

LINDBERGH

L.T. Thurst. Van. 17th 1935

Original
Note

Events at Flemington flared up today - flared with emotion. For the first time the hitherto stolid and passive Hauptmann burst forth with a wild outbreak of ~~strange~~ feeling. ~~Remarkably~~ Trembling, nerve-racked, he ~~shouted: "He lie"~~ ^{gave the lie} in open court; ~~believed~~ ^{shrieked:} "You lie"! at a prosecution witness.

But that unexpected outbreak was only a climax of tense emotional ~~under~~ currents that began as soon as the court opened. ~~He~~ To indicate this, one merely has to say that the opening testimony concerned the identification of the baby's body. And Lindbergh was sitting there while the details were discussed. It was a trying and harrowing three hours for the Lone Eagle. He had to listen to a dwelling upon the gruesome details of his tragedy. And he took it with a Spartan endurance.

The testimony was begun by William J. Allen, ~~example~~ the negro truck driver who stumbled across the body of the baby in the woods. Then details were ~~related~~ ^{related} by police officers who had been summoned. Next came Dr. Mitchell, the County physician, who performed the post-mortem. He is an ample doctor, broad of shoulder and portly. He testified in a strong voice.

The horror of the story was intensified by cross-

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examination, hammering away at details. Defense Attorney Reilly tried to cast reflections on the doctor's professional ability, but the County physician defended himself with a belligerent ~~countenance~~ ^{confidence} declaring that his autopsy had been a good job. Attorney Reilly demanded of him why he had not called in a doctor from New York or ~~Ph~~ Philadelphia to help him. "I didn't need any help", the County physician boomed in return.

In the face of these witnesses, the logic of the defense was to intimate that the body found was not that of Baby Lindbergh but of some other child - that no real identification was possible under the circumstances, the child having been ^{half} buried for long weeks. The defense pointed ~~its~~ ^{reply to the} ~~suggesting with reference to the~~ fact that the baby's body had been found not far from St. Michael's Orphanage. And with this went the insinuation that the body might have been that of one of the little orphans.

Attorney General Wilentz parried that stroke with lightning speed. Within three hours he had Mrs. Dormer, the Superintendent of the St. Michael's Orphanage in court. She swore that at the time of the kidnaping in February and March, 1932, every child in the orphanage was present and accounted for.

This was followed by an astonishing turn, most astonishing, in that grim struggle at Flemington. Attorney General Willentz offered to cinch the point about the orphans, by producing the books of the orphanage to prove that no child was missing, whereupon Defense Attorney Reilly created a sensation by saying: "It's not necessary. We concede that the body found was the child of Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh."

So the defense has abandoned that point which, if it could have been made plausible, would have struck at the very heart of the prosecution's case, because if it wasn't Baby Lindbergh's body they found, there would be no case. But the Defense admits it was. And that speeds up the trial and avoids the calling of many other witnesses.

This was the emotional background for Hauptmann's outbreak, which, however, took place amid much less exciting testimony. What was it that so agitated the defendant, who had listened phlegmatic and unmoved to so much testimony against him?

Details were being related concerning the money Hauptmann gave to the gas station man who reported that circumstance to the police. The garage man testified. The police who arrested Hauptmann. During all of this, it could be seen that

Hauptmann was agitated. His face was flushed; his lips could be seen muttering. His inward excitement kept increasing as government agent Tom Sisk told how ^{the defendant} Hauptmann, was questioned at his ^{home.} house. The thing that infuriated Hauptmann so much was when Sisk told ~~of how~~ Hauptmann kept gazing out of the window of his house at a certain point in his yard. The government agent said it was this involuntary stare that led the officers to the crocks hidden in the garage, the crocks full of ransom money. One crock was full of water. The agent declared that Hauptmann had said that three weeks before he had had money in that crock. It was then that Hauptmann leaped to his feet. He stretched out his arm and in a breaking voice ~~walk~~ half sobbed: "Hey mister, mister, you stop lying, will you?" He cried in his broken English, his face livid, his body quivering.

And that climaxed the day of emotion in court, a day which from a viewpoint of cold logic, did the defendant no good, merely piling up the evidence against him.

