

Good Evening, Everybody:

The drama in Germany reached a new peak today, as you will discover in your favorite newspaper. A condition described by H. R. Knickerbocker <sup>of the N.Y. Eve. Post</sup> as white terror and red panic prevailed throughout the republic. (Following on that fire which was discovered in the Reichstag ~~building~~ -- the parliament ~~building~~ <sup>building</sup> ~~in~~ in Berlin -- the Hitler Cabinet held a special session and issued an edict for the purpose, <sup>and here's the way they put it:-- "of</sup> ~~in its own words,~~ "defending the country against revolution". With this came the official announcement that the edict suspends civil rights throughout Germany in the interest of defense.

The Hitlerite Minister of the Interior for Prussia declared that the burning of the Parliament Building was the first step of a Communist revolution. With these words he ordered the arrest of all Communist members of the German parliament, all other leaders of the Reds outside parliament) and

several ~~score of~~ <sup>score of</sup> private individuals described as Pacifist

intellectuals, ~~and that sounds like the Emil Ludwig, Remarque type,~~  
~~only they both already have left Germany.~~

~~There is this,~~ Thirteen thousand uniformed policemen  
 armed with rifles, are patrolling the streets of Berlin tonight.

Armored cars and police radio cars ~~were~~ also conducting a  
 systematic vigilance. Whole squads of police ~~were~~ massed at  
 every street corner in the sections inhabited by the working  
 people. In an official bulletin the authorities announced  
 that papers found in Communist headquarters contained the

outline of a systematic plan to start a civil war at four  
 o'clock Tuesday morning, ~~which was to start with setting~~  
~~to be started by the burning of~~

~~all~~ all public buildings, also light and power <sup>and telephone</sup> plants, and so

forth. The Prussian rulers declare <sup>moreover</sup> ~~also~~ that the assassination  
 of public officials was <sup>a part of that</sup> ~~also planned in the~~ conspiracy.

In reporting these official communications  
 correspondents point out that the only source for these charges  
 is the Prussian police. ~~xxxxxx~~ Neutral observers are saying

cynically that it is remarkable "how perfectly and almost miraculously" they fit in with the plans of the Hitlerite leaders to suppress the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Communist party and ~~clamp down~~ <sup>gag</sup> all opposition to the Nazis.

<sup>Correspondent</sup> Knickerbocker adds that the effect of these stringent measures is that Germany is hermetically sealed so far as ~~the~~ news is concerned. <sup>She</sup> ~~is~~ protected against learning anything about <sup>either from the outside or inside - anything that</sup> ~~herself~~ <sup>which</sup> the Hitler party considers false. No German newspaper ~~now~~ <sup>now</sup> dare<sup>s</sup> print any version of what goes on except <sup>the</sup> official ~~version~~. Furthermore, there is a decree for the punishment of all those who give what is called "false information for foreign publications." This means that correspondents who cable reports of which the government doesn't approve, had better watch their step.

## JAPAN

From the Far East we heard that in spite of a desperate resistance by the Chinese forces, the front line of the defenders of Reyho has been completely smashed by the Japs. The main army of the Mikado is advancing on the Chinese second line. This information comes from Tokio. The Nipponese War Department describes the Chinese troops as scattered and demoralized.

From Chinese sources on the other hand, comes the claim that they are still holding an important pass in the north. The Japanese headquarters report that the cavalry advanced in the northern sector is still ahead of its schedule and that a halt is necessary in order to allow supply trains to catch up with the fighting forces.

The Japanese War Office has expressed concern for the safety of foreign correspondents in the war zone, and have suggested that they, especially reporters from papers in the United States, get out of danger. The boys, however, are

sticking to their jobs. One of them, Herbert Ekins, cables that he saw Japanese airplanes dropping their bombs on civilians in spite of assurances that the peasant population of Reyho would not be harmed. In one case, cables Ekins, he saw a Japanese airplane swoop down over a highway and turn its machine guns on carts bearing peasant refugees out of the district. The Chinese commanders say this is a common occurrence.

Meanwhile, Tokio is ~~terrific~~ terrifically sore at John Bull. That embargo which the British Government clamped down on arms shipments is considered an unfriendly act.

In Washington, however, diplomatic observers point out that John Bull's embargo is more of a blow to China than to Japan. In point of fact, it gives Nippon a considerable advantage.

