

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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The biggest news from Congress is also the latest of the day - they've passed the Independent Offices Bill. That's another way of saying - economy won out. You know all those vast federal activities that have come about under the New Deal - well, the Independent Offices Bill provides funds for these. It's the spending bill.

The President called for economy - trim down the New Deal spending. There was a powerful drive in Congress to shell out additional cash. So the fight was on for days. But this afternoon the Independent Offices Bill was passed pretty much according to White House specifications - economy and all. Still, it appropriates a billion and four hundred million dollars, which sounds not so economical. But it's a hundred and eighteen million dollars less than last year. And, it's a mountainous

had bankroll less than it would have been if the pork barrel advocates had their way.

WHITE HOUSE

*widely heralded*  
At last reports the ~~the~~ conference was still on at

the White House. It has lasted nearly two hours already. At five o'clock this afternoon the big business leaders arrived at the stately building with the tall white columns, representatives ~~from~~ the tops of American industry. There were - Alfred P. Sloan of General Motors, Ernest T. Weir, Chairman of the National Steel Corporation, M.W. Clement, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Louis Brown, President of John-Mansville, ~~Company,~~ and Colby Chester, Chairman of ~~the~~ General Foods ~~Corporation~~ who is also head of the National Association of Manufacturers.

They ~~was~~ discussing problems of the nation's business with President Roosevelt. What are they saying? We are given no clear idea. Presidential secretary Stev Early passed it off lightly, saying - ~~it was~~ "just one of those business conferences."

But, it is to be observed that no such powerful group of industrialists has gathered at the White House since the early days of the New Deal, when ~~F.D.R.~~ ~~President Roosevelt~~ confabulated with business leaders about the depression emergency.

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The President himself said that today's conference has no relation to his charges that a minority of big business is obstructing the welfare of the nation. He repeated today that his accusation concerned a mere handful, not business in general.

One report is that the White House conference is discussing ways to spread sales evenly over the year. When business goes along in spurts of activity, ~~with groups alternating~~ that creates alternating periods of rush and slack, - too much  
"Even-out the sales!"  
work and not enough. "Even out the employment" - that is said to  
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be the presidential idea.

In any case, the discussion is going on right now, and tomorrow's newspapers will have the report on it.

## RECESSION

Here's something that sounds like hot news, although it's only hot prophecy. How long will the recession last? When will we start pulling out of it? That was answered today by economists of the W.P.A. They give out the prognostication that according to their analysis, the recession will hit bottom during the next two weeks. And then business will begin to pick up. So, when you hear a big boom during the next two weeks, that's the recession getting

~~bottom~~ hitting the bottom.

## RELIEF

( In view of the recession, it's not astonishing that there have been additions to the government relief rolls. ) We'd expect this to be industrial relief, considering the slump in industry.

In agriculture - there have been bumper crops on the farms, with farm income in good shape. Nevertheless, we find that there's also an increase in farm relief.

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This ~~xxx~~ was told today by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace to the Senate Committee investigating Unemployment. He declared that demands for relief in the rural sections have been increasing. He explained this by citing - drought conditions. He said there has been a lack of rainfall in the prairie states, causing a crisis for many farmers there. So, there's an increasing need of agricultural relief, as well as industrial relief.

Just so we won't be disappointed on the latter score, ( the Acting WPA Administrator told President Roosevelt today that the additions to the W.P.A. payroll since the first of December have been between a quarter of a million and three hundred thousand. The W.P.A. total is now a million, seven hundred and sixty thousand on relief. )

## TAXES

March Fifteenth is set as the date for the Congressional appearance of the new tax reform bill - the measure sponsored by the White House to cut the burden of the levy on undistributed profits. Speaker Bankhead announced today that the bill will be ready and submitted to the House of Representatives on March Fifteenth. It's designed to deal with the tax handicap that affects two hundred thousand corporations, and they expect it to be a lift out of the recession.

## LYNCH

Oracular words were spoken in the United States Senate today. Senator Byrnes of South Carolina declaimed ominous phrases. He was speaking in the filibuster that has been going on, the attempt to talk the Anti-Lynching Bill to death.

That bill will create section<sup>al</sup> hatreds - so he proclaimed. Sectional hatreds - a sinister expression which recalls the Civil War. The gentleman from South Carolina, moreover, proclaimed that the Anti-Lynching Bill - "would destroy the Democratic Party." Such were the sombre words he used. Destroy the Democratic Party, fatal thought. ~~for~~ Whom then <sup>would</sup> ~~the~~ the Republicans fight? Yes, in the filibuster today, the South Carolina Senator was like the foreboding oracle, speaking dark prophecies. And did the Senate of the United States tremble!

