

Good evening, Everybody:

1 An important weekend party is
2 scheduled over tomorrow and Sunday. A
3 group of Englishmen and Germans will
4 gather at a country house outside of
5 London, and will spend the weekend
6 discussing the financial situation of
7 Germany.

8 In the party will be Ramsay McDonald,
9 ~~the~~ Prime Minister of Great Britain;
10 Arthur Henderson, ~~the~~ British Foreign
11 ~~Min~~ Secretary; Dr. Bruening, ^{head of the} ~~one of~~
12 ^{government;} ~~Germany's most important statesman;~~ and
13 Dr. Curtius, the ^{Berlin} ~~German~~ Foreign Minister.

14 The question of reparations will
15 be paramount at that meeting. The
16 Germans declare that they have gone as
17 far as they can. They simply can't ^{continue} ~~go~~
18 ~~on~~ paying out all that money for
19 reparations.

20 There has been talk of a moratorium,
21 a sort of holiday for Germany, with
22 reparation payments suspended. The New
23 York Evening Post states that British
24 opinion has been opposed to such a
25 moratorium. But ^{the British are} ~~it's~~ now coming around

1 and looking with favor upon the plan
2 to ease up on Germany. ~~temporarily.~~

3 And so that big weekend party may
4 result in some kind of settlement for
5 a while of that thorny problem of German
6 reparations.

1 On the editorial pages of newspapers
2 throughout the country today there has been
3 a good deal of comment about the tour of
4 the American mayors through France.

5 I suppose you saw what Will Rogers
6 had to say the other day. He said that
7 patriotic Americans ought to raise a fund
8 to bring those twenty-five mayors back
9 home. And judging from those comments in
10 the newspapers today, lots of folks agree
11 with Will.

12 The mayors seem to have been having
13 a row among themselves. Loud and heated
14 words have been exchanged. The charge has
15 been made that one or two of the boys
16 have been grabbing off all the publicity.

17 Well, from the moment those chief
18 executives landed in France, the course of
19 events has been somewhat ridiculous. An
20 argument was started right off the bat.

21 A French mayor in entertaining
22 the American mayors proposed a toast
23 to the President of the United States.
24 And that toast was drunk in champagne.
25 The mayor of Los Angeles walked out of

the party then and there. He said that he and his wife were dry and objected to the champagne. They didn't even want to be in the same room with it. Some of the other mayors thought that the burgomaster of Los Angeles needn't have been so dramatic about it all.

A pleasant human interest note was given the party when the Mayor of Portland, Oregon, adopted a French orphan. That was all right and it was advertised far and wide. Then came the solemn moment when the mayors paid their homage at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Paris. It has become almost a sacred tradition that honor is paid to the Unknown Soldier in silence.

But when the American mayors got there, the mayor of Portland astonished everybody by bursting into oratory, and made a speech half hour long. The International News Service passes along the comment that the High French officials who were there stood paralyzed with polite amazement.

Well, that started a battle. The other mayors claimed that the mayor of Portland had been doing all the speechifying and grabbing off all the publicity.

The United Press is summing up the situation, says the trouble came out in the open at a series of solemn ceremonies in honor of the late Ambassador Herrick. Distinguished personalities of the French Republic were there. So it was rather awkward when the mayors got into a hot argument about who should make the speech. Some of the other mayors pointed out that this wasn't exactly the place to stage a public row and so the mayors finally agreed to have it out behind closed doors.

They did, and now a committee of five has been named to run things during the remainder of the time. When any occasion for speaking comes up the committee decides which mayor is to make the speech.

Well, that grand tour of the American buromesiters is funny to read about and it certainly must be funny to watch.

1 A curious bit of information comes
2 along concerning the execution of the
3 anarchist over in Italy who plotted to
4 kill Mussolini.

5 He ~~was~~ had his bombs ready and
6 wanted to kill not only Mussolini, but
7 also Stalin, the Red dictator of Russia
8 because he declared Stalin persecutes
9 the Anarchists.

10 It's odd to see the Fascist
11 Mussolini and the Bolshevist Stalin
12 marked down on the same anarchist's
13 black list. The man who was executed,
14 Michael Schirru, was a naturalized
15 American citizen. He confessed that
16 he was guilty, and to the very end
17 shouted: "Long Live Anarchy, and down
18 with Fascism."

