

MR. HOOVER:- Good evening. Yes, I am taking the place of my friend, Lowell Thomas, this evening, and I feel a good deal as he would feel if he were to take my place at the Department of Justice for a day. So I've got some help. I've brought a newspaper man to the studio here with me, Courtney Ryley Cooper, an old friend of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Perhaps you remember his book, TEN THOUSAND PUBLIC ENEMIES. But now, Ryley, what news do you think we'd better begin with?

MR. COOPER:- I should say, Edgar, that our leads story tonight is date-lined -- Geneva. It's world affairs and it's human interest -- the lifting of League of Nations sanctions and the pleading of Haile Selassie. We knew it was going to be painfully embarrassing for the Geneva statesmen, but today it was more so.

MR. HOOVER:- It was indeed. The League Assembly gathered to do what everybody knows to be the inevitable. Italy has conquered Ethiopia and there is nothing to do but lift the sanctions that

failed to stop the conquest. And Haile Selassie was there, like the ghost of Banquo -- the strange, picturesque little figure from East Africa. He was received with cheers, when he entered the Assembly Hall as the Chief of the Ethiopian delegation. But a hostile outbreak of booing and hissing greeted him when he went to the rostrum to plead the cause of his fallen empire. A bedlam of screams and whistles burst from the gallery in jeering mockery. It is believed that the disturbance was caused by Italian sympathizers. The storm against Haile Selassie lasted five minutes, and then was squelched by a platoon of police. Then the former King of Kings called upon the League not to abolish the sanctions against Italy, but to increase them.

MR. COOPER:- How about that bit of news from Paris, Edgar, which interests you and the Department so much -- today's award of the Legion of Honor? Tell the folks about that prominent citizen who was one of the first of Nationally known figures to come forward and put his fingerprints on register -- at the Department of Justice.

MR. HOOVER:- Yes, John D. Rockefeller, Junior. We've always appreciated his interest in fingerprinting, and I am glad to hear he's

been decorated with the Legion of Honor. The French Government has awarded it to him for his aid in the rebuilding of some of the most renowned of French monuments. He donated four million dollars.

MR. COOPER:- Restoration work at Versailles, Fontainbleau and Rheims -- I hope Lowell Thomas doesn't hear me mispronounce those. But French words are more than Greek to me. Anyway, he's an interesting chap, that John D. Rockefeller Jr. I've been told that when he was a boy, the son and heir of the oil Croesus -- he walked to school and earned pocket money by hunting fence posts for the Rockefeller Estate and getting a penny apiece for them. And the Rockefeller Estate hired him to mend fence-posts at fifteen cents an hour. Well --

MR. COOPER:- What about you kicking through with a little news yourself. How's dear old Justice getting along and how many men has she put in prison lately?

MR. HOOVER:- Just a moment there Ryley. Real Justice is as much concerned with keeping persons out of prison as putting them in. Perhaps you never heard of the famous Israel case?

MR. COOPER:- Oh sure -- a fellow named Harold Israel. Confessed



to killing a priest up in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Didn't Attorney-General Homer Cummings prosecute that case?

MR. HOOVER:- He did more than that. He proved Harold Israel innocent when everything seemed to point to the man's guilt.

Attorney-General Cummings was a States Attorney at that time. When the case came before him Israel had been identified as the slayer, a gun which he carried was said to be the lethal weapon and the man himself had admitted the murder. As Mr. Cummings expressed it, the whole case seemed airtight; nevertheless, he determined to investigate further.

MR. COOPER:- I remember now. There were little things that didn't seem to ring true. So Mr. Cummings went over every phase of the whole affair. Found that the witnesses were confused. Got physicians to examine Israel and they pronounced him unable to resist the power of suggestion. Discovered that Israel wasn't even near the scene of the crime. Proved by seven famous experts on firearms that the bullet which had killed the priest could not possibly have been fired from the gun that Israel carried and a lot more stuff like that.

MR. HOOVER:- There were a number of other important points of evidence showing Israel's innocence. But that is not the interesting angle. Then Mr. Cummings went into court and in one of the famous speeches of legal history absolutely proved Israel's lack of guilt and freed him. One sentence of that speech tells the whole story of honest law-enforcement: It is just as important to protect the innocent as it is to convict the guilty.

MR. COOPER:- I get the idea. Attorney-General Homer Cummings, as head of the Department of Justice, and you as his head G. man, use that sentence as your motto.

MR. HOOVER:- Exactly. Remember that case I told you about when we visited the crime laboratory this afternoon. The one of the Alaskan murder.

MR. COOPER:- No, was that a honey! A man murdered at a frozen-in trading post away up in Alaska. A man murdered twenty-five miles from the nearest habitation. An ex-convict found his socks blood stained. And with a rifle -- possibly the one with which the man had been murdered. Then there was the other suspect, an



Eskimo boy with no previous criminal record. And all this a million miles away from police departments or science laboratories!

MR. HOOVER:- But you see, it wasn't so far away. The crime laboratory of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is just as near the most remote parts of America as a law-enforcement official cares to make it. The service is free to any city, village or community and it has only one purpose -- to free the innocent and convict the guilty. So the United States Marshal at Nome, Alaska, used the modern method of the airplane to get the evidence out of the snow-bound country and into Washington.

