

R.T. - Sunoco. Friday, March 3, 1939

MASSACHUSETTS

44

The Bill of Rights has been ratified, the first Ten Amendments to the Constitution. That was headline news more than a hundred and fifty years ago. It's news today - though not of such front page headline importance. Massachusetts has ratified the Bill of Rights, which it failed to do those more than a hundred and fifty years ago.

Today Governor Saltonstall signed the ratifying resolutions adopted by the Legislature and forwarded them to Secretary of State Hull. Massachusetts acts on the principle, I suppose, of - better late than never.

47

The Bill of Rights was the product of Thomas Jefferson's spectacular political movement ^{some} ~~ten~~ [^] ~~or~~ [^] years after the Constitution was adopted. Jefferson maintained that the Constitution did not properly guarantee the civil rights of a citizen, and those first ten amendments were framed to provide that guarantee. Jefferson was highly unpopular with the Federalist Party, and Massachusetts was distinctly Federalist. But today Governor Saltonstall reassures Secretary Hull that Massachusetts was never opposed to the

Jeffersonian Bill of Rights. Quite the contrary. He maintains that the Bay State legislature refrained from ratification because it wanted an even stronger Bill of Rights. Thus the fair fame of Massachusetts is defended.

TAXES

The ^{expressed} desire of the Administration ^{to} ~~has been displaying of~~

helping business along got some official congressional action today.

A few days ago, Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau told Congress he thought the lawmakers should look over the tax situation and see if they can't get rid of some taxes that are impeding business.

And today Chairman Pat Harrison of the Senate Finance Committee and Chairman Robert Doughton of the House Ways and Means Committee, sent a message to the Secretary of the Treasury, saying - sure.

They informed the Secretary that they, in their own words -

"stand ready and anxious to cooperate." They offered to get

together with the Treasury Department to eliminate taxes that hurt business.

Senator Pat Harrison has been saying some drastic things about the continual federal deficits. He warned against the perils of always being in the red.

BILL

In Congress today a bill was introduced to abolish the National Labor Relations Board and to replace it with another kind of board, a five-man affair appointed by the federal government. Representative Barden of North Carolina is sponsoring the measure, which was initiated by the American Federation of Labor. The bill to abolish the Board includes a whole set of labor law proposals suggested by President William Green of the A.F. of L.

LABOR

49
The labor peace parley is scheduled to begin in an imposing way. The President of the United States will participate in the opening session, as the committees of A.F. of L. and C.I.O. negotiate to end the war of the unions. This was stated today by Secretary of Labor, Miss Frances Perkins - she herself will take part in that opening session. It was the President who suggested the labor peace conference - appealed to both factions. And he in person will help to launch the proceedings of pacification. The White House certainly is in favor of labor peace.

The A.F. of L.-C.I.O. conference is scheduled to begin on Tuesday. President Roosevelt today returned to the United States from his cruise with the fleet on maneuvers. He landed at Charleston, South Carolina, this afternoon, and will arrive in Washington tomorrow morning.

Today immediately upon landing ~~in~~ one of the first things the Chief Executive did was to send a message of felicitation to Pope Pius the Twelfth. The President recalled how the Pontiff, who was then a papal secretary of state, called at the Roosevelt home at Hyde Park, when he visited America several years ago.

POPE

50
Pope Pius the Twelfth has not delayed in doing one thing expected of him. As successor to Pius the Eleventh, the Pope of Peace, he will surely carry on the pontifical labors for peace. Elected yesterday, he made a broadcast to the world today. He spoke in these words - "Peace among nations, through the exchange of fraternal minds, friendly collaboration, and cordial understanding. In these troubled and difficult times," spoke the Pontiff, "while so many obstacles seem to oppose themselves to the attainment of that peace which is the most profound aspiration of the human mind - we raise to the Lord a special prayer."

~~Over here in~~ ~~quite~~
~~coming back to~~ America, ~~he made the remark that~~ a lot of celebration is being done by the Pacelli family of Jordan, New York. On a farm near the town, lives Louis Pacelli, ~~xxx~~ seventy-two yearsold - and he's a third cousin of the new Pope.

