

LT. SUNOCO, MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1935

Good Evening, Everybody:-

The Senate Finance Committee took a back flip. The growl that went up all over the country in response to the weekend Page-One news was too much for the noble Senators. Even they had to shudder at a growl of such tremendous resonance, with an election year ahead.

So the single man who earns only a thousand dollars a year, the married man who earns only twenty-five hundred, needn't be so badly worried. They won't have to pay a nickle to Uncle Sam. The prevailing exemptions stand -- one thousand for a bachelor, twenty-five hundred for a married man.

And the man who earns over three thousand can also cut himself an extra slice of pie for dinner tonight. No surtax for him. For the people in the lower income brackets the word is "As you were."

That's one of the swiftest flipflops in legislative history.

COAL

After that news, the big topic of the week from Washington is going to be the Guffey Coal Bill. For though it affects only coal, it is a measure of major importance. It is the last on the list of those designated by the President as "must." for this session. Also it is a means of testing the how for the defunct N.R.A. can be revived by applying N.R.A. principles to industry.

The action on this measure today was a decision in the Ways and Means Committee of the House. By a count of 12 to 11 with two members silent, the Committee voted to report Senator Guffey's coal bill favorably.

That means it will be considered on the floor of the House on Wednesday and on the floor of the Senate Thursday.

And Mystery Man Hopson is a mystery man no longer. He's been found, and is on his way to Washington to testify.

STRIKE (follow lead)

Have you observed a peculiar trend in the news during the last few months? Over the weekend there's ominous stuff on Page One. Just like that income tax story. We've seen what happened to that. Then there was the nationwide strike threatened by the men who got jobs from the Works Progress Administration. That started in New York. Said labor leaders, "we won't work for coolie wages. And that goes for the whole United States." Backing up General Hugh Johnson, President Roosevelt replied in effect "Work or no relief."

The workers in New York replied by their actions, "Okay, we work."

It seemed all set for a walkout of fifteen thousand men in New York on WPA jobs. But the knowledge that if they struck they wouldn't get a nickle of relief was too much for them. Late this afternoon, Langdon Post, Administrator of Housing in New York, announced that all but a few of the strikers had returned to work. The Unions deny this, and say the strike is spreading.

The fight isn't over. The American Federation of Labor declines to accept a defeat. For the last five

days Mr. William Green● has been promising an announcement on the subject. No announcement is yet forthcoming. The significant thing is that the building trades unions, who started this fracas, are particularly strong in New York. ^{But} ~~And~~ even the staunchest union-man may blanch when he hears the words "Work or ^{no relief} ~~starve~~" ⁴

~~Mr.~~ Alfred P. Sloan ~~made the country sit up this~~
~~morning.~~ ^{d this morning} His announcement [^] that General Motors is going to spend
fifty million dollars to expand its plants. ^{And that} ~~has been~~ followed
by echoes from all over the country. Mr. Sloan's statement now
sounds like a shot from the gun of the official starter at a race
meet. Bethlehem Steel, Libby Owens Glass, American Rolling Mills
are all following the lead of General Motors. Likewise North
Aviation
American [^] and the Giant International Harvester Company. And these
are only a few.

Mr. Sloan says General Motors will put up ~~ex~~ plants in
various parts of the country. All this news adds a punch to a
report issued by Uncle Sam's Department of Commerce. In 1934
the National income shot up eleven percent. That brings it to a
round fifty billion dollars. A rise of five billions over the
year 1933. What is more, business losses were substantially reduced
last year. And ~~the~~ utility companies, ^{over which} ~~the industry~~, there has been
so much fuss, ~~about, they~~ did better in 1934 than any other year
since 1929. ~~The~~ ^{most} ~~one~~ industry that suffered ^{plenty} was construction and
building.

The caissons go rolling along, this time along the highways of New York State. On all its main thoroughfares you could see processions of khaki-painted vehicles, trailers, rumbling kitchens, trucks, motorcycles and cavalry. Meanwhile ~~xxxx~~ troop trains carrying thousands of infantry were also on the move. They started today, all headed for Pine Camp, near Watertown. By the end of the week there will be sixty thousand soldiers from the Eastern Corps area there.

It's the greatest concentration of American troops since the day^s of the World War. Never before in peace time have army maneuvers in this country been planned on such a large scale. Every kind of soldier from West Point Generals to National Guard Privates will play his part. The boss of the maneuvers is Major General Denis E. Nolan, in command of the New York Area, and the General slated to succeed ~~General~~ MacArthur as Chief-of-Staff.

