

Good Evening, Everybody:

For the second time this year ^(your newspapers are) ~~we are~~ recording
the death of a man of national importance. ^{With the passing of} ~~the death~~
Senator Tom Walsh of Montana early this morning the incoming
Democratic administration receives a blow before even taking
office. Inasmuch as Senator Walsh was about to become the new
Attorney General -- and almost everybody ~~we~~ agreed he would have
been admirable in that capacity -- his sudden ~~death~~ ^{demise} on the train
while on his way to the Inauguration, assumes the proportions of a
national tragedy.)

President-elect Roosevelt was at breakfast at his
home in New York when he learned what had happened, to his newly
appointed Attorney General. It was such a shock to Mr. Roosevelt
that for sometime he was unable to make any comment at all. Finally,
he said: "The death of Senator Walsh is a grievous loss not only
to the whole country and the incoming administration, but in deep

measure to myself personally." ~~But~~ Mr. Roosevelt ~~added:~~
"Mr. Walsh was one of my oldest and most trusted friends, one
on whose calm judgment I could always rely." And he concluded:
"While it will be difficult to fill his place in my Cabinet, it
will be impossible to fill his place in the circle of my friends."

After that Mr. Roosevelt informed the newspaper men
that there would be no press conferences today.

Naturally, the news cast a cloud of gloom over the
Roosevelt household just as the family were preparing for a joyous
migration to Washington. For the rest of the morning, Mr.
Roosevelt was occupied supervising the packing of his personal
effects that were loaded into a huge U. S. Army truck which
was waiting outside his New York house. The President-elect had
brief conferences with his Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Woodin, as
well as Post Master General and National Chairman, Jim Farley.

the 73 year old
(As for the Cuban bride whom Senator Walsh married
only five days ago, and whom he was taking on their honeymoon to

the Inauguration, she is, as may well be imagined, prostrated by the shock. For it was at ~~XXXXXX~~ about 6:30 this morning while their train was ~~running between XXXXXXX and Rocky Mount, South Carolina,~~ ^{southern north} ~~XXXXXX~~ ^{& Laurens} ~~XXXXXX~~ that the Senator complained ~~of~~ of a terrific pain.

He stumbled from his berth towards Mrs. Walsh's and fell face downward on the floor. Mrs. Walsh hurriedly summoned the porter who rushed through seven cars to find the train conductor. When the conductor reached the drawing room occupied by Senator and Mrs. Walsh, he found Mr. Walsh lying with his face downward on a berth; The conductor feeling for his pulse, found it feeble, and

the Senator died, with the train conductor holding his hand. ^{He passed away before a physician who was traveling on the train could get to his side. The cause of the death said the doctor was either in the heart or} The ordeal was made all the worse for Mrs. Walsh as she speaks

but little English. When the train reached Rocky Mount, ^{Carolina,} ~~she~~ ^{she} ~~was~~ was conducted to a hotel and ~~thence~~ to the home of an official of the railway. There, under medical care, she calmed

down considerably, though a physician pronounced her still in ^{in broken English} a highly nervous state. ^{Later on she told reporters that a couple of days previously Mr.} The Senator's body was taken to an

Walsh had complained of indigestion.

undertaker in Rocky Mount, ~~and~~ ^{and} prepared for burial, ~~and~~ Later on, dressed

his wedding clothes he was sent to Washington where presumably the funeral will take place.

The late Senator's achievements in bringing to light the ~~scandals~~ ^{scandals} of the Harding administration led ^{almost} everybody ~~except~~ ^{perhaps the most extreme Republicans,} to believe that he would

have been an invaluable Attorney General of the United States.

The outstanding achievements of his career even before his service in Congress were as prosecutor, and there's one thing that everybody, friends and enemies alike, admit -- his integrity was as unquestioned as his ability.

His dramatic passing caused a tremendous shock in the capital to ^{his associates} ~~allies~~ and adversaries alike. President Hoover was deeply moved. Republicans and Democrats seem to be of one mind about it. For instance, Senator Borah of Idaho said: "I look upon Senator Walsh's death as a national calamity."

And, ^{thus,} for the second time this year, ^{both houses of} Congress took an adjournment as a tribute to the passing of a prominent ^{and distinguished} American, and your newspaper is carrying a story ~~telling~~ ^{summarizing} the life of one of the ablest men of our time.

