

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The outstanding story of the day concerns labor. On this subject let's hear from the President; his first important public utterance since last week's victory. The essence of it is summed up in one sentence. Says Mr. Roosevelt:- "I believe the country has this last week given a mandate in unmistakeable terms to its legislators and executives." That mandate, he continues, was to make this coming year an outstanding one in the annals of labor legislation. The objective he says is to assure working people decent working conditions, safe and healthful places of work, adequate care and support when incapacitated by reason of accidents, industrial disease, unemployment and old-age."

There are the President's words. Also, "reasonably short working hours, adequate annual incomes, proper housing, and elimination of child labor." Those are also his words. And so are these:-

x "a general leveling upward of labor standards."

47

This was made public today in a message to the Third National Conference of Labor Legislation in Washington. The President was unable to attend himself, clearing his desk, getting ready for that swift trip to the Pan-American Conference at Buenos Aires. Also, he had to keep one eye on the shipping strike and another on the tense fight between John L. Lewis of the C.I.O. and William Green of the A.F. of L. So the Roosevelt message was read by Secretary of Labor Perkins.

The President expressed the hope that this National Conference on Labor will consider how his social ~~xxx~~ reform objectives may be achieved.

Labor matters are also foremost in an invitation from Federal Industrial Co-ordinator, Major George Berry: an invitation to the leaders of business to take part in his council for industrial progress. This to meet early next month. The object of the meeting to map out a program of labor and industry laws to be offered to Congress next January.

48  
Several members of Major Berry's council have proposed a new Federal Commission, its functions to regulate



minimum wages and minimum working hours - somewhat after the manner in which the Federal Trade Commission sets the standard for fair trade practices.

Some industrial leaders have fought shy of the Berry Commission. Just about the time it was organized the Supreme Court knocked out the N.R.A. That stiffened the resistance of industrial magnates who didn't care to join any plan backed by the New Deal. The belief in Washington today is that industry is now more ready to cooperate.

--

The labor problem of the hour is still that maritime strike, in every port of our far flung seaboard.

A complicated situation. On the one hand, ship owners on the west coast began negotiations for the first time since the strike began. On the other hand, the strike is spreading. Its tentacles reaching into logging camps, mills, shipyards, warehouses, and so on.

The strike strategy committee in New York City claims to

49  
have more than two hundred and twenty-five ships tied up, seventeen thousand men refusing to go to sea.

In San Pedro, the port of Los Angeles, one perishable cargo there includes some four thousand bunches of bananas. The shippers have gone to law about it and obtained an order from the federal court, ordering the strikers to move those bananas. But the workers said:- "Yes, we have no bananas." And the ripening fruit continues to ripen in the hold of the ship.

As for the battle in the ranks of labor itself, the peace prospects are dubious. Early today there was a good deal of optimism in Pittsburgh, where the Committee for Industrial Organization was meeting. But William Green's refusal even to meet his arch foe, John L. Lewis, makes the rift still wider. As a matter of fact, Mr. Green explained that he would be glad to meet Mr. Lewis but it wouldn't do any good. As President of the American Federation of Labor, he lacks the authority to rescind the action of the Executive Council in suspending Lewis's C.I.O. unions. That question, he pointed out, will be dumped on the doorstep of another body of the A.F. of L. in convention at

50



Tampa next week. So this grim issue of peace or war among the American labor unions rests in abeyance tonight.

The meeting at Tampa is sure to be an exciting one. Especially as there seems to be a prospect that the doughty John L. Lewis may lose one of his foremost allies. There was talk today that the Garment Workers Union, the third largest in the country, may secede from the C.I.O. The much discussed David Dubinsky, President of the Union, is believed to be ready to take his hat in hand, eat humble pie, and ask to be re-instated in the A.F. of L. And that would be a blow to Lewis and colleagues.

Oh yes, and The machinery began to move today for the President's favourite project. (The ship of social security ~~may now be said~~ <sup>is now</sup> ~~to be~~ definitely launched throughout the United States. The Social Security Board announced <sup>s</sup> the opening of fifty-six field offices.) They will be established to cooperate with the Post Office. Old Age benefits for wage-earners will begin to pile up January First. It is estimated that <sup>this</sup> ~~so~~ will affect twenty-six million people. The records are to be kept in Baltimore. It is there that the names of all the twenty-six million will be on file.

