

L.T. SUNOCO - Monday, March 19, 1934

Good Evening, Everybody:-

~~Maxmatt~~ And, good luck to you army fliers on the airmail routes today. Play it safe boys. We are pulling for you.

No matter what opinions we may have about that air mail situation in general we are all mighty glad about the safety policy that has been adopted.

For a week now while the air mail has been grounded, the army has been studying safety, rehearsing safety.

Today the army fliers have started in again over eight air mail routes. Those routes today seem safe enough, and they extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific, Canada to the Gulf. The weather isn't so good ~~xxx~~ in some places, but it is nothing like those frightful storms and blizzards that came roaring down the day ~~the Army~~ the Army first took over the air mail job.

In Washington the Senate Committee is still holding its hearings on the air mail situation; and, they are preparing legislation according to President Roosevelt's ideas, legislation whereby private companies can take over the airmail once again.

BEFORE MUSSOLINI

Let's see who's in the news tonight. That is, who's who in the news? From up Boston way comes an answer. The students of Journalism in Boston University held a vote to decide what names loom biggest in the day's spotlight. First place, according to their positive youthful opinion is divided fifty-fifty between President Roosevelt and Adolf Hitler. On the feminine side Mrs. Roosevelt and Mae West lead the field.

Whether the boys and girls in Boston are right or not, tonight's spotlight is held by Mussolini.

NBC

MUSSOLINI

Yes, after the events of the weekend tonight's predominant figure in the affairs of the nations of the world is the burly fellow with the high-domed bald head and beetling brow who wears that black shirt, over there among those Seven Hills, where once the purple toga was the imperial fashion.

The treaty Mussolini has signed with Austria and Hungary may be a vital factor, a most potent scrap ^{of paper,} ~~affair~~ in determining the course of European politics these next few years. Yes, it's a trade treaty, and has to do with buying and selling. You buy my Neopolitan spaghetti and I'll buy your Hungarian goulash and wiener ^{sch}nitzel, says Il Duce. But we know how important commerce is in these commercial days.

Wars can ~~be~~ be waged, thrones can be wrecked, because of spaghetti, goulash, and schnitzel.

And there is a special arrangement between Italy and Austria, a particularly close economic union.

Ah, but though it is first of all economic, I observe that it calls for common action on international affairs. But the common action includes three countries. In their dealings with other nations, Italy, Austria and Hungary are to act in unison. And, that has a decided ring of political importance. It virtually means an Italian guarantee of the independence of Austria and Hungary. And when you boil that down it really means the independence of Austria.

Way to the north of Rome, under the Linden trees of Unter den Linden, is a man peculiarly interested in all this. He has a Charlie Chaplin mustache on his lip and a lock of hair in his eyes. He is der Schoener Adolph. I'd give a million 1922 German marks, in other words about a nickel, to know what Hitler thinks about that treaty signed in Rome. It is, of course, very pointedly directed against Germany, And, it seems about as strong a move as the Lord of the Black Shirts could make to keep his Brown Shirt imitators from seizing ~~Austria~~ Austria.

LT in
Indiana.
~~Illinois~~ 7

Mar. 19, 1934.

~~Dr~~ Governor

Paul McNutt.
Indiana.
~~Illinois~~

Mar. 19, 1934.

INTRO TO GOVERNOR MCNUTT

Some of you may not know that there is a
celebrity
~~xxxxxxxx~~ in these parts whom they call the Mussolini of

Indiana, Governor Paul McNutt. They call him that because
he is the first governor of a great state to demand and receive
what ~~they~~ people describe as dictatorial powers. He is
with me tonight, and I am going to ask him a couple of
questions.

the costs of government. We've cut property taxes
one hundred million in two years.

From your window in the Indiana State Capitol,
here almost at the center of the United States, how does it
look to you, what progress is the national program making?

Governor McNutt:- Pretty better! The American people are
proving that they can control over-capacity and reconstruct
purchasing power. In the end that must bring better times.

Indiana, of course, is one of the great agricultural
states. How do the Hoosier farmers feel about the New Deal?
How is it panning out for them?

FOR GOVERNOR MCNUTT

L.T.:- Governor, do you have any problems to worry you in Indiana these days?

Governor McNutt:- Yes, we have our problems. For instance, we are trying to provide food and clothing and shelter for the aged and infirm -- and the destitute. And -- we are providing worthwhile work for the unemployed. Oh, yes, and are cutting the costs of government. We've cut property taxes one hundred million in two years.

L.T.:- From your window in the Indiana State Capitol, here almost at the center of the United States, how does it look to you, what progress is the national program making?

Governor McNutt:- Vastly better! The American people are proving that they can control over-capacity and reconstruct purchasing power. In the end that must bring better times.

L.T.:- Indiana, of course, is one of the great agricultural states. How do the Hoosier farmers feel about the New Deal? How is it panning out for them?

Governor McNutt:- The farmers are cooperating with the Federal Government in the recovery program. The farmers are not out of the woods yet. But, they are getting there.

ANDERSON

I am somewhere near the population center of the United States tonight. That ought to mean that one of the cities in this vicinity could be picked out as a typical American town. And the one where I am visiting is just that. Anderson, Indiana, an industrial city in the heart of a rich agricultural region. Ninety-eight percent of the population American born.

