

CHINA

P. J. - Sunoco. Tues., June 7/38.

It is possible that future times may consider today to be one of the most ominous news days in recent history. This - based on the fact that perhaps the most menacing development of these scientific years is bombs from the sky falling upon cities <sup>and</sup> civilians, <sup>the</sup> military theory that wars may be won by aerial terrorism, bombs shattering the morale of a population. All moral forces are lined up against this horror of air attack, <sup>but</sup> ~~and therefore~~ in the end all will be decided by the question - does it pay? <sup>if it be</sup> ~~if it be~~ shown that sky terrorism does not break the morale of <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ people, but only makes them more bitterly determined to fight - <sup>then</sup> ~~an~~ unrestricted air warfare will be restricted by <sup>But</sup> failure. <sup>^</sup> if it is shown that ruthless bombing can win a war, then heaven help the world!

<sup>With that thought</sup> ~~So now~~ let's look at China. (The Japanese have answered the worldwide protest against the bombing of Chinese cities. <sup>Today</sup> They answered it in words - announced that the bombing is to be <sup>Today also</sup> intensified. <sup>^</sup> They answered it in deeds -- ~~today~~ Japanese war planes once more bombed the great city of Canton, now a city of devastation.) The Japanese themselves say they're doing it to bring the Chinese to another state of mind, as good as saying -

break their morale. Will it work? Will the bombings of Canton produce another state of mind? It is these questions which give a sinister cast to other news from China.

There are strong reports today of dissension among the Chinese leaders, reports of a possible split between the Central Chinese Government and the war chiefs of Canton. For this two reasons are given:-

7

First: the Canton generals are said to be angry with the way Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek withdrew his own divisions of crack troops from the Chinese defeats at Suchow and Keifung. We've heard it reported jubilantly from China that in those Japanese drives they've not been able to capture the powerful nucleus of the Chinese army - the crack troops had escaped and were still in the field. But today's news pictures the Canton generals putting another interpretation on these successful escapes. They say that Chiang Kai-shek refused to risk his own personal divisions in the crisis of battle - those well trained soldiers ~~on which~~ on which his power depends, since the power of any Chinese war lord depends upon his own personal army. They ~~are~~ accuse

Chiang Kai-shek of withdrawing his own military units and leaving mere recruits to face the Japanese - sacrifice troops. <sup>Leaving</sup> ~~and that~~  
~~for~~ only certain defeat for the Chinese. The word is that the Canton generals are now waiting for the battle of Hankow and if Chiang Kai-shek once more ~~refuses~~ refuses to risk his personal army, they'll withdraw from the war - Canton will secede and make peace with Japan.

That's the first charge. And the second comes still closer to the point. The Canton generals are said to be enraged because Chiang Kai-shek will not send any of his air force to protect Canton against the Japanese war planes. ~~He~~ <sup>He</sup> keeps his sky fleet for the defense of his own territory. Canton ~~has~~ sent its ~~own~~ air force to fight in the common cause, and is <sup>at present</sup> ~~now~~ left defenseless. And they now demand that the Generalissimo come to Canton's defense in the sky. Will he do it? If he doesn't, will the Chinese stick together?

That, they say, is the situation the Japanese are working on with their aerial terror. They're bombing Canton mercilessly to widen the split between that southern part of China and the Central Government. Aerial frightfulness in the

hope of making Canton break away. That's today's contribution to the discussion of whether in the wars of the future they'll ~~fight~~ find it effective to bomb civilian populations with ruthless horror.

~~And if they find it effective, they'll do it.~~

And if they ~~will~~ find it effective, they'll do it.

ARCHBOLD Millionaire Richard Archbold's  
giant <sup>\$1,250,000</sup> flying laboratory ~~landed at~~ Wake Island today,

having flown <sup>to</sup> ~~from~~ that remote <sup>Pacific</sup> speck ~~of land~~ from Honolulu.

~~Thus~~ <sup>ing</sup> completes the second hop of the flight which the oil heir

~~millionaire Richard Archbold~~ and his five companions are

making to the jungles of New Guinea to explore and make scientific

studies for the American Museum of Natural History.

MATTEOTTI

9

It's odd how interesting bits of knowledge come in the news a long time afterward - after a headline event. Take that celebrated and sinister affair in the early history of Italian Fascism - the murder of Matteotti, the Socialist deputy. He was threatening an expose of Fascist corruption, and was kidnapped and killed. Reams of bitter controversy were written about that event, which almost caused the downfall of Mussolini. Yet, there's one bit of detail I don't recall having seen until today. It comes with the news from Rome of the death of Matteotti's widow. The obituary notice relates that she was a sister of the famous baritone, Tito Ruffo, who sang so long in our own country and with such renown.

IOWA

( Today's count of the vote cast yesterday in Iowa puts accent on such vindictive words as - reprisals, punishment, feud, vendetta.) It was by no means a contest between a Roosevelt man and an anti-Roosevelt man. It was - perfect New Dealer versus not so perfect New Dealer.

