

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Three Japanese armies are converging on Tsingtao. But there's a fair chance they won't find much left in the great Shantung seaport the Germans built. For, with those invading armies almost at the gate, the defeated Chinese are taking their revenge with dynamite, destroying as much as they can before the hordes of the Mikado enter the city. Early today sharp explosions shook the countryside when the defenders dynamited the cable lines. And tonight there was a terrific uproar when the main electric sub-station was wrecked. That threw an over-heavy load on the remaining power plants. So there's a possibility that when the Japanese enter the conquered place, they'll find the city without light and without power, and in flames.

Also, as they flee, the Chinese are strewing the harbor with mines. The land approaches to the city are also heavily mined. So we learn from one of Tsingtao's American refugees. He's a passenger on Uncle Sam's gunboat SACRAMENTO, which is taking off

our nationals. It is also believed that the Chinese have mined every public building, every utility plant, done everything in their power to inflict damage and possibly death upon the invaders. There are still a hundred and fifty-nine Americans in the city and thirteen in the surrounding country.

The advance on Tsingtao has forced the Japanese to lose control of quite a lot of Chinese territory that was in their hands. In order to release troops for the march on the seaport, they had to weaken their forces in parts of Shansi Province. The Chinese were not slow to take advantage of the emergency, and to recapture the territory

BOYCOTT FOLLOW CHINA

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The boycott of Japanese goods in the United States is beginning to have a slight tangible effect. The general manager of a large chain of five and ten cent stores in the middlewest announces that they are buying no more Japanese goods. The stores are not acting from any political motive but simply because their customers have stopped buying things made in Japan.

Another merchant points out that people who are boycotting Japanese goods for political motives in this country are not injuring the Japanese so much as they are injuring American merchants and their employees. For the Japanese goods now on sale were things bought and paid for by American money, bought long before these recent incidents. So any boycott merely takes money out of the pockets of American merchants and injures the people who work for them.

BUSINESS.

The Roosevelt administration with one hand extends an olive branch to business today. Uncle Dan Roper, Secretary of Commerce, declared that ~~big~~ good business has nothing to fear from the administration. But evil business, is as much of a danger to good business as it is to consumers. By evil business he means monopolies that try to squelch competition. And he added:- "Some monopolies are good, useful, beneficial."

So much for the olive branch! While those words were coming from the mouth of Uncle Dan Roper, <sup>*Assistant Atty. Gen.*</sup> ~~Mr.~~ Robert H. Jackson was in Philadelphia giving another twist to the tail of big business. Incidentally, he coined a new phrase to supplement his chief's remark about economic royalists. The sulphurous young Assistant Attorney-General talked about aristocratic anarchists and he suggested that they are organizing a general strike of capital in these United States to compel favorable action on the part of the government. "Certain big business groups," he said, "are taking advantage of the recession to liquidate the New Deal. They're trying to make it worse so as to throw off all interference by the government with their aggressiveness and their ~~xxxxxxx~~xxxxxxx"

aristocratic anarchy."


All these remarks and many others were made to the American Association of Political Science.

Some people have been puzzled by this sudden irruption into prominence of a man who is nothing but an assistant in the Department of Justice. This makes twice in three days that Robert H. Jackson has delivered scorching attacks on business, obviously with the consent of his chief. The WASHINGTON TIMES offers an explanation:- Jackson, says the Times, is President Roosevelt's choice to be the next Democratic candidate for governor of New York State.

SEC FOLLOW BUSINESS

The New Deal is about to make fresh rules for the conduct of stock markets. That's the report from Washington. Chairman Douglas of the Securities and Exchange Commission has sent in a report to Congress. Though it hasn't been made public, the rumor is that the Commission is planning a wider and stricter program to control the markets. That is, unless the heads of the stock exchanges beat him to it, and regular<sup>te</sup> themselves. As Mr. Douglas is said to have put it: "something must be done to prevent the markets from resembling a casino."

