

BORAH

So far as we could judge, Senator Borah's hat went into the ring several weeks ago. Maybe one edge of the rim was a little bit outside, a shade over the line. If so, it has now been pushed right into the middle of the presidential arena --- that big sombrero of the statesman from Idaho.

(For the Senator today made the formal declaration in black and white. He is out for the Republican nomination. The name of Borah is being entered in the Ohio primaries.) One of the conditions of entrance is that the candidate shall officially declare his intentions. That necessary formality was fulfilled by the gentleman from Idaho today. "Yes," said he, "I am running for the nomination to run for president,"

When there's a unanimous vote in Congress on a subject of bitter controversy, that's a surprise. When somebody fails to bite somebody else in Washington, that's news. Can you imagine -- not a dissenting <sup>vote</sup> ~~vote~~ in such savagely fought affairs as the government cotton control, potato control and tobacco control? You could hardly mention them without causing a fight, especially over the question of restricting the crops of potatoes. <sup>π</sup> But today the Senate made a unanimous decision concerning all three of those control laws. The logic of this general agreement is simple. The New Deal made those laws and supported them. The anti-New Dealers were fiercely opposed. So when the President said:- "Let's toss them out" -- the Democrats did what the President wanted, and the Republicans did what they've been wanting to do all the time. The result -- unanimity.

The three controls, cotton, potato, and tobacco were adjuncts of the Triple A. The Supreme Court having tossed out the three As was virtually certain to toss out the three adjuncts.

## CENSUS

There's new material today for the sociologists to work on. One problem that's on their mind is what effect will come from the declining rate of increase in the nation's population. (The Census Bureau today announced the figures gathered at its last count. The year ending July First, Nineteen Thirty-Five shows the United States to have a hundred and twenty-seven million and a half people.)

Between Nineteen Twenty and Nineteen Thirty, the country gained a million, six hundred thousand people a year. Today's figures show that between Nineteen Thirty and Nineteen Thirty-Five, the increase in population slowed down to nine hundred thousand a year. Yes, that's cutting down the rate of increase. It means something in terms of unemployed, buyers of goods, more old people, fewer younger people.

WEATHER

The weather today was another picture of winter run wild - blizzards in the middlewest; snowdrifts, traffic tied up. The East here was a slippery place, after the wind driven storm of sleet. In Boston harbor the blockade of shipping is worse than ever. Today seven government cutters and patrol boats pushed and ~~extricated~~ crunched desperately to break the ice and free cargo- boats.

~~The ships~~ Ships carrying necessary cargoes of coal and oil are frozen in. <sup>TP</sup> About the frost-bound islands, of which we were told last night - Nantucket is in good shape, Still marooned; <sup>but</sup> the planes have dropped a month's supply of food. <sup>And -</sup> Things are more promising for Tangier Island, with an ice-breaker slicing through frozen Chesapeake Bay, pushing foot by foot with the greatest difficulty, but making headway at last reports.

In the south, storm warnings are up. Already winter rains have caused floods. Forty people trapped by an overflowing river in Alabama - rescue <sup>In another place a</sup> on the way. <sup>^</sup> lake burst a dam, and the raging water <sup>S</sup> wrecked farm houses. <sup>TP</sup> One flood accident came when a freight train in Alabama took a hundred and twenty-five foot dive down a steep embankment.

## INTRO TO BOB DAVIS

We human beings grouse and think we have a tough time when Mother Nature presents us with an ice storm: taxicabs smashing into each other, people on foot taking spills right and left, and even islands cut off for days without food. But the chief sufferers, as we know, are our feathered friends. A real cold snap, like the one we've been having, with a thick crust on the snow, followed by last night's ice storm, well, that just about cuts off the natural food supply for all birds. And our wild friends need our help.

The Audubon Society, and other associations for the protection of birds and animals, have sent out an appeal. Now is the time to put out <sup>bread</sup> ~~bird~~ crumbs, grain, ~~sun~~ sunflower seed, hemp, chaff, ~~salt~~, suet, and so on, for our friends the chickadees, the red-heads, the nut-hatches, meadowlarks, buntings, pheasant, ~~grouse~~, bluejays, and so on.

We have an immense winter population of birds, ~~all~~ friends of man. Now is the time to help them over a tough spot. We can do it without any special instructions. But if you want information on this subject, why not drop a line to the Audubon Society in New York, or the Biological Survey in Washington?

Davis.

Feb. 4,

1936.

A friend of mine who is an enthusiast about birds (in fact, enthusiastic about everything), is here in the studio. We are going out together tonight -- Bob Davis. You know, the Bob Davis who writes the famous column in the New York Sun. Bob is known around the world. Nearly all writers know him, because he gave many of them a start when he was a magazine editor.

