

L. Thomas Broadcast - Sunoco. Wednesday, Nov. 1, 1933.

Good Evening, Everybody:

President Roosevelt today issued a vigorous reply to the criticisms that have been heard <sup>of</sup> lately, ~~and~~ the complaints that his ~~economic~~ <sup>recovery</sup> program was ~~not succeeding~~ <sup>slowing up, not succeeding.</sup> On the contrary, declared the President, it is succeeding. The N R A is going strong, <sup>he said,</sup> employment is on the upgrade, and also buying, and he produced figures to prove it. Harold Brayman wired the New York Evening Post that the present <sup>Autumn</sup> ~~fall~~ decline in business is not really a downward trend at all. It is merely a temporary halt in an advance that was going at a speed too rapid to be kept up.

(The President also made public the fact that a committee of three is working out plans for the purchase ~~of Uncle~~ by Uncle Sam of gold in Europe.) The committee consists of the chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the governor of the Federal Reserve Board and the governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Mr. Roosevelt did not say when Uncle Sam would begin his buying of gold in the London market, but (the chairman of the R F C intimated that it might start by the end of the week.)

Coming back to the question of industry, the President's economists explain the situation by the fact that the steel and textile industries in the summer - this summer - were producing at such a rate that their outlets could not absorb what they produced fast enough.

They also pointed out that business seems slack now simply because, that, for instance, in the retail trade, it was abnormally high in August, and present conditions are really a return to normal.

As for the farmers, a chart prepared by the President's experts shows that the prices they have received went up from an index figure of forty in March to fifty-four in September. On October 11th they had dropped back to only fifty-two.

Again, Miss Perkins, the Secretary of Labor, reports that in August and September the average hourly wages of labor had increased from forty-two to fifty-one, in ratio, while the hours of employment went down from forty-two to forty-six. In other words, labor is getting more money and working fewer hours to get it.

GOLD

The price of gold continues to soar skyward. Washington today was paying \$32.26 an ounce for the metal. That represents a rise of 14¢ over yesterday's price and is 74¢ more than London is paying.

Anxiety over this gold policy <sup>still</sup> seems to be ~~still~~ <sup>acute</sup> ~~pretty~~ ~~keen~~ in Paris. A <sup>radiogram</sup> ~~wireless~~ from there informs us that more than one billion Francs in foreign capital has been withdrawn from France in the past ten days. Most of this capital ~~is~~ has gone to Amsterdam and Switzerland, but apparently the movement has ceased.

( The principal anxiety in French financial circles is over the gold standard. The French are determined to keep their country on the ~~gold~~ <sup>gold</sup> standard no matter what effect President Roosevelt's new gold policy has. )

NBC

GOVERNORS

That meeting between the ten Governors of the middle western states took place in Des Moines today. *And now,* Governor Herring of Iowa and Governor Langer of North Dakota are flying to Washington to submit the ~~Governor's~~ *of those governors* program to the President. One of the things these middle western ~~Governors~~ *executives* are urging is <sup>an</sup> N.R.A. Code for the farmer. They also want the government ~~to fix~~ immediately *to fix* ~~minimum~~ prices for all farm products. They are also in favor of controlled inflation and the ~~refinancing~~ refinancing of farm mortgages by Uncle Sam.

In other words, the Governors are throwing the farmers' problem plump into the President's <sup>lap</sup> lap. They want Uncle Sam not only to peg farm prices for them, but to guarantee agriculture the cost of production plus

profit. *It seems to me that those Governors have the president confused NBC with my friend John Mulholland the magician who pulls rabbits out of his shirt.*

DEBTS

Here we are again - those good old war debts. Two of the visitors at the Whitehouse today were His Excellency, the British Ambassador, and the financial shark who is John Bull's special representative to Washington on this matter. They called on the President to discuss this vexed subject once more.

NBC

CHAMBER

An interesting suggestion was made today by Gerard Swope, president of General Electric and chairman of the committee established by Secretary of Commerce Dan Roper, <sup>-- his</sup> ~~the~~ "Business and Planning Committee". Mr. Swope's idea is that a super-chamber of commerce should be established in Washington, a chamber with wider functions and activities than the present Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The object of this super-chamber, says Mr. Swope, should be to "achieve the self government of industry."

Incidentally, Mr. Swope announced the appointment of a new industrial advisory board to the N R A Administration. This board includes Mr. Myron Taylor of U. S. Steel, ~~John~~ General Robert E. Wood of Sears-Roebuck, Pierre <sup>DuPont</sup> ~~Delaport~~ and Clay Williams of the Reynolds Tobacco Company.

