

Good Evening, Everybody:

Here's a bit of news that will please the thirsty though ~~it is afraid it may~~ ^{alas it will} displease ~~some of the~~ ^{many} others. That five cent glass of ^{good} beer you've been demanding ~~so long~~ ^{- some of you - is almost} ~~come one~~ ^{within reach.} ~~important step nearer today.~~ (Complying with President Roosevelt's brief snappy message of yesterday, the House of Representatives this afternoon passed the beer bill, ^{It was} the bill offered by Representative Cullen of New York. This will, when passed by both houses and signed ^{by the President,} make the manufacture and sale of 3.2 per cent beer legal within fifteen days ^{— that is 15 days after} ~~after it is signed by President~~ ^{Mr. Roosevelt adds his signature.}

~~Roosevelt.~~

^{wild, tumultuous} A storm of cheers broke out ^{in the legislative halls of Congress} when it was announced that the ^{bill} beer was passed. The drys were hopelessly overwhelmed by a vote of 316 to 97.

The dope in Washington is that the Senate will take action on the bill before Saturday. It's a foregone conclusion that the President will sign ~~the bill~~ ^{it} immediately, because he

asked for it. In fact, the message in which he did so, was

almost word for word the text of ^{that dripping wet} a plank in the Democratic National

Platform. ^{- Incidentally the plank written by Al Smith.} ~~Fifteen days after the President's signature the bill~~

~~becomes law.~~ Brewers all over the country who have been awaiting

this measure for months, announce that within forty-eight hours

after the bill becomes law they will have a supply of beer to put

on the market. ^{And the brewers big horses will be on their way again.}

~~As I have already indicated, they're~~ ^{Of course they are} talking about

five cent beer. Whether it will actually be sold for ^{a nickel a schooner} ~~that~~ remains

to be seen. The tax, which will be five dollars a barrel, ^{as announced so often} ~~we all~~

~~know~~ means a lessening of the deficit in Uncle Sam's budget.

The prohibitionists in the House made a desperate last minute stand against the passage of the ^{measure,} ~~bill.~~ Their leader was Representative Blanton of Texas. At one point in the debate he asked his colleagues in the following words: "Do you think I'm a fanatic because I oppose this beer bill?" And from the wet side of the House came a loud chorus shouting "Yes".

The debate was brief and the bone dry ^{ies were drowned.} ~~prohibitionists~~ were ~~hopelessly overwhelmed.~~

SENATE

And now we are still

~~we are still eagerly~~ awaiting the news that the Senate has passed President Roosevelt's Economy bill which the House rushed through last Saturday. It is encountering ^{far} more serious obstacles among the Senators. ~~than it did with the Representatives.~~ The Democrats held a caucus today in which they obligated ~~themselves~~ themselves to support the measure. But there's a string to that. They ~~declined~~ declined to pass it without amendments.

What effect this will have is, ^{so} ~~say the correspondents~~ ~~say~~, uncertain. The House passed the bill as Mr. Roosevelt wanted it. If the Senators amend it enough they ^{may ham-string it.} ~~might spoil its effect.~~

At any rate, the Republican leaders in the Senate have announced that they will support the measure. ~~In fact, it might pass at any moment.~~ ^{Some} ~~Many~~ Republican Senators today spoke in favor of passing the bill as is.

ROOSEVELT

And Here's something of importance to all radio listeners and to the country at large. ^{(The new} President ~~Roosevelt~~ is planning to speak to the people of the United States, over the radio, regularly. In fact, at least twice a month.) His address Sunday night met with such ^{nationwide, enthusiastic} ~~excellent~~ response that the President's advisors are convinced there is no better way in which the chief of the nation can ^{keep} ~~see~~ in touch with the people.

Incidentally, in this he is taking ^{another} leaf from the book of former Governor Al Smith, who used to make the same direct appeal to the people of New York State, and thereby ^{gained} ~~had~~ his way with reluctant legislatures.

BANKS

(Well, the banking situation seems to be O. K. once more. The Secretary of the Treasury, ^{Mr.} Woodin, expressed it today ⁱⁿ with the words: "the era of fear is past."

10
~~Things~~ (Hundreds more banks threw open their doors this morning.) Throughout the country the same condition as yesterday was repeated, I mean that deposits were hugely in excess of withdrawals. Said ^{Secy.} ~~Mr.~~ Woodin further: "The people have been cooperating with us magnificently. They are using the reopened banks as banks were intended to be used -- for a convenience in paying their bills and safeguarding their funds."

(Today ~~AMERIEX~~ marked the second step in the Administration's plan to open the sound banks throughout the country as fast as possible. Tomorrow ^{see the} will ~~be the~~ ~~END~~ third and final stage.)

From various parts of the country come reports of a lively upturn in business. This was conspicuous both among retailers and wholesalers.

Meanwhile, a steady stream of gold continues to flow back into the vaults of the Federal Reserve Banks. Hoarding, they

say, is down to the vanishing point. With the nomination of Fred Kent of New York, as virtual dictator of Foreign Exchange transactions, Uncle Sam's dollar continued to hold its own in the foreign markets.

