

L.T. SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1939.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Senators in Washington have again ducked an issue, the revision of the Neutrality Bill. Meanwhile, Mr. Roosevelt continues to insist there must be action before Congress adjourns. The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate once more postponed it, much to the disgust of the Chairman, , Senator Key Pitman of Nevada. The meeting had started in his absence and he arrived in committee room just as it had adjourned. A reporter asked him: "Did they recess without you?" And he replied, with emphasis, "They sure did!"

On top of that he intimated that the Senate would have to stay in Washington until something was done. He was asked what he would do if the recalcitrant Senators just went home. Pitman replied: "We can arrest them." Bring them back.

The main fighting issue today was against that

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conference report on the money bill. The President has convinced his followers that if the conference report is adopted, he can go on for another two years with power to devalue the dollar if he wants to. Senator Austin of Vermont, acting Republican leader, and the other Republicans, say no, that authority is definitely dead. Even the adopting of the conference report will not revive it. The attitude is that it expired last Friday at midnight and that a completely new law will be necessary to revive it.

Early today it was said that the Senate ~~is proposing~~ *would come in* that conference report ~~about six o'clock~~ this evening, ~~so that it~~ *at* ~~any moment we may hear the result.~~

There still remains the legal question of whether the conference report is valid. The question whether the conference report is valid is a technical one. The President's authority technically expires at midnight last Friday. The President's followers say the act goes to the White House and will be signed.

ADD SENATE

And here it is -- just came over the wire. It's

a victory for the President, ~~but a mighty close shave.~~

The partisans of Mr. Roosevelt won the day by just four votes.

(The count <sup>in the Senate</sup> ~~at the end~~ was 43 to 39, ~~is~~ in favor of giving

the President not only his two billion dollar ~~stabil~~

stabilization fund for two years more, but also power to

devalue

~~the dollar~~ the dollar) ~~at the same time, the mine ~~is ordered~~~~

~~ordered to pay the high figure of seventy-one and eleven~~

~~hundredths cents an ounce for silver mined in the United States.~~

~~of course~~ There still remains the legal question

put forth by the Republicans, the question whether the vote

on this ~~conference~~ conference report does not come too late

because technically those extraordinary powers of the President

expired at midnight last Friday. The President's followers

say no. (The act goes to the White House and will be signed

tonight ~~and~~ <sup>to</sup> thus become a law. <sup>TR</sup> A dramatic surprise, for by

this vote the Senate reversed itself.)

TAXES

For most of the years <sup>of</sup> ~~for~~ the New Deal, there has *been*  
*a feeling of boon comradeship*  
~~been a regular love feast~~ between President Roosevelt and the

Republican-Fusion-Labor Mayor of New York, Fiorello LaGuardia.

In fact, it has been a matter of constant observation that the New York Mayor was able to get all the funds he asked for out of Washington.

Today they clashed. Mayor LaGuardia breaks out in flat opposition to one of Mr. Roosevelt's proposals, the suggestion to cut out tax exemption on state and municipal bonds. The fiery Fiorello minced no words as he told it to the Ways and Means Committee of the House. He backed his words up with a threat. And he pointed out that he was speaking not merely as Mayor of New York but as President of the Conference of American Mayors. ~~And he~~ *Said he :-*

"This ~~consideration~~ comes about a hundred and fifty years too late." Then he explained:- "Had it ~~been~~ been part of the fiscal plan at the outset of the Republic, there would be no argument ~~x~~ now." He went on to say that "To remove this

exemption would bring havoc to every city in the country and disturb our whole financial arrangement."

Then came his threat: "If you tax the bonds of the City of New York, I will tax every bit of real ~~xx~~ estate the Federal Government owns in New York, and I'll collect it too."

TOWNSEND

Here's the latest idea of Dr. Francis E. Townsend, the Old-Age Pension man. He wants Uncle Sam to levy a tax on everybody, a tax of ten per cent on gross income. That means no exemptions, no deductions for expenses, just a flat ten per cent. And he says in explanation:- "That should be considered payment for the privilege of living in America." And he added:- "It would be a fair tax with a millionaire paying as much in proportion as the ditch-digger." And he claims it would enable the government to carry out his pet plan - two hundred a month to everybody over sixty.

SMITH

Down south there's a gentleman who does not want to be a goat. He made the announcement from a cell in a prison at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Yes, I mean Dr. James Monroe Smith. He threw out some pretty torrid hints in connection with that goaty statement. He also said that he'd been poorly advised, but he was glad to be back. There was a threat implied in his refusal to be a scapegoat. Behind it there was a clear intimation that if he has to stand for all the blame, he will tear the lid off political secrets in Louisiana. We'll be hearing a lot about this in the next few days when Dr. Smith tells his side of the story to the grand jury.

STRIKE

Another automobile strike, ~~and against General Motors.~~

The C. I. O. branch of the United Automobile Workers ordered a walkout at a big Fisher Body plant in Detroit. The strike was called just as General Motors were hurrying to the last stages of getting out their nineteen forty model cars. The union officials said that it would be extended to other G. M. plants, in time. Strikes have been authorized at several other factories, not only in Detroit, but in Pontiac, Michigan.