STRIKE

One of the important bits of strike news today is that the trouble in the silk industry in Pennsylvania and New Jersey seems to have been ironed out. Senator Wagner of New York, head of the Labor Board, has been holding long conferences with the employers and thinks there will be a satisfactory settlement. The Senator says that the mill owners in Pennsylvania and Paterson are willing to pay their weavers a minimum of twenty-five dollars a week, providing the New England mill owners do the same, and provided also that the Southern mills are willing to establish a reasonable differential.

~~End,~~ Wagner thinks the employers will accept and that the workers will be satisfied.

*IF As far that troublesome coal situation in Pennsylvania*  
~~Meanwhile observers both in Washington and Pennsylvania~~  
*the people who know seem to*  
have their fingers crossed, ~~about the situation in the coal fields.~~

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What is known as the Washington Peace Pact, the agreement between the owners of the Captive mines and the ~~striking~~ striking miners, is due to meet its first test. Meetings of the local Unions in western Pennsylvania have been called, and it is hoped that most of them will return to work. The hope from Pittsburgh is that at

least seventy percent of the men are willing to go back to the mines provided it is made safe for them to do so. And the ~~silk~~ sheriff of <sup>Fayette</sup> ~~W. Fayette~~ County where most of these mines are located declares:-

"I will see that ~~the~~ men going to work are protected from trouble, <sup>even if</sup> if I have to deputize half the County."

Incidentally a representative of Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania will also urge the men to <sup>get</sup> go back to ~~work~~ on the job.

However, that does not mean that the strike is over.

There is considerable difference of opinion among the miners themselves. Some of them are conservative; ~~but~~ others ~~are~~ <sup>& these have the louder voices.</sup> insurgent. ~~And~~ The insurgents have appointed a committee to visit the President and ask him to open up this whole discussion once more. So that looks rather bad for the Washington Peace Pact.

Pact.

*lap.*



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EAGLE

General Hugh Johnson, the Administrator of N R A, sent out another warning to election candidates that they must not use the blue eagle in their campaign. This warning was sent to a democratic candidate for mayor in Buffalo. General Johnson doesn't want the blue eagle used on political posters. He said in his ~~wif~~ wire:-  
"The N R A and the Blue Eagle are not in politics."

And, by the way, I learn that what is believed to be the first Consumers' Service <sup>flag</sup> ~~Plan~~ <sup>was designed</sup> in the country ~~is~~ at Asbury Park, New Jersey. ~~This flag~~ <sup>usual</sup> is the blue and white flag of the N R A but around it is a red border on which are sixty white stars. Each of these stars represent sixty consumers who have signed the N R A pledge. This flag was dedicated at a rally last night in Asbury Park.

NBC

## WAR

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One feature of the international comedy in Europe today is the recrimination that goes on between the various powers, -- recriminations and accusations of being warlike. France started the ball rolling by saying that the fatherland was secretly arming and in fact almost ready for war. The charge was taken up by John Bull. Then the Hitler government threw the accusation back, saying, "It isn't us, it's England that is engaging in a regular race for building war equipment."

Today Lord Hailsham, his Majesty's War Secretary, issued a vehement denial of these charges. "John Bull", says his lordship, "is not entering into any armament race."

NBC

JOCKEY

There is tremendous excitement ~~today~~ in the English sporting world. It centers around a jockey named Gordon Richards who is the hero today of the British racing public.

He achieved the unusual feat, today, of riding four winners in one <sup>afternoon.</sup> ~~day.~~ In fact, I am informed that one day last month, in one afternoon's racing, he rode six winners in six events.

Of course, the most famous jockey of all times in England was the great Fred Archer who in the year 1885 had no less than two hundred and forty-six wins to his credit.

And now this young Gordon Richards needs only three more ~~winnere~~ this year to beat Fred Archer's <sup>historic</sup> record.

NBC

HARRY FRANCK

I've a dispatch here from Harry Franck, the famous traveler who is on his way around the world. Harry is going to send us material for our Sunoco news from every country that he visits, has just landed in Holland. The first thing Harry did was to jump in a car and ride out to see his old friend the Zuidersee. When he got there he found the Zuidersee was no more. Of course we have heard from time to time of what the Dutch have been doing to reclaim that historic inland sea. If you look at any American map you will see that the Zuidersee is still there, still on the map. But that isn't so.

