

FARM BILL

C. J. - Sunco. Friday, Dec. 10, 1937.

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The House of Representatives passed the Farm Bill this afternoon, as a climax to a bit ^{of} congressional drama. It's the first of the administration bills to go through the lower House, since the President called the special session. Wrangling controversy had tangled up the law-makers to such an extent that it seemed as if nothing would get through. Right at the last minute today the Farm Bill had a narrow escape. A powerful group of Congressmen representing the corn states, tried to ~~make~~ jam through a motion that would have sent the bill back to ~~the~~ Committee ~~in~~ for revision, holding it up again for another delay. They almost did it. But the administration forces rallied just in time and beat the motion by a mere majority of nine votes - two hundred and six to a hundred and ninety-seven.

— passed the bill by two
Then they forced a show-down, and won out, ~~by~~

hundred and sixty-eight to a hundred and twenty-nine!—The Farm Bill ~~was passed~~ with its provisions to stabilize agricultural prices by controlling the crops, keeping down the production of cotton, wheat, corn, and so on.

But the Farm Bill battle is not over. It now has to go to the Senate, which is working out a measure of its own - something quite different. There'll still be plenty of ructions before the two Houses get together on a bill satisfactory to both.

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RAILROADS

The petition by the railroads was turned down today - their demand before the Interstate Commerce Commission that they get a fifteen per cent increase of freight rates right away, on five days' notice. The Commission says "No", not so soon - the freight rate increase may be delayed for several months. This came after President Roosevelt ~~made~~ had made a declaration - that the railroads must not be allowed to go on the rocks, and that the Commission should see that they don't sink down toward bankruptcy.

LONDON

The White House had an interesting visitor today -- Ex-Governor Landon of Kansas who ran for the presidency a year ago. He made a call on his Nineteen Thirty-Six rival, President Roosevelt, -- just a social call, he said. The Ex-Governor and one-time candidate had nothing much to say to the newspaper men when they swarmed about him in his suite at the Hotel Willard. "I think I've done enough talking for today," said he.

Well, he had said a good deal -- when he announced that he won't run in Nineteen Forty, won't be a candidate -- not even if the Republicans want to nominate him.

FORD

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A Ford strike always has a dramatic sound, and there were rambunctious scenes at the Ford plant in Kansas City today. The strike is on, the picket lines ~~were~~ formed, and sixteen union pickets ~~were~~ arrested. Things are tense, with the Company announcing the plant will keep on operating in spite of the strike.

LABOR COMMUNISTS

(The names of top ranking movie stars are prominent in a long list filed in a California lawsuit today. The accusations against the movie stars are ^{foremost} ~~prominent~~ in a copious series of charges. The general theme is - Communism.

Ivan Francis Cox, former official of the Longshoremen's Union, is suing for five million dollars. He claims that much damage has been done to him. He declares he was persecuted and defamed because he refused to allow union funds to be used for the support of the Communist Party. He accuses five thousand separate and distinct persons, as ^{apostles} ~~exposers~~ of Red radicalism, a huge assortment of labor leaders, government labor officials, politicians, college professors - and movie stars.) The Hollywood celebrities charged with Bolshevism are Frederick March, James Cagney, Franchot Tone, Lionel Stander, Mary Astor, Jean Muir, and Wilhelm Dieterle, German film director.

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Former Union Official Cox accuses Frederick March of being, as he terms it, the spearhead of the Red drive. He says that March uses his movie fame, and his film salary to further - Communistic principles.

The German director, Dieterle, included in this wholesale Red accusation, had a further mishap today - he was hurt in an automobile accident.

(The lawsuit paints a lurid picture of Communist domination in labor unions, educational institutions - and the film colony.) There have been whispers from time to time of Red doctrines in fashion among the fabulously paid stars of Hollywood. Now it all flares in the open in what promise to be spectacular court proceedings.)

RESCUE

In the Pacific Ocean at this very moment, a ~~great~~ task of rescue is ^{under way,} ~~being performed.~~ A late flash tells us that five hundred passengers are being taken off the American Liner PRESIDENT HOOVER.-

Another story of
~~the~~ ^{the} peril of the sea. The Dollar liner, one of the largest passenger vessels in the Pacific service, ran aground today on a sunken reef off the Island of Formosa. There she was stuck, in danger of ~~breaking up,~~ shipwreck ~~ed~~ if a storm or heavy seas should batter her. Her distress signals brought a quick response. The German Steamship ^e PRUSSEN [^] raced to the rescue. The German ship stood alongside and now flashes the word that she is taking aboard five hundred people from the PRESIDENT HOOVER. It is not clear whether the American liner is in danger of breaking up ^{for} ~~it~~ a total loss.

