

*Checked  
S.M.C.*

Sea-faring matters were to the forefront in Washington today. The House of Representatives cast a vote, a vote that seems to say:- "Yes, the Stars and Stripes shall wave on the sea, not only on dreadnoughts and cruisers, but also on liners and freighters." Of course, Old Glory does a bit of fluttering on the briny deep right now, but not so much as plenty of people think it ought to. More American argosies of trade, more American Merchant Marine.

The vote was a hundred and ninety-four to a hundred and eighty-six, indicating a good deal of opposition in the Lower House. But the Copeland-Bland ship subsidy bill was passed and now goes to the Senate. It means a number of things, but predominantly just what it says -- "Ship subsidy." It gives the Government unlimited power to help in boosting American shipping. Permission to contribute as much money as it pleases to the building and operation of ships under the American flag.

The financial help handed out is to be administered by a Federal Maritime Authority, a commission in control of ship subsidies.

One of the most welcome features of the bill is --  
safeguards, safeguards for travel on American vessels. It calls  
for the most complete precautions against disaster at sea.  
It also ~~is~~ says -- heavy damages, ponderous damages to passengers  
and their estates, if there should be any disaster. That's  
the bill which Congress has sent to the Senate.



ROOSEVELT

President Roosevelt sent a special message to Congress today, in which he used some words with a quaint old legalistic flavor.

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The substance was that Congress should pass certain measures to remove any possibility of the government being sued in connection with its money policy. It is a later day action following that Supreme Court Gold Decision, in which the nine Justices decided that the Administration was wrong in going off gold; but that nobody could sue the government about it. At the time it was expected that the President would act to re-enforce the Supreme Court declaration that the Government could not be sued. Today's special message is the action as predicted. It's a case of plugging up possible loopholes.

It <sup>is within</sup> ~~is~~ the power of Congress to give an individual the right to sue the government. Congress has done so in the past. So the President says in effect to the lawmakers, "If anybody has been granted the right to take legal action against the government in cases of money or securities, let's withdraw that permission".

It all harks back to the theory that the Government cannot be sued. "Why not?" - somebody may ask. "If you can sue Bill Jones or John Smith, why can't you sue Uncle Sam?" Here's where we find those Presidential words with a quaint old legalistic flavor. The special message declares: "There is no constitutional or inherent right to sue the Government. "On the contrary," says the President, "the immunity of the sovereign from suit is a principle of universal acceptance, and permission to bring such suits is an act of grace."

References to "the sovereign" and to "acts of grace" do sound like the old days when Kings were Kings and Royalty ruled the earth. But any lawyer will tell you that nearly all legal principles go far back into the past - many of them as far back as King Hamurabi in the days of ancient Babylon. Our own Republican Institutions are transformations of older notions of monarchy.

The President himself, in his special message, points out that in this ~~xxx~~ case Congress is the sovereign and can grant or withhold something as an act of grace.

So every lawmaker in Washington is a fraction of a sovereign. Huey Long says every man a king. I don't know



about that, but it's clear that every Senator and Congressman  
is a certain percentage of a king.

## FLIGHT

A few hours ago an airplane flew over a point of land. It doesn't matter which point. The plane wasn't going anywhere. The importance is not that it flew past a point of space, but past a point of time. It kept winging along past just that one critical instant - and then and there the official world endurance record was broken - the record for man's sustained flight. And so today, two nobodies are somebodies.

Down in Mississippi it is tranquil and dreamy, not the sort of center of aeronautical activity where big things in the air are supposed to take place. The town of Meridian has an airport, and that's about all. The Key Brothers were managers of that local airport, and that was about all. It took quite a while for the United States at large to get acquainted with the fact that they were making an endurance airplane flight, staying aloft day after day. Even when they had been up in the air for a whole week, it didn't seem to register - or matter. But, they stayed up for a second week, and then the word began to drift around. And, after they had passed the third week, circling incessantly in the Mississippi sky - people began to sit up and take notice.



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The official endurance record, set several years ago, stood at five hundred and fifty three and a half hours, more than twenty-three days. By way of coincidence, it <sup>also</sup> was made by two brothers, John and Kenneth Hunter. <sup>And</sup> That fraternal record was broken today by a couple of other brothers.

