

PRISONERS

L.I. - Sumoco Monday, June 13, 1938

There was a jail delivery in Texas today, a jail delivery of not only a spectacular but a novel kind. The principal actor in it was a woman.

It happened at the Harlem State Prison Farm near Sugar Land, Texas. The prisoners who cultivated the farm are marched out of their quarters for their work shortly after daybreak each day. As they ~~marched out today~~ ^{went forth}, there was a motor car outside with a woman at the wheel. Three men suddenly broke from the ranks and made a dash for the car. The guards in charge levelled their rifles and fire a hail of bullets. The men reached the car, tumbled into it, the woman slammed the gears, and drove off! With bullets still whistling around her head, she was soon in high speed, racing for the nearby highway.

And now there's a general alarm throughout Texas for those three escaped jailbirds.

FIRE

There's a forest fire out in Washington. It threatens to ^{hundreds of} destroy ^A thousands of our most beautiful trees. Two thousand acres

are ablaze in the eastern part of the Olympic National Forest.

^{That's} ~~It's~~ one of the richest timber stands in all the United States.

^{Towering,} ~~Towering,~~ gargantuan trees.

A division of a thousand men is fighting the flames on a front

two and a half miles long. They are forest rangers, volunteers,

but mostly young men from the C.C.C. Camps. ^{And -} ~~if~~ ^A if they aren't ~~not~~ not

successful, all of the eastern section of the Olympic National

Forest will be wiped out.

QUEBEC FOLLOW FIRE

sweep of fire
There's an even more ominous ~~conflagration~~ in the
Province of Quebec. Flames are roaring ~~in the County of Matane~~
on the north shore of the Gaspé Peninsula. To make things worse,
a fierce wind is blowing up the St. Lawrence River, fanning the
flames. It's impossible to learn details at present, as the fire
has burned down all lines of communication. There is only one
railroad ~~in Gaspé~~ *on the* Peninsula, and as ~~all~~ *many* fishermen know, ~~that~~ *it*
along the south shore. ~~It is known that at~~ *at* least ninety families
are homeless, their homesteads in ashes. ~~The~~ *Tonight* settlements of
Cherbourg East and Cherbourg West are those most in danger.

Apparently the fire is raging along a section of
Highway Number Six, which runs ~~along~~ *down* the south shore of the
St. Lawrence River. Hundreds of volunteers are being rushed by
car to fight the flames. This is the third day that fire has been
raging. It's in the region covered with dense stands of timber.

WASHINGTON

Let's see what ^{'s} is the word from Washington today.

Adjournment Wednesday or Thursday, that's the promise.

~~Representatives and senators are girding their loins for a final struggle to pass the bills that have been in conference and clear the calendars.~~

That's bad news for one important branch of our national existence. It means, no help for the railroads, no emergency measures to help the tottering transportation lines in their hour of sore need. There's just one hope left for them, a long shot that Congress may push through the bill authorizing the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to loosen the purse strings and lend heavy money to the roads. But that all depends upon the association of executives of the railway labor unions. The unions have been fighting that bill because it contained no provision to prevent the transportation companies from cutting wages. If the labor leaders can be persuaded to let the bill pass, it might have a chance.

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LEWIS

Evidently ~~Mr.~~ John Lewis doesn't approve of President Roosevelt's idea of studying the English labor laws. It has been the President's intention to appoint A. D. Lewis, brother of the *to the committee to study matters in England.* head of the C.I.O., [^] But here's word from Geneva, where A. D. Lewis,

the brother, is a delegate to the International Labor Conference.

John Lewis has ^{*asked*} ~~ordered~~ his brother not to accept that appointment.

W The American Federation of Labor is going to be represented by

^{*So,*} Robert Watts of Boston. It remains to be seen whether ~~it's the~~ *will only* ~~idea that~~ the C.I.O. ~~should accept~~ the President's commission.

NATURALIZATION

For years our newspapers have been carrying pathetic stories of the hardships worked by some of our naturalization laws. Several Secretaries of Labor have advised the chief executives that these laws are in a sad muddle. They were passed with the best of intentions, with the object of preserving America for people who wholeheartedly wanted to be Americans and ~~the~~ who deserved to be.

Today President Roosevelt sent a special message to Congress on the subject. He pointed out to the Senate and the House that investigation showed ~~that~~ our nationality laws are now administered under a large and confusing number of different statutes. *So the President tells* ~~So Mr. Roosevelt urges~~ Congress ~~that~~ it is desirable ~~for the good of the country~~ that this whole subject of naturalization should be codified, defined precisely, clearly and simply under one intelligible law. He also pointed out that it would ~~not be~~ *be not* only fair but desirable to change the substance of some of these laws. As it is, distress, hardship, natural suffering, are inflicted upon some people who are not allowed to be Americans ~~in law~~ though they are genuinely American in intention, thought and feeling.