When the Senator finished speaking, a quorum was called. But they couldn't get one. There weren't enough Senators there to make one. Most of them were in the smoking rooms talking about *— or the latest anything.* the latest movie. Only a mere handful had listened to the

harangue about sectional hatreds and the imminent destruction of the Democratic Party. It took a second insistent call to drag enough of them into the Senate Chamber to make a quorum.

## SHIP

Today brings us confusion and contradiction concerning the wreck of the steamship President Hoover -- the charges that some <sup>m</sup>members of the crew misbehaved.

In Washington a C.I.O. leader told the Senate Committee that it was -- propaganda. <sup>He referred to</sup> ~~He referred to~~ sailors on ships <sup>as</sup> ~~as~~ maritime labor and said it was a case of organized propaganda against labor and unions. ~~He referred to the stories that passengers have told about drunkenness and insubordination on ships especially aboard the President Hoover.~~ He pointed out that maritime labor is now strongly unionized, and described the stories the passengers tell as -- anti-labor, anti-union. <sup>It</sup> At this same Senate hearing Senator Copeland of New York gave out the texts of accusations made by the passengers who were in the Hoover shipwreck. One ~~revelation~~ report reads like this:-

"Throughout the night," declares a passenger, "I heard members of the crew singing, joking about the passengers, cursing and fighting among themselves. Most of the women remained awake for fear of being molested." <sup>It</sup> That sounds positive and specific, but here's a report from San Francisco, where a Federal Board of

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Inquiry is about to hold an investigation of the wreck of the Hoover. United States Attorney Frank J. Hennessy praised the crew of the ship. In contradiction to the stories of the passengers ~~and~~ he described the actions of the sailors in these words -- "A job well done by the men." ~~He is in charge of the prosecuting activities of the United States Attorney's Office in San Francisco~~ ~~and~~ ~~he~~ today declares that he will take no action against any of the Hoover crew for mutiny.

## CRASH

Today an aviator is described as - "Father of the northern trans-continental air route." Nicholas Mamer pioneered that sky trail, and then flew it year after year for nine years.

His proud boast was that he had never injured a passenger!

Today forest rangers removed the bodies of Aviator Nicholas Mamer, his co-pilot, and nine passengers from the twisted wreckage of the crash in the mountains of Montana. And this evening six inspectors of the Bureau of Air Commerce are on their way from Washington to the scene - for an inquiry into the air disaster that happened in a blizzard.

WENDEL

The New York Court of Appeals <sup>has just</sup> ~~today~~ ordered a new trial for two men convicted in the Wendel case. That's the kidnapping ~~affair~~ connected with the Lindbergh tragedy - Paul Wendel abducted and forced to confess the crime a few days before Bruno Richard Hauptmann went to the chair.

Harry Weiss and Martin Schlossman were found guilty in helping to obtain this kidnap confession. The Court of Appeals orders a new trial on the ground that the two defendants <sup>should</sup> have been given the benefit of the doubt. It was not proved, holds the Court, that they acted with deliberate intent to violate the law. They claim<sup>ed</sup> they believed they were helping to enforce the law, acting legally - and this should have been considered, until there was proof to the contrary. So says the court.

LINDBERGH FOLLOW WENDEL

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The distribution of the Lindbergh kidnapping award brings us a queer story from York, Pennsylvania - a tale of mysterious threats. It's related by Arthur Myers, who figured as a hand-writing expert in connection with the case. Myers declares he had a telephone call in which the voice at the other end of the wire said - "This is the shadow." Whereupon the Shadow went on to speak with dark menace - "You better express an opinion on the twenty-five thousand dollar Lindbergh reward. If you know what is good for you, you will leave the country." It didn't make sense, it sounded like some crazy rambling. Then later - Hand-writing Expert Myers got another call. This time from an individual who called himself "Cemetery John." "This is the last call. You better get out." Thereupon Cemetery John hung up.

Probably it's all just a reflection of the weird effect that fearful story of crime has had upon twisty minds, an effect that is now renewed by the complicated division of the twenty-five thousand dollars of ransom money. More than a hundred people get it.

Meanwhile, it's revealed that Colonel Lindbergh

## JAPAN

Japan has made her decision -- that's the news from Tokio tonight. But what that decision is will not be made public for several days.

The Emperor Hirohito held his imperial conference with his ministers. ~~amid~~ <sup>in</sup> circumstances of the greatest solemnity *they* ~~they~~ drafted the policy that Japan will follow toward China. Some surmise that it may be a formal declaration of war. But the only thing we know is that a decision was made.

GERMANY

The cables today brought the full text of ~~the speeches~~ of the New Year addresses exchanged at Hitler's diplomatic reception in Berlin. The remarks made are of a sort that ordinarily wouldn't get much attention - expressions for the New Year, pious hopes of good intentions. But they were spoken in such ~~dramatic~~ circumstances that they're worth a bit of scrutiny.

