

Good Evening, Everybody:-

The day has been a record breaker. At one o'clock this afternoon Uncle Sam's official thermometer in New York City registered ninety-five degrees. By half-past two, that is, half-past two daylight saving time, the mercury was up to one hundred degrees. One hundred in the shade; and in the sun it was one hundred and forty-one in Central Park. That constitutes an all-time record for July. That is, that this was the hottest July day in the history of the United States Weather Bureau. In fact it was the second hottest day of any month. The hottest of all was August 7, 1918.

Terrific heat raged all over the Atlantic Coast states today. People dropped by the scores, prostrated by the torrid temperature, and many died. Seven hundred thousand gasping mortals packed the sands at Coney Island. The suffering would have been worse, but for the fortunate fact that the humidity was comparatively low. In Chicago people endured even more, because, although the mercury was only up to ninety-one, the humidity was devastating.

The Middle West has been suffering like this for an entire week; and World's Fair crowds have been going around wilted and saturated.

The drouth throughout the Middle West has been so prodigious that huge cracks are visible in the ground almost everywhere. In fact, our Chicago correspondent says that these cracks are so deep that golf balls are lost in them. That may sound like a tall story at first, but I guess it comes in the Believe It Or Not class, because it's amply corroborated. I hear these cracks are so large and so numerous that they now constitute an additional hazard on golf courses.

To get back to the thermometer; at Washington it was between ninety-five and ninety-seven degrees, with awful humidity. The record for Washington was June ninth when they had one hundred. I flew in from Ohio, and at ten thousand feet it was cool and balmy in the big T.W.A. plane. But whenever we came to earth the ~~hax~~ heat came up like flames and boy, was it hot in Camden, New Jersey. (Whew!)

About the only pleasant weather reports come from San Francisco, where the glass was down to sixty-three. Throughout the rest of California, especially the Sacramento Valley, it was just as hot as the Middlewest, and several deaths occurred from heat prostration.

ROOSEVELT

The news from the summer White House in Dutchess County, N.Y., today is that the President is taking it easy. He is ~~is~~ holding fast to his resolution to get some real rest out of his vacation so over the week-end he had no official conferences. The only visitors at the summer White House were there for purely social purposes. They were Captain and Mrs. Jim Mollison, the British fliers, and Mr. and Mrs. George <sup>Palmer</sup> Putnam, (Amelia Earhart.) Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Chairman of the Farm Board called later, but not officially.

The President's son, John Roosevelt, and his grandchildren the children of his daughter, Mrs. Curtis Dall, were at <sup>Krum Elbow</sup> ~~Hyde Park~~ today.

N.B.C.

HOOVER

The Literary Digest quotes an amusing typographical error from a San Diego newspaper. The paragraph runs as follows: "Former President Hoover, his Secretary of the Interior, Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, Justice Harlan F. Stone of the United States, and Ray Lyman Wilbur, Jr., arrived at Pyramid Lake, Nevada, today. They plan to spend several days there wishing." No, not fishing, but wishing.

That sounds like one of those slips with a great deal of unintentional truth in it.

STEEL

( The NIRA program is still going ahead full speed. New acceptances of the Code continue to pour into headquarters and differences of opinion are being ironed out. ) For instance, the steel industry has made an important concession. This was announced today by Robert Lamont, President of the American Iron and Steel <sup>Institute.</sup> ~~Association.~~ He says that certain ~~xxxx~~ clauses affecting labor which were objectionable to the Administration have been eliminated from the steel code. Particularly that one which would declare for the principle of the open shop and recognize only company unions. Mr. Lamont believes the industry will follow the suggestion.

And now that the code of the automobile industry has been submitted, several favorable signs are in evidence in various parts of the country. The Reo Motor Company announced that beginning tomorrow the wage rates of 1929 will be ~~in~~ in effect once more. Chevrolet and Pontiac tell us that they have eighteen thousand more men at work now than they had a year ago today. Also a subsidiary of General Motors in Hartford, Connecticut, ~~ix~~ has given a ten

per cent increase to all employes earning less than eighteen hundred a year. The same with four General Motors subsidiaries in Dayton, Ohio. Only six weeks ago that same company gave an increase of five per cent.

Then things are moving in the ship-building industry too. A report from Washington shows that last month's figures indicate an increase of ninety-seven per cent over a year ago.

My friend, Captain Tom Doe, President of Eastern Air Transport, tells me that the company on its New York-Atlanta-Miami line broke all passenger traffic records this last month. In fact, this is the fifth consecutive month in which that has happened. During July the company's airliners carried an average of two hundred and eighty-six passengers every day.