He has ~~ix~~ never seen his third cousin Pius the Twelfth, because

Louis Pacelli
for the last forty-one years ~~he~~ has been on his up-state farm,

plowing, sowing and reaping - *cabbages and potatoes.*

in the Abrahamson store
And there's a Brooklyn shopgirl [^] who is a distant cousin

of the Pope. She likewise is celebrating and saying - "Yes, the Pacellis are doing nicely."

HITLER

51
From Berlin today comes a denial or maybe a lack of ~~any~~ denial. It's couched in these words:- "The story is so ridiculous that it is beyond our dignity to deny it or give any kind of reaction."

What's the story that it's beneath the Nazi dignity to deny? A book called: "The Strange Death of Hitler." It relates that Hitler is dead - there is no Hitler, It claims to reveal a deep dark secret that the Fuehrer passed from this life last September, was murdered - and by poison. And his place has been taken by a double, a Nazi so much a dead ringer for him that you can't tell them apart.

"Beneath our dignity to deny" - says Berlin.

NON-INTERVENTION

Soviet Russia today indulged in an empty formality. Moscow withdraws from the Non-Intervention Committee on Spain. Remember that committee~~s~~ which fooled around for so long, making useless motions with the pretense of keeping foreign nations from interfering with the Spanish Civil War? It's been dead and buried for months -- especially since Great Britain and France have recognized Franco as the legitimate Govern^{ment} of Spain. Now the Soviets withdraw, which is a good deal like resigning from a company that long since has disappeared.

SPAIN

52
An exchange of prisoners has been arranged
~~There is an~~ ^{Spain,} and the intermediary between the
in ~~the Spanish Civil War,~~ " two factions was the United States Ambassador, Claud Bowers.
Our envoy took a hand in the exchange, because it ³ concerned
Americans. Franco has, as prisoners, eighty-seven Americans
who fought in the Republican army. He's releasing them in
exchange for an equal number of prisoners ^{that} the Republicans
hold at Madrid, -- and these are Italians.

RUSSIA

We learn from Moscow that the Soviet government has put its okay on the United States ambassador to Peru. This ^{is} line with reports that our envoy to Lima is likely to be appointed to the Moscow post. He is Lawrence A. Steinhardt, a prominent business man who is a nephew of Samuel Untermyer a still more prominent New York lawyer. We have had no ambassador in Soviet land for over a year, but now the word is:-- from Lima to Moscow; and the Soviets say "okay."

DEFENSE

23
21
✓

The House of Representatives today okayed a lot of money for the army - the four hundred and ninety-nine million dollar supply bill. The cash is intended to purchase various war materials of which the army is in need. It's the largest supply bill since the World War, ~~and~~ ^{and} quite different from the defense bill to provide ^{the} ~~three~~ three hundred and fifty-eight million dollars for military aviation ~~that's~~ ^{now} being ~~debated~~ debated by the Senate.

There was only one bit of fireworks in the proceedings concerning the supply bill. Representative Collins of Mississippi indulged in some scathing remarks. He said the United States ~~is~~ ^{has} suddenly awakening to the fact that a certain great power has built an air force equal to the combined aviation strength of the rest of the world. He didn't name the great power, but it's easy to guess - Germany. The Congressman remarked that less than a year ago we didn't know about this stupendous air force being built, but now we've suddenly found it out.

How come we didn't know about it? Why weren't we informed by our military attaches abroad, who are supposed to learn about such things? The Congressman spoke of the attaches being -

asleep on the job. And if so, they ought to be eliminated from

the service, ^{said he.} But he went on to wonder ^{was} ~~whether~~ the story ~~is~~ true?

^{Is there such a} ~~about the~~ stupendous air force, ^{possessed by} of the nation he did not ~~see~~ name?

He said he was inclined to suspect that a good deal of it was

propaganda handed out by the aviation industry to push the business

of a huge American air force.

54

EXPRESS

Tomorrow is the Hundredth Birthday of one of the great American industries - express. On March the Fourth, Eighteen hundred and Thirty-Nine, a young Bostonian named William Harnden, went into action carrying letters and packages between Boston and New York.

That was the tiny beginning of the express business, which today employs fifty thousand men and covers two hundred and thirteen thousand miles of railroads, twenty thousand miles of water routes, thirty-eight thousand miles of air lanes, and ten thousand miles of *highway - routes of Blue Sunoco.* ~~highway.~~ Express carries a hundred and forty million shipments a year, for a total weight of two thousand and five hundred tons.