But, in addition to this, the army games will be watched by the doughboys' Commander-in-Chief, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Altogether there will be a glittering audience. The Secretary of War will also be present. As well as General MacArthur and the Military Attaches in Washington. The maneuvers will be right out in the open. The War Office is making a special point

of inviting all the official military observers from other countries.

In this connection I learned an interesting fact from Captain Grogan, Chief of Army Information in New York. Serving in the ranks in these maneuvers will be hundreds of medal-wearers, veterans, heroes of the last war. One of these is particularly worth considering. Just twenty-five years ago the army also held maneuvers at Pine Camp. Among the doughboys was a buck private named Arthur Desmond. This week Arthur⁴ Desmond is again taking part in maneuvers in Pine Camp, not as a doughboy but as Brigadier-General Desmond of the Massachusetts National Guard.

PRISON

Some time ago we learned that the French Government was getting ready to do away with the historic, grim, penal colony on Devil's Island. That's the place where Alfred Dreyfuss suffered his famous martyrdom. Everybody has heard about that hell upon earth. For many years the French remained unshocked by the ~~horror~~ stories of horror that came from there. But when they heard that in addition to their other sufferings, the prisoners were being robbed by grafting officials a big scandal broke.

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Theoretically the criminals on Devil's Island are supposed to be paid a small pittance for the forced labor that they do. But it has come to light that some of the officials have been confiscating those few daily nickels and putting them in their own pockets.

So an investigation is afoot. This has provoked humane people in France to renew the agitation for doing away with that ~~hole of terror~~ ^{tropical isle of} torture.

Just as the French seem about to do away with their Devil's Island in the Carribbean, somebody has proposed that Uncle Sam should establish one of his own in the Aleutian Archipeligo. The idea comes from ^a Colonel ~~G. A. Secane~~ of the Army Signal Corps. The Colonel

suggests that we establish a Federal ~~Prison, existing~~ prison colony in the Rat Islands off Alaska. There we should send all male prisoners sentenced to more than five years. ~~on the islands~~ Once there they would have to fend for themselves. They would be dumped on the ^{Rat} islands with only supplies to get going and to last them for a short while. After that they would ^have to be Robinson Crusoes, They would have the freedom of the islands, no guards, no wardens, no officials. The only watch kept over them would be a "limited amount of off-shore vigilance from the sea." Presumably that would be another job for Uncle Sam's over-worked Coast Guard.

The Signal Corps ~~Colonel~~ Colonel believes there would be only a remote chance of prisoners escaping. The four Rat Islands are between the Andreanof Islands and the Near Islands. They are some eleven hundred miles from the mainland of Alaska, two thousand miles from the nearest point in the state of Washington, more than two thousand miles away from Hawaii. Any convicts with ambitions to escape would have to be able to make that ~~xxx~~ distance in a fishing boat. There aren't any trees on the Rat Islands with which they could build any large vessels. ~~But the~~

At the crime conference held at Washington last December, Attorney-General Cummings invited suggestions for ~~x~~ the solving of Uncle Sam's crime problems. ^{And the} Colonel ~~Secane~~ has submitted his plan in answer to that invitation. He figures that it would be tried out first on ten thousand of Uncle Sam's one hundred and twenty thousand prisoners. Banishment to the Rat Islands, he says, "would mean a long good-bye without hope of a pardon, parole or escape."

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There are one or two historic episodes that the Colonel has forgotten. They show that hardy men, especially desperate men are capable of ~~making~~ accomplishing incredibly long voyages in an open boat. For instance, William Dampier the buccaneer explorer, travelled in a native canoe, with three other white men and four Malays, ~~F~~ from the Nicobar Islands to Sumatra, landing at a point one hundred miles east of Anchin. Then there was the famous Captain Bligh. When the mutineers of the bounty set him and eighteen loyal sailors adrift in an open boat they travelled ~~by the~~ all the way to Timur, a distance of 3,618 miles. *Then there was the World War feat of Count Luckner with a long South Sea voyage in an open boat.*

YACHT

Uncle Sam has another feather in his sporting cap.

An American ~~craft~~ craft appropriately named "Stormy Weather" captured one of the Blue Ribbons of the English Yachting season. She won the famous Fast~~net~~-Cup-race, a five-hundred-and-eighty-five mile affair, with hours to spare.