But that doesn't tell the whole record-breaking story. There's still another mark to shoot at, an unofficial record. In nineteen thirty, two St. Louis flyers, Dale Jackson and Forrest O'Brine, stayed up from July twenty-second until August Seventeenth, twenty-six days. Unfortunately, something went wrong with their barograph. Records have to be precise and just so. Therefore, the Aeronautical Association refused to certify their twenty-six day mark - leaving it unofficial. The Mississippi ~~Key~~ Brothers will have to fly a hundred hours more if they intend to add the unofficial as well as the official scalps to their belt. And they intend to do just that. They have more encouragement now than they started with. The Meridian Chamber of Commerce is not blind to the shine of publicity focused on their town. So the business men have offered the ~~Key~~ Brothers

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a hundred dollars for every additional day they stay in the air, from today on.

*What's it all about? Well —*

*^* These endurance flights are stunts of the utmost significance in the art and industry of aviation. Refueling certainly looks like the great development of the future - with ocean flyer Clyde Pangborn making definite plans for a round-the-world non-stop refueling voyage late this summer. So it's interesting to take a look at the refueling operations of the Key Brothers, in their long drawn-out Mississippi sky circling. Aviation men say it <sup>has</sup> been a model of smooth and skillful refueling -- a plane from the ground taking off, climbing ~~in~~ and swinging to a position above the endurance plane. Then contact is made with the gasoline hose, and scores of gallons of gas piped down into the Key Brothers' tank. The refuelings have ticked off with a machine-like precision. I've had occasion to observe that in <sup>the Fox</sup> Movietone Newsreel shots we've been preparing. And these show a flash of nervy daring, Fred Kay climbing dizzily out on to the struts of the plane, with a grease gun, ~~and~~ servicing the motor. A sky engine running for more than three

at  
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3 } weeks certainly must need servicing.

One random observation might be made about the endurance of the brothers' ceaseless-round-and-round -- it would be a deuce of a time to get a toothache wouldn't it? And that's just what happened. One of them did get a toothache and was treated from the ground. A dentist handed out instructions and medication, and a refueling plane passed the toothache cure down into the endurance plane.

2 } So tonight it's salutations to "Ole Miss". That's the name of the plane. An abbreviation I suppose for "Old Mississippi."

GERMANY

The hand of Hitler tightened its grasp on Germany today. A series of decrees were issued at Berlin. Decrees that represent action of the most dictatorial sort - the power of the Reichsfuehrer reaching a long distance farther into the lives of Germans. So important are these Hitler commands that observers are calling them the most drastic exercise of one-man-absoluteism since that grim and sinister blood purge of the Storm Troops. To be sure, today's new laws were signed and issued by the Nazi Cabinet, but the Berlin Ministry is just a <sup>(rubber)</sup>~~rubber~~ stamp. It's there to okay the decisions made by Hitler - or, by those who, some say, direct the Dictator's policies.

The order that makes the biggest headlines is this:-  
Two hundred thousand young men ordered to the Nazi Labor Camps. And also -- one hundred thousand young women. The boys must shoulder shovel and go to work. They will be employed on farming and road-building projects. I suppose the girls will do the Labor Camp cooking and the darning of socks, which would be according to notions of womanly home life -- although it's not unusual in Europe for women to do the farm work. One purpose of this conscription of youth is to put the legions of the young under



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Nazi discipline and inculcate them with Nazi ideas. Another is to give the young men physical training to get them ready for conscription into the new Germany army. Maybe Hitler intends to give the girls military training -- an idea that has been toyed with here and there. But that would hardly seem to fit in with Nazi ideas concerning's woman's place.

Perhaps a broader meaning may be seen in this compulsory mass movement to the Labor Camps. In the Socialistic tendencies of Fascism one idea frequently occurs -- that everyone should have experience with work, that there should be no class reared to idleness. According to the way things are going in the Reich, every German will have a taste of manual labor.

There's one exception to that -- the Jews. Hitler's decree confines itself strictly to what they call Aryans. No

Jew will be conscripted into the Labor Corps.

