

Ferd Hanson.

L.T. SUNOCO - 1/29/33

Waldorf ✓

Good Afternoon, Everybody:-

( I have just been trying to decide which is the most important bit of news from Europe during the past week, and I haven't been able to make up my mind as to whether it was the resignation of the von Schleicher cabinet in Berlin or President De Valera's victory at the polls in Ireland.

I, for one, was surprised by the resignation of Germany's strong man. Political observers had expected that he would continue in power through the sheer force of grit and hard-jawed determination. ) ~~The New York Times explains that he demanded that President von Hindenburg should give him power to dissolve the Reichstag. Von Hindenburg refused, and von Schleicher stepped down and out.~~ It is expected that the next Chancellor will be von Papen, who was Chancellor of what was called the Monocle Cabinet not so long ago, and who in distant days of war ~~had~~ had his little difficulties in America.

Of course, these developments don't mean that von Schleicher, the strong man, is walking out into the cold, cold night. He may still be the power behind the throne.

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The latest returns from Ireland show a clear-cut victory for President De Valera. He now controls a clear majority in the Dublin Parliament. Previously he had ruled only with the help of the Irish Labor Party. Now, his own party has a ~~clear~~ majority. ~~A majority of only one vote, but, on the other hand, the Labor Party still stands ready to support him. A correspondent of The New York Herald-Tribune~~ <sup>prints</sup> cables an interview with <sup>Mr.</sup> President De Valera in which ~~the~~ <sup>he</sup> Irish Chief Executive declares that his two major policies are union and separation, ~~and that's not a paradox. He means the union in Ireland, separation from England.~~ He declares that he will work incessantly to bring Ulster into the fold. ~~Right on top of that comes a statement from one of the most important political leaders in the North of Ireland,~~

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~~who declares that Ulster will not even consider the idea~~  
~~of uniting with the Free State.~~

Concerning relations with England, ~~President~~  
~~De Valera announces a policy that doesn't seem in any way~~  
~~violent or radical.~~ He declares that he is for a gradual  
separation, ~~nothing sudden, just~~ a little at a time.

This next bit of news sounds exceedingly homelike - tax payers on the war<sup>a</sup>rp<sup>h</sup>. But it comes from France. Tax payers in Paris are on the rampage.

~~During the first part of this world depression France seems to have had ~~it~~ fairly easy sle~~dding~~ing, but now things are not so rosy.~~ A dispatch to the New York Herald Tribune tells us that the deficit ~~that~~ the French Government ~~is facing is~~ mounting by leaps and bounds, is increasing by more than a million dollars a day, ~~and you can pile up plenty of deficit at that rate.~~ All of which means higher taxes. The thrifty French do not like higher taxes, neither do the thrifty or unthrifty Americans. But the French tax payers go about things in an excitable way, which, after all, maybe the best way. *Who knows? Maybe it would be a good idea over here.*

Yesterday ~~then~~<sup>ten</sup> thousand members of the National Federation of Tax Payers gathered in an amusement park, listened to speeches and voted for resolutions calling upon the government to reduce taxes. Later~~on~~ a crowd of several thousand paraded out of the park and started on a march to the

Ford Hanson.

Chamber of Deputies. There they were stopped by the police.

A lively brawl developed, with the ~~gendarmes~~ staging a

battle with the tax payers. <sup>The mounted</sup> ~~The mounted~~ police had to

charge time and again, before the ~~indignant citizens~~ called it a day and went home.

Meanwhile, the French Government has just paid another war-time debt. No, I don't mean war debt. I mean

that <sup>a</sup> decoration has been <sup>presented to</sup> ~~bestowed upon~~ another <sup>war</sup> ~~of the~~ ~~war~~

hero<sup>s</sup>. ~~of those wild days when the Nations were trying to~~

~~destroy each other.~~ <sup>Or I should say,</sup> ~~But really it is~~ a heroine, and a

mighty clever heroine. They call her the Skylark. That

was her official designation on the books of the French

Secret Service. ~~during the war.~~ She was a French spy who

rendered mighty service to her country in the devious ways <sup>of a spy.</sup>

~~of the secret service~~

The New York Herald Tribune tells the story of the Skylark's greatest exploit. It was in Spain. The

