

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:-

I suppose you'd call this entering on my second term of office -- after four years. Four short years! Exciting and pleasant. Discoursing on the news for Blue Sunoco:- exciting in following the events of the world; and pleasant in my association with the officials of the Sun Oil Company.

Now let's see if there's any excitement this evening.

COTTON STRIKE

Today's story of the whipping of a preacher and a woman calls for a brief notice of social conditions in the cotton growing section, <sup>of</sup> eastern Arkansas. The abduction and flogging of a Presbyterian minister and a young-woman-liberal points to an explosive state of affairs down there where the cotton is now in blossom. <sup>That's</sup> ~~It's~~ share cropping country, with many small farmers, both white and negro, growing cotton on rented fields, sharing crops with the landlords. They also work for wages as farm labor - the usual cotton chopping and cotton picking of the south. <sup>That's</sup> This is cotton chopping time, when men with hoes chop out the weeds from among the rows of growing plants, that will yield the fluffy white boll. <sup>s</sup> Right now a strike is on in Eastern Arkansas, a strike of cotton choppers. They are demanding a wage increase. They have been getting seventy-five cents a day and demand a dollar and a quarter. They've been working twelve hours a day and want it cut to ten.

It's been a bitterly contested affair, with a surge of class antagonism, race antagonism. There have been savage threats and outbreaks of violence. And the strike bitterness reached an

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apex a day or so ago with the death of a negro share cropper named Frank Weems. The authorities at Earle, Arkansas, claimed that Weems died a natural death; but the ~~negro~~ share croppers tell another story. They charge that the negro was abducted by a band of white men, and whipped ~~so~~ so severely that he died. This stirred the strike trouble to a rumbling menace. The share croppers planned to give Weems a mass funeral today, as a demonstration. And this brought a promise of riot and violence.

Such was the explosive situation into which the Reverend Claude Williams, and Miss Willie Blagden, injected themselves. The Reverend Williams is a preacher of Little Rock, who lost his pastorate there because of his ~~attitude concerning~~ *socialistic ideas.*

~~labor~~ He is a vice-president of the American Federation of Teachers and a representative of the National Religious and Labor Federation. Recently, he has taken an active interest in the cause of the Arkansas share croppers. Miss Blagden is an eastern social worker, originally from Memphis, Tennessee. She's a ~~cotton strike~~ *labor* sympathizer. — *once an art student in New York.*

The share croppers asked the Reverend Williams to

come to Earle, Arkansas, and read the service at the funeral of Weems today. He went, accompanied by Miss Blagden. Together they intended to investigate the charge that Weems had been abducted by a party of men and whipped.

They were driving along the main street of Earle. They were stopped. Five men jumped on the running board of their car and forced Williams to drive to a lonely place outside the town. There they searched the minister's briefcase, found only religious literature but claimed this was a blind to conceal radical activities. And then they took the man and woman out into the swamps, to the bank of a nearby river.

It is a characteristic detail that, coming to a barbed wire fence, they politely helped Miss Blagden through it - southern courtesy in an odd moment. The two were questioned required to tell who they were going to visit for information about Weems' death. They refused to talk. The preacher ~~was~~ was threatened with drowning in the river. Then they took him out of sight and lashed him fourteen times. Miss Blagden heard the repeated strokes. Then they flogged her -- lashed her four times with the studded bellyband of a mule's harness.

Then the two were put aboard trains, he bound for Little Rock she bound for Memphis -- warned never to come back.

Tonight the authorities at Earle are promising an investigation of the flogging. Miss Blagden declares that she'll recognize the men who did it, that she isn't afraid to return and identify them. Radical and liberal groups are starting a loud agitation. Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for President, is denouncing the federal government for not intervening in the Arkansas cotton strike.

And so today's incident of abduction and flogging seems ~~xxx~~ on its way to become one of those celebrated cases which will stir up dissention for some time to come.

MOORE

A pistol shot near New Monmouth, New Jersey gives a new turn tonight to the investigation of the killing of Daniel McFarlan Moore, the inventor. ~~New New Monmouth, New Jersey~~

A man shot and killed himself today, an unemployed electrician who had left his home on Staten Island several days ago saying

he was off to look for work. Why is this suicide connected

with the murder of the 67 year old inventor who was a close

friend of Edison? Because of the caliber of the weapon. <sup>The</sup> ~~★~~ shot

fired today was from a 22 caliber pistol, and so was the one that

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killed the <sup>man who</sup> ~~inventor~~ <sup>22 caliber</sup> of the gaseous type of electric light. <sup>That's</sup>

an oddly small sort of weapon, and this leads the New Jersey

detectives to surmise that today's suicide may have been yesterday's killer.

