

L.I. - Sunoco. Mon., Aug. 30, 1937.

ROOSEVELT

In spite of ^{here's a declaration that} what people have been hinting, President

Roosevelt does not want a third term. He didn't say so himself, but the information came^s from one who ought to know, his own Mother. A United Press reporter called upon Mrs. ^{ah} Sam Delano Roosevelt in Paris today. He found the President's Mother not only receptive but in a communicative mood. "I am sure my son does not want to run for a third term as president," she said.

"He feels ^{that} when he has completed the next three years, he will have done what was expected of him. And he will be ready to let somebody take his place." To which she added: "Surely, there are other able men in the country competent for the presidency."

When that news sizzled over the cables, it caused a commotion back here at home. Washington got all hot and bothered, and cabled swiftly to the American Embassy in Paris, with instructions for an investigation. The Paris Embassy promptly got busy and found out that the interview was authentic, true and accurate.

Whereupon, certain of ~~the~~ President's followers became dithery. Six months ago, Mr. Roosevelt made a public

statement at a dinner which indicated that he expected to retire to private life on January Twentieth, Nineteen Forty-One. But he never said in so many words, "I will not run for the presidency in Nineteen Forty." A few weeks ago, one of the Washington reporters put the question to him directly. With a flash of the Roosevelt smile, the President told the newspaper man to put on a dunce's cap and stand in the corner. Political observers are recalling the days of the late Calvin Coolidge who kept the country guessing for a long time in similar fashion.

At the ^{Dutchess County} summer White House ~~at~~ ^{Dutchess County} Hyde Park, ~~New York~~, the reaction to the interview with Mrs. Sara Delano Roosevelt was a conspicuous but mystifying silence.

LABOR

What about the labor front today? There's a movement afoot to unite all the sea-going unions into one vast single organization. And this single union would become a member of the Committee for Industrial Organization. It would take in all men and women who go down to the sea in ships for their livelihood, excepting officers and radio operators.

While this campaign was started in Chicago, another group, the National Maritime Union, indulged in a general sit-down strike at Houston, Texas. This was an incident in an inter-union factional fight. A freighter had arrived in Houston manned by members of a rival union, the International Longshoremen's Association. So the National Maritime Union called this sit-down strike on every cargo ship in the harbor in Houston. It was a short affair, lasting only three hours, just a waterfront siesta.

In Wayne, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Pauline Collins conducted a sit-down strike against Uncle Sam. Ther the government some time ago started work on a federal housing project which will cost three hundred thousand dollars before it's finished. Mrs.

Collins occupies a two-story frame shack right in the middle of the works. She said she won't move until the government pays what she want. So thar she sits!

WEATHER

The tropical storm that visited Florida has disappeared without doing much damage. Over the weekend the federal hurricane observation system had ordered warnings hoisted all up and down the Atlantic coast. ^{But} They were taken down today, ~~as~~ the danger ^{having} ~~had~~ disappeared, ~~for the time being.~~

However Cries for help came from a Danish freighter in the North Atlantic some five hundred odd miles east of Belle Isle. The Danish ship was in danger of sinking. The appeal was picked up by the American passenger liner MANHATTAN, which hurried to the rescue.

Tonight, the people most interested in reading the weather reports were the fight fans in New York. They still have their fingers crossed, wondering whether the ~~little~~ ^{Beathie Fistic} solree between Champion Joe Louis and British Tommy Farr from Wales will be postponed again. The weather ^{man's answer to their} ~~man's answer to their~~ questions is, "Yes and No. Partly cloudy and warm, with occasional showers."

As for the principals in the contest, they have

weighed in again. And the Brown Bomber turned out to be one pound lighter than he was on Thursday. The Welshman was three pounds lighter. That still makes him some eight pounds heavier

than Louis. ^{FF} Judging by what one hears and reads, the delay has brought about a slight shift of opinion among the experts.