The Social Security Act as it now stands will not be permanent. That is to say it is sure to be revised from time to time. So said Mrs. Roosevelt in a speech at Temple University. The First Lady pointed out, that:- "In England, where they've had social security legislation for nearly twenty-five years, there have been revisions nearly every year." As ~~xx~~ she explained:- "New and unforeseen situations arise which make these revisions necessary." ~~As a matter of fact,~~ <sup>And</sup> the President himself has already declared the act <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ not perfect, and due for improvements.



## SUPREME COURT

2  
1

The Supreme Court met again today and again without the presence of Mr. Justice Harlan Stone. His prolonged illness causes no little worry~~ing~~ in Washington. Justice Stone is one of the liberal members of the bench and as such usually favorable to New Deal measures. Chief Justice Hughes announced today that *Justice Stone* ~~he~~ would take no part in deciding cases at the hearing of which he has not been present.

For the rest, the principal action taken by the high court ~~today~~ was a ruling knocking out certain provisions of the tax on chain stores in Iowa. This was a tax based on gross receipts. There has been a great deal of talk about regulating chain stores. So this decision will have far reaching effects.

## N.B.C. TENTH ANNIVERSARY

In November 1926 a new company came into existence. Like any fresh born institution its birth was fraught with as many fears as hopes. That fledgling corporation was the National Broadcasting Company. Its first program was broadcast from a tiny studio at the old Waldorf-Astoria, ~~where stands now the Empire State Building.~~ Tonight the studio in which I am now talking is one of scores occupying floor upon floor of the giant R.C.A. Building here in Rockefeller Center. Ten years ago the network of the N.B.C. consisted of nineteen stations. Tonight there are a hundred and two in every part of the United States with other outlets in Canada and Hawaii.

53  
Ten years ago there were no such microphones as the ribbon mike now before me. In speaking on the air in those days you had to use a lot of lung-power to get onto the ether. Now you can whisper and the engineer can make it a shout. And most of you remember those receiving sets of 1926. No special tuning devices, no short wave bands.

W 2.  
Actually the Tenth Brithday of the N.B.C. won't be until next Sunday. But the celebrations began <sup>last</sup> tonight. In the grand ballroom of the new Waldorf-Astoria more than fifteen hundred people ~~will sit down at a banquet to celebrate what so humbly began at the old Waldorf. That means quite a lot of birthday cake~~



## SPAIN

54

Once more it's impossible to say anything definite about Madrid. Yesterday it seemed inevitable that the foreign legion and the Moorish soldiers of General Francisco Franco must capture the heart of the city tonight. It now appears that they are only in the suburbs. <sup>R</sup> Though the government has fled to Valencia, Red troops are holding grimly and desperately to the fortifications on the city limits. <sup>R</sup> Fascist bombers <sup>today</sup> dropped shells on the crowded city. According to one report, many of the shells did <sup>not</sup> explode. The theory is that there has been sabotage in the Nationalist ranks. The Loyalists cling desperately to the hope that the Manzanarres River will keep the invaders out. All the bridges are heavily guarded. The minute Rebel soldiers put foot on them, they will be blown up. To this end they are heavily guarded by machine gun squads. And a message from the British embassy to London informs us that General Franco's cavalry cannot cross the river bed.

Even if he captures Madrid, General Franco's victory will not be complete. He will still have the hard nut of Catalonia to crack. As everybody knows, the Catalans are

politically Red, violently anti-Fascist, And that's the richest, most prosperous province in Spain.

The American embassy in Madrid is virtually an armed fortress tonight. All civilians in the capital are resigned to an inevitable surrender.



## SHIPWRECK

This winter is still young, but already it is setting a record for <sup>fierce</sup> ~~deadly~~ storms at sea. The worst <sup>+ so far</sup> ~~of them all~~ rages ~~over~~

to- night on the European side of the Atlantic. It culminated in the most dreadful tragedy of the year, two hundred miles off Lands End, the rocky southwestern tip of England. Thirty-nine men is the death roll, thirty-nine <sup>swamped by</sup> ~~men sunk in~~ waves so huge that no lifeboat could ~~possibly~~ be launched. ~~in then~~. Such is the ~~awful~~ tale of the German motor ship ISIS. Just one of the crew, the cabin boy, seventeen years old, ~~was~~ miraculously rescued by the steamship WESTERNLAND.

No fewer than four vessels rushed to the rescue of the ISIS, including the giant QUEEN MARY, which turned off her course in the hope of saving human lives. We get some idea of the tremendous force of those waves from the fact that the passengers of even <sup>the</sup> ~~that~~ ~~mighty QUEEN~~ queen of the seas could hardly stay in their bunks.

