

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

President Roosevelt appeared in a surprise role today - friend of utilities. After all his criticisms, official and unofficial, of public utilities companies, he now comes to the front as their financial benefactor. For he now announced that part of the relief billions will be used to help the public utilities. Chairman Jesse Jones of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was at the White House today. And it turned out that he had been discussing with the President a plan to have the R.F.C. buy securities of utilities corporations. The purpose is to finance new construction, foster the purchase of supplies, and, most important of all, put a lot of people to work.

The Senate's Committee on Unemployment and Relief came to bat with an urgent report. "Repeal that Undistributed Profits Tax," also, modify the tax on capital gains."

LOBBY

A committee of the United States Senate ^{was} ~~has again been~~
^{today,} defied. It's a special committee ~~that is~~ investigating Washington
lobbies. ~~And~~ The man who defied it is Sumner Gerard, Treasurer of
the National Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government. The
committee ~~had~~ issued a subpoena ordering him to produce the records
of his committee. ^{Today he} ~~He~~ replied that he'd be hanged if he would.

Only a few weeks ago, Dr. Edward Rumely, Executive
Secretary of the Committee, likewise refused to obey ^a similar
subpenas.

NAVY

The pacifists went to the bat again today against President Roosevelt's big Navy Bill. Senator Nye of North Dakota took a vigorous swing at that more than one billion dollar program. "We don't need it," he said. "Our navy is large enough as it is."

And he added: "The best defense for the nation would be a law

47
He took a crack at the munitions
to keep the United States out of war." ~~And he also said: "The~~

business, "The said he
chances are ten to one or a hundred to one that the Japanese bombs

which sank the U.S. gunboat PANAY were manufactured in the United States."

OPEN DOOR

They say the Japanese are preparing to force American and British oil companies out of China. It won't be done directly but by subterfuge. Japanese corporations of Manchuria and Korea are organizing in North China to form a North China Oil company. This, when it gets going, will control all the oil in the territory conquered by the Mikado's troops.

The information is not Chinese propaganda, it doesn't come from anti-Japanese sources. It was announced in a newspaper published at Tientsin; a paper that speaks for the Japanese army.

And evidently it's no news to our own State Department. Sumner Wells, Acting Secretary of State, said today that Uncle Sam is giving "close attention to reports indicating that Japan is attempting to close the much discussed 'open door' in the Far East."

Those are his words; and he concluded:- "Foreign firms a long ago were forced out of business in Manchukuo."

CHINA

The news from the Far East continues favorable to the Chinese defenders. The Chinese Embassy in Washington today announced the recapture from the invaders of territories in five parts of North China. This was done by striking in places where the Japanese line was thin, troops having been shifted, to the main theatre of battle near Linyi.

Expert opinion, however, believes that the Japanese are only retreating in order to strike harder than ever. (There's a rumor that the Mikado's high command is preparing a series of hammer blows to capture Hankow, the Chicago of the Far East, temporary seat of the Chinese government.)

HITLER

There was a big show in Berlin today, the celebration of the forty-ninth birthday of ^{der} Fuehrer, ~~Hitler~~. Naturally, there was a monster parade. In a sense it was historic. For the first time the place of honor was given to an Austrian regiment. Those Austrian infantrymen formed a decided contrast to the German ^{unit that} ~~who~~ followed them. They were the only soldiers in the parade who did not goose-step as they passed the reviewing stand.

But the sight that most interested military observers was a ^{squadron} ~~unit~~ composed of nine monster tanks. Each of these traveling fortresses carried four inch cannon ^{placed in these} ~~turrets~~ in addition to several machine guns. ^{The tanks} ~~They~~ weighed eighteen tons each and showed great speed and mobility. However, they did not impress foreign observers as much as might have been expected. The experts shook their heads and said: "So far they're just an experiment."

POPEYE

Popeye the Sailor Man has offended the principles and
dogmas^m of the German Nazis. Fuehrer Hitler's censor has put a
ban on one of the Popeye animated cartoons. It's the one that
was seen in this country under the title of "Fowl Play,"^{F-O-W-L,}
In Germany it was called "Popeye's Parrot." This bit of censoring
has the producers puzzled. They say there's nothing in either
picture of dialogue that should have offended Germany.

(There was much excitement at Windsor Castle today. It was all about a mysterious parcel, postmarked "Paris", addressed to H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth. England is getting ready to celebrate tomorrow the twelfth birthday of the little Princess, the heir presumptive to the crown. And that parcel was a present from H.R.H. the Duke of Windsor, Uncle David, to his favorite neice.)

Princess Elizabeth and her little sister, Margaret Rose, were hanging around the hallways of the castle, watching eagerly for birthday packages. She felt the Duke of Windsor gift with her hands, trying to guess what it was. But it was so well wrapped that she couldn't guess. She'll have to wait till tomorrow to find out what His Ex-Majesty Uncle Davy sent H.R.H. his niece.