Bob roams the world now, gathering unusual information -- the odd, the bizarre, the whimsical, the unusual. I imagine many of you have read his latest book -- "Tree Toad."

Well, Bob, you always know something about everything. Have you been associated with any birds lately?

MR. DAVIS AND L.T.

MR. DAVIS:- Have I! On my latest jaunt, around the Gulf of Mexico, I spent some time at the largest bird sanctuary in the Western Hemisphere, Edward McIlhenny's home for birds, Avery Island, Louisiana. That's just twelve miles south of New Iberia.

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L.T.:- What birds are there, Bob?

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MR. DAVIS:- Why, every known bird of passage in North America calls there and spends a while with Bird King McIlhenny. Twenty thousand pairs of protected white heron nest there each year.

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L.T.:- By the way, Mrs. Francis Crane, who has all those glorious Great Pyrenees snow dogs up at Needham, Massachusetts, was telling me about many people who catch birds and put little aluminum bands on them. It is done to try and ~~trap~~ trace the flight of migratory birds.

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MR. DAVIS:- Yes, thousands of duck, <sup>and water fowl</sup> ~~and~~ geese of every species are banded and liberated at Avery Island. And more than three percent



have been captured at other places so that their flight could be studied. I put a band on a pintail and tossed him free with the prayer that he never be caught. I regard that band as an engagement ring. Its number is 601552. If any one ever catches her I hope he will let me know, As a matter of fact she was a him.

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L.T.:- Thanks, Bob. So you are tied up with a pintail!

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MR. DAVIS:- Yes, Lowell, but not to a pin head.

WILD LIFE

*Bob, maybe you ought to be engaged to*

~~This is about~~ Sweetie Jones. She is young, blonde and handsome. She is interested in wild life, not the wild life of Broadway, but the welfare of the beasts, the birds and the fishes. Sweetie Jones holds the majestic post of Fish and Game Commissioner in the largest of states, Texas. That has made her a delegate at the President's Wild Life Conference in Washington. Inevitably - among hundreds of delegates, Sweetie Jones is an outstanding figure. She not only has the figure, but has the knowledge of wild life. She is a Texas cow-girl, owns a big ranch and runs it. Yes, Sweetie Jones. - that's what her friends still

*But you couldn't become engaged to her, Bob.*  
call her. ~~But~~ She's married now and is Mrs. Hal W. Peck, Texas'

Fish and Game Commissioner.

KING

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The King's message to Parliament, right after he has assumed the royal power, is likely to be a formal perfunctory affair. So nobody expected today King Edward the Eighth would have anything startling to declare to the M.Ps.

The first parliament of the new reign convened in London and promptly received a message from the monarch. It was brief. The King expressed his appreciation for the condolences on the death of his late father. He told what he intended to do. And that was no startling revelation. He phrased it this way: "The first object of my life will be to maintain the liberties of my people and to promote the welfare of all classes." Perhaps you may see some meanings in the phrase, "the welfare of all classes." Perhaps that expresses something <sup>that is</sup> much in the mind of a King who ~~was~~ as Prince of Wales was such an informal young man, informal <sup>in</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>quietly, and -</sup> informal in his frequent displays of concern for the welfare of the British masses.

The message from King Edward the Eighth was received ~~with~~ with due ceremony in Parliament, but the M.Ps. didn't concentrate on it with weighty meditations. They need most of their thinking

KING - 2

faculties for the ponderous question that is before them - the question of British armament; - Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin's plan to spend a billion dollars on the army, <sup>and</sup> navy and especially on the air force. The Labor Party will fight bitterly against it, but the weight of opinion in Parliament is that Britain needs more guns, *and planes.*

## STRIKE

All day today Londoners found the greatest difficulty in procuring their favorite dish. The Yorkshire pudding was there in quantities, but not the roast beef. Instead, they were digging into cans of corn wullie, or went vegetarian. As the day wore on, the shortage became acute, and there are hundreds of lean dinner tables in London tonight. Imagine Simpsons in the Strand without a joint in the joint.

And yet all day huge stacks of beef, pork and mutton kept piling up at the wharves, unloaded from Australia, Canada and South America. But it all stayed there.

The trouble was in the central distribution plant of meat for London, the Smithfield Market. Tied up by a strike.

All day the retail dealers tried to eke out the shortage of scouring the English countryside, sending out trucks and passenger cars far and wide, buying meat supplies from the villagers and farmers. But that won't go far in supplying London's teeming millions,

Meanwhile, there's a general strike in Pekin -- a big walkout in a little town. What's that you're saying, Bob Davis?