The head of the Japanese delegation to the League of Nations issued a statement blaming Uncle Sam for the failure to settle the dispute between China and Japan.

9 Then we learn that a Japanese warship, an airplane carrier, has appeared off the coast of China. She carries twenty-six planes, and her appearance has caused dismay in the sea coast towns.

LIEBOLD

You'll find another absorbing mystery in your tonight's and tomorrow morning's papers. It is the disappearance of Ernest G. Liebold, an important and influential citizen of Detroit. The Detroit police admitted today that they were making what they call a quiet investigation into this disappearance. It was reported at two o'clock this morning. When Mr. Liebold was last seen, he was in a small coupe. More details of this amazing story are in all the larger newspapers tonight.

ROOSEVELT

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President-elect Roosevelt today confirmed the long standing rumor that Senator Walsh, of Montana, was to be the next Attorney General of the United States. This comes by way of a wedding present to Senator Walsh who, Washington correspondents say, is now the outstanding advocate in the country, that is, outside the big corporation lawyers. And Congress has, in the last few years, always refused to confirm the appointments of corporation lawyers as Attorney General.

The marriage of Senator Walsh by the way, is exceedingly popular in Washington. The new Mrs. Walsh is known as one of the great philanthropic hostesses of Havana. Since her childhood everyone has called her Mina. Her husband was a rich banker and sugar planter. Mrs. Walsh is as celebrated for her jewels as for her hospitality. In Havana society she is known as "Mina the Magnificent."

As for the President-elect, in twenty-four hours he will be on his way from his country house in Hyde Park, <sup>Dutchess County, N.Y.,</sup> towards



Washington. Correspondents say that outwardly Mr. Roosevelt appears to be far removed from the troubles of the world.

Actually, he has kept in close touch with both national and international affairs by long distance communications with ~~Washinxx~~ the capital.

The boys are saying that Mr. Roosevelt goes to Washington to ~~meet~~ a terrific ordeal. In fact, they declare that probably no President-elect since Lincoln has faced a more ~~exti~~ critical job. *But they said the same about Mr. Harding after the war — and the same about Mr. Hoover.* *Mr. Rice* administration is already historic in one respect. He's the first President-elect who has in some details functioned as president before being inaugurated. Several of the men he has appointed as Cabinet ministers have already begun acquainting themselves, if not actually directing the affairs of state.

SMITH

The Finance Committee of the U. S. Senate heard some plain talk today from no less a person than former Governor Al Smith of New York. Al told the committee what he would do to bring <sup>about</sup> better times. ~~along~~. Among other things he recommended was that Uncle Sam should recognize the Soviet Government of Russia. Then he believes that we need to consolidate the transportation system ~~of~~ the U. S. A. under Federal regulation and perhaps even have a Transportation Minister in the Cabinet. Then too, he urged that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation should lower its interest rates to four per cent, for construction loans, especially for the building of highways. He was also in favor of a five year moratorium on foreign debts. But ~~he~~ said ~~Al~~: "We've got to do something about the tariff before ~~any~~ body will do business with us. I don't believe in a high tariff" <sup>he added,</sup> "It should be only what is necessary to take up the difference between cheap labor abroad and the high class labor in this country."

Another thing Al told the committee was: "Cut out all this red tape and go back and build buildings as we did cantonments <sup>i.e.</sup> -- overnight."

When they asked him if he favored inflation, he ~~replied~~ replied with an emphatic No, Inflation, he said is like giving a sick man a shot in the arm. It ~~would~~ take a stiffer shot the next time.

BANKS

( It is evident that the interest of bank depositors are to be ~~will~~ safe-guarded not only by state governments but by Uncle Sam. We hear from Washington that both the incoming and outgoing administrations are agreed on cooperating vigorously.)

Ogden L. Mills, Secretary of the Treasury, has been conferring with William H. Woodin, his successor. It ~~was~~ expected that President-elect Roosevelt, in his inaugural address will outline a program to ~~create~~ <sup>create</sup> confidence throughout the country.

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Meanwhile ( Several states, including Pennsylvania, Indiana, Arkansas, Maryland, Delaware, and Ohio, are passing measures to protect the banks and their depositors.

