

TENNIS

L. T. - Sunoco - Fri. July 2, 1937

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Over in England today, there was a young American who wouldn't be budged. On the tennis court, he crammed the ball through his opponent's defense. In other words, Donald Budge beat Baron Gottfried Von Cramm. The Baron started well, he slashed across an attack that took the first two games. But after that Donald steadied and was the master - with long, hard drives. He won out the match in straight sets, six - three; six - four; six - two.

The game was stopped for a moment while the two players bowed to Queen Mary. Yes, Donald took his bow to Her Majesty - and that was a far cry from the days when his father, a laundry wagon driver, bought a tennis racquet for his eight year old boy. Today, tennis ~~xxx~~ champ Donald Budge is the third American to win the all-England event at Wimbledon. Ellsworth Vines did it, and of course - big Bill Tilden.

STRIKE

There have been charges of communism in the C.I.O. but many people discounted them because they came from the side of the employer, the companies making the accusation. Few, however, will be inclined to disparage the declaration that we have today. It comes from Governor Frank Murphy of Michigan, and he has been friendly toward labor in the strike troubles. (Today, Governor Murphy denounced two things, the vigilante movement in the anti-strike ranks - and the Communism in the C.I.O.) he said the vigilante movement was inspired by what he called "Communistic cliques in the C.I.O."

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("Communists," spoke up the Governor," have deliberately attempted to create disorder in Michigan in the past six months.) In some instances, they did everything they could to encourage disorder, violence and bloodshed." In saying this, he did not condemn the membership of the C.I.O.

They are solid, hard-working American workmen," said he. It's the communistic cliques that the Governor denounces.

An added point is given to this by word from Canton, Ohio, More dynamiting. A non-striker's home, and somebody

planted explosive. It blew off the porch.

Meanwhile, Republic Steel opened its plant at Massillon, Ohio, today. Three hundred and seventy-five workers entered the doors - while troops of the Ohio National Guard stood ready at arms to protect them. There was no disturbance. C.I.O. pickets had said they'd lick the militia if necessary - but they didn't try it.

COURT

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How about the compromise? Which one? The great and long awaited compromise to take the place of the President's court change. After the Senate Judiciary Committee sat down so hard on the Roosevelt project to enlarge the Supreme Court, it became certain that the Senators would draft something less drastic as a substitute. Well, that compromise-proposal came up in the Senate today. It was presented ~~ix~~ by Senator Robinson of Arkansas, the administration leader.

Let's see what the new idea is, and compare it with the President's original. (The Roosevelt plan was to enlarge the Court, and the compromise proposes the same thing, but not so much of it. The White House scheme was to appoint a new Justice to sit along with every Justice over seventy. The compromise follows along the same idea, but makes the age limit seventy-five. The President proposed that as many as six new Justices might~~x~~ be appointed. The compromise cuts that number down to four,) and provides that only one new justice a year could be appointed.

So then it sums up this way -- a new Justice for

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every Justice over Seventy-Five, but not more than four
extras, these to be appointed not more than one a year --
or a court total not to exceed thirteen. Under this
arrangement President Roosevelt could appoint two new
Justices during the next six months, one for last January
First and one for the coming first of the year. In addition
he has the regular appointment to replace Justice Vandevanter,
resigned. Making -- three in all.

Such is the court compromise presented ^{today} to the
Senate by the gentleman from Arkansas, ^{Sen. Joe Robinson.} ~~today~~ It is under-
stood that it is acceptable to President Roosevelt. In this
case the influence of the Administration will get behind the
bill. It remains to be seen how it will fare with the
Senators -- among whom there is some mighty strong opposition
to any plan to tamper with the Supreme Court.

FAR EAST.

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The Far Eastern crisis presented a drama of change today. (There were rumors of War. People called me up and asked whether it was true that War had begun between Japan and Russia. The rumor was ominous, the authentic news was threatening too. From Tokio a declaration -- about what Japan intended to do. The answer was -- " That is a matter for the Supreme Command of the Army to decide." So ^{the} said Japanese Government officials today -- the issue of War or peace with Soviet ^{is} Russia left to the Generals, the War Lords.

They were to decide whether or not to accept the offer that Moscow made. The Soviet Foreign Office said - O. K., we'll withdraw our troops from the disputed islands in the Amur River, as you demand. If -- you also withdraw your troops.

What answer would the Nipponese Generals give to Moscow? High Army men replied today - in these words: - "The question of the evacuation of the islands as raised by the Soviet Government does not exist." Because, said they, there were no Japanese soldiers in the disputed area -- only

peaceful fishermen and light-house keepers.

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The Japanese made the charge that the Red Army has committed new offenses against Japan -- "invasion" they called it. Soviet planes flying over into Japanese ⁱⁿ controlled Manchoukuo, and Russian gun-boats again pushing into the stretches of the River that Japan claims. So Tokio today did more protesting to Moscow, with new charges, new demands.

Japan ^{is} tense with excitement, as one of the dominant political groups, the National Production Party, made a formal demand on the Foreign Minister and on the heads of the Army and Navy. The National Production Party today called upon Japan to take the decisive step of breaking off diplomatic relations with Moscow.

Incendiary reports about affairs in the Red Army continued to drift in, via Japan. Yesterday we heard that the Soviet Far Eastern Army had got ^{ten} out of hand, out of the control of Moscow. Today Japanese reports told of a mutiny in the Red Far Eastern Regiments, revolt, fighting, towns in flames.

Such was the ominous trend of today's news from the Far East. So, what's the turn of affairs this evening? What has been happening, while that war rumor spread? Late in the day came a sudden transformation -- agreement, everything settled. The Japanese Ambassador in Moscow announces that Russia has agreed to withdraw its troops from the two Amur Islands - yields to the Japanese demand, and that the Far Eastern crisis is over.

