

*Conrad  
W.S.*

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

This Nineteen Thirty-Six is turning out to be an extraordinary year politically. As a rule, it takes us at least until convention time to become election conscious. But here we are only in April, and already the whole country seems to be politically minded. From coast to coast everybody <sup>*— many I should say —*</sup> has been hanging on the news from Chicago, waiting for the outcome of the race between Colonel Frank Knox and Senator Borah.

And the sweeping victory of Colonel Knox gives plenty of food for the cracker barrel debating societies to argue about. ~~The latest reports have it at eighty thousand. The chances are that it will be larger.~~ Some people say: "Oh, well, Colonel Knox is the favorite son of Illinois." On the other hand, he was born in New England and only comparatively recent became publisher-editor of the great CHICAGO DAILY NEWS.

It is worth noticing that in the country districts the Idaho Senator was way ahead. It was the people of Chicago who

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brought Colonel Knox down the stretch and over the wire with the Senator far behind.

Incidentally, it was the heaviest primary vote ever cast.

seen.

## ILLINOIS FOLLOW KNOX

But the most colorful battle in Illinois was not the one between Publisher Colonel Knox and the Idaho senator. It was the ~~ENE~~ scrap between Governor Henry Horner and Dr. Herman Bundesen. And what a slam-bang, rough-and-tumble shindig that was! People who know their Illinois politics will tell you that it was really a family fight between the Governor and the Cook County Kelly-Nash machine. Dr. Bundesen, who is President of Chicago's Board of Health, was the machine's candidate for the governor's job.

There was plenty of tension and excitement about this race. For a while it looked as though the vivacious Dr. Bundesen would walk home with the bacon. That's because he is popular in Cook County. <sup>Meaning</sup> ~~That means~~ Chicago itself, the stronghold of Mayor Edward A. Kelly and the Pat Nash, Democratic National Committeemen. The Chicago voters gave him a long lead. Then an old story repeated itself. The returns came rolling in from down state. And there the farmers and citizens of the smaller Illinois towns, came in heavily for their Governor. So it's now conceded that former Judge Henry Horner once more becomes the Democratic candidate for the governorship.

On the face of it, you might think that this interests only the Illinoisians. But there's an important national angle to that family fight. Political sharks tell us that Governor Horner is not well beloved by the New Dealers. There's even a possibility that his victory in the primaries may bust the Democratic Party in Illinois wide open. It's a certainty, they say, that Mayor Kelly and Committeeman Pat Nash are not going to take that defeat lying down. That suggests a Democratic split, which might seriously affect the Illinois vote in the Presidential election. Some are even saying it might cause Illinois to be counted on the Republican side in November.

All of which makes Gov. Horner a person of national interest tonight. For seventeen years he was judge of the Probate Court of Cook County. That means something, because it's the largest court in the world under a single judge. In those seventeen years, he made decisions which affected more than three billion dollars, three billion dollars' worth of cash and property, inherited by widows and orphans. I happen to know a lot about him. As a young reporter I covered his court.

~~of huge sums administered without any loss.~~

~~The worst that his opponents could say about him was,~~  
And I recall how he was  
that he was too conservative. He was noted for his consistent  
refusal to permit administrators and executors to invest in  
anything but the safest securities. Sometimes this policy earned  
him violent abuse. But it didn't faze Judge Horner. When the  
crash came, every estate he had handled was safe.

Year after year he was réelected, though never a strong  
party man. It is said that Republicans voted for him just as  
regularly as Democrats. The same thing happened when he ran for  
governor. It was the ballots of millions in both parties that  
swept him into office. He broke a record, polled more votes than  
had ever been counted before, in a race for the governor's chair  
in Illinois. In fact, in Nineteen Thirty-Two, he got ~~six~~ fifty  
thousand more votes than President Roosevelt.

As governor he has shown just as stubborn an independence  
as he did while judge. His friends, for instance, point to what he  
did with the bill to license betting shops for horse races. The  
Cook County machine was for it hammer and tongs. Governor Horner

killed it without hesitating. He was just as defiant over the patronage. The machine called him ungrateful.