9) ~~The New York Stock Exchange will open for trading tomorrow at 10 o'clock. In New York all the exchanges are still closed. The Stock Exchange in San Francisco will be opened tomorrow for the first time in ten days, unless an order from Washington intervenes. That means not only Stock Exchanges but produce and other commodity exchanges.~~ Also exchanges in Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Chicago, St. Louis, ~~and~~ Boston and San Francisco.

The first arrest in banking circles was announced today and is announced in a column headlines across the top of New York front pages. Then the papers go on to tell that Joseph W. Harriman, founder and chief of the Harriman National was taken into custody by Uncle Sam this afternoon. The charge against him is "making or causing to be made false entries in the books of the bank with intent to deceive bank examiners."

THORNTON

8

If you ^{had} ~~inquired into~~ railway circles who was the best known railroad man in the world, ^{— that is in recent years —} you would undoubtedly have received the answer -- Sir Henry Thornton, who until last August was President and Chairman of the Board of the Canadian National Railways. He is the only man in his profession who was equally well known in Canada, the United States, and Europe. I am sorry to have to convey the information that Sir Henry died in a New York hospital this afternoon of pneumonia, after an illness of about a week.

I suppose most people know that although he had a British title, Sir Henry was born in Indiana. He was one of those wonder workers in the railroad world who was called in whenever there was a particularly tough job to tackle. He had a great deal to do with the opening of the great Pennsylvania Terminal in New York. He reorganized the Long Island Railroad. Then when the Great Eastern Railway of England was in a jam about eighteen years ago, the directors came all the way across the seas to call in Sir

THORNTON - 2

Henry Thornton to do the job. In the war he did extraordinary things, winding up a ~~an~~ Inspector General of Transportation with the rank of Major General in the British Army.

As for what he did with the Canadian National Railways, anybody who has ever traveled on those excellent and comfortable lines can testify. He resigned as President and Chairman ~~of the~~ ~~Board~~ of the ^{C.N.R.} ~~Canadian National~~ last August. ~~He~~

ENGLISH JOKE

By the way, that joke about the Englishmen, ^{the one} ~~that~~ I broadcast one evening last week, seems to have got a good many goats. At any rate, it started quite a number of letters coming my way. Some of them are from Englishmen who admit they did not see the point. But the most amusing of them all comes from Montreal. Mr. E. W. Brown of 418 Pine Avenue West, in Montreal, writes me as follows:

"With reference to your so-called joke on the Englishmen and your kind promise to forward the laugh should anyone not be intelligent enough to get the point", says Mr. Brown, "please do not forward the explanation to any Canadians or Englishmen." ^{says he,} ~~here's~~ ^{and,} "here's the reason: ~~Mr. Brown gives. Says he:~~ "We are all too busy laughing over the American financial situation and cannot afford to take time off for anything less amusing."

In conclusion Mr. Brown enclosed me a Canadian two cent stamp to buy myself a cup of coffee.

That one surely was on me.

ENGLISH JOKE

By the way, that joke about the Englishmen, ^{the one} ~~that~~ I broadcast one evening last week, seems to have got a good many goats. At any rate, it started quite a number of letters coming my way. Some of them are from Englishmen who admit they did not see the point. But the most amusing of them all comes from Montreal. Mr. E. W. Brown of 418 Pine Avenue West, in Montreal, writes me as follows:

"With reference to your so-called joke on the Englishmen and your kind promise to forward the laugh should anyone not be intelligent enough to get the point", says Mr. Brown, "please do not forward the explanation to any Canadians or Englishmen." *And,*

says he,
~~and~~ "here's the reason: ~~Mr. Brown gives. Says he:~~ "We are all too busy laughing over the American financial situation and cannot afford to take time off for anything less amusing."

In conclusion Mr. Brown enclosed me a Canadian two cent stamp to buy myself a cup of coffee.

That one surely was on me.

6

GERMANY

~~There is~~ ^{across the seas} The first use of the radio ⁱⁿ international politics is to be made by Chancellor Hitler of Germany. The information was made public today that the propaganda chief of the Nazi Cabinet had organized a high power radio service which will send to the U.S.A. programs in both German and English. The German programs will be for the instruction of Germans in the United States. Those in English will be to give to the American public at large, or such part of it as cares to listen ^{into} the Hitler government's version of political events in Germany.

The present government makes no bones about ^{it} ~~the fact~~ that ~~it~~ ^{is} displeas^{ed} ^{we} with the way facts are being reported by American correspondents in Berlin. So they are adopting this method of providing an antidote.

The nature of the programs as announced by the Hitlerite Foreign Office is described by that much overworked and somewhat odious word "cultural". It is said that it will include music, drama, and what the German government call^s "objective

5

news reports." The spokesman of the German Foreign Office declares positively that there will be no propaganda. The dope is that it is to start April 1st, and will be sent daily on a short ^{wave} ~~wave~~ length.

Meanwhile, from Paris comes the news that refugees from Germany are arriving in Paris in considerable numbers. This has been going on ever since Adolf Hitler rose to the Chancellorship and the anti-Semitic campaign ^{got under way,} ~~began in Germany~~. Most of the refugees arriving in Paris are German Jews.

