

P.T. - Sunoco. Tuesday, June 27, 1939.

Cramer

There are twists of intense human emotions in today's story of an attempted prison break. The central figure - a woman -- with a knife at her throat.

The penitentiary at Michigan City, Indiana, is renowned in the annals of escape. There, half a dozen years ago, a jailbreak occurred - desperate convicts getting away, fugitives that later provided the nucleus of the Dillinger gang. That provoked much criticism of the prison management. There was a change of wardens, a change of policy - ~~regulations enforced with~~ stern severity. And this in turn led to prison discontent, ~~which~~ <sup>ing</sup> culminated in today's desperate attempt to escape, <sup>and</sup> that fearsome sight - a woman with a knife at her throat <sup>for</sup> two hours. ~~of that terrifying suspense.~~

Mrs. Ruth Joiner of Crawfordsville, Indiana, is an agent for the State Patrol Board. Today she was going through the prison, walking along a corridor, when a convict, armed with a butcher ~~and~~ knife, seized her. A guard tried to intervene but was cut down with a slash - badly wounded. The convict, joined by three others, forced the woman prison-agent in <sup>to</sup> a nearby physician's office - and there they held her a hostage. ~~and~~ They ~~were~~ <sup>were</sup> armed with butcher knives stolen from the kitchen. And they made a

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blood-curdling demand - they'd kill her, if they were not given guns and allowed to escape. *They even demanded machine guns and an automobile for a getaway.*  
Communication between the prison authorities and the would-be escapers was by telephone. With the four convicts established in the physician's office and holding Mrs. Joiner as their hostage - the warden telephoned to the office. One of the convicts replied, and there was prolonged negotiation. The warden pleaded with them, told them she was the mother of a little girl, said it would be inhuman ~~of them~~ to kill her. The reply was - it was inhuman to keep them in prison. So, give them guns and let them escape - or they'd kill her. And all the while the door of the physician's office was open and <sup>the</sup> warden and guards could look across the courtyard and see the woman sitting in a chair and beside her a convict holding a knife at her throat.

*A terrifying*  
~~It was a~~ <sup>quandary</sup>. They were afraid to rush the physician's office - lest the convicts carry out their savage threat. The warden reasoned that it would be useless to yield to their demand - because if they were given guns and allowed to escape, they would undoubtedly take Mrs. Joiner with them, still a hostage. So two hours went by. two hours of harrowing suspense.

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with constant pleading on the telephone. And always that sight seen through the open door - the woman with the knife at her throat.

The turn came in ~~an~~ unexpected fashion - a weird turn. The woman fainted. The ghastly strain of the menacing knife was too much for her, and she keeled over unconscious. ~~Over the telephons~~ The convicts asked for an ice pack to revive her, revive the woman they were threatening to kill. And here the warden and the guards <sup>found</sup> ~~saw~~ their opportunity. They stole as near as they could to the door of the physician's office, <sup>the</sup> ~~a~~ warden ~~went to~~ <sup>ed</sup> pass in the ice pack. As he did so he maneuvered the convicts in a position for a rush. And in stormed the guards - shooting. The convicts were quickly overpowered. Mrs. Joiner was slightly wounded by one of the bullets, and one of the convicts was shot in critical fashion - a bullet in the stomach. <sup>TP</sup> And the bitter irony is that he was the least dangerous of the four. The other three were ~~murderers~~ serving life sentences; ~~but~~ he was in for mere robbery. The prison authorities believe that <sup>he was only accidentally in it and would</sup> ~~he~~ ~~might~~ have <sup>if he could;</sup> prevented the killing of the woman prison agent - <sup>but</sup> he it was who got the one bullet that did serious damage. The final touch of irony in a harrowing tale.

THIEF

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In San Francisco, there's a lady with a great record -  
police record. She is being held on a forty thousand dollar bail  
for purse snatching, and the cops say she is wanted in every state  
of the Union, all forty-eight states - and Canada too. In  
San Francisco alone, she is credited with snatching eighty purses  
in one week. What's her name? Why, Mary Smith - simplest of all  
names. Though it's not quite so simple as that. The police say  
she has gone by more than a hundred other names - more than a  
hundred aliases. I wonder how she remembers them all. Anyway,  
it's a great record if not exactly a good record.

LOUISIANA

Louisiana's new governor today promised to clean up;- Governor Earl Long, brother of the renowned Huey Long. And there might be some pretty good reasons for a clean-up. The police are still looking for the fugitive President of Louisiana State University, who is wanted on a charge of embezzling a hundred thousand dollars. And today in Washington P.W.A. authorities ordered a check-up of relief money in Louisiana - fifty-one million dollars of relief money down there along the bayous.

Today Governor Earl Long declared himself thusly:- "Any irregularity," said he, "will be searched out and the guilty ones prosecuted - even though this should involve some of my best and closest friends." And Huey Long's brother summarized his policy in these words:- "This administration," said he, "will not countenance theft."

