

L.J. - Sunoco. Wed., June 16, 1937.

BONUS

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It was just a year ago today that Uncle Sam's postmen started on their morning rounds carrying ~~mx~~ for three million men the most welcomed envelopes they ever bore. They were delivering the bonus bonds to the veterans, bonds to the tune of one billion, eight hundred and eight million, two hundred and eighty-one thousand, one hundred and fifty dollars. At the time, everybody said: "That money will soon be spent."

Now that a year has gone by, what has happened? The Treasury reports that those sour prophecies were not true. One-fourth of the three million veterans have held on to their bonds. The remaining three-quarters cashed them. But was it a case of "easy come, easy go?" On the contrary. Deposits in both the postal savings and in the banks rose substantially after those bonus bonds had been handed out.

GARNER

Here's encouraging news from the Dust Bowl. Maybe it's a little early to talk, but the report today is that there is no Dust Bowl. Our authority for it is the Vice-President of the United States, John Nance Garner, no less. He has been visiting his ^{Texas} home and, he says, there are no signs of dust.

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Instead of dry, cracked, barren plains, he traveled through green fields and ^{flowing streams,} ~~streams full to the brinks of their banks~~

"At one point, we were held up for an hour by flood waters in the Panhandle," said the Vice-President. And, he added to the folks out home: "I'm going to ~~deliver~~ tell the President to quit giving you any money. You don't need it."

AIRPLANES

And here's an agricultural item:- The use of aircraft for the control of pest has been growing remarkably. An article by J. H. Currie in FARM JOURNAL has the information that it is spreading all over the country. Last year the farmers tried it successfully to save their potato crop.

In the middlewest the harvest of peas was rescued largely by the help of planes, and this year eight airships are busy over the grand prairie section of Arkansas, fighting the army worm. In Utah and Idaho they are helping to keep down the annual plague of crickets. And on the Pacific Coast, particularly in California, the sight of an aviator pouring either dry or liquid insect destroyer over the fields is today commonplace. They zoom over the crops at a speed of two hundred and fifty miles or more per hour, dusting or spraying anywhere from one hundred to six hundred acres every hour.

SENATOR

Last night an important member of the House of Representatives died in Washington, died of food poisoning. Today we learn that a Senator is in the Naval Hospital at Washington and he suffers from the same affliction that carried off Mr. Connery of Massachusetts. Senator Chavez of New Mexico who succeeded Senator Bronson Cutting, so tragically killed two years ago in an aeroplane accident. Late this afternoon Mr. Chavez was reported to be out of danger.

STRIKE

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The bomb that burst in the gateway of a Bethlehem Steel plant today seems likely to have repercussions far louder than the noise ~~made~~^{made}. It did no damage and caused no injury to anybody. But that explosion is being hailed far and wide as a token of lawlessness among the strikers. That's shown in the words of Mayor Shields of Johnstown in his telegram to President Roosevelt. His message charged that in addition to that bombing a Bethlehem Steel worker has been kidnapped, a man who wasn't striking. ~~The~~ "The situation has grown so bad that the strikers have resorted to the most dastardly crime in our nation today, that of kidnapping." So Mayor Shields wired the President, and he added: "I earnestly appeal to John L. Lewis, through you as our President, to withdraw the murderous element that now infests my city."

Such are today's sensations in the ominous war between steel and the C.I.O. union. Two hundred ^{Pennsylvania} state policemen were on guard around the gates of the Cambria plant of the Bethlehem Corporation when the explosion occurred. An automobile came roaring by one of the gates. As it passed, one of the men in ~~xxx~~ the

rear seat hurled the bomb. It so happened that the state troopers had been withdrawn from that particular gate a few minutes before. There was a terrific noise, windows were broken in nearby homes, a large hole was made in the concrete sidewalk. Fortunately, ^{no} ~~as we have observed, there were no~~ casualties. The police couldn't find any fragments of the bomb. They believe that it was composed of two sticks of dynamite wired together and fused.

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At other gates of the Cambria plant, there were fights between pickets, state troopers, and company police. Mayor Shields has announced that he is swearing in vigilantes, volunteer cops. He promises to have three thousand of them enrolled within the next two days. The Citizens Committee of Johnstown declare^s that they will raise, if necessary, an army of twenty-five thousand armed men, to help preserve law and order. The strike leaders retort by saying they will match the Citizens' army man for man with union pickets.