By the same token, the Commission established to regulate the commodity markets is believed to have a new program of ordinances <sup>stewing</sup> on the fire. In expectation of this, the Chicago Board of Trade has stopped transactions in Nineteen~~Th~~irty-Eight futures.



## ARMAMENT

It is reported in Washington that the President has ordered plans made for building up our military establishment with the utmost speed, budget or not budget! We've got to have more ships, guns, and planes.

One story has it that the President will ask Congress for more than a billion dollars for the army and navy next year. Of this the navy would get five hundred and eighty millions in addition to a special appropriation for more warships.

RECESSION FOLLOW SEC

Simultaneously, we learn that the Senate is about to investigate unemployment. Among the first witnesses will be William S. Knudsen, President of General Motors. That news follows immediately on Mr. Knudsen's announcement that G.M. dropped thirty thousand ~~men~~ from the payroll.



FOOTBALL

Here's one of the last words I'm going to have to say about football this year. As the fans may remember the American Association of Coaches has been having a pow-wow in New Orleans, talking about changing the rules. There will be only two changes. The Committee appointed to recommend new rules reported *as follows:-* "The general sentiment of the group is that football is a pretty good game as it is. ~~secondly~~ *W* We've only these two recommendations to offer. First on the out-of-bounds plays the ball shall be brought in fifteen yards instead of ten. Second, a forward pass which inadvertently touches an ineligible man on or behind the line of scrimmage shall be ruled an incomplete pass rather than a loss of the ball."

*52*  
Maybe a pretty good game. But they're always changing the rules.

## MARQUIS

The real tragedy of Don Marquis, poet, satirist, playwright began two years ago. That was when he suffered his last and worst paralytic stroke. And the tragedy has been going on for these two years in which he has had to continue physically alive but mentally dead to all intents and purposes.

But Don Marquis himself would have been the last of all people to want anybody to wax sentimental or pathetic about his passing away. He was one of the greatest of American scoffers at nonsense and sentimentality. He was the personification of high witty human scorn for everything that was spurious.

It was for the New York Sun that Don Marquis wrote this epigram: "Mankind", said he, "is being reformed, but conditions among the lowr animals are frightful."

It was in the mouth of the "Old Soak", his most celebrated character, that he put the proverb: "The way some folks talk about hard labor, you'd think this world was a jail."

You may remember that the "old Soak's" wife remonstrated about his constant quotations from the Bible. To that the "old Soak" replied: "The good Book was written for sinner wasn't it?"

And ain't I a sinner?" One of the most amusing passages in his play, the "Old Soak" occurred in the scene where the hired girl came in swinging the cage with the parrot in it. She announces: "Mr Hawlay, I've thought for ten years that Peter here was a gentleman parrot." To that the Old Soak asks: "Well what's he done?" And the hired girl says: "I gave him two drinks of that hootch you made -- and he -- Mr. Hawley -- he laid an egg." And, I can't forget that other line of the "Old Soak": "Hereditiy runs in our family."

PARIS

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Fifteen years ago, the government of Great Britain found itself faced with the paralyzing plight of a general strike. The situation on the banks of the Seine tonight is almost exactly the same. And this evening the Popular Front government, headed by Camille Chautemps, is prepared to use the utmost of its strength and resources. If the strikers don't give way, the Ministry will use the army and navy. Already they've mobilized expert mechanics from Brest to run the electric and gas plants. Unless the utility workers give the Parisians service tomorrow, the army and navy will do it. They've got the men thoroughly trained and equipped to carry on in place of the union workers who walked out. And the Minister of the Interior has been assigned the job of coordinating the resources of the military establishment to run the subways, the power and gas plants, also to maintain order.

The Cabinet issued a communication to the nation saying, "The government is unanimously resolved that the cessation of the functioning of public service is not to be tolerated." The French Parliament passed a law in April, Nineteen Twenty-Six, which empowers the government to requisition not only men but material

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from both the army and navy to run the public services in case of necessity. Four hundred experts from the navy are now standing by ready to take over at a moment's notice.

