

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Today in Washington, Edsel Ford tried to take an oath, but they wouldn't let him. The son of Henry Ford appeared for a second consecutive day before the Senate Sub-Committee on Monopoly, stood up and raised his right hand -- to swear that he would tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. But he was told to sit down -- that without ceremony.

"Sit down," commanded Committee Chairman Herring, "you don't need to be sworn. I know you well enough to take your word without an oath."

So let's see what Edsel Ford had to say without the need of an oath. He was questioned about what he thought of the profit-sharing system -- the idea that the government give tax concessions to corporations that share profits with their employees. He replied that he thought a tax system laid out that way might be too

complicated. "It might," said he, "create more problems than it would solve."

But what did Edsel Ford suggest as a help for business? Reduce taxes all the way around, Said he. "My feeling," he declared, "would be that a reduction of taxes generally would be as good an incentive as any."

The Committee proceedings went on with a subject that is always of interest -- inventions and patents. The Committee was prying around into the question whether the patent system promoted monopoly, gave big corporations such a control of inventions as to dominate industry. President Knudsen of General Motors took the stand.

He was asked whether he could imagine an automobile invention come along so important that its owner would control the motor industry. And right there you have a perennial idea that fascinates the imagination - an invention so marvelous that it would exercise a romantic domination. Once more Knudsen said - No, he couldn't see the possibility of any such thing.

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"It's possible something revolutionary might be invented," he said. But you couldn't take all the automobile business. There's too much of it. The public won't stand for it." Then he explained: "If all the autos were made by one man, everyone would get sore."

Today's session concluded the Monopoly Committee's inquiry into the patent situation -- that particular phase ended. And Chairman Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming gave a statement of the results. He declared that two days of testimony showed that in the automobile industry patents had not been used to suppress competition. No sign that patents were employed to foster monopoly.

ROOSEVELT

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We are building a lot of armament. How to pay for it? That question was answered today by President Roosevelt. He suggests -- pay as you go. He told the White House Press Conference that he thought the cash for strengthening the army and navy should be put up on a year to year basis -- no running into debt. Pay as you go even if it takes more taxes. That's the presidential idea.

LINDBERGH

Here's a familiar phrase - just routine. Every so often something happens and sensational interpretations are made, but the official explanation insists - just routine.

Ten years ago, Colonel Lindbergh mapped out a trans-continental sky trail, and this thereafter was called - the Lindbergh route. Now, however, the airline has put out a new batch of advertising literature, and in this the name of the Lone Eagle does not occur. The former Lindbergh route is now styled - the Sunny Sante Fe route. This change ^{is}~~was~~ accompanied by stories referring to the part that Colonel Lindbergh played in European affairs revolving around the Munich agreement, his reputed statements of the inferiority of the Soviet air force and the predominance of the German. It ^{is}~~was~~ said that prospective airline customers for the Lindbergh route made complaints, saying that Lindbergh was pro-German. Hence, the company found it expedient to change the name - such was the ~~x~~ surmise.

Today, however, this is denied. There are other reasons for the change of the sky route name. "This slogan was changed,"

declares ~~the~~ ^{Frey,} Airline President, "simply in the ^{ing} route process of changing our advertising literature." So there's the old explanation - just routine. *Lindbergh out on the Lindbergh*

route - just routine.

MYSTERY

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A strange mystery of death was reported at Muncie, Indiana, today. The bodies of three men found in an apartment, and the apartment was filled with gas. Each of the three was in a different room - that's the fantastic part of it. One man in sleeping garments, lay in bed. Another, fully dressed, was sitting in a chair in the living room. The third, likewise clothed, was sitting in an adjoining room. And gas was escaping from two open jets, one in the kitchen stove, the other under a heater in the bath room. Two jets wide open. ¹⁵⁰~~means~~ - it could not have been an accident.

