

L.T. - SUNOCO. FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1937

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The weather is hot far and wide, but it's rather cool beside the sultry heat packed in the United States Senate today.

(Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana arose to speak. He's a Democrat, a member of the President's own party, but he led today's fight against the court proposal.) He struck out at Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania, challenging Guffey's declaration that Chief Justice Hughes was a politician. He named several Senators, now Administration supporters, who voted for Hughes when he was named as Chief Justice:- Senator Wagner of New York, Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi -- and the present new Deal leader in the Senate -- Robinson of Arkansas.

The phillipic by Senator Wheeler grew warmer as he declared that a spirit of intolerance pervaded the Senate.

(He told of Democratic Senators being threatned with administration)

reprisals, because they opposed the court change. He shouted that in his fifteen years in the Senate he had never seen such an appeal to the prejudice of the people as now. He specified - that the administration had appealed against the Court to the drought sufferers and the flood sufferers.

He hit a climax when he attributed the following statement to Postmaster Jim Farley: "It's in the bag," said Jim. "We'll let the Senate talk and then we'll let the house talk, and then we'll vote -- because we've got the vote."

The gentleman from Montana cried scathingly that even the congressional clerks would resent that:- let the Senate talk, let the House talk, as if giving them permission.

It was a blistering oration - three hours of it. just one blister after another. Showing that the Senate was hot today, hotter than the weather.

LABOR

Today there's shift of accent in the labor war.

The emphasis moves from the battle between the C.I.O. and the companies ~~to~~^{to} the scrap between the C.I.O. and the A. F. of L. The federation takes the offensive and smacks out against the union group which John Lewis led out of the older organization - in that historic labor split. The A. F. of L. strikes at two vulnerable weak spots - the charges of communism against the C.I.O. and the way the John Lewis group handled the steel strike.

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The communist angle comes from California, where the charge is made that the C.I.O. received three - ~~four~~ quarters of a million dollars from the Reds. This is stated by E. H. Dowell, district organizer for the A. F. of L. at San Diego. Today organizer Dowell declared that he was authorized to make the statement that the Department of Justice has ~~proof~~ proof of the huge communist contribution. He says the Department has the checks the communists gave, and that these add to a total of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars. So far, the headline C.I.O. chiefs are not quoted in answer to that.

But they were busy today handing out retorts in answer to the charges made by William Green, President of the A.F. of L. The C.I.O. Director in Washington uses the terms - empty and old, empty arguments and old stuff. "The ideas are just as old as Bill Green himself and do not reflect any new opinions. It's just the same sort of statement he **has always** been making." But that's mild with what John Lewis said today. He called William Green a traitor and put it in these savage words:- "His statement is the drooling from the applitid lips of the traitor." Now what did William Green say to evoke this ferocious comeback? "It now becomes certain," declares the A.F. of L. President, "that the steel strikes at Chicago, Cleveland, Johnstown, Youngstown, Canton and other places - are lost." He adds that the steel strikes have failed because of stupid mistakes - errors by John Lewis, C.I.O. blunders.

So, with things quiet on the strike front, we find the issue flaring between the two rival labor groups. In a certain sense that's the fundamental conflict, the struggle with the labor ranks - between the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O.

MRS. ROOSEVELT.

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There was a lively congressional wrangle today on an interesting theme - Income Taxes and Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, First Lady of the Land. She's accused of tax dodging, using a loophole to get out of paying - which is all the more interesting after the President's powerful denunciations of tax dodgers and loopholes. The evidence against the First Lady was presented by Republican Representative Hamilton Fish, who in Congress represents the President's own home district in Dutchess County.

There has been talk that Mrs. Roosevelt evaded paying taxes on money earned by her addresses on the Radio. And today Representative Fish, before a Congressional Committee, presented what he declared was a photostatic replica of a contract that Mrs. Roosevelt had with a Radio sponsor. It all goes back to Nineteen Thirty-five, when the First Lady went on the air - her subject being - "Women of Today." The fee was three thousand dollars each, for ten programs, thirty thousand dollars in all. The Contract presented today shows that Mrs. Roosevelt did not

receive the money - she got a mere formal one dollar for each appearance. Her share of the cash went to charity. It was paid directly to a charitable organization. She didn't get the money herself and hand it over to the good cause. It didn't pass through her hands at all. It went directly from sponsor to charity. Mrs. Roosevelt did not pay any Income Tax on it - and this, it is charged, was tax evasion.