That's one possible trail for the solution of the crime.

It developed as the police were investigating an entirely

different line -- the notion that the frail, ailing gas-lamp

inventor had been shot by a crank. They were hunting for -- "That

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Moore, in conversation with his family, had applied to a man with whom he had quarreled, a crank inventor. It seems the two had had some communication about a television device -- and this had led to a wrangle a couple of years ago. The eccentric inventor had made threats against the successful scientist. That led to a supposition that it was one of those crazy grudges with somebody accusing somebody else of swiping an idea -- "that nut ~~xx~~ from Brooklyn" believing that his television scheme had been stolen by the man who had invented a new illumination.

The crime of a crank -- that was the surmise until today's suicide complicated the hypothesis.

JACK DEMPSEY

People are talking fight these days, as the Joe Louis - Max Schmeling brawl approaches. In fact, we've been talking fight here in the studio -- discussing the pros and cons, the uppercuts and left-hooks, discussing them with no less an authority, no less a left hook artist, than Jack Dempsey,

Who'll win the big bout on Thursday - the Brown Bomber or the Black Uhlan? We've been telling Jack, explaining to him the finer points of the left jab and the right cross - can you imagine me telling Jack Dempsey? He's a good listener, patient -- the boxer who was one of the greatest of all great heavyweight champions. You can guess what we've been telling him about who'll win Thursday night. Everybody seems to be certain that Joe will flatten Max - just a matter of how many rounds it will go. Does the mighty Jack Dempsey agree with us? Let's ask him. Tell us, Jack, how you figure Schmeling's chances?

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JACK DEMPSEY: Max has a good right-hand punch, Lowell. That's his only chance - if he can put it over, and clip Louis hard.

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Dempsey.

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L. T.: You ought to know about right-hand punches, Jack.

Carpentier, the orchid man, flashed a swift one when you fought him at Boyles Thirty Acres.

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JACK DEMPSEY: And don't forget the "Wild Bull of the Pampas", Firpo. In that little rumpus we had, he showed me a right hard enough to knock your head off.

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L. T.: I saw you take some of those rock crushers, and come right back and flatten Carpentier, Brennan, Firpo, Willard and a lot more!

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JACK DEMPSEY: That was condition, Lowell, and youth. You can have the right-hand, and give me youth. Joe Louis is coming, and Max Schmeling is going. I think it will be a good fight for a few rounds, maybe four or five - with Louis the winner by a knockout.

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L. T.: So you agree with us, Jack?

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JACK DEMPSEY: I'm afraid so.

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L. T.: Just for that, I'm going to tell one on the hardest hitting, smashing, crashing champion of them all. Jack Dempsey is in society. Tomorrow night he'll be the social lion at a blue-blooded party. They're entertaining him as Chairman of the West Side Hospital Development Committee. The man who cracked so many jaws has been working his head off in the cause of a hospital to help the poor of New York's West Side. That's how Jack Dempsey makes his bow into society. He is being entertained by Mrs. Morgan Belmont of the Social Register. A little social competition with Gene Tunney, eh, Jack?

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JACK DEMPSEY: I don't know but I can tell you this, Lowell, at the dinner tomorrow they're going to signal the speakers, with a regular ringside bell, the same kind that starts a round. And when I hear the bell, I can't answer for what I'll do -- probably in there swinging, putting the folks to sleep.

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L. T.: It certainly would be interesting, when the bell rings - to see Jack Dempsey, his ~~max~~ dress coat tails flying, wading into society.

FATHER COUGHLIN

( Father Coughlin's announcement that he will launch a third party was made today. It is also stated in an article by the radio priest himself, printed in his magazine - "Social Justice." He declares that he and his widespread organization refuses to support either of the old parties, either President Roosevelt or Governor Landon. ) His third party declaration is couched in vivid phrases. In telling about the next move planned by his League for Social Justice, the radio priest describes it in these words: "An activity which will stun the socialistic minded Democrats and stupify the stuffed shirts of the grand canons of Wall Street."

