

R.T. - Sunoco. Web., April 6, 1938.

WEATHER

Theoretically, Spring is here. At any rate, it ought to be, since the big show, the circus, is opening in two days. And usually that means that winter has gone for good. But evidently old man Winter hasn't been reading the circus's publicity. He decided to stage an encore, ~~and that at a time when many of us have put our~~ ~~almost a nationwide blizzard~~ ~~furs and winter overcoats into moth-balls.~~ In the middlewest, icy winds swept out of Wyoming, across South Dakota, parts of Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana. Airplanes are grounded, highways blocked by drifts. Even railroad schedules are slow. Seven inches of snow on the streets of Chicago! Even in New York it has been falling all the afternoon. It reminds me of last weekend at The Lodge, at the foot of Mt. Mansfield, in Vermont, where we were skiing in a blizzard. Snow four feet deep. And now the blizzard seems to be almost nationwide.

I had a novel experience today, ~~ix~~ at the Stadium over at Randalls Island, watching the crack English Rugby team from Cambridge University playing against a New York All-Star aggregation. It was the first time the English lads had played Rugby football in snow. And the first time I had ever seen Rugby. What a game!

Kicking, scrimmage, tackling, passing, but unlike our game in that the players do not wear padded uniforms. They play in rompers. And they go right through without taking time out, the ball is always in play. There are fifteen men on a side, and if one is injured they simply dump him off the sideline and go on playing with one less. The halves are thirty-five minutes each, with only a five minute rest between.

As Albert Woodley, a young New York Englishman who hasn't lost his accent, told us over the loud speaker, the game ended with the score in favor of Cambridge -- 35 to nil.

In Rugby if you hang onto the ball the opposing players are allowed to kick both you and the ball, in order to get ^{it} ~~in~~ away from you. ~~Men on the Cambridge team~~ The biggest man on the Cambridge team, Peter Christopher Bateman Champain, 212 lbs., six feet four, got kicked on the head and was wandering around the snowy field, in the blizzard looking as dazed as an Arctic trapper lost in the Far North. And I was in a similar daze, trying to figure out the game.

WAR VOTE

On Capitol Hill in Washington, people today were recalling vividly ~~the~~ April Six~~th~~th of twenty-one years ago. ~~That was~~ ^{The} day ~~when~~ Congress voted to declare ~~a state of~~ war against Germany, and Austria. People were thinking reminiscently of that "little group of willful men," as President Wilson called them, the ^{legislators} ~~Congressmen~~ who voted against war.

Three of that so-called "little group of willful men" are still in Congress. ~~They're today one of the most respected members.~~

One, ~~of them,~~ ^{Today} is Senator George Norris of Nebraska. [^] Somebody asked him how did he feel about that vote, ~~today.~~ ~~And Uncle George replied~~ ^{said Uncle George.} ~~firmly.~~ "Exactly as I did twenty-one years ago, [^]" Another is

Republican Representative Knutsen of Minnesota, ^{who says much} ~~And he too says~~ ^{the same.}

"If the ~~is~~ ~~sue~~ were before me again, I'd vote the same way. ~~Time~~ ~~has vindicated my stand.~~" A third "No" voter of twenty-one years

ago is Senator Lundeen of Minnesota. And his reply to the question

was: "Don't ask me what I'd do. Ask the Congressmen who did vote

for war whether they would do it today." ^{None} ~~And he added:~~ "None ^{is now} ~~of~~

~~them~~ ~~is~~ proud of his vote."

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Dudley Field Malone is sitting here tonight. 21 yrs. ago today!

ARMY DAY follow WAR VOTE

And, This was ~~also~~ Army Day. ~~in the United States. It was~~
celebrated ^{by} ~~with~~ a parade in Washington. Uncle Sam's army put on an
exhibition to demonstrate its advance in modern mechanized weapons,
~~of warfare. Every arm of the service was represented while~~
~~President Roosevelt and high moguls of the government sat in the~~
~~reviewing stand.~~ There were armoured cars bristling with fast firing
machine guns. ~~Also~~ Swift infantry tanks, rolling fortresses ~~of~~
~~almost incredible speed~~ armed with ~~young~~ cannon. ^{And} All sorts of
[^]
mechanized artillery swept on before the President, ~~to say nothing~~
~~of the cavalry, regular infantry, National Guard, reserve officers,~~
~~cadets and veterans.~~

~~And~~ The Senate celebrated Army Day in ~~a most~~ concrete
fashion: ~~XXXXXX~~ Without a roll call ~~it~~ passed the Army Appropriation
Bill. That devotes almost half a billion dollars to our land defenses.
It will bring Uncle Sam's armament expenditures for Nineteen Thirty-
Nine to ~~XXXXXX~~ a record high, that is a record high for peace-time.
^{Just}
~~The total will be well~~ over one billion dollars.
[^]

T.V.A.

