

L.J. - Lunoco. Thrus, Nov. 4, 1937.

ROOSEVELT

Twenty-five minutes of conversation, and I can't quote one word of it. That highly interesting meeting between President Roosevelt and Mayor La Guardia of New York was staged today. The President drove from Hyde Park to his New York home, and there the triumphantly re-elected Fiorello called on him. They chatted for 25 minutes, and as they are both fluent speakers -- there was plenty of time to chat about a lot of things. But none of it is divulged. When La Guardia was asked ~~about it~~ when he left the President's house he merely said -- it was just a social call.

However it was noted that Postmaster-General Jim Farley was in on the social call. He arrived shortly before La Guardia, and Jim ~~ix~~ has a lot of significance in the relations between the President of the United States and the New York Mayor. La Guardia and Roosevelt have been friendly for years, and the Republican Mayor ~~xxxxx~~ supported the Democratic President in November. However, Postmaster-General Farley took an active part in the ^{New York} ~~National~~ election, battling against La Guardia. So how does it add up? That's an important question, ~~seeing~~

how La Guardia swept New York City with a giant majority, and noting likewise the decisive part played in the election by the American Labor Party. The President can hardly fail to regard the Mayor as Labor's fair-haired boy. However, said La Guardia, "it was just a social call."

REPUBLICANS

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Last November two names were bracketed together in the headlines - Landon and Knox. Today these two appear in declarations concerning ~~the~~ President Hoover's ^{suggestion} ~~demand~~ for an off-year Republican National Convention to devise policies for the Republican Party.

We have a letter made public today, which Ex-Governor Landon wrote to a Republican leader in Boston. In this he expresses his opposition to the off-year convention but qualifies a bit by saying what the convention ought to be, if ~~it is~~ held.

In the Landon epistle, one human point catches the attention. It pertains to the question - if the proposed off-year convention ^{he stated} ~~is held~~ should it consist of the delegates ^{who} ~~that~~ sat in the regular convention last year? Or should it be made up of new members still to be chosen. ~~Ex-Governor~~ Ex-Governor Landon pays his respects to the members of last year's convention as why wouldn't he - they nominated him. Those of us who were in Cleveland will recall the wild ovations for Landon - although November was another story! So Landon likes the boys who nominated him, but nevertheless he thinks that they should not ^{be}

summoned to any such new parley; ~~He demands that an assemblage~~
~~to thresh out Republican policies in advance~~ ^{it} should consist of
new members, freshly elected. "The ~~best~~ opportunity must
be provided," he writes, "for the convention to represent every
shade of opinion in the Republican Party from Mr. Hoover on the
one hand to Mr. LaGuardia on the other." And there we hear an
echo of the New York election the day before yesterday.

Moreover, Governor Landon objects to one idea
expressed by certain members of the Republican National Committee.
They want to limit the proposed convention and keep the discussion
within bounds - only certain subjects to be considered. Landon
is against that. He thinks that if there is an off-year pow-wow,
it should have an unlimited scope, should debate every idea
proposed for a forthcoming Republican platform. Landon thinks
there should be no off-year convention but tells what it should
be if there is one.

Now where do we find Colonel Knox. He's dead against
the off-year palaver. In an editorial in his Chicago Daily News
today, he takes a strong position in agreement with various

Republicans in Congress who denounce Ex-President Hoover's proposal. Colonel Knox argues that the convention will have no legal status and that any Republican platform it might draft would not be binding, would have no formal authority. And Colonel Knox chimes in with the contention - that ~~if~~ a Republican get-together this year would only result in a free-for-all fight, and produce bitterness and strife instead of sweetness and harmony.

Mr. Hoover, here at the Waldorf, contends that they could reach harmony on fundamental issues.

TAXES

Talk in Washington, as the new session of Congress approaches, continues to buzz on the subject of the undistributed surplus tax. That controversial ^Sial measure has been constantly criticized by business, and today Chairman Vinson of the Tax Sub-committee of the Ways and Means Committee declared the sentiment in his group was to do something about it. "Relieve the sufferings and hardships," are his words. And business men will echo them. He said that his sub-committee has called on the Treasury Department for information to guide them in a reconsideration of the tax on ^{undistributed surplus.} ~~excess profits~~

LABOR

We have a bit of labor news this evening. Naturally -- because the peace parley of the Unions reassembled at the Willard in Washington today, after taking time out to think things over:- The Committee trying to work out an agreement to reunite the A. F. of L. and the C.D.O. The outlook to begin with today, was --pessimistic. But then, as the day went on, optimism developed.

Geroge Harrison, Chairman of the A. F. of L. delegation insisted on being hopeful. "We can get somewhere," he said today, "if we will only pull the logs from the jam one by one."

