L. T. - SUNOCO, WED., JUNE 26, 1935

EXPLOSION

El Paso, Texas, had good reason for alarm today. A terrific explosion shook the city early this morning. The folks along the Rio Grande for a while didn't know whether it meant an invasion from Mexico or the blowing up of a government arsenal.

What actually happened was that twenty thousand pounds of dynamite exploded in a quarry. It was a tremendous blast. Windows were shattered all over the city. It brought hundreds of tons of rock tumbling down. More than a dozen men were buried. There was a hurry call for rescue crews. Steam shovels were borrowed from everywhere to scoop away the mass of stone. The casualties were not as numerous as might have been expected. One man was killed. Three others seriously injured.

FIRE FOLLOW EXPLOSION

out intermuptions

About the same time there was considerable excitement in philadelphia. Flames broke out in one of the plants of the philco Radio Company at Alleghaney Avenue and "C" Street. It was serious enough but no lives were lost. The flames reaped destruction to the tune of four hundred thousand dollars. But **Boak Carter** the Philod Company says that not a single employee will be thrown out of work and the production will go on, as before with

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I feel impelled to tell a sea story. I wish I could make it long. The inspiration comes from the days news.

In 1925 the Italian freighter, Ignazio Floric, was sinking in Mid-Atlantic. The United States Liner, President Harding, arrived on the scene at the eleventh hour. But the sea was toorough and the ship was in such sore distress that it was too late to think of getting a line aboard her. It was necessary for a boat's crew to volunteer to take a life boat over the giant waves and save the thirty-eight men aboard the Italian freighter. The first man to volunteer for that arduous job was Salvatore Bracco.

Well that was fine. He got five medals and an illuminated scroll describing his heroism. He received it from the hands of Mussolini, himself.

In January 1929 another Italian ship, the Florida, was foundering off the Virginia Capes. Along came the famous Captain Fried in the United States Liner, America. Again there was the call for volunteers. Again the first to respond was

HERO

Salvatore Bracco. He was valuable in more ways than one because he served as interpreter for the distressed Italians aboard the Florida.

Once again Salvatore Bracco got honors in abundance. New York City gave him a reception. So did his home town, Union City, New Jersey. Uncle Sam decorated him with the Congressional Medal of Honor. Italy handed out two medals and he got seven others from various American sources.

After that we turned around and forgot Salvatore Bracco. Three years ago his heart went bad on him and it was impossible for him to go to sea anymore. Ashore he could get no job. All his savings went. The people who had once cheered him paid no attention. His wife and little son were starving. For the last year he had been living on relief. For himself, his wife, his son, this heroic fellow was getting the noble sum of seven and a wit half dollars a week. Fifteen medals and seven dollars and a half a week.

Now Salvatore Bracco is dead. And everybody says:-"What a pity." Union City will bury him with military honors. High officials of the American Merchant Marine will be in the funeral procession.

I think the bitter irony of that story is too plain to need any comment.

And by the way - I've always felt that the Congressional Medal of Honor should carry an income with it, -- as the British V. C. does. There are not many of them alive - holders of our most distinguished decoration.

Baer or Schmeling - still undecided for the Brown Bomber, Joe Louis. Baer, if the clown's knuckles can be gotten in shape. I'll bet the knuckles'll be okay with all that dough in the purse.

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ETHIOPIA

The elder statesmen in Europe have given birth to a new idea concerning Ethiopia. Being obliged to give up the notion of arguing Mussolini out of his plans to attack the King of Kings, their latest inspiration is:- "If we can't talk him out of it, let's jojn him." In other words, "Let's all cut ourselves a piece of cake - ginger bread.

Of course they don't phrase it in that vulger, downright fashion. When you're going to cut yourself a slice of territory that belongs to sombeody else, you have to cover the process up with noble words. So the phrase is that Europe is going to seize Ethiopia for Ethiopia's own good. To advance civilization.

We have not yet heart what Duce Mussolini has to say about this. It was generally understood that he considered the Ethiopian business his own private party. One can hardly imagine him jumping up to welcome so many uninvited guests.

To be sure, the party will be held on Ethiopian soil. The King of Kings sent out no invitations. But that seems to make no difference.

Of course, this report is quite unofficial. It's one of

ETHIOPIA - 2

the flocks of rumors that have poured out of Rome in a steady stream since the arrival of Captain Anthony Eden from London.

When you get to listening to one rumor, you hear another to the effect that John Bull is still arguing with the Duce, trying to convince him to keep hands off Abyssinia.

Captain Eden is back in London, reporting to Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin and Foreign Minister Sir Samuel Hoare, today. The best he could say about his visit to Rome was that his conversation with Mussolini had been "worth while." To which irreverant observers ask:- "Worth whose while?" CHINA

Here they are, at it again - China and Japan. In the Province of Chahar, where some of the recent trouble was, the Chinese civilians are being inhospitable to the Japanese troops who have recently barged into their midst. They are trying to make it unpleasant for the soldiers. Of course if they keep that up, they're asking for trouble. Japanese troops are not notorious for taking it easy.

And that isn't the only bit of trouble. The message from Tokyo reports an incident from another district that might become serious. Seven hundred Chinese soldiers attacked a small Japanese force patrolling the border between Jehol and Chahar. There were no casualties. But the report from Tokyo declares that this was due to the tact and good temper of the Japanese officers.

Nothing big. But small things like that, often lead to big things.

TUNNEL FOLLOW CHINA - 2

there that one of the daimyos, proceeded to fire on foreign ships **INNIXWERE** as they passed through the Straits. This led to the bombardment of Shimoneseki in Highteen sixty-four by British, French, American and Dutch warships. That was followed by the epoch-making visit of Commodore Peary, which ended in the opening of the Mikado's empire to foreigners. TUNNEL FOLLOW CHINA

RETAKE

Now that they have the Chinese at least partially under control, the Japanese are turning their attention to a more constructive enterprise. They are going to build a tunnel to outstrip even New York's Hudson River Tunnels. They're going to dig it not under a river, but under the sea.

It will be one and two-thirds miles long. One mile of it will be under the Kammon Straits, which separate two islands. It will connect the main island, Honshu, with Kyushu to the south. It will cost Five billion dollars.

This tunnel will be a round tube about twenty-eight feet in diameter, twenty-two feet under the floor of the channel, more than a hundred and twenty feet below the surface of the sea.

One thing that helps to make the job the more formidable is the swiftness of the tides in the Kammon Straits, which connect the Sea of Japan with the Inland Sea.

The northern terminus of the tunnel will be the City of Shimoneseki, one of the historic towns of old Japan, It was from

TUNNEL FOLLOW CHINA - 2

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HEIRESS

American heiresses for American bridegrooms. That's the latest slogan in Congress. If our rich young ladies want foreign titles, they're going to have to pay for the luxury. Or rather their husbands will, which means the same thing. The idea comes from Representative Raymond J. Cannon of Wisconsin.

Mr. Cannon has introduced a bill to impose a marriage tax fundred of twenty-five per cent on all fortunes over Five, thousand. If Miss Sadie Blotz from Scaneateales, who has inherited Ten million, wants to marry the Count, von Hassenpheffer, it will cost the count Two and a half million.

It's a good thing for the erstwhile Miss Barbara Hutton that this bill wasn't passed before she started her marrying career. According to xxix available figures, it would have cost her Five millions to marry the young man who calls himself Prince Mdivani. That is, Five. million tax in addition to what else it cost her. Of course when she get through with the Mdivani lad, she didn't have so much But with the Mdivani lad, she didn't have so much But the still would have cost her Three million, seven hundred and fifty thousand to become the Countess Haugwitz Reventlow.

The former Miss Doris Duke, on the other hand, wouldn't

HEIRESS - 2

have been affected at all. She married an American.

It's all very well to tax foreign titles. But suppose somebody gets the idea of taxing American titles? It would be just too bad for a foreign heiress who wanted to marry

a Kentucky Colonel.

President Roosevelt said something this afternoon **the second sec**

TAXES

The President thus intimated that congressional leaders had misunderstood him on this question. It is true he wants speed, but not reckless speed.

They say this statement from the White House will go a long way towards softening the resentment of some congressmen. The belief that Mr. Roosevelt not only wanted that rigorous program but wanted it this week, made some of the statesmen pretty sore. They complained that it deprived them of all initiative and all independence.

So this afternoon's statement has poured some mecessary oil

on the troubled congressional waters. At the same time it in no way deflected the opposition of the conservatives. They insist that this soak-the-rich project is confiscatory and unfair.

NUISANCE FOLLOW TAXES

The President's message met with one immediate response. It broke the jam of the nuisance tax measure. The Senate promptly took him at his word and voted to continue the imposts on telegrams, telephone messages, and so forth, the three-cent stamp on letters, and the other levies to raise Five million dollars. It was rushed to a vote this afternoon. There were no riders, amendments or complications. As the House passed it last week, that makes it law except for the President's signature. And as he had asked for it, his okay is a foregone conclusion.

So that leaves the way clear for his proposal to tax-the-rich as a separate bit of legislation.

"Youth will be served," says an old proverb. And now Uncle Sam is to be the server. Many young people have been asking: "How are we to get our start in life during these times?" The President offers an answer by establishing a new bureau, The National Youth Administration, with Fifty million dollars to spend. Another

addition to the alphabet agency.

The N.Y.A. starts with a four point program. It will help find jobs for jobless lads. It will them to get sound technical training in the trades and professions. Others it will help through high school and college. And for others it will provide work relief.

The main boss of the N.Y.A. will be Harry Hopkins. Butitxw But it will be a separate unit under Miss Josephine Roche, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Mr. Hopkins' assistant, Aubrey

Williams.

old combination.

YOUTH

STRIKE

The last big piece of news we had from Tacoma, Washington, was the return of the Weyerhaeuser boy. Today it's something different. It concerns the Weyerhaeuser family, since they are immerer millionaires in the <u>lumber industry and they</u> are naturally affected by that big strike in the lumber industry.

The trouble doesn't seem to be any nearer to testing settlement, The men want their union recognized and they scoff at the idea of a mere five per cent raise in wages. Tacoma is still practically under martial law. Martial law with armed national guardsmen patrolling the streets. And in other cities of the northwest, the police are out in full force. But the center of disaffection is

Strike mobe storming Tacoma. across the bridge at Tacana, driven back by militia at the point of the bayonet.

JOHNSON

General Hugh Johnson celebrated his new work relief dignity in New York today - the comic touch that follows the serious event, a howling force with the Circus Saints and Sinners. The process of inducting a celebrity into that unique bunch at the Gotham, is always tinged with deliberate insanity. Which led the General to remark: "I feel right at home here. It reminds me of June, Nineteen thirty-three when the New Deal was beginning."

Champion Jimmy Braddock was one of the Sinners. Next to him on the platform sat Mayor LaGuardia, watching the new New York Director of Work Relief while the boys gave him the works. They asked the Mayor for a speech. He said: "What chance is there for anybody else to say anything when Hugh Johnson is in town?"

The high spot of the proceedings came when they brought the General his initiation present. They told him it was a Blue Eagle pie. When they took the lid off the pie, it was a bird Sure enough, and it was - blue. But when it opened its beak it

JOHNSON - 2

said: "Quak!, quak!" It was a live blue goose. From eagle to goose -- the story of the N.R.A.

And now as the goose said to the General Quak!, quak!

and --

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.