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6 GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

7
8 (In New York today one man paid a
9 visit to another. As a social call it
10 was somewhat interesting. Ex-Governor
11 Alfred E. Smith dropped in to see
12 Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt. They had
13 a friendly chat.

14 Apparently they didn't talk about
15 the statement given out by ex-Governor
16 Smith yesterday.) The United Press quotes
17 Mr. Smith as saying that his chat with
18 Mr. Roosevelt didn't concern political
19 or Presidential matters at all.

20 Well, maybe they didn't discuss
21 Al Smith's declaration of where he
22 stands, but a lot of other people have
23 been talking about it plenty.
24
25

The political wiseacres of the newspapers took up a good deal of space today explaining just what Al Smith means. Nobody has any definite information, but all the boys are trying to figure it out.

(They all ^{seem to} agree that ex-Governor Smith's explanation of his position doesn't do ^{his old friend} Governor ~~Franklin D.~~ Roosevelt any good. Some of them seem to think it will ruin the New York Governor's chance ^{of} ~~for~~ being nominated by the Democrats.)

Others reason that Al Smith's real purpose is to place himself in a strategic position at the Democratic convention, and have a commanding voice in deciding who shall be nominated.

Others claim that ex-Governor Smith has an acute case of Presidentitis, and is doing what he can to get the nomination. One line of opinion is that the ex-Governor has done a wise thing, but others ~~are of the belief~~ ^{say} that it ~~will not~~ ^{will} ~~won't~~ do the Democrats any good and ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~sure to~~ provoke a bitter fight.

Of course, there's one simplicity

1 which doesn't seem to occur to the
 2 political ^{oracles} ~~sharps~~. It may be that ex-
 3 Governor Smith is just telling them
 4 simply ~~and plain-out~~ the way he feels.

5 His ~~and~~ declaration covers two points:

6 (He says that if the Democratic
 7 convention calls upon him to run for the
 8 Presidency, he won't refuse. He adds,
 9 however, that he will not make any
 10 fight to gain delegates at the convention.)

11 And maybe that just means that
 12 ex-Governor Smith, like most of us, would
 13 not turn down the Presidential nomination.
 14 And also that he doesn't feel like going
 15 out and making a big fight for it.

16 But of course, ^{political experts seldom look} ~~you don't expect to~~
 17 ^{far} ~~find~~ simple things. ^{they are always inclined to} ~~like that in politics.~~
 18 ~~Political moves are always inclined to be~~
 19 ~~a trifle complex.~~ ^{find hidden meanings and}
 20 ^{complexities.}

1 The Disarmament Conference at
2 Geneva got under way today - that is,
3 formal proceedings, ^{were} started by Sir John
4 Simon, Foreign ~~Minister~~ ^{Secretary} of Great
5 Britain, and Andrea Tardieu, the French
6 Minister of War.

7 Sir John is quoted by the
8 United Press as suggesting that so far
9 as naval disarmament went, the Washington
10 and London Naval Treaties should stand
11 as they are, until they expire in 1936.
12 Then new naval disarmament plans could
13 be evolved.

14 The British Foreign Minister
15 declared that one of the ideas he was
16 looking forward to was the abolition of
17 submarines. He thinks the undersea craft
18 should be outlawed - also chemical
19 warfare, poison gas and such.

20 The French view ~~is~~ set forth
21 by the Foreign Minister of the Government
22 at Paris, is that disarmament should be
23 built on the basis of the Versailles
24 Treaty. Andre Tardieu is one of the
25 statesmen who helped Clemenceau frame

1 the treaties that ended the World War,
2 and he thinks those treaties are pretty
3 good. He thinks that any disarmament
4 program should be ~~built~~ ^{built} within the
5 limitations of the Pact of Versailles.

6 But at the same time, France
7 is committed to a limitations of
8 armament, without conditions.

9 Anyway, the disarmament
10 conference is in full swing ^{right} now. — And
11 so is the trouble in China.

1 Today there was a bombardment at
2 Shanghai. That doesn't sound like
3 anything new, but today's bombardment was
4 different. The Chinese turned their guns
5 on the International Settlement, and for
6 the first time that section of Shanghai
7 controlled by the foreign consuls was
8 peppered by salvos of cannon-fire.

