

SHOT

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Flaming melodrama from Chicago!

"I killed Ed Wynn", a woman's voice screamed over the house phone in a north side hotel.

"What?", the astonished telephone operator yelled back.

"I killed Ed Wynn" shouted the woman.

The clerk called the police. The police went to the room. The woman was lying on the davenport, sobbing her eyes away.

"I killed him" she moaned. "I didn't mean to do it.

"What'll I do?"

"Where's the body?" demanded the cop.

They couldn't find the body. After a long search, they did find an angry man downstairs in front of the hotel. He said he was Ed Wynn, "Edward K. Wynn".

"Doggone it", he raged, "I adred her to shoot and she did."

And at this point he wiped a bit of blood from his cheeck, where the bullet had nipped off a piece of skin, on its way past.

"As she fired that shot she fainted" he said, and I got sore and left."

COP

Then here's this:- Of all the close shaves and narrow escapes I ever heard of! This was close! A cop had his coat shot off him -- literally. In that same interesting city of Chicago detective John Collopy today arrested a man suspected of robbery. As he did so, the crook blazed away at him with a shot gun. The slugs ripped the side of the detective's big overcoat, tore the coat virtually off his back. But it didn't touch the cop, who collared the crook and marched him off to jail.

NBC



CHICAGO

*Also in the North side of the city*  
~~The northwestern side of~~ Chicago, was terrorized today

by a series of explosions of gas, ~~in the sewage mains~~, explosions that blew off manhole covers, broke windows, knocked down pedestrians and stopped traffic. *A million dollars in damage done.*

NBC

GREECE

And It looks as if <sup>the Windy city</sup>~~Chicago~~ might once more behold the formerly majestic and plutocratic presence of Sam Insull. It now appears as if the former utilities magnate will be brought to the United States for trial. Local opinion in Athens <sup>is</sup>~~thinks~~ that the protests from Greek-Americans in the United States may have done the trick. Anyway, the Greek Minister of the Interior today notified the one time Czar of Chicago utilities he must leave Greece by January 31st. Presumably he will have to go to a country from which he can be extradited.

NBC



## ITALY

Today is the day for the debt payments from abroad -- December 15th. The Italian Government is kicking in with a million dollars as an acknowledgment of the instalment that it owes, but is not paying in full. Secretary of State Phillips today gives an indication of Uncle Sam's attitude. Says he: "President Roosevelt has no personal hesitation in saying that he does not regard the Italian Government as in default." In other words, Uncle Sam takes the money, closes one eye, and smiles good-naturedly. *England is making a similar token payment.*

The prediction we made last night as to what the French government would pay was amply borne out today. The French Ambassador informed the State Department that the debt situation remained unchanged, the action of his government will be the same as before, that is, no action at all. *Hungary also defaulted.* ~~He added that there seemed~~  
~~no use of trying to open any discussion of the debt question~~  
~~and that the French payment would be postponed, as usual.~~

FARLEY

Over in Europe Postmaster Jim Farley, who is on a vacation, flew across the English Channel from Paris to London. He's going to make an inspection tour of the British post office system.

The dispatch doesn't say whether or not he'll make an inspection of the way British politicians hand out government jobs or how they mend their political offenses *which is a part of Jim's job here*.

Postmaster Jim might have <sup>walked</sup>~~come~~ in on a loud and acrimonious debate in the House of Commons. The M.P.s declared a recess this afternoon, after having been in a heated session for twenty-three hours. They've been battling about the Newfoundland bill. This bill proposes that the authorities in London shall take over the government of the territory of Newfoundland because the local govern<sup>ment</sup>~~er~~ has gone broke.

NBC



In the news again -- Lawrence of Arabia!  
That ~~extraordinary~~ <sup>startling</sup> hero of the World War certainly has a  
way of doing ~~extraordinary~~ <sup>startling</sup> things. It's been just one stunt  
after another ever since those days when I knew him in Arabia,  
the time when he was heading the revolt in the desert.

Word comes from London that Lawrence has just  
taken part in a ~~startling experiment~~ <sup>weird exploit</sup>. With two other men he  
risked his life in the first experiment ever conducted of  
bombing human targets from the air. ~~They were~~ <sup>Those</sup> human targets were  
in a boat, ~~while planes dropped bombs on them~~. The boat  
was a new type of contraption, <sup>invented by Lawrence,</sup> supposed to be bombproof,  
a speed boat heavily armoured, the hull made of a rubber  
composition. The boat churned along on the surface of  
the water while planes above swung about and dropped 11½-pound  
bombs. The bombs hit the boat and exploded. Lawrence  
and his two companions coolly maneuvered their craft and  
observed the effect, ~~of the explosion~~. The theory was that  
the boat could not be ~~sunk~~ sunk and the men inside could not  
be injured -- and that theory was proved true. <sup>It also was to train the fliers in minute accuracy  
at bombing. They have been doing this for some time.</sup> ~~It navigated~~

The boat operated by the king - maker from Arabia was navigated safely in a perfect inferno of exploding bombs - day after day. Lawrence says that the main danger lay in the tremendous impact when the bombs hit the armor plate. But that when the first direct hit was made they hardly noticed it, so terrific ~~were~~ were the repercussions made by dozens of other bombs exploding in the water all around.