And now here is an American sitting across from me who ~~is~~ has been dramatising Americanism for many a long year

FLAG

Tonight the message is -- fly the flag tomorrow. Such is the gospel preached by the United States Flag Association, which conducts a campaign urging all Americans to fly Old Glory on Flag Day.

Talking of the flag, what personality comes to mind? What figure of the American stage for many a year? What writer of songs about the flag? Who wrote -- "Over There? " What actor is it -- now playing in "I'd Rather Be Right?" and making one of his biggest hits? Well, he's here right now -- brought to us by a distinguished retired Army officer, Colonel James A. Moss, president of the United States Flag Association.

There's many a one of us who would like to say -- let me tell you what George M. Cohan said to me about the time he composed "Over There", or what other famous song of his "It's a Grand Old Flag". Well George M. Cohan is right here to tell us all an anecdote about that famous song of his -- "It's a Grand Old Flag." you had to make a change in that song didn't you George?

G.M.C.: You bet I did. The way I wrote it was "It's a Grand Old Rag". And I was most respectful about it, reverent in fact. I got

INVESTIGATION

Senators opposed to the New Deal are striking back at the Administration, preparing to get even for the efforts to punish them at the polls for their votes against Roosevelt measures. ~~A resolution offered by~~ Senator Tidings of Maryland is one of the ~~xx~~ targets of ~~the~~ Administration hostility. He has a resolution before the Senate calling ~~xxx~~ for the investigation of the use of Work Relief funds in political campaigns. Nine other senators joined the gentleman from Maryland in pushing the resolution. It will be considered before the end of the week by the Senate's Committee on Audit and Control.

CASH

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Congress is losing no time complying with President Roosevelt's latest suggestion, the request to appropriate fifty thousand dollars for investigating the kidnapping of little Jimmy Cash in Florida. The President's request was promptly conveyed to Senator Adams of Colorado, Chairman of the Senate's Sub Committee on Deficiency Appropriations; and the Senator said today that the Sub Committee would undoubtedly ~~ratify~~ vote the fifty thousand dollars without delay.

Members of the House were even more ~~prompt~~ prompt.

~~in their response to the President's suggestion.~~ They voted

not only the fifty thousand, but ^{a-} ~~one~~ ^{thousand} hundred-and-fifty ~~besides~~

more
^ to be held in reserve and used in kidnap investigations.

CRIME

Some ~~very~~ unflattering facts about crime were made public today, unflattering to ~~us~~ Americanos. The information was conveyed by a former Attorney General of Indiana to a conference of the Central States Law Offices on Probation and Parole. This ex-Attorney General made the report as Chairman of the American Bar Association's committee on Law Enforcement, and here are some of the shocking details:

58 There's one major crime being committed in America every twenty-two seconds, ~~a major crime~~. And here are some odious comparisons: The crime rate in the U.S.A. is seven times that of England, ~~though the population is only three times as much~~. And the murder rate, this is unpleasant, ~~our~~ murder rate is twenty times that of England. What's more, Uncle Sam's Federal Bureau of Investigation has been making a survey. As a result, it figures that one out of thirty-seven persons among us is a criminal.

I've got a case of nostalgia tonight, thinking about the old days, the days of not so long ago when Jimmy Wallington was the announcer on this program. Jimmy dropped in, just a few minutes ago, from the Pacific ~~Smix~~ Coast. Jimmy, the Blue Sunoco audience hasn't forgotten you. Is there any chance of getting you to stay here in the East? Or, have you settled down in California?

J. W.: Settled is right, Lowell. If getting married, raising a family, and buying a home in California could be called settling down. As long as they continue giving me work in ~~xxxxxxx~~ motion pictures, as well as on the radio, I guess I'll stay and just live the life of Riley in that glorious California sun. To my old friends, those who heard us on this program together, Lowell, I have a message. It is this: Why not fill up with Blue Sunoco and come out and see me some time?

Ok Jimmy.

L.T.: [^] When you get through with your personal appearance

in Baltimore next week, and when you land back home, maybe you'll find two or three thousand of us on your ^{California} doorstep, taking ~~xx~~ you up on your invitation.

MONSSON

In the year Nineteen~~Four~~, the hero of the hour was an American naval lieutenant, Monsson. He was gunning officer aboard Uncle Sam's battleship MISSOURI while she was maneuvering off Pensacola, Florida. Fire broke out in the battleship's powder magazine. The flames spread so swiftly that an explosion was imminent, which would have wrecked the ship and destroyed hundreds of lives aboard her. Lieutenant Monsson rushed into the magazine, ordered all the enlisted men out, and beat out the flames with his bare hands. In other words, at terrific risk to his own life, Lieutenant Monsson saved, nobody knows how many. ~~others.~~

55 { He was ~~magnificently~~ awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. (It was personally presented to him by President Theodore Roosevelt, who said ~~to him~~ "Lieutenant Monsson, what you did was one of the most ~~historic~~ heroic acts in history.")

