

L. T. - Mon. Aug. 14 - '33

CUBA

All quiet in Cuba. Or almost. At any rate
~~Cuba is growing quiet once more,~~ the political kettle is

not boiling quite so fiercely and my American friend in Havana
telephones me that ^{the city} ~~Havana~~ this afternoon presented a spectacle of
a quiet, peaceable city. The sight of two great destroyers bouncing
up and down in ~~the~~ harbor flying the Stars and Stripes, has had a
magically quieting effect. The streets of the city are being
patrolled by the military and they have obtained such effective
control over the students, the A.B.C. and the other rioting elements
that this afternoon the trolley cars came out of the car barns for
the first time in several days and resumed their regular service.
What made things still more normal and agreeable was the much needed
reopening of grocery stores and restaurants.

The two destroyers ~~XXXX~~ in Havana harbor are the Taylor
and the Claxton. A third, ^{the} Sturtevant, was sent to ~~the~~ Oriente,
on the south shore of the island. Each of the destroyers carries in
addition to its regular personnel, a detachment of fifty marines
armed and equipped for expeditionary duty. ~~That must make for~~

~~awfully close quarters aboard these destroyers which are not any too
roomy vessels at best. With fifty leathernecks aboard they must
be stifling.~~

The commanding officers of the Taylor and the Claxton went ashore in Havana this morning and had a conference with Ambassador Sumner Welles. With the Ambassador they then went to the palace to meet Cuba's new president, Doctor Carlos Manuel de Cespedes. *day sess' pay des.*

There is some talk of labor troubles and Communist agitation in the interior of the Island. There are reports that the Communist^s element are exceedingly influential in the A.B.C., the political secret society which has been one of the factors in the dethroning of ~~President~~ Machado. But the business of re-organizing the government at present is the first consideration in official circles.

From Washington we learn that those three destroyers of Uncle Sam will remain in Cuban waters until it is obvious that life and property are completely safe. Washington announced that

the sole purpose of sending these warships to the scene of the trouble was for the moral effect they would have upon the rioters. This purpose evidently has been already achieved to a considerable extent, as, my American friend in Havana telephones me, just the sight of those ~~grey~~ ships produced ~~the~~ a profound impression in the streets of Havana. Another thing we learn from Washington is that the Cuban government raises no objection ~~whatever~~ whatsoever to the presence of those destroyers in their waters. *Late this afternoon Pres. Roosevelt ordered the Cruiser Richmond to Havana, also. **

(But although things are quieter this afternoon, yesterday evidently was a terrific day throughout Cuba. The New York Evening Post tonight carries a striking account by Gustav Reno of the sanguinary scenes ~~that were to be witnessed~~ *the island.* ~~on Cuba.~~ *THE* ~~New York Evening Post~~ In practically every city triumphant ~~revolution~~ revolutionaries were paying off old scores against the officials who had persecuted them, especially the detested Porra, the strong-armed squad which President Machado had organized and which is said

to have committed many a terrible political murder. ~~ALL~~ over the Island there was a manhunt for surviving members of the Porra.

The Evening Post account says: "From balconies and roof tops men and women looked on the killings and indeed a fiesta spirit ~~permeated~~ pervaded the massacre of the Porra.) Mobs rushed through the streets, pillaging and wrecking the homes of hostile persons."

And the dispatch adds: "Cars filled with members of the A.B.C. dashed around running the quarry to cover, while the army and police aided the A.B.C. in the extermination of the secret police.

Some Havana newspapers estimate the number of ~~Porristas~~ and others ~~who were~~ thus killed throughout the island in the last few days as high as three hundred and fifty, while seven hundred and twenty-five have been wounded, many of them fatally. At the same time mobs were wrecking the homes of officials of the Machado government and even of those known to be Machado sympathizers. In some cases the man hunt took place over the rooftops of Havana City.

N.B.C.

FOLLOW CUBA

10

There was an echo of the Cuban revolution in New York late this afternoon. Twenty triumphant Cuban students stormed the office of the Cuban Consul General in downtown New York. All they wanted was the big marble bust of former President Machado with which they wished to express their dis-esteem of that hapless magnate. They broke in the door of the Consulate, knocked the Consul General about a bit, and seized President Machado's bust. As they left the building they encountered a lieutenant, a sergeant, and twelve patrolmen of the New York police force.

With the utmost politeness on both sides the police took the bust of General Machado away from the revolutionary sympathizers and returned it to the Consul General. But when they got it into the Consul General's office that official decided that as Machado was not president any longer, and probably never would be again, he did not want the old bust anyway.

When the celebrating students found there was no objection to their having the bust, they ^{bust} ~~did not~~ want it either. So now there's one superfluous ex-president's ~~loose~~ bust loose in New York and anybody can have it who wants it. No arrests, no casualties, not even any wounded feelings.