Only last September the leaders told him flatly:

"You're out. You needn't think of a second term." Governor

Hommer replied: "Is that so? I'm still a candidate." And he

was.

RELIEF

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Uncle Sam isn't the only one on this continent with relief trouble. The Canadian government is preparing to shell out some Seventy-five million dollars for the jobless. The news from Ottawa tells us that the Canadians are modeling their plans upon ours. They have established a National Emergency Commission. This is an organization somewhat like the one commanded by our own Harry Hopkins. Part of those Seventy-five million dollars will be allotted to direct relief, but the greater part of it will be handed over to the Public Works Division. The money will be spent on highway construction, reforestation and farm relief.

## MINE

A desperate race with death is going on up in Nova Scotia. It's not an ordinary sort of race. The scene is underground. It is being conducted by scores of miners equipped with air-drills and electric machinery. There they are frantically digging to rescue three men trapped a hundred and forty feet below the surface.

The site of this dramatic attempt is an old, old gold mine at Moose River, Nova Scotia. In order to get to the three entombed men, the rescue party is having to dig an entirely new shaft. The mine is a labyrinth of subterranean drifts, stopes and chambers. What makes the job more complicated is that there are no charts, no maps, of that underground maze. Only one person really could find his way through them. He is a man at West Concord, Massachusetts, <sup>He</sup> ~~who~~ worked in that mine when it was at the height of its operation, thirty years ago.

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The three victims have been imprisoned since Sunday night. One of them, Dr. D.E. Robertson, is described as a surgeon of wide reputation. Another factor that has made the work of rescue difficult is that much of the machinery has to be transported many miles over rough country roads, honeycombed by winter frost.

This afternoon more ominous word came. Rescuers were drilling in a shaft, when suddenly there was another cave-in. They were driven out, had to give up their work of mercy with the drills, the ceaseless talk they had been driving at for three days. So tonight there seems to be no hope for the three men trapped in the mine.

## DRIVING

It's always timely to talk about making the highways safer. There has been a national survey of the subject. One result of the investigation reveals that "schools are doing far too little to teach safe driving. Most of them give no training whatsoever in the subject. When they do try, they are handicapped by the indifference of parents." Nobody can quarrel with the notion that children should be taught in high schools how to drive safely. But so far the movement hasn't gained much headway. In only nine states and in the District of Columbia and the City of New York, some high schools have courses in the driving of cars. The State of New Jersey goes so far as to give credit to students who take the safety courses. Governor Harold Hoffman has long been a leader in this.

The WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION comments on all of this with the ominous statement: "People are not behind the vehicle traffic laws."

## ZEPPELIN

For years we've been looking forward to the day when regular trans-Atlantic travel by air would be an accomplished fact. Well, the day is pretty close. May sixth will be the opening date for the first regular air service between the United States and Germany. On that day, the giant dirigible, the HINDENBURG, will make her maiden voyage from Frankfort-am-Main to Lakehurst, New Jersey. It will be the first of twenty scheduled crossings this summer. The HINDENBURG is due to come to earth in New Jersey on May Eighth. The Zeppelin Company has allowed two days for eastbound crossings. So the trips from Europe to America will take from two and a half to three days, so Prince Louis Ferdinand, grandson of the Kaiser tells me. He's here, connected with the Zeppelin Company.

All of this marks the definite practicable beginning of a new era in passenger travel.

## GRAIL

A queer sort of tale of trouble comes from the Austrian Tyrol. It concerns the Holy Grail.

Some time ago, we had occasion to observe that this sacred chalice has been located in several widely separated parts of the world. One legend said that it was taken to Wales by Joseph of Arimathea. Some archeologists ~~are~~ excavating in Mesopotamia, ~~thought they~~ dug up a vessel which they believed to be the Grail. But mystics in Austria are convinced that the crystal cup which held the Savior's blood is in Vompersberg Castle, in the Tyrol.

