

L.J. - Sunoco. Tues., March 9, 1937.

STRIKE

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Tonight we have a repetition of the news of several weeks ago, with changes. Then it was Flint. Now it's Detroit. Then it was General Motors. Tonight it's Chrysler. (Sit-down strikes have closed all of the Chrysler plants in Detroit - nine of them. Yesterday the Company refused to agree to the Union terms, turned down the Union demands. Today, promptly, the response was - close the plants.)

Fifty-five thousand Chrysler workers are out tonight in Detroit. At New Castle, Indiana, thirty-two hundred Chrysler employees are idle. The factory there can't operate without supplies from the shut-down plants in Detroit.

All of this was dramatized by a significant incident. The Company president and a vice-president <sup>today</sup> went to one of the buildings to go to their offices. The strikers stopped them and said: "Where's your pass?" They demanded a Union permit to enter. The two officials of course had no pass. So they were refused admittance, were turned back.

Whereupon one of them said: "From now on you people

will have to deal with the courts." Meaning -- court proceedings to compel the strikers to vacate, a threat to force an eviction. Later on there was an apology from the Union leadership, saying they were sorry and that it wouldn't happen again. The two officials thereupon returned to the building, were admitted, and went to their offices.

So it's the same old strike story in Michigan -- also very much the same old story for Governor Murphy. Bach he comes ~~ix~~ into the limelight. Bach he comes from the Florida sunlight. He has been vacationing at Palm Beach, and now back to Michigan to resume his familiar role - that of mediator. Negotiations are on right now.

Vice-President Frey of the A.F. of L. one of the most determined opponents of John Lewis, has gone to Pittsburgh to talk with the heads of the Company union of Carnegie steel. The Corporation there has agreed to deal with Lewis' C.I.O. But the Company Union balks at this, has appealed to the A.F. of D. - wants to join up with the Federation. Vice-President Frey has gone for an unofficial discussion with the Federation who may take them in - on this condition: The Company Union



to agree to divorce itself from the Company, and be just a union. The Federation refuses to have anything to do with employee organization formed under the sponsorship of the employers.

To all this, the C.I.O. responds with the threat of a sit-down - the new method of strike technique.

The /French were the first to break out in the headlines with a sit-down revolt,, which they call the folded arms strike. And it was folded arms today on the giant liner NORMANDIE. Right now she lies idle in the harbor of Le Harve. Nine hundred of the crew are holding out for a thirty per cent wage increase. They got an eleven per cent boost recently, but now they want thirty percent more. The NORMANDIE is scheduled to sail for New York tomorrow, but maybe she won't. Folded arms, sit-down or set-down -- the effect is all the same.

CHILD LABOR

( At Albany, the power for the farmers, the small town newspapers, and the Catholic Church, had its way. These are the influences responsible for the <sup>voting down</sup> ~~beating~~ of the Child Labor Amendment. It was defeated in the New York Assembly today by a vote of a hundred and two to forty-two. And in many quarters the belief is held that this dooms the amendment to give Congress the right to forbid children under eighteen to work. With New York refusing, they say the ~~nix~~ necessary two-thirds majority in the country may never be achieved. )

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The fight in Albany was strenuous. The opponents of the Amendment declared it would open the way to a federal law to keep children from doing the traditional homely chores, in the household and on the farm. Also - that it was a step toward federal control of children, instead of the old-time parental control in the home. These arguments prevailed, and today the Amendment was beaten.

The hot news from the collegiate front today is that other universities are debating the Yale idea of -- King Franklin the First. They will be debating still more hotly a few hours hence, after the President has delivered his radio address tonight.

The undergraduate humorists<sup>sta</sup> of Old Eli did an accurate bit of timing in heralding their joke into the news today -- their Roosevelt-for-King Club. They propose that His Majesty's title shall be Franklin the First, King of the United States, the Virgin Islands, the Panama Canal Zone, and the American Dominions Beyond the Seas, Defender of the Budget, and Emperor of Wake Island. Their resolution calls for His Majesty's coronation, along with the enthronement of -- the beloved Queen Eleanor.

They propose that the old Supreme Court be stuffed and placed in the Smithsonian Institution for the edification and amazement of posterity.

Their political theory is that King Franklin the First shall rule the nation by radio -- by means of fireside chats.