The man who says he was ~~mi~~ kidnapped claims that six men grabbed him, threw ~~him~~ him into a car, stripped him of his

clothes, and ^{later} ~~then~~ threw him out at the side of ^a ~~the~~ road.

In Youngstown, Ohio, officials of the Sheet and Tube Company received a visit from a delegation. This delegation said it represented nine thousand employees who did not want to strike. The purpose of their visit was to petition the Company to reopen the plants and let them go back to work but to see that they were protected.

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From Cleveland, a report comes that Governor Davey of Ohio was rebuffed by the heads of the independent steel companies. Chairman Tom Girdler of Republic and President Purnell of Youngstown Sheet and Tube, declined to attend the conference to which Ohio's Governor had invited them. In fact, Governor Davey had said: "I shall expect you without fail." ^{Tom} ~~Tom~~ Girdler's reply was: "We have already informed you of our determination not to sign the C.I.O. contract." To that he added: "Our forty thousand employees in Ohio want to be allowed to continue to work unmolested by outside agitators. They will welcome your announcement that you will not dodge your responsibility as chief law enforcing officer."

Here's another new angle on the disappearance of Mrs.

William H. Parsons of Long Island, another theory. Mrs. Parsons is
alive and somewhere ^{That's the rumor.} on Manhattan. ~~Parsons~~ She has been unharmed

and will before long be returned to her squab farm at Stoney

Brook safe and sound. ~~At any rate,~~ That's the belief of one

of the officers investigating this mystery. To his mind

the case has all the earmarks of an amateur crime. It isn't

professional snatchers who are holding Mrs. Parsons, not

criminals of the ruthless kind who might murder her at the first

inkling of danger to them.

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This is the first new ^{clue} ~~symptom~~ in the Parson's business
since the G-men, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, officially
took charge. Actually the F. B. I. agents have been working on
the case for several days. But by the terms of the Lindbergh
Kidnapping Law the G-men do not take hold until a week after
a person has disappeared.

MURDER

Guns crackled in a New York street last night and a man fell dead. ~~Thus a gang war dating from prohibition days came to life again in tragic fashion.~~ A citizen named John Costello was walking down Ninth Avenue with his wife pushing their baby in a perambulator. He was a young man, only twenty-nine years old. When he came to a Salvation Army station he stopped to talk to some pals. His wife took the perambulator and went back home.

As John Costello

~~As he~~¹ was chatting a sedan drove up. Out of it climbed two men.

They took a good look at Costello who paid no attention to them.

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Then from the newspapers they were holding, folded up, they produced revolvers and before anybody had any idea something was happening they fired. Costello dropped on the sidewalk with six bullets in his body. Ninth Avenue, New York, was as usual crowded with passersby. But the murderers escaped. New York's mobsters have at various times chosen many strange places for their assassinations, dance halls, taxi cabs, even telephone booths. But this was the first one that ever happened in the doorway of a Salvation Army Shelter. The investigation brought out grim facts about the Murdered man. He was known to the underworld as Kiki. The police knew him well. They had picked

him up twice and asked him what he knew about certain murders.

But they never pinned anything on him. He had been suspected

of killing a gentleman who went by the picturesque name of

Linky Mitchell. Linky owed his posthumous notoriety ^{to his being} ~~as~~ the last

surviving ~~member~~ ^{man} of a gang known as the Hudson Dusters, one

of the oldest and ~~most sanguinary~~ ^{toughest} of New York's mobs. But the

cops never could prove that Kiki Costello shot Linky Mitchell

in that Greenwich Village speakeasy. So maybe last night's

murder on Manhattan's Ninth Avenue was another chapter in the

blood-stained history of the Hudson Dusters.

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SPAIN

The most exciting thing in the Spanish War today happened in France. The Spanish Government destroyer CISCAR, was in the harbor of LaPallice, near LaRochelle. The destroyer had brought a hundred and sixteen refugees from Bilbao. All of a sudden, a mutiny broke out. The crew suspected their officers were going to desert the ship. The sailors pulled their pistols on their officers and the next thing spectators knew they had turned their ^{naval} guns on a French warship in the harbor. Three French navy vessels and a British man-of-war promptly cleared for action. That quickly brought the ~~mutineers~~ mutineers to terms. The refugees were landed, also the officers of the CISCAR. The mutinous crew eventually realized that their fears had been ^{premature.} ~~to~~ ~~say the least, premature.~~

Another scene of the Spanish drama was enacted at London, in the House of Commons. Captain Anthony Eden, His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, told the British Parliament that everything was friendly once more between the four great powers, France and England, Germany and Italy. They have settled their differences, and the Fascist

powers are back in line for non-intervention. They will resume their part in the naval patrol of the Spanish coasts.