Getting back to the question of the steel industry and the labor question, Mr. William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor made a suggestion. He proposes to establish a joint council composed of representatives of labor and representatives of companies. This council will establish

permanent hours of work and rates of pay.

Mr. Green adds that if the steel ~~magnifix~~ magnates <sup>will</sup> ~~are~~ ~~willing to~~ accept his suggestion he is perfectly willing on behalf of the unions, to leave the temporary basis of labor conditions without argument to the judgment of the NIRA administration.

N.B.C.



MRS. ROOSEVELT.

Incidentally one of the first employers to put ~~up~~  
up a NIRA sign, the blue eagle with the legend "We do our part",  
was no less a personage than Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. Mrs.  
Roosevelt owns a furnitire factory ~~at~~ <sup>near Poughkeepsie,</sup> Valkill, New York, There  
she manufactures reproductions of antique furniture.

NBC

McDONALD

An interesting rumor has been set loose in London. It is believed in official circles that owing to the failure of the World Economic Conference Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald is about to retire. Coincident with this is the report that he will take the post of British Ambassador at Washington. Both these rumors, however, are without official confirmation. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald has been in office quite a long while now, and has steered his ~~xx~~ government through many troubled political waters. To be sure the Labor party of which he used to be the leader has thrown him out but that never seemed to bother him seriously.

Schoonmaker

PAWN BROKERS

An encouraging symptom is reported from London. The pawn brokers of John Bull's capital say that two-thirds of the jewelry that they have been holding as security for loans were redeemed during the last three months. This is generally interpreted as a sure sign that conditions are improving and business is recovering.

Schoonmaker

INDIA

John Bull is having more trouble on his hands in India. In the first place Mr. Gandhi, the stormy petrel of the British Raj is reopening his ~~xixix~~ civil disobedience campaign. Some weeks ago he had recommended that it be stopped. But now the fat is in the fire once more.

— Lord Willingdon —

But His Majesty's Viceroy<sub>x</sub> has still other troubles to face. The tribes on the northwest border, always a stormy center, are in open revolt. The general staff of the Indian Army has sent <sup>squadrons</sup> ~~four~~ <sub>x</sub> airplanes to bombard the villages of the rebellious tribesmen.

Schoonmaker

ANDORRA

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Another revolution is reported from Europe. The scene was the Republic of Andorra, the oldest as well as the smallest of all republics in the world. It was a revolution without bloodshed, but nevertheless it certainly was a real revolution. For Andorra established a new constitution. One of its features is universal suffrage and that in Andorra represents the first important political change that has taken place in centuries.

Schoonmaker.

for Mark Schuster

I ran across a good line today in a ponderous volume that is just out, <sup>a book</sup> ~~it's~~ called "The First World War." Its a spectacular collection of World War photographs. Laurence Stallings, <sup>of What Price Glory Fame,</sup> who writes the prefaces and captions, gives his definition of a military expert. ~~HEXESXK~~ "A military expert," he says, "is one who carefully avoids all the small errors as he sweeps on to the grand fallacy."

At the offices of Simon and Schuster, the publishers of this pictorial war book, they are telling of an amusing typographical error. One picture shows a giant gun. The printer made a mistake in the caption and caused it to read: "The famous 75 Centimeter Horowitz in Action." Of course, it should have been "Howitzer", but - Horowitz was funnier.

Simon and Schuster.

## CONFERENCE

Bernard Kilgore of the staff of the Wall Street Journal relates one interesting fact in connection with that hapless World Economic Conference. Kilgore cables his paper: "Of all the delegates who made the trip to London there was only one who had much that was pleasant to write home about. And that one was Maxim Litvinov, Commissar of Soviet Russia."

Then Mr. Kilgore adds: "Litvinov not only made hay while the sun shone, ~~HEXEXER~~ But even when the sun quit shining he went right on making hay anyway."

As Kilgore shows, Litvinov brought home plenty of bacon. In the first place he made arrangements to buy cotton from Uncle Sam and buy it on credit through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Secondly, ~~ix~~ he secured the abolition of the total embargo that John Bull had slapped on trade with Russia after the arrest of those British engineers. Third, the Soviet Commissar made definite progress toward completing a new commercial treaty between John Bull and the Soviet. He also made some progress toward a trade agreement with France and into the bargain he concluded non-aggression agreements with as many as half a dozen of Russia's neighbors.

N.B.C.