( Senator Gillette, seeking renomination, supported the President most of the time, with not so many exceptions. But there was one great and outstanding exception - ~~the~~ the court fight. He voted against the White House attempt to enlarge the Supreme Court, and that issue was the biggest and most bitterly fought of all, the hardest F.D.R. defeat at the hands of Congress. So the court battle was the dominant item in all the talk that the administration might seek reprisals against its Democratic opponents, and go out to beat them in the primaries.

The President said repeatedly that there would be no reprisals, although that never did quite down the supposition. He declared emphatically he was keeping entirely out of the Iowa primary fight - no interest in it. Nevertheless, there was a decided New Deal interposition, by Harry Hopkins, the Relief

Administrator. He declared outright for Candidate Wearin, in the attempt to snatch the nomination away from Senator Gillette. ~~All of which brought a roaring protest, the charge that the W.P.A. Administrator was using his relief money power for political purposes, New Deal reprisals.~~ And James Roosevelt, son of the President, also spoke up for Candidate Wearin.)

But let's look at today's count in the contest between perfect New Dealer and not so perfect New Dealer. (Senator Gillette wins overwhelmingly, nearly two to one, fifty-eight thousand to thirty thousand. And there's an instant jeer for Harry Hopkins.

Administrator  
It was the first time the W.P.A. <sup>▲</sup> tried his hand in an election fight. Fingers burned? The whole hand badly blistered.) ~~Harry seems in line for some condolences from Jim Farley, who didn't do so well in his intervention in the Pennsylvania primaries.~~

Naturally, today's Iowa count was received with loud cheers by various Democratic senators, who have not been such perfect New Dealers and who might feel themselves marked for reprisals - if any. All who opposed the President in the court fight, are much encouraged to observe that the Gillette opposition has not resulted in political disaster.



The Republicans are jubilating - hailing the Iowa result as a New Deal defeat. And they point to the way the figures add up on both sides, Democratic and Republican. The G.O.P. nominated former Senator Dickinson by a large vote. His Republican opponent also got a large vote. The total for both candidates is more than a hundred and seventy-six thousand. The total Democratic vote for both candidates was around eighty-eight thousand, about half. ~~Yes, that seems cause for G.O.P. optimism of the rosiest brightness, nearly twice as many Republican primary votes as Democratic.~~ However, it was pretty much the same thing two years ago. Many more Republican primary votes than Democratic. Yet, on election day the Democrats won out.

Today Republican leaders explain all that by saying that two years ago was presidential year, with President Roosevelt invincible and sweeping everybody in. And there's also this - today's Republican ~~pre~~ primary preponderance is a bit larger than it was two years ago.

So today's figures leave ~~in~~ the Iowa senatorial election, if not in the lap of the gods, at least in the lap of the farmers.

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut's political scandal flares anew today with an order to arrest five former members of the legislature. The charge against them is violation of the Corrupt Practices Act, a charge that already had involved a former lieutenant-governor and a whole string of personalities. The prosecution claims that there was lobbying and conspiracy to defraud the city of Waterbury # of millions of dollars.

The five former members of the legislature are accused of accepting gifts of stock as the price of their votes in passing a bill. The bill called for the installation of a <sup>certain</sup> kind of sterilization equipment all over the state.

WAGE-HOUR

There <sup>was</sup> a compromising <sup>in</sup> committee, <sup>in lay</sup> on the Wage-Hour ~~Bill~~,  
53

with the South winning a point. (There has been southern opposition all along to the establishment of a national minimum wage scale, the contention being that there should be lower rates of pay in the South, where the wage scale is lower all along the line.) A joint committee of Senators and Congressmen is deliberating to produce a bill satisfactory to both Houses, and today the southern members of the joint committee won a half-way <sup>concession.</sup> ~~contention.~~ The compromise provides that there shall be a nation-wide minimum wage of twenty-five cents an hour the first year, and thirty cents an hour the second year. But above that all increases are to be determined by Advisory Boards for each industry -- which <sup>would</sup> ~~will~~ make it possible to establish special wage rates for the south.

Moreover, there's to be no time limit on the final increases <sup>that</sup> ~~which~~ would bring the minimum wage up to forty cents an hour. <sup>Time</sup> ~~It's left~~ indefinite.

That's the compromise the southern legislators are willing to accept -- so that when the Wage-Hour Bill comes back to the Senate and House for a final vote, there won't be any southern opposition and filibustering.

## MONEY

Here's something for a guessing contest. How much money is in the United States, actual cash in circulation? It happens that we don't have to guess, because today the Treasury Department gives us a report, right down to the last penny. The total of money in circulation amounts to six billion, four hundred and sixty seven ~~th~~ million, a hundred and thirty-nine thousand, nine hundred and eighty dollars and ten cents. Divide that by the number of people in the country, and it figures an average of forty-nine dollars and seventy-four cents for each of us.

