

They carried oxygen apparatus to provide them with the life-giving gas that would be lacking in the rare atmosphere of the stratosphere.

They expected to remain aloft for at least five hours, but not more than seven; because they carried oxygen to last them for only seven hours. They were certain to be back on the earth by sunset. So they said. Well, well, the day passed. The balloon was last sighted on its way up, at a high altitude, going higher and drifting northward. The hours passed, and no word was heard from the daring adventurers. Five hours passed. Then the deadline of seven hours. Still no word.

Night has descended upon the longitudes of Germany and Switzerland, and the two scientists are still missing. Presumably their balloon is still in the sky. Villagers near Innsbruck report that they have seen strange lights in the sky. It may be the balloon. If tragedy has befallen the adventurous scientists -- it is fantastic tragedy -- weird, unearthly.

When will that balloon be seen again? After losing its gas, when and where will it drift down from that mysterious region

of the stratosphere? The world awaits with a feeling of awe.

A strange tale that. Perhaps those lights are distress lights with which the scientists are trying to signal. Perhaps the two daring men will still return safely out of that mysterious region of the stratosphere.

1           It looked for a while as if we  
2 were going to lose one of the colorful  
3 figures who has been in the news day  
4 after day. And I guess many of us  
5 would have missed that shock of ~~graying~~  
6 *streaked with grey,* hair, and that pair of big walrus  
7 moustaches. But Foreign Minister Briand  
8 of France is not going to resign after  
9 all.

10           They <sup>have</sup> persuaded him to change his  
11 mind. And at a meeting of the Council  
12 of Ministers in Paris today, Briand  
13 withdrew his resignation.

14           The Associated Press, in giving  
15 ~~us~~ a bit of background, states that  
16 the French Prime Minister has been  
17 insisting that Briand should keep his  
18 post.

19           And so the **A**postle of Peace is  
20 going to stay on the job--bushy hair,  
21 walrus moustaches, <sup>after</sup> ~~and~~ all.  
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1 Troublesome scenes <sup>have been</sup> ~~were~~ enacted  
2 in Rome, ~~today~~. Fascist rioters were  
3 out smashing the windows of Catholic  
4 buildings.

5 ~~The Associated Press reminds us~~ ~~that~~  
6 ~~that~~ Violent Fascists have been conducting  
7 a campaign against the Vatican for the  
8 last day or so, the Assoc. Press reminds us.

9 Mobs staged demonstrations in  
10 front of Catholic organizations yesterday  
11 and did a lot of shouting.

12 And today a mob of window smashers  
13 moved against the Catholic student  
14 headquarters.

15 Trouble had been expected, and the  
16 police were ~~guarding~~ guarding the  
17 building. The rioters were too strong  
18 for them, however. They pushed the police  
19 guard aside and began to throw stones.

20 Mounted police then charged the  
21 mob, which dispersed. But the rioters,  
22 driven from one building, attacked  
23 others, and more windows were smashed.

24 A curious incident occurred when  
25 Count Dellatorre, the editor of the

1 Vatican newspapers, was accosted by a  
2 man who took him by the arm and said he  
3 was wanted at police headquarters.

4 The editor shook himself loose  
5 and said if the police wanted him they  
6 knew where they could find him.

7 Later on he discovered that the  
8 police didn't want him at all -- and it  
9 is suspected that some scheme may have  
10 been formed to kidnap him.

11 ~~The~~ Trouble between the Fascists  
12 and the Vatican has been brewing for  
13 some time. There are several subjects  
14 on which the Pope and Mussolini do not  
15 agree at all. One thing that has  
16 annoyed the Fascists has been the  
17 organization of Catholic student  
18 societies. And crowds of Fascists have  
19 destroyed banners of the Catholic  
20 students and otherwise annoyed them.

SPAIN

A bit of trouble is reported from Spain. At the seaport of San Sebastian there has been a battle, soldiers fighting fishermen who are out on strike. The casualties reported include two men killed and a number wounded.

Parades moved through the streets of San Sebastian with placards calling upon working men to go out on a general strike. Martial law has been declared.

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~~Another development is that~~ former King Alphonso has been put on trial before the Supreme Court of Spain. Of course he is now living in exile in France, but he's being tried in Madrid in his absence just the same.

~~The Associated Press has summed up~~ <sup>T</sup>the charges that are made against Alphonso. They accuse him of having failed to put down the rebellion of 1903. That is, they call it a rebellion. It was that occasion when the government of Spain switched to a dictatorship. The Republicans now claim that Alphonso should have had Primo de Rivera executed for making himself dictator.

1 ~~Spain.~~ But, instead, Alphonso supported  
2 ~~that dictatorship.~~ Primo.