Actually she finished third. But, owing to the funny way they run yacht races, her handicap makes her a hands^odown winner.

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This isn't the first time in the season that you've heard of ~~the~~ "Stormy Weather." It was this same yawl, owned by Philip Le Boutillier, that won the race from Newport, Rhode Island, to Bergen, Norway. The Fast~~net~~ race, which started last Wednesday, is almost as dangerous, though of course it isn't nearly as long.

JAPAN

An astounding episode in Japan. Right into the great War Office in Tokio walks an officer of the Japanese army. He is Colonel Aizawa, one of the best fencers in Nippon. He demands audience of the Chief of the Bureau of Military Affairs, Major General Nagata. The Colonel has a complaint to make. His superior officer rebukes him. There are words, more words, hot words. Suddenly Colonel Aizawa, champion fencer, master swordsman of Japan, draws his sword, lunges across the desk and the Chief of Japan's Bureau of Military Affairs lies stretched on the floor, dead.

The story sounds incredible. One can hardly imagine mutiny and assassination in the heart of the Tokio War Office, the stronghold of the War Lords that rule Japan more firmly than the Hohenzollerns ever governed Germany. But it's a fact, nevertheless.

More ~~xx~~ sensational still is the story behind the fact. The War Office tried to keep the affair dark. The way it leaked out was through an official announcement that Major General Nagata had been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General. That let the

cat out of the bag. For it's a picturesque and appropriate rule in Japan that a soldier killed in the performance of his duty is automatically promoted.

The story ^{startling} behind the fact is that Colonel Aizawa represented a discontented element among the Mikado's officers. General Nagata as Director General of Military Affairs had been making a lot of transfers ~~fx~~ and promotions. The best jobs were going to his personal friends. That's what the discontented officers claimed, all the important appointments given to ^{his clique - that is,} supporters of General Hayashi, Minister of War.

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Having killed his superior officer, Colonel Aizawa resigned his commission and was promptly arrested. The next consequence was a hurried meeting of the Cabinet. A cordon of guards was thrown around the War Office building. And now Tokyo ~~seems~~ seeths with rumors that General Hayashi, the War Minister, will resign, that the killing of Nagata means the downfall of the aggressive party in Japan. ^{That} ~~the~~ party ^{which} ~~which~~ has been responsible for the grabbing of Manchukuo for the oppression of China.

SIAM

The picturesque and once happy kingdom of Siam is in the spotlight again. Last week's mutiny was crushed. But it was an obvious symptom of discontent in the land of the White Elephant. So the talk is "Let's get our good King Prajadhipok back again."

The ex-king himself isn't saying anything. He's taking his ease on an English country estate, a place ^{where for} ~~affected by the~~ ^{has been easy.} ~~experience of~~ centuries ~~for~~ ease-taking. He's been out of touch with his native country since he abdicated last March. Like Bill Rogers, all he knows about affairs in Siam is what he sees in the ~~newspapers.~~ He's not anxious to take the job away from his eleven-year-old nephew, King Ananda. As for His Majesty Ananda, at an expensive school in Switzerland, ~~as~~ he isn't even allowed to read the newspapers. His chief concern is to get more pocket money out of his guardians.--(He's allowed about five francs a week, which means one-dollar-and-sixty-three cents).-- ^{His next concern is} ~~and~~ his daily struggles with those terrible French irregular verbs.

NIAGRA

A sad tale comes from Niagara Falls, ^cone the Mecca of all honeymooning couples. It's a tale of a couple who would like to honeymoon but can't.

Karmakionā

The would-be bride, Miss Mary Carmacchione ^{Fellēcha} lives in Niagara Falls, New York. The proud and happy youth, John De Felice parks his shoes in Niagara Falls, Ontario. What could be more obvious than a wedding at Niagara Falls?

The wedding feast was all prepared, the guests all assembled. But no bridegroom. And there's where the villain of the piece steps in. In this case the villain is the strong of the law. Uncle Sam once deported young Master De Felice. So he won't let him cross the border to claim his bride. Then, you will ask, why doesn't the bride go to him? Because Ottawa says "No."

That was all too bad. But the guests decided that, bridegroom or no bridegroom, they wouldn't let all that good vino and *zabaglione* ravioli and zabaglione and strega go to waste. So, although there couldn't be a wedding they at least had a wedding feast. They toasted the bride, But there was no bride. They toasted the bridegroom, but there was no bridegroom. They winked about the wedding night. But there was no wedding-night, and
SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.