The President proposes a fifty thousand dollar reward in the Florida kidnap case. Today he suggested to Senator Glass that Congress put up that much money in the deficiency Bill - reward for the arrest and conviction of the kidnapper.

KIDNAP

There's a report that a five dollar bill included in the Florida ransom money has been identified. This is stated in the MIAMI DAILY NEWS today. The story is that two men in an automobile paid a gas station attendant near Jacksonville with a ~~five~~ five dollar bill, <sup>and this</sup> ~~which~~ has been recognized as being part of the ten ~~thousand~~ thousand dollar ransom ~~that was~~ vainly paid for the return of five-year-old <sup>Jimmy</sup> ~~Skog~~ Cash. The report says further that the two men in the car were picked up by G-men near Tallahassee. What explanation they had to give is not known.

Unfortunately I didn't hear my friend, Upton Close, last night, but I believe he mentioned that I was at the college of the Franciscan Friars, St. Bonaventure, *and I hear* ~~and that~~ he referred to it as the Alma Mater of the famous John McGraw, titan of baseball, Goliath of the New York Giants. You baseball fans will recall that his nickname was "Muggsie" McGraw. But in his old age, on his last trip to Bonaventure, the little Napoleon of Baseball, the man supposed to be hard as nails, grew sentimental, and his last request at the college of his youth was that his friends stop calling him "Muggsie."

56  
Another thing I discovered on my jaunt to the West was that my associate and friend, Sydney Kent, President of Twentieth Century-Fox, was a few miles away, in Cleveland, addressing a great Labor Union Convention. William <sup>F.</sup><sub>A</sub> Green, President of the A.F. of L. remarked that it was the first time a Captain of Industry had ~~voluntarily~~ voluntarily come before the Labor Unions, at a Convention, to discuss ways of promoting better relations between Capital and Labor.

President Green suggested that this might well be the omen of a new day in the Labor world.

Among other things, Sydney Kent stated that the motion picture industry had gone through the last depression, and will go through this one with less damage to Labor than any other major industry.



CIRCUS

Here's something that would <sup>indeed</sup> be the unhappy ending of a great American story - if the greatest show on earth were to be switched to a railroad siding and sold at public auction. That was threatened at Pittsburgh today by the President of the Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus.

John Ringling North, who <sup>was on with me</sup> ~~we had on this program as a guest speaker~~ several weeks ago, told the assembled circus people that a crisis was at hand. He's asking the sixteen hundred employees of the big show to take a twenty-five per cent cut. They are objecting to this, and he told them today they had two weeks to think it over. <sup>He added</sup> ~~He told them~~ that these were not normal times in the circus business, and gave them a bit of family history to explain. He said that during the last depression his uncle, John Ringling, had to put a burden of debt on the circus, and now another depression has come along. So, said he, the wage cut was necessary to keep things going. If the circus people wouldn't accept it, why then in two weeks the greatest show on earth would come to an end. "It will end up," said he, "under the auction hammer on some railroad siding."

DOG

8

Today, near Rock Hall, Maryland, four boys were out in a sailboat on the Potomac. The boat capsized, and into the water they went. Three could swim more or less, but Bobby <sup>Collier</sup> couldn't swim a stroke. He floundered in the water, helpless. The shore was three hundred feet away - he couldn't possibly reach it. He couldn't even struggle to the capsized boat and catch hold. The other three boys tried to help him, but they couldn't. They yelled for help, but there was nobody around - nobody in a boat, nobody on the shore. Not ~~at~~ a thing alive on that shore - save a dog, and the dog didn't know what to do. He was a Chesapeake Bay retriever, woolly, something like a setter. It was Bobby Collier's dog, Betsy. ~~She~~ was jumping around, jittery with excitement. Betsy knew that something was wrong - but what? She didn't know what to do.

58 1/2

Bobby ~~couldn't~~ was drowning, <sup>and</sup> the three other boys couldn't save him; they were just able to save themselves. ~~They were~~ Helpless, frantic, ~~and~~ one of them did the only thing he could. As he floundered in the water he saw Bobby's dog Betsy there on land, and he yelled in despair: "Betsy, come and save him." And Betsy

seemed to understand that - she now knew what to do. The Chesapeake Bay retriever plunged into the water, and swam with the power of her breed. She reached her master. Bobby was so far gone that there was only one thing he could do before lapsing into unconsciousness. He stuck his arm ~~in~~ through Betsy's collar, and <sup>it</sup> ~~he~~ was wedged there. Whereupon, Betsy swam to shore, with her strong <sup>webbed</sup> ~~swimming web~~ feet, and dragged the boy with her - dragged him on to shore. Then help came. <sup>And</sup> Bobby ~~collar~~ was quickly resuscitated - alive and well tonight. of S-l-u-t-m.

9

2 1/4