PRISON

One attempt to escape has been followed by another attempt, - in those wild prison doings out in California.

Yesterday's desperate outbreak at San Quentin ends with Warden Holohan in the hospital. It looked for a while as if he couldn't live, so badly beaten by the convicts who seized him along with the members of the California Prison Board, and carried off on that wild flight. Last night the warden seemed to be sinking from his injuries and a priest was called to administer the last rites of the church. But today he seems better. And the doctors say he has a good chance to recover.

Of the other officials who were abducted by the escapers, they are all at home, shaken up, two slightly wounded. Everyone of the convicts has been accounted for. One killed in the gun battle when they were chased and trapped. The others are back in the grim walls of San Quentin.

But, as I said that attempt at escape was followed by more attempted escape. This came about when the police arrested Clyde Stevens. The paroled convict, who they say smuggled the escape guns into frowning San Quentin and instigated yesterday's prison break. The police collared this gun smuggler out on parol.

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They were taking him to the big jail. He was hand-cuffed to a guard as they led him along the main street of Antioch, California. But just the same he wrenched away, tore his wrists loose from the hand-cuffs, and dashed down the street. The guards opened fire. They didn't hit him, but, he was captured. This man, Clyde Stevens ran square into a crowd of policemen. They were pouring out of a station house just ahead, attracted by the sound of the shooting. So the fleeing prisoner plunged headlong into an army of cops. He halted and gave himself up. Tonight he's behind the bars of San Quentin.

~~Earlier in the day~~ J. Edgar Hoover ~~commented upon that~~
other episode of crime and the law -- the killing of the bandit Fred Barker and his aged mother, in that Florida machine-gun fight yesterday. ~~He~~ said that now there were only two big-time gangsters left in this country - Arthur Barker, brother of the slain Fred, ~~and~~ and, the notorious bandit, Alvin Karpis. That's obsolete news, however, because we now have an announcement by Attorney General Cummings to the effect that tonight Arthur Barker is under arrest in Chicago, grabbed by federal agents. One more to go.

ROOSEVELT

There are three salient points to the President's Social Security Program submitted to Congress today. One is its magnitude - ^a ~~the~~ ^{plan} ~~program~~ stupendous [^] of changing the economical basis of human life. The second point is the - gradualness, - relatively small beginnings, with an increase over a long period of time. And thirdly - the President proposes to finance not only employment insurance, but also Old Age Pensions, _z from taxes on payrolls and wages.

Mr. Roosevelt plans to establish an Old Age Pension Fund in the Treasury, a reserve to be kept at a level of probably ~~Fifteen~~ million, _z two hundred and fifty thousand ~~dollars~~. This Fund will be maintained by taxes levied on payrolls, the tax to be shared equally by employers and employees. This tax would begin on January first, nineteen hundred and thirty-seven. It would start in at one per cent ^{all} of _^ payrolls and ~~would~~ increase to five per cent in twenty years. For the period before January first, nineteen thirty-seven, the Government would appropriate Fifty million Dollars for the coming year and a Hundred and twenty-five million after that, ~~these~~ sums to be matched by equal ~~appropriations~~ appropriations by the states and local governments. This would enable the pensions to begin

at once. The amount of the pensions would be determined according to the previous earnings of the person pensioned. The maximum figure would be Thirty Dollars a month. As the plan is foreseen, over a long period of time - those eligible to receive the pensions would be all people over sixty-five, who are without jobs, and on whose wages taxes would have been paid for at least four years previous to their sixty-fifth birthday.

In addition to this, the President proposes to provide insurance facilities for those who want to take out voluntary old-age insurance. He wants the government to sell to citizens annuity certificates which would provide them with incomes after they have reached sixty-five.

Under the heading of unemployment insurance, the plan is to start a tax on payrolls beginning on January first, nineteen thirty-six. This, ~~has been foreseen~~ as has been foreseen, would be financed by a tax on payrolls. One feature concerns the fact that there is unemployment insurance already in some states, with employers in those states already paying taxes. Such employers would receive a ninety per cent credit on the sums they are now paying. And the federal government would appropriate Fifty million

Dollars annually to encourage the states to keep up their own unemployment systems. Under the President's program, the amount paid to the unemployed would be limited to a Fifteen dollar a week maximum.

