

BUTLER

It looks as if the bold if not bad Marine were right -- General Smedley D. Butler. His story about the proposed Fascist march on Washington still has a seeming of high improbability, but the House of Representatives Committee on Un-American Propaganda has put its seal on the General's account of how he was offered the post of American dictator in a putsch to overthrow the government in Washington.

The committee in its report today declares that evidence brought before it has indicated that certain persons around Wall Street did cherish ideas of a Fascist coupe d' etat. Apparently all they needed was the money. Maybe some money men were interested, but cash was not laid on the line.

The Committee's report continues with a denunciation of various sources of un-democratic agitation in the country -- Fascist and Communist. It points to Germany, Italy, Russia and Mexico as doing a bit of propaganda here in favor of their own political ideas. And the committee accuses Russia of Communist plotting in violation of the Soviet agreement with the U. S. A.

ROOT

And now the Cube Root, Square Root, and Elihu Root. We're reminded today of the reason why America's distinguished eldest statesman never got a nickname. His father was a professor of mathematics and was affectionately called "Cube" Root. An elder brother went to college and was promptly baptised "Square" Root. Apparently the collegiate wags couldn't think of ^hany_^ting else appropriate, for the younger Root boy_^ was never called anything but Elihu.

Well, that was a long time ago. Today Elihu Root is celebrating his ninetieth birthday, distinguished in years and honors - the first citizen of the United States, ^{many call him.} He sat in his Fifth Avenue home today, reading and musing - about the world in general and the United States in particular. He knows more about this country of ours than any other man. He watched it progress from stage coaches to speed planes. As a lad he heard about the Mexican war. He lived through the Civil War, Spanish American War and the World War. When he was born ~~xx~~ John Tyler was just finishing his term at the White House. So Elihu Root has ~~since~~ seen the administrations of twenty-three presidents. He has been

48

United States senator from New York, Secretary of War, Secretary of State, American representative at the World Court, Ambassador Extraordinary to Russia, Chairman of a series of Republican National Conventions, and in nineteen twelve he won the Nobel Peace Prize. And ^{maybe that} ~~that certainly~~ does make the ninety-year old statesman the first citizen of this Republic!

FOOD

Remember the talk about higher prices as a result of last summer's drought in the Middle West and the South West? The predictions have come true. Figures issued in Washington indicate that food has gone up all along the line with increases ranging from a one percent rise for wheat ~~and~~ a fourty-four percent boost for butter.

9
There's another side of the picture though -- in the x case of produce grown in regions that were not affected by the drought. In these instances prices were even a bit lower. People are paying less for potatoes, cabbages, onions and bananas than they did last year.

50

HAUPTMAN

Washington says no. J. Edgar Hoover of the Department of Justice declares there is nothing to ~~meanings, these~~ reports that Hauptman had an accomplice in the Lindbergh kidnapping and that police and Federal agents know who this accomplice is and are on his trail. That's denied. J. Edgar Hoover explains that so far as the United States government is concerned the case is marked "closed" on the government books. And the New York Police have also marked the word "closed" alongside the order recording the kidnapping, and murder.

Meanwhile Bruno Richard Hauptman will soon ~~be~~ on his way from the Flemington jail to the State Prison at Trenton

-- midnight ^{tonight} ~~xxxxx~~ is the hour ~~to~~ schedule ^{d for his next to the} ~~for the prisoner~~
Last Mile, [^] ~~and condemned man who is~~ the world's most famous prisoner.

50
Hauptmann made an appeal today to the public in the State of New Jersey. He signed a petition to Judge Trenchard, asking the state to pay the expense of printing the record in his case, so that he can use the record for an appeal to the higher court. Hauptmann's defense has ~~no~~ no money to pay for these formalities of preparing documents for his appeal.

SLEEP

The American sleeping beauty is going to have a permanent wave tomorrow. Patricia Maguire, who has been in profound slumber for three years, will have her hair curled by a beautician.

Medical science is still baffled by the strange case. Every known device has been used to awaken her, blood transfusions, serums, artificial fever produced by electricity, even hypnotism. But still she sleeps on. Last June she raised her hand and moved one eyebrow, almost the only sign of movement the girl has made since February, nineteen thirty-two. Kept alive by nourishment through a tube, she has slept through the Lindbergh tragedy, the election of Roosevelt, the N.R.A., the Dionne quintuplets. — a pathetic girl Rip Van Winkle. She'll be 30 on April 1st. They say she has become prettier all the time. ~~She will be thirty on April first. They say~~ She has gained weight, a phenomenon often observed in sleeping sickness. Her color is healthy. Her black hair is glossy. She has had two permanent waves already, and tomorrow will have her third.