N.B.C.

ROOSEVELT

9

Things are humming in Washington today -- President Roosevelt is back on the job at his desk in the White House. Having settle^d the Cuban problem Mr. Roosevelt is ~~going~~ giving most of his attention to Nira and the rest of his program for industrial recovery. Incidentally, one industry which signed the code today under the blanket agreement was that of the country's umbrella makers.

Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania told the President how urgent it was that the codes of the coal and oil industry should be settled as quickly as possible. Officials of the N.R.A. Administration are busy ironing out differences that have cropped up in that connection. It is hoped that not only coal and oil but the steel code will have been settled by Friday. On that day hearings will begin on the code of the automobile industry, the last of the big five.

Tomorrow the President will hold his first Cabinet meeting in several weeks. Among those present will be members of the Executive Council, the super-cabinet, as it is sometimes called.

N.B.C.

OIL

(The hearings at Washington on the petroleum code, under the N.I.R.A., have developed certain sharp differences within the industry. One element favors, another opposes, Government fixing of prices on petroleum products.) Those who oppose, believe they are standing for the true interest of consumers and of the industry. They believe price fixing means excessive prices for the consumer to pay, with ultimate results unfortunate for both the industry and the National Industrial Recovery program.

During the hearings before General Johnson, a statement was made by Joseph N. Pew, Jr., Vice President of Sun Oil Company, setting forth briefly the anti-price fixing view. To this view the Sun Company strongly adheres, and in response to many requests I am going to present the substance of what Mr. Pew said. Here it is:

"Wartime price fixing led the nations into an epoch of inflation whose consequences, after fifteen years, are felt in universal depression and distress. Whether undertaken by government or by business; whether in coffee or rubber, tin

7
or wheat, cotton, or what you will, it has meant ultimate calamity to the industry and disaster to the people that relied on it.

"Governmentally fixed prices are bound to be high enough to sustain inefficiency, while efficiency is gorged with undeserved profits. Skill, research, initiative and inventiveness, when prices are fixed high enough to give a profit even to the least efficient, lose their incentive. Yet research and investigation, leading to improved processes and increased recoveries, have meant more for conservation of petroleum resources than all the laws that have been passed or proposed. Take away the competitive urge, and you paralyze the motive for these activities and confiscate the means by which they have been carried on.

"One must hesitate to estimate what all this would cost the consumer in immediate prices, or the community in ~~injury~~ impoverishment of an irreplaceable resource. Government-made prices, taking care of the laggard, the waster and the incompetent, would breed more laggards, more wasters, more

6
incompetents, to be protected by ever higher prices and heavier burdens on the consumer. That would mean a decreasing demand, and still higher prices to support a decaying business. Any temporary gain from price-fixing would be artificial, while the reaction would leave us worse at the end than we were at the beginning. The momentary relief could not possibly compensate the later distress.

"Paying excise taxes of just about seven hundred million dollars a year, the oil industry is already for the greater part a mere tax-collecting agency. If, next, the prices of both its raw materials and its finished products are to be fixed by Government, the industry will well-nigh have been converted into a public utility -- no more, no less. We have been proud to proclaim it the most individualistic, independent and ~~in~~ courageous of industries. Must we be deprived of all opportunity to cultivate these virtues?"

5

"Honest, reputable competition will insure the consumer a square deal and a fair price. The anti-trust laws are still in effect. They will be the consumer's shield against unreasonable prices under a system of fair competition; but with government-made prices, high enough to give inefficiency a profit, the consumer would pay unfairly inflated prices.

The first consideration in this industrial recovery activity is more employment, at better wages; to banish fear; to increase buying power; to give every man a chance to live well, and to feel secure in doing it. As its contribution, the oil industry must raise wages all along the line, including, of course, the army of people in distribution. These are the prime essentials in the Government's splendid plan for industrial rehabilitation. To their full accomplishment, we unreservedly pledge ourselves."

There ends Mr. Pew's statement of the case against Government price fixing. My sponsors, the Sun Oil Company, have wished their view understood by all of their friends, and I have been glad to pass it on to you.

~~Good Evening, Everybody~~

4
Another step in Uncle Sam's attempt to meet the crime problem was set in motion today. The Sub-Committee of the United States Senate appointed to investigate rackets, held its first meeting at the Bar Association Building in New York City today with Senator Copeland of New York in the chair.

