

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Tonight's Washington news concerns three bills that we've been hearing about day after day - Farm Bill, Wages and Hours, and the measure to revise business taxes.

In the Senate the attack opened today on the Farm Bill. Republican leaders denounced it as - "confusing and confounding." Senator Vandenburg demanded to know the cost of the proposed aid to farmers. Senator Smith of South Carolina said:- "It's a sort of sliding scale."

"Which way does it slide?" demanded the gentleman from Michigan. And so they wrangled on.

The Wages and Hours Bill is still in committee. Today the Administration tried to get it reported out, passed along to the House. But the Committee said, "No." They're still tangled up in an argument, about wages and hours.

As for business taxes, the Sub-Committee of the House Ways and Means Committee put is okay on a plan today. This suggests that corporations earning twenty-five thousand dollars a year or less be exempted from the tax on undistributed profits.

Also - that the bigger corporations shan't pay more than twenty per cent on undistributed profits, with a minimum of sixteen per cent.

With arguments raging on these three proposed acts of Congress, the White House schedule is having a tough time - even though the Anti-lynching Bill is out of the way. Senator Wagner withdrew it today after it had caused southern senators to tie things up with a long filibuster.)

Vice-President Garner steps into the Washington picture this evening with a new vice-presidential project - growing grass on the White House lawn. Texas Jack says he's a great grass grower. He has been complaining that there are bald spots on the greensward in front of the White House, places where no grass ~~is growing~~. The government lawn experts said it was because the shade of the big trees kept the grass from growing - no sunlight. Today ~~Vice-President~~ the Vice-President told the President that he had developed a Texas grass that would grow under trees, in the deepest shade. So the President said to the Vice-President, "Go ahead and make ^{our grass} ~~the grass~~ grow on the White House lawn." So now Texas Jack is going to try out some of his magical Texas grass.

The statecraft of the world is busily devoting much thought and speculation to the result of the official visit Lord Halifax made to Germany. One report comes along this evening on sound authority they say. And it concerns the Spanish Civil War. Germany is willing to become completely neutral in the Spanish trouble -- that's the offer Hitler is said to have made to Lord Halifax. Germany to cease giving aid to Franco's cause -- complete neutrality. But there's a condition! There always is in statecraft:- There must be a guarantee that Spain will not go Bolshevist, will not go Red Communist. The Reichsfuhrer is said to have told his Lordship that Germany has no interest in Spain, beyond the desire to keep Bolshevism from spreading into western Europe.

This German offer of neutrality seems all the more plausible, because it fits in with what we heard some days ago -- that Soviet Russia is pulling out of Spain, no more Moscow war materials for the Left Wingers. If the Soviets are going neutral on Spain, why then it seems logical enough that the German Nazis may be willing to do the same thing.

There's a report that London has suggested an armistice

to both Franco and the Left Wingers. And it's being discussed.

That they say is why Franco is delaying his big push.

Plans of Japan for north China became clearer tonight -- though there never was any doubt about them. For weeks I've been passing along the word, that Tokyo intends to create an autonomous government in the five northern provinces, those above the Yellow River, the same thing which has been done in Manchukuo. Today, reports from those parts use these two words, "burning desire." The northern Chinese have that burning desire for freedom from the Nanking government. They're demanding an autonomous federation of their five provinces. Needless to say, the expression of "burning desire" comes from regions controlled by the Japanese.

The official Japanese news agency makes things all the more clear by reporting that a constitution for the five northern provinces will soon be drawn up, and that an autonomous government there is likely to be erected by the first of the year.

INTRO TO SIR EVELYN WRENCH

Scattered around this world are a number of people for whom I have an immense admiration. One is sitting beside me tonight; on his way around the world, in fact. He's a British Knight, one of the important men of the British Empire, but above all else, a citizen of the world -- Sir Evelyn Wrench.

Sir Evelyn is the founder of the British overseas League, which has done much to unite the Empire. He is also the founder and head of the English-speaking Union. If he could, he would unite all the peoples of the world in some organization that would prevent war, and increase human happiness, So would we all. But, most of us do nothing about it. He has done much.

Sir Evelyn, I believe this trip around the world was to
out
get a rest. Has it worked that way?

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SIR EVELYN:- Anything but! In the Far East we ran into one of the most terrible typhoons on record. A little later we were present at the Japanese bombardment of Shanghai. At Hongkong we ran into a cholera epidemic!

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RETAKE

Wrench.

Nov. 237

1937.