The most optimistic thing of today was the agreement by the peacemakers to seek a truce -- an armistice -- while the discussion continues. The idea will be for the rival labor unions to stop raiding each other, stop seizing each other's members.

And the latest is that they have just about agreed on a five point armistice. And that climaxes the optimism.

Labor news continues with an announcement from Detroit that the Automobile Workers Union has slapped an assessment on its members of one dollar each. Every worker in the Auto Union will have to put up his dollar bill. Why? The answer in four letters is - Ford. Funds are being raised for a huge drive to unionize the Ford plants. And that brings closer at hand the much talked of final show-down between Henry Ford and John Lewis.

Labor news climaxes with personalities no less than His Royal Highness, the Duke of Windsor, and Her Grace, the Duchess. Word from Paris indicates that there's worry in the Windsor party, because of today's flare-up by American labor. How are the Duke and Duchess to be received over here, when their trip is already denounced by both the A .F. of L, and the C.I.O.? Today Federation President William Green said labor was opposed to the Duke and his housing studies, and an official of the John Lewis organization ^{se} ~~cond~~ _Λoned the denunciation - not to mention noisy cohorts of radicals.

The trans-Atlantic telephone has been busy with talks between the Duke in Paris and Charles Bedaux in Washington. Bedaux is of course the Windsor representative over here and arranging the housing tour. He is likewise sharply denounced by labor as the inventor of the Bedaux System of Industrial Efficiency - which the Unions don't like. They claim it over-works the workers, ^{they call it a} ~~calling for the~~ _Λ sweat ^{ing} _Λ system. The labor barrage at Windsor is largely because of Bedaux.

~~Today in Washington the efficiency expert gave out a~~

hint that the Windsor visit might be cut short, turned into something less spectacular than had been planned. Speaking to the newspaper men, he said: "If the radical press is inclined to butcher me, I would suggest that they wait until half the tour is over - because I would like to see it completed." Meaning, of course, that the royal housing inspection in the United States might not be completed.

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Labor criticism today touched upon another Windsor angle - or rather stabbed ~~at~~ it. The visit of the Duke and Duchess to Germany, where they were received with ^a ~~big~~ great ovation by the Nazis ^{and} - by Hitler himself. Joseph Curran, President of the National Maritime Union, declared today that his Union was likely to stage open opposition to the Duke and Duchess - as a protest to the ^{visit} visit to Hitler. And of course the radical papers are playing up the Nazi angle with a loud, shrill outcry.

The Windsor affair today takes on a vivid tone of the odd and singular - bristling with curious question marks. His Ex-Majesty, the former Edward the Eighth, setting out on a campaign for better housing and workers' welfare ^{and} ~~is~~ planning a

spectacular tour of the United States - and the first thing he does is to ^{take a bow in} ~~tour about~~ Nazi Germany, ^{a thing} ~~which would be~~ sure to ~~arouse~~ the anger of radicals and not a few liberals. And then, moreover, his American tour manager is the industrial efficiency expert, Charles Bedaux, whose system of efficiency has incurred the hostility of the American labor unions. It seems doubly

unfortunate, judging by the flare-up against Windsor in the ranks of labor today. *Late Flash! - Bedaux says they may cancel the trip. Later flash, Windsor says he's coming no matter*

Yes, the Duke and Duchess, in the headline of

labor news this evening, but there's an angle of romance as well.

Romantic sidelights seem to flicker inevitably around those two

most famous lovers of these years. So, let's go on to notice

first that - in Reno resides Mrs. Marry Raffray, and residence

in Reno suggests divorce. Secondly, that landing in America a

couple of days ago ^{of} ~~was~~ Mr. Simpson. Now, it happens that Mrs.

Raffray figured largely in the career of the lady from Baltimore

because of whom ~~Britain~~ Britain's most popular monarch abdicated

his throne. She was a chum of Wallis Warfield in school. She

was a bridesmaid when Wallis ^{is} ~~is~~ married Lieutenant Spencer, a

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naval officer. It was she who introduced Mrs. Wallis Spencer to the Ernest Simpsons. She wanted to give Wallis a party in New York and asked the Simpsons for the use of their apartment. Soon after the Simpsons were divorced and the Spencers were divorced, and Mr. Ernest Simpson and the former Mrs. Wallis Spencer were married. That led Mrs. Wallis Simpson on to London, and to that romance which led to more divorce and marriage and the shaking of an empire.

who figured in the beginning of it all
And today Mrs. Mary Raffray [^] is in Reno and Mr. Simpson

has come to the United States. The rumor is that when she has been divorced, ^{and} they will marry. That would certainly be gathering a couple of ^{threads} ~~friends~~ of famous romance and tying them in a knot - the familiar knot called marriage.

I had been intending to keep the Windsors out of this broadcast for a couple of weeks. But how can you do it?