Harry Franck tells me they have just finished a sixteen-mile dyke across the mouth of it. Buses and cars drive along the ~~ap~~ top of that dyke, on a perfect cement road. But he says, all the water in the Zuidersee has not disappeared as yet, and what is left inside the dyke is now called IJsselmeer. But the Dutch are rapidly reducing the Zuidersee into rich farmland. They are hauling away the huge sand dunes to Dutch brick factories. They are also removing the layer of old animal and vegetable deposits from what was once the bottom of the Zuidersee,

leaving the fertile soil underneath -- below sea level of course -- below the level of the dyke.

Big comfortable brick farm houses and huge red tiled barns are springing up where once was the Zuidersee. Hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent on this, one of the greatest reclamation projects in the world.

CENSORS

There's an interesting piece in <sup>the forthcoming</sup> ~~this week's~~ issue of The Nation on the activities of that curious body, the New York State Board of Censors. I learn from this article that the National Council on Freedom for Censorship has published a ninety-eight page pamphlet containing the complete text of all the <sup>eliminations</sup> ~~information~~ ~~excluded~~ <sup>excluded</sup> by the censors in the fifteen months ending March, 1933.

These indicate clearly that a great many eliminations made by the censors represent unmistakable attempts to control opinion. In other words, the good ladies and gentlemen who undertake to protect our morals from contamination when we enter movie theatres are also quite openly censoring our politics. For instance, we are not allowed to see anything on the screen which suggests that public officials are in league with criminals. We are not allowed to witness any scenes indicating that prisoners are inhumanely treated. In short, we are not allowed to see anything which, in the opinion of the censors, who, I am informed are not an exceedingly highly educated lot, consider wrong for us.

The article in The Nation concludes by saying:- "We

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don't know how much the activities of the Board of Censors cost the State of New York, but whatever the sum, it is obviously too much."

THE NATION

MOVIES

*the Motion Picture Daily* ✕

Incidentally, I observe in <sup>K</sup>the ~~the~~ Film Daily that there is considerable dissent among the ranks of the movie producers. Two of them, Sam Goldwyn and Joe Schenck, with a ~~blare~~<sup>K</sup> grand blare of trumpets, resigned from the Motion Picture Producers Association, the body of which former Postmaster General Will Hays is the head. When they resigned they announced that they did so because they were aggrieved at the attitude of other producers to Article 5 in the N R A Code governing the movie industry. They declared that the proposed code would lead to the association being run by distributors in New York instead of the producers, the men actually making the pictures.

(2) This statement aroused a caustic retort from Jack Warner of Warner Brothers. Mr. Warner made the unkind insinuation that the statement issued by Messrs. <sup>K</sup>Schenck and Goldwyn was motivated principally by a desire for publicity. He also said that Messrs. Goldwyn and <sup>K</sup>Schenck were disloyal to the spirit of N R A and he <sup>added:-</sup> ~~also said:-~~ "There are stragglers and deserters from every army including the army of progress. It is an unfortunate fact that



there are many in our industry who will do or say wild things to get their names in the papers." Mr. Warner also took the attitude that producers <sup>should</sup> ~~who~~ cooperate with the President <sup>of the U.S.A.</sup> in doing away with some of those monster salaries paid to actors. To this Mr. Goldwyn retorted by declaring that not the high salaries paid to actors but stock market manipulations and over-capitalization were to blame for the troubles of the film industry.

And so the fight goes on. All these things add to the gaieties of nations.

FILM DAILY

## PARTY

I thought I was familiar with a pretty wide variety of entertainment, but here's a new one on me, -- a Scavenger Hunt Party. One of these is to take place tonight in the Grand Ball-Room of the Waldorf-Astoria. For this occasion the ball-room will be transformed into a huge beer garden.

The idea seems to come from Paris. The people taking part in the hunt are roped off just as in a race. The hunting is done ~~by~~<sup>in</sup> couples. Each couple is given a printed list of curious objects to be sought. All these objects are scattered in various parts of the city. The hunters are allowed only an hour and a half to obtain as many trophies as they can. At the end of that time they return to the ball-room of the Waldorf and display what they have procured. Among the judges are the eminent <sup>Shakespearean expert</sup> Mr. Gene Tunney, Prince Pottenziani, Governor of Rome, the Grand Duke Dimitri, and the novelist, Louis Bromfield.

The handicapper is Mr. Harold Vanderbilt. The affair is for the benefit of the Maternity Center Association.

Mrs. Alsop

ABSENT MINDED PROFESSOR ENDING

Here's another one which must have whiskers. It sounds old enough to be new again.

The professor sent his wife to the bank and kissed his money goodby.

Maybe the Professor is not so absent minded at that," comments the editor of the Louisville and Nashville Employees' magazine.

And before I get absent minded, I better say

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

Louisville & Nashville Magazine.