

L.T.- SUNOCO, MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 1938.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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Many of you undoubtedly heard President Roosevelt this afternoon in his long expected message to Congress. So you probably observed it was a most characteristically Rooseveltian performance. Like the ~~inveterate~~ ring-general that he is, he carried the verbal warfare to his opponents, ~~and forced the fighting all the way.~~ Of course you also observed that his voice was ~~strong, clear and ringing.~~

The keynote of his speech was his repeated charge <sup>— the charge</sup> against his adversaries of deception, which does not long deceive. For instance, when he said: "Unfortunately for the country, when an attack is made on specific misusers of capital, the condemned minority has distorted the criticism into an attack on all capital." That Mr. Roosevelt cited as an example of "willful deception which will not long deceive."

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One paragraph in his address will get particular attention because it's being interpreted as an illustration of *the President's more* ~~Mr. Roosevelt's~~ friendly attitude ~~in general~~ toward business.

~~That's where he said~~ "Capital is essential; <sup>," said he.</sup> reasonable earnings on capital are essential, but misuse of the powers of capital or self-suspension of the employment of capital must be ended, or the capitalistic system will destroy itself through its own abuses."

*that* ~~which~~ he added: "The overwhelming majority of business men and bankers intend to be good citizens. Only a small minority have displayed poor citizenship by engaging in practices which are dishonest or definitely harmful to society."

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~~and The world abroad is especially interested in the~~ *What about peace?*  
~~Roosevelt's opening statements.~~ "In spite of the determination of <sup>he said,</sup> this nation for peace," <sup>"</sup> it has become clear that acts and policies of nations in other parts of the world have far-reaching effects not only upon their immediate neighbors, but also on us." To which he added:- "In a world of high tension and disorder, where stable civilization is actually threatened, it becomes the responsibility of each nation which strives for peace, to be strong enough."

This is taken to indicate clearly that Uncle Sam must strengthen his military establishment, ~~must~~<sup>^</sup> join in the armament race.

As important as any, of course, was Mr. Roosevelt's frank admission that any immediate balancing of the budget is out of the question, in fact until Nineteen Forty. He pointed out that as things are going today, seven billion dollars must be considered as the lowest sum on which Uncle Sam's business can be run. ~~A check up of figures in Washington shows that if the administration spent only seven billion dollars it would be lower than any budget since the New Deal came into power.~~ However, the President did predict a smaller deficit for the fiscal year Nineteen Thirty-Nine.

For the rest, ~~President Roosevelt~~<sup>he</sup> stands by his program, including the Crop Control Bill and the Wage-Hour Bill. He was caustic in his description of sectional opposition to the Wage-Hour measure. And he promises, not specifically though by inference, that ~~the~~<sup>the New Deal</sup> government ~~could~~<sup>will</sup> meet the unemployment problem by providing work for everybody who is willing to work. But no ~~dole~~<sup>dole.</sup>

REACTION FOLLOW LEAD

We'll see what repercussions Mr. Roosevelt's message created throughout the country. First of all, Wall Street because it's considered a sort of barometer of business opinion. Wall Street's reaction in general was favorable. The big shots of the money world consider the presidential speech as friendly toward business on the whole and saw no threats in it. However, they're still nervous about the President's next message, which is expected in a <sup>(</sup>month or six weeks. That's the message in which he promises to ~~recommend the reconstruction of our anti-trust laws~~ ~~in a few days~~ ~~the message of law reorganization~~ recommend the reconstruction of our anti-trust laws.

In Washington some of the reactions were a bit surprising. For instance, here's Republican ~~Mr.~~ Bertram Snell of New York, minority leader in the House, <sup>who</sup> ~~he~~ said:- "The message as a whole was more conciliatory than I expected but not what the people want." Then he added: "The President did not make any definite, specific recommendations about putting eleven million men back to work or what his tax program is going to be."

And Mr. McNary of Oregon, minority leader of the Senate, said: "It was a pleasingly conciliatory speech in comparison with some of the recent utterances by some administration officials. It was an interesting talk."

Democratic Senator Carter Glass of Virginia described it as:- "a very agreeable and engaging sort of message from the President's viewpoint."

Republican Senator Capper of Kansas remarked:- "There's a good deal in the speech that's all right, but I don't agree with all of it."

And Independent Senator Norris of Nebraska thought it was:- "a very good message", and Uncle George added: "I agree with his general objectives."

~~And~~ Here's a comment from the colorful ~~Mr.~~ Maury Maverick of Texas, who said:- "The proclamation ending the Civil War was particularly fine to me as a Southerner. On domestic affairs I think it was a splendid speech but as to foreign affairs I am not so sure." And <sup>the Texas</sup> ~~Mr.~~ Maverick added: "I couldn't understand it."

Even Senator Dr. Copeland of New York, who has no love for the President, observed:- ~~It~~ "With most of what he said there must be full agreement." Then he added: "I am disappointed with what the message did not say." ~~Senator~~ Copeland failed to find any assurances that "the government will not interfere with honest endeavors of business."