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According to custom, an address to the head of the German government was made by the dean of the Diplomatic Corps. Who was he? The answer is dramatic - because of the bitter quarrel between the Nazi regime and the Catholic Church. The dean of the diplomats is Monsignor Orsenigo, papal envoy to Berlin. What did he talk about? ~~No, he made no reference to the controversy between the Nazis and Rome. His theme was of the convention<sup>al</sup> New Year sort, especially for a Christian ecclesiastic. It had drama only because of Nazi Germany's place in the international scheme of things, armed to the teeth, making truculent demands, threats of war.~~

Said Monsignor Orsenigo to Adolph Hitler:- "The world is driven day by day to recognize that ~~xxx~~ without peace there can

be no human happiness. And, though the noise of armaments grows ever louder, mankind continues to send up a trusting cry for peace." The papal envoy then turned that into a prayer:- "May the Almighty hear our wishes," he exclaimed, "and may he in the New Year grant all rulers the power to make no small contribution to the realization of peace on earth."

The diplomats at that reception in Berlin were all agog as the Pope's envoy spoke those words. What would Hitler reply when he answered the address? Of course, he too would have to talk peace. The occasion demanded it. And he did.

He said that peace was the aim of his work, but he continued with implied qualifications that inferred not too much optimism.

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"Germany," said he, "is striving her utmost for the settlement of all those seemingly divided social interests upon which depend the unity of nations." He meant that - from a Nazi viewpoint, of course.

"It is therefore our will," he declared, "to

cooperate loyally and trustingly with all nations that share this opinion and put this desire into practice." He made it all conditioned on opinions and desires - as he himself sees *them*.

~~So that was the drama - the papal envoy called upon the Reichsfuehrer for peace and Hitler replied that he was all for peace, on terms suitable to Germany.~~

I must confess that there are some mysteries ~~that are~~  
~~beyond~~ the understanding of a mere news commentator -- especially  
those mysteries of romance, complexities of sentiment. For example,  
the theme of loveless marriage is an old one. But loveless  
re-marriage -- that's not so trite. A Hollywood rambunctious  
court trial is on in which Barbara Stanwyck is battling with  
her former husband Frank Fay for the custody of their adopted  
son. And today film Star Barbara testified that she didn't  
love Frank when she married him for the second time. It seems  
slightly paradoxical. If you can't get along with the guy after  
you've married him for love, what chance have you got <sup>after</sup> ~~when~~ you  
re-marry him without love? <sup>there's</sup> ~~it's~~ And then <sup>there's</sup> ~~it's~~ a puzzle to me in the  
mention of a greeting card ~~xxx~~ that Barbara may or may not have  
sent to a vaudeville actor named Warren Jackson. She testified  
today that she didn't remember sending that greeting card in which  
she addressed Warren as -- son. Not the sun in the sky. That  
could be romantic. That languishing phrase of the song "O Sole  
Mio" means "Oh, my sun" spelled with a "U". But in the Barbara  
Stanwyck trial the word was spelled with an "O" as when you say --

"How're you getting along son?"

Moreover, we have that ~~in~~ familiar phrase -- alienation of affections. That has caused plenty of trouble. This time the question is -- alienation of the affections of the child. In cross-examination Robert Taylor was mentioned. Barbara admitted that Robert often visited her home and that he played with the boy. Was that because she wanted the child to become accustomed to Robert? She denied this. She denied any alienation of the affections of the boy. She said this was not the reason that she refused to let her divorced husband visit him.

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Well, as I've remarked it's all a bit deep for simple fellows like ourselves who just got married, and never knew what to do about it afterwards.

AUTO

There's nothing like the thrill of a newspaperman - when he gets the story. ~~He puts his hands on~~ <sup>He's handed</sup> an assignment and off he goes. After a while he comes tearing back, shouting: "I <sup>ve</sup> got a hot one, boss!" And he sits down and writes it.

5842 That's the way it was with Bob Hare, a news hawk on a paper at Springfield, Missouri. The editor handed him a traffic law assignment - to investigate stories that the highway rules were not being strictly enforced by the cops of Springfield. So out went Reporter Hare and got the story in a spectacular way - by driving around through Springfield in his car and violating all the traffic laws. He broke everyone of them, and nobody said a word - not a cop noticed. So there was the flaming proof that the traffic laws were not being rigorously enforced <sup>and</sup> ~~he~~ <sub>A</sub> went back and wrote the story.

paper <sub>A</sub> That was yesterday, and today the cops read the story <sup>in the</sup> whereupon the law descended upon Reporter Hare. He was hauled to court and his own newspaper article was presented as evidence against him. He was instantly found guilty, and fined a hundred dollars - which is a lot of money for any newspaperman.

P.S. The newspaper paid the fine.

Double P.S. I hope they pick up enough circulation to

justify the expense. *of a-l-u-t-m.*