ROOSEVELT

President-elect Roosevelt left his house in New York City at four o'clock this afternoon and went to the Pennsylvania Station with some fifteen hundred coppers to guard him. His train left for Washington at 4:30. Late this afternoon an announcement was made that there will be a final conference at the White House tomorrow between the President and the President-elect. Officially this is designated merely a visit of respect. Actually, it is believed both national and international affairs will be discussed.

(^a~~Another~~ report was current late today both in Wall Street and in Washington that Uncle Sam will guarantee bank deposits throughout the United States.) There is no official confirmation of these rumors whatsoever. But they persist and grow stronger. It is believed that within the next forty-eight hours Congress will take ^aaction to this effect. For ^aconsiderable time some members of Congress have been in favor of having bank deposits guaranteed by the Federal Government, but until recently this sentiment did not make much headway.

ECONOMY

The advisers of the President-elect have already been at work on a plan to save money for Uncle Sam. Speaker Garner announced today that a plan to reorganize the Federal government has been completed, ^{a plan} ~~which is~~ designed to effect economies between a hundred and fifty millions and two hundred millions a year.

INAUGURATION

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From all indications there's going to be the usual Inauguration weather on Saturday. Few presidents have assumed office under a shining sun. March came in like a lamb, but today started the usual lion-like capers.

In spite of this, today all roads seem to be leading to Washington. Reports show that there will be a record crowd for the Inauguration of Mr. Roosevelt. ^{Numerous special} ~~Some~~ trains started on their way to the capital today carrying delegations from all over the country. It is expected that no less than two hundred and fifty thousand visitors will throng the hotels and streets ^{and roads} of the ^{District of Columbia} ~~Capital~~ day after tomorrow. Indeed, ironic observers declare that the job hunters alone should number at least two hundred and fifty thousand.

JAPAN

Apparently nothing can stop the victorious sweep of the Japanese army through the province of Reyho. In spite of having to fight off ~~xx~~ attacks ~~on~~ their rear guard, the Mikado's forces are converging on ^{Chung teh foo,} Chengteh, otherwise Reyho City, the capital of the province, ^{They are converging} in six columns. They expect to be able to capture that city in time to celebrate what they call Army Day. That is March 10th, the anniversary of the capture of Mukden from the Russians ^{in the Russo-Japanese War.}

The bombing of Reyho City from the air has begun. On the Chinese side, however, it is reported that the crack troops of Marshal Chang, ^{Seeow-Leeang,} the Chinese generalissimo, are ready to block the advance of the Japanese main army.

According to official communications from Japanese headquarters, the Chinese are running away demoralized. They have lost all their key cities and there is nothing serious to stop their ~~is~~ advance ^{of the Japs.}

As for the Chinese, they do not admit any serious defeats, ^{They insist} ~~and say~~ they are holding ^{to} their secondary line of defense.

GERMANY

The Nazi Government of Germany has run into its first international jam. Chancellor Hitler's foreign minister received a strong protest today from the Berlin representative of the Soviet Government. Likewise from Mr. Litvinoff, the Foreign Minister of the Soviet, ^{who happens to be in Berlin today.} The protest concerned raids by the police and Nazi storm troops on ^{Communist} ~~Soviet~~ institutions in Berlin and also on the correspondent of the Izvestia, the official newspaper of the Soviet Government.

Chancellor Hitler's Foreign Minister is described as a moderate and anxious to preserve friendly relations with Russia. So he spoke soothing words to the protesting diplomats ^{from Moscow.} ~~of the Soviet Government.~~

The raid on the correspondent of the Izvestia, who is a woman, is the first attack made by the German Fascists on a foreign newspaper correspondent. The other ^{scribes - including ours -} are looking upon it as a classic example of what they themselves may expect.

At nine o'clock last night ^{the Russian lady} ~~she~~ ^{correspondent} heard a noise at her

door. Looking through the window she saw ten storm troopers of the Nazis. They did not wait to be let in. They broke in.

She barely had time to telephone the Russian Embassy before they had smashed through her door. One of them held her up at the point of a revolver, while others searched her quarters. Meanwhile the Soviet Embassy had telephoned police headquarters and got in touch with the Foreign Office. The riot squad from the police

headquarters arrived at the ~~lx~~ lady's house and when they got there they saluted the storm troopers who had broken in.

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So that's all the satisfaction she got. Things are looking ominous for the correspondents.

JIG SAW

There was a meeting today of the Jig Saw
Master Minds of America, at the Waldorf, ^{- Astoria.} I dropped in to
see what it was all about, and the first jig saw fiend I
encountered was Mr. Max Schuster of the famous Scottish
publishing firm of MacSimon & MacSchuster.