AIRPLANES

~~It looks as though better times were coming for the
manufacturers of American airplanes, for a while at least.~~

TP British Imperial Airways today announced that ~~it was~~ ^{it's} buying
eighteen of our transport liners; ~~At the same time,~~ ^{and} a commission
of ten experts from the British Air Ministry set sail for the
United States. They're going to make investigations over here which
may end in purchases of American aircraft on a large scale. ~~And~~ ^{and for large prices.}
~~The price for these~~ ^{The kind of} big transports ~~will be~~ ^{sells for} three hundred and fifty
thousand dollars apiece.

AIRLINE

Here's a bit of news that no doubt will please my sponsor, the Sun Oil Company. Being Philadelphians they are loyally proud of Pennsylvania.

The National Safety Council has awarded a certificate of merit to the Pennsylvania Central Airlines. This for seven years of operation without a single fatality. This is the second year in succession that the Pennsylvania Central Airlines have received that award for safety.

THREE THOUSAND B.C.

I wonder what the wise men of Khafaje, who lived ^{Kuh-fa-gee} five thousand years ago, I wonder what they would think of all these problems that confront us in this Twentieth Century?

I stood in front of one of the wise men of Khafaje for a few moments this morning, ^{Kuh-fa-gee} ~~and~~ ^{and} tried mentally to bridge that lapse of time, five thousand years! ~~And I~~ Wondered how much man has improved in all those fifty centuries. ^{I was in Philadelphia visiting the Sun Oil Co. for whom I broadcast.}

~~And~~ ^{Kuh-fa-gee} I met several of the wise men of Khafaje. ~~this morning, I~~ stood before their alabaster images in one of the halls of the University of Pennsylvania Museum, ~~in Philadelphia~~, one of the great museums of the world. ^{Kuh-fa-gee} Khafaje is about forty miles from Baghdad, and not so very far from ancient Babylon. In those days, Three Thousand B.C., the wise men wore ceremonial beards, those same ceremonial beards that we see in pictures ^{in bas} ~~of stone~~ relief of the period of Sargon. Dr. Horace ~~H. R.~~ Jayne, head of the museum who was with me, told me that the beards probably were removeable, and were worn only on ceremonial occasions. There was one alabaster statue of a man with shaven head and no beard. Probably a wise man who had been unfrocked, a politician who had lost his popularity,

a New Dealer or anti-New Dealer of five thousand years ago who was thrown out of office.

53
Among the wonders of the University Museum I was particularly intrigued by a ~~seal~~^{signet} that is said to be about six thousand five hundred years old. It's called the Adam and Eve seal. Because on it are two nude figures, and a serpent. So far as archeologists know, this is the earliest evidence we have of the story of Adam and Eve. It was used by people whom we know ~~very~~ little about. They must have been among the earliest dwellers in towns. Not cave dwellers. ~~and we~~ vaguely call them Iranians. What more fascinating work ~~is there~~ than that of the archeologist, delving back into the past, uncovering unknown chapters in the history of man, and frequently coming up with information which convinces us that all the problems that bother us today confronted human beings thousands and thousands of years ago.

North.

Apr. 20,

1938.

JOHN RINGLING NORTH

L.T.: Tonight I've brought along the boss of the Big Show, John Ringling North, of the second generation of the Ringling family. And I've just remarked to him that there seems to be a young lot of Ringlings handling the big show now.

MR. NORTH: Sure, but we're no younger than the seven original Ringlings when they started out from Baraboo, Wisconsin, fifty-five years ago. Most of the seven were only in their twenties.

L.T.: So now youth is in control once again. How did the younger generation start in running the big show?

MR. NORTH: The first thing I did wasn't so hot. I stuck my arm into the gorilla's cage. Garguantua, our monster gorilla, thought it looked like something good to eat. And did he hold on, until a keeper hit him over the head with a boat hook. Gargantua used a motor truck tire for a teething ring, so imagine how I felt. However, I've still got my arm.

L.T.: So that's the way the younger generation begins - sticking an arm in a gorilla cage.

DIMAGGIO

Evidently Joe DiMaggio ^{has signed - and for} ~~thinks that even the mere trifle~~
~~of twenty-five thousand dollars is better than not playing baseball~~
~~at all. At any rate, he~~ ^{offered him.} called up Colonel Jake Ruppert of the
Yankees ~~early~~ this afternoon. They talked for five minutes over the
long distance. And the gist of what Joe said was: "Don't shoot,
Colonel, ^{I surrender.} ~~I'll come down.~~" ~~He takes those twenty-five thousand~~
~~dollar terms that the Yankees offered.~~ Colonel Ruppert wound up
the conversation, saying: "Okay, Joe, send me a wire confirming
what you've said." The wire came through about an hour ago and
Joe promptly hopped the train for New York.

55
The ^{fish} restaurant business ^{was} ~~is~~ going fine, and Joe had no
need to worry about money. But it ^{didn't have} ~~hasn't got~~ the thrill of walking
up to the plate and whanging the ball out to the left field
bleachers. And maybe Joe was influenced by this morning's news.
For therein he read how his young brother Vincent ^{hit} ~~had pulled down~~
a home run against the Giants for the lowly Boston Bees in
yesterday's game. ^{Maybe} ~~We can well imagine~~ that that was just a bit
more than last year's home run king could stand.

DEAN

~~Baseball fans' eyes all over the country were turned on Cincinnati today. The Cincinnati Reds were playing Charlie Grimm's Chicago Cubs. That of itself was not spectacular. But another circumstance was.~~ ^{Today} ~~it~~ was the debut of "Herman", commonly known

as "Dizzy" Dean, as a two hundred and seventy thousand dollar pitcher in a Cub uniform. Dizzy pitched, and pitched successfully.

Nothing new in that, even though his last season wasn't so hot.

But ^{today} ~~what was more,~~ he pitched without getting into a fight, not even an argument, and not even a wisecrack. ^{Just confined} ~~In short, he seems to~~ ^{himself to winning a ball game,} ~~have confined himself to pitching and he won his game.~~

~~To be sure, there were eight other athletes in there giving him a bit of help. In fact, Those baby bears of Charlie Grimm's~~ ^{team} ~~cut loose in the second inning, got ten hits, knocked a Cincinnati pitcher out of the box and gave the Dizzy one a handsome nine run lead. Dizzy drove in one run himself. He pitched only seven innings, by which time the Cubs had the game on ice. with a score of nine to two.~~ So Charlie Grimm yanked him ^{keep him from} ~~out of the game,~~ not because he wasn't doing well, but to ~~make sure of not~~ over-exerting his arm so early in the season. Though Dizzy didn't pitch a hitless game, ~~it was noticed that he bore down like a whirlwind whenever he was in trouble.~~

56

BANDITS

57

They say lightning never strikes twice in the same place. But a Philadelphia gentleman tonight thinks that doesn't apply to robbers. He was standing at the corner of a street in downtown Philadelphia, when three bandits walked up to him and shoved pistols into his ribs. They took away all he had, thirty dollars. Wondering how he was going to get home without walking, he kept standing on that same corner. Five minutes later a large and able-bodied negro armed with a blackjack came up to him for no benevolent purpose, *threatened him and robbed him.* ~~The negro took away the gentleman's watch,~~ *The blackjack bandit took* a fourteen dollar watch that the three pistol bandits had overlooked.

BANK NIGHT

~~There is~~ Bad news for promoters of Bank Night in movie houses, ~~also for people who have won money out of it and hope to do so again.~~ Bank Night is illegal from now on in Connecticut. The Supreme Court of the ^{new}~~nat~~meg state says so. And ~~it~~ said so by a unanimous decision. ^{Spoke}~~Said~~ the chief justice:- "Nothing can be said from the standpoint of public morals in defense of this plan. It develops in men and women the gambling instinct and makes appeal to the baser elements in their nature."

POLICE CHIEF

58

The folks in Westville, New Jersey, are having a giggle at the expense of their chief of police. He's a most zealous officer, particularly against speeding motor car drivers. He has issued three hundred and ninety-two summonses since the first of the year. Today he was chasing a speeder through his town and in his enthusiasm kept on into the next township. There he was stopped by a special officer, *who handed him* ~~so ~~that~~ the Westville chief~~ ~~of police got~~ a summons charging three offenses: ~~He is accused of~~ driving without a license, ~~ix~~ trying to make a "U" turn on a state highway, and not having proper registration for his car.

WHITNEY

58 1/2
Out in Clayton, Missouri, there's a justice of the peace who evidently has hankerings for the mantel of King Solomon. He had a prisoner before him convicted of petty larceny. Said this justice, whose name is Louis Hicks: "Some people think there's one law for the rich and one law for the poor. We'll correct that right now." Justice Hicks went on to say: "Richard Whitney got five years for stealing about two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars." Then he stopped to figure for a while and calculated that would be about five dollars an hour. So he said to the prisoner: "You stole two dollars, so your punishment ought to be about twenty-four minutes in the custody of the sheriff. ^{That's} ~~and that is~~ the sentence."

59
The only trouble with the wisdom of this ^{mathematical} Missouri Solomon is that the sum which Richard Whitney stole is now estimated as being more than ten times two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

59 1/4
So His Honor gave the prisoner a sentence ten times too long.

I now Hugh
What from you?