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The logic goes this way; if she had received the money, she would have had to pay Income Tax on it. Then, giving it to charity, she could charge it off on her taxes, but only to the amount of fifteen per cent of her total income. That's the way the law reads. Since the thirty thousand dollars came to more than fifteen per cent of her income - she would have ^{had to} pay taxes on the money, even though she did not get a nickel of it.

So Representative Fish asks: other people are up against that same angle of Income Tax and charity. So why shouldn't Mrs. Roosevelt face it too? He declares that if it's all right for her to take the loophole way out by having the

Radio money paid directly to charity, why other people have the same right too.

To the defense of the First Lady comes the charity organization that got the money. Its officials declare that Mrs. Roosevelt took the arrangement to Government tax officials and asked if it was okay - and they said "Yes."

Representative Fish declared today that he was going to put the Congressional spotlight on the Income Tax returns of other members of the President's family, while at the same time President Roosevelt at his press conference today gave out the hint that he might launch an answer to the questions about his family and the Income Tax.

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The fact remains that the First Lady gave all her earnings for charity.

PRISON

There's a comic police story that has been getting a laugh around New York for the past few weeks - a funny one about the cops and a prisoner. Today the yarn takes a new turn, a sentimental turn. The joke turns into a heart-throb.

Back in April, a young Italian, Vito Russo, was being held on a burglary charge. The ~~cops~~^{police} were taking him over to Queens County. They made a stop in the Bronx. They had the prisoner handcuffed and locked in a police van, and there he was left alone for half an hour. With handcuffs and all, he smashed his way through the top of the police van, climbed out - and escaped.

There wasn't any laughing about it at the time. *The*
Officers of the Law and ~~The cops~~ were mortified, weren't looking for any headlines, kept it all a secret. But along in May the prisoner was called up for trial, and the police had to appear in court and admit that he had escaped - and ^{then} the joke was made public. The astonished judge demanded to know whether the city prison vans for the transportation of convicts had roofs made of paper. The chagrined cops gave the explanation that the only vehicle available for the transport of Russo was an old patrol wagon

with a roof made of canvas. That was a laugh, and the town chuckled.

Tonight, the twenty-year old youth is in jail once more, and the tale turns to sentiment, human interest. After he escaped, the prison warden told the mother that the fugitive *boy* ~~had now~~ ~~boy would only~~ become an outlaw, which might send him to final doom - the electric chair. He said to the mother - "if he comes home, persuade him to surrender to the police. And I'll get him off with as light a sentence as I can." The weeping mother promised - she'd try.

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Last night Vito Russo came home. For weeks he had been wandering, a fugitive. He had fled as far as Detroit. Finally, he couldn't resist the lure of - home.

The mother sought to persuade him:~ "Go to the police," she begged.. Her other three sons joined in the plea, urging the fugitive to give himself up.

Vito Russo left his home. He went to the nearest pay telephone, dropped in his nickel and called the prison warden. Yes, he said - he was on his way to surrender and take his medicine. So this evening the warden, with his prisoner locked

in a cell, is keeping his share of the bargain, trying to get the boy off as lightly as he can.

INTERNATIONAL.

Today, it's all left up to England - in that non-intervention tangle. The Committee on non-intervention voted unanimously today to let London handle the job of finding a way out - full power to Great Britain to effect a compromise.

(London and Paris have been demanding the right to take over that part of the naval patrol which Germany and Italy ~~have~~ have abandoned - but Berlin and Rome refuse. Today, in the Committee meeting, France threatened drastic action, said that if Germany and Italy would not come to terms, why France would **throw** open her own Spanish Border, and let war supplies be sent to the Spanish left wingers.)

When this dangerous stage of the discussion was reached, the non-intervention committee said - let England ~~not~~ do it, let London have full power to negotiate an agreement.

Meanwhile, a violent battle is raging around Madrid, with the Socialist Battalions on the attack. Nothing is known of the issue; both sides claiming victory.