The hard-boiled ones stick to their guns and vow that the poor Welshman hasn't a chance on earth. They believe that the

odds of ~~SEVENTEEN~~ seven-to-one in favor of Champion Joe ~~are~~ ^{represent a}

most moderate estimate of the chances. But here and there in

the land one hears ~~the~~ dissenting voices saying; ~~well~~ "Yes, but wait a minute!" ~~maybe, perhaps.~~

It has been suggested that maybe the Welshman has a good bicycle and can keep away from the Brown Bomber

somewhat after the fashion of Bob Pastor.

One friend of mine who knows plenty about the fight game is betting Favre because both Tunney & Dempsey are picking Louis. Ex-Champs are notoriously punk prophets.

CHINA

Another outrage upon neutrals in the Far East, another international episode to drag foreign nations into the Sino-Japanese mess. This time, an attack upon an American liner, and the offenders are Chinese bomber pilots. Seven of the crew of the PRESIDENT HOOVER were wounded and three passengers thrown to the deck and stunned when four Chinese planes dove their bombs at the flagship of the Dollar Line. In case it's any consolation, Japanese naval headquarters claim that two of the Mikado's gunboats had banged one of those Chinese planes with anti-aircraft cannon.

The action of the Chinese government following this unfortunate episode was a contrast to that of the Japanese after they had shot the British Ambassador. Nanking immediately cabled instructions to the Chinese Ambassador at Washington to apologize and offer immediate redress. This the Chinese cabinet did spontaneously and immediately. And the Chinese Foreign Office offered the following explanation: "Reports indicate that the PRESIDENT HOOVER was between two Japanese warships at the time

of the bombing and was mistaken by a Chinese pilot for a Nipponese transport."

Secretary Hull says it's both unfortunate and deplorable, one of those incidents that are bound to happen in such conditions as those which prevail in the Shanghai area. Admiral Yarnell, Commander-in-Chief of Uncle Sam's squadron in those waters, has issued instructions to all American merchant vessels to keep away from Shanghai for the time being.

While all this was going on, China lodged a complaint with the League of Nations that Japan has broken not only the League's Covenants but the Kellogg Peace Pact and the Nine Power Treaty. Of course that is hardly news, even at Geneva.

And in America, John Lewis' C. I. O. was thrusting itself into the Far East war news. An American Ship, the WICHITA, laden with nineteen bombingplanes to the Chinese forces, is on its way from Baltimore to China. One of the leaders of the National Maritime Union is proposing to call a sit-down strike when the WICHITA reaches San Pedro, California. He proposes that the crew should demand a bonus to pay them for the risk they are

going to take.

(The Mikado's high command has launched a fresh and tremendous drive, an invasion of the Province of Shangtung, one of the richest in all China,) for centuries the center of its most ancient arts and culture. It was in Shangtung that the great Chinese philosopher, Confucious, was born. The Shangtungese are noted for their size, strong, tall, stout fellows, fiercely independent. It is a saying that nobody has ever completely conquered Shangtung. But the Japanese have assigned their strongest, best drilled, best equipped units to the job.

The news from Soviet Russia grows grimmer every week.

(The latest from the land of the Reds is that the blood purge has taken a new slant. Stalin is now purging the Soviet League of Youth,) with the usual horrifying incidentals: arrests, executions, and imprisonment of their leaders. Demotion and being transferred to remote parts of the union are the mildest punishments. ^{TF} And that isn't all. On the Finnish frontier six agricultural leaders were sentenced to death. Down near the Black Sea thirteen veteran surgeons were arrested on a charge of infecting cattle with disease germs.

Such is the latest addition to the ~~singularly~~ sanguinary total piled up by the steel broom with which Dictator Stalin has been cleansing the Bolshevik party.

(Webb Miller, European news manager of the United Press, declares that in the past year no fewer than twenty-eight Commissars and Assistant Commissars, probably many more, have been arrested, removed or shot.) Hundreds of members of the Commissary of Internal Affairs, formerly the OGPU, are now in prison. Most of the Commanders of the fifteen great military districts have been shifted.

And it is said that three thousand railway officials are under arrest.

Webb Miller has been in Russia making as comprehensive an investigation as possible into this historic blood purge. As his reports were sent by way of London they come through uncensored and they tell a gruesome tale.

