

P. J. - Sunoco. Friday, Jan. 7, 1938.

The Republican Policy Committee ran into a refusal today. One high ~~political~~ personality ~~was~~ invited to become a member ~~and help devise a declaration of~~

~~Republican~~ ~~of~~ ~~principles~~ -- said no. ~~And~~ He's Alfred

titular ~~as~~ *head of the party.*
M. Landon ~~who ran in the Republican ticket last election~~

He was invited to serve as honorary chairman, but ^{today} refused.

This seems to point to a rift in the G.O.P. rank ^{s over} ~~about~~
the policy Committee's work. *all along they've been* ~~They were~~ ^{divided} as to

whether there should be any drafting of principles at all.

The idea originated with Ex-President Hoover.

67
And still another political personality turned down an invitation to serve as honorary chairman, Herbert Hoover himself. But it was a turn-down most modified.

The ~~EX-PRER~~ Ex-President replied that he'd gladly serve on the committee, but ^{not} ~~not~~ as any kind of chairman -- "only as a rank and file member", said he.

APPOINTMENTS

Today ~~was an~~ ^{was} appointing day at the White House -- the President handed out a whole list of appointments to diplomatic jobs.

The first is no news -- we've been hearing about it for weeks. Today the President appointed Joseph P. Kennedy to the ~~American~~ Embassy in London. So Joe Kennedy quits ~~his~~ as Chairman of the Maritime Commission and becomes United States ambassador ^{to the Court of St. James's ---} ~~to Great Britain~~ -- the most decorative of the diplomatic posts.

It's no news either that Ambassador Davis quits the Moscow job. That's been rumoured aplenty -- the ^{multi} millionaire business man and ^{his multi} ~~millionaire~~ millionair^e wife didn't seem too comfortable ^{among the Comrades.} ~~in Red Russia~~. They stayed away from Moscow most of the time. ^{And now} ~~The news in the matter is that~~ Ambassador Davis ~~will~~ ^{is} remain an ambassador -- ~~he is~~ transferred to Belgium. Maybe he'll find gay, light-hearted Brussels a bit more genial than the grim Kremlin under Red Dictator Stalin.

Our present ambassador to Belgium is Hugh Gibson. He now leaves, and we're not told where he is to go. But the report is that Ambassador Bowers is soon to leave Spain ~~and~~ and that

Gibson will succeed him -- as American plenipotentiary to the Left Wing government.

It has been said for days that Hugh Wilson, Assistant Secretary of State will go to Germany -- Succeed Ambassador Dodge^d That's official today.

~~These appointments have been so thoroughly rumoured that they can hardly be called ^(news) news tidings. But here's something that is news. Norman Armour, who right now is our Minister to Canada ~~to Chile~~ goes to South America and becomes Ambassador to Chile. Or don't you consider that startling news either?~~

Gibson will succeed him -- as American plenipotentiary to the Left Wing government.

It has been said for days that Hugh Wilson, Assistant Secretary of State will go to Germany -- Succeed Ambassador Dodge^{d.} That's official today.

~~These appointments have been so thoroughly rumoured that they can hardly be called ^(news) news tidings. But here's something that is news. Norman Armour, who right now is our Minister to Canada ~~to Chile~~ goes to South America and becomes Ambassador to Chile. Or don't you consider that startling news either?~~

FILIBUSTER

(The filibuster went on all day, with Senators talking and talking, killing time -- to keep the anti-lynching Bill from being considered.) It's a southern filibuster, but one ^(Northerner) ~~Senator~~ joined up ^{it} today, took the Senate floor and made the most impassioned speech of all -- Borah of Idaho.

He denounced ^d the anti-lynching Bill in the gravest terms. He said he considered it unconstitutional, but that if it were constitutional -- he'd still be against it. His ~~is~~ viewpoint was -- states rights. ~~He declared that if the Federal Government reached its hand into the problems of the states of the South, it would be a violation of the long accepted practice of Democratic government in this country.~~

49
"When we condemn state sovereignty in the South," declared Borah, "we have no ground on which to maintain self-government in the North." ~~He was followed by Senator McKellan of Tennessee, who continued the filibuster.~~ Late in the day Senator Barkely spoke up. He's a Southerner too, ^{but} ~~and~~ he's also the Administration leader -- trying to get things moving. He handed out a threat that if the talking kept on and on, Senate rules would be clamped down to stop the filibuster.

DOLLAR

Devalue the dollar - that demand rang out in the Senate today. Senator Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma has been pushing the idea all along, and today he introduced a resolution into the Senate calling upon the government to readjust the purchasing power of United States currency. He wants the dollar to be put on a Nineteen Twenty-Six level. He says money today will buy more than it did then. Therefore the farmer gets less cash for his products. So, make the dollar buy less, ~~cut its value~~ ^{inflation!} ~~which can be done by printing more money~~

~~The resolution is before the Senate, and anything in any debate concerning it a swift reply will be made in one word - the sinister word - inflation.~~

LUDLOW

The Ludlow Amendment was severely belabored in Washington today - the proposed amendment that would call for a popular referendum before the nation could declare war. Speaker Bankhead spoke on alien influences aiding and abetting the amendment.