CHINA

The word from the storm of war at Nanking is - fifty thousand fighting men of the "Dare-to-Die" brigades. The Chinese defenders are retiring from the city as the Japanese blast ~~st~~ their way in. Five hundred thousand are in retreat, say the Chinese war leaders, but the fifty thousand of the "Dare-to-Die" are staying behind to defend Nanking to the last.

(That's the report, as the Japanese right now are fighting their way into the city. They've stormed the eastern gates. They have blasted great gaps in the ancient wall with artillery fire. They're battling their way, house to house, street by street. And right now Nanking seems - as good as captured.)

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PLOT

On December Fifteenth, five days hence, Foreign Minister Delbos of France will pay a visit of state to Prague, capital of Czechoslovakia. It should be an important affair - the French closely allied with the Czechs, and Germany threatening Czechoslovakia. ^{It would} ~~It will~~ be a momentous occasion ~~if some~~ for some terrorist act, some spectacular deed of political murder - like the assassination of King Alexander of Jugoslavia.

And the international terrorists seem to have been making preparations. Several days ago, the police in Prague made several arrests. Today word flashed in Paris: - a plot to kill Minister Delbos on his visit to Prague! The French police arrested a man at Lille, near the ~~his~~ Belgian border, a Hungarian terrorist named Budai. They ~~have~~ found documents in his possession. These have been translated, and give details of ^{the} ~~a~~ conspiracy. After that, as the late news tells us, the Czechoslovakian police arrested a man in Prague, a close associate of the terrorist Budai.

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Nipped in the bud, seems to be the right description of this latest scheme of ^{plotted} international ^{assassination,} ~~terrorism.~~

PARIS

Last night we had three items of news that have follow^{up}-
-up-stories tonight -- news about missing persons. The first
concerns the vanished American girl, ~~Geen~~ Jean De Koven --
murdered. That gruesome case of mass killings flamed a new
sensation in Paris today.

Three more prisoners are under arrest tonight -- one
of them believed to be the brains of the murder-robbery scheme.
His name is Million, which seems ^{an} aspiring ^{name} for a money grabbing,
gigolo. For such he is, a smart, suave, smooth slicker, a
frequenter of tea dances and night clubs, ladies' man, one of
those ~~ex~~ vicious characters that prey on women. The police think
that he ^{was} the mastermind, directing the work of the killer --
the German George Weidmann who was arrested yesterday.

Along with ^gigolo Million the other two under arrest
are -- a woman named Colette, a flashy ^lbonde' believed to have
been the lure the gang used, and a man named Jean Blanc. A
minor gangster.

The Paris police say that ~~ex~~ Million denies any hand
in the killing. Says he knew nothing about the murder^s Weidmann

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committed. But he admits that he was associated with Weidmann in robbery and blackmail. They advertised in the newspapers, offering themselves for employment by foreigners, ads like this:- "Available elegant man who can act as companion and conduct foreigners around Paris. Knows night clubs and night life. Can translate from English and German."

Gigolo Million explains, so the police say, that he used Weidmann the killer to attract women, while blonde Colette attracted men.

The evidences of murder are piling up in a startling way. The police say that in the secluded villa that was headquarters for the mob, they've found suitcases with feminine clothes -- enough for five women. And these clothes are tagged with such names as Caroline, Janine, and Josephine.

MOSCOW

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Last night our second story of vanished persons was laid in Moscow, ~~THE AMERICAN~~ and tonight the American writer, Donald Robinson, and his wife, are still among the missing. The United States Embassy sent word to the State Department in Washington today, saying that it is making every possible effort to locate the couple, but without success. The Soviet authorities claim they know nothing about the whereabouts of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson. The Embassy is up against a veil of Russian silence. This has an odd look, because of the way they check up on foreigners in Russia. Everyone of them compelled to report to the police, not a one ~~of them~~ allowed to take living quarters without putting in a report. You'd think the Red police must know the whereabouts of every outsider in Sovietland, and yet they say they know nothing at all about the two Americans.

PHILIPPINES FOLLOW MOSCOW

The third of our follow up stories from last night concerns the high Philippine army commanders and an American officer missing on an airplane flight. The search we heard of last night is today announced as successful. They found Major General Santos, Chief of Staff of the Philippine Army, Colonel Segundo, Chief of the Philippine Intelligence Corps, and Lieutenant William Lee of the Marines. In their airplane they were caught in a typhoon, as had been feared. But as the tempest blew they made a forced landing safely -- on the remote island of Paguitay. There they were located today.

