

STORM

Hurricane news tonight. Two tropical storms - one after another. The weather story begins with a twist of meteorological plot and counter-plot. Hurricane warnings went out. They were flashed to Florida. The United States Weather Bureau told Florida - "look out, a tropical tempest is coming". But the Hurricane missed Florida - no wild, fierce gale ripping the palms along the beaches. Instead - a roaring wind and blinding storm nearly everywhere else.

That hurricane sure lashed the Bahamas. There the The Weather Bureau warning to ships came in handy, and enabled many a vessel to get to cover.

The wild wind headed westward from there and seems to have skipped Florida and gone curving north to the Gulf coast, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Maybe it was as a bi-product of the hurricane, somehow connected with it - that the weather turned tempestuous from one end of this country to the other, from coast to coast - that is from Washington, D.C., to California - south of the

40th meridian. Forty casualties reported, and a crashing lot of storm damage.

In the national capital the most striking thing happened to the Washington Monument. Striking is right. That great shaft of national commemoration was struck by lightning. A bolt from the sky hit the top of the Washington monument, put out the red airplane beacon that lights it. Otherwise the lightning did not damage to the massive stone column - not a scratch.

In West Virginia there was heavy damage to houses, barns, power lines and trees. In Pennsylvania a death list of three. And, it's the same storm story across the southern states of the Mississippi Valley. Arizona and California drenched by wind driven rain with floods here and there - a railroad line washed out at one place.

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The rainy tempest blew hard, hitting town and farm - and affecting even politics. That's what they were saying out in Topeka today - declaring that the day's weather events were

all to the good for Landon. In Kansas and other parts of the dry area, it's been raining, raining hard, raining as it hasn't rained since the dry spell came on. The drought and the ruined farmlands gave great scope for government activity - the burned-out fields a field for relief. And the administration jumped in with vim and vigor, distributing federal help, federal money, far and wide. And that was supposed to be making votes for the New Deal. The farmers were praying for rain, but none of them prayed as hard as the G.O.P. campaign strategists at Landon headquarters. The Governor himself said on the say of his acceptance speech that he wouldn't care if the downpour washed out the ceremony completely - it would be welcome drought relief. Now - rain has come to Kansas, the storm gods emptying cosmic buckets out of the sky. Drought-swept fields are freshening. And the Landon board of strategy is saying jubilantly that the dampness puts a damper on the need for relief, less ~~and~~ chance for administration aid to make votes.

We began with a hurricane. Now let's end with a hurricane. For the Weather Bureau flashes a second warning - another tropical gale coming. Right now in southern Florida

and the West Indies, storm warnings are out - hurricane!
This one is expected to be of modern violence, and this
afternoon they were getting set for it:- vessels scurrying
to harbor, people ready to take to cover.

Our next story tells of trees blown down, buildings
blasted by wind, crops damaged by the violence of rain and
hail. It sounds like the same story, but it's from Europe -
with an American angle. A heavy storm burst over Germany,
and Colonel Lindbergh was up at the time - flying. A tempest
was sweeping the earth and making the sky a deadly peril, with
the Lone Eagle winging his way to the town of Dessau. Lindbergh
is still looking over German aviation progress, and at Dessau
stands the Junkers plant - where they build the great Junkers
planes, world renowned aircraft. But Lindbergh never got to
Dessau and the Junkers factory. He was forced down, the storm
hitting so hard that he had to make a forced landing on the
airfield at Magdeburg. He gave up the trip, and started
back to Berlin.

SPORTS FOLLOW STORM

After all those storms, let's go on to sports. The whistling winds ended in Germany, and that's where the athletic events begin. ~~It~~ In any review of sports items these days, Olympic gossip comes first. And we have ^{another} bit about the stormy case of Mrs. Eleanor Holm Jarrett, the banished backstroke champ.

~~It~~ The controversy is still on, with more than one athletic leading light saying that Eleanor got a rough deal at the hands of the Olympic Committee, too much sternness and severity for such a nice girl. ~~The princess of the backstroke was rightly cast down, tearful and blue, when~~ The stony faced judges tossed her off the team because she looked upon the champagne when it was sparkling. ^{because} The queen of the water didn't confine herself to water, except for swimming. ~~But~~ ^{But} ~~then~~ there are some of the athletic-minded who think it poor strategy to lose an Olympic victory for the United States, because that most upright Olympic Committee looks with horror upon the bubbly water when it bubbles.

One of the most interesting commentators on the affair is Charlie MacArthur, renowned author and playwright, who made the voyage with the Olympic team, accompanied by his wife, Helen

Hayes, the actress. Charlie ~~MacArthur~~ is quoted today as saying that he is "extremely annoyed" - good and sore about the stories that he was in the champagne party that led to Eleanor's expulsion from the team. He declares that he wasn't at the same bar at all, ~~and~~ ^{he} ~~protest~~ protests stoutly that he was at a bar at the other end of the ship. (I thought ~~the~~ ^a famous author and playwright was sitting in the library, reading Sophocles and drinking lemonade, but then I always was innocent.)

~~Anyway, Charlie MacArthur had no part in the drama of the water nymph and the champagne.~~

Eleanor, the banished ^{water nymph} ~~champagne~~ is a blithesome young woman, and seems to have recovered her naturally cheerful disposition. The news today tells of her as being received with distinguished honor by the former Crown Prince of Germany and shown through one of the great royal palaces in Berlin. Eleanor described the experience as being a bigger thrill than the winning of an Olympic gold medal. She said in forming a contact with royalty her heart was all aflutter, and added: "Gee, I can forget I was put off the Olympic team!" Moreover, Eleanor of

the backstroke, has something else to make her cheerful. She'll be there at the Olympics, not as a swimmer, but as a journalist.