Skylark became an assistant to Baron von Kolberg, who was

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head of ~~the~~ German Naval Espionage in Spain. How did she do it? How did she keep the <sup>boss German spy</sup> ~~Master of Espionage~~ from finding out that she was a French Secret Agent? She didn't. She went to the Baron and told him she was a French spy. She pretended that she wanted to sell out to the Germans. And she convinced him that the pretty little tale was true. She carried out her part so well that she tipped off the French to the identity of many German spies in France and was able to send to Paris an actual sample of the invisible ink that the German Secret Service was using. *And they called her skylark.*

Earl Hanson.

traveler in  
South Africa.

Magnetic  
survey of  
Leticia.

Jan. 29, 1933.

## SOUTH AMERICA

The past week brought new causes for trouble in South America. With Paraguay and Bolivia battling fiercely for disputed territory in the Gran Chaco, now along comes the Republics of Peru and Colombia with a quarrel all their own.

They are fighting for Leticia. Who is she? Well, they are not fighting with guitars. Leticia is no red-hot Lupe Velez. Leticia is a seaport a thousand miles from the sea. It's on the Amazon, on which ocean-going vessels navigate. It's the grandest mixup I've heard of in a long time. I'm ~~gon~~ going to let some one else explain it. Here, Earl, you do it. But wait a minute, Earl, I'd better tell who you are.

Several hundred explorers and backers of explorers broke bread together last night and had a grand pow wow at the Biltmore. The occasion was the annual banquet of the Explorers Club. Among them were quite a number of travelers who have spent the past year in the remote parts of South America.

My friend, Earl Hanson, is one of them. He is just back from making a magnetic survey of Leticia. That



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sounds romantic. But seriously, he has been making a magnetic survey of South America for the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. And that sounds scientific.

He travelled some eighteen thousand miles by rail, steamer, auto, sailboat, dugout canoe, mule-back, afoot with Indian porters, and by airplane. He worked mainly in Venezuela, Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, and amid the Andes of Ecuador and Colombia.

So he's the one to tell us why Colombia has sent that armed flotilla up the Amazon. How about it, Earl?

All right, Lowell, I'll try my best to explain it in a nutshell -- in a Brazil nut shell. Peru, under President Leguia, who was overthrown in the revolution two years ago, ceded Letician, that port a thousand miles up the Amazon, to Colombia. But last September the people of Eastern Peru got hotter than hot tamales and threw the Colombians out of Leticia. Then Colombia got hotter than Chile con carne and sent a sea-going fleet all ~~way~~ the way across the Caribbean and up the Amazon to throw out the Peruvians.

Leticia really isn't worth fighting over, <sup>except, perhaps, as a strategic location,</sup> She isn't so hot. She is very unhealthy. I had an awful dose of <sup>in those regions,</sup> malaria there. Anyhow Leticia's Indian population would be better off without any government jurisdiction.

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L.T.:- Well, Earl, isn't there some talk of colonizing those parts with the unemployed of different nations? I mean various sections in the tropical regions of the Amazon?

Mr. H.:- Yes, I heard a great deal about all that. In fact I met one group of Germans on their way in to settle along the Ucayali River, a tributary of the Amazon. But I am very skeptical. A white man can work and work hard down there. But will he? Fever and other tropical ailments get him; he becomes listless, and generally goes to seed. After the Civil War about two hundred members of the best Southern families moved down to that same Amazon Basin. I met some of the original settlers and a number of their descendants. And that's the fate that has befallen them. They've gone to seed. About the only apparent result from that migration is that Indians today offer decorated gourds for sale with the old Confederate Flag painted on them.

The Amazon Basin still suffers from the El Dorado fever. The people who go there want to find things, not produce them. Once it was gold they sought for. Now they go after Brazil nuts and rubber that grow wild and are not planted. But when the bottom dropped out of rubber a couple of years ago the industry almost died, and many great rivers have been

practically abandoned. Instead of conquering more wilderness  
the white man seems to be withdrawing, and the Indians are  
again coming into their own.