In the place, whiskey bottles, signs of a heavy drinking party. So one supposition is - a stupor of intoxication, ^{and}~~while~~ _^ somebody turned on the gas. The police are considering the three probabilities - triple murder, triple suicide, or murder and suicide.

The mystery came to light when a nephew of one of the victims appeared at a neighboring grocery store and said that his uncle was unconscious up there in the apartment. The grocer notified the police, who thereupon tried to find the nephew, but couldn't. They're still looking for him. And that's another odd angle.

The uncle in question was the most noteworthy of the

three victims. He turns out today to be something of a man of mystery. He told people in Muncie that he owned thousands of

acres of land in Texas. The police had been unable to find *that*

he owned

any more than eighty Texas acres. On his business cards he

described himself as a financier of New York and Los Angeles,

dealing in money and diamonds. His bank book showed a cash balance

of over twenty-seven thousand dollars. But the bank officials say

that wasn't so. His actual balance is only a few hundred.

So ~~he~~'s a mystery man, in the Indiana death mystery *of*
~~an~~ three bodies in different rooms of a gas filled apartment.

SMUGGLING

New York is having a ^{*gandy*} ~~rare~~ smuggling case, in which the wife of a state Supreme Court Justice is indicted. And also in this affair the authorities have been questioning various notables in the arts of entertainment - such as Comedians Jack Pearl, Jack Benny, and George Burns. I don't know how funny they'll think it but they'll probably get a gag or two out of it.

Today, new melodrama flared with the appearance in court of a leading personality whom the government agents describe as - an international criminal. His name is Albert Chapereau, and his record is said to include arrests in Paris; Brussels; Montreal; ^{*also*} Springfield, Illinois; ^{*and so on.*} towns in New York State; ~~etc.~~ ^{*and*}. The charges range all the way from common brawling, fist fights and ~~slugging~~ matches, to fraudulent use of the mails.

This colorful character is indicted along with the wife of ~~the~~ State Supreme Court Justice Lauer. In court today, he pleaded not guilty to the smuggling charges and claimed it was all politics. He said he was merely a football, kicked around by political forces. These forces he described in the following words - "a powerful political figure who is out to get Judge Lauer."

It all comes under the heading of - a high affair of state. Or maybe - a low affair of state.

As for the noted comedians who have been questioned by the police, the defendant Chapereau has this to say - he knew a lot of leading lights of stage and screen and he sometimes gave them gifts - neckties and watches. Just a fan, who expressed his admiration by handing out presents to ^{his} ~~the~~ stage and screen ^{idols.} ~~figures~~ world. They

It seems like a pleasant habit much to be encouraged, but the authorities have the affair defined as - big time smuggling.

FRANCE

(Today, a stately scene was staged in Paris, as France and Germany signed their agreements not to go to war)-- Foreign Minister Von Ribbentrop signing for Germany, and Foreign Minister Bonnet for France. Then the official text was given out. It's right along the lines of what we've been hearing. The two governments affirm that peaceful relations between France and Germany are one of the most important factors in maintaining the peace of the world. They pledged themselves that no territorial questions are at issue between the two nations. They solemnly recognize the present frontiers as permanent. Agree that in all questions of dispute, they will consult each other and settle by negotiation.

Rather vague and general, an expression of pious resolves. But Europe seems to think these pious resolves are valuable right now.

In Rome today there were demonstrations against France, with students parading and shouting. Out of this comes what purport

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to be the demands that Italy will make on France. The cables bring us two sets of demands - maximum and minimum. The maximum call for France to hand over Nice, Corsica, Tunis, the African port of Djibouti, control of the Ethiopian railroad which France owns, a dominant control of the Suez Canal, and French recognition *that* Franco *must win* *R* ~~rights~~ in Spain. These do sound maximum indeed! The minimum demands call for equal rights between Italians and French in Tunis - administrative rights, meaning share in the government. A share in the control of the Suez Canal, equal to that of Great Britain; which means - more than France has. African Djibouti to be made a free port, Italy to be given majority control in the Ethiopian Railroad. Some bits of African territory on the frontier of Lybia, and belligerent rights for Franco. The explanation of the two sets of demands is that Italy will take the minimum if France will give them right away. If not, Italy will demand the maximum.