The reply of General Motors to this walkout is that the company cannot negotiate a new contract with <sup>the</sup> United Automobile Workers until somebody tells us who the United Automobile Workers is.

Another consequence of ~~the~~<sup>o</sup> war between the unions.  
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FLOOD

A flood in Kentucky, a July flood. Rowan County in Northeastern Kentucky, celebrated Independence Day by ducking one heavy rainstorm after another. In spite of the heavy rain, there was a fire which destroyed ~~SEVEN BUSES, SEVEN BUSES, SEVEN BUSES, SEVEN BUSES~~ <sup>^</sup> a three-story hotel, seven buses, and several shops in the town of Morehead. For a while it looked as though the entire business district of Morehead would be burned out. The firemen <sup>who</sup> ~~there~~ came had ~~it~~ hardly got the flames <sup>under</sup> ~~in~~ control, when Triplett Creek, usually a harmless quiet stream, over~~fl~~owed its banks and flood waters swept the surrounding countryside. The flood rose so fast that people living in the lowlands couldn't even get out of their houses, ~~it~~ had to take refuge on the roofs. By nine o'clock this morning the business district of Morehead was one big lake, four and a half feet deep.

Early today, Morehead was cut off entirely from the rest of the world. The telephone service went out at half past three in the morning. The consequence was that for a while there were no details of the casualties and damage at

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Morehead. Lack of communications gave rise to alarming rumors. One of them was that twenty-seven people ~~have~~ had been drowned. One division of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad was washed out in four places.

~~According to <sup>an</sup> ~~the~~ early report, fourteen bodies of drowned victims had actually been recovered.~~

~~A later dispatch makes that disaster in northeastern Kentucky even worse. The reports were not exaggerated, the casualties were under-stated.~~ When communication was

~~reestablished, the manager of the telephone ~~ex~~ exchange at Morehead reported that to his knowledge no less than thirty-eight people had been drowned and he believed that the total would be at least fifty. The overflow from that harmless little creek swept upon Morehead, <sup>a</sup> ~~like a veritable deadly~~ wall of water.~~

~~Several men got out in small boats early this morning at the risk of their lives to rescue some of those who had been marooned.~~

The whole thing was so sudden that everybody was caught unawares.

Triplet Creek normally is no wider than an alley, but after it

was swollen by those rains it swept away houses, business

buildings, two railroad bridges.

Governor ~~Happy~~ Chandler promptly ordered ~~state~~ <sup>all the</sup>  
*available agencies of the state*  
~~Highway trucks~~ to go to the rescue, and American Red Cross  
relief workers were sent to Morehead from ~~the Red Cross~~  
~~headquarters at Louisville, Kentucky.~~ Even Washington got  
on the job. The Red Cross Director of Disaster Relief sent  
out an order that all available workers and supplies were to  
go ~~to~~ at once to Rowan County. He also sent a staff from  
Washington by airplane.

ADD FLOOD

A still later dispatch from Kentucky reports that at one time the main street of Morehead was under not four and a half feet of water but fifteen feet. ~~However, that flood is now subsiding.~~

~~But communication lines are still in a bad way.~~ One bulletin tells

the story of a man who <sup>saw</sup> ~~saw~~ his wife and four children swept away

on ~~these~~ <sup>e</sup> hungry waters. Like many others, the flood descended

upon him before he knew what was up. When he saw what was happening

he called his wife and children, tried to take them out of the

house. As he opened the door, a torrent swept in, washed them

all away. The ~~poor~~ man saved himself by clinging to a pole. ~~But~~

~~as~~ He tried to <sup>seize</sup> ~~hold on to~~ his family, <sup>but</sup> the current swept them out of his reach.

There are now <sup>a</sup> ~~one~~ thousand flood refugees <sup>down there tonight.</sup> ~~in that~~  
waters <sup>county</sup> ~~xxxxxxx~~

WARSAW

There was more ~~actual~~ excitement over Dangi in London today than in the capital of Poland. A dispatch from Warsaw brings word that the tension there had eased up, ~~considerably~~.

There was a three hour conference of the heads of the government at the ~~Presidential~~ Presidential Palace, and correspondents were given to understand that they had decided on what step they would take next, but it won't be a drastic one. The easing of the tension was reflected in the press. For three days there have been no attacks on Germany in the Polish newspapers.

After that debate, there was an emergency meeting of the cabinet, the second in one day.

LONDON

An angry House of Commons tried to find out today:- "Will Britain go to war if the Senate of Danzig votes to become part of the Nazi Reich?" The Prime Minister's reply was that Britain will fight if any aggressor threatens the Independence of Poland.

All this aroused the temper of the House. The debate was bitter and sarcastic. One member got angry about the negotiations with Stalin, and said: "These negotiations have been dragging along for months. " Then he asked the rhetorical question: "Does the Prime Minister realize that he has been treated with very great forbearance from this house and the country and that we will have to have a showdown very soon?"