19 Meanwhile, 9 other anti-Fascists
20 are being put on trial. They're charged
21 with instigating a plot to overthrow the
22 present Italian government, and it's
23 said that they may go to prison.
24
25

DIGEST

I've been studying a chart today, a long strip with a checkerboard of lines, and along one line a weird looking series of mountains and valleys. And that chart tells a fascinating story, tells the story far more eloquently than any words could do.

The story is the fluctuations of American business during the last three-quarters of a century.

That chart is printed in this week's Literary Digest. It shows the curve of business activity, the booms and the depressions, and right along with that, by way of interesting comparison, is the curve of wholesale prices. It appears in connection with an article headed:- "Depressions Never Last Forever."

This chart was prepared by an eminent financial authority, Colonel Leonard P. Ayres, vice-president of the Cleveland Trust Company. The chart shows that in seventy-five years there have been thirteen periods of serious business depression. The present depression is the biggest. The curve dips the deepest for 1930, and the beginning of 1931. ~~in~~

I suppose that being so deep, it won't last so long - on the principle that what drops hard bounces back rapidly. In fact the line on the chart is already on the way up. Look at it yourself and see.

The next most serious depression was that of 1921. But what's the use of me trying to tell that interesting story of American business cycles? As I said, the chart in this weeks Digest shows it better than anybody could tell it.

The executives of a big drug concern saw that chart and right away they got in touch with the Literary Digest. "Look here," said the executives, "we think that chart showing the cycles of American business would be a splendid exhibit to show in the windows of our drug stores." And then and there they asked if they might have a hundred enlarged copies for exhibition purposes.

They got the hundred copies alright and thousands of people will see the study that chart this week in drugstore show windows.

And that was the beginning of an idea.

But wait a minute - I'm talking out of turn. That idea

will be explained to you by - Announcer Neil Enslin as soon as I'm through. Neil will tell you all about it, so why should I steal his thunder. You'll hear all about it in a minute.

GOLD

And now right to the point comes a report that gold is flowing into the United States. The Federal Reserve Bank reports that the amount of gold coming into the country during this month will total 45 million dollars. And this is a large increase over last month. The flow of gold into the country has been increasing right along of late.

The New York Sun states that most of the precious metal that is being shipped into this country at present comes from South America.

MEXICO

Well, holy smoke! Life just keeps getting tougher and tougher. After all of those hard names I've had to pronounce, here comes the famous city of X-o-c-h-i-m-i-l-c-o. And how would you pronounce that?

Well, let's see. Let's make a stab at it. How's this: Xochimilco. (Zo-chee-milko.)

Anyway, the International News Service reminds us that Xochimilco is famous for its floating gardens, and is a favorite ~~farxits~~ place for American tourists to visit.

That adds a little special interest to the fact that the Mexican authorities have rounded up a big band of robbers that were raising Cain in the neighborhood of Xocimilco. They were real desperadoes, and 13 of them have been caught.

All of which will make Xochimilco no easier to pronounce, of course, but a good deal safer for American tourists.

RECORD FLIGHT

Flying friends of mine tell me that the record endurance flight which was made yesterday, is highly significant.

I told last night how aviators Walter Lees and Frederick Brossy, took off and just kept on flying for seventy-six hours and twenty-three minutes. They didn't refuel in the air and that makes their flight the longest non-refueling trip on record..

The particular significance is that the plane was equipped with that Packard Diesel engine that we have heard rumors about from time to time - not the ordinary gasoline burning motor but one of those new fangled engines which burn heavy oil.

Of course, the Diesel engine is an old story, but Diesels light enough to be used for driving airplanes are almost a brand new development. And that, as my aviator friends tell me, is why this endurance record made with Packard Diesels is so significant.

GUINAN

It looks as if Texas Guinan isn't going to visit gay Paree after all.

She's in a hotel at Le Havre tonight, with her troop of show girls, whom she calls her "chickens". The French government has been debating whether to let the well-known night club hostess ~~go~~ go on to Paris, or whether they should send the red hot manna and her red hot chickens back to the United States.

According to the International News Service, the real trouble arose over a labor contract. Texas Guinan intended to open a night club in Paris with her sweet little chickadees. And, according to French law, the venture comes under the head of a labor contract.

France has regulations about labor contracts, and that's why the immigration authorities at Le Havre stopped the night club hostess and her sprightly night club chicks.

They say it was one awful row between the French immigration officials and Texas and her chickens -- one loud and excited clucking - a wild mixture of parole vousing. However, the

French government after considering the case decided that the queen of the night clubs and her birds of paradise must leave France and make it snappy. The next boat leaves tomorrow they say.