Every week a company of devout believers have been celebrating a mystic ritual in the chapel of that castle. Their leader ~~was~~ ~~is~~ a knight who called himself Abdrushin. He claimed to be the reincarnation of one of the Knights of King Arthur. Magnificently clad in bright silver armor, Abdrushin presided over these ceremonies, standing behind the Holy cup. A gathering of faithful knights, in wide black cloaks and golden crosses, supported him. These ceremonies attracted thousands of pilgrims from Austria and Germany. This brought considerable prosperity to the nearby community. ~~At~~ Abdrushin became quite a local hero. He lived like

a king and presently assumed the pomp and circumstance of a king. Every morning he held court after the fashion of good King Arthur, surrounded by knights, esquires, heralds and pages.

The Austrian police became curious about these rites and investigated. They found nothing unlawful. But the police of Nazi Germany were not so tolerant. They asked for Abdrushin's extradition. They said he was a fugitive from Nazi justice, guilty of having illegally transferred money out of the Reich.

Under pressure of these demands, the Austrian police contrived to arrest Abdrushin and his secretary. They then discovered that Abdrushin's real name was Bernhardt; that he was the son of a grocer, and a fiction writer by profession. So now this reincarnation of King Arthur's Knight lies in ~~the~~ prison at Innsbruck. <sup>R</sup>His followers, however, are more loyal than ever. To his other qualifications he now adds the charm of martyrdom. Some interesting scenes are promised when Abdrushin comes to trial.

## LIMEHOUSE

They're striking a blow <sup>at romance</sup> ~~up en masse~~ in England. It all comes about in a most worthy cause - slum clearance, improving the housing conditions of the poor. And when they abolish the slums in London it also means that they'll abolish - Limehouse. Limehouse of Limehouse Nights - London's Chinatown, renowned in the romance of the weird, in slant-eyed stories of devious deeds. Limehouse has an authentic place in the life of English literature.

The London Town Council <sup>today definitely</sup> ~~has~~ issued a decree. Thirty-nine thousand square feet of the China slums of London are to be leveled right away, at one fell <sup>swoop.</sup> ~~swoop~~. A sixty foot highway is to be built right through Limehouse at a cost of Six hundred and fifty thousand dollars. That's part of a seven million dollar plan to improve the approaches to the London docks.

And Limehouse is alarmed - indignant. The word is muttered on all sides in Celestial accents - "No wantie movie". The denizens of Chinatown like their old haunt, squalid as it is. Some Chinese families live on top of houses, under tarpaulins. Others swarm crowded in tiny rooms. Living conditions are as dreadful as could be imagined. But Limehouse shares the same

opinion as other slum dwellers in London, whose rookeries are being torn down. They don't like it either. They have a strange love for their old home. There's an economic reason too. Of the hundred and three thousand human beings cast as slum dwellers, fifty per cent have no work, jobs. They say they can't even afford carfare to go out and look for work. They say, they haven't the price for moving. Take away those old tumble-down tenements and they don't know where to go.

That's one problem, as London does its slum clearance!

~~It~~ builds ten thousand new flats a year and abolishes Limehouse.

## LION

A novel adventure story comes to me all the way from Johannesburg, in the Transvaal. Mrs. Theodora Smith of Radburn, New Jersey, with her husband, has been traveling in the great South African Game Reserve country, of Kreuger National Park.

Mrs. Smith writes me that "in spite of what you may think, you're quite safe if you stay in the car." We've heard that often, "The wild beasts seem to think of the car as a bloodless animal and make no move to attack it," she adds.

The authorities have now established overnight cabins throughout Kreuger National Park. All travelers are warned not to stray far from their cabins at night. Mrs. Smith disobeyed orders and went for a walk. Suddenly she came face to face with a lion. She didn't know whether to freeze in her tracks or run. She ran, with the lion after her. Just as she neared the cabin door, she tripped and fell flat on her face. The lion, who was bounding at full speed, couldn't pull up in time. He leaped clean over her and plunged through the door into the cabin. The lady from New Jersey got up and slammed the door. Then she yelled to her husband inside:- "Matt, you skin that one and I'll go fetch another." And,

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.