SPAIN

Subtle questions of International Law are raised by the announcement that Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain made in the House of Commons today. He gave out formal information that the British government is negotiating for an exchange of agents with General Franco. This seems a good deal like the normal way two governments act toward each other -- each sending diplomatic representatives. And if London is dealing with the Spanish Rebels, it might seem like some sort of recognition -- admission that the Franco regime is part of government in Spain.

(Prime Minister Chamberlain today denied that England was granting Franco recognition. He said the sending of diplomatic agents was strictly informal,) a mere convenience for the protection of British lives and interests in Franco(s part of the Peninsula.

Generalissimo Franco apparently is giving the new turn of events all the importance he can. Word flashes -- telling that he has named as his official agent in London the Duke of Alba, one of the noblest grandees of Spain.

NINE POWER

The Nine Powers are trying to fix it so that they will
really be nine. There are only eight represented in the Brussels
convention, because the Japanese, one of the signers of the
Nine Power Treaty, won't join. Today the Committee decided
to try ^{again to} ~~and~~ get Japan to come to Brussels. They are going to
reply to Tokio's refusal ~~and~~ with gentle arguments saying
that if the Mikado will send a representative to the deliberations
things will be made friendly and ~~more~~ pleasant -- no ^{violent}
denunciations of Japan as a war-maker, no accusations putting
Tokio on trial.

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The Italian delegate at Brussels was opposed to this. He
said the Committee ought to do no more than invite Japan and
China to get together for a peace parley. This is exactly
Japan's viewpoint -- that Tokio and Nanking should settle
their affair between them ^{selves} without anybody else taking a hand.
With Rome supporting the ~~the~~ Tokio position our own chief
delegate Norman Davis put in a voice of opposition and said no
-- the Nine Power Conference must do something more than merely
say, "Boys you settle it between yourselves." So the Committee

went ahead with its cautious attempt to get Japan to join in
the discussion of Japan's own war.

FIANCE

In the City of Milan in Italy, a young man and woman were arrested because of suspicious of robbery. Are they happy about it tonight? Are they relieved? I'll leave it to you to judge their feelings.

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The girl was employed doing housework. Her employer noticed that a young man was frequently around the house. That raised his suspicion of collusion between the two - for purposes of robbery. When they were arrested they explained to the police - they were engaged to be married. The young man was unemployed and the girl was trying to get ^{him} odd jobs until times got better and they could marry.

The police, in checking their story, found that unknown to themselves, they were brother and sister. As children of refugees during the Austrian invasion of Italy in the World War, they had become separated, and had drifted apart until they happened to meet in Milan, never knowing each other.

LOUIS

Chicago is to get the next heavyweight championship bout -
so says the CHICAGO TIMES today, which explains that Joe Louis's
managers are holding out for Chicago because they believe that
in New York anti-Nazi prejudice will act against Max Schmeling,
hurt the gate. Promoter Mike Jacobs, the reports goes on,
will try to get Soldiers Field for the crowd that ^{will} want to see
the Brown Bomber have another try with the Black Uhlan ^{to} who
knocked him out with a fearful beating the last time they met.

FIGHTER

Jack McAuliffe died today. Remember him, you fight fans, the old-time lightweight champion who ^{retired} ~~died~~ undefeated?

He gave up his title because no one was good enough to fight

him. He was seventy-two, so you can figure how long ago ^{it} ~~that~~

was when he was champ.

A new national Corn-husking champ — Ray Hansen of Minnesota. Ray shucked 1497 lbs. in 80 mins. A shucking story.

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It looks as if the fair co-eds at the American University in Washington will have to go back to the big apple. ^{Today} their ambition to kick the football today ~~staked~~ the bucket as one might say. The plan was to ~~draw~~ ^{trout} the fair co-eds ~~out of~~ ^{into} the football ~~team~~ ^{field} and let them do and die for dear old American University. Not that they were ambitious to go in the line of scrimmage and get shoved around. Their idea was that they would kick field goals from placement after the team made a touchdown, assuming it made any. Their idea was that the female of the species can kick, which is quite true - as any husband knows. Today, however, the ~~visitor~~ faculty of the University turned down the idea, said "nothing doing." And this decision ~~was~~ ^{promptly} ~~was~~ okayed by the University Student Association, the president of which announces that instead of football the girls will have to concentrate on "the big apple."

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Now I wonder whether co-eds will ever have that real do or die flame of enthusiasm that is necessary for college athletics? Could you expect any lovely girl to match the heroism of Harold Putnam Williams, Jr., of Harvard?

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Harold displayed his dauntless heroism in a Harvard-Princeton soccer game. Did he do it with a broken leg or cracked shoulder blade? More than that. Harold revealed today that he played an entire fourth period with a wasp in his pants. And wasps, you know, ~~are worse than ants.~~ Tie that, you co-eds! *and e-l-u-t-m.*

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