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~~to make their attitude absolutely clear."~~

Another question about Danzig was fired at Under  
~~Sec~~ Secretary Butler, whose reply was:- "I refer the gentleman  
to the standing pledge to Poland that Great Britain will  
~~fight if Poland is forced to fight in self-defense."~~ Question  
after question about Danzig failed to produce any definite  
answer.

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have to ~~x~~ have a showdown very soon?"

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JAPAN

There's ~~a strong~~ threat of a cabinet crisis in Japan,  
a change of government that <sup>might</sup> means much to <sup>the jittery</sup> the whole world. ~~and~~  
~~perhaps particularly much to us in the U. S. A. It's the old~~

<sup>a</sup> fight between the war lords and the politicians. And the question  
at stake is whether Japan shall join the Rome-Berlin axis. Of  
course the Mikado is already an ally of Mussolini and Hitler. ~~in~~  
~~a sense~~. He signed the anti-Communist pact long ago. But, the war  
lords demand a strong, fighting alliance. They want treaties with  
Hitler and Mussolini, as definite and outright as the military  
offensive and defensive agreement that now prevails between Rome  
and Berlin.

The cabinet of Prime Minister Baron Hiranuma has stood  
out against any such definite military alliance with the axis.  
Hiranuma doesn't want to antagonize Uncle Sam. But the military  
leaders are stronger than ever for the idea. They say now that if  
Hiranuma doesn't yield within two weeks, he will be ~~xxx~~ thrown out  
and his entire cabinet with him.



Meanwhile there's a report of another battle between  
the Japanese and the troops of the Russian Soviet. The soldiers  
of Nippon claim ~~that~~ <sup>say they</sup> they won, captured a strategic hilltop  
from the ~~allied fighters~~ <sup>troops</sup> of outer Mongolia and Russia.

BUND

Out in Los Angeles the German - American Bund has a resort called Hindenburg Park. They had a picnic there yesterday, and one of the principal speakers was a Macanatin Indian, named Red Cloud. He told the congregation at the pro-Nazi picnic that Indians are ripe ~~for~~ for Fascism. And he explained:-

"Sitting Bull was a dictator. Our American Indians have had fascism for thousands of years.", He was applauded with cheer<sup>s</sup> when he said that there are three-quarters of a million Yaqui Indian Gold Shirts in ~~the~~ Mexico waiting for the proper time to fight for Fascism.

~~When~~ While all this was going on, a red airplane with a loud speaker flew over the picnic, dropping anti-Nazi propaganda. There were no cheers for that. Maybe we'll soon have a message from Berlin pronouncing the Yaquis one hundred percent Aryan. Heil Sitting Bull! Heil Powhatan! Heil Hiawatha!

TENNIS

Once again an American will be the amateur champion tennis player of all England. That may sound like soothsaying, ~~but it isn't.~~ <sup>But it's all</sup> ~~One American is sure to win~~ because both the players who reached the finals at Wimbledon today, come from this side of the water. Bobby Riggs of Chicago will play Elwood Cooke of Portsmouth, Oregon.

The success of Cooke is <sup>rather</sup> dramatic, ~~business, a real surprise.~~ Not even the most optimistic American had expected him to do so well. It was his first whack at that English tournament at Wimbledon, actually, young <sup>Elwood</sup> ~~Elwood~~ Cooke was sent over more or less to season him, give him experience for future years. Instead of that, he walked through all the finest amateurs of not only England but the rest of the world, ~~walked through them like a knife cutting cheese.~~ The man he beat in the quarter finals was ~~the famous~~ Bunny Austin, ~~the~~ pride of England. And today in the semi-finals Elwood Cooke defeated Henner Henkel, the German champion. After that was over, Bobby Riggs, a fellow with <sup>plenty</sup> experience behind him, took the match from the champion of Jugoslavia in three straight sets, six-two, six-three, six-four.

So whichever way the finals go, the Wimbledon crown comes back to America again.

JOKER

At Venice, California, a young man named Herbert Penbrooks had a grand time celebrating the Fourth yesterday afternoon. He stood on a corner of that seaside resort, armed with a supply of firecrackers. These he was lighting, and <sup>then</sup> throwing them at the feet of men and women <sup>who</sup> ~~as they~~ passed by. As each person jumped with fright, <sup>Young</sup> Mr. Penbrooks laughed and laughed and laughed like anything.

He was in the middle of his biggest laugh when he was slightly interrupted. Three large men walked up to him, and the first took a swing at Penbrooks, knocked him down. The second large man picked him up again. Then the third knocked him flat once more. They kept this up until Penbrooks had a broken nose and ~~xx~~ jaw, a broken leg and bruises all over his body.

The ~~ix~~ dispatch ends on the optimistic note:-

"Penbrooks will recover." Maybe one day he'll be able to tell his grandchildren what a good time he had on the Fourth of July,

<sup>in the year</sup> Nineteen <sup>hundred and</sup> thirty Nine.

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