

L.I. - Sunoco. Monday, June 12, 1939.

There were serious debates in the British Parliament today. In the House of Lords, the Foreign Secretary, Lord Halifax, uttered portentous words about foreign policy. In the Commons, Prime Minister Chamberlain got annoyed with a heckler, and said: "The honorable member is very offensive."

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But such affairs as Russian treaties, foreign relations, and things like that, took a back seat in Great Britain and indeed all over the British Empire. The major topic among ~~all~~ Britons was the tremendous hit that their King and Queen - and most particularly their Queen - had made in the United States. To say that the subjects of the King and Queen are pleased, would be an exceedingly British understatement. Every class in Great Britain, every party, people holding every different point of view, agreed that the royal visit to the United States has been one unqualified success. ~~and to justify the wisdom of the British government~~

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The jubilation is all the greater, because there had been grave misgivings in ~~Great~~ Britain. Some people, even in ~~British~~ official circles, had been afraid that the subject of the war debts might flare up and provoke some expression of discourtesy to the

King and Queen. Others had been saying that we in the United States might misunderstand, might suspect that it had all been arranged to drag us into European quarrels on the British side.

In London this afternoon it was suggested that Their Majesties should be given what amounts to a Roman triumph when they return to England. Unquestionably they'll have an ovation when they set foot at Southampton, ~~an ovation~~^{one} that will last all the way to London. And that ~~will~~^{to} be followed by a public thanksgiving service.

Tonight of course the British King and Queen are back again on their own soil. They left their special train at Sherbrook on the Canadian side of the frontier. Governor George Aiken of Vermont took part in ~~the~~^{the final} reception to the King and Queen. ~~they~~^{now} ~~are~~^{are} on their way to the maritime provinces ~~and they've still~~^{for} three more days of official receptions ~~to face~~ before they sail from Halifax, on Thursday.

There has been just one public criticism so far of the official arrangements on ~~the~~ United States soil. That came from Mayor LaGuardia of New York. He said that the reception

to the King and Queen was nothing to what it might have been if it were done properly. And he explained:- "The whole thing was messed up. If I'd ^{had} ~~had~~ my way," said the New York Mayor, "three times the number of people would have roared their welcome." Mayor LaGuardia ~~was~~ was sore because King George and Queen Elizabeth had not seen the real New York, had not driven up Broadway through the heart of the city. And he put the blame on the British Embassy and our own State Department. As it was ⁱⁿ ~~one~~ one or two details, New York's pugnacious Mayor took matters into his own hands and overrode the State Department and the British Embassy. To which Mayor LaGuardia added: "The President laughed when I told him."

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This morning's newspapers report that there was ~~almost~~ a loud chuckle in St. James's Episcopal Church at Hyde Park. That was when the ^{the Rev. Frank Wilson,} Rector, ⁱⁿ in the middle of the service, announced: "The Parish of St. ~~JAMES~~ James extends a cordial welcome ^{to} ~~to~~ the guests of our senior warden, ~~Frank Wilson~~ the President of the United States." And he added: "One sees what happens when our parishioners bring their guests to church. If they all would do this they would fill the church every Sunday." And then the

rector continued: "We appreciate the historic visit of Their Majesties to our Church, and I am happy to add our voice to that of the mother church in commending Your Majesties to the grace and protection of Almighty God."

It was just a simple service for the neighborhood with no outsiders save the guests of the Senior Warden — and a couple of others.

PLANES

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A strange bulletin just came in from Poland. It sounds as though there might be something startling behind it. Three large bombing planes, heavily armed with machine guns and bombs flew across the border between Slovakia and Polish territory. They came to land ^{at} ~~in~~ a large military airport near Deblin in Poland.

Of course they were immediately surrounded by Polish soldiers at the airport. The crews of those bombing planes surrendered to the Polish troops ~~without~~ without a struggle. They were Slovakian. They explained that they had fled across the border because everybody in Slovakia was expecting at any moment that Slovakia would be occupied by German troops. The Slovak fliers said they would rather see their planes, guns and ammunition in Polish hands than ~~be~~ seized by Hitler. ~~They~~ ^{They} ~~troop.~~ ~~The Slovak fliers~~ were ~~interned~~ interned and held for questioning.

FAR EAST

Fresh trouble in the Far East, a new challenge thrown down by Japan! The French and British concessions in the great northern port of Tientsin are to be blockaded by the Japanese. *And* That sounds like ~~pretty~~ serious business. Uncle Sam was officially notified through the American Consulate General in Tientsin. But this new order doesn't concern us since we have ^{Tientsin} no concession [^] at ~~Tientsin~~. There are American business interests ~~there~~, but *these are* ~~they're~~ mostly in the British concession.