HATE

The death of a man today brings a memory of war-time, a
recollection of words ~~to a~~ bitter ~~refrain~~ ^{rythm}:-

"Frenchmen, Russians, it matters not,

"A blow for a blow, a shot for a shot."

And on like that with the angry refrain - "God ~~strike~~ ^{straff}

England."

Many of us will remember those stanzas, the English
translation of - "The Hymn of Hate," which the World War Germans
sang in wrathful chorus. It was written by Ernest Lissauer.

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He was the poet of hate, but after the War he changed his
mind about it all - was sorry. Today he died, in Vienna - in
exile. When Hitler came to power he left Germany. He had
changed his mind so much about his Hymn of Hate, he didn't
fit in with warlike Nazi ideas. ^{now,} So, ⁱⁿ exile, he has passed
from the hatreds of the earth. His last words could not
have been - "God ~~strike~~ ^{straff} England." More likely they were,
"God Save the World."

ENGLAND

England had some excitement today in two separate instances of dangerous objects on the loose.

In London they're looking for three steel cylinders of high explosive, which are lost, strayed or stolen. Most likely stolen - swiped from the Royal Albert Dock. The cylinders are full of cyclopropane gas and if anybody tries to force them open - they'll blow up the place.

In Liverpool, they're hunting for ten drums of cyanide, enough to kill the whole population of ^{that great city, Cyanide} ~~Liverpool. They're~~ drifting in Liverpool Bay somewhere - washed overboard in a ship collision.

High explosive and cyanide in the Lost-Column - they'd better get them in the Found-Column mighty soon.

England had a bad train wreck today. Thirty-four persons reported killed when the Edinburgh-Glasgow express plowed into another passenger train.

TENNIS

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Melbourne, Australia - the Victorian Lawn Tennis
championships. Donald Budge and Dorothy May Bundy of the U.S.A.
scored a triumph in the mixed doubles championship - and it's
astonishing that they won. Then, in the men's doubles, Budge and
Gene Mako were defeated - not surprising that they lost.

Throughout both events Budge had pains in his right
shoulder. When he was examined afterwards, the doctor found that
three of his ribs were misplaced. ~~That was~~ The result of a
California auto accident before he sailed for Australia.

WATERMELONS

Wanted:-- in this climate tonight -- juicy watermelons!

Have you ever heard of such a thing? No, I'm not joking and, unseasonable as it may seem, the life of fourteen-year old Paul Clark, now confined in the Point Pleasant, New Jersey, hospital may depend upon the hospital authorities locating the juice from these melons tonight.

FLORADORA

Here's a tale of long years and changeless sentiment. In Chicago -- a woman of seventy-two, on relief. Yet in the time of her distant youth she was a beauty of the theatre -- the toast of Broadway, as they used to say. A member of the Floradora Sextette.

Back in those dimly remembered days she married Willis Reeves -- that was in Eighteen Eighty-Seven. A few years later they were divorced -- nearly half a century ago -- when the Floradora girl was a queen of toasts at Rectors and Delmonicos.

The passing of years -- the passing of youth, beauty, fame and money. Mrs. Margaret Reeves, seventy-two -- and on relief. But she isn't on relief tonight. Last Sunday Willis Reeves died. Today his will was made public -- he left all his possessions to his one-time wife, a tidy sum of many thousands of dollars.

Today the old woman sighed and said -- "Willis must have loved me better than I knew -- perhaps too much. A little late to realize that. Anyway, Willis never for got his Floradora girl of fifty years ago.

TROLLEY CAR

Cleveland had a wild and shattering trolley car accident today -- and you can blame it on the weather. Sixty passengers were in the car when it started down a long hill -- on icy rails. The huge bulk out of control! Sliding down the slippery tracks -- a mad ride at breakneck speed. Lurching so violently, it tossed the stove inside right across the aisle. With the passengers screaming on the car raced on its juggernaut career. Ahead a curve. The trolley was going so fast when it hit the curve, that while the wheels stayed on the tracks -- the body of the car was torn loose. Flung, flying ahead for sixty feet, crashing with a shattering impact.

Of the sixty passengers, twenty were injured, one seriously. And the rest will have nightmares about it tonight -- and with that nightmare we'll say SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY!