

P. J. Seneca. Friday, May 26, 1939.

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President after president of the United States ^{has} ~~miss~~
~~tried to do something about~~
~~to put over~~ that international waterway between the St. Lawrence River
and the Niagara. Congress after congress ^{has} ~~ed~~ turns thumbs down on it.

It was one of the pet projects of President ~~Herbert~~ Hoover.

President Roosevelt ^{also.} ~~thoroughly agreed with him~~ ^{And} Today he comes to

bat again. A memorandum was sent from the White House to the

Chairman of the Military Affairs Committees of both House and

Senate, ^{recommending the Saint Lawrence Waterway.} With the memorandum went a new report of the trustees
of the New York State Power Authority, and Mr. Roosevelt said:

~~"The report suggests a new line of approach to the problem of
finding a workable basis for the coordination of government
enterprises with private power systems, with full protection of
the interests of both consumers and investors." And he added:~~

"These proposals may prove an important step towards securing
the cooperation of private power interests in reducing the cost
of electricity to the consuming public."

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Some business men have complained that the Securities and Exchange Act was interfering with business. A member of the Securities and Exchange Commission spoke up today and denied it. Commissioner Eicher, speaking at a meeting of the Illinois Bar Association, claimed that it did not interrupt the flow of capital to business. On the contrary, he said, "it helps investors acquire confidence that the chances they take are confined to legitimate business risks." And so, he continued, "the law does operate as a stimulant rather than a sedative."

~~Incidentally,~~ The first decision by a state court under Section Eleven of that Act was handed down today in the Supreme Court of New York. That's the section which provides that a man who buys stock may sue ~~x~~ the company, the officers and the directors, if there's any failure to be completely frank, in the registration statement of a company. A group of men bought shares in a mining corporation. The value of the shares dropped from three dollars to eighty-seven and a half cents apiece. Howard ~~F. R.~~ Mulligan of the New York Bar, who was attorney for the men who bought the stock, showed that certain facts had not been stated in the registration statement of the company.

The Supreme Court of New York accordingly found that the men who bought those shares could recover the difference between what they paid and the subsequent value of the stock.

~~That provides one illustration of the~~ ^{ing one} way the S.E.C. Act operates.

FIGHTS

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A western senator ~~has~~ suggested^S that Congress ~~ought to~~ get into the prizefight game. Not as a promoter, but to clean it up. This came out in a hearing over the bill of New Jersey^{'s} Senator Barber to repeal the law which prevents moving picture films of prizefights from being shipped from one state to another.

A sub-committee of the Interstate Commerce Committee of the Senate has been considering Senator Barber's bill. Senator Johnson of Colorado declared that the boxfight industry is more of a racket than anything else, and he said:- "If promoters don't clean house, Congress or somebody is going to have to step in and clean it for them." However, the Colorado Senator is in favor of the Barber Bill, he says it would loosen the ~~iron~~ iron grip of the little group of promoters who are ruining the fight game."

PADEREWSKI

~~Ignace~~ Paderewski, ex-Premier of Poland and living ^{exactly} premier of pianists, didn't ^{(as we at first heard,} suffer a heart attack. That's what

his physician says. His condition today is fair. ^{But the} ~~And that's~~

~~fairly good news after the cancellation of his concert last~~

~~night. But it's not such good news for music lovers that the~~

grand old man of the piano has had to cancel the rest of his

American tour, ~~which was to have been~~ his farewell. ^{Today he} ~~has~~ ~~his~~ ~~fare~~

booked) and ~~his~~ passage will sail Tuesday for his home in Switzerland.

~~Though he did not suffer a heart attack,~~ The reason

he cancelled his concert, ^{he} ~~to the~~ disappointment ^{ed} of fifteen

thousand people, ^{last night} ~~who had paid to hear him,~~ was that if he had

attempted to play he would have been stricken. The man who has

traveled with him and tuned his pianos for thirty years, says:-

"Paderewski is worn out."

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MANTON

Another ~~interesting~~ story was told today to the jury trying Ex-Judge Martin Manton: ~~It was~~ a detailed picture of what the prosecution presents as ^{what goes on when} ~~the procedure of bribing~~ a federal judge ^{is bribed}. A witness, ~~who is~~ described as a baseball betting commissioner, said he was present when a bribe was arranged, and he testified:- "Fallon says 'I'll come down and see the judge and see what I can do.' Then Fallon comes back the same day late in the afternoon and told Renkoff, 'The judge wants fifty thousand dollars.'"

Then the testimony continued:- "I was present when Renkoff brought up ten thousand dollars to Fallon about a day or two afterward. Renkoff said: 'Bill, the best I can get is twenty-five thousand ~~and~~ and here's ten thousand.' Then Fallon said, 'Hurry up, hurry up, I've got to go and see the judge.'"

And so on.