It's a lively lot of undergraduate tomfoolery -- but the timing is there. Because tonight the President is giving a



fireside chat, the eighth of his series of informal radio talks.

And the dominant subject is likely to be -- his plan to enlarge

the Supreme Court. The collegians come out on a platform of

government by fireside chats, and they <sup>may</sup> have a sample of their

own merchandise tonight, a chat that will burn  
their ears.

## EARTHQUAKE

The earthquake that shook far and wide in the west early this morning, was nothing wild or exciting to tell about. It made things jump a bit and scared plenty of people - just about the same as the similar quake in the same section last week. But the odd thing was - just four hours before the mid-western shake, there was a slight earthquake in California. *And, another on the coast about noon today.* So you couldn't help wondering - was there any connection between the ~~two~~ disturbances, ~~one~~ the one in the middlewest, the other<sup>s</sup> on the coast, almost simultaneously.

I called up Father Lynch, the seismologist at Fordham University, and asked him - were the ~~two~~ shocks <sup>all a part of</sup> ~~the same~~ ~~general disturbance.~~ ~~linked together~~

He responded with a bit of geology, seismology, earthquakeology - something like this: "The quake in the middlewest," said he, "goes back to the ice age, some twenty-five thousand years ago. At that time, the upper Mississippi Valley was filled with a tremendous glacier. The enormous weight of the ice pressed down the rocks underneath, <sup>and</sup> squeezed them down with terrific pressure. When the ice receded and vanished, the

pressure was removed. The rocks began to readjust themselves. And they've been doing so ever since. Geology works in vast lengths of time. The resettlement of the rocks in the Mississippi Valley goes on for ages, with occasional slight movements. This was one.

"So that," I said "is why Indianapolis, Chicago Detroit and Cincinnati, were shaken today -- because the pressure of the glacier was released twenty-five thousand years ago."

"That's right," responded Father Lynch, "but on the Pacific Coast it's different. Mountains are being built. In the Mississippi Valley the quakes are an aftermath of something long ago. In California that something is still happening."

There you have a seismological view of what happened to those of you who were pitched out of bed, who had your dishes bounced off your pantry shelves, pictures on your walls swung joggled, and had your houses tremble and your windows rattle.



## SHIP

The latest in the most confused tangle and contradictory story that I have seen in years is this -- that the Spanish rebel cruiser Canarias is now towing to harbor the Left Wing munitions ship MAR CANTABRICO. Franco's rebels have siezed the huge armament cargo destined for the Socialist of Madrid.

All the wild confusion that has surrounded this episode is a vivid reminder of the hullabaloo about the ship when it sailed. The CANTABRICO certainly has been a craft of complications.

Remember all the headlines when the boat went out of New York Harbor loaded with airplanes for the Spanish Left Wingers? The State Department had to issue a permit because of a loophole in the Neutrality Law. Congress tried to amend the law in time to stop the CANTABRICO. A court order was procured to delay the sailing of the vessel. All in vain -- the CANTABRICO ladened with war supplies steamed out of the Harbor of New York in spite of all the U. S. government could do.

She didn't sail directly to Spain, but to Vera Cruz, where she took aboard a huge cargo of munitions for the Spanish Socialists. About that time I told on the air how the Franco Rebel Government had ordered its warships to watch for the CANTABRICO and seize her, not let her get through.

Today's story turns out to be the logical follow-up of that -- although it looked like the wildest kind of international sensation at first:-- A British ~~ship~~ <sup>ship</sup> reported sinking. First supposed to be a British liner crammed with passengers, shelled by a Spanish rebel cruiser, blasted by explosive and foundering in flames. ~~Next it was supposed to be a British freighter.~~ Now the story turns out this way:-- The munition ship, in trying to run the rebel blockade, disguised itself as a British vessel, painted a British name on her bow and took a British wireless signal of identification. But the cruiser CANARIAS saw through the disguise. The armament craft tried to run, but the cruiser shelled her, hit her, and set her on fire. That was when the CANTABRICO sent out a wireless distress call, using the British radio signal. Approaching-rescue-craft saw the British name painted on her bow.