MR. COOPER:- And then came the thrilling part. The scientists up there in the G-Man Crime Laboratory got busy. They proved that the blood on the ex-convict's socks really was reindeer blood as he had claimed and not that of a human. That his gun had not fired the fatal shot and that the evidence all pointed to the Eskimo boy as the true killer.

MR. HOOVER:- Precisely. The findings of the Crime Laboratory were hurried back to Alaska, the innocent man was freed and the

guilty one, after a confession, was convicted in court and sentenced to twenty years in prison.

MR. COOPER:- Swell stuff. And it will be a great day for America when scientific methods of chasing crimesters are in force throughout every part of the country. But I'm afraid that time is a long way off.

MR. HOOVER:- You forget the National Police Training School. And all that it is accomplishing.

MR. COOPER:- Well, I know you've had two classes and a third one is starting July 20th. I suppose every one knows what these schools are -- to teach G-Man methods to selected candidates from various police departments in America. I wonder if it wouldn't be news to tell just what this schooling has accomplished; what it has done for the policemen themselves and for the communities they represent?

MR. HOOVER:- I think it IS news, important news. The results show that forward looking police departments and good citizens are keenly interested in obtaining every possible new weapon for combating crime. For instance, of the graduates of the first two



schools, many of the men, except some of those who already headed their departments, have been promoted. Some have become assistant chiefs, or heads of bureaus for teaching the latest methods in crime detection, while others have been given higher grades in other avenues of effort.

MR. COOPER:- Yes, I saw the list. Patrolmen raised to sergeants; lieutenants who have become captains. Others who have qualified as experts in ballistics and fingerprinting. Even a private who was lifted to a job as chief.

MR. HOOVER:- Then there has been even a greater result -- in the actual application of the methods learned in Washington. For instance, that hit and run case up in Connecticut.

MR. COOPER:- You told me about that -- the one where a boy was killed by a hit and run driver. No eye witnesses. Nothing but the dead body of a boy, some shattered glass, a tire track. Then a State Police Officer, who had been graduated from the School in Washington came on the scene.

MR. HOOVER:- Yes, Officer Mulcahy. He used the technique he had



learned in the Training School. By a casting method known as moulage, he made a reproduction of the entire tire tread. He preserved the shattered glass. By his intensive investigation, the death car finally was found. Then the tires matched with that reproduction from the scene of the crime; the shattered glass was found to be identical with that of the car and another reckless driver was taught the lesson that you can't hit and run.

MR. COOPER:- And that, Edgar is what I call news! Now, let's take up the subject of national politics, the presidential campaign. By the way, Edgar, are you a Republican or a Democrat? Which way does your vote go?

MR. HOOVER:- I'm absolutely non-partisan, Ryley; I've never cast a vote in my life.

MR. COOPER:- What a fine citizen you are!

MR. HOOVER:- I'd be a worse citizen if I voted. I might go to jail if I did. I might have to arrest myself. You see, I'm a native of Washington and have always lived here. And we citizens of the District of Columbia have no vote.

MR. COOPER:- Well, that certainly should make you unbiased in telling the big political news of the day.

MR. HOOVER:- You mean about Governor Lehman. He's decided to run for the Governorship of New York after all. A few weeks ago he declared "I positively will not be a candidate for re-election." But today he reconsidered. Today two candidates entered themselves in two different gubernatorial races. Michigan -- where Frank Murphy, retiring High Commissioner of the Philippine Commonwealth, announced that he would run for Governor. Shortly after that the New York news came, with Governor Lehman declaring that he was acceding to the wishes of the President and the Democratic party in again running for Governor.

MR. COOPER:- The news that Lehman will run is the big-time topic of the day down here in Washington. Same old Washington during a presidential campaign, with Congress adjourned, a feverish political mood, spasmodic activity, politicians going in and out. There are signs of it in the hotels -- as Harry Somerville, Manager of the Willard, told me today. Senators and Congressmen dashing into town to attend important committee affairs, and then away again



to mend their political fences back home. And that's the way it will be until November.

This next one, Edgar, is nothing for me to stick my oar in. About the only athletics I indulge in is finger gymnastics on the keyboard of a typewriter. But you play tennis, don't you?

MR. HOOVER:- I used to, quite a good deal. And so I've been watching Wimbledon. Today was Ladies' Day -- the quarter finals of the women's championships. There was an upset this afternoon, when England beat Poland, a right-hand beat a left-hand.

MR. COOPER:- Yes, and the English star is named Miss Kay Stammers, and she's also left-handed.

MR. HOOVER:- She was unexpectedly beaten by a young Polish girl, who is right-handed.

MR. COOPER:- Let me tell the radio audience the name of that Polish star. It's Jadwicka Jedrezjowska -- how do you like that, Lowell?

MR. HOOVER:- That was an upset for you, Ryley. Almost as bad as that other one at Wimbledon today -- when Dorothy Round, Britain's



1934 champion, was eliminated by Hilda Sperling of Germany. And that ruined England's hope of winning the English title. Sorry Ryley, that we haven't any more big names for you to trip over. So we'd better say -- GOODNIGHT.

MR. COOPER:-      So Long.