Does that mean that Father Coughlin will run for president? Not at all. If there is a Social Justice candidate, it won't be he. He tells his followers that as priest he cannot be a candidate or stand as the head of a political party in an election. Bue he assures them that actually, if not nominally, he will still be their leader in any third party movement. And the Huey Long people say they combine with Father Coughlin.

POLITICS

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Political ~~rumors~~ rumors were flying today -- flying and twining around the name of Copeland. Of course it is no secret that Senator Copeland has been out of sympathy with the administration and the New Deal all along. Today's angle, which has had the politicians guessing concerns a very important question in New York State in the November elections. Does Senator Copeland's refusal to go to Philadelphia mean a split in the Democratic ranks in New York State? There have been rumors that the old ~~feud~~ <sup>feud</sup> between Tammany and ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Farley-Administration faction would flare out into the open again, with Tammany knifing the President at the polls next Fall. This possibility ~~came out~~ <sup>loomed</sup> ~~into the open~~ when Governor Lehman of New York refused to run again -- thereby tossing the dignity of Governor into the whirlwind of political ambitions. Now the question of a New York Democratic split is revived again by Senator Copeland, elected a delegate ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> the Philadelphia Convention, yet refusing to attend. And he refuses with scathing phrases such as: "They have plenty of New Dealers, they don't need me." Instead of taking his place as a delegate at Philadelphia, the Senator who is also a doctor will

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attend a medical conference.

There are charges and counter charges<sup>S</sup> -- they say the Farley-Roosevelt forces opposed the nomination of Copeland ~~at~~<sup>on</sup> the Democratic ticket at the time the Senator won his second term. There are reports that Copeland was ignored by Farley in the distribution of New York patronage. That, in particular, one appointment was made which displeased him greatly. These are explanations for the walk-out the Senator has taken. But the broader fact is that he has never had any great sympathy ~~for~~ with the New Deal. This is in contrast to his colleague, Senator Wagner, a Tammany man, who has been a favorite supporter and *a fair-haired boy* ~~a favorite son~~ of the administration.

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I inquired today of ~~the~~ New York Democrats concerning the meaning of the Copeland bolt -- its relation to the possibility of a New York Democratic split. They told me that the Tammany faction was going, in an exceedingly luke-warm state of mind, *to the convention* that will re-nominate President Roosevelt. They said that the representatives of the Tiger will not go early and take part in the ~~preliminary~~ preliminary to-do, but will arrive at the last moment

for the beginning of business on Tuesday next.

All together the New York political news today does give hint to a possible split, with Tammany in revolt. That would most certainly throw the Empire State ~~tax~~ with its huge block of electoral votes into the doubtful column next November. On the other hand, a whisper of rumor pictures all sorts of efforts to patch up the rift, to make ~~the~~ deals, work out compromises and establish harmony.

So New York now contributes an item to the walk-out of the Senators. On the Republican side Senator Norris of Nebraska is battling against the nominee of his party. Senators Nye and Johnson are disgruntled. And Senator Borah, refusing to say whether or not he will support Landon continues in his favorite role of -- question mark.

From the Senator we go to the Senator's nephew, the judge. 58 ~~Today~~ Today's news reminds us that there is another Borah in a position of power, Judge Wayne G. Borah, nephew of the Idaho Senator. He is no question-mark. He is a conservative Republican-- -- what's odder still, -- a conservative Republican in Louisiana.

Judge Borah never yielded to the Kingfish, Huey Long. It was he who sank the first legal harpoon into the Louisiana organization, when a year and a half ago he handed down a decision abolishing one of the important state boards of the Kingfish.

Lawyers today mulled over the fact that Judge Borah's latest decision is the height of legal novelty. A decision without a precedent. Never before has a Federal Court handed down a ruling on a case like the one of the four men who were denied citizenship because they were on the relief rolls. The Louisiana jurist reasoned this way. The Naturalization Laws, said he, stipulate that an applicant for citizenship must be able to assume the rights and duties of a citizen. Therefore he should be able to financially contribute to the support of the government. A man on the Relief Rolls can't do that. So, he can't be naturalized.

If you're poor, you can't become a citizen - that does seem to be a ruling without precedent. As it would be without precedent if I were to ~~end~~ end a broadcast without saying,

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.