*provokes)*

*that*

*This readily*  
~~The readily~~

a satirical observation -- <sup>that</sup> it's no great hardship not to be

allowed to do forced labor. ~~I shouldn't think the Jewish people~~

~~in Germany would mind it so much.~~ It all recalls the state of

things in the Middle Ages when the Jews were excluded from the

normal occupations of men -- farming and fighting. There was nothing they could be, save merchants, bankers and capitalists.

5 { The military aspect of the new Berlin decrees is emphasized by one command - that everybody without exception will have to take an active part in air raid and air protection maneuvers.

Even foreigners living in Germany will have to get out and get busy when the siren shrieks, and the city population is drilled in what to do should enemy planes come bombing.

It's dry-as-dust legal reading to scan the juridical part of the new Nazi changes, <sup>those</sup> ~~that~~ that pertain to the Courts of Law. They can be summarized in the statement that Hitler takes a new and stronger grip on the machinery of justice in Germany. One provision takes on a filip of interest because it concerns that always ticklish subject -- religion. Heretofore, somebody disagreeing with the ecclesiastical commands of the Nazi Church Leader, Reichs-Bishop Mueller, might go into the regular courts, but that's all changed now. Church cases are removed from the jurisdiction of the courts. They will come before a new commission acting under the direction of the Minister



of the Interior. This new commission will hand down decisions in all disputes and protest<sup>s</sup> within the Protestant church. Today is just Thursday, June 27th to us, but in Germany it's a Red Letter day in the growth of Nazi power -- Hitler's command over the lives of sixty-five million people.

EDEN

I'd like to make a nomination for the tough job championship, and put up the name of Captain Anthony Eden. British diplomacy is traditionally burdened with tough jobs, more so than usual right now. And, the fair haired boy of the Imperial Statecraft is getting the brunt of it. Having just had the task of trying to persuade Mussolini to change his mind about Abyssinia, with the Duce in no mood to be persuaded. Captain Anthony is now in Paris trying to fix things up with the French. It all concerns the stark fact that with all the stewing about the German junking of the Treaty of Versailles, Britain went coolly ahead and made a separate arrangement with Hitler - a naval treaty. The French thought they were hand in hand with John Bull, then, suddenly, found John hand in hand with Hitler. So naturally there is a lot of resonant French cussing along the Banks of Seine. It's a ticklish job to smooth down indignant Frenchmen, but that's a mere trifle compared with what rumor says -- that is that the French want some compensation in return for the way England ~~went~~ went ahead and secretly signed up with Berlin. The

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compensation that France asks is that England shall persuade the Nazi Government to cut down the size of its Army. And that would make another tough job for Captain Anthony Eden. Hitler, having just successfully rearmed in defiance of the world, to be persuaded to do a bit of disarming. That would be the champion bout for the tough job title.

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An affair of honor, doubly so. The honor of Borotra and the honor of France. It was Monsieur Poulain, journalist of Paris, who spoke the words of insult. "Is it not to be observed", he wrote with his journalistic pen, "that Borotra refused to defend La France on the tennis court in the Davis Cup matches? Having then refused to play for the glory of the nation, he is now playing for his own glory at Wimbledon. This is an affront to the honor of France." Such were the words of Monsieur Poulain. He thereupon continued with words still more deadly. He called the bounding Basque a tennis bum.

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Is this not sufficient cause for a duel? But what will they fight with? swords? But Borotra is no fencer, while Poulain is a former officer of the Army of France, and master of the art of thrust and parry. Shall it be with pistols? But Borotra can't shoot straight. While Poulain, as <sup>a</sup> former officer, is a dead shot. Today's rumor is that an arrangement might be worked out whereby the two duelists would shoot over each other's heads with pistols. But maybe the bounding Basque can't shoot straight enough to be sure of missing his antagonist.



But a duel there will be. Honor must be satisfied.

Borotra is scheduled to play in the doubles at Wimbledon. It has been supposed that he might let the doubles go <sup>by</sup> default, and go to Paris to fight the duel. But, the word this evening is that he will play in the doubles -- and then the duel.

But meanwhile the two duelists have nothing to say.

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According to the code of honor, they have no right to say anything. They are in the hands of their seconds, the seconds make all the arrangements, issue all the statements do all the saying. I, too, am in the hands of my seconds. They're dragging me away from the mike, and,

9 1/2  
SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.