~~He said that if a referendum were made necessary before we could declare war, it might encourage foreign countries to attack us.~~

20
Along the same line, Senator Woodring at Kansas City took a fling at the amendment. He said it would make the government helpless in dealing with aggressor nations, ~~it~~ might invite some dictator to attack us, ~~he said.~~

UNEMPLOYMENT

The word "fear" was repeated in Washington today -
at the Senate hearing on unemployment. ^{Gen.} Robert E. Wood, President
of Sears, Roebuck Company, spoke up and said: "Business lacks
confidence, and is scared." Then he cited the attacks on
business made by Assistant Attorney General Jackson and Secretary
of the Interior Ickes. "Calculated to scare business," declared
the President of the great mail order house.

He was followed by President Green of the American
Federation of Labor, who made no mention of the word fear. He
said - speculation. The A.F. of L. President claimed that the
biggest single cause of the recession was, as he phrased it,
"the increasingly speculative character in business activity
in the first half of Nineteen Thirty-Seven." Maybe he meant ~~the~~
"plunging optimism", "take a chance"- speculation. *And he demanded
that the government do something about unemployment.*
~~Then came President Homer Martin of the United Automobile
Workers. He told the Senate inquiry that employment in the
automobile field was off fifty per cent.~~

While we're among the labor leaders, let's not forget
John L. Lewis who made a declaration at Tucson, Arizona today -

and he used a curious word, "communal." It sounds suspiciously like "Communism", ^{only} ~~but it's~~ spelled with an "a-l" "Some people," said the C.I.O. chief, "have found that they could live happily and successfully in a communal form in which the whole, not just a few, were given consideration."

Naturally, it was surmised that maybe he meant Communist Russia or Fascist Italy and Germany, where a sort of state Socialism exists. But John Lewis refused to ~~specify or~~ say what he meant.

FORD

Henry Ford told a story today. In an interview with a United Press reporter^π he related how on a summer day twenty-three years ago in Jackson County, Ohio, a steam engine was ^{hauling a} ~~helping a~~ separator along a road in the farm land^s. The engine got stuck in the soft clay, its wheels went round ~~no good~~ ^{d--- but, got} no traction on the slippery surface.

A car drove up and couldn't get by. Two men stepped out, and watched the engine crew as they vainly tried to get going. One of the two men, lean and hawk-eyed spoke up. "What you fellows need ~~x~~ there is traction. Get some sand under those wheels." The advice was followed and the engine pulled out and went rolling on. The man who gave the advice was Henry Ford.

Today he recalled that story and applied ^{it} to the state of affairs in general. "What the world needs is -- traction," ^{said he.} "Get some sand under those drive wheels."

Yes, Henry Ford is right. Some kind of traction is needed under the wheels of ~~production~~ ^{progress} -- some kind of sand.

I've been reading about various proposed kinds of sand in the New York Sun's annual supplement "the voice of Business" out tomorrow. Don't miss it.

Tunney

Jan. 77

1938.

GENE TUNNEY

53

Here's a bit of business news. It tells of an executive being elected Chairman of the Board of a twenty million dollar corporation. Who's the up and coming business man? He's sitting here beside me now - Gene Tunney. Yes, our old friend, the retired heavyweight champion of the world. This bit of business news evokes old memories - memories of difference. How different from the old time champs, after they retired or were knocked out! No chairmanship of a twenty million dollar corporation for the gladiators of the past.

--

GENE TUNNEY: Lowell, do you remember what those old time champions did when they were through with the ring?

--

L.T.: Sure, they opened a saloon.

--

GENE TUNNEY: Well, I'm becoming Chairman of the Board of the American Distilling Company.

--

L.T.- That does put an angle to the story, Gene, and it's easy to see the point. What the beverage business needs is a figure that can command the attention of those who don't listen so patiently, to stately moralists and solemn ethical lessons.

~~A heavyweight champ means something to the toughest boy, and~~

~~Gene Tunney was always dramatic as a king-pin fighter who not~~

~~only beat Jack Dempsey but who also devoted himself to study,~~

~~and now rises ^{high} to the top in the business world. What's your~~

slant, Gene?

--

GENE TUNNEY:- It's this, Lowell. The industry of manufacturing spirits exists by the action of public authority, and owes definite responsibility to the public. If it doesn't live up to those responsibilities, it will be destroyed. My job with American Distillery is to cooperate with the Federal Alcohol Administration in Washington in putting across ideas in which I firmly believe - stop sales-pressure to promote drinking, abolish any tendency in the trade that might encourage the young

54

to drink. No irresponsible advertising; discourage road signs, and personal endorsements by famous people; cut out any propaganda that may tempt people. I'm to supervise a campaign to make the beverage business recognize that it exists only because the public voted that way, and it is therefore a public affair, and not merely a way to gather profits.

--

L.T.:- Well, Gene, all this certainly is different from the days of old, when ex-champs opened saloons. Gene tells me that's all there was open for them to do in those days. Now the retired heavyweight champion becomes a big business leader to organize the liquor business for decency and moderation.