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The Committee to investigate the Tennessee Valley Authority is now complete. Late this afternoon, Vice-President Garner announced the appointment of two more Republican senators to take the places of Senator Borah and ~~Senator~~ McNarry who declined to serve. The two new Republican members are ^{Senators} ~~Mr. Arthur~~ Capper of Kansas ^{and} ~~and Mr. Lynn~~ Frazier of North Dakota. And that will clear the way for a quick raising of the curtain on that ^{T.V.A.} show which bids fair to be a spectacular one.

Senators Capper and Frazier, although Republicans, are by no means hostile to the T.V.A. ~~What's more,~~ Their attitude toward the regulation of public utilities has been more or less in sympathy with ^{that} ~~those~~ of the Roosevelt administration. Up to now, however, neither the gentleman from ^{Kansas} ~~Texas~~ nor the gentleman from ~~been in~~ North Dakota, has taken any part in the ~~rambunctious~~ T.V.A. scrap.

WAGE-HOUR

That bill to legislate minimum wages and maximum hours breaks into the news again. All this time it hadn't been dead, just sleeping. A sub-committee of the House of Representatives, has been working laboriously on it for weeks. And the committee emerges from its labors with the draft of a new bill.

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From all accounts, it's almost as complicated as the Tax Bill. It would fix wages by a complex formula that will need a board of five men to work it out. This five-men board would be appointed by the President and ~~confirmed~~ confirmed by the Senate.

Observers point out that this provision is sure to run afoul of the American Federation of Labor. The Federation objected to the last Wage-Hour Bill on that identical ground. The chairman of the committee says that the new bill doesn't differ much from the one that was killed last December.

A new federal commission, more jobs, more government functionaries.

LABOR

The National Labor Relations Board announced an important decision today: ~~It is~~ a ruling flatly in favor of John Lewis's Committee for Industrial Organization. It states that if an employer refuses to sign a contract with the Union, he violates the Wagner Act. That is, of course, provided the employees have come to terms.

This refers
~~It referred~~ specifically to the steel workers' dispute with the independent steel companies. ~~As you may recall, the Companies and the Union agreed upon terms. But the companies, led by Tom Girdler of Republic Steel, refused to sign any papers. That act today is declared by the Labor Board to be a breach of the law.~~

BUSINESS

Here's a bit of silver-lining in the business clouds.

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It comes from Detroit. Production of motor cars and trucks increased twenty per cent this week. According to the Automotive Daily News, production now is at its highest peak since January Twenty-Second.

For some time experts had been predicting that there would be a Spring upturn in the motor industry - if you can reasonably talk about Spring on a day like this.

MURDER

There's a new theory about the murder of those two California women in Texas. The idea is that they were beaten, tortured and killed at the instigation of a woman. ~~It was a~~

a tragedy of hatred and revenge. That's the theory of the sheriff of El Paso who has been investigating the crime. Said the sheriff: "Only revenge or hatred could have prompted such a brutal crime." ~~Nothing else quite checks out of it.~~ And he added: ~~"I can't believe this was a chance crime. None of the circumstances point to it."~~

The Texas authorities are now checking to find out if either Mrs. or Miss Frome had enemies. They're also investigating to discover whether they had made some acquaintance on their trip who could have had any motive for murdering them other than robbing.

There's a rumor in Texas that the twenty-two year old Miss Nancy Frome was married in New York a year or so ago and that her parents had had ~~x~~ the marriage annulled. But there's no information to corroborate this in Berk^eley, where the Fromes lived.

RESCUE

Last Saturday a Canadian father, his wife and ten children, set out for a weekend trip in a car and a truck. They were going from their farmstead near Sioux Lookout, Ontario, to Pickle Lake. After a short distance, the truck got mired, so the family, all twelve of them, huddled together in the car. Twenty-five miles further on, the car also got stuck in the mud. The father and his eldest son went out on foot for help. They left the mother and nine children in the car. There they stayed for four days, no food, no blankets, no way to keep warm. It was four days before the father and the eldest son were able to get help. ^{By} ~~It~~ a miracle ~~that~~ the mother and nine children survived. ~~They were only~~ ^{And have been} just rescued by ~~air~~ airplane.