KIDNAP

The kidnapping business continues to occupy almost first place in the minds of the general public. The excitement was heightened by the return of young John J. O'Connell, son of the rich political boss of Albany, New York. His return was brought about without the cooperation of the police and it is generally believed that the O'Connell's paid forty thousand dollars ransom for the young man. This, however, they refuse to admit.

There is considerable talk in Albany that Governor Lehman is going to ask the New York Assembly for some special legislation to curb kidnapers. One thing New York's Governor wants to do is to prevent the family<sup>ies</sup> of kidnapped persons from negotiating with the criminals. Of course, such negotiations, even now, constitute the crime known as compounding a felony, and that of itself is a felony. But, of course, it is never enforced because prosecutors feel that it would be impossible to get a jury to convict a father who had ransomed his child. At the same time, this sentiment makes the work of the police in such cases enormously difficult. When young



KIDNAP - 2

O'Connell was captured the family not only gave the police no help, but used their power and influence to prevent the officers from doing anything that might obstruct negotiations with the kidnapers.

*H* The Albany Times Union today carries a copyrighted story, an interview with young O'Connell. I'm allowed to quote parts of this interview by the permission of the Times Union. Young O'Connell said that when the crooks captured him he was surrounded without warning by several men, One of them struck him on the head from behind and he knew nothing until he came to, blindfolded, in an apartment somewhere. He does not know where. Then he said: "My feet were tied together and I was handcuffed. It was uncomfortable but did me no permanent injury." He adds that he was blindfolded for the entire three weeks that he spent as a prisoner. Only occasionally the bandage was lifted just enough for him to see the edge of papers which he was forced to sign.

Evidently the kidnapers took fairly good care of him.

3 The young man's <sup>eyes</sup> ~~hands~~ suffered no serious effects from the bandaging.

KIDNAP - 3

They fed him regularly, but he couldn't eat much of the food they provided because it consisted of nothing but sandwiches.

Chief of Police Murl of Albany tells us that the District Attorney is handling the case. He is cooperating with the Federal and State police. <sup>R</sup> Meanwhile Hollywood was tremendously excited when the news of a plot to kidnap the young daughter of Richard Barthelmess became known. The information was given to a Hollywood police by an aviator whose name has not been made public. This aviator said he was approached by a well known Oklahoma bandit. This bandit wanted the aviator to fly the child to a hide-out in Mexico City after she had been kidnapped from the Barthelmess summer home at Malibu Beach.

Hollywood has been in a state of panic from kidnapers more than two years now. It is known that many of the high salaried actors and actresses have bodyguards constantly on duty, especially those who have small children. Southern California is rampant with ~~disturbed~~ and desperate and experienced criminals.

N.B.C.

SEAMEN

A dramatic incident is reported from Uncle Sam's Coast-Guard headquarters in Massachusetts. Early this morning a seaman aboard a trawler forty miles east of Cape Cod tripped down a hatchway, <sup>and</sup> caught his arm in one of the gears. The arm was badly crushed. Fortunately the trawler had a radio and an appeal for help was sent out. Well, in twenty-five minutes ~~xxx~~ a Coast Guard se~~p~~plane carrying a doctor was perched on the high seas beside that trawler. An hour later <sup>the</sup> ~~a~~ plane landed the patient ~~em~~ at the Boston airport where a Navy ambulance was waiting to rush him to the hospital. Pretty snappy useful work. *You may recall we had a similar story a week or so ago.*

N.B.C.

L.T.'S. MATRIMONIAL BUREAU.

Some folks seem to think that I ought to go into the matrimonial bureau business. For instance, I have a letter from a gentleman in New Jersey. He must be quite a romantic gentleman for he sends me a photograph of himself, dressed all in tropical white, standing under a cocoanut palm. The gentleman wants a wife and seems to think I ought to find him one.

Well, I wish I could bring happiness to all the <sup>ladies as well as gentlemen</sup> people in America, but when it comes to finding wives and husbands for <sup>the</sup> boys and girls, I just don't quite know how to go about it, especially as I have no bomb proof shelter.

L.T. Personal Correspondence.

DRUNKEN ENDING

On my way east today, flying across Ohio and  
*by the Lindberg Line,*  
Pennsylvania, I came across an item in a flying magazine.

A drunken husband had just reeled in and his wife said:

"Well, I suppose you expect me to believe you came straight home from the office?"

To which the husband haltingly replied: "Sure I did (hic), I came home just like the crow flies."

"So I see, " retorted wife. "And like the crow you stopped frequently for a little corn."

And now, I too am homeward bound. But not like the crow flies. I'm going to take a bee-line -- perhaps stopping for a little honey on the way. And so long until tomorrow.