

Washington, D. C. certainly is making the newspapers interesting these days. A new and sensational story looms up in the nation's capitol, a story of a type quite different from those that have compelled our attention since March 4th. Roy Howard's N.Y. World-Telegram and other Scripps-Howard newspapers are playing it up tonight. They seem to have a scoop on the story which comes from Ray Tucker in Washington. The news is that the Democrats are getting ready to ply the muck rake, the old investigation muck rake, on the Hoover administration's that is the past administration's conduct of three federal departments. Those departments are: the treasury, the Internal Revenue Bureau, and the Department of Justice.

This impending scandal -- and there seems every reason to believe that it is going to break -- originates in the case, to some people the tragic case, of the Harriman National Bank and ~~and~~ Trust Company of New York City. And here's the scenario of the drama:-

As you may remember, Joseph W. Harriman, founder and until recently, chairman of the Harriman National, was arrested

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last week by Uncle Sam's officers on the charge of falsifying entries on the books. The bank he founded has been in the hands of a federal conservator ever since his resignation. As is usual in such cases, a committee of depositors in the bank was organized. That committee recently learned that the United States Attorney in New York, ~~EX-HOOVER~~ a prosecutor appointed by ex-President Hoover, knew about Joseph Harriman's alleged falsification three months ago, and delayed action all that time. .

Naturally this information infuriated the depositors. ~~in the Harriman National~~. In fact, they sent a request to President Roosevelt's attorney general asking him to fire the Republican U. S. Attorney in New York out of hand.

But now Democratic leaders in Washington are saying that the case is not as simple as that. They are <sup>proclaiming openly</sup> ~~saying~~ that this delay, the Harriman National case and also the case of Charles Mitchell, resigned Chairman of the National City Bank in New York -- that all these things indicate negligence on the part of the Hoover Administration.

So the stage seems to be all set for a big inquisition. The boys in Washington say the Democratic Congress is going to ~~not~~ haul those three departments over the coals, and find out why, when they were ~~under~~<sup>in</sup> Republican ~~control~~<sup>hands</sup>, the treasury, the internal revenue bureau, and the department of justice did not exercise a more rigorous control of the banking situation.

So the indications in Washington point to a dramatic show.

And, now let me pause for a moment to implore the Hoover partisans not to throw any premature bricks at me and I'll tell you why I make this request.

## UNHAPPY REPUBLICANS

I have received a flood of letters recently asking me not to be quite so pro-Roosevelt. Let me read you a typical letter. It is anonymous. Here it is:-

"If you are going to talk like a Democrat and try to say that Roosevelt is a super-man, we cannot listen to you, or buy your wonderful Blue <sup>gasoline.</sup> ~~gasoline.~~ Roosevelt is not as wise or brainy as Mr. Hoover. Roosevelt is lucky, ~~(in the letter the word lucky is underlined).~~ ~~Roosevelt is~~ lucky, and an astute politician. Do not rub it in that now ~~(three lines underline the word now), that now~~ we have a leader. Be fair and add that this President has had all the good breaks and a Democratic Congress to aid him.

"Instead of inferring that we had no leader before, be fair and mention the meanness and unfairness of this <sup>part</sup> winter's inhuman Congress."

"Remember Hoover fortified the financial structure of the nation to meet and cope with the present situation."

Almost the next letter I open comes from a lady who

charges me with being a bigoted Republican because I mentioned a week or so ago that Mrs. Roosevelt had asked Secretary Woodin to fix Mr. Roosevelt's hair before he signed the Emergency Banking Bill, and because I stated that the aroma of liver and onions could be detected in the stately halls of the White House on that momentous occasion. (laugh) As a matter of fact, you should see me eat liver and onions. It<sup>s</sup> ~~is~~ just about my favorite dish.

When one correspondent ~~XXXXXXXX~~ charges me with being too blatantly pro-Roosevelt and the next intimates that I am what is known as a black Republican, what is a news broadcaster to do? In all candor I am merely trying to convey to you certain aspects of the news. To the lady who accuses me of under-estimating Mr. Hoover, I don't mind admitting that the only campaign speech I ever delivered was for Mr. Hoover. But that has nothing to do with this news broadcast. I am serving ~~merely~~ purely in the capacity of a reporter who conveys the news. In all political matters I am, on the air<sup>at</sup> least, a strict neutral. In other words, as I said before, a reporter and not an editorialist.