HACKENSCHMIDT

There was a curious spectacle in the lobby of a New York hotel! It's a hotel named after a celebrated and deep thinking American poet. Into that lobby walked a wrestler, once the champion of the world, who had just arrived from Europe. He hadn't come to this country to wrestle with men, but with profound and soul-shaking ideas. Clutched under his arm were seven weighty volumes, books which he had written himself. And he has come to the States to have them published.

Many of you will remember the name of that wrestler, George Hackenschmidt. After he had defeated another wrestling gentleman known as the "Terrible Turk", Hackenschmidt was known as the "Russian Lion."¹ *For years he was the world No. 1 muscle man.* But the Russian Lion ~~was~~ met an American farmer from Iowa named Frank G^touch, who not merely tweaked the lion's tale but tied it all up in knots.

mighty Hackenschmidt
Since those days, the ~~ex-Russian lion~~ has been living on a farm near Nice, writing, writing, ~~with~~ writing. The reporters asked him whether his books were about wrestling. "No," he replied indignantly. At that he produced a ponderous tome entitled "Man and Cosmic Antagonism to Mind and Spirit." At that three reporters

fainted, and the whiskers turned green on the portrait of William Cullen Bryant, *looking down from the lobby wall of the* ~~author of that solemn poem, Thanatopsis, for whom~~ ~~that~~ hotel ~~was~~ named *after him.*

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Out came another volume; *called:-* "Attitudes and Their Relation to Human Manifestations." Then a third: ~~XXXX~~ "Life's opposition from Within." Three more reporters rushed to the bar and a bell boy *started blushing* tip toed over and turned the [^]portrait of William Cullen Bryant to the wall.

All of which shows that strange things happen in New York. *Mighty Hackenschmidt* Maybe the [^]~~Russian Lion~~ [^] will even find a publisher for those cosmic masterpieces! *Since there's a blizzard in April.*

ROME FOLLOW AUSTRIA

From Rome we learn that there's no breach between the Vatican and the Austrian Catholic bishops. Cardinal Innitzer of Vienna paid a visit to the ^{Holy See} ~~Vatican City~~ today and had a long audience with the Pope. It was noticed that the Cardinal emerged from the Papal presence smiling and in obvious good humor. It is believed at the ^{Vatican} ~~Holy See~~ that the misunderstanding has been cleared up. And a statement ^{to that effect is} ~~was~~ published in the official ^{Papal} newspaper ~~of the~~ ~~Vatican~~. It quoted Cardinal Innitzer ^{as} saying that the declaration by the Austrian Church, published on March Eighteenth, the declaration urging Austrian Catholics to vote "Yes" on the Anschluss ~~xxxxxxx~~ was not intended to mean anything contrary to the laws of God or the liberties and rights of the Catholic Church.

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AUSTRIA

Uncle Sam has officially and ceremoniously acknowledged the end of Austria. The State Department recognized ^S the Nazi Anschluss.

But, says America, you have to be responsible for Austrian debts ^{to} America — which ~~They~~ represent a sum in the neighborhood of sixty-five million dollars. Now we have Germany in our war debt list.

From Vienna the news ^{of violence} continues. ~~shocking and heartrending~~

A heavy guard of Hitler's Brown Shirts took a group of prominent

prisoners, ~~to a concentration camp~~. Seventy of them, leaders in

politics, science and the arts ~~were in that group being hustled~~ ^{taken to concentration camps.}

~~to a place of torture.~~

PRAGUE

Worse trouble looms in Czechoslovakia. The government of Prime Minister Hodza is ^{more} ~~again~~ at odds with the ^a Sudeten Germans ^{than ever.}
~~We have the word of the Germans for this news.~~

For many days a delegation from the ^a Sudeten Party ^{was} ~~had been~~ in conference with the ~~Hodza~~ Cabinet. Today they reported to their ^{own} Executive Committee that they ^{are} ~~had not had been~~ unable to come to terms. Here's what the announcement says: "No sign of alteration in the present system of administration is noticeable anywhere. Czechoslovakian public opinion is still incapable of adapting itself to the new fact." That's what the Germans say. And they continue: "Therefore the ^a Sudeten German Party, as sole political representative of the German minority, sees no reason for altering the policy it has pursued heretofore." In plain ~~English~~ English, the ^a Sudetens will continue to refuse to cooperate with the Hodza government. A grave and ominous declaration!