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As might be expected, other Congressmen, Republican and Democratic, who are opposed to the President, viewed loudly with alarm. ~~Republican~~ Senator Vandenburg of Michigan said:- "The President had much to say in self-defense about deceptions which will not long deceive! Unfortunately, however, he himself still falls victim to the delusions which in themselves will not much longer delude."

Republican Hamilton Fish of New York described the speech as "a long drawn out agony of alibis and avoidances."

Republican Mr. Woodruff of Michigan said:- "The President's speech was more suave and polished but just as unbending and vicious as the speeches of <sup>Robert</sup> Jackson and Ickes."

Democratic Senator Wheeler of Montana described it caustically as "an excellent political speech."

And as might be equally expected, the out-and-out New Dealers pointed with pride and enthusiasm, especially Bankhead and Majority Leader Sam Rayburn.

~~One significant reaction was from Democratic Mr. Dies of Texas. He's the head of the self-named "caucus of savers!"~~

among Democratic Congressmen. Says Mr. Dies:- "I don't know from the President's message what his views are now of economy, but so far as we're concerned, we're going right ahead with our caucus to curtail expenditures." And he added he's going to call a conference of his savers right away. He expects to have as many as a hundred Congressmen on his side. One of the first things they'll do will be to call for an investigation of the charges made last week by Mr. Jackson and Secretary Ickes.

It seems that the most interesting comment on the presidential message was made by no less a commentator than the President himself. As he left the House Chamber on the arm of his son, James ~~Roosevelt~~, he passed by Minority Leader Bertram Snell. <sup>To that Republican chieftan</sup> ~~To him~~ the President said:- "Well, Bert, as we used to say on the East Side of New York, "that ain't asking ~~them~~, that's telling ~~them~~."

Mr. Snell, with a wide grin splitting his large picturesque face, was obliged to agree.

The first bit of business on the floor of the Senate after it convened was a resolution by Senator George Norris of Nebraska. It concerned the Tennessee Valley Authority, the project for which he is so largely responsible. In fact he's called "the father of the T.V.A.!" Rumors have been rife recently that there were squalls and squabbles on the Board of Directors of that body. So Senator Norris's resolution asks for an investigation.



( Said Wendell Willkie of Commonwealth and Southern today:- "From the viewpoint of utilities, the decision is unfortunate. But, " he added, "the Supreme Court has spoken, and it is the last word.) No one can now change the policy except the Federal Administration itself," said he. This decision is going to have one important effect. Some sixty-one government power projects throughout some twenty-three states have been held up, work delayed, pending this ruling by the Supreme Court. Now they can go ahead. All of which means the spending of almost a hundred and forty-seven million dollars of Uncle Sam's money, your money, in those twenty-three states.

# RETAKE

Before the President even began his fiery challenge <sup>in</sup> ~~before~~ Congress, his supporters were jubilating over another New Deal victory. It came from the Supreme Court. (The nine Justices without a dissenting voice upheld the program of the Public Works Administration in a case that had been bitterly fought by the big power companies. The P.W.A. has <sup>the</sup> ~~perfect~~ right within the Constitution to give and lend the government's money for the building of power projects.)

This is perhaps the most outstanding success the government has had in the courts for months. That P.W.A. policy has been a bone of sore contention, and in one respect today's decision of the high tribunal is a complete surprise. For the opinion was written and read by Mr. Justice George Sutherland of Utah. Hitherto he had been looked upon as one of the most rock ribbed of the conservatives on the bench.

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~~The companies had complained that Secretary Ickes as Administrator of the P.W.A. had used that program as a club to compel private utility companies to lower their rates to the public. For instance, in communities where the private companies~~

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## PRICES

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Here's a bit of cheer for the new year and an important one. Your butcher bills are going to be less. The tale comes from Chicago where it's their business to know all about it. The Institute of American Meat Packers made public its annual report. And it tells us that prices have been on a diminishing scale ever since last summer when they reached the peak. ~~in fact, during September they were at war time levels.~~ But they're already down now, and ~~they're~~ going down further still. The trouble last summer was that there was a shortage of feed for meat stock in the spring. Today there's plenty.

And here's another optimistic note. The production of steel is on the upgrade, especially in Pittsburgh.

OIL STRIKE

It looks like peace in the Mexican oil fields this evening. The talk is that there'll be a compromise between the foreign companies operating concessions in Mexico <sup>an petroleum</sup> ~~oil fields~~ and their workers. The Mexican Supreme Court was getting ready to consider the petition of the foreign corporations for an injunction against the government's order for an increase in wages. <sup>However, at</sup> the same time, President Cardenas in his New Year's Day message made the statement:- "The government is not an enemy of foreign capital." He also said that he had no intention of nationalizing the petroleum industry. This is interpreted as an intention to hold out an olive branch. <sup>// probable</sup> ~~hence~~ compromise.

LATE FOREIGN

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Let's take a birdseye view at the late news from abroad. Commotions in Egypt. Young King Farouk's new Prime Minister started his regime by proroguing the Egyptian Parliament for a month. There was a riotous scene, especially when the discharged Prime Minister tried to protest and the speaker wouldn't recognize him. And the Chamber of Deputies wasn't the only scene of rioting. In one place outside ~~of~~ Cairo there was a fracas in which two people were killed, forty wounded, fifty arrested.