CROATS

A man <sup>goes</sup> ~~went~~ on trial, ~~today~~, but he <sup>'s</sup> ~~was~~ not in court. There are four defendants. Three <sup>prisoners</sup> ~~stood~~ before the ~~XXXX~~ judge. ~~in the courtroom,~~ But the fourth <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ missing. Yet he is the most important, by far. He ranks as Big Shot Number One - in a trial ~~that began today~~ in Paris. (The trial of conspirators in the assassination of King Alexander of Yugoslavia.)

The strange case of the missing defendant has a background of international peril. The story they tell goes back to the time when Premier Gombos took power in Hungary. Hungary and Yugoslavia are hostile. So Gombos supported the Croats. These are ~~a~~ a minority in Yugoslavia, discontent<sup>ed</sup> and rebellious. There were powerful Croatian terrorist societies, plotting and conniving. Gombos sided with them.

And he tied up with Italy, likewise at odds with Yugoslavia. Mussolini was glad to line up with Hungary, ~~because that country made a valuable ally in the troubled affairs of central Europe.~~

~~So~~ The Duce fell in with Premier Gombos' policy <sup>of</sup> ~~X~~ sympathizing with the Croats and the Croatian terrorists. There were camps of refugee conspirators in both Hungary and Italy.

- Such is the story they tell of international intrigue,

# RETAKE

STRIKE - 2

About Pekin being a mighty big town? Sure, but you're thinking of Pekin, China, while this is Pekin, Illinois. That's where union labor called a general strike today -- ordered every worker from barber to motion picture operator to throw up his work. The Union leaders say this general strike is a big thing, a walkout of three thousand. But then Pekin has a population of sixteen thousand. The sheriff is apprehensive of a catastrophe, and wants the Governor to send the National Guard. And in New York, a wave of strike threats - hats, and skyscraper elevators.

CROATS

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which provides a background for the (trial now on in France. The three defendants under arrest are Croatian terrorists, accused of having come from Hungary. The fourth defendant, not among those present, is Dr. Ante Pavelich. The French police call him the master-mind of the assassination. The doctor is in Italy, and Mussolini has consistently refused to give him up.)

The trial is really the second. The case was first brought up before the court last November, and spectacular proceedings were expected. They turned out to be even more spectacular, but in a different way. A large fund had been raised for the defense of the accused terrorists, and much of the money came from Pittsburgh. Yes, Pittsburgh, Pa, where American Croatians contributed heavily for the defense in Paris. A famous French lawyer was engaged, Georges Fauchon, the fiery sort of French advocate. He turned out to be so fiery that he got into hot water. The trial had scarcely begun when the attorney for the defense was accused of having mailed to the members of the jury newspaper articles about the case. He accused

saying ~~"No extradition on political accusations."~~ So France is compelled to try him in his absence - in absentia.

So you can see the international dynamite in the *Paris* court room proceedings ~~that began today~~ - Hungary and Italy involved, when the world situation already is so full of peril. How ~~tricky and~~ explosive it all is may be seen by taking a look back at events three months ago.

*The present*  
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out in open court - that there was no justice in France. Finally, he denounced the judges in blazing terms for trying to keep him from introducing certain bits of evidence. What kind of evidence? He said he had proof that Italy had connived with the conspirators ~~for~~ the assassination of Alexander. ~~That certainly was dragging in the international fireworks all connected with the absence of Dr. Pavelich, the master mind, who was in Italy.~~ Lawyer Desbon raised so much Cain on this point that the case was stopped. Not only was the lawyer thrown out of court, but he was disbarred.

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In the City of Turin, held by the Italian authorities, Dr. Ante Pavelich sits watching and waiting. He is short and stocky, keen as a razor, ~~and~~ hard as nails. He was trained as an engineer and then turned to writing mystery thrillers. They say he put so many thrills in them and made them so mysterious, that he got that way himself. He started to act the parts that he had written. He became a terrorist conspirator, ~~concocting the most ingenious plots.~~ He turned into a living mystery thriller, (making it his business to keep the European governments on edge.) His

whole life now is devoted to deadly scheming. His wife and three children seldom see papa, the plotter. Even they share in the weird secrecy. They live in hidden haunts, and get under-cover-messages from father - code signals, (telling them how to meet him, or where to move on for their next hiding place.) They say the Doctor has secret agents everywhere, (and watches everything -) especially his own trial. The doctor is aware of every move in that Paris court room, where he is a defendant - in absentia.

And in a moment I'll be in absentia, and --

So LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.