"The country has gone wild," he shouted, "wild
over jig saw puzzles. Then he added, "Funny, isn't it, how
when the world is shot to pieces, the people all want to put
the pieces together again. That's ^{his} ~~the~~ explanation of this
jig saw ~~px~~ craze. When you finally put a puzzle together
you have turned chaos into order; and that gives you a
feeling of being sort of like the Creator of the Universe.
Caresses the ego, so to speak," he said wildly. Then he
went to explain further that solving a jig saw puzzle is
like hitting yourself on the head with a heavy club. It
feels so good when you stop.

~~And probably that's what you think about me.~~

~~It feels so good when I stop, and So Long Until Sundayx~~

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CERMAK

Favorable news continues to come from the bedside of Mayor Tony Cermak in Miami. For one thing, the hiccoughs with which he has been bothered and which alarmed his physicians considerably, have subsided. Today's bulletin reads: "Mayor Cermak is resting more quietly. He's been sleeping since early this morning, except at intervals when he has been taking nourishment."

KIDNAP

While Charles Boettcher, II, the kidnapped son of a Denver banker, was free in the bosom of his ~~family, XXXXXXXX~~ family once more ^{today,} the chase for the men who abducted him was being carried on through two states. ^{After a friend of the family turned over} ~~after receiving~~ the sixty thousand dollars ransom ~~from a friend of the family,~~ private individuals joined the police and sheriff's officers in the pursuit. Ranchers in both Colorado and Wyoming organized into posses to track the criminals. At one point the police and the kidnapers exchanged shots and it is believed that one of the fugitives was wounded.

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Young Charles Boettcher says that the men who abducted him spoke good English and were agreeable enough. But they kept him blindfolded so that he never even got a glimpse ^{of} their faces. He said they fed him fairly well and did not treat him roughly.

Claude Boettcher, the kidnapped man's father, says that nothing will stop him from using all the resources of his money and influence to catch the kidnapers. ^{You'll find the full account in your papers tonight and tomorrow morning.}

SPANKING

Here's an unusual addition to the spanking controversy. Miss Martha Herzog, who teaches the second grade in Peru, Indiana, writes me that both she and some of the pupils in her class heard what some *London* *physician had to say* ~~was saying~~ about the application of the palm of the hand to the refractory child. Miss Herzog encouraged her pupils to write their own ideas on the subject, *and send them to me. They wrote, as she* ~~as she puts it,~~ *explains,* "wholely regardless of my attitude or that of their parents."

Well, the astonishing thing is that most of the children who wrote agree with that medical officer of the London

(2) Schools. Here for instance is James Robert Cain, aged seven, who writes me: "~~That~~" you should spank children if

they need it." Margaret Lee Hart, also aged seven,

declares: "I think children ought to be spanked if they

need it." Myrtle Marie Poor, aged nine, writes me:-

"I think that anyone who is mean enough to be spanked,

should be spanked." Jerolyn Louise Harrison, aged seven,

Joyce Lee Bradley, aged eight, Carl Edward, aged 8, Rex

Alton Fisher aged seven, Esther, aged seven, Phyllis Ruby

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Sipe, aged eight, are all of the same mind.

Max Ellis, aged seven, says on the other hand:

"Dear Mr. Thomas:- I don't like to get a spanking. It
burns in the pants." I seem to remember something to
that effect myself.

FENDERBUMPER

Oh yes, and here's something from the Newark News which answers to the most rigid definition of what news is. A gentleman in Newark who had left his car parked in the street for some time, came out to find one of his fenders all crumpled up. He thought his car had been damaged by the usual runaway fender bumper.

Imagine his astonishment when he received a communication from a totally strange gentleman informing him that he was the man who had bumped his fender and that he would make good the damage. The fender bumper, after crashing into the other's car, had taken the number of his license plates, discovered his identity through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and written to acknowledge what he had done.

Now if an honest fender bumper isn't news, I don't know what is.

ENDING

In my Agricultural Almanac I saw a good one today. "Lady," said the beggar, "can you give me a quarter to get where me family is?"

"Certainly, my poor man," replied the generous lady, "I am glad to help you join your family. Here's the quarter; and where is your family?"

"At de movies," replied the man.

And, just for a change that's where I am going now, to ^{do}~~the~~ movies, ^{to see my friend Merian Cooper's King Kong} and solong until tomorrow.