9 Batteries of Chinese artillery turned the
10 muzzles of their guns toward that ^{particular part} ~~section~~
11 of the Foreign Settlement where the
12 Japanese have their headquarters. The
13 New York Evening Journal cables that 30
14 shells fell into the Japanese area and
15 exploded. One shell burst near Saint
16 Luke's Hospital, an American institution
17 crowded with wounded Chinese civilians.
18 Three shells hit a police station.

19 Before that the Chinese authorities
20 issued a warning to the people in the
21 International Settlement. They declared
22 that the Japanese were using ~~the foreign~~
23 ~~section~~ ^{it} as a base, ~~for their attacks upon~~
24 ~~the Chinese~~ and that they could not be
25 held responsible for any damage to foreign

1 life or property within the Settlement.
2 Americans and Europeans were warned to
3 keep out of the Japanese area.

4 ^{In all} ~~the~~ The Chinese at Shanghai
5 delivered a heavy attack upon the Japanese
6 today. The New York World-Telegram
7 describes bitter fighting in the
8 devastated city, with ^{the} ~~incessant~~ whistling
9 and crashing of shells -- and of course
10 the rattling of machine guns. ~~That~~
11 ~~seems never to stop at Shanghai.~~

12 ~~It was at the climax of the~~
13 ~~artillery battle that the Chinese turned~~
14 ~~their guns on the Japanese base in the~~
15 ~~International Settlement.~~

16 Meanwhile, ~~they say that~~ the famous
17 Woosung forts are still holding out. For
18 days the Japanese have been blasting
19 them with gun-fire from the warships lying
20 in the river, but the Chinese seem to be
21 hanging on like grim death.

22 At the Japanese embassy at
23 Washington word was received late this
24 afternoon ~~to the effect~~ that the Japanese
25 high command has decided to ^{call off that} ~~stop the~~

1 attack on the Woosung forts. The
2 United Press quotes the report as stating
3 that a small force will be left at the
4 forts and the main body of Japanese
5 troops ~~would~~^{will} be sent on to ~~the~~ Shanghai
6 for a movement against the Chinese
7 positions in the city.

Well, over the week-end the giant Literary Digest Prohibition Poll took a huge step forward. To thousands and thousands of homes the mailman brought those decisive questions: Are you for ~~prohibition~~, or are you against? ~~prohibition?~~ Yes, ~~the folks are~~ certainly getting a chance to declare themselves on the most important ~~of~~ issue of our time.

The ^{avalanche} ~~storm~~ of ballots over the week-end ^{slid down over a whole group} ~~hit a whole string~~ of states, which in themselves would make a pretty good cross section of American opinion.

Supposing you had a vital and perplexing question, and you found out what Kansas thought about it, also the folks in Arkansas, and Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, West Virginia, Michigan, Iowa, Nebraska, Delaware, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, well, that would be a mighty good indication of the way the country was thinking.

Yes, ~~but that impressive~~

1 ~~line-up of states represents just a~~
2 ~~three~~ ^{two} day batch of votes in that twenty
3 million ballot Literary Digest
4 Prohibition Poll.

5 Of course, there are other states,
6 mighty important states. Take California
7 and the other magnificent communities
8 of the Rocky Mountain belt and the Pacific
9 Coast. Well, they're going to get their
10 showers of ballots, and then there are
11 a number of central and eastern states
12 which already have received hundreds of
13 thousands - and they're going to get
14 still more.

15 That brings ^{me} ~~us~~ to one of the most
16 important points concerning any Literary
17 Digest Poll. Every state gets a chance
18 to have its full say - every state, every
19 profession, every kind of voter. This
20 Literary Digest Prohibition Poll is going
21 to swell into one loud and universal
22 chorus of - Yes, we're for Prohibition.
23 And, - No, we're against it. *But who will win?*

24 But now let's take a point of
25 argument that has come up. You can't have

1 anything in this world without difference
2 of opinion, and with such a tremendously
3 important thing ^{as this} ~~like the Literary Digest~~
4 ~~prohibition~~ poll, why you're going to
5 have many, many differences of opinion.