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In Argentina a pistol duel between two statesmen was an aftermath of yesterday's election in the South American republic.

*Nobody hurt - only feelings.*

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In England the British Government started its broadcasts to Palestine in Arabic. The Government's air police were watching keenly to prevent any interference from foreign stations. This was the first program on which the government tried to offset the hostile Italian broadcasts. While it was going on, more violence broke out in Palestine itself.



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In Rome, the editor of Premier Mussolini's newspaper said that these British broadcasts represented a "policy of systematic hostility towards Italy."

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At Vatican City and Berlin they were talking of peace between the Holy See and the Hitler government. The exchange of greetings on the New Year between Pope Pius and Chancellor Hitler was interpreted as a sign of friendly feeling.

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The EVENING NEWS of London tonight got out a special edition to publish President Roosevelt's message to Congress. It was printed in full under a headline which read: "Roosevelt Says Civilization Is Threatened."

In Paris spokesmen of the French Foreign Office were enthusiastic about Mr. Roosevelt's pronouncements on foreign affairs.

SPAIN

Four miles north of Teruel, insurgents and Spanish troops are fighting in the snow. They're battling for the key to the main ~~xxx~~ highway.

Some of the government troops have been without food for forty-eight hours and are fighting with trench knives and pistols. Franco's men have not yet completely captured Teruel, or relieved the garrison. Today Left Wingers dynamited walls of the Governor's palace and found the bodies of children.



REDFERN

An official curtain was rung down today on a ten-year long <sup>mystery</sup> ~~story~~ of travel, exploration, <sup>and</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>adventure?</sup> ~~and mystery~~. It's that <sup>mystery</sup> ~~story~~ of Paul Redfern, the missing aviator, ~~and explorers~~. I've had frequent occasion to mention it.

In August, Nineteen Twenty-Seven, <sup>Redfern</sup> ~~Paul~~ took off from Brunswick, Georgia, in his plane. His goal was a solo flight to Rio de Janeiro. The day after he left Georgia, the crew of a Norwegian steamer sighted his plane some hundred and fifty miles off the coast of South America. From that day to this he was never seen. Then followed a long series of sensational and romantic rumors. From several parts of the South American jungle came stories of a mysterious white man who had crashed in a plane. According to one of them he had become the white king of ~~burial~~ savage tribes. According to another he was ill, injured, and ~~was being~~ held as a ~~part~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~part~~ mascot by ~~South American~~ aborigines.

<sup>Any</sup> ~~I can't count right now the~~ number of expeditions ~~that~~ went ~~out~~ in search of him; by air, on foot, and in canoes. Not one ~~of them~~ brought back to civilization any concrete information.

In spite of this, friends of Redfern and former war comrades persisted in the optimism that he was still alive and that he would be found some day, ~~if not hale and hearty, at least full of experience.~~ Among ~~the expeditions sent out to find him, was one sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, another by Cornell University.~~

For a number of years Mrs. Redfern joined in the belief that her missing husband was still alive ~~somewhere~~ and would <sup>reappear,</sup> ~~turn up some day.~~ But when ~~the~~ Smithsonian and Cornell expeditions ~~both~~ failed, she gave up hope, <sup>and</sup> ~~so she~~ went to the Circuit Court in Detroit and asked to have Paul Redfern declared "legally dead." She told the Judge: "I believe my husband perished as did many other <sup>long distance</sup> ~~ocean~~ flyers." <sup>Today the</sup> ~~and when she recited~~ ~~the number of responsible attempts made to discover him, the~~ court agreed, ~~with her~~ and, granted her petition. So <sup>now</sup> Paul Redfern is dead, <sup>at least</sup> in the eyes of the law, ~~at least.~~

ANNIVERSARY

I have a telegram here from E. R. Jones, President of the Wells Fargo Company. What's wrong with the express office? <sup>Nothing wrong.</sup> The packages and the prompt delivery? Mr. Jones of Wells Fargo is thinking of something else, something idyllic -- marriage, long and happy marriage.

He wires this way, "As I see it, the big news of the day is a story that tells us of the happy marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dawson of Chicago."

Well, maybe it is the big news -- the dispatch ~~which~~ tells us that today Mr. and Mrs. Dawson, ~~aged~~ ninety-two and ninety respectively, celebrated their seventy-first wedding anniversary -- seventy-one years of marriage with never a

quarrel, <sup>! No</sup> not a single domestic argument. <sup>No, he hasn't been away 71 yrs. It's like this: -</sup>

~~"She's never scolded me once," says Mr. Dawson.~~ <sup>said</sup> "We've made it a rule never to quarrel," they ~~both~~ explained <sup>today.</sup> Simple

~~Seventy-one years of perfect wedded bliss.~~ Yes, that

<sup>would be</sup> ~~is the~~ big news <sup>anyday.</sup> And.

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

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