He retired, still a lieutenant, in Nineteen Twenty-Five, and died in Nineteen Thirty, leaving a widow and daughter. A few weeks ago Mrs. Monsson was delighted to receive a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, a letter informing her that one of Uncle Sam's new destroyers was to be named MONSSON in memory of her gallant husband. ~~"Isn't that grand!" exclaimed Mrs. Monsson.~~

A few weeks later she received news of a different
- also from the Government.
nature. The mortgage on her house in Brooklyn, of seven thousand
dollars, was held by the Federal Home Owners Loan Corporation.
As her husband's pension had expired with his death, Mrs. Monsson
had been unable to keep up the payments. So she was on the verge
of being evicted by the government in whose service her husband
had don^e such a courageous act.

However, this tale of distress isn't going to end there.
The facts were learned by Congressman O'Toole, who represents the
district in which Mrs. Monsson lives. He immediately bestirred
himself to see what could be done for the hero's widow. He started
work drafting a special act of Congress to protect *the lady.* ~~Mrs. Monsson~~
But, it's close to the end of the session and there will be no time
to get that bill through before the senators and representatives
adjourn. *So Congressman* ~~So Mrs.~~ O'Toole is appealing to President Roosevelt for an
executive order which will stop the foreclosure proceedings by the
H.O.L.C.

WILSON

A lady in Ripley, Oklahoma, has received a prize
as the year's best country newspaper correspondent in America:—

She is
Mrs. Edna Eaton Wilson, of Ripley, ~~to~~ the wife of a farmer, and
lives on

~~who has~~ a two-hundred-and-seventy acre dairy farm. In addition

to working hard at that, she raises four sons.

Moreover
~~in addition~~

she writes a weekly column of farm and community news for

the Stillwater Gazette. ~~and~~ She's done so well at ~~it~~ *this* that

the editors of Country Home Magazine have awarded her the prize

to the luxuries of Greenbrier
of five hundred dollars, and a free trip ~~at~~ White Sulphur

—also to
Springs, Washington; and New York, ~~There she'll have a chance~~

to meet other newspaper men at the convention of the National

Editorial Association. ~~Now~~

How does Mrs. Wilson do it? ~~Here~~ Her own diagnosis

is ~~this~~ "I do my best to write good things about my neighbors."

"And," she added, "I have not written about their scandals."

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TWEEDSMUIR

One of the most interesting individuals on this continent is His Excellency the Governor General of Canada, Lord Tweedsmuir. To readers and lovers of books, he is known as John Buchan, novelist, biographer, historian. The list of the books, His Lordship has written is long, learned and romantic and adventurous. Naturally he has degrees from various universities on the other side of the water, In fact, he represented the Scottish Universities in the British Parliament. And now Harvard University is going to make Lord Tweedsmuir an honorary Doctor of Laws.

SECESSION

— or do they want —

Those Maine farmers who want to secede from the

— or are they? —

United States are out of luck. As you may have heard, they

sent a formal petition to the Canadian Government, asking Ottawa

to negotiate with Uncle Sam for cutting off that ^{minute fraction} ~~part~~ of the

state of Maine in which they live, and adding it to Quebec.

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The word from Ottawa today is that the Canadian Government has

filed the petition, which means it just lies there and collects

dust — or does it?

~~Actually one can't help having a bit of sympathy for~~

~~those Maine farmers.~~ The part of Maine in which they live is

geographically ~~quite a bit~~ farther north than the city of Quebec.

Some of their farms ^{are} ~~lie smack~~ on the boundary line, part American,

part Canadian. But they all live on the American ~~side of the~~

~~border.~~ — or do they —
The reason they want to secede is that they are

separated from the rest of the United States by a ^{dense} ~~thick~~ forest

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Maine woods
from fifty to seventy-five miles wide, ~~forest~~ through which

there are no roads. So whatever they sell they have to take

across the line to Canada and pay duty there. Whatever they

buy they have to ~~go~~^{buy} in Canada and pay duty to Uncle Sam

when they get home.

The air must be blue up there!

The suggestion of the Canadian Government is that the best thing for them to do is to move ~~back~~[^] to Canada.

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That rather reminds me of the lady in Denver who complained to the Mayor that her cellar was flooded, ~~and the worst of it was~~ that she kept hens in the cellar and the water drowned the hens. The reply she got from the City Hall was:-
" Madam, His Honor the Mayor ~~has~~ directs me to suggest, why don't you ~~go to~~ raise ~~the~~² ducks?" *And a-l-u-t-m.*

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