And that wasn't all. "His Majesty's government propose further measures to prevent foreign combatants or war supplies from reaching Spain," said Captain Eden. He did not take the Commons into his confidence as to what those measures were.

However, he reassured the M.P.s that there'll be no more such episodes as the bombardment of Almeria. The inference drawn is that the agreement between the four powers is so sweeping that all foreign so-called volunteers will be withdrawn from the Spanish armies and that Valencia will be left to fight it

out with General Franco unaided. Captain Eden's statement was corroborated by official announcement in Berlin and Rome.

And General Franco's armies are reported to be closing like a nut-cracker upon what is left of the defences of Bilbao. His vanguard is advancing through the suburbs, ~~but~~ ~~it is not only~~ a street-to-street, ~~fight~~ ~~but a~~ house-to-house fight. Franco has ordered that there is to be no attempt to occupy the ^{heart} ~~part~~ of Bilbao itself until the government troops have been cleared out of the surrounding hills.

When Bilbao is ~~finally~~ completely in Rebel hands, the Basques will be in an appalling position. ~~To be sure, it's bad enough already.~~ But all those who fled before the Rebel advance, will find themselves couped up in a narrow strip of land and faced with immediate famine. There will be no possibility of feeding them except through Santander, which will be surrounded on three sides by Rebel armies, since Oviedo is already in Franco's possession.

BABY

The citizens of Sofia, capital of Bulgaria, woke up this morning to the thunder of cannon fire. But it didn't come from enemy artillery. It was a royal salute of a hundred and one guns, and it meant that there was a new member of the royal family. Queen Giovanna, Italian born Queen of King Boris, gave birth to a little boy who will one day rule the Bulgars as King Simeon the Second.

We may ask why "Simeon?" For the answer we have to go way back into the picturesque history of the land of the Bulgars. The first Simeon to rule them mounted the throne in the year Eight Hundred and Ninety Three. He pushed his frontiers until Bulgaria was bounded by the Adriatic on the west, and the Black Sea on the east, by the River Danube on the north, and by the Aegean Sea on the south. His thirty-four year reign comes down in the history books as the golden age of Bulgaria.

On his mother's side the babe is of the noble House of Savoy, the reigning family of Italy. And political observers are not slow to point out that the future King of Bulgaria is the grandson of the King of Italy. That, we may be sure, is

a fact Mussolini counted on when he encouraged the marriage.

However, there's a cloud on the horizon, a religious cloud. As King of Bulgaria, the princeling's father, Brosi, belongs to and has to maintain the Greek Orthodox Church.

As the Savoy Princess, his mother, is a Roman Catholic, the Vatican announces that it will insist upon young Simeon being raised in the Roman faith. Vatican officials today declared that this was promised when the Holy See permitted the marriage of the Roman Catholic Princess to the Greek Catholic King. The Vatican already has one grievance on that score.

The first child of that marriage, four year old Princess Maria Louise, is being brought up in the Greek Orthodox faith. And, the Vatican declares, King Boris has thus already broken his promise once. This time, they say, he will have to keep it.

Which remains to be seen.

SOLDIER

Mussolini is breaking another tradition, a tradition of Shakespeare: the passage in "As You Like It." which reads:-
"The soldier full of strange oaths and bearded like the pard."

Shakespeare's picture of a soldier is displeasing to the Duce. He doesn't care so much about his being "bearded like the pard" - whatever a pard may mean, but he doesn't want the fighters of Italy to be full of oaths, strange or otherwise. So he has had his Under-Secretary of War issue a decree about it. All the barracks in Italy today are placarded with large signs announcing that "Swearing dishonors the soldier." A man who is heard cursing will be reprimanded the first time, but for the second offense he will be punished.

Now, if that isn't news I'll eat a set of Shakespeare --
"As You Like It" --- and

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.