

L. T.-Sun- Tuesday, May 15th, 1934.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:-

Let's see what piece of news today is of the widest interest. Well, there's no doubt about that. Here's an item ~~that's~~ of interest to the entire solar system, to the people of Mars, ~~or~~ Venus or distant Neptune -- if there be any. The planet Jupiter seems to have another moon, which we didn't know anything about thus far. Astronomers at Harvard have found a new ^{Astral} ~~astrological~~ body near the great bulk of Jupiter and they believe it may be a tenth moon -- Jupiter already having nine known satellites.

Yes, and ~~it's~~ ^{that's} the sort of news item ~~that will~~ ^{to} interest the planetary inhabitants of outer space, a real headline ^{for} ~~to~~ them -- ^{in case they have their all-Wave sets tuned in tonight.} Jupiter has a tenth moon! -- ~~unless those~~ ^{Or maybe those} planetary people know about it already.

DISASTER

And now let's come down to earth. While the navigators of every ship crossing the foggy Atlantic were scanning the skies for some sight of the plane of George Pond and Lieutenant Sabelli, bound for Rome, an amazing disaster occurred on this side of the ocean. A tragedy not of the air but of the sea. Everybody who has been to Europe will remember the famous Nantucket Lightship anchored by heavy chains to the bottom of the ocean about a hundred miles southeast of Newport, Rhode Island. For these many years that lightship has stood as a beacon and a point of safety for mariners. There was a heavy fog on the Atlantic. While officers and the crew of the Nantucket Lightship were on the job this morning, watching and issuing warnings to shipping, a huge mass suddenly loomed out of the fog. It was the great White Star Liner Olympic, full speed ahead! bound for New York. She struck the lightship, the ship that was there for her own protection. And she cut the Nantucket Lightship right in half.

Six officers and ten men were aboard the lightship. So far seven bodies have been recovered. Meanwhile, vessels of Uncle Sam's Coast Guard are rushing to the spot from Boston, and New York and New London, rushing with the utmost speed compatible with safety. In the thick pea soup fog that blankets the ocean, there is the most urgent

need for some vessel to be on the job to protect other ships.

This accident, so far as I can learn, is absolutely without precedent in maritime history. Incidentally, the Olympic is the sister ship of the ill-fated Titanic, which crashed into an iceberg at full speed in a heavy fog twenty-two years ago and went to the bottom, with an appalling loss of life.

Even now this disaster seems a trifle incredible. The Nantucket was equipped with the latest, most advanced type of radio beacons. But that perhaps was part of the reason.

When that startling bit of news came through it called to mind a piece I read recently in some newspaper or magazine about the danger of vessels guided by radio directions from a lighthouse or lightship. They might run into the source of the radio directions. With this vague recollection in mind I got in touch with Captain Howard Hartmann, a veteran master mariner, to whose stories of the sea I had listened. He told me that the Nantucket Lightship had a radio beacon and explained that unless a ship kept getting a cross beacon to give it an angle, there was always a chance that it would run into what he called the danger zone of approach. It can't tell how far it is away from the radio beacon and might run into it.

DISASTER - 3

And that's what happened in the case of the Olympic and the Nantucket Lightship.

Your newspaper will give you in full graphic detail the story of this strange disaster, this latest **mystery** of the sea.

KIDNAP

It is significant that the hunt for the kidnapers of June Robles appears to have centered chiefly in Chicago. One of the principal clues that lead to the finding of the little girl originated in the telephone call to the desk sergeant at the police station in Oak Park, Illinois. It was a curious message. It instructed the police to wire the parents of little June Robles to come on to Chicago with twenty-five thousand dollars. This twenty-five thousand they were to give to a man named Benjamin Franklin at the Chicago Hotel. And naturally, the cops rushed to the hotel but they found that Benjamin Franklin had checked out. However, they are still looking for Ben.

And then, of course, the letter to the Governor of Arizona containing directions where to find the child was mailed from Chicago. Consequently we can readily understand why not only Chicago police but Uncle Sam's men are running down every possible lead in Illinois.

When little June's uncle and his boss, the county Prosecutor, found her, they announced that no ransom money had been paid. The abductors, as you all know, had demanded fifteen thou-

sand dollars. But the family had only been able to raise ten thousand of it. None of this, they declare positively, was turned over to the criminals. But, if the kidnapers did not receive their money, why did they relent and inform the family where to find the child in that living tomb of the Arizona desert? So people are wondering.