FAR EAST

The week's news from the Far East was pretty much as usual, the Chinese and the Japanese battling in Manchuria.

One new angle concerns the Japanese attitude toward the war manoeuvres which the United States fleet is getting ready to stage off Honolulu. The question was raised in the Japanese Parliament. It was stated that with the troubled state of affairs in the Far East, the gathering of the American Fleet in the mid-Pacific might cause bad relations between the United States and Japan. And by the way, the Japanese fleet is going to hold its war manoeuvres off the Caroline Islands between Hawaii and the Philippines.

Count Uchida, the foreign minister in Tokio, stated emphatically that it would be improper for Tokio to ask Washington any questions concerning the manoeuvres of the American fleet.

From China comes word that the Nanking government is starting a campaign to end child slavery. It seems that the evil is wide-spread in China -- keeping children in a condition of servitude. There is a law against it and the new Nationalist

~~Government declares it intends to enforce that law.~~

*In China they are going to*  
~~And something else is going to be prohibited in~~

~~China~~ our old friend Mah jong. It seems like an age since Mah jong was the reigning fad in this country. I wonder how many people still fool around with those elaborate dominos -- the East Wind and the South Wind, the dragons -- and what were the others?

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And now even in China Mah jong seems to be scheduled to get the gate. The New York Times explains that it is all a part of a movement to stamp out gambling. Over here Mah jong was sort of a mild esthetic pastime, but in China it's a gambling game. They say that even a wild session of Fantan in Canton is nothing to a game of Mah jong in Hankow when two sportive celestials begin to stake their fortunes and even their rice bowls on the East Wind and the South <sup>Wind and</sup> ~~Wind and~~ the <sup>Dragons</sup> ~~Dragons~~. And so when they suppress gambling in China they naturally have to start by jumping on Mah jong. But suppressing

gambling in China -- well, that'll be the same thing as trying  
to suppress the old pastime of saying "Here's how" in the U.S.A.

The largest and loudest theme in the week's news from Washington was that same old foreign debt situation. Things are developing rapidly toward President-elect Roosevelt's idea of negotiating separately with the debtor governments concerning the money owed the United States.

A vivid incident came when Sir Ronald Lindsay, the British Ambassador, hopped aboard an airplane and went winging to Georgia to confer with Mr. Roosevelt. He is slated to sail next **Tuesday** for London, where he will make a full report to his government. Then Sir Ronald will return to America as a member of the British Debt Commission and will confer with the new President and his advisors after the inaugural on **March 4th**.

In the Senate the lawmakers put on an outburst of fireworks, when one Senator denounced the British Ambassador as a Lobbyist. I can just see some astonished Baronet or Right Honorable looking up from his tea at the Devonshire Club and asking: "Oh, I say, that is deuced odd. Lobbyist? I say, what's a Lobbyist? Do they mean that Sir Ronald is a bird,



{ or some sort of fish? What?"

Newspapers everywhere today are printing an interesting interview with former Governor Al Smith. ~~There is nothing new about it, there is no novelty either about the questions asked or about the answers Al gave.~~

"Are you going to accept a cabinet post?" murmured the inquiring reporter.

"No sir," responded Al.

Then the reporter went on to mention a rumor that Senator Copeland of New York would resign and become <sup>an</sup> ambassador and that Mr. Smith would take his place, ~~and~~ <sup>but</sup> Al spiked that. He said he didn't know what Senator Copeland was going to do but as for himself he was not going to become a Senator.

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HOOVER

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~~One interesting announcement in political circles~~  
~~this week was to the effect that~~ President Hoover is preparing  
a farewell address to the nation. He will deliver it on  
February thirteenth, at a celebration of Lincoln's birthday.  
The news comes from Washington that it will be held in the  
grand ball room of the Waldorf-Astoria, that the President  
of the United States will be the only ~~spak~~ speaker, and that  
~~it~~ it will be one of the largest gatherings of distinguished  
Republicans ever held.

Reports are that in the speech President Hoover  
will discuss his own political philosophy, and review what  
has ~~oc~~urred during his administration. It is also reported  
that a possible program for the Republican ~~party~~  
to follow during the next four years will be outlined.