She is ^{all} signed up to cover the Berlin games as a representative of an American newspaper syndicate ^{— hired by Hearst —} and will write a daily

column about the events. She won't be splashing the water with the backs of her hands -- she'll be ^{splashing around with one finger on} ~~padding~~ a typewriter.

Her articles about the ~~swimming~~ women's swimming competitions, should make sprightly reading.

Our Olympic news this evening concludes with - a tragedy narrowly averted. The Olympic flame nearly went out, and that would have been an athletic calamity. The Olympic flame, carried by relays of runners, one torch lighting another torch, all the way from Athens to Berlin, the flame kept burning until it reaches the Berlin Stadium just as the games begin. Reports from Vienna tell of the Olympic light being carried through Jugoslavia, when the tragedy almost occurred. The runner with the torch saw that the torch would go out, before he reached the next relay station, where the next runner with the next torch was waiting. What could he do? Nearby was a brewery, and the brewers came to his aid. They took beer cases and built a fire,

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and with this kept the Olympic flame going until a new torch could be procured. So while champagne was the downfall of the Olympic backstroke champion, beer was the salvation of the Olympic flame.

The theme of sports goes on to two great champions announcing ~~that~~ they're through. Golf ^{first} - ~~But~~, of course, we knew that Bobby Jones was through. His retirement was written in the record a long time ago. So the golf king of Atlanta was merely reaffirming a well known fact when he said: "Golf for me is just fun nowadays. I'll never enter ^{in a} competitive ~~game~~ ^{way} again."

The event that called forth this repetition was Bobby Jones shooting a marvelous game ~~of golf~~ over in Scotland, at St. Andrews, the scene of some of his greatest triumphs. He played a threesome with two Scotch professionals and turned in a seventy-two on that exceedingly difficult St. Andrews course. He is still the idol of the crowds. The gallery followed him as if he were ~~yet~~ the reigning champion. So Bobby Jones had to say once more -
"~~no, he is~~ ^{Jim} through."

But it was less expected when Helen Wills said the

same thing - through with competitive tennis, save in a subordinate way. She'll only enter tournaments when it doesn't conflict with her art - her drawing, her dress designing. Her announcement was printed today, that she'll not compete for the national championship at Forest Hills this year.) She was already out of Wimbledon but had been expected to go to Forest Hills.

However

~~but~~ traveling across country to tournaments interferes with her art, so tennis must go. This leaves the national championship open to the other Helen, Helen Jacobs, and tennis fans won't have the privilege of witnessing another duel between the two Helens - such as the one at Wimbledon when Helen the First vindicated her laurels by beating Helen the Second in the match that was a climax of their feud.

*More Tennis news today:
England licked Australia for the Davis Cup.*

Now football. I was talking to an expert and

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he said, laughing: "Why don't they just play the Minnesota team?" Meaning - let Minnesota play the Detroit Lions in that game between the collegiate all-star ~~team~~ and the pro champions. The way the votes were running, it was clear that the all-star team would be dominated by ~~the~~ Minnesota ~~players~~. There was more than humor in that laughing remark: "Why not

just toss in the whole Minnesota team?" My friend, the expert, pointed out that a team made up of gridiron warriors accustomed to play with each other would be more powerful than an even greater individual strength of stars from here, there and the next place. They'd have teamwork, smooth coordination, and would play a better game than you'd ever get with the personal exploits of individualistic stars not used to each other, each wanting to carry the ball and so on. So why not just take the Minnesota team and let it go at that?

Anyhow the final voting puts three from Minnesota on the first team, and three as replacements - six in all. No other college placed more than one man - except Notre Dame -- which has two on the list.

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Meanwhile, Americans continue to leave the war-stricken country - getting out of Madrid by train on Thursday.

The American cruiser, Quincy, is at Alicante waiting to take them aboard.

PUERTO RICO

The other night I had a visitor in the studio here, a gentleman from Puerto Rico. He has an interesting job -- United States Marshall for the island. After the evening's broadcast Donald Draughon and I had a chat in which he told me some interesting things about conditions down there -- especially election problems. He said he was hurrying back to Puerto Rico to take charge, get set for the next election. Today brings us an important bit of Puerto Rican election news.

The Liberal party has just decided to vote in the November Puerto Rican battle of ballots. The Liberal Party is out for independence. But now that independence for Puerto Rico has been suggested in the United States the independence politicians are badly worried. They're not quite so sure what freedom would mean. One faction has been in favor of boycotting the November elections. Another element of the party has wanted to go in and vote. Now they've had a convention, and today we hear that the vote protagonists have won. The independence party will go to the ballot boxes.

In many Puerto Rican towns the vote cast on election

day often exceeds the number of the entire population. The busses are busy at balloting time, carrying patriots who go from one town to another and cast their votes in each. The price of a ballot is the equivalent of a day's pay. Right now out of a total registration of 475 thousand there have been already 240 thousand challenges, charges of illegal registration.

Here's an anecdote told by Bill Courtney of Colliers, just back from Puerto Rico. Bill's yarn is about a politician who was distributing some hand bills, glowing accounts of his virtues as a candidate. He was driving in a cab. They were passing a cemetery when off came a wheel. While the driver was replacing the wheel the politico strolled along the cemetery wall and tossed his hand bills over.

The driver asked him why he was wasting his campaign literature. With a wink the politico pointed to the graveyard and said -- "They also vote."

So in Puerto Rico election day is for everybody -- the living and the dead, and that puts the quietus on me for tonight.

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.