Meanwhile there's more news about the terror in Red Russia - terror in the Red Army. The Secret Police of Leningrad today issued an announcement of seventy more persons -- "liquidated." That's what they call it in Soviet land - liquidation. Maybe because blood is liquid. The seventy victims of these latest executions are charged with having comprised a spy ring in the Red Army and in the munitions plants, where they were plotting and wrecking -- sabotage. Employed by a Foreign Government -- is the accusation.

And

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The foreign Government is named. Esthonia -- that little Republic on the Baltic. These newest of the liquidated are said to have been directed by a mysterious plotter, who is merely called by the initial -- K. They say that "K" himself was liquidated by a member of the Soviet Secret Police when he resisted arrest.

Perhaps the most startling feature of today's story of Red trial and shooting is the statement that one of the men executed was a Commander in the Red Air Corps. This high officer it is charged plotted with Airplane mechanics of his own squadron. Under his direction, they tampered with the Airplanes, sabotaged the sky craft, so that there was a series of fatal crashes. A Commander deliberately crashing his own squadron. That's the latest fantastic story of the Red Terror -- as Japan threatens War in the Far East.

LYNCHING.

There have been a few lynchings this year, but there was not one today, not at Athens, Texas. In that town with the classic Athenian name, the mob spirit flared - a crime had been committed, a Negro arrested. Seventy-five brawny oil workers from the East Texas fields stormed to the Sheriff's Office, where the Negro was being held. They surged into the building - a lynch mob.

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When Sheriff Jess Sweeten heard them coming, he unlimbered his guns, and with a pistol in each hand, stepped out into the Courthouse Lobby, where the mob was surging.

"Boys," said he, "It's my duty to protect my prisoner. I don't want any trouble, but I'm going to protect him, in case there is any."

That brief two-gun speech was emphasized by the two pistols, one in each hand. The crowd drew off. The would-be lynchers backed away in retreat, left the Courthouse. The Sheriff went back into his office where he had the ~~prisoner~~ prisoner. Nonchalantly he put his guns back in ~~the~~ their holsters.

ROBBERY

In New York, one of the swankiest sections is Beekman Place, with luxurious apartment houses of the rich, stately uniformed doormen, and the quiet going and coming of expensive cars. Early this morning, in the wee small hours, a sedan drove into Beekman Place, and pulled up at the curb. A guard, a private policeman who patrols that exclusive street, walked over, saw several strange men in the car, and said:

"You can't park here."

"We'll only be here for a minute", the men replied,

"We won't stay here long."

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"Well, don't make it more than a minute," growled the special policeman, and he kept on his way along the street.

They didn't make it more than a minute, because meanwhile, simultaneously - a limousine had left the hotel Plaza and was on its way to Beekman Place. In it were Mrs. Josephine Ogden Forrestal, wife of James B. Forrestal, Vice-President of the prominent banking house of Dillon, Read and Company, and her escort, Richard B. W. Hall, a wealthy Wall Street broker. They had been at the night club in the Persian

Room of the Plaza, and Mrs. Forrestal was stately in an array of evening gown and glittering jewels. They arrived at Beekman Place scarcely a minute after the sedan with the four men had parked at the curb. The timing was perfect - the private policeman patrolling his beat was half-way up the block.

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The swanky limousine pulled up in front of Mrs. Forrestal's apartment. The men in the sedan jumped out. They came up to the limousine, as the driver opened the door. Drawn pistols - a stick-up. Swiftly, deftly, the robbers stripped Mrs. Forrestal of her jewelry. A fourteen karat diamond and platinum ring, two twenty seven and a half karat emeralds, a diamond sunburst clip, and a platinum bracelet set with diamonds - a hundred thousand dollars' worth. The bandits, in going through the pockets of the stockbroker-escort, missed a wallet with seven hundred dollars.

In brief moments, the robbers were back in their car and speeding ~~along~~ ^{away from} Beekman Place. Mrs. Forrestal screamed, and that brought the private policeman up the street to

startled attention. It was the first he knew of the robbery. The hold-up car passed him.

"I could have shot them," he said later, "but I had no pistol." That private policeman was not carrying a gun because he had not been able to get a pistol permit.

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Mrs. Forrestal hurried to her apartment, where her husband was. She told him of her loss. She thought the stick-up men had got her two platinum diamond Bracelets, both of them. But she found the other one ~~in~~ on her dressing ~~room~~ table, where she had forgotten it and left it behind when she went to the night club.

A crime melodrama of curious confusions. The police believe it was staged by stick-up men that have been playing the night clubs in a regular campaign - the same mob that was responsible for a series of night club banditries several months ago. Then one of their victims ~~then~~ was the burlesque show and Hollywood celebrity, Gypsy Rose Lee, who was robbed of twenty-five thousand dollars' worth of jewelry. ^{FF} It's a gang that operates with carefully planned tactics, with precise inside information - that's shown by the way they

had today's robbery timed to the minute, that mere minute during which they were allowed to park ~~in~~ fashionable Beekman Place.

SCOUTS

It's pleasant to be able to pass along a boys' Fourth of July story which is a hundred per cent cheery and happy:- the big Scout Jamboree in Washington. There, all those thousands of lads camped in that city of tents along the Potomac, are set for a gorgeous holiday celebration - safe and sane. The biggest doings in American scout history will be staged. I wish I were there to help them celebrate, but I'll be with them early in the week - broadcasting the news of the world and the boy scout news from the greatest jamboree encampment of them all.