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L.T.:- You have a vast knowledge of the world; may I ask you a couple of embarrassing questions? Do you mind?

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SIR EVELYN:- Perhaps I can't answer them.

L.T.:- Right now, in the news, we are hearing much about Germany's demand for the return of her Colonies. Hitler has just made a speech about it. Do you think Germany should get them back?

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SIR EVELYN: Most emphatically. That is, I am in favor of world-wide equal economic advantages for all nations. The most important German African Colony was Tanganika. I am in favor of seeing it returned, provided it is handled under a mandate; provide its is explicitly understood that the native peoples are not organized into an army to threaten the rest of us; and provided it is not used for submarine bases. I am for doing almost anything that will help all the peoples of the earth. They should have equal economic opportunities.

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L.T.:- What about the danger of a World War? When you are at home do you feel you are living on the edge of a volcano that is

liable to blow our civilization to bits at any moment?

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SIR EVELYN:- Yes, but not right away. I believe that the Democratic nations must stand together, those that at least partially understand each other. If we do not, I think we are in for a cataclysm, as soon as two or three years from now.

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L.T.:- Just what about this hands-across-the-sea idea? What can and what does the English-Speaking Union do? What difference does it make whether we speak the same language and have the same literature?

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SIR EVELYN:- Just this:- We have those things in common. And naturally it is easier for those who have something in common to work together. And, as the years go by, we hope to develop common bonds with the peoples with whom we now have little in common. After all, isn't that the hope of civilization?

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L.T.:- It is, indeed! But now Sir Evelyn, Europeans are inclined to think of America in terms of crime stories. It happens that I have a whole series of them tonight.

But it's the first time in weeks, and not all of them are grim.

GIRL

It is difficult to say anything about that almost incredible case in Philadelphia - a young woman charged with killing a five year old girl. Yet, there are some phases so singular, it's hard to ignore them.

There is, for ~~example~~ example, the phenomenon of having to talk and tell. The arrest of Mary O'Connor is said to have been brought about by her talking in her sleep, rambling words - *telling of what she had done,*
~~that she had killed five year old Nancy Glenn.~~

Today a second arrest was made on the charge of - accessory after the fact. Meaning - ~~that she had~~ ^{she} knowledge of the crime and not telling. The police claim that Mary O'Connor told her friend, Mrs. Marie Phillips, ~~about the killing of the child.~~ *She* Couldn't keep it to herself; ^{she} ~~she~~ had to talk. Mrs. Phillips, so the accusation goes, did not inform the authorities. Hence the charge - accessory after the fact.

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Then there's ^{the} theme of athletics. The accused young woman, Mary O'Connor, is an athlete. She was an instructor of physical education in a school. Her friend, Mrs. Marie Phillips, to whom she is said to have told the story, is an Olympic gymnast

and a swimming star. She was a member of the American team at the ^{last} Olympic Games ~~last year~~ - under her maiden name of Kibler. Her husband is also an athlete, and a member of the Olympic Team. Chet Phillips was an inter-collegiate champion and a member of the American Gymnastic Team in Berlin last year.

The police say that Mary O'Connor was once a mental patient in a hospital and she was known to be very bad tempered. There's one curious thing; ~~today~~ - ~~while~~ ^{she} under arrest ~~she~~ was ^{today} treated by a doctor for an infected finger. They say her seven year old brother bit her finger badly during a scuffle, and it had failed to heal.

The commonest explanation ^{of the crime} ~~is~~ is a wild burst of rage, a five year old child annoying the girl athlete, a flare of uncontrolled anger - blows, deadly blows. A weird, ~~and~~ almost ~~un~~comprehensible affair.

MURDER

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Boston has a sensational murder case tonight, the victim was once senior vice-commander of the local American Legion Post - but ~~ixxxxx~~ he wasn't killed for that. He's listed in the city directory as - a house painter, but it wasn't house painting that caused today's murder. Recently he started a charity campaign to raise money for the poor children of Revere, ^{Mass.,} money to buy shoes and clothing for them. - But sweet charity had nothing to do with today's blast of gunfire. The police say that the victim was an operator in the numbers racket, ~~and that's~~ one of the crookedest and most deadly rackets of all - gambling on the numbers.

Today the doomed man stepped out of the door of a cafe he owned ^{when three men in an auto blasted him.} ~~when an automobile drove up. Three men in the automobile blasted him to death with pistol shots.~~ Such was the end of Louis Gaeta, former American Legion Vice-Commander, house painter, promoter of civic charity, and operator in the numbers racket.

