 or part of it.

20 In other words, according to the
21 report which the United Press gives
22 us, France insists that Germany keep up
23 some of the reparations payments, but it
24 will be up to the Bank of International
25 Settlements to decide whether Germany
will or will not get the money back.

President Hoover has been getting plenty of applause for his dramatic bit of international politics. And now comes a suggestion to award him the Nobel Peace Prize. A nomination has been entered. The Lord Mayor of Berlin declares that the Hoover plan means more for a real reconciliation among nations than anything that has been done in 10 years.

And so he gives a loud hoch and comes out on a platform of HOOVER FOR THE PEACE PRIZE.

1 Meanwhile, the effect which
2 President Hoover's diplomatic move had
3 on the stock market keeps going on and
4 on. They did a land-office business
5 on the stock exchange today. The New
6 York Evening Post calls it "a wild rush
7 to buy stocks." All along the line
8 prices advanced. Activity was so great
9 that the stock ticker fell 4 minutes
10 behind the market.

11 The financial expert of the
12 Literary Digest pointed out to me that
13 the significant[†] thing ~~about the day~~
14 ~~in the stock exchange was~~^{is} that commodity
15 prices went up strongly. He explains
16 that this is even more important than
17 the booming of the market in general,
18 because commodity prices have an
19 immediate and intimate bearing upon
20 business from top to bottom.

21 Another highly encouraging fact
22 concerns a couple of big railroads. It
23 had been rumored that the Baltimore &
24 Ohio and the Northern Pacific would not
25 pay ^{their usual} ~~any~~ dividends this year. But that

isn't so. Today these railroads declared regular dividends.

That's just another sign that the railroads are O. K.

The White House was buzzing with grave international problems, German reparations, war debts, the world-wide economic crisis, and ways of getting prosperity back. Well, one more problem showed up today. A couple strolled up to the White House -- a man and a girl, both of exceedingly dark complexion.

"Wewit wants to see the President," declared the negro, with a broad beaming smile. The dusky girl on his arm giggled bashfully.

"What do you want to see the President for?" demanded the Captain of the White House police.

"We wants to get married," explained the negro, with a still more cheery smile, "and we sertainly would lak to have President Hoover to witness our ceremony."

The Captain of the White House police let out a gasp, and when he had

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2 work these days -- but here's one job
3 he didn't do.

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25 police let out a gasp, and when he had

1 recovered his ~~moment~~ presence of mind,
2 he sent the couple around to the
3 marriage license bureau. And what a
4 sublime opportunity ~~Mr. Hoover missed~~
5 for some publicity Mr. Hoover missed.
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AIRPLANE

Last night at this time the big news in the world of aviation was that an airplane was speeding along through the sky across the Atlantic Ocean.

And tonight we have the same news. Another plane is somewhere out there over the grey waters of the Atlantic, making a transoceanic flight.

At dawn this morning the two Danish fliers, Hillig and Hoiriis, took off for a flight to their native country, Denmark. According to the Associated Press they got away in fine style. They have no wireless set along, and no word can come from them until they land, although, of course, ships at sea may sight them and wireless the word to shore.

Well, the plane that was on its way across the ocean last night is in Berlin this evening. Wiley Post and Harold Gatty landed safely in England this morning, took some more fuel aboard and headed for Berlin where they were given a huge reception. Berlin went wild. They have a fast plane, and the United Press and the International News Service tell us that they made faster time than any other trans-Atlantic fliers have ever made.

From England they didn't go straight to Berlin, however. They landed at Hanover. They were a little bit puzzled. They didn't quite know the sky route to the German capital. So they landed at Hanover for flying directions. The aerodrome officials there told them the way - You take this road and at the first turn after the high school turn right, and three hot dog stands later you turn left. Of course, it isn't quite like that in sky travel, but it's something like it.

Well, the two aviators took off and started for Berlin. A few minutes later they were back at Hanover and landed on the field again. They had forgotten to look at their gas tank and now they found that they were short of gas. So they landed for some more fuel. After they had gassed up they jumped into the sky once more and this time made straight for Berlin. They landed at Templehoff Field where there was a big crowd to greet them.

These two exceedingly efficient fliers are spending the night in Berlin. They will have a much needed sleep and in the morning they'll be on their way across Russia. After a stop at Moscow off they'll go again, racing around the world, against time trying to beat the record made by the Graf Zeppelin.

1 Now comes a man saying--it was
2 the closest call I ever had. Well, that
3 may mean a lot or it may mean only a
4 little. It depends upon the man who
5 is saying it. In this case the man is
6 Jimmie Doolittle, the daredevil aviator
7 who has the reputation of having had
8 perhaps more close calls than any other
9 man alive.

7 10 Jimmie was flying late yesterday
11 evening in a mighty peculiar airplane.
12 He had built it himself. It was a
13 speed plane which had cracked up, just
14 a wash-out. It had belonged to another
15 crack flyer who had smashed it up.
16 Jimmie took the wreckage and rebuilt it,
17 made it a faster plane than it ever had
18 been. And in aviation circles it was
19 known as the mystery plane.

20 Well, last evening Jimmie took
21 off to try it out. And it turned out
22 to be just as fast as he hoped it would
23 be. ~~He was zipping along a hundred feet~~
24 ~~above the ground and got the bus up to a~~
25 ~~speed of 235 miles an hour.~~ Yes, it was

fast, but--the blooming contraption wasn't quite
2 as strong as he thought it would be.

3 "I was hitting it up at 235 miles
4 an hour, just a hundred feet above the
5 ground when I felt the right wing grow
6 heavy", says Jimmie. "I couldn't tell
7 exactly what happened, but I knew it
8 must be something bad." That's his
9 story. And what had happened was that
10 the terrific speed was ripping the fabric
11 right off the wing, and Jimmie had to do
12 something and do it in a hurry. It was
13 one of those split-second moments when
14 everything depends on the speed with
15 which a pilot thinks, and acts.