Henry Ford issued a statement last night reiterating his contention that the strike at the Briggs Manufacturing Company's plant is a blow directed at himself, an attack upon the Ford industries. He refused to say just who was making the attack. Meanwhile the strike in the factory that makes bodies for Ford cars is still tying up the whole ~~Ford~~<sup>Ford</sup> organization.

(3) The New York Herald-Tribune quotes Ford officials as declaring that as soon as the Briggs strike is settled the work of turning out cars will get going in full blast again. The strikers are said to be undecided about going to

work on Monday. The Briggs company has conceded their demand that they shall be paid for "dead time," that is, time when operations are temporarily suspended. In addition to this, the strikers have been holding out for permission to form shop committees. This the company refuses to agree to. The officials say that abolition of deductions for dead time is enough. They will start hiring men at noon tomorrow, and say

they expect most of the strikers to return.

I was speaking in Chicago some years ago, and when I finished, an Englishman rushed up. I could see he was all excited. But instead of saying something about my speech he ~~said~~ fluttered:-

"L.T., I sat between four hundred million dollars tonight, two hundred million ~~ix~~ on each side of me." His neighbor on the left had been Julius Rosenwald, the mail order king, and on the other side Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormick, daughter of John D. ~~Rockefeller~~ and wife of the son of the harvester king.

Well, that recollection came vividly to mind today as I read an account of the settling of the estate of Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormick. How great is the fortune that she left? It is virtually nothing. As it stands today it is more of a liability than an asset. Mrs. McCormick's wealth was caught in the deflation of stock and real estate values. Her huge holdings in the Standard Oil Company, which her father founded, were sold. She left great amounts of real estate,

but these cannot be sold today and ~~they were~~ are a source  
only of expense.

TALLEY

Word of a broken romance comes from Long Beach, California, ~~The~~ lady in the case is no less than Marion Talley, the opera star who flashed so vividly and briefly across the horizon of lyric drama several years back.

The California Courts have annulled the marriage of Marion Talley to Michael Raucheisen, the German Concert Pianist.

The wedding took place only seven months ago. The grounds <sup>for annul-</sup>  
<sup>ment</sup> were that the husband violated a pre-nuptial agreement.

Marion Talley claims that he promised to allow ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> mother <sup>-in-law</sup> and sister <sup>-in-law</sup> to live with them, but after awhile he <sup>changed his mind.</sup> ~~refused to~~  
~~keep the agreement.~~

LAKE PLACID

Well, Old Man Winter, who has been sojourning in parts unknown, seems to have made up his mind to return ~~to~~ where he belongs. There's a snap in the air today, and things are real wintry up-state. How do I know?

Well, I've a ~~gx~~ telegram from Lake Placid which tells that twenty-one teams competed this morning in the Novice Bobsled Races. These are qualifying races for the National Bobsled

Races and the North American Championship Races. *that will come next week & the following week.*

Twenty-one teams, that is, eighty-four men, sliding down a mountain. That means snow and plenty of it. They've got ten inches of frosty white covering at the Lake Placid winter resort, and it's still snowing hard.



BOXING

The sporting pages during the week laid a good deal of jovial and admiring emphasis on the fact that a British Boxer insisted on staying vertical. He absolutely refused to be rendered horizontal. Seaman Watson, <sup>feather-weight</sup>~~in other words~~ champion of England, beat our own American feather-weight star, Fidel La Barba, <sup>- commonly known as Fiddle.</sup> The seaman was knocked <sup>end-for-end</sup>~~down~~ four times and each time everybody thought he was going the way of all British boxers. But John Bull's bully Jack Tar didn't ~~not~~ seem to enjoy the horizontal position, <sup>made famous</sup>~~as much as the~~ <sup>by</sup>~~mighty~~ Joe Becket <sup>and others.</sup>~~was known to do.~~ Each time, he <sup>bounced</sup>~~got~~ up and in the end he out <sup>- fiddled Fiddle</sup>~~galloned~~ La Barba and took the decision. ~~And that gives us that tricky thing which all writers frequently seek~~ <sup>And that's the</sup> a surprise ending. So, so long until tomorrow.