3 Then they point the accusing  
4 finger at the ex-king for having  
5 suspended the constitution and turned  
6 the government into an autocratic  
7 regime.

8 But the most direct and <sup>serious</sup> ~~pointed~~  
9 charge of all concerns the execution of  
10 two military officers who were leaders  
11 in one of the revolutionary movements  
12 that failed not long before the king  
13 was overthrown. They blame that on  
14 Alphonso too.

15 If they find the ex-king guilty,  
16 it looks as if the only thing they can do  
17 is to confiscate the property he owns in  
18 Spain. Anyway, the new Republican  
19 regime, ~~in Spain~~ day after day is furnishing  
20 the cable companies with ~~quite a bit~~ <sup>plenty</sup>  
21 of business in the way of news dispatches.  
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# SOVIET CANDY

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1 *Now here are*  
2 ~~No, these~~ *that* two things don't seem  
3 to go together very well--sweetness and  
4 the Bolsheviki. You don't readily  
5 think of Ivan the big Bolshevik giving  
6 candy to the kiddies. Well, as a matter  
7 of fact, he isn't. He's selling the  
8 candy, and a loud English growl complains  
9 that he's selling it too cheaply.

10 In a London market a booth was  
11 set up for the sale of candy. And the  
12 candy was ■ Soviet merchandise--sweets  
13 manufactured in Russia. British candy  
14 dealers raised a roar. There was  
15 shouting and booing, and they forced  
16 that Russian candy booth to go out of  
17 business.

18 The New York Evening Post informs  
19 us that it was not merely the fact that  
20 the candy was Russian that caused the  
21 rumpus. What griped the British candy  
22 dealers was the fact that no prices were  
23 placed on the candy. Those Russian  
24 sweets were simply to be sold for less  
25 than the British dealers charged for  
the same article. No matter what the



British price was the Soviet agents cut under it.

And this, say the British candy dealers, is Soviet dumping of the worst sort.

Well, the growl that most of us make against merchants is that they charge too much. Now the Bolsheviki are getting bawled out because they charge too little. All of which seems to make life more complicated.

One of these was playing its part in the maneuvers when there was an explosion aboard. The undersea craft sank with all hands.

Tonight it lies at the bottom of the Gulf of Finland, while Soviet ships on the water and airplanes in the sky are scouting around.

1 Bit by bit news has been coming  
2 in, telling of a submarine disaster  
3 in the Gulf of Finland.

4 Warships of Soviet Russia were  
5 holding maneuvers. Submarines were  
6 taking part in the naval display. The  
7 Associated Press <sup>has set forth how</sup> ~~tells us that~~ the  
8 Soviet undersea fleet is believed to  
9 consist of eight submarines.

10 <sup>Well,</sup> One of these was playing  
11 its part in the maneuvers when there was  
12 an explosion aboard. The undersea  
13 craft sank with all hands.

14 Tonight it lies at the bottom  
15 of the Gulf of Finland, while Soviet  
16 ships on the water and airplanes in the  
17 sky are <sup>still</sup> scouting around.

1 A decision handed down by the  
2 Supreme Court of the United States a  
3 week or so ago has been echoing far and  
4 wide in homes and in corner stores -  
5 especially corner grocery stores. Yes,  
6 it was that decision of the Supreme  
7 Court which upheld the right of the  
8 State of Indiana to slap extra heavy  
9 taxes on the chain stores. The old-time  
10 grocery store run by the town grocer  
11 naturally doesn't enjoy the competition  
12 of the big chain store systems. The  
13 corner grocer has a good deal of  
14 political influence - hence the slap  
15 which the <sup>Indiana</sup>~~state~~ takes at chain stores.

16 The ~~N~~ new Literary Digest, the  
17 one that comes out tomorrow, tells us  
18 that the attack on the chain stores is  
19 liable to become a general thing.

20 Quoting from the Wall Street  
21 Journal, the Digest informs us that  
22 ten states already have enacted anti-chain  
23 store legislation and thirty-one more are  
24 considering bills directed against the  
25 chain stores.

1           The fact that the Supreme Court  
2 has upheld the <sup>Indiana law</sup> ~~law which Indiana has~~  
3 ~~directed against the chain stores~~ will  
4 do a good deal <sup>to</sup> ~~in~~ encouraging anti-chain  
5 store legislation. It seems to say -  
6 Go ahead, boy<sup>s</sup>, go ahead.

7           The way the Indiana law works  
8 is made vividly clear in the Digest  
9 article. One Indiana chain system  
10 operates 225 grocery stores. The tax  
11 it has to pay is 1800 times as great  
12 as the tax which the state would assess  
13 against a single merchant doing as much  
14 business as the 225 stores<sup>all</sup> combined.