A couple of months ago, on a boat sailing to Europe, I ran across a personable young chap, about whom people said in some slight tone of mystification- "He's a leader in the Oxford Movement." That's one of the odd phenomena of our ^{or} time - a religious group that has in its ranks some of the most eminent people on this earth, statesmen, business magnates, intellectuals. It's rather difficult to understand what its ideas are. They seem like a vague gospel of peace, love ~~thy~~ *— all most admirable.* thy neighbor, do right and be benevolent. On ship board I talked to the young leader ~~of~~ the Oxford Movement, and found him most sensible and practicable in his ~~own~~ notions, with quite a level headed attitude towards problems of international peace and social improvement. On Sunday morning it was he who conducted the religious services - with a rational, heartening talk.

All this came back to mind, when I saw today's story about the Oxford Movement - how the English actress, Margaret Rawlings, has stirred a sensation in its ranks. Today its leaders have no comment to make, no interviews, no quotations. The incident is rather embarrassing - especially as the actress

was sponsored by the founder of the cult, Dr. Frank N. D. ~~Buchnam~~^m, himself.

It occurred at a luncheon given by the cult before Margaret Rawlings spoke, several members got up and talked about what they call - sharing. Which is something like - sharing their secret thoughts, their personal experiences, their private lives. A sort of public confession, which they claim rids them of fears and inhibitions, thing suppressed inside.

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And this - was roundly denounced by Margaret Rawlings, the "Guest of Honor" when her turn to speak came. You can imagine the sensation when the ~~actress~~^{actress, the "Guest of Honor"} after being introduced ~~by~~ by the founder, Dr. ~~Bucknam~~^m, declared herself as follows;-

"I consider such public confessions to be exhibitionism." They were concerned with their inhibitions, which made them exhibitionists. The difference between "IN" and "EX".

"To me," quoth Margaret Rawlings, "it is as shocking, as indecent, as indelicate as if someone were to take off his clothes in Piccadilly Circus."

And if you know what Piccadilly Circus is, rather more

public than Times Square, you understand the startled ~~am~~
amazement of the Oxford Group at that gathering.

Today Margaret Rawlings denied that she was pulling
a stunt. "Somebody blundered in asking me, *to attend and speak*" she smiled, "because
I have views of my own." Yep, somebody blundered and she has
views.

Well, it's all an interesting sidelight on one of the
imposing religious phenomena of our times - a world-wide
movement of most significant influence *which is growing*
rapidly.

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EARHART

Hope for Amelia Earhart and Captain Fred Noonan is at its lowest point this evening. Right now the weather has ~~xx~~ turned bad in the vicinity of Howland Island, bad for the search. It was cloudy and murky today, with flurries of rain and a rough sea. Visibility reduced to one mile. The airplane search was futile. Three planes from the Battleship Colorado were catapulted from the deck, flew out and cruised around. They inspected some islands of the ~~xxx~~ Phoenix group, where the lost aviators might perhaps be. They found nothing and were driven back to the Battleship by dim skies and equatorial rainstorms.

The Aircraft Carrier Lexington is still on its speeding way, with its sixty-eight planes. These will scan the sea and the islands over a great area - but their effectiveness will depend upon the weather.

Meanwhile, there's the usual crop of wireless signals, supposed to come from the Earhart plane, but they are received with skepticism. The Coast Guard repeats that it is not certain that any of the supposed Radio signals since

the ~~xx~~ plane was forced down are authentic. *But here's hoping we have better news over the weekend!*

and solving until Monday.

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WEATHER

This heat wave covers two-thirds of ~~the~~ the United States. The death toll so far is nearly one hundred and fifty. Farmers dropped in the fields, factory workers at their benches, and there was a large loss of life at beaches and swimming pools.

Some of the temperatures were:

Cold point, Pennsylvania, 96 degrees and Satan's Gate, Connecticut, 100 degrees, Cool, Iowa, 100 degrees, and Hell, Michigan, 100 degrees.

At the North Pole the Russian Arctic expedition was forced to move their camp north because the ice was melting. Let's all go to the North Pole for the weekend. All in favor say "I" and --

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.