This blockade order is the outcome of an argument between the Japanese and British governments. The Japanese made a demand upon the British to turn over certain Chinese whom the Japanese described as terrorists, fellows who attacked the Chinese friendly to Japan. The British refused to turn them over. Hence this blockade order.

All this came out at the same time as the news of threats on the life of the British Ambassador to China. A strong bodyguard is now protecting Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, King George's envoy in those parts. Everybody who approaches the embassy at Shanghai has to run the gauntlet of policemen, detectives, and soldiers of the Seaforth Highlanders.

WEST POINT

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A modern army officer ^{has} ~~is~~ got to be a ~~good~~ great deal more than a soldier.. That's what President Roosevelt told the graduating class at West Point today, and what he said brings home to all of us a picture of what we should have to face in time of war. The President told the new second lieutenants that "when the supreme test of war comes, an army, to be effective, must command the cooperation of all elements in national life." And the President continued:- "The men then charged with the national defense, must be able to bring into harmonious action the civilian instruments of production, and of transport, and of ~~finance~~ ^{finance}. They must deal with labor, with industry, with management, with agriculture, and costs."

So Mr. Roosevelt urged the graduating cadets:- "Let me commend in your army careers a ~~continuous~~ continuous study of problems outside as well as inside the military field, as the necessary preparation for the greatest success in your chosen work."

stet { In other words, when war comes, be prepared to see an army officer at your elbow no matter what your occupation.

TAXES

Business men may now have some inkling of how their federal taxes may be changed. Nothing is definite as yet, but the tax sub-committee of the House Ways and Means Committee has let some news trickle out. At the same time it was announced that all the proposals of which the Congressmen have agreed so far are ~~initially~~ tentative. They are complying with the suggestions of Secretary Morgenthau of the Treasury, ideas he has been advocating for some time, to help business. ^{TR} One thing the sub-committee proposes to do is to drop the undistributed profits tax. Instead of that, they would have a flat eighteen per cent tax on all corporations that earn more than twenty-five thousand dollars a year. Corporations that earn twenty-five thousand or less, will find no change in their taxes. Banks and insurance companies will be taxed the same rate as other corporations. ^{TR} The sub-committee will also repeal the present limitation of two thousand dollars on capital losses. Those are just some of the highlights of the changes that will be offered to Congress. ~~Of course we must remember that the suggestions of the sub-committee on taxes will have to run the gauntlet of the House and the Senate.~~

LANDON

Boston University today made Alfred M. Landon, a Doctor of Law ^{S.} In his speech, the ex-candidate had interesting things to say about the political scene. For one thing, he said: "It is always difficult to dramatize the moderate, middle of the road position. In fact," he added, "it is always sneered at by the extremists of either the left or the right." And he went on: "We're not going to find peace and prosperity until a large enough group says to the extremists of the left and of the right, 'A plague on both your houses!'"

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The former Governor of Kansas went back to the days of Nineteen Twelve, when he ~~used to be a member of the~~ ^{was a} Republican Progressives, ~~and he~~ ^{he:-} said: "We used to be called Socialists and radicals because we believed that the rights of the users of property must be considered as well as those of the owners." Then he declared: "Now, in Nineteen ^{Thirty-Nine}, we are classed as reactionary because we're still standing on middle ground between the two extremes."

In short, ^{alf} Landon holds that the main political issue today is ~~that~~ between the rights of the users and the rights of the

owners. The New Deal, he declared, believes the rights of the users are greater. To which he added: "This belief is identical with the belief of the Fascist and Communist governments."

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STRIKE

Another battle ^{on} ~~has been started~~ in the union labor war.

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The opening gun was fired in Michigan by Homer Martin, who used to be President of the Automobile Workers C.I.O. union, ~~and~~ ^{Martin} ~~as most people know~~ he took his followers ~~of automobile workers~~ over into the American Federation of Labor and as a test of strength he called his men out on strike from three General Motors plants at Flint, Michigan. According to news reports, ^e that strike ^{has} ~~did~~ not interfere ^d seriously with the working of the ^{big} ~~General Motors~~ factory.

Martin's reason for calling that ^e strike is that ^{General Motors} ~~G.M.~~ refused to deal with his outfit as a bargaining agent. Said William S. Knudsen, President of General Motors, "We will not ^H take sides." The plants are being operated by workers who are members of the C.I.O. American Federation of Labor picket lines surround the factory, but the C.I.O. men walked through the picket lines without even ^{any trouble,} ~~a blush~~.

VAGRANT

A magistrate in New York City had a problem put up to him today. The problem was, ~~in simple words~~, "Is a man a vagrant if he has a hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars?"

There has been a lot ^{of} to-do in New York about a gentleman named Erickson. New York officials, including ^{the} Mayor, ~~LaGuardia~~, have been casting sour looks on this Erickson. They say he's a gambler. ~~To be sure, he's~~ not the only one in New York City.

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The reason this Erickson is being picked on is because it was discovered that he associated with certain public officials, particularly in Brooklyn. He was brought to trial on a charge of perjury in connection with his application to carry a pistol. Those charges were dismissed by a county judge. So the authorities brought Erickson to trial again, ^{and} accused him of disorderly conduct, *just a vagrant.* Specifically, they claimed, he's a bookmaker. So when he was

arraigned in a police court today, his counsel produced a manila envelope containing a hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars worth of stock certificates. The magistrate in that court said he would need time to think that one over.

Is he a disorderly vagrant?

JAIL BREAK

Out in Colorado, six young convicts broke out of the state reformatory. Not only escaped but kidnapped the warden.

Those jail-breakers out west didn't do any harm to the warden though they did kidnap him. The prison officials soon set bloodhounds after them and four of them were caught in the Colorado Mountains, twenty-five miles away from Buena Vista. And they had only a short while left to serve.

GOLF

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There's a new golf champion in the United States today, a new athletic hero. He's Byron Nelson, who won the National Open ~~Championship~~ in the play-off at the Philadelphia Country Club.

It was a dramatic, colorful affair, dramatic in more ways than one. For the man who has succeeded to that much coveted title was a comparative newcomer to fame. It wasn't until he played himself into the play-off ~~wi~~ that the name of this boy from Texas began to be mentioned from mouth to mouth among men. And his victory included a dramatic, spectacular bit of playing just as sensational as any proverbial hole in one. This happened in the playing of the fourth hole at that Philadelphia Country Club. It's what golfers call a dog leg ball, and that's one of the few golf terms that other people can understand. His opponent, Craig Wood, played the hole perfectly, making it in four strokes in spite of the fact that it was not only a dog leg but a dog leg over water. But the red headed newcomer from Texas did something even more startling. For his second ^{stroke} ~~shot~~ on that dog leg ~~over water~~ hole over water he played an iron shot which bounced three times

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and then while spectators held their breath trundled straight for the cup, lingering a fraction of a second on the rim, and dropped down. Byron Nleson had made that hole in two strokes. From that he went on to become national open golf champion of America. ~~He~~ ^{ting} Beat Craig Wood by ~~just~~ three strokes!

PAINTING

The most curious form of thievery ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ it seems to me is stealing a famous picture from a public art gallery. After all, the man who gets away with it can't do anything with the canvas except hang it up in his own room and look at it when he is alone, and then hide it carefully.

Nevertheless, several years ago an ingenious Italian startled the world by swiping the "Mona Lisa". Yes, taking ^{one of} the most famous ~~if also the most life-size~~ masterpiece ^s from ^{one of} the most famous museum ^s ~~in Paris~~ R Later on, that much advertised and puzzling canvas was discovered in Italy. It had been stolen by an Italian who ^{once} ~~used to~~ ^{ed} work at the Louvre. The motive of his theft, he said, was patriotic. He did it in revenge for the number of art treasures that Napoleon had swiped when he said to his soldiers: "Beyond the Alps lies Italy," and lies, and lies, and lies.?"

Of course that affair is ancient history, but evidently it provided an inspiration to others. For ~~other~~ another crafty picture thief got busy in Paris and at that same museum, the Louvre, where all good Americans go to get dutifully bored.

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PAINTING - 2

While hundreds of such dutiful Americans were prowling around the

long hard galleries of the Louvre, the thief stole a Watteau.

8 1/2 *What's a Watteau? Yes,*

~~it's~~ a canvas quite famous among painters and art connoisseurs.

It's called "The Indifferent." Officially, the value is four

million Francs, -a hundred and six thousand and fifty dollars.

Actually, the value is purely a matter of thinking up a number.

If you had it, such a picture couldn't be sold and nobody would

dare buy it. Whoever got away with it did so by cutting the

wire on which the picture hung, sticking ^{*the Watteau*} ~~it~~ under his coat and

59 walking off. For all its fabulous worth, that famous Watteau,

so famous that I never heard of it before, is ten and a quarter

by eight inches.

We've heard of art for art's sake, but here surely

is an example of stealing for the sake of stealing. *What ho?*

59 1/4 *and s-l-u-t-m.*