

LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST

August 4, 1933

Good Evening, Everybody:-

There was a tearful scene in the New York Stock Exchange today. Brokers were weeping all over the place. No, they weren't weeping for their sins. I wonder ---. Do stockbrokers have any sins to weep for?

The deluge of tears was caused by something else again, and the ominous word is bomb, two bombs, the kind loaded with tear gas.

It was about noontime. A broker happened to look up at the ceiling and saw a cloud of smoke spreading from the air-cooling ventilators. That was when the weeping began. Brokers with streaming eyes dashed out of the building. Several hundred of them, together with clerks and other employees, poured pellmell out onto Wall Street. Then the police arrived; the emergency squads with gas masks. They climbed to the ventilator shafts and found that two tear gas bombs had been placed in the open pipe of the ventilating system. Just who played this little trick is a mystery. Lieutenant Newmann, head of the police bomb squad, declared that it looks like the work of somebody who knows the Stock Exchange building

exceedingly well, somebody, one may surmise, with a curious grudge or a wild and woolly sense of humor.

~~The cute little prank is a thing of major importance in the financial world.~~ The tear gas was so strong and plentiful that the Stock Exchange closed down for the rest of the day. That suspended stock trading all over the United States. As tomorrow is a Wall Street holiday the Exchange is not open until Monday. The last prices on the big board before the bomb exploded are the final prices of the Exchange today. Just twice before has the Stock Exchange been compelled to suspend after a day of trading had begun. One was the day when the false news of the armistice came, and the other was the announcement of the real armistice. Those were joyful occasions, but today was a time of weeping, oceans of tears.

Just for the sake of variety, let's go on to a few smiles from that same great financial institution. It was announced today that salaries of the employes of the Stock Exchange were raised ten per cent.

N.B.C.

NIRA

And that brings us to our familiar and cheerful girl friend
NIRA. She's getting along finely. Her cheeks are blooming like
the rose. General Hugh Johnson the Administrator of Nira gave out
a statement today that the progress on the various codes was ahead
of expectations. The codes for the cloak and suit industry and for
electrical manufacturing were sent to the President today for his
approval. The General added that the steel code might be ready
in a week or ten days.

Robert P. Lamont, President of the American Iron and
Steel Institute declares that the members of the steel code have
already gone beyond anything that can be justified by present
conditions. He means this in connection with maximum hours of
labor and minimum rates of pay. He adds that the members of the
steel code "cannot go any further."

~~The oil code about which there has been a bit of
controversy, is now being rewritten by experts.~~

~~The Railroad Administration and the Industrial~~

General Johnson has issued a call for patience. He asked consumers not to boycott or discriminate against firms that are not yet members of Nira -- until a reasonable time has elapsed.

Yes, as I remarked, Nira is a blooming and buxom young woman these days. From all over the country come cheery messages from firms and industries eager to display the Blue Eagle. F. E. Williamson, President of the New York Central declares that his railroad has added twenty thousand employees to its payrolls since May, an increase of about twenty per cent.

The D. L. & W. has taken back its compulsory holiday orders. That means an increase of six percent for about two thousand employees. Four thousand other workers will go from a three day week to a five day week.


The Chesapeake and Ohio has taken on an additional nine hundred working men.

I have a telegram from Paul Morris, director of Playland, Westchester Amusement Park. He tells me that the National

Association of Amusement Parks met in Rye today and adopted a code. The Amusement Park workers will get shorter hours and an increase in pay, and there is likely to be an additional employment of help.

A dispatch from Washington says that complaints have come in charging that grocery stores are cutting down the hours they keep open. It is said that they are cutting the store hours so that they can reduce the number of employees to be added to the payrolls. Nira officials say they will request General Johnson to issue a statement concerning these complaints.

ELECTRICAL SHOW



For the first time since 1929 New York again will see an electrical exposition. Four years' progress in the electrical and radio industries will be on exhibition at Madison Square Garden from September 20th to the 30th. The special feature will be the latest radio and electrical safety devices for passengers traveling in airplane.

N.B.C.