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(In a New York City prison, Fritz Kuhn, Fuehrer of the Deutsch-America Bund, is held in five thousand dollars bail.) He was joking and laughing when the police brought him from Pennsylvania to New York, and ~~he~~ booked him at the police station. (When he was arraigned in court his voice trembled as he said:- "I am not guilty." He meant ~~not guilty, he meant not guilty.~~)

It's not because he was leader of the Hitlerites in America that Kuhn is in jail. He's accused of having appropriated fourteen thousand, five hundred and eighty-nine dollars of the money contributed to the Deutsch-America Bund and of having committed forgery into the bargain.) It turns out today that he was on his way west when he was arrested in Pennsylvania with a fair companion. He was well dressed and carefully groomed as he made his appearance in court. The charges, he said, are all nonsense.

PRESBYTERIANS

(The restoration of unity in the Methodist Church seems to prove contagious. The Presbyterians are now discussing amalgamation with the Presbyterian Church South) and also the Protestant Episcopal ^{ians. This} ~~ians.~~ ~~It~~ was being considered today at the general assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Cleveland. The delegates voted to negotiate the union of all members of the Presbyterian family. That includes the United Presbyterians and also the R_eformed Church of America.

RESCUE

Whenever there's a disaster like that of the SQUALUS, some people look high and low for a scapegoat. There has been talk that the submarine sank owing ~~to~~ either ^{to} carelessness or sabotage. Captain Amsden, the Acting Commandant of the Portsmouth Navy Yard, declared today:- "There is no evidence to substantiate any such reports."

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Statements have also been made and printed that our Navy Department has been negligent, ~~way~~ behind the times in safety devices, lifesaving equipment. A timely answer to that charge comes all the way from across the Atlantic. It's a cablegram of congratulations to the United States Navy, and it says:- "It was a brilliant accomplishment. Neither the French nor the British fleet possesses any similar equipment and if the United States offers it to other nations, France will gratefully accept."

And who do you suppose says that? The French Minister of the Navy! And a French admiral, head of the Marine Academy, says that ^{the} rescue of the SQUALUS survivors was "an unbelievable feat."

That rescue also aroused warm words of admiration from Germany. One Berlin newspaper says, "the heroism of the American Navy deserves the admiration of all." Another calls it, "one of the most impressive and most inspiring actions of the American Navy."

SUBMARINE FOLLOW RESCUE

President Roosevelt also issued a statement in which he said, among other things, that the success of the rescue devices used on the SQUALUS proved that the money spent on experimental work has been ~~most~~ well spent.

As for the job of raising the SQUALUS, it will probably take weeks. That was the word today both at Portsmouth and at Washington. The Navy's submarine experts were at the capital today in a conference with commanding officers, discussing plans to raise the submarine. It is the most prodigious salvage job that has yet been put up to the Navy. Until the SQUALUS is raised, all explanations of the disaster can be nothing but the wildest guesswork.

FIRE

A fire swept through part of the downtown portion of Fredericton, capital of the Province of New Brunswick, today. It destroyed many buildings, stores, theatres, even homes. But fortunately nobody was injured.

This follows only a week after the fire that destroyed the plant of the FREDERICTON MAIL, one of the oldest newspapers in America.

MUSSOLINI

~~There is a~~ report from Paris ^{or} ~~that~~ two attempts ~~were made~~
to assassinate Premier Mussolini. ^{Not only was this} ~~The report was promptly~~ denied
in Rome. ~~Not only denied~~ but the propaganda minister provided an
alibi for the Duce. The Italian authorities said it couldn't
have ^{been} ~~happened~~ because Mussolini was not at the places where ^{the} ~~those~~
attempts at assassination were supposed to have occurred. ~~on those~~
~~particular date.~~ One ^{was supposed} ~~attack was said~~ to have been made on April
Twenty-Seventh. ^{But -} The Duce was then conferring with high officials
of the army and the Fascist Party. During the first week in May,
when the second attempt was rumored, he was entertaining Prince Paul
of Jugoslavia and the Foreign Minister of Roumania, opening horse
shows and other public ceremonies.

However, ^{Paris} ~~the Parisien newspaper~~ gives what it offers as
details of these attempted assassinations, ^{in one case} ~~It claims that in the~~
~~second attempt~~ the would-be murderer ^{is said to have} ~~actually~~ killed one of the
Duce's bodyguards. ^{The story adds}
that ^{would-be assassin} ~~The man who did it~~ was arrested and ^{admitted he} ~~told the police he~~
was a member of an organization several hundred strong. ^{The avowed}
^{purpose of which is to do away} ~~report indicates that the police "gave him the works" as we~~
^{with Mussolini} ~~say over here, but were unable to get any names out of him, even~~

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LONDON

For the first time in twenty-six years a high Russian
general officer will watch the manoeuvres of the British army. *And*
that surely
~~This~~ is a straw ~~that~~ shows *ing* which way the wind *is* blowing. *ing. Moreover*
~~And~~ the
Russian general who will attend is the Number One Man of the
Soviet army. He's Marshal Voroshilov, Stalin's present War
Commissar. The invitation is considered ~~almost~~ conclusive
proof that Chamberlain *does* firmly expects to conclude ~~a~~ *that* ~~right~~
military alliance with Stalin. It is also *rumored* ~~expected~~ that the
British War Minister, Hore-Belisha, will go to Russia for the
summer manoeuvres of the Red army. ~~However, that's not definite~~

yet.