NBC



R. C. ("Sparks")  
Blake.

Ship wireless  
operator.

Dec. 15, 1933.

## INTRO TO BLAKE

This afternoon a deputation of young fellows came to see me and explained that they were ship wireless operators. They told me there was a strike of wireless operators on just now -- on one line. The boys were required to take a twenty-five percent pay cut and they didn't like that. We got to talking and they told me some rare stories about wireless and sinking ships. One of them spun a particularly vivid yarn. His name is "Sparks" Blake - R. C. Blake. So I brought him along to tell it all over again - to you.

Come along "Sparks" old boy, meet your old friend Mike-the-wireless.



FOR MR. BLAKE

Well, <sup>that one I told you about Lowell</sup> ~~it~~ was a time when the steamship Bear was lost on the coast of California. I was the wireless operator aboard. A <sup>wild</sup> ~~loud~~ winter storm blew up. I went on duty in the wireless shack at midnight and got messages from several ships that were having a bad time of it. <sup>About</sup> ~~By~~ one o'clock I was thrown out of my chair by a smashing shock. The vessel took a heavy list and began pounding with heavy jolts. I could hear passengers yelling on the deck. The storm had driven us on the rocks. I picked myself up and began sending distress signals. ~~That's a thrilling time when you send distress signals and wait to hear if they've been picked up.~~ I got a reply from the steamer Yosemite and also from the coast guard fifty miles away.

We were pounding on the rocks. The waves broke over the deck. The passengers were half crazy. Several of them were swept overboard. The Yosemite came in sight during the night. She tried to shoot life-lines with line guns. Couldn't make it. At daybreak the coast guard arrived by land, and they tried to shoot lines. There seemed no use -- until half of the day had gone by. In the afternoon they managed to shoot a line to us and

the removal of the survivors began. It went on through the night until all were safely ashore -- all except twelve.

Twelve out of two hundred and fifty passengers and a crew of eighty-five men. I left the ship with the captain <sup>-- last of all. We got</sup> ~~and got~~ ~~sh~~ ashore half strangled in the surf.



LINDBERGH'S

Well, talking about wireless operators, there's Mrs. Lindbergh.

Nothing seems to stop that aviating couple, any more than anything could stop the Colonel himself when he was just Slim, unknown to fame, driving his way through the night on his historic solo flight across the Atlantic. A radio message to Pan-American Airways tells us that the sky jaunting Colonel and his wireless-operating lady landed on the Island of Santo Domingo today, after a two hundred mile hop from Puerto Rico. They're now within hopping distance of their own native shores. There's breathless romance in the adventures of that young husband and wife -- three trans-Atlantic crossings for the Colonel -- two for the Mrs.

NBC

## INCOME TAX

Before the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives recommendations were made today, for altering the Income Tax. I suppose altering means up -- not down. ~~A report issued declares that~~ They want to make the alterations such as will not "impede legitimate business transactions." ~~I wonder whether buying a plate of ham and eggs is a legitimate business transaction.~~ Anyway, they want to make some alterations, which would yield ~~some more money per year to the Government,~~ ~~two hundred and seventy million dollars more.~~

Acting Secretary Morgenthau of the Treasury Department advocated that the income tax law be revised to ~~it~~ plug up the loopholes. The idea is to make it airtight, so that we won't see any more millionaires finding technical ~~xx~~ ways to avoid paying their tax.

Mr. Morgenthau likewise took up the subject of marriage -- not that he was waxing romantic <sup>with</sup> ~~the~~ the thoughts about youth and love and so on -- in fact he was distinctly unromantic -- when he spoke up and said that the government ought to make husband and wife file

a single return. He declared that forty million dollars would be added to the federal revenue if married couples were not allowed to make separate returns, which enables them to shave off a bit of tax. ~~added to the Federal Revenue if married couples were not~~  
NEC



JOHNSON

A late dispatch from the White House denies the rumors that General Johnson will resign as the head of the N.R.A. There have been rumors that he would abandon the Blue Eagle and take another post, but the President says -- no.