All this is exceedingly unofficial, set forth by high Fascist personalities who are conducting the agitation. One curious point is that Mussolini's government disclaims all

In Paris today a dramatic witness gave an enigmatic connection with the agitation and the demands - although it's testimony. She is La Pieritzkaia and she was once a singer well known that there couldn't be anything of the sort unless of renown in the old Russia of the Czar. the Fascist government permitted it.

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mystery of two White Russian generals who disappeared in

1937, and haven't been seen since. (It has been suspected

that they were kidnapped and done away with by Soviet agents.

Another theory is that they were killed because of an internal

fight in the white Russian Anti Communist White Russian organization

of which they were leaders.)

Today La Pieritzkaia took the witness stand. She was

the wife of one of the vanished generals, and supposed to know

a good deal about the mystery. But the former famous singer

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RUSSIANS

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DRAKE

Today a committee of experts passed authoritative
an opinion on Drake's plate. And, they pronounced it genuine.

A worn plate of brass found in California and inscribed with
the declaration in old fashioned English, Elizabethan; reading

: By the Grace of God in the name of Her Majesty Queen

Elizabeth of England, etc. etc. ^Q~~The~~ declaration ^{is} taking

possession of these shores and signed: Francis Drake. There

has been much discussion and investigation of this historical

plate. Today ^Q~~the~~ committee of experts told ^{the} California

historical ~~society~~ ^{brass} research society that the old worn plate

^{indeed} had been left on the California shore by Sir Francis Drake

during his circumnavigation of the world when he touched ^{our}~~the~~

West Coast.
~~coast of California~~

OLYMPICS

Nineteen Forty-Four is a long way off, but some people think far ahead - the Olympic games officials, for example. For next year, Nineteen Forty, the Olympic site has been chosen - Finland. But what about Nineteen Forty-Four? And the echo resounds - Detroit, just a tentative echo, an American proposal.

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Today, Mayor Richard Reading of Detroit announced that he had been informed of the decision made by the American Olympic Committee. That Committee of ours will participate in the ~~meeting~~^{meet}ing of the international committee next summer. That's when the site for the Nineteen Forty-Four games will be decided. And the American Committee will cast its vote - for Detroit.

MINE

In today's Nova Scotia mine disaster the number of fatalities was counted at a minimum of twenty. Such is the latest report. The cause of disaster was the one simple fact — the cable broke, a cable that was lowering a whole train load of miners down the steep ~~incline~~ incline. A string of small cars moving down the winding tunnel, into the deep coal pit. When the cable parted all was left to the mercy of the blind force of gravity. The crowded train gathered speed. As it did so some ^{of the} men ^{ing} realized ~~and~~ what had happened, ~~and~~ jumped off. Some of these were saved, some killed. The majority stuck to the rushing cars, which increased to a ~~mad~~ mad speed of sixty miles an hour, around hair-pin turns. Until finally, the cars plunged off the track and smashed into the wall. That's where most of the casualties occurred.

ACCIDENT

The National Safety Council, of which my Sunoco sponsor approve so highly, has compiled a list of freak accidents that occurred in Nineteen Thirty Eight -- accidents stranger than fiction.

One story tells of an oil fire at Beaumont, Texas. On top of a giant tank were three refinery workers, while flames swept around with explosive violence. Any time that oil tank might go up in one tremendous blast. The three men with it. They rushed to the ladder, their only way to safety. But an explosion crashed out, displaced the ladder, knocked it out of their reach. And there they were, victims of certain doom, -- it seemed. But there was another explosion, it also hit the ladder, and slammed it back into place, right where the three workers could get to it. And down the ladder they went, for a dash to safety -- just in time. And

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.