This of course is an exceedingly serious step for any government which calls itself "Popular Front." For naturally such strong measures promise to lose it the support of voters on the Left. On the other hand, no government <sup>c</sup>ould stand the effect of having <sup>its</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>city</sup> capital paralyzed by such a strike.

GERMANY

A small but significant item comes from Berlin today.

The Nazi government has forbidden the organization of any more firms to manufacture clothing or textiles. That is to say, any new concerns must have special permission from the Minister of Economics. On the fact<sup>e</sup> of it, that doesn't sound like much. But what lies underneath it means something. It's all because of the shortage of raw materials in Hitler's Reich.

ROUMANIA

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Within three days, there will be a military dictatorship in Roumania. That's the belief in Bucharest tonight. It'll be the inevitable first step of the Fascist anti-Semitic government of Premier Goga. Things that happened in ~~Bucharest~~ the Roumanian capital tonight have the diplomats convinced that King Carol's New Year's ~~Eye~~ reading to his subjects will be the proclamation of that military dictatorship.

What happened throughout Roumania today was exactly as expected. New police prefects were appointed in important districts, most of them anti-Jewish leaders. All Jewish Communist writers are expelled from the country and a strict censorship has been slapped on the press, with more to come.

And what about the King's red-headed lady friend - the Jewess, Magda Lupescu?

EGYPT

It looks like a change of government in Egypt. The Cabinet of young King Farouk are still at loggerheads. As matters stood this afternoon, the only thing for Premier Nahas Pasha and his colleagues was to resign. The boy sovereign wouldn't budge an inch except to offer arbitration. He would submit the <sup>cabinet crisis</sup> ~~matter~~ to a tribunal composed of former prime ministers of Egypt, former presidents of the Chamber, and ministers of justice. This the Cabinet refused. Their contention is that only Parliament can decide.



## FOLLOW CRASH

A triple Plane crash in the Cordilleras of Peru in the high Andes where the Candor flies.

Seven perished -- in the mountains north of Cali. It was a good-will flight of seven planes -- around South America. The flight was in connection with a lighthouse that is to be built at Ciudad Trujillo in Santo Domingo. It's to be called the Columbus Lighthouse and three of those planes were named Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria. After leaving Santo Domingo, they headed for the west coast of South America. It is believed that the three ships which crashed got caught in strong air currents, collided, and fell in flames. Three planes interlocking in the air.

Rescue parties are cutting their way through mountain jungle tonight.

Erie CRASH

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A pea soup fog that clung over Lake Erie killed three people today. They were in a mail plane flying on its regular route from Sandusky, Ohio, to Put-in-Bay, North Bass and Kelleys Island. For years that plane has kept up its regular schedule, winter in and winter out. For years its record has been unmarred by accident. Today's fog was so opaque that it completely masked the western islands in Lake Erie. The pilot lost his way, and the plane crashed. The three people, two men and a woman, were drowned.

Word was flashed to the Coast Guard at Marblehead Station, nearby. They rushed to the scene as quickly as sleds and boats could take them. There they found the pilot clinging to the wreck ~~off~~ half a mile off shore.

Actually, the weather was <sup>ceiling zero</sup> ~~out so far as flying~~

58 1/2 ~~conditions were concerned throughout~~ <sup>in</sup> many parts of the west.

The plane carrying Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt ~~was~~ from Seattle, <sup>bringing</sup> her home for New Year's Eve, was grounded early this morning, at Fargo, North Dakota. Later on, the weather cleared enough for the First Lady to fly as far as Minneapolis, where she boarded a train for Chicago. ~~All this while a special plane was on its~~

END

The ~~xx~~ excitement about the newsreel film of the bombing of the Panay continues right to the end. All day long the planes carrying the pictures have been battling their way across the continent, beset by atrocious flying weather, dangerous ice-forming conditions in the Middlewest. But, ~~so~~ I've just heard that the film-carrying plane is coming into the Newark Airport -- maybe landing right now. And so, I'm dashing across town to take a look at the photographic record of the bombing of the Panay, and

*If you'll excuse me*  
I'll be working on it tonight. ~~so~~ I'll hurry along ~~now~~ *now, and*

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

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