So express began small and grew big - as we all do.

SHOOTING

5
There's some argument tonight about the ^hooting of the daughter-in-law of a wealthy tobacco executive. One peculiar angle is the delay in making the shooting affair public. It happened on Monday night at Summit, New Jersey, yet only today is it revealed that Mrs. Elizabeth Schroeder Hummel is in a hospital with a dangerous wound. She's a young woman who married the son of the vice-president of one of the great tobacco companies. She and her husband have separated - and now the mysterious shooting.

The detective in charge of the case made the statement today that the young wife was cleaning a target pistol, and it went off accidentally. "The case is definitely closed," says he. This is contradicted by the captain in charge of police. He describes the investigation as - "by no means complete." He says the young woman admitted to him that she shot herself, but he insists that she did not say whether or not it was accidental. There are reports that at the time of the shooting neighbors heard several shots fired.

A mystifying affair with plenty of concealment.

PRISONER

At Pittsburgh a man served thirteen years in prison.

54
He was old when he entered the penitentiary - now he's seventy.

Think of what freedom means to the aged convict, and today he was

set free! ^{The} A warden signed the papers for his release. The

penitentiary doors swung open. The seventy year old prisoner

stepped out into the open - free!

But only for an instant; a detective was waiting for

him, and swiftly snapped handcuffs on his wrists. The aged convict

had been recognized - wanted in Richmond, Virginia, wanted for a

prison break twenty-nine years ago. Way back in Nineteen Ten he

escaped from the Virginia State Prison, and the law has a long

memory. A ~~particularly~~ tragic memory - it must seem to ^{the} a convict

released at seventy!

RESCUE

off Newfoundland

The rescue of the shipload of seal hunters [^] was a story again today. Last night the rescue ship had the waterlogged sealing vessel in tow, and all seemed safe. ^{But} _^ The tow line broke in the lurching of stormy seas. And today the job had to be done all over again - getting the tow line across to the disabled vessel.

The latest is that the rescue ship is successfully towing the seal hunters to the nearby shore, where the water is smooth.

MUSIC

A vacuum is - nothing, emptiness. Yet of course we know that vacuum is decidedly something, a whole lot, in a radio set - those vacuum tubes. *Now there's* ~~and it's~~ a new musical instrument that produces melody, harmony, symphonic climaxes and fox trots by the use of vacuum tubes, the employment of nothing. It's called the ^{and} Novachord, _^ the inventor is Laurens Hammond. The new and sonorous contraption looks something like a piano, but it produces all sorts of tone from the harp to the piccolo, from the zither to the alto-sax. And it's all done with vacuum tubes, the same as you have in your radio. If the music of the Hammond Novachord were produced on the air, it would be a twofold case of vacuum - from nothing to nothing. ~~Which leaves me nothing more to say~~ and ~~SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.~~

HAIRCUT

Well, I guess we can't have a war - because there might be a revolt of the mothers. It isn't so much that mama objects to sonny fighting the enemy on the battlefield, but she doesn't like those army haircuts.

Evidences of this possible ~~national~~ crisis for a nation in arms developed at New Bedford, Massachusetts, today - where the mothers are up in arms. It's because their sons in the High School ~~off~~ Reserve Officers Training Corps had been ordered to get their hair cut military style - none of those flowing fancy locks for the reserve officers.

Just in case any of you mothers don't know the kind of a haircut you don't want your boy to have, here is the order issued to the New Bedford High School Reserve Officers. "The military haircut," it decrees, "is such that the hair on the top of the head is about one and a half inches long. This is tapered down to zero length at the neck and ~~in~~ ears." It sounds like a description of Samson after Delilah got through with him. The warlike haircut is further described as follows: "Stiff straight hair should be thinned out for about fifty per cent of its length in order to make

it lie down evenly." No, the army is not to lie down evenly - only the hair.

The New Bedford revolt of the anti-haircut mothers is meeting some stout opposition - from the major in command of the High School Reserve Officers Corps. Straightening his shoulders and coming to salute, he thunders: "Only geniuses and musicians have long hair". Well, major, hasn't the army got a few musicians playing in the band? Though of course we all know that the army has no geniuses. — as the admiral said to the general. And s-l-u-Monday.

59

9/4