NBC

~~MORTGAGE~~

MORTGAGE

There's another mortgage project before the President and he is confabulating about it with Jesse Jones, R.F.C. Chairman, and George Van Schaick, Supreintendent of Insurance of New York State. It is a proposal to lend money to needy mortgage holders. I always thought the folks that are supposed to pay the mortgages were the needy ones, but it seems that the people who try to collect the mortgages are needy also. So the Government, having helped the first class with its <sup>home</sup> loan activities, is now considering a plan to help the second.

The program would involve lending about fifty million dollars to small mortgage holders, the mortgages they hold to be the security. Mr. Jones explained that loans would probably be advanced up to 25% of the value of the mortgage. The rate of interest suggested is 5%. The R.F.C. would lend the money to the mortgage companies and they in turn would lend it to the small mortgage holders.



PAY-ROLL

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Four million men and women on the pay-rolls of the Civil Works projects -- two million families taken off the rolls of public unemployment relief and placed on a basis of self-support. So runs a summary issued by Harry L. Hopkins, Civil Works Administrator.

NBC

STEEL

That much disputed union election of the Weirton Steel Company was held <sup>again</sup> today. Department of Justice agents were watching at the plant. It is not expected that the Labor Board will do anything about the days balloting until the agents make their reports. The vote is said to be about the same as it was earlier in the week.



## HOCKEY

"For the first time in history", this next dispatch says,

(it seems that something or other is <sup>always</sup> happening for the first time.)

(It must have been great to have been there the first time something happened for the first time.) Well, anyway, its about an American hockey team. Fourteen ~~American~~ boys of the Ice Hockey Team of Morristown, New Jersey School sailed on the BERENGARIA today for an invasion of Switzerland and France. They're going to show their European ~~Ex~~ brethern how hockey is played in America. And the way it is played -- from what I've been able to see -- is roughly.

~~The Morristown team will start hostilities at Villar, Switzerland, where they will battle through a tournament on December 24th and 25th.~~

There has been a good deal of talk as to how international sports create international good-will; but <sup>sometimes it</sup> ~~it might~~ stir up a lot of ill-will instead. A good hockey game should be an excellent way to start an international war. However, this is the first time in the history of ice hockey that an American scholastic aggregation has gone abroad in quest of foreign honors.

## WEDDING

And now for a bit of society news which is also news about the movies. Society and the movies might be considered far apart. How would you tie them together? Well, in the old familiar way, the old familiar tie, bond, hitch and splice -- marriage. The movies married society today, that is, Gary Cooper married Sandra Shaw, with whose name goes blue blood, the Blue Book, maybe Kentucky blue grass, and everything except blue Monday and the Blue Eagle. They were to have been married at the Waldorf, where <sup>Gary</sup> the boy that ~~knocks~~ the gals dead has been stopping. But at the last minute the wedding was taken to the society menage -- I believe that's the word -- any way, the home of the bride's <sup>mama</sup> ~~mother~~.

So Gary is a married man and will take his society bride to Hollywood. <sup>Not</sup> ~~is~~ that she's a strange there. She herself appeared in the talkies last year.

Prosper



DOG

Here's a story to be told in two letters - not letters of the alphabet but letters you write. One was received by Governor Moore of New Jersey. It read like this:

"Honorable Governor: Considering you always help the children, I ~~wonder~~ want you to help me. I lost my best pal, whom I loved so dearly. His name is Rex. He's a sort of mixed breed - half police dog and half chow dog. Will you kindly notify the troopers, because he might be wandering on a lonely road." Signed

Adolph Gioia. *Joyah*

The Governor of New Jersey sat down and wrote back:

"Dear Adolph: I am sorry you have lost your dog. I, too, have a dog - a cocker spaniel. And, you can be sure that no effort will be spared to find Rex and restore him to you." ~~This being Christmas Season, I am sure anyone who finds your dog will take care of him, and when they learn about it through the newspapers, will return him to you.~~ Then the Governor issued a <sup>terse</sup> ~~succinct~~ command to the State Police: "If you can't find the dog, find one like it." NBC

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## BOXING

Talking about international sports, here's an event of a sort to evoke a lot of peace and good-will among me. Some boxing bouts between husky Frenchmen of the French liner ILE DE FRANCE and equally husky Germans of the German liner EUROPA. It seems there is a prize offered, the Blancart trophy, for boxing among the crews of the North Atlantic liners. Bouts have been held right along and it all simmered down to a final contest between the French and Germans. It seems that we have heard of rumpuses between the French and the Germans before. Anyway, the final title bouts have just been held and a complete victory was scored by Alfonse and Gaston. The battlers of the ILE DE FRANCE battered the battlers of the EUROPA, and thereby won that North Atlantic boxing trophy. And as they left the ring they said, "After you my dear Alphonse." Au revoir - and SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.

NBC