The freak thing about the finding of William F. Gettle, of Beverley Hills, was the sheer accident by which his whereabouts were ~~amx~~ discovered. A pure matter of luck. The Robberly and Narcotic Squad of the Los Angeles Detective Bureau was on the lookout for a gang of bank robbers. They had been shadowing a certain house in Los Angeles night and day. They had planted dictographs and other recording devices. Day after day they got so little information from these devices that they were about to give up the attempt. Then suddenly one sentence in a conversation between one of the men and one of the women in the gang gave the police a tip-off. They swooped down on the apartment and arrested one man and two women. On the ~~map~~ they found the information which led them to the house in the Los Angeles suburb where Gettle was being held prisoner.

And it is somewhat reassuring to realize that, for all the huge sums kidnapers demand, it doesn't pay. There have been thirteen major kidnappings since the disappearance of the Lindbergh baby. Eleven of those thirteen cases have been solved, and the criminals either convicted and sent to jail, or, lynched! The exceptions are the abduction of William Hamm in St. Paul and the little Robles girl. And they may soon be solved.

Bullen
May 15, 1934.

INTRO TO BULLEN

And interesting group of newspaper men are drinking a farewell toast to one of their number today. We hear a good deal of our American correspondents in foreign parts, but we don't often stop to realize that the foreign newspapers also have their correspondents over here. They are journalists from every quarter of the globe sending their dispatches about our own American affairs to newspapers all the way from Tokyo to Rio to Regent Street. And the dean of the foreign correspondents in the United States is retiring today.

He is Percy Sutherland Bullen of the London Daily Telegraph. He's been covering America for thirty years. American newspaper men know him as a suave, urbane Englishman whose background of information is a panorama of recent history -- and some of it not so recent. In 1900 he covered the Boer War for the Telegraph. In his services over here he reported the administrations of eight Presidents and three depressions, and we'll all admit that a man who has seen three American depressions has seen a lot. For many years he was the President

of the Association of Foreign Press Correspondents. The University of Missouri conferred on him its first gold medal for newspaper work.

Mr. Percy Bullen is now at an N.B.C. microphone in New York -- ready to tell us something about the way the papers abroad cover our local homespun American news. By the way, Mr. Bullen, before you go back to Fleet Street, would you mind taking us into your confidence. Now, how about those wild and woolly scareheads that appeared recently in London papers, about events over here.

FOR MR. BULLEN.

I think it all goes back to the World War. The story of America's vast preparations in 1917 to enter the great War didn't lose in the telling. Looking over the printed record I find that for every airplane the United States planned we launched a squadron in the air; for every ship laid down in an American shipyard a complete FLEET was soon sailing the ocean; and for every company of recruits enrolled in an American training camp we talked in terms of a REGIMENT well drilled and equipped. You see the War had a demoralizing effect, and our fervid description of American preparations cabled abroad daily certainly had a demoralizing effect on the enemy.

Later, during the stock exchange smash in nineteen twenty-nine, one paper in London described how the subway traffic in New York was held up by the mangled bodies of stock brokers and other victims -- suicides! and in the last few weeks there was Dillinger. A London paper told how the American army and navy and Boy Scouts had been mobilized to hunt for Dillinger, supplemented the next day by bands of Red Indians who were taking the Dillinger warpath armed with bows and arrows! These

FOR MR. BULLEN.

details, however, are but the embroidery and literary accessories of the profession. I do think that we have sometimes patterned our style on the models of intensive human interest -- rather too intensive at times. But all things considered the British despatches -- like the American -- are prompt, reliable and accurate.

FOLLOW BULLEN

They are, indeed, Mr. Bullen. And as for intensive human interest -- American newspaper men have heard about that. Yes, they sure have. You may be retiring from your work in America Mr. Bullen, but we are sure that you will continue on Fleet Street for many years to come. And as you sit with your friends at Cheshire Cheese or whatever the right journalistic pub is now, as you drink your stoop of nut brown ale, we hope you will have many happy memories of your distinguished career as a British correspondent in the Land of Uncle Sam.