It was no quick, sudden horror that overwhelmed the ISIS. As early as yesterday afternoon the first of her commander's pathetic calls for help came crackling over the air. <sup>π</sup> The WESTERNLAND, also a German liner, reached her side just as night was falling, but

when she got there her master found himself helpless. Wallowing in those mountainous seas, his ship plunged and hove, while her searchlights stabbed through the heavy rain and spray. Finally one finger of light was flashed upon a small boat floundering in the waters. The cabin boy, the sole occupant. They saved him -- the only survivor.



## WALLACE

If you mention the name "Wallace" to an American, he'll take it for granted you're talking about the venerable Secretary of State. But say "Wallace" to a Scotchman, and he'll think of somebody vastly different. He'll think of the great Wallace, Sir William Wallace, who drove the English out of Scotland seven hundred years ago. The Wallace <sup>"</sup>who-laid the proud usurpers low, made tyrants fall in every foe, swung liberty in every blow." It was of him that Robert Burns wrote:

*hae*  
"Scots, wh' hae wi' Wallace bled,  
Scots, wham Bruce has often led;  
Welcome to your gory bed,  
On to victory!"

*Pardon my Scotch* —

What, you may ask, has Wallace to do with the news?

His famous sword has been stolen. For years it has been kept at the Wallace Monument Museum in Stirling, Scotland. During the wee small hours of this morning, there came a loud knock at the door. As the seventy year old <sup>curator</sup>~~curator~~ opened it, four masked men shouted: "Sir, we have come for the sword!" Then they jumped on the curator, locked him in a room and ~~waited~~ climbed the winding stairs to the

Hall of Heroes. There they smashed the glass case in which the famous Wallace sword reposed. And off they went with it.

*Today's*  
~~The~~ legend has it that it needed all four men to carry that mighty weapon. ~~According to history,~~ it's a double-handed affair, five and a half feet long with a blade four feet, four inches. And tonight every policeman in Scotland, large or small, is looking for that gang.



BARRYMORE

Gilbert and Sullivan fans will all recall the lyric:

"Nothing venture, nothing win,  
Blood is thick, and water ~~is~~ thin,  
In for a penny, in for a pound,  
Tis love that makes the world go round."

So sang the Lord Chancellor in IOLANTHE, so sings America's premier actor, John Barrymore. Frequently a great lover on screen and stage, his fourth venture <sup>into</sup> ~~across~~ the matrimonial ~~mixture~~ maelstrom, reaps him almost as much publicity and glamor as his bedazzling thespian performances.

Caliban becomes joined to his Ariel after the most tempestuous courtship ever conducted in public. Not so many months ago, the <sup>young lady</sup> ~~bride~~ announced to all the world: "We can never be happy together." While the <sup>(not so young man)</sup> ~~groom~~ was saying: "You could never get along with a gal like that." Tonight Caliban declares: "I am so happy, so happy, that you wouldn't be able to print it." Could a boy of twenty-one say more? As for the fourth Mrs. Barrymore, she might also paraphrase a quotation from IOLANTHE.

"Faint heart never won fair lady" declared the Lord Chancellor.

58 1/2  
Faint heart never won a fifty-four year old millionaire  
world famous actor.  
~~bridegroom~~ It took <sup>her</sup> a long time, ~~but~~ <sup>in</sup> that spectacular chase across  
the country, with Ariel pursuing in the fastest planes, Caliban  
dodging her all over the continent, disguised behind <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ hedge of  
whiskers, ~~that's a picture that will not soon be forgotten.~~

But it all turns out just  
~~So there is~~ another <sup>journey</sup> ~~(joining)~~ that ends in lovers meeting.

Tonight we learn that the union is to be professional  
as well as nuptial. In other words, (theatre goers will have a  
chance to see Mr. and the new Mrs. Barrymore this winter. They're  
going to appear together in a play on Broadway. The play hasn't  
been selected yet, but there surely will be a play.

59  
Oh yes, and you remember that large diamond ring there  
was so much talk about? The one John gave Elaine and then, according  
to reports, wanted to get back again? The ring was on her finger  
large as life and twice as natural when that ceremony was performed  
at Yuma.)

~~The poetic romance of~~ Caliban  
and Ariel — married at Yuma.

59 1/4  
Solving until tomorrow.