NEGRO

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania - an old murder mystery solved, maybe or maybe not. The stirrings of conscience brought a confession - or was it the cold wave?

It has been bl^lstery cold in Harrisburg, with chilled winds ~~whipping through the streets~~. In the midst of the low-temperature-shivers, an aged negro walked into a police station, and gave himself up. ~~He~~ Said he was John Jones, sixty-five years old, and he confessed to an old and almost forgotten murder. "Conscience got the best of me," ^{he} murmured, ~~John Jones with a pious shake of his head~~. He told how way down south in Mississippi, thirty-one years ago, he shot a man in a two-bit-crap game, and now ~~conscience having gotten the best of him~~, he wanted to go back to Mississippi ~~ix~~ and ^{face} confess the charge. As proof of his conscience, he pulled out a Bible and started to read it aloud. ~~It was a~~ touching demonstration of the still, small voice that reproves us, ~~for our misdeeds~~.

But the Harrisburg cops are skeptical. They're not so used to the drama of conscience, they suspect it's really a case of ~~just~~ the cold snap. ~~They're inquiring about the story of the thirty-one year old two bit crap game murder, but~~ They're inclined to believe

~~that~~ the confession of the venerable colored man, Bible and all,
was dictated by the thermometer. ~~He~~ Just wants to get a free trip
from cold and shivery Harrisburg to the balmy ~~and~~ warmth of Mississippi,
and ready to confess murder ^{for it---} ~~maybe~~
murder that maybe never happened.

SING SING

Prisoners to Sing Sing - that's the headline. ~~and~~ We
seem to have a run of crime stories tonight. ^{TP} There's a rush of
convicted fellows to the gray grim pile on the Hudson. During
the past week, fourteen new convicts have entered its forbidding
portals. ^{As} Thanksgiving Day approaches. - Yes, this crime story
is connected with the feast of good cheer. Has there been a
sudden outbreak of outlawing ^{ry} and law-breaking in the Thanksgiving
season? No, not at all. It's merely because of the economic
habits of the New York State ^{local} sheriffs.

In every jail, the prisoners are given a bountiful
turkey dinner on Thanksgiving, and that costs money. So to
save on the Thanksgiving Day bill, the ^{various local} ~~New York~~ sheriffs are
hurrying to Sing Sing all the prisoners who would have to go
there anyway. Let the state pay for the ~~it~~ turkey on Thanksgiving!
~~that's~~ Criminology a-la-sheriff!

LAW-BREAKER

Now for
with

~~Let's wind up our section devoted to law and law-breaking~~

the case of Two-Drink Ingram. That citizen in Billings, Montana, was released today, after serving his three hundred and eighty-eighth sentence in jail. Two-Drink Ingram went to the calaboose ~~boozery~~ for the first time in the days before the World War, and ~~xxx~~ he has been returning to the jug frequently ever since.

Today he explained his penal career with these pathetic words:

"The whole trouble," said he, "is that I'm one of those

two-drinks-and-out guys."

After three hundred and eighty-eight times in jail,

you'd think that two-drink Ingram would cut his ~~reputation~~^P ~~down~~^S

to one. Of course, he might go on the wagon - but ~~that no doubt~~^{maybe}

never occurred to him.

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KIDNAPPING

Girl kidnapped in Los Angeles! - that's still another crime story this evening. A child seized by the snatchers - that dread vision was summoned in melodramatic style, when the State

58 1/2 Highway Patrolmen found a note which read - ~~THE~~ "Help, I am kidnapped." And the slip of paper gave the name and address of ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ Nancy Price. ~~the~~ On the back of the note was scrawled - "Call the police, please."

~~And~~ The Los Angeles police were notified at once. A detective went speeding to the address given in Nancy Price's pitiful message. *But don't be alarmed since* There ~~he~~ ^{the} found Nancy, age eleven. She was skipping around gayly, no sign of kidnapping.

When that sleuthing detective questioned the girl she said brightly - Oh, yes, she had written that kidnap message - a whole lot of them, in fact. Driving with their parents in the family car, she and another little girl were in the back seat, and they amused themselves by writing and tossing out notes saying that Nancy had been kidnapped. *"Such* ~~it was~~ ^{it was} a lot of fun," laughed Nancy.

59 1/4 I can't tell you what the police said. *Only General Johnson* ~~it'd never be allowed to~~ ^{repeat it} on the radio! *could say that* And so long until tomorrow.