Self. Mary is ninety years old now. She had a birthday yesterday. Children all over the world paid tribute to Mrs. Mary Hughes of Llangollen, in North Wales - because Mrs. Mary Hughes is said to be the original Mary of Lamb. Mary had a little lamb.

That favorite nursery rhyme was written by Miss Sarah Buell who was a visitor long years ago at the farm where Mary lived, that same Mary who is now Mrs. Mary Hughes and ninety years old.

Mary actually went to school one morning and one of her father's little lambs followed her, followed her into school, which was against the rules, and the teacher told the lamb away.

Miss Buell, the New York Sun tells us, was amused by the incident and sat down and wrote - Mary had a little lamb.

1 There is only one way to start
2 this next dispatch, and that's with the
3 familiar line - Mary had a little lamb.

4 Well, Mary is ninety years
5 old now. She had a birthday yesterday.
6 Children all over the world paid tribute
7 to Mrs. Mary Hughes of Llangollen, in
8 North Wales - because Mrs. Mary Hughes
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17 Mary actually went to school
18 one morning and one of her father's
19 ~~xxxxx~~ lambs followed her, followed
20 her into school, which was against the
21 rules, and the teacher ^{gave} ~~put~~ the lamb ^{the bump rush.} ~~out~~.

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23 tells us, was ~~xxx~~ amused by the incident
24 and sat down and wrote - Mary had a
25 little lamb.

END

This week is poetry week. It seems that pretty nearly every week of the year is devoted to something or other. For instance next week is cotton week. I suppose pretty soon they'll have spinach week or horse-shoe pitching week. But anyway, this is poetry week, devoted to the appreciation of beautiful verse. I suppose we all are expected to read poetry this week - and if possible write it.

Well, I'm not so hot as a poet, not much good at strumming the blooming lyre so I can't do much to help along the celebration of poetry week. But I ran across an article in the Lowell Sun of Lowell, Massachusetts, which certainly is appropriate. It's an interview with the poet Wilfred Funk, author of MANHATTANS, BRONXES AND QUEENS, and he tells us that now, the present day, is the golden age of poetry. Wilfred Funk declares that more fine poetry is being written right now than in the days when Virgil twanged his lyre for the benefit of Augustus or when Shakespeare write his fmalng verses in

1 the days of Queen Elizabeth.

2 And just to prove his point,
3 Wilfred Funk has invented an interesting
4 game. Here's the way it goes. You pick
5 out verses from poems written in ^{our time.} ~~these~~
6 ~~days~~. You ^{also} pick out verses from some of
7 the great classical poets ^{of old.} And then
8 you try them on somebody and see if
9 they can ^{tell} ~~pick out~~ which are the
10 classical lines and which are the
11 contemporary lines. The joke is to
12 see how somebody will say ^{"why"} -- THAT LINE
13 IS SO BEAUTIFUL IT MUST HAVE BEEN
14 WRITTEN BY KEATS" -- when, in fact, it
15 was written by John Smith or Jane Jones
16 of Topeka or Ashtabula.

17 Just for instance, take these
18 three lines:-

19 The heart has music of its own, but cries
20 No trumpet down the autumn's lonely wind,
21 No bugle down the splendour of the skies.

22 WHO WROTE THOSE LINES? asked Wilfred Funk,
23 SHELLEY OR WORDSWORTH?

24 Well, the fact is they were
25 written by Eleanor A. Chaffee, an

American woman.

And then take these two lovely lines:-

Her very frowns are fairer far
Than smiles of other maidens are.

Well, they might have been written by Coleridge -- as a matter of fact, they were.

Well, Wilfred Funk showed me a number of ^{quotations} ~~lines~~ which illustrated how hard it is to distinguish between beautiful lines written by the poets of today and ~~those~~ by the great classical ^{bards.} ~~poets.~~ But he's a modest chap, ^{is Wilfred Funk,} and he ~~doesn't~~ ^{didn't} include any of his own. So I went to his book, MANHATTANS? BRONXES AND QUEENS, and picked out a few lines which also help to prove his claim that this is the golden age of poetry. Here are four lines about the beautiful damsel Spring:-

She set candles in the sky,
Hung her golden lantern high;

Tucked the muted violin
Of the wind beneath her chin;

And now I suppose the logical thing

END

for me to do would be to go on and contribute a few limp lines
of my own: Well, here's one:-

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.