LONDON

A scarehead bit of news comes from England. The news is that British official circles are seriously distressed by fear of a new war in Europe. It is understood, though not publicly admitted, that there have been frequent meetings of John Bull's Cabinet and that every Minister is standing by ready for emergency meetings at any hour. This fear has been openly voiced by no less a celebrity than the Right Honorable David Lloyd George, former Prime Minister. ~~of Great Britain~~. L. G., as he is called in England, had ^s been addressing the National Council of Evangelical Churches. He said to the churchmen: "There is now proceeding among all nations the worst economic war the world has ever seen. Moreover, actual war is in preparation."

The stormy petrel of this war scare is Chancellor Hitler. As the English statesmen see it, a Fascist bloc ^{to} is now extending almost ~~all~~ across the heart of Europe. ^{Then} ~~they~~ ^{are} ~~are~~ afraid of the Polish situation which they consider ~~like a~~ ^a ~~keg~~ ^{keg} of powder that only needs a fuse. And they say the Hitlerite government might at any time light that fuse. Then there's the chance of a Nazi

LONDON - 2

stroke in Austria. The Austrian Hitlerites might at any time try to overthrow the present regime in Vienna. This, of course, would reopen the whole question of the union of Austria and Germany. Altogether, ~~they say~~ ^{they say} in London, Europe is again one large powder magazine that only needs a match.

Of course, this is an alarmist point of view, and ~~most~~ ^{many} people are swallowing it with a good chaser of salt.

FRANCE

Well, here's something astonishing. A dispatch from Paris reports that France is about to pay her war debt instalment to Uncle Sam, the instalment on which she defaulted last December. And that's not such bad news.

GOLF

I ran across an interesting sporting item in ~~the~~^a London paper. A shortsighted golfer was bawling out his caddie and said: "Why didn't you tell me that was a confounded toadstool I was hitting instead of the ball?" To which the caddie replied: "I never thought you would 'it it, Sir." *Now there's a good English joke for you.*

INCOME TAX

Here's a message for you that you may not like, but it is one that few of us can duck. It comes from Uncle Sam's Collector of Internal Revenue. He reminds you that you are expected to file income tax returns and pay at least one instalment by midnight Wednesday. That means: the envelope containing your return and the money must have a postmark of not later than midnight tomorrow.

The Collector of Internal Revenue makes no allowance or extension of time by reason of the bank holiday. He urges that tax payers remit the first instalment either by cash or postal money order. If you cannot get cash or money order, the government will take your check, but if the check bounces, even through no fault of your own, Uncle Sam will be down on you for the cash later.

Well, Papa, it's a tickling situation. Of course, And that's enough of such news for today.

BASEBALL

2

In the baseball world the subject they're talking about, the question they're all asking is -- Will Babe Ruth sign? The big Bambino is down at St. Petersburg with the Yankees. He's been training but he wasn't in the line-up this afternoon when the Yanks played their first training engagement against the Boston Braves.

As any fan will tell you, Colonel Jake Ruppert, the big brewer and owner of the Yankees, thinks the Babe doesn't rate any more than fifty thousand ^{bucks}~~dollars~~ for playing ball this season. That's quite a comedown from the seventy-five thousand he got last year. The Babe says he's willing to take a cut, but twenty-five grand is too much. ^{of a slash.} He's willing to ^{halve}~~half~~ it with the Colonel, but the Colonel says no.

Well, fans, it's a ticklish situation. Of course, the Colonel knows his own business best. But most of you will agree with me that the Yanke^es won't be quite the Yanke^es without the Babe, especially after the sensational stunt he did in Chicago during the last world series when he called his shot and hit a sizzling homer right in the spot to which he had pointed.

AIRPLANE THIEF

(1)
A couple of young gentlemen in Monterey, California, indulged in a costly prank the other day. They had been celebrating something or other, and decided that the nicest way to cap the evening would be to go for an airplane ride. To be sure, neither of them could fly, and neither of them owned a plane. So they went to the airport and borrowed one.

The airport watchman saw them just as they were taking off and ran after them shouting. The plane dashed down the runway barely missing the watchman. ~~and nose.~~

After they had been careering crazily about in the air for some while, one of the merry makers noticed that his pal who was at the controls was fast asleep. And he noticed this just as the plane was about to crash into a large oil tank.

It must have been only by merrymaker's luck that he managed to manipulate the controls so as to avoid the tank. But the next thing those jolly lads knew, -- splash -- they were both in the water. The engine had run out of gas, and they had made a ~~three point~~ ^{wet} landing in Monterey Bay. They were a mile from shore and had a nice long swim to reach the point where the coppers were waiting to take them in. *And e-l-u-t-m.*

ENDING

The Literary Digest cites an interesting tale from the Border Cities Star. A tired business man arrived home very late at night, and said to his wife: "Aw, I'm all in, dead tired. I've had my nose to the grindstone until early this morning. "

To which his wife retorted: "Huh! Then you'd better get a grindstone that doesn't get rouge, lipstick and powder all over you." And SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.