15           That Digest article passes  
16 along to us a whole series of important  
17 facts. For example, it has a graphic  
18 chart which shows how the grocery  
19 business is split up between independent  
20 stores, department stores, chain stores,  
21 mail order houses, and house to house  
22 selling.

23           Well, everyone of us is involved  
24 in that grocery store problem, because the  
25 one thing we can't get along without is  
groceries. *— altho there are times when  
we wish we could.*

# SHIPWRECK

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1 All afternoon ships and airplanes  
2 have been searching the waters of Long  
3 Island Sound. They are looking for a  
4 yacht called the Sea Fox which, ~~the~~  
5 ~~International News Service~~ tells us,  
6 put out to sea on Saturday night and  
7 has not been seen since.

8 Today, <sup>as the I.N.S. has announced,</sup>  
9 the body of a woman  
10 drifted ashore and was identified as  
11 a member of a gay party that set out  
12 for a pleasure jaunt over the waters of  
13 the Sound. This made it appear certain  
14 that some mishap must have befallen the  
15 yacht and that possibly the craft had  
16 gone down. Then two more bodies were  
17 found, and that made it certain that  
18 some disaster had occurred.  
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1 The Rainy Day railroad has been  
2 sold--yes, the Rainy Day railroad.  
3 It's a funny name, but it seems to be  
4 an accurate one. The Rainy Day railroad  
5 operates only on rainy days.

6 No, that's no tall story. The  
7 line runs through a country covered  
8 with forests. And, ~~according to~~ <sup>recounts how</sup> the  
9 United Press, ~~people~~ <sup>people</sup> were afraid that  
10 the trains would start forest fires.  
11 So a law was passed that the ~~maximum~~  
12 railroad should be operated only on  
13 rainy days.

14 The Rainy Day railroad has been  
15 bought by the B. & O. for \$50,000.  
16 And I only hope ~~there'll~~ there'll be  
17 enough rainy days to make it worth  
18 ~~while~~ <sup>the price</sup>.

Perhaps we ought to

~~We'll~~ sing a sailors' chanty at this point, something like -- a sailor's life is the life for me.

Because these are great days for the gobs in Uncle Sam's navy. First, as the Associated Press ~~informs us~~ <sup>points out</sup>, came the order issued by Secretary-of-the-Navy Adams abolishing the old nautical custom of hol~~y~~-stoning the deck. The Secretary-of-the-Navy makes the point that hol~~y~~-stoning wears the decks out too fast. Of course, the gobs don't give a whoop about the decks. Their idea is that hol~~y~~-stoning wears the gobs out too fast.

On the other hand, to the innocent by-stander a sailor's life won't be quite the same when ~~they~~ <sup>we</sup> don't see the boys on their knees applying the hol~~y~~-stone to the deck.

Well, that hol~~y~~-stone good news was scarcely announced when another pronouncement from the Navy Department came along. It decrees that the prices that the sailors have to pay for their

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clothing will be reduced -- at least for the gobs of the Pacific  
squadron. As it stands now, gobs get a certain allowance of  
money with which to buy sea going raiment. The allowance remains  
the same, but the price of sea jackets and bell buttoned pants  
has been reduced. And that, according to a sailor's idea, is  
exactly as it should be.



END

Well, I certainly got in Dutch the other evening when I told how a prominent bridge expert declares that women are better bridge players than men! The idea was that the ladies at the card table are able to show their husbands up and put them in their places.

Ever since then I've been bawled out to fare-you-well by indignant husbands who write and telegraph in scathing terms and tell me that they can play better bridge than their wives. The general tone is something like this; -- "You ought to see what kind of a game of bridge my wife really plays!"

I'm afraid I also caused a number of household discussions between daddy and the little woman. Anyway, I've a letter here signed George and Al, of Freeport, New York. These boys say they are aroused to intense anger by my remarks about the inferior abilities of the male sex at bridge.

"Our wives," writes George and Al, "insisted you were right. And argue as we might, we couldn't talk them out

1 of that foolish idea. The only way was  
2 to prove it to them--right there at the  
3 card table.

4 "The result was enlightening.  
5 We males demonstrated our superior bridge  
6 ability by the convincing score of 2337  
7 to 345.

8 "And ~~so~~," conclude George and Al,  
9 "so far as that theory of yours about  
10 the superiority of women at bridge is  
11 concerned, all we can say is--so long  
12 until tomorrow!"

13 Well, that score of 2337 to 345  
14 does sound impressive. And I suppose  
15 all I can say is also--

16 So long until tomorrow.  
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