BERLIN FOLLOW LONDON

(Apparently, the Nazis are ^{disturbed} ~~seriously alarmed~~ over the latest reports about ^{the London-Moscow} ~~that~~ treaty. A report ^{now} comes from Berlin that the German government has ordered the Nazi press to drop its attacks on Russia. Diplomats interpret this as part of an effort on Hitler's part to throw a monkey wrench into the ^{last minute} negotiations between London and Moscow.)

TOKYO FOLLOW BERLIN

In the same connection, an interesting story comes from Tokyo. The Japanese ambassadors to Italy and Germany are said to have threatened to resign. They've been clamoring that Japan should jump immediately into the Rome-Berlin Axis, make the same sort of defensive alliance with Hitler and Mussolini. The Tokyo Cabinet so far as refused. The ambassadors are threatening to resign, so they say, as a protest.

MOSCOW

Yes, and Soviet Russia today threw down the gauntlet to Imperial Japan. To be sure it was only a wordy glove and it isn't particularly new. However it's worth observing at a time when negotiations are going on for a military alliance between the Soviets, Great Britain and France.

The Supreme Soviet of Russia was in session today considering ^{that} a new ~~x~~ budget, ~~the delegates voted unanimously for~~ a fifty percent increase, ~~in the Russian budget. And it was explained that this is~~ for defense. The defiance of Japan came through ~~xx~~ the mouth of a delegate from one of the Asiatic Soviets who cried: "If necessary the ~~xx~~ experiences of Changkufeng will be repeated." What he was referring to was that battle last year between Soviet and Japanese troops on the frontier between Manchukuo and Siberia.

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SWIMMER

An athlete from Danzig, named Fritz Waldemar Werner, undertook an ambitious ~~swimming record~~. He started from San Remo, Italy, ~~to crawl~~ ^{heading out to sea for} a hundred and twenty-five miles ^{straight} across the Tyrrhenian Sea, to Napoleon's island of Corsica. He expected to do ~~in~~ it in sixty hours, and he declined any help, wouldn't even have a rowboat follow him.

Soon after he started, a strong wind sprang up, causing rough seas, high waves. The Italian authorities became alarmed for the safety of the German swimmer. From San Remo and from Genoa, hydroplanes and scout ships of the Italian Navy scoured the Tyrrhenian Sea, looking for Fritz Waldemar Werner. And all that time Fritz ~~Waldemar Werner~~ was comfortably asleep in a hotel at San Martino, nearby. Eight hours after he had started, the sea got so rough ^{he gave} ~~that he had given~~ up and let the current carry him back to the Italian shore.

AMAZON

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A picturesque story comes from the ~~publicity~~ headquarters of the Chinese Army. Many of the raids against the Japanese forces have been led by a young Chinese woman. She is known as "Miss Golden Flower". Her followers are mostly college students and government employees. She has organized them into a force calling itself "The Gentlemen of the Green Forests." Every time they go out on a raid each one of them takes an oath to bring back a gift, either a package of food or ammunition or a dead Japanese. ~~xx~~ On a last raid ~~they~~ ^{they} killed eighty-seven of the Mikado's soldiers and ^{brought back} quite a supply of ~~grub~~ ^{food} and cartridges.

consequence
In ~~consequence~~ of her exploits, the Chinese Army announces ^{that} "Miss Golden Flower" has been commissioned a Colonel. *Col. Miss Golden Flower.*

SAILORS

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An American Navy captain declines to play cupid. For the last year Uncle Sam's cruiser OMAHA has been on the Mediterranean station. During that time she has put in several times at Nice, much to the delight of the enlisted men. "Mademoiselle from Nice, parlez vous,¹⁾ has been making a terrific hit with the OMAHA'S gobs. In fact, several of our lusty sailors want to bring the demoiselles back to the U.S.A. as blushing brides. But they found troublesome obstacles on the path of true love in the strict French marriage laws. The French approve highly of marriage but not when it's in a hurry. There are all sorts of formalities and legal requirements.

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Some of the lovesick sailors spent part of their savings on long distance telephone calls to Paris. They found that in order to marry in haste on French soil you have to get the permission of no less a mogul than the Minister of Justice. They tried to get the help of their skipper, Captain Wallace Lind of the OMAHA. And the skipper said:- "Nothing doing, why can't you boys wait a while and take it easy?" But the only instrument at the disposal of a naval captain in such cases is persuasion. ^{well} ~~Shucks!~~ When is a lovesick man, sailor or land-lubber, ever prevented from marrying by

persuasion? But the French have a word for it which is stronger than persuasion, and the lovelorn mariners are having a hard time getting married before the OMAHA is due to sail back for home waters next month.

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