16 Try to land? That would have
17 been suicide. He did just the opposite.
18 He ^{swung}~~turned~~ the nose of that ^{crippled}~~one winged~~
19 airplane upward. He wanted to get a
20 little more altitude, because a hundred
21 feet is no distance at all for a
22 parachute jump. He swung the machine
23 upward as sharply as he could. He
24 ^{whipped}~~turned~~ it clean over on its back. Then
25 he jumped, or rather he just let himself
fall headfirst out of the cockpit.

And still he didn't have any too much room to drop in. Jimmie pulled the rip cord. The ground was so close that he seemed to hit it the next second. The parachute just had time to ~~xxx~~ open, jerk him right side up and break his fall. He landed with a jolt, but that was all. The plane landed not far away. The motor buried itself five feet in the earth.

One of the first to run up to Jimmie was a ten-year old boy, and that boy was his son Jimmie Junior.

"Son that was the closest call your old man ever had", said the daredevil of the sky.

And I guess there isn't anybody who is going to rise and make any argument about that.

RESCUE

I have a radio message from a friend of mine who is returning from Europe on the big liner the George Washington. It tells of a rescue at sea -- that is, in a way it's a rescue.

The George Washington received a wireless message from an American freight ship saying that they had a fireman dangerously ill aboard, and no doctor.

Well, Captain Fried of the George Washington is famous for his rescues. You'll recall he gained great fame when he saved the crew of the Antinoe. He changed the course of the George Washington. And presently they sighted the old freighter with the sick fireman.

The sea was high and it was midnight -- and there was a bit of skillful work. A life boat was lowered, and the sick fireman was taken aboard the giant American liner. The doctor gave him a bit of quick treatment and says he'll recover.

BRIDGE

Well, just at this point I think I'll bid five spades. I occasionally do; and I usually get set by about three tricks. Anyway, as I come to this story of the great bridge controversy, I feel as though I had big something like five spades. And I feel as though I was trying to figure out a way to make the tricks -- because a great bridge controversy is deep stuff. In fact too deep for me. At any rate the controversy is shaking the country has to do with the approach-forcing system, and the one-club bid, and the ace-showing bid, and all those things which get a simple, honest, guileless bridge player like me into water that's both deep and hot.

The bridge experts have come together and decided by a large majority that what the country needs is one system of bidding. Heaven knows, how many systems there are now. Anyway, the bridge experts have decided to get up one standard system. There's one expert, however, who is uttering, "No, nothing doing," in a loud voice. He is Ely Culbertson. He has a system of his own, and he says it's the best. It's called the "approach-forcing" system. I believe it has something to do with that bid of two

which requires your partner to keep the bidding open.

The New York World-Telegram today informs us that Mr. Culbertson is willing to back his system with cash. He challenges the other experts to play 100 rubbers -- they using their system, and he using his. And he's willing to bet 5,000 dollars to 1,000 that his "approach-forcing" system will win.

Meanwhile, the situation is complicated by Madeline Kerwin, president of the American Bridge League. She claims that she helped to invent that "approach-forcing" system, and that Culbertson adopted it as his own.

Anyway, the arguments are flying thick and fast as to the merits of the systems of bidding, with loud shouts about approach-forcing bidding, and ace-showing, and minor-suit bids, bidding a short suit -- but wait a minute, I'm all tangled up with those technicalities.

Let's try a news item that isn't so complicated. But wait a minute, look what I've stepped into.

It's about

~~And now along comes the American~~
~~no not moonshine committee.~~
Moon Committee. ^ Yes, we have committees
on pretty nearly everything in the
world, and we also have a Moon Committee.
They're a group of distinguished scientists
who study the moon. They take care of
the earthly concerns of the Man in the
Moon, and, for one thing, assure us that
the moon is not made of green cheese.

In my advance copy of the Literary
Digest -- the one that will be out
tomorrow, I read that the chairman of
the Moon Committee is Doctor Fred E.
Wright, and Doctor Wright has been
conducting some very learned experiments,
trying to find out just what the moon is
made of -- if not green cheese, what
kind of cheese? Doctor Wright tells us
about it in an article in Current Science,
and the Literary Digest passes on the
word to us.

Now these profound scientific
experiments usually seem too deep to be
understood right off the bat. But you
commonly find that at the bottom they

are quite simple. That's one thing we Literary Digest readers know.

Take the problem of trying to find out what the moon is made of -- or at any rate, what the surface of the moon is made up of. Moonlight, as we all know, is sunlight reflected from the surface of the moon. So Doctor Wright simply set out to find out what substance ^{down here on} ~~on the~~ Earth turns sunlight into moonlight. In other words, he took various substances and reflected sunlight from them, and he found one which seemed to fill the bill. When sunlight was reflected from it, why, that reflected sunlight was just like moonlight. Thus the Doctor assumed that the surface of the moon must be made up of that particular substance.

And what substance was it? Well, ~~it's~~ it's pumice stone. Now pumice stone comes from volcanos. When volcanic lava is fiery and molten, why, it has a kind of foam. That foam, when it turns hard, is pumice stone.

Well, scientists all along have

observed the surface of the moon to be covered with what looked like volcanic craters. They believe that the surface is largely of volcanic origin. And of course the new pumice stone discovery fits right in with that same idea.

And so, as you'll see in your copy of the Literary Digest tomorrow, we'll have to revise the old saying that the moon is made of green cheese. The moon is made of pumice stone.

Well, it's June, and its going to be a bright moon-light night. And who cares whether the June moon is made of pumice stone or of green cheese. Anyway,

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.