6 A man prominent in politics called up
7 one of the Literary Digest editors
8 today and registered a complaint.

9 "You're just asking two questions",
10 said he. "You're merely asking people
11 to say yes or no to prohibition. That's
12 all right, but it doesn't go far enough.
13 Why don't you ask people who are against
14 the Eighteenth Amendment what they would
15 like to have in its place. Why don't
16 you ask them whether they would be for
17 or against turning prohibition over to
18 the states? I think you would have done
19 better if you had added the question of
20 state control to the two questions ^{you} are
21 ~~are also~~ ^{already} asking."

22 Well, I wonder what you folks
23 think of that. ~~I can~~ ^{But I'll} tell you how the
24 editors of the ~~Literary~~ Digest figured
25 it ~~out,~~ and ~~I'll bet you'll agree with~~

1 ~~them~~ They said, the thing the country ^{now}
2 wants is a clear-cut expression, without
3 any added gadgets that might confuse
4 the issue. ~~Then there's no possibility~~
5 ~~of argument.~~

6 You know what a satisfactory thing
7 it is ~~to be able~~ to tackle something
8 ~~that's~~ important, and to be able to put
9 your vote down and say decisively and
10 definitely - yes or no. ~~We don't want~~
11 ~~to have your opinion complicated in such~~
12 ~~a way that somebody can twist your~~
13 ~~answer around and say - it means this,~~
14 ~~that, and the next thing. And nobody~~
15 ~~in the world can do any twisting around~~
16 ~~when you say loudly and precisely - yes,~~
17 ~~or no.~~

18 As a matter of fact, the way the
19 affairs of communities are regulated,
20 we are often denied the right to speak
21 a clear-cut affirmation or denial
22 concerning many vital and controversial
23 questions. And it's a real pleasure
24 when we get a chance to go to bat and
25 register our votes distinctly on a subject
of national importance like this one.

1 ~~like prohibition.~~

2 It won't be long now before the
3 returns are tabulated, checked, cross-
4 checked. And then I'll be glad to
5 give you information in chunks about the
6 way the country is voting. The main
7 thing now is - as soon as the mailman
8 brings you a ballot in the Digest Poll,
9 mark it and mail it back, thereby
10 registering your vote. It's all at the
11 expense of the Literary Digest. ~~We~~
12 ~~all want to hear the returns without any~~
13 ~~delay, and~~ The sooner you ~~folks~~ send
14 in your ballots, the sooner I'll be
15 able to give you the first figures ~~that~~
16 show ^{ing} how the country stands today on the
17 subject of prohibition.

1 Once more gangland has done what the
2 law failed to do. Vincent Coll, New
3 York gang leader, was wiped out early
4 today by ^{fellow} gangsters, ~~killers~~.

5 Coll recently had been acquitted
6 ~~of~~ the infamous baby-killer murder. An
7 automobile went tearing through a street
8 in a crowded tenement district.

9 Gangsters in it opened fire on a man
10 standing at the curb. They missed him,
11 but the bullets hit children who were
12 playing on the sidewalk.

13 Coll, the gang leader, and several
14 of his henchmen were tried for the crime,
15 but the law could not convict them.

16 Early this morning the desperado
17 with a man who was presumably his
18 bodyguard, walked into a New York drug
19 store. He went into a telephone booth
20 and made a call. The New York Sun tells
21 how two men drove up to the drug store
22 in a car. One waited outside, and the
23 other entered, carrying a sub-machine gun.
24 He seemed to know the bodyguard of the
25 gang leader, who nodded and left the

1 drug store.

2 "Keep cool," called the man with the
3 machine gun to the druggist and a
4 customer. ^{"keep cool"} ~~But~~ "You won't get hurt."

5 Meanwhile, the doomed gang leader
6 was still in the telephone booth,
7 phoning. Then a stream of machine-gun
8 bullets poured into the booth. And
9 that finished the career of Vincent Coll.

10 The ^{man with the machine gun} ~~killer~~ hurried back to the
11 waiting automobile, and ^{vanished} ~~was driven away~~.

12 The N.Y. Eve. Journal declares
13 that the crime was ⁱⁿ committed by fancy
14 killers imported by airplane from
15 Chicago. And that's a melodramatic
16 slant.