Eighty-three years ago tomorrow, five brothers started building buggies and wagons at South Bend, Indiana, and built them well. The name of Studebaker became a by-word across the broad lands where the farmer's wagon was a characteristic sight on the road. The remarkable thing is that when the new auto era came, when autos and trucks superseded buggies and wagons, the great buggy and wagon name did not by any means grow dim and pass out of the picture. Instead, Studebaker took its place in the affairs of the new ~~era~~ dispensation.

52
Tomorrow there will be a birthday celebration at South Bend, with many a pat on the back for what is believe to be the oldest vehicle manufacturing company in the world. But Studebaker has all the vigor of youth!- Depression or no depression. During the past ^{couple of} ~~two~~ years the company has been forging ahead.

Buranelli.

Feb. 15, 1935.

AIRPLANE

I have been asked the question - what type of plane was used in that ~~type~~ Sunoco experiment, with the winged skycraft carrying an automobile underneath its cabin? The answer is -- a new type of plane, the broad cabin Uppercu-Burnelli transport. But I brought the designer himself here to tell us some of the aircraft aspects of the novel experiment, Vincent Buranelli, who for years has been developing the ~~broad cabin~~ ^{all-wing} type ~~of aircraft~~. What's the theory, Vinc?

VINCENT: Well, I have been figuring all along that the aircraft of the future would be ~~a flying~~ ^{the all-} wing. Up to now an airplane has been a fuselage fixed between two wings, a dead weight cabin, with two wings to carry it. So we've been working along the idea that the cabin itself should have a lift, ~~should be~~ shaped ^{like a} ~~with~~ wing-like lifting service. That's how we're able to broaden out the cabin, until now in our ships it has something of the ~~proportion~~ proportions of an ordinary room. That's the type of transport that flew the automobile in the ~~type~~ Sunoco test flight. My idea is to carry on our principle of the "all wing lifting fuselage", further and further, make the cabin wider and wider, until we have ~~the all-wing airplanes~~ ^{nothing but wing}.

53

AIRPLANE

I have been asked the question - what type of plane was used in that ~~Blue~~ Sunoco experiment, with the winged skycraft carrying an automobile underneath its cabin? The answer is -- a new type of plane, the broad cabin Uppercu-Burnelli transport. But I brought the designer himself here to tell us some of the aircraft aspects of this novel experiment, Vincent Buranelli, who for years has been developing the ~~broad-cabin~~ ^{all-wing} type ~~of aircraft~~. What's the theory, Vinc?

VINCENT: Well, I have been figuring all along that the aircraft of the future would be ~~a flying~~ ^{the all-} wing. Up to now an airplane has been a fuselage fixed between two wings, a dead weight cabin, with two wings to carry it. So we've been working along the idea that the cabin itself should have a lift, ~~should be~~ ^{like a} shaped ~~with~~ ^{like a} wing-like lifting service. That's how we're able to broaden out the cabin, until now in our ships it has something of the ~~proportion~~ proportions of an ordinary room. That's the type of transport that flew the automobile in the ~~Blue~~ Sunoco test flight. My idea is to carry on our principle of the "all wing lifting fuselage", further and further, make the cabin wider and wider, until we have ~~the all-wing airplanes~~ ^{nothing but wing.}

53

L.T.: That does sound futuristic when planes in the sky will be just graceful wings.

VINC: Yes, and it will increase safety. We had a crack-up in one of our test flights a few weeks ago with ~~one of our~~^a broad cabin ships. She hit at a terrific clip. But the pilot climbed out without a scratch. And ~~the~~^a fellow in the cabin was just jarred a bit. The impact crumpled the wings, but the cockpit and the cabin were hardly damaged. The ordinary long spindly plane fuselage ~~will break and crumble~~^{would have broken} like a match stick, ~~without~~^{while} ~~them~~ the broad square cabin will take the shock. I think we'll see the day when cabins like that will be lined everywhere with deep pneumatic cushioning to ~~break the passengers~~ protect the passengers inside. And that will push ~~the~~ airplane safety a long way toward the ideal hundred per cent.

L.T.: That automobile carrying flight proved the quick starting of Blue Sunoco motor fuel, in extreme cold and at high altitudes. And of course it does suggest future possibilities for the airplane.

VINC: Yes, if we can fly an ordinary roadster below our plane, it means that a big broad cabin transport could carry an armored car for war, or a whippet tank.