The first important witness was Edward Mulrooney, formerly Commissioner of Police in New York City, and as everybody agrees, the best head that Father Knickerbocker's Finest ever had. (Mr. Mulrooney is now Chairman of the New York State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.) Mr. Mulrooney told the Senators several things that made them sit up and take notice. One thing he said was in effect that professional criminals never would be deterred from pursuing their profession until the state has the courage to follow the example of John Bull and of Canada, and treat violent criminals with the ~~cat-o'-nine-tails~~ cat-o'-nine-tails. Mr. Mulrooney

pointed out to the Senators how effective the lashing of men who commit crimes of violence has proved in Canada particularly. Out of his quarter century experience on the New York Police force he made it clear that about the only thing ruffians really fear is physical pain.

Mr. Mulrooney admitted that his suggestion was somewhat Utopian. Said he: "I doubt very much whether the New York Legislature would pass such a law. But it certainly would have a most salutary effect."

On the subject of kidnapping he told the Senators it was useless to lengthen the terms of imprisonment. The sentences should, he said, be shorter rather than longer. He suggested: Cut down the penalty for kidnapping and substitute the cat-o-nine-tails spread over six months, the culprit never to know when he's going to get it or how many strokes at a time. And he added that such whippings would be better if done in public.

Another reform he suggested was the establishment of a

LEAD - 3

(2)

central federal police bureau similar to those which exist in several European countries. He also spoke of the necessity of an island to which confirmed criminals should be exiled, something on the order of the Devil's Island which is maintained in the Caribbean Sea by France. The reason for this, said Mulrooney, was that ~~itxxxx~~ we should have a place on which to confine criminals where neither their friends nor relatives can obtain access to *them*.

~~Doctor Raymond Moley, Assistant Secretary of State, who has devoted several years to the study of this subject, was also a witness at this hearing today. ^{Among} Many other witnesses to be called will be Major Warner, Head of the New York State Police, and Colonel Schwarzkopf, head of the New Jersey Constabulary.~~

N.B.C.

INDIA

The British Government is going at that revolutionary movement in India with a firm hand. Evidently Lord Irwin, the Viceroy, is determined to end the rebellion once and for all, if possible. Mr. Gandhi ^{is} in jail, so are his wife, her friends and many of his followers. And a wireless from Bombay, via London, informs me ^{Bengal seaport of} that at ^{Chittagong} the British ^{have just} sentenced Sruya Sen, one of India's most dangerous revolutionary leaders, to death.

N.B.C.

ROMANCE

Now for a bit of romance by way of change. My friends on the Jersey Journal tell me that on the Supervising Board of the Conservation Camp at Sussex, New Jersey, is a ranger named Eric Fleming. Ranger Fleming recently sent a poem entitled "Jordan" to a newspaper out in Nebraska which accepted and printed it. In the same issue that carried Ranger Fleming's poem was a verse entitled "Reminiscence" written by Margaret Pendleton of West Virginia.

Ranger Fleming read Miss Pendleton's poem and Miss Pendleton read Ranger Fleming's poem, and the reading seemed to strike a sympathetic ~~note~~^{chord} between them. At any rate, they got into ~~communication~~^{communication} and a few weeks later Miss Pendleton informed Mr. Fleming that she was coming north. He asked her to meet him in New York, explaining that he couldn't get away from his job for more than ~~x~~ one day at a time.

Well, Ranger Fleming and Miss Pendleton met. On the very day they met they got a marriage license and within a week they were married. And now they are living happily ever after in New Brunswick, New Jersey, *of all places*, Jersey Journal.

ZIMMY

Another crack at swimming the English Channel. Zimmy, the celebrated legless swimmer from the United States, coated himself with an inch of grease and slipped into the water at Dover, England, at half past one this afternoon. ^{Zimmy} ~~he~~ did it without any flare of trumpets or press-agentry whatsoever. The weather's good and the Straits of Dover remarkably calm. And ~~Zimmy's~~ Zimmy hopes to make the twenty miles to Calais, France. The last thing

we heard ^{Zimmy} ~~he~~ was still at it *going like zimming. —*
And here I go like zimming and s-l-u-t-m.

N.B.C.

Good Evening, Everybody:

You ~~may~~ ^{may} be interested to learn that Jessie Costello, the thirty-two year old widow who has been on trial all these weeks at Salem, Massachusetts, on a charge of murdering her husband, was acquitted this afternoon. The case went to the jury about noon today and after two hours' deliberation following their lunch, they came back into court and said the crucial words: "Not Guilty."

That ends a case which has absorbed the attention not only of Massachusetts, but of the entire country, one of those spectacular trials apparently so dear to the heart of newspaper readers in the U.S.A., one of those cases in which courts of justice are turned into show places and arenas for the activities of sob sister^s ~~specialists~~ psychologists, novelists, camera men, and all sorts of exhibitionism *that many people enjoy and some don't. Anyhow the widow went scot free.*
N.B.C.