COAL STRIKE

The Pennsylvania Coal Strike is a prominent subject of consideration at the summer White House, ^{where I was this afternoon,} and has been getting its share of the presidential attention. The President is said to be hopeful that the strike will soon be settled satisfactorily. He is in constant touch with General Johnson, Recovery Administrator in Washington, who is dealing with the code dispute. The President, they say, has also been in direct touch with the officials of the industry. It is pointed out that the government cannot take any decisive action in that coal dispute, until the industry has been brought under a satisfactory code of fair competition.

N.B.C.

MILK

President Roosevelt was asked today to take a hand in the milk strike in upstate New York. A group of dairymen petitioned the President to handle the situation himself and take over the power of the state authorities. There's been a good deal of trouble about that milk strike in New York State. There have been fights and skirmishes between the farmers and state police.

N.B.C.

HOLLYWOOD

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The movie strike in Hollywood is in the news tonight with ructions and disturbances. Film producers claim that the strikers have been damaging sound equipment and film negatives. The President of the International Brotherhood of Electric Workers is meeting the studio workers in an effort to bring order out of chaos. He proposes that the studios take the men back at the old wage scale provided they join his electrical brotherhood instead of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage employes which called the four thousand men out on strike. They say that the trouble is ~~considerably~~ slowing up the production of thrillers and love dramas and what not out there in Hollywood.

N.B.C.

LA GUARDIA

(The political situation in New York City is a good deal clearer today. Fusionists finally found a candidate. The elements trying to get together to oppose Tammany Hall have been doing quite a bit of wrangling, but now they've selected their candidate, Major Fiorello La Guardia, the fiery little Italian who has long been a familiar figure in New York political campaigns and the House of Representatives at Washington.)

CANADA

Canada's credit seems to be as good as Uncle Sam's. We just had a loan enthusiastically oversubscribed, and now word comes that Canada's Dominion loan issue of seventy-five million dollars has been oversubscribed in London to the tune of four hundred million.

Canadian ministers who have just returned from the World Economic Conference claim that this successful loan is one result of that Economic get-together which didn't seem to produce so much result. They explain that the Economic Conference did have the effect of bringing the British Dominions closer together.

Louis Sherwin

STRIKE

~~Reports of strike troubles, likewise from Europe,~~

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At Strasbourg in Alsace, -- a general strike of the building trades has begun. There have been serious disorders. Several people have been wounded. Late reports in the Paris papers declare that the French authorities have arrested two armed German agitators who are said to have been busy stirring up the ~~labor~~ trouble.

Schoonmaker

AUSTRIA

It looks as if an international protest might be injected into that ~~loud~~ controversey between Germany and Austria. The controversey is becoming exceedingly loud in ^{the} loud speakers. The Nazi spokesmen are saying it by radio. From Munich violent denunciations are sent skimming over the ether waves for the benefit of the Austrians. These denunciations tell what the Nazis think of the Austrian government, which is hostile to Hitler. It is said that this kind of butting into ~~any~~ Austria's affairs is a violation of the Four-Power Pact, and the Versailles Treaty; hence the possibility of an international protest on the part of England, France and Italy.

Schoonmaker

GANDHI

It's a year for Gandhi -- a year in jail. And as usual with Gandhi's jail experiences, it's a curious affair. The British released him, but made a condition that he refrain from political activities and remain in the State of Poona. He refused both conditions and went right back into prison to serve one year.

N.B.C.

BALBO

There's been a change of plans up there on the stormy coast of Newfoundland where the big Italian air fleet is still waiting. General Balbo has decided on a change of course. Instead of flying across the North Atlantic to Ireland, the air flotilla will take a more southerly course and wing for the Azores. The weather in the North Atlantic continues to be bad and there seems no sign of a change. ^{The air fleet} ~~They~~ will start August 10th.

N.B.C.

AVIATORS

Now I wonder! Is this next bit of news an illustration of the old saying - how quickly passes the glory of the world? It tells of an interesting luncheon that's to be held in New York on Monday. A get-together of ocean flying aviators. They are men who earned spectacular acclaim during these recent years of transoceanic fliers. Everyone was for a while the hero of the air. How many of them are remembered now. Let's go down the list and try our memories out. Among the guests will be Captain Jim Hollison, James Mattern, Clyde Pangborn, Captain Courtney, Clarence Chamberlain, ~~Robert~~ Roger Q. Williams, Lewis Yancey, Captain J. Errol Boyd, Bert Acosta, George Noville. Admiral Byrd has been invited, also George Halderman, and Captain Fitzmaurice -- also Dr. Kimball, the weather man. Each man in that list made a great ocean flight, and caused his name to ring across the continents. How many do we remember? *and then there*
N.B.C. *were the round-the-world*
fliers.