One night last February Webb Miller was dining at the guest house of the Foreign Office in Moscow, a magnificent place which used to be the palace of a Moscowite millionaire. "There were six Bolsheviks at the dinner table that evening, he writes, "Four have disappeared in the last two months."

"Thousands have disappeared from their posts without explanation and without mention in the newspapers. But," he adds, "available compilations indicate that about five hundred persons have been executed by firing squads."

People have been wondering whether the tremendous scope of this blood purge would not end by weakening rather than strengthening Stalin. Miller's opinion is that the Red Dictator will emerge stronger than ever.

Now let's take a quick birdseye view of the rest of the news and see what the well known human race is up to. In Williamstown, Massachusetts, President William Mather Lewis of Lafayette College made a speech at Williams College, saying that America is propaganda ridden and in the hands of sinister minorities. "There's no sound public opinion in the distressful U.S.A.," says the Professor, "and it's all because of the evil influence of the newspapers, and the radio and the movies, to which we cannot talk back." He says you folks can't talk back - huh! He should see my morning's mail!

Aw Oh! The auctioneer is going to seel Jack Barrymore's yacht. The seventy-five thousand dollar romance laden craft aboard which he wooed his Ariel, Elaine Barrie. The auctioneer will now woo the customers.

In Oakland, California, an elderly spinster was killed by her pet dog, a chow. She had another pet, a bulldog. The bulldog did his best to protect her when she was attacked by the chow, but to no avail. Her last words expressed regret because the policemen who came to the rescue shot and killed the chow.

In Clarksdale, Mississippi, a farmer was brought to trial charged with slavery. The prosecutor accused him of holding two negroes in peonage to make good a debt they owed him. Trial for slavery -- this long after the Civil War.

In Chicago, the National Safety Council gave out some information which has a molecule of consolation. The percentage of fatal traffic accidents decreased in the month of July this year. Actually, they were more numerous ~~xx~~ than a year ago, but not as compared to the increase in motoring mileage. The lowest fatality rate was in New York; the highest in Los Angeles.

Today was a public holiday in Louisiana. It was the birthday of the late Huey Long and Louisianians had voted a constitutional amendment declaring this a legal holiday, with all exchanged and public offices closed. Thousands gathered at sunrise this morning for memorial services in the sunken garden in front of the skyscraper state capitol at Baton Rouge, the house that Huey built! Huey is not the forgotten man.

In Pittsburgh, the trustees of the late Andrew Mellon were busy today dodging questions as to the size of the gigantic fortune he left. They say, it's impossible to tell. His estate consists of so many varied properties that even an estimate is impossible. However, it is admitted that the fortune he left behind him was, in the words of his attorney, "extremely large." The money he split between his children is believed to have been somewhere near ninety million dollars.

Here's something that will amaze the tennis fans. America's doubles champions, Don Budge and Gene Mako of California, were defeated at Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, in three straight sets. And their conquerors? Baron Gottfried von Cramm and Henrich Heinkle of Germany. It was the most astounding upset on any tennis court this year. Budge and Mako had beaten the Germans for the English Championship and also in the Davis Cup matches. Today they in turn were beaten badly!

In Port Washington, New York, another giant German flying boat of the Lufthansa Lines, alighted in the harbor after a smooth, successful survey flight from the Azores. Transatlantic is beginning to mean about the same as across the creek!

From Berlin comes the report that Colonel General Herman Goering is polishing the gold braid on his many uniforms. He's getting ready to receive none other than Premier Benito Mussolini, who is going to pay a state visit to Germany on September Nineteenth. And that's going to be an event upon which the non-Fascist countries of Europe will gaze with a wry face. While Corporal Mussolini gazes upon the glittering uniforms of Colonel General Goering with a Machiavellian smile.

In Toronto, the celebrated Dr. Alan Roy Diefoe, as guardian today refused a cool half a million that was offered to his five charges, the Dionne quintts. The Directors of the New York Nineteen-Thirty-Nine World's Fair -- meaning Grover Whalen -- had made that offer if Dr. Diefoe would allow the young ladies to appear at the Fair. Evidently they were expected to do for the New York Fair what Fan Dancer Sally Rand did for the Chicago Exposition. Said Dr. Diefoe -- "No!" Say I

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.