L. T.: War planes launching tanks behind an enemy line in battle - squadrons of tanks out-flanking the enemy by the sky route. And it also suggests exploration possibilities. In inaccessible deserts you could fly a scouting car and make a landing, and then go exploring around in the car. And if a plane can fly an auto below its fuselage, why not a boat? That certainly might help in the exploration of vast jungle lands as in South America or New Guinea, where there are rivers and lakes. A plane carrying a motor launch could land on a river or lake, and then the exploration could be carried on by boat. You build a plane to fly a boat Vinc, and I'll use it for a flying-motor-boating-trip-along up the sources of the Amazon.

PLANE

The theme of greater safety in airplanes is appropriate this evening - with the news of an air disaster in Europe. A great sky ship crashed in Sicily today, an air liner. It was a new type, a combined land and water plane, recently put into service by the British Air Force. The big transport took off from London for a flight to Singapore, with nine passengers aboard. It was winging over Sicily, near the City of Messina, when the crash came, followed by fire and explosion. No survivors.

~~Axeable~~

A couple of days ago the British government expressed regrets to our Secretary of State because of the loss of the dirigible Macon, and now in return our Ambassador to London will reciprocate by expressing our own regrets for England's air tragedy today.

BASEBALL

56
A feeling of spring ~~was~~^{is} in the air, ~~today~~, a warm balmy foretaste of the coming season. I suppose we will have another cold snap or two, but it is appropriate that the weather seems like springtime as the preliminaries of the baseball season get under way. Tomorrow Ford Frick, the new head of the National League, starts south for the baseball training camps. He's going to swing around in a circuit to inspect and get things pepped up at every training ~~camp~~^{outfit} of the National League.

Meanwhile, the hold-out season this year is embellished by the two champion hitters, the star ~~player~~^{batsman} of either League. Lou Gehrig, who hasn't missed a game since June, nineteen twenty-five, and led the American League with forty-nine home runs last year, hasn't signed his contract, holding out for more money. And in the National League Chuck Klein of Chicago, who has a lifetime batting average of three hundred and fifty-two, the highest ever, is still bickering about pay with his boss.

OPERA

Last night I made mention of the renewed plight of the Metropolitan Opera House of New York, deficits and shortage of finance, with the management hoisting distress signals. Today I had a call from the opera house, telling me that at this afternoon's matinee the S.R.O. sign was displayed - standing room only. The big house sold out to the last seat for Friday matinee, - and the opera was "Die Walkuere", one of Wagner's heaviest, by no means a favorite of vivacious entertainment.

This time a new soprano has come to inflame the enthusiasm of opera goers, a new Norwegian soprano, Madame Flagstad.

She was discovered for the Metropolitan last year by Gatti-Casazza and Maestro Bodansky at St. Moritz, Switzerland. She had just sung at the Wagnerian festival at Bayreuth. Before that she had never been heard outside of Scandinavia. She's exceedingly modest and is now bewildered by her triumph in New York.

The wife of a lumber merchant at Oslo, Norway, she is

tall, slender and dark. Her favorite sports are skiing --- and knitting behind the scenes at the Met. She knits incessantly between acts. At the end of each performance she drinks a pint of champagne and then goes on knitting.

BORE

I hope I won't bore you that this boresome topic. A newspaper over in England staged an unpopularity contest to pick the celebrities who weary the public the most. So a wreath of British raspberries - ransberries I should say was placed upon the brow of Public Bore Number One. Who? You could hardly guess. George Bernard Shaw! I thought he was world's Entertaining-Wit-Number-One.

What did he say when he heard about getting the tire-some prize? The unshaved Shavian chuckled in his beard.

"I am deeply grateful for the honor," quoth he, "because publicity about me has become an absolute curse. Perhaps editors will now realize that it is possible to give their readers too much of a good thing."

Shaw admits that he is the good thing, but concedes that there may be too much even of him. So much for the first yawning "Ho Hum" prize.

There's a whole list of bores acclaimed by the British newspaper readers as prodigies of the wearisome. Next to Shaw for un-populativity comes Hitler, then Amy Mollison, the lady flyer.

BORE - 2

I wonder what Amy - a really swell gal - has been doing to make the British public tired? Fourth on the "Fed-up List" is nine other than the British Prime Minister, Ramsey MacDonald. And finally - Greta Garbo. Maybe Greta has been giving the British too much of that suppressed ecstasy.

But, I guess I'd better look out, or I may go on somebody's list as Public Bore Number One -- unless I hurry and say --

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.