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1 Here's a sad story from Park
 2 Rapids, Minnesota. A tramp walked into
 3 a restaurant and asked the proprietor
 4 for a free meal. The hobo looked so
 5 hungry and bedraggled that the
 6 sympathetic restaurant man said O.K., *what'll*
 7 *you have, ham and or a stack-a-wheats?*

8 The tramp sat down at a table and
 9 had a good meal, a first-class hand-out.

10 As the hobo was leaving, he walked
 11 up to the proprietor and even bummed a
 12 cigaret. He fished in a pocket for a
 13 match, and along with the match he
 14 carelessly pulled out a 20-dollar bill.

15 "Say, what's that," shouted the
 16 proprietor. "You come in here bumming a
 17 meal, and you've got 20 bucks."

18 And he grabbed the banknote.

19 "But this was supposed to be a
 20 free meal," the hobo protested.

21 "Not on your life," responded the
 22 restaurant man. "I'll just take 35 cents
 23 out of this twenty."

24 "Just remember, buddy," said the
 25 tramp, "I ~~didn't~~ *don't* want you to do this --
 I'm not asking you."

"Is zat so?"

~~"All right,"~~ responded the restaurant man, and he handed the hobo \$19.65 in change.

The United Press continues the story by saying that when the proprietor took the money to the bank he found that the 20-dollar bill he had taken from the hobo was counterfeit, just plain phoney.

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ELEPHANT

In the railroad train yesterday
I read a story that seemed highly appropriate. - 48

1 A passenger train was buzzing along
2 in Connecticut when the air whistle began
3 to blow with prolonged blasts. The
4 whistle was blowing a series of
5 melodramatic blasts. The engineer,
6 thinking something terrible had happened,
7 brought the train to a stop.

8 Then ^a ~~says the New York Sun, a~~
9 search was made to find who had blown
10 the air whistle with such wild abandon.
11 They discovered it was an elephant. Yes,
12 Jumbo was to blame.

13 A pachyderm was being transported.
14 Old Mr. Elephant had spied the cord which
15 controls the air whistle, and had become
16 curious. He reached up with his trunk
17 and grabbed the cord, playfully, and
18 that's when the whistle began to toot
19 its warning blasts.

20 *And if this were not the middle of*
21 *Winter, I'd say that's a fine press agent*
22 *story from the circus.*
23 *Even Dexter Fellove of Ringling's*
24 *couldn't invent a better one.*

1 Well, this next item may not be
2 news to any Hog Head, Shack Stinger,
3 Baby Lifter, Reptile, Master Maniac, or
4 Lightning Slinger that may be listening
5 in. To railroad men this may be an old
6 story, especially to the old-time
7 railroad worker who wanders from job to
8 job.

9 The New York Sun today tells how a
10 study has been made of the traditional
11 slang of the fast-disappearing type of
12 railroad itinerant. The study was made
13 by ^{me} D. W. Allen, ^{who} ~~who gives some of his~~
14 ~~results in the Santa Fe Magazine. He~~
15 tells us of weird bits of railroad slang,
16 grotesque and fantastic terms that make
17 up an almost incomprehensible *jargon*.

18 A locomotive is known as a
19 Mill Kettle. An engine that helps to
20 pull a train up a steep mountain grade
21 is called a Sacred Ox. A locomotive
22 engineer is sometimes known as a Hog
23 Head. A brakeman on a freight train
24 may be referred to as a Shack Stinger,
25 while a passenger brakeman is a Dude or

1 a Baby Lifter.

2 A switchman is a Snake or a
3 Reptile.

4 A roundhouse is a Barn. The
5 master of a roundhouse is a Master
6 Maniac.

7 A wrecking crane is the Big Hook.
8 The wrecking crew is a Bunch of Thieves.
9 A call-boy is a Pin Head. A surveyor
10 is a Mud Chicken. A telegraph operator
11 is a Lightning Slinger.

12 A railroad eating house is a
13 Greasy Spoon. The cook is a Lizard
14 Scorcher. A waitress is a Beanery Queen.

15 ~~Well, that reminds me that it's~~
16 ~~dinner time, and so~~ ^{Well, it's dinner time and a friend wife happens to be away} I'll duck over to a
17 Greasy Spoon and tell the Beanery Queen
18 to have the Lizard Scorcher hand out some
19 hash, and ^{make it snappy -- and.}

20 SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.