~~A symbolical thing happened in ^a Washington. On the day the German Nazi flag was hoisted over the Austrian Legation, the sun threw the shadow of the Swastika on the lawn of the Czechoslovakian Legation next door.~~

SPAIN

A delegation called upon the Secretary of State today, ^{and} ^{informed} ~~it told~~ the State Department that it represented five thousand lawyers throughout the United States. It called to present a petition asking Secretary Hull to lift that arms embargo against Spain.

^{is} Their petition ^{comes} ~~seemed to be~~ a trifle late, with ~~General~~ Franco ~~virtually~~ knocking on the gates of Barcelona. Today even women were in the front ranks of the ^{last ditch Left Wing} defense, digging trenches to keep out the advancing troops of Mussolini, ~~and~~ Hitler ^{and} ^{with} Franco's ~~Moors~~ ~~EVER~~ Everybody agrees that the situation in Spain is a ^{final} ~~last ditch~~ defense, ~~a~~ defense, to the death.

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In Washington diplomats believe that the Catalonian government may still be able to hold out a month more, even though ~~all~~ the big power plants are now virtually all in Franco's grasp. Nothing but sheer courage and desperation will enable them to hold out that length of time. ^{And then will there} ~~There are grave fears that there will be horrible spectacles when they're finally conquered. The government supporters will not bow meekly to the new government. There'll be executions by the thousands,~~ ^{will blood} ~~blood will be shed in torrents, when Franco, Mussolini and Hitler are finally masters of Spain.~~ ^{The world wonders.}

PARIS

On the floor of the French Parliament, America was pointed out today as an awful example. French deputies were discussing Premier Blum's financial program. ^{The} ~~One~~ ^{Flandin} opposition leader pointed out that it would bring about credit inflation just like what we had over here. And, said he, "We can all see for ourselves the results of that in the United States."

However, the program was passed. But the government majority was so slim that the fall of ~~the~~ Blum ~~government~~ is predicted ^{for Friday.} ~~two days from now.~~ That will be when the French Senate gets ~~in~~ its teeth in ~~the~~ ^{the} Blum ~~program~~ program.

AIR BATTLE

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A thrilling and tragic episode is reported from the Far East. It has nothing to do with the Sino-Japanese War, although the story comes from Tokyo. It concerns eight Russian officers at Khabarovsk, to the north of Vladivostok. ~~They~~ They'd been sentenced to death in a new Far Eastern Soviet military purge. ~~Resourceful fellows,~~ ^{But} they escaped from their guards, and stole a ~~fast~~ ^{big} airplane. ~~They actually~~ got off the ground and were on their way to freedom.

But they weren't ~~fast~~ ^{speedy} enough. The head of the local Ogpu, the secret police, got wind of their escape and sent an entire squadron of police ~~airplanes~~ ^{pursuit} after them. The refugees had ~~gone~~ ^{gone} as far as the border of China, ~~to the province of Heilungkiang.~~ There ^{was} a dog fight in the air. The escaping officers fought to the end for their lives. They shot down one of the Ogpu planes.

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But, they were hopelessly outnumbered, ~~Their escaping plane was~~ Riddled with machine-gun bullets, ~~it~~ ^{they went} crashed ^{the} to earth, ~~killing~~ ^{the} ~~every one of them.~~

NUDIST

A lady in Roumania ^{staged a solo} ~~made a single-handed~~ demonstration in
~~public.~~ ^{a protest. She ran} ~~She conducted~~ a marathon all by herself through the streets
of C-l-u-j (pronounce it yourself, I can't). It wasn't the
marathon that attracted attention. It was the fact that the lady
had left all her clothes at home. Though she ran fast, a policeman
ran faster, and nabbed her. When she was arrested she explained that
she wasn't breaking the law, her demonstration was a protest against
the high cost of women's clothing. ~~What an idea that would be on~~

^{What an idea for over here —}
~~Michigan Boulevard, Chicago; or Chestnut Street, Philadelphia,~~
~~or even Fifty-Seventh Street, New York.~~
^{where the cost of women's clothes}
^{is really high! Hi there, Hugh James.}

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