It seems like a good idea - not to countenance theft. And I wonder why it wasn't thought of before.

MONEY

President Roosevelt spoke his mind today about the way the Senate voted to deprive him of his power to change the value of the dollar, cut down its gold content. He said that if this action were okayed by the House of Representatives and became a law of the land, it would tend to turn the control of money over to Wall Street and international speculators. He also said it would be a blow to national defense. The President argued it this way:- If he hasn't ~~got~~ the right to cut the value of the dollar, international speculators will manipulate <sup>that</sup> the value ~~of the dollar~~ in such fashion as to injure the foreign <sup>trade</sup> ~~credit~~ of the United States. That, said he, would harm our national economy, which in turn would be a blow to national defense.

DALADIER

(There's an uneasy impression in the world that in spite of the lull in the European crisis right now - things are ~~stirring~~ stirring dangerously under the surface, and there may soon be another flare-up worse than ever.) This was stated today in most outright and sententious fashion by the Premier of France. To the Chamber of Deputies Premier Daladier made this statement:- "The situation in Europe and the world today is the gravest in twenty years," said he.

Daladier summarized the situation this way:- "Three million men are assembled on frontiers, ~~he declared~~ Munitions factories are working feverishly. Troop concentrations and manoeuvres that have been announced are more important than normally." And with that he declared that unless the outlook changes for the better, France will cancel the demobilization of some two hundred thousand troops. These are soldiers who were called to arms during the crisis in the spring, <sup>now</sup> scheduled to be released from the army - but they won't be, if the situation continues as threatening as it is.

This follows British ~~action~~ action in calling troops to be in readiness at the beginning of fall - (all pointing to autumn as the

time of peril, when the German crops will be harvested. With the German crops safely in the barns, it is feared that Hitler will make some threatening move.)

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British naval commanders in the Far East were told to keep  
British ships away from those two ports - to which His Majesty's  
commanders replied with a refusal, saying the Japanese had no  
legal right to blockade Hankow and Foochow. The United States  
didn't seem to be directly concerned since we have no interests in  
either of those  
ports.

The Japanese conciliation was seen in an order concerning  
the one thing that seems to have enraged the British the most -  
stripping the clothes from Britishers who pass through the Japanese  
lines at blockaded Tientsin. Today, the Japanese commander at  
Tientsin gave the order - no more of the strip act, which so  
humiliated and embarrassed the British. We are given one point  
of Japanese explanation - namely that the previous stripping was  
done by Japanese soldiers who in their military order realized  
how Eastern people felt about being stripped of their clothes.



CHINA

The Japanese did two things today - one provocative and one conciliatory. The provocative thing was a warning to the British that the Japanese navy was closing two more Chinese ports - Wenchow and Foochow, both of them to the south of Shanghai. The British naval commanders in the Far East were told to keep British ships away from those two ports - to which His Majesty's commanders replied with a refusal, saying the Japanese had no legal right to blockade Wenchow and Foochow. The United States doesn't seem to be directly concerned since we have no warships *in either of those* ~~in any of the~~ two harbors.

*3* ~~The~~ Japanese conciliation was seen in an order concerning the one thing that seems to have enraged the British the most - stripping the clothes from Britishers who pass through the Japanese lines at blockaded Tientsin. Today, the Japanese commander at Tientsin gave the order - no more of the strip act, which so humiliated and embarrassed the British.) We are given one odd point of Japanese explanation - namely that the ~~stripxxx~~ stripping was done by Nipponese soldiers who in their simplicity never realized how Western people felt about being denuded of their clothes.

The Japanese people themselves feel no such embarrassment - mixed bathing a la Adam <sup>and</sup> Eve being an old Japanese custom.

It sounds all very innocent, almost like the Garden of Eden - those guileless Japanese never suspecting that they were

~~embarrassing the British~~ causing the staid and proper British a lot of pain <sup>ful</sup> ~~and~~ embarrassment.

WINDSOR

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A report was published in London today that the Duke and Duchess of Windsor will return to England in October - will return to live there. What's the reason? It is explained the former Edward the Eighth and the former Wallis Warfield might have gone back before this - except for one thing. This - the Duke's insistence that his Duchess from Baltimore must be accorded the rank of "Her Royal Highness." Wally is a Duchess - that's conceded. But there are two kinds of Duchesses in England. The ordinary garden variety - entitled to be called "Your Grace", and members of the royal family, royal Duchesses - who must be styled, "Your Royal Highness." The British government and the British court sternly refused to grant the Duchess of Windsor the status of a royal duchess. No "Your Royal Highness."