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And the sensational word flashed -- British ship shelled and sunk. ~~When all of this confusion was straightened out the word still was that the CANTABRICO, in flames, has gone to the bottom.~~ *Now we have the story of* ~~But now that's changed -- changed by~~ one of the sailors of the munitions carrier, who was rescued by a French vessel. This sailor, who bears the snappy name of Juan Poo, relates that shells hit the CANTABRICO and set her afire. Then she was boarded by a party from the cruiser, who put the fire out and took the crew prisoners. Poo and several others hid themselves, afraid they'd be shot. Later they dove overboard and swam for a French ~~XXXX/XXX~~<sup>boat</sup> nearby. The swimmers were drowned, except Poo. He reached the French vessel safely, which thereupon steamed away. He says the last thing he saw was the ~~XXXXXX XXXXXX~~<sup>cruiser</sup> towing the crippled CANTABRICO -- the rebels trying to get the armament craft to port.

So it may be that the war materials which the United States Government tried so hard and so vainly to stop from going to the Left Wingers will find their way into the hands of the Fascist rebels -- to be used against the Socialists.



FRANCE

Today was ladies' day in the French Chamber of Deputies. Or rather, it was a battle of the ladies. The Deputies passed Premier Blum's Billion Dollar Defense Loan, that giant sum for war preparations. Anything suggested by the Socialist Premier is likely to stir up a noisy row among the Deputies - but this time the scrap was in the visitors' gallery, among the ladies, a whole group of the wives of the statesmen of France. One of them - Madame Blum herself, spouse of the Premier. Maybe it was ~~wax~~ the warlike tone of the defense program. Anyway, they staged a battle so loud and rambunctious that Premier Blum himself had to go to the gallery to quiet the statesmen's wives.

The trouble began as <sup>the</sup> Premier ~~Blum~~ concluded an eloquent address advocating the defense bill. The gallery was brilliant with the latest Parisian modes - the wives, among them Madame Blum, all listening intently. With the Socialist Premier's last word, the wife of a Conservative Deputy broke into a loud rippling laugh. Madame Blum turned to her and remarked: "Shut up, you couldn't do as well." With that the hubbub was on, <sup>with</sup> the

ladies yelling insults at each other - a wild screaming of epithets in that gallery for the wives. The husbands on the Parliament floor, looked up there, each most likely recognizing his own wife's voice. The disturbance became so shrill and outrageous, that Premier Blum had to go up to the gallery and make another address, another defense oration. He implored the ladies to keep quiet, and ~~exerted all his golden eloquence to persuade them to silence.~~ *fix their hair some of which had been pulled.* The uproar finally subsided - and the work of government continued.

DIONNE

There's news about the Dionne quintuplets. Their physician, Dr. Dafoe, is getting his salary - doubled. He's just about the most famous doctor in the world, of greater publicity and renown than the discoverer of insulin, or the gland searching Dr. Crile, or any other creator of a miracle of medicine. And his patients are the most famous babies in the world.

Well, doctors' fees sometimes come high. An operation can cost as much as a mink coat for a millionaire's wife. So today we find that the salary of Dr. Dafoe of quintuplet-birth-fame has been multiplied by two. A Canadian judge has decreed that he shall get twice as much as he has been getting. Dr. Dafoe's salary has been raised to a hundred and fifty dollars - a year. He was getting seventy-five bucks per annum. And he had a fight on his hands to get the raise, had to battle all up and down Ontario.

His yearly fee for medical care of the quints is paid by the township of North Rinsworth, not one of those wealthy



million dollar communities. In fact, the township fathers thought that seventy-five dollars a year was too much. They proposed to cut the doctor to thirty-five. The world renowned physician felt his professional honor touched by the cut, so he responded by demanding a raise. He multiplied thirty-five dollars by ten and requested three hundred and fifty dollars a year. That caused such an argument that it got into the courts, and the judge <sup>now</sup> ~~has~~ <sup>has decreed</sup> a compromise at a hundred and fifty. The court regretted that the figure couldn't be larger, but said the township distinguished by the birth and upbringing of the quints just couldn't pay any more. Of course, Dr. D'afoe is rumored to pick up a penny here and there out of advertisements, endorsements, journalism and the use of his name. But his official fee ~~was~~ as the most famous doctor, taking care of the most famous babies, is twelve dollars and fifty cents a month. And, SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

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