TENNIS

Helen Wills Moody did not play today. The doctors told her to take a rest. There is something wrong with her back. It seems that she sustained an injury some time ago and it became aggravated today.

Her place in the Wightman Cup Matches was taken by Sarah Palfrey of Brookline, Massachusetts. Sarah, pinch-hitting for Helen, did pretty well. She won her game beating Peggy Scrivin of England.

And, Helen Jacobs beat her opponent. She defeated Dorothy Round in the first match. This was a surprise because Miss Round is the girl who in London ~~lost~~ won the only set that Helen Wills has lost in six years of match-play at Wimbledon.

Julian Myrick, Chairman of the Committee that is running the matches, ^{and Carl Getz informed} told me this afternoon that Mrs. Moody's physician will tell her tomorrow whether she can get back into the game or not.

BALL GAME

In my sheaf of news items I find a dispatch from the Summer White House at Hyde Park which I'll read ~~ix~~ in its terse brevity:

"Poughkeepsie -- White House reporters covering President Roosevelt at Hyde Park went out on Main Street today and started to play baseball. People were surprised. The cop on the beat walked over and asked, 'What's it all about?' The scribes showed him a telegram from Lowell Thomas challenging them to a baseball game for the coming Sunday -- the winning team to get a keg of beer."

Well, well, so those Summer White House scribes are practicing. They'd better practice bucking a freight car, if they intend to get anywhere bumping into Casey Hogate at second base. Casey, who is the publisher of the Wall Street Journal, weighs 250 pounds, and as a second baseman he covers a lot of ground. Bumping into him on base paths is like colliding with a Burmese elephant.

The Summer White House line-up reads like Who's Who Among the Political Correspondents. The Captain is J. Russell Young of the Washington Star, who ~~also~~ plays first base and talks a game that would terrify Babe Ruth. Then there is Francis Stevens^{son} of the Association^{ed} Press in Center Field -- Gus Terry, Wall Street Journal, First Short Stop; Charles Hurd, New York Times, Third Base; Ed Lockett, International News Service, Substitute; Dick Blasdell of Columbia Broadcasting Company, Substitute; J. Fred Essary, Baltimore Sun, Right Field; Tom Healey, Philadelphia Public Ledger, Catcher; John Herrick, Chicago Tribune, Second Short Stop; and Fred A. Storm of the United Press, Catcher and Left Field.

The pitcher for the correspondents is Mike Hennessey of the Boston Globe who is an old-time Big League baseball player. ^{Shear.} The reserve pitcher is Edmund De Long of the New York Sun. The team has two ringers, George Drescher and Gus Generich, who are Presidential Secret Service men.

The game will be played on the grounds of the famous Pawling Boys School, on Sunday, at four-thirty, and we will see if those scribes know the difference between a baseball game and a presidential election!

[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

JOHNSON

A pathetic story comes as an aftermath of the suicide of Major Archibald Johnson, the son of Senator ^{Heroin} ~~Hugh~~ Johnson of California. Major Johnson had a close and inseparable friend -- Dannie, a huge ~~xxxxx~~ Great Dane. They were always with each other. The dog was never happy save in his master's company. It was Dannie who found the body of Major Johnson and set up a mournful howling that brought servants and neighbors hurrying. Dannie's master was buried last Wednesday. Yesterday they found Dannie in a field near the Johnson home. The ~~big~~ dog was weak and failing. With mournful eyes he seemed to thank those that tried to help him, but there was no help. This morning Dannie died. ~~HE~~ The dog ^{has gone} ~~went~~ to follow his master.

N.B.C.

RABBIT

I heard an odd story about those dog races where the competing greyhounds chase an electric rabbit. It seems that in one race there was a slip-up and one of the dogs caught the rabbit, pounced on it, and took a good big bite into the electricity. The dog got a shock -- and ever since then they can't persuade that greyhound to chase another rabbit.

It was his last race, and it's my last news item,
and SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.