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Now the story is that the Duke of Windsor has weakened on that point. He isn't prepared to insist any longer that his Duchess shall have royal rank and royal precedence. Moreover, there are signs that court circles in London are taking a more friendly attitude toward Wally of Baltimore. They say the aloof aristocrats of the court have been noting the dignified

attitude the Duchess has assumed. And they are impressed by the way she has been - "sticking by the Duke." So, in view of all this, the ~~report~~ report is that the former Edward the Eighth will now return to the kingdom he abandoned - even though his

Duchess is not styled, "Her Royal Highness." For after all she may still get it -- ~~some day~~

ACTOR

New York <sup>has</sup> ~~today~~ had another one of those scary affairs - somebody perched on high and threatening to jump. This time it was an actor. He was poised on a tall water-tank on top of a tall building, and he shouted that he was going to leap and end it all. It was the usual scene of jitters and imploring - "Come down from there." One thing to be noticed was that the would-be suicide perched <sup>up there</sup> on high was exceedingly accommodating with photographers - he'd pose for them, and give them good shots. He did a lot of acting - ~~in~~ even for an actor. He explained that he was determined to end it all, because of love for a blonde actress. His heart was broken, so he might as well break his neck.

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He finally came down, and then some questions brought forth another explanation. The actor was writing a play. And the big scene of that play was when the hero <sup>clambered</sup> ~~leaped~~ on top of a tall water-tank on top of <sup>a tall</sup> ~~an apartment~~ building, and determined to jump - all because of his love for a blonde actress. Maybe the actor playwright was having a little rehearsal in advance, just so he could write the big scene convincingly. Or maybe he got himself so steamed up with the big scene that he went ahead and did it.

## FIGHT

In prize-fight circles Joe Jacobs, sometimes known as "Yussel", is renowned for the loudness of his mouth. ~~Yussel can~~ out-talk and out-shout half a dozen normal fight managers - and they're not exactly a silent or reticent breed. He's the ~~man~~ manager of Tony Galento, who fights dark destruction tomorrow in the dusky form of heavyweight champion Joe Louis. Two-ton Tony himself is noisy, and the two-toner and Yussel together make a raucous duet.

Today the New York Boxing Commission gave solemn consideration to a couple of Yussel's most clamorous vociferations. He has been proclaiming to the skies that he fears his two-ton *Tony Galento,* protege,<sup>^</sup> will be the victim of foul practice, ~~He suspects that~~ there will be something phoney about the boxing gloves - that there'll be a crooked switch at the last minute and the dark destroyer will be given light boxing gloves, skin-tight, while those assigned to two-ton Tony will be heavy, soft and padded, not so destructive. So Yussel is talking about bringing a pair of scales to the ~~ring~~ ringside <sup>to</sup> ~~and~~ weighing the gloves, ~~just~~ ~~before they're put on.~~ The Boxing Commission today thought this over gravely and said. No - no scales at the ringside.

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Yssel's second managerial contention was even more astonishing. He wanted the Commission to pass a ruling that if Two-ton Tony knocks the Brown Bomber out of the ring, the newspaper men won't be allowed to push him back. (That harks back to the famous case when Firpo, the Wild Bull of the Pampas, swatted Jack Dempsey head over heels over the ropes and out of the ring. And the fight reporters, upon whom Jack fell, pushed him back into the ring.) Yussel's demand was received with impolite laughter, the idea of Two-ton Tony knocking Joe Louis out of the ring being so remote. That's what the Boxing Commission must have thought. ~~These grave and reverend fathers of boxing ruled that the present regulations cover the possibility of the dusky devastator being sent flying out of the ring by one of those two ton punches.~~ Yussel lost both decisions, but he's still hollering.

PETROLEUM

Here are some interesting facts concerning ~~the~~ a much discussed question - how long will the world's oil supply last? In Atlantic City, the American Society for Testing Materials is in session, and today its president, T.G. Delbridge of Philadelphia, told about <sup>ta</sup> expectations concerning oil.

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In Nineteen~~Eight~~, said he, it was predicted that the petroleum supplies of the world would soon be exhausted. *Again,* Estimates in Nineteen Eighteen, he continues, indicated that the oil reserves <sup>would run out</sup> ~~will be exhausted~~ in twelve years. According to ~~the~~, that, the oil supply should have run out in Nineteen Thirty, nine years ago. ~~Thisxxxxxxx experts six figures~~ This year the experts figure that there are seventeen billion barrels of petroleum left. This amount at the present rate of consumption, should last about fourteen years.

*It* Sounds alarming - but the experts don't figure it that way.

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The oil industry is getting more and more gasoline out of petroleum. Today, they get more gasoline out of a barrel of crude oil than there is in that crude oil itself. How come?



Because of advanced scientific processes of refining, which not only extract gasoline, but transform parts of the crude oil into ~~the~~ gasoline. Also, advanced methods of the oil industry are devising new ways of finding petroleum, of getting it out of the earth, and of utilizing it. These enlarge the possibilities of producing oil so much that here's the present indication -

the American petroleum supply ~~is~~ will last for a hundred and fifty years.

*Blue Sunoco sponsoring a news commentator <sup>on the air</sup> for a hundred and fifty years - I hope. And s-l-u-t-m.*

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