METHODISTS FOLLOW CODE

One side growls:- "You're too radical"! The other side roars:- "You're too conservative".

For example, here's New York conference of the Methodist Church coming out with the denunciation -- that the New Deal isn't going fast enough or far enough. It isn't helping the masses. The clergymen call for more planning. They want the government to take over the banks.

That's a left wing radical complaint. And of course there are plenty of conservative complaints. Kicks from the right, kicks from the left.

MRS. ROOSEVELT FOLLOW METHODISTS

Whatever the Methodists think about the codes, there's no doubt about the attitude of one person. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt showed her opinion when she accepted the first Code Label for the cotton garment industry in the ceremonies held at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York. Yes, she is for the N.R.A.

PRIMARIES

The most amusing phase of the primary elections in New Jersey today comes in a complaint from the Western Union. When that Company obtained its franchise in New Jersey, there was a stipulation that State officials be allowed to send telegrams free on government business. But, says Western Union to the Attorney General: "New Jersey officeholders have gone haywire over that privilege. They've been sending out not only personal messages, but campaign statements free over Western Union wires. Last year they sent such messages to the tune of twenty-eight thousand dollars." Wow!

LaFAYETTE

There's an interesting visitor in the country ~~this evening~~ ^{today}.

He's a French Count, a French lawyer, ~~also~~ an American lawyer, a French citizen, also an American citizen - all at the same time. He is not a native American citizen, nor was he ever naturalized. He is quite a paradox - a distinguished paradox. He is Count René de Chambrun, a direct descendant of LaFayette. A hundred and fifty years ago, the United States Government decreed that all descendants of the gallant Marquis who fought with Washington, should be automatically ~~an~~ American citizens.

~~Not so long ago~~, Count de Chambrun ^{has} demanded his rights.

He is an eminent French lawyer. Because of his historic American citizenship, he claimed admission to the American Bar. And this ^{has been} ~~was~~ granted. Amid the ceremonies in honor of LaFayette this year, Count de Chambrun, with his paradoxical legal status, ~~stands a significant~~ ^{symbolizes} LaFayette's service to America and America's gratitude.

CUPID

No, it isn't politics, it's Cupid - at Batavia, New York, where there have been complaints about the handling of jobs at the Veterans' Hospital. The accusation was that politics was involved in the shifting of employees of the Veterans' Bureau. One instance was that thirteen girls were transferred from Washington to Batavia. What deep and dark political machination was behind it? Well, the villain was Dan Cupid. The thirteen girls asked to be transferred because their sweethearts were at Batavia. So love, which is able to make the world go round, is also able to get Veterans' Bureau employees transferred ^{all over the} from ^{place} ~~to~~ ^{place}.

This is the explanation that is given, and it is a pleasant surprise when you look at the dark and devious rogueries of politics and you find those ~~gentle~~ gentle sentiments of the heart. I don't blame them. In fact I feel a little that way myself tonight.

Don't be surprised if some day you read a headline something like this:- Charley Chaplin Overthrows a King. What king? I don't know. What kingdom? I don't know that either. There's a deep secret about it all -- about a few thousand feet of royal film that Charlie has in his possession. It appears that there was a certain crown prince visiting America sometime ago and ^{he} dropped in to see ^{Charlie} Chaplin. His Highness was feeling fine and did a jovial turn in front of the camera with the plaintive little fellow with the baggy pants and big shoes. They put on a hilariously funny scene with Charlie thumping the royal anatomy and kicking the royal shins.

The royal prince took a copy of the film back home with him and showed it in the royal household. So presently Charlie got a letter from the prince requesting urgently:- "I beg of you never to let that film become public."

Charlie Chaplin rose to the occasion like a Machiavellian conspirator and a benefactor of humanity ~~of~~ ~~humanity~~. He wrote back:- "So long as you're a good king I will keep the film secret. But if you ever become a bad

king I'll give it to the Bolsheviks and let them laugh you
off your throne."

Yes, the identity of that royal personage
is being kept a dark secret. I wonder who it could be.

What heir to a royal throne has visited America in recent
years? What royal prince is known for his gay and prankish

ways? I ^{ve}~~have~~ made my guess, you make yours. & a-l-u-t-m.
^

LT in
Wash., D.C.
May 16,
1934.