LEONARD

Next comes something about an ex-champion who opened a restaurant. This should interest you, Gene, it's about your old friend, Benny Leonard. You retired from the heavyweight championship undefeated, and so did he from the lightweight championship.

Benny, the restaurant man, was in court today, charged with punching a two hundred pound waiter in the nose. Benny pleaded not guilty.

~~testified he only shoved the waiter.~~

"My motto," he declared, "has always been - no money, no fight."

--

GENE TUNNEY:- That was always my motto too, Lowell.

--

L.T.:- It's a good one, and Benny says it's a lifetime principle with him. He admitted he had an argument with the waiter, something about a baked potato. But he says he didn't punch, he just pushed - a little bit. Whereupon, says he, the waiter dashed out into the crowded dining room, shouting:- "The champ of the world punched me! Benny Leonard socked me! Comes the revolution, and I'll sock Benny Leonard in the nose!"

Such ^{was} the testimony of the former lightweight champion today.

CHINA

The Japanese are still at it in China - creating

incidents. Today they had trouble with the British.

Patrols of
~~Proves~~

Japanese soldiers pushed into parts of John Bull's concession,

where they ran into trouble with the British guards. ^{there} and British

They beat up 2 British soldiers. That
soldiers were pushed around a bit by the Japanese. ~~That led to~~

led to

swift protests and the Mikado's men withdrew.

Britain is excited

and angry tonight.

The war in China turns more and more into the guerilla

stage, with the Red generals of the former Communist army directing

the kind of irregular warfare they know so well. They call it

a military policy of - scorch the earth, burn everything,

destroy everything, blacken the land. So the Japanese troops

will have nothing to live on. But scorched Chinese earth must

be mighty sad for the Chinese too.

RUBENS

The United States Government made a demand on Soviet Russia today - in the case of Mrs. Rubens. Washington asked Moscow to come through with some definite information about her. She's an American citizen. The communication makes no mention of her husband so it's assumed the State Department has found out that he is not an American citizen. They both entered Russia with false passports and under the false name of Robinson.

~~It's assumed that Moscow will have to provide some
illumination, because there's a Russian-American agreement
that if the Soviets arrest any American citizen, they are to
report it to Washington within seventy-two hours. One rumor in
Moscow tonight is - that Mrs. Rubens is already outside of Russia,
the Soviets let her go under promise of silence - say nothing.~~

SINGER

7
I have a sympathetic note here from a compassionate friend -- Reinald Werrenrath, that baritone of ~~large and friendly~~ renown. Werry, as he is known far and wide consoles me for that story I had to tell last night.

"That," he writes, "was certainly one 'on you, the press clipping telling about the lady testifying on the witness stand." And she said -- "Always when Lowell Thomas is on the air we leave the house."

"Of course," Reinald Werrenrath continues, "your radio listeners would ^{simply} have to send that clipping to you, so that you wouldn't miss it. It's the same with us singers. If a critic gives us a rap -- we seldom miss seeing it.

It all reminds ^{ed his rival} ~~me~~ of two tenors who were rivals. When one got bad notices from the critics, he was sure to see them -- every one. Because the other tenor, with a sheaf of newspapers, would come to him exclaiming:- 'Those soundrels ~~are~~ the critics, have you seen what they say about your performance? It's a scandal and a shame -- look what this miserable villain writes about you. He says you cracked on all the high notes -- And have you seen this, ^{gone?}'

~~one?!~~

8
1
Werry concludes by ~~repeating that those two tenors certainly~~
~~found out all about the bad notices they got, but~~ *saying that* he doubts

those two tenor
whether either of ~~them~~ ever got a slam to compare with the one

Yours Truly got from the lady on the witness stand.

SLAVE

In New York there's an exhibition of paintings by Frank Stanley Herring, who specializes in one historic theme - slaves, old-time darkies who are still alive, one time chattels of the plantations of the south. Artist Herring has sought out scores of these slavery day survivors, and painted portraits of them. ~~This evening the news brings us a ^{morbid} ~~moving~~ item which might well be a theme for discussion at New York's exhibition of paintings of slaves.~~

8/2
Today at St. John's, Kansas, George Washington Walker stood and gazed. George Washington Walker is black, is eighty-nine, and once he was a slave. He gazed at an oil well, at a gusher being brought in - on his Kansas farm, ~~when~~ with a bursting flow of black gold. Oil workers, salesmen, lease buyers, lawyers, crowded around in excitement. George Washington Walker was the center of interest - he was rich, suddenly a wealthy man. In his own mind one startling fact took precedence - that oil well on his farm brought more money to him than ^{ever} was possessed by his ~~own~~ ^{old} master down on the plantation in Mississippi before the War. ^a strange paradox for the old darkie!

59

Otherwise he was unexcited. He said ~~that his sudden~~
~~wealth would help to make his children happy, but~~ that he and
~~these~~ ^{his} eight children would go on cultivating their Kansas farm
just the same as before - the way he ~~had~~ learned in slavery days.

of 2 - l - until Monday .

9 1/4