The object of these measures ~~as~~ explained by <sup>the</sup> Governor ~~Pinchot~~ <sup>of</sup> Pennsylvania, for instance, is to make moratoriums unnecessary, and to put an end to wild talk.) ~~In fact,~~ ~~the effect~~ <sup>In</sup> Pennsylvania, as in other states, officials are empowered to limit the percentage of deposits that can be withdrawn. In Governor Pinchot's words the people may safely withdraw from

their banks all the money they need for current expenses.

The restricting of withdrawals is designed <sup>not</sup> to prevent

depositors from getting the money they need, but to prevent

the withdrawal of large sums for hoarding. It is the demand

for large sums for hoarding which makes the trouble, and

against which the banks and their depositors are now protected *in*

*the states I have just listed.*

BASEBALL

The crack of the baseball struck by the bat will be heard in several of the sunnier parts of the U. S. A. tomorrow. For tomorrow is the day when most of the major league clubs ~~will have~~ started training. In fact, several of them have begun already. Nine of the clubs are in Florida, four ~~of them~~ in California. Others are doing their spring practice in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.

Several of the teams have already taken the kinks out of their arms and by the end of the week most of them will be at work with full squads. ~~off~~

All this helps to make us anxious for the opening of the season and the first official cry of "Play Ball."

MARDIGRAS

I suppose you all know that tomorrow is Ash Wednesday and that this, consequently, is Shrove Tuesday. In one section of the United States it's the big day of the year. Of course, I mean New Orleans, where today schools, offices and ~~times~~ every other kind of business closed down to give an official welcome to Rex, ~~the~~ King of Mardigras.

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You'll hear no talk of business troubles in New Orleans. The entire city, employed and unemployed, young and old, rich and poor, <sup>today</sup> forgot everything and got together for one grand high time.

This festival is unique in the United States. Or indeed, throughout the Western Hemisphere. It's as old as New Orleans itself. And that means some two hundred years. They were celebrating Mardigras on Shrove Tuesday before Louisiana was even a part of the United States, and today they're celebrating this jovial feast pretty much as they did two hundred years ago, and in just as carefree a fashion. I wouldn't mind being there myself tonight.

CERMAK

There seems to be no change in the condition of Mayor Tony Cermak of Chicago. The reports from the Miami hospital are that he is <sup>still</sup> suffering from pneumonia. But, ~~at any rate he is,~~ ~~not getting~~ <sup>no</sup> worse. One of the physicians declares that Chicago's mayor <sup>now</sup> has an excellent chance to ~~pull~~ <sup>push</sup> through.



MIDGET

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The other night I told about a midget, a little chap, thirty-six years old, who weighs thirty-five and a half pounds. Then my tongue slipped and instead of three ~~feet~~ high, I said, he was six feet high. Since then I have been swamped with telephone calls and letters from folks calling my attention to it and wanting to know what a man looks like who weighs thirty-five pounds and is six-feet tall:- Well, I am at least glad so many noticed the mistake. Many folks suggest that I must have been full of Blue Sunoco and going too fast. Now, maybe that was it.

John O'Neill, up in the Veteran's Hospital at Castle Point, New York, suggests that I had better try an eye wash of Blue Sunoco and gargle twice with it before approaching the mike in order to avoid mistakes. Maybe, John's right.

TAILORS

Have you ever wondered what the perfect man would be like? Here's a description as furnished by the doggy tailors --

I don't mean tailors for dogs, but -- well, doggy tailors, *the Saville Row, Fifth Avenue variety; the boys who charge you a hundred and fifty bucks for a suit without batting an eye.*  
The custom cutters of America had a session in

New York today and here's their definition of the ideal American:

"Five feet eight or nine inches tall, weighing a hundred and  
— not my 35 lb., 6 foot midget —  
fifty-five or a hundred and sixty-five pounds, a chest measure  
of thirty-six inches, waist thirty-two inches, hips forty inches."

That's what you have to be like to be a model for men's clothing.

The doggy tailors tell us that New York men are thinner than they used to be. The tailors ought to know because not so many customers are coming in to have their clothes let out as used to be the case. For this reason the cutters would like to see beer made legal. If we drink enough beer <sup>our</sup> waist line increases. *— so they say! Then* Clothes become uncomfortable, and you have to order a new suit. And as you may know, you can't break a tailor's heart by ordering new clothes.

Well, the only order I've got on my mind right now is an order for a large plate of corn beef and cabbage — and a scuttle of — milk.  
— and s-l-u-t-u.