Old Age and Unemployment are the two major items in the Social Security Plan, which continues with the project for aid to dependent children. The Treasury would spend Twenty-five million Dollars a year, with the states putting up an equal sum - for the care of children that need it. And there is a public health feature - a government appropriation of four million dollars a year for maternal and child health - the states once more to match the sum.

All in all, it is perhaps the largest single project of social reform that has ever been put before the legislature of any nation. And immediate were taken to transform it into law. Mere minutes after the President's Social Security message to Congress had been delivered, Senator Wagner introduced a resolution putting the plan before the Senate for immediate action.

MUNITIONS

The Senate Munitions Investigation has been in the background of late, but now it is all set to step into the spotlight again. Senator Nye has been asking for more funds. He told the Senate today he needed a Hundred thousand Dollars to keep up the investigation. The Senate ^{replied: -} ~~said:~~ "Let's split the difference," and so the Investigating Senator got half of what he asked - Fifty ~~million~~ ^{thousand.} Whereupon he announced that Charles M. Schwab of Bethlehem Steel will be the first to be called when his committee resumes its hearings.

And on top of this, we find the name of Mussolini in still another connection - musical.

MUSSOLINI

I ~~don't~~ suppose I ought to have an added note of respect in my voice tonight as I mention the name of Mussolini. The Duce has ~~got~~ another job, which now makes him a one-man majority in the Cabinet of the Italian government. There are thirteen ministers ~~of the government in Italy~~, and today Mussolini is, in person, seven of those ministers. This follows a ~~royal~~ decree by the King, which gives to the Duce another portfolio, in addition to the six he has already been holding. He has become Minister of Colonies, succeeding General DeBono. The General becomes High Commissioner of the Italian African Colonies of Eritrea and Somaliland. ^{So} The Duce is ~~now~~ Minister of Foreign Affairs, War, Navy, Interior, Corporations, ~~Aristocracy~~ Aviation and Colonies. In addition he's the Prime Minister, also Dictator.

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his youth, but he never succeeded.

~~But~~ Now, in his old age, he has written another opera - "Nero", based on that sinister figure of Imperial Rome. The premier last night at LaScala, ⁱⁿ Milan, was one of the most brilliant of musical and social events. Seats in even the topmost gallery were twelve dollars each. People in boxes paid a hundred and fifteen dollars a seat. ~~xx~~ Tremendous prizes anywhere and especially in Italy. All was set for a triumph, and the ~~xx~~ triumph occurred. The opera scored such a first night ovation that it looks as if it might be on its way to world-wide success. I understand that it is to be presented at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York.

Now about the scandal. The musical pageant of the Roman times of the Emperor Nero was in one of its affecting moments.

One of the characters on the stage declaimed a tragic phrase:

"Rome is starving", he sang. "There is no bread!"

To which a loud voice from the ^{Milanese} peanut gallery responded:

"That's nothing new. The same condition still exists!"

And did that cause consternation! It was a slap at Mussolini and the Fascist regime. The police instantly went in search of the disturber.

In spite of that small sombre note, the premier of Mascagni's new opera "Nero" was a tremendous success. [¶] While we're on the melodious subject of opera, ~~ye~~ here's something that promises a lot of melody - a new idea, ~~seyn~~ synchronized opera. At a meeting of the National Opera Club at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, the glad message is announced that the opera of the future will be mostly mechanical. ~~There will be~~ ^a mechanical orchestra and a mechanical chorus. The principals, however, will be human, decidedly so. Opera singers, you know, are so human. ~~The~~ ~~Accompanied by a machine orchestre and a machine chorus, the~~ soprano will warble her trills, a tenor will blast his top notes, and the bass will hit the bottom with his deepest rumbling ^{in front} of a chorus and orchestra of machinery with their mechanical rumblings. [¶] And my mechanical wife and I now rumble s-l-u-t-m.

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But the Canadian war goal was not of its own. It provides an interesting political situation. The Conservative Party is in power, but in the 1911 the Conservatives suffered a series of defeats, ~~and~~ ^{and} victories for the Liberals. A general election is scheduled to follow the present session of the Ottawa Parliament.