## BONDS

One of the things planned by President Roosevelt is a bond issue amounting to two billion dollars. The purpose will be the refinancing of farm mortgages. The bill to authorize this two billion dollar issue is now being drafted at Uncle Sam's Treasury. Democratic leaders admit that the bond issue might go as high as two billions. But they hope that it won't be necessary to call for more than one billion. In this connection two plans are under consideration. One is to sell these bonds on the open market. The other is to exchange the bonds for farm mortgages.

*HP*  
*Here's a thrilling story. We might call it the end of the Germany Republic.*  
*First of all,* Adolf Hitler, leader of the Nazis and Chancellor of

Germany, threw down the gauntlet to foreign critics today. Dressed in his brown shirt uniform he made an address to the new German parliament. Everybody had been waiting <sup>some time</sup> for this ~~some time~~ because it was expected that the Nazi Chancellor would outline the policy of his government. Instead of that his speech was devoted mostly to a fiery invective against people in other countries who have been criticising Nazi behavior.

The only thing definite in his speech was a demand for what amounts to a four year dictatorship.

He also declared himself in favor of peace on a basis of equality for Germany. And he intimated that at the World Economic Conference which is due to take place soon, Germany would ask for a reduction of interest on private loans.

Incidentally, the Hitlerite press is frothing at the

mouth against American newspapers. Government organs <sup>in</sup> ~~of~~ Berlin -- *and*  
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HP  
GERMANY

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during the war. Reports of the boycott against German shipping and German goods which have been started by Jewish organizations in the U. S. A. have also incensed the Nazi press.

Hitler also answered a widely current rumor about the restoration of the monarchy. In reply to this he said: "That question is not for discussion now. Any attempt of single states to solve the problem -- and that was a direct reference to the monarchist movement in Bavaria -- any attempts of single states to solve that problem will be considered high treason. He also paid his compliments to Communism and Socialism. He declared the revolution of 1918 was a crime and a breach of the constitution.

He was speaking, of course, to a practically solid Nazi parliament. The Catholics and Centrists sat silent, overawed and gagged, while Hitler's followers frantically cheered ~~over~~ every other sentence that he delivered. In fact, at times he had to shout over the <sup>roar</sup> ~~voices~~ of his adherents in order to make himself heard. One of his Philippics that aroused the most enthusiastic yell was

as follows: "Treason against the people must be exterminated with barbaric ruthlessness."

And he described the accession of himself and his followers to power as a revolution, the most bloodless revolution in history.

A characteristic and dramatic incident enlivened the Chancellor's performance. Karl Severing, the Socialist deputy who until a few months ago was Prussian minister, attempted to enter the Parliament and take his seat, a seat that he had held for seven years. As he tried to enter, a squad of police arrested him.

It took the Hitlerite Parliament only a moment, comparatively speaking, to ~~xxx~~ comply with their leader's request.

They granted him the dictatorial powers for which he had asked, powers <sup>as</sup> ~~mere~~ sweeping <sup>as</sup> ~~than~~ have ever been granted to any ruler,

powers that place him even above the constitution of the country, --  
*powers as great as those of Kubla Khan, Augustus Caesar or Napoleon.*  
They did this by a vote of four hundred and forty-one to ninety-four.

~~Thereupon~~ Thereupon they adjourned and complacently bowed ~~them~~  
themselves out of the picture. In other words, for the next four  
years Parliament means nothing in Germany, and ~~there's actually~~  
~~no such thing as~~ <sup>the</sup> German republic? *poof! It has vanished.*

JAPAN

One repercussion of the Hitler fireworks has already been felt in the Pacific. It concerns the islands which used to belong to Germany, and which, after the war, were entrusted to the guardianship of Japan under a mandate from the League of Nations. Of course, one avowed purpose of Adolf Hitler and his Nazis is to regain Germany's lost ~~to~~ colonies. To this demand Japan issues a flat "nothing doing," <sup>"hands off!"</sup> This threatens to affect all nations. As everybody knows, Japan is withdrawing from the League of Nations. Consequently her mandate over those once German islands in the Pacific will expire. The ~~Jim~~ Jingo party in Japan now calls for annexation of those mandate islands. In fact, a pamphlet to this effect has been issued from the Mikado's Ministry of the Navy.

RUSSIA

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John Bull seems to be ready for a severe disagreement with his ancient adversary, the Russian bear. News from London brings the information that His Majesty's government has instructed the British Ambassador to Moscow to demand the unconditional release of four British subjects ~~whom~~ who are being held in custody by the Ogpu, the famous Secret Service of the Soviet Government. They are being held on charges of sabotage, trying to injure the machinery of Russian Government factories in which they were employed. The British Government feels there is no ground for these charges, and demands that ~~it~~ these nationals be released without trial.

It is reported in London that if the Soviet refuses, ~~these demands~~, John Bull will break off diplomatic relations with Russia. He has already suspended the pending negotiations for a new trade treaty.

LONDON

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Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald, having returned to London from his visit to Premier Mussolini in Rome and the French Cabinet in Paris, made his first appearance in the House of Commons for several days. He addressed the House to make a report on what he had accomplished in Geneva, Paris and Rome. In explanation of the Mussolini four power plan Premier MacDonald said: "The motive is to remove the causes of war in Europe." He also told the House: "We have pledged to give Germany equality." And he <sup>added: -</sup> ~~also said:~~  
"Europe is in an exceedingly nervous condition. But <sup>now,</sup> ~~we~~ again have hopes of arriving at an agreement in the Disarmament Conference.

EDITORIAL

More than forty State Legislatures have been in session this winter and because of difficult economic conditions and the universal problem of balancing budgets there have been unusual interest in their doings. A number have now adjourned and reports ~~which are very~~ cheerfully received in business quarters indicate that there <sup>has</sup> ~~have~~ been general avoidance of drastic, radical or experimental legislation. The tendency is to give business all the chance possible to recover. Quite likely there will be an unusual number of special sessions <sup>of state legislatures</sup> owing to budget problems and a desire to provide for conventions to determine whether the Eighteenth Amendment shall be repealed.

In line with the tendency to go slow with measures that might hurt business, the <sup>state</sup> Legislatures seem likely to reap a pretty small crop of laws seriously effecting highway transportation, fees and taxes. There will be ~~very~~ few increases in gasoline Taxes. We are nearing the end of the epic of persistent annual increase which certainly is a good

thing. Likewise, the campaign for severe restriction on commercial highway transportation in order to force business back to the rails is producing no big results. Most of the bills to severely restrict weights and dimensions on commercial vehicles have failed, especially in eastern and northeastern states where they have come to the test of actual voting. In other cases they are still in Committees and seem likely to stay there. I learned today that Connecticut has decided to allow this entire class of measures to go over for two years so that they may be handled with more deliberation and intelligent understanding. Apparently that lead will be ~~ex~~ followed generally by the states of the East.

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The report of the National Transportation Committee, commonly called the "Coolidge Committee" which admonished that the march of progress cannot be stopped, seems to have convinced many Legislatures that the present is a bad time to formulate details, when great general principles are still awaiting determination.



There seems to be increasing favor for the plan proposed in Pennsylvania of holding a conference of representatives to the States east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio and Potomac to formulate a uniform Code on Highway Transportation. If this plan finds a general favor, as now seems likely, it will probably mean that most highway legislation will be laid aside for this winter's session.

## BEER

A big industry sprang to life today. I mean, of course, beer. In Milwaukee, St. Louis, Omaha, Cleveland, Chicago, New York, in fact, wherever the foamy stuff <sup>used to be</sup> ~~was~~ brewed, thousands of workers were called back to the job, <sup>and the machinery is humming.</sup> In several places ground was broken for the construction of new plants. Already millions of gallons of the amber fluid <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ flowing through chilled pipes into kegs and into bottles.

One repercussion of this revival was that the price of grain went up on the Chicago markets.

Many people are asking: "Will it be five cent beer once again?" Western brewers say -- yes. Five cents for an eight ounce glass, ten cents a bottle, a dollar and twenty cents a case of twelve bottles, which will be available in grocery stores. Baseball fans will be interested to learn that beer will be sold at the ball parks in all the ~~xxx~~ wet states.

ENGLISH HUMOR

I have an anonymous letter here. It is signed "An Englishman with no sense of humor," and comes from Quebec, Canada. ~~The gentleman~~<sup>He</sup> obviously is ~~raising~~<sup>razzing</sup> me about the joke concerning the Englishman I used one night last week. Says the gentleman in Quebec:

"What's the difference between a cow chewing its cud and an American chewing gum?" Then he goes on to answer the question. ~~He says~~ "It's the intelligent look on the cow's face."

Jimmy, where's my chewing gum?  
And e-l-u-t-m.