Let's consider Anderson for a moment. It's important news, because it is typical. There are one hundred and fifteen different industries in this city of forty thousand people. Diversification, as we all know, is a great thing when hard times come. Anderson is not dependent on one industry alone.

Three hundred and fifty thousand Americans have their money invested in this city, in just one of these one hundred and fifteen industries. That is, three hundred and fifty thousand General Motors stockholders do. There is a great General Motors plant here, where they make your Delco-Remy ignition for your car, or at any rate, for about sixty-five

percent of all the automobiles in North America; and where they also make most of the eyes, the headlights, for the cars of this broad land. They have had no labor trouble here so far as I have been able to find out. At any rate, so ex-Newspaper-Editor, Mayor Harry Baldwin, told me.

I don't know where Moses was when the light went out, but I do know where Norman Thomas was. He was attacking the light and power interests when the light went out on him.

At Waterbury, Connecticut, Socialist Leader Norman Thomas was making an attack upon the companies that furnish us with electric light. And the ~~hall~~ hall was brilliant with illumination provided by these same electric companies -- at the usual rates. Mr. Thomas was just launching a powerful verbal blow at the company when bingo -- off went the ~~current~~ current. In the inky darkness the Socialist leader's voice cried out: "And that proves what I have just said." And right then the lights went on again, which may have disproved what he had just said.

The problem of public utilities is always being discussed from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. And here is a bit of information from Anderson on this topic. Mayor Baldwin tells me the tax rate is only twenty-four cents on the hundred dollars, two-thirds of which goes to retire old bonded indebtedness.

George Fitz.

Head, Chamber of
Commerce,

~~Indiana~~

Anderson, Indiana.

March 19, 1934.

Anderson owns and operates its own electric light and water plants.

George Hitz, head of the Chamber of Commerce, is sitting here with Governor McNutt. George, you are the local Moses, how does it work?

--

FOR MR. HITZ

Well, Lowell, both are free from debt, and they are profitable enterprises. And here is what will interest others:- Practically all of the costs of our city government are paid from the earnings we get from our city electric light plant. That helps to make our tax rates low.

Bill Nye -
head, General
Motors Plant;
Anderson,
Indiana.
Mar. 19, 1934.

Whenever I come back to ^{the} grand old Hoosier state

(and I use the word grand because I am part Hoosier myself),

I hink of that greatest of all American poets -- or maybe

I'd rather say my favorite poet -- James Whitcomb Riley, the man who wrote "Little Orphan Annie," "The Ole Swimmin' Hole,"

53 "An Old Sweetheart of mine." and so on. And, when we think of James Whitcomb Riley, many of us think of Bill Nye, the

humorist, who used to tour America with Riley. Well, Bill

Nye is sitting beside me, another Bill Nye, called Bill

I suppose because his real name is Harold. I asked Bill Nye,

who is one of the heads of the great General Motors plant

in Anderson, to find out for me how things are in this typical

American town, in comparison to a year ago. Now, Mr. Bill Nye,

can you make a few figures sound funny for us? Are you a

humorist like the original Bill Nye?

FOR BILL NYE

54

I can't make them sound funny, Lowell, but at any rate they don't ~~xxxx~~ sound sad. Since you asked me to look this up I have made a quick survey of half of our one hundred and fifteen industries. A year ago they were employing approximately seven thousand workers; and now they are employing twice that number -- fourteen thousand. In March 1933 their payroll totalled six hundred and sixty odd thousand dollars, and now it is double that, one million, two hundred thousand.

54,

That sounds like good news, Mr Nye , and, as
you say, ~~exactly~~ certainly nothing to weep about.

AUTO

If the big moguls of the automobile industry and labor fail to reach an agreement within a day or so the big strike in the automobile industry will be underway. A strike of one hundred thousand men now would certainly be of no help to anyone. It would put a crimp in the recovery program. It would practically wipe out the business in the city of Detroit for several weeks and would cause untold harm to both the workers and the manufacturers.

General Johnson is talking things over with both the American Federation of Labor and the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce. Here's hoping he gets ~~thark~~ things settled so we can see the highways full of new shiny cars loaded up with blue Sunoco.

REPUBLICAN

And, there's another well-known name in the news tonight. Yes, it's Roosevelt, in more ways than one. Two ways, to be precise. F.D.R. of course, and also T.R. I mean young Teddy, the contemporary T.R. They say it's a certainty that Young Teddy ^{will} become the president of the National Republican Club.

And, normally, that's a high honor. They say it also means power. The interpretation is that the younger element of the Grand Old Party is snatching away the ~~leadership~~ leadership from the Old Guard and that Colonel Ted is their flag-bearer. What has he to offer to entitle him to a position of leadership among the Republicans? Why the name of Roosevelt for one thing. Some folks voted for F.D. because they thought he was the original Rough Rider, still alive. It's a name to conjure with more than ever. The son of a great President, Young T.R. represents the legitimatist wing of the family. He called his cousin, F.D.R., a maverick, a Roosevelt gone Democrat, which in his estimation is a Roosevelt gone wrong. F.D.R. says it's the other way round. Colonel Ted is only

forty-six. He was a much decorated lieutenant-colonel in the U.S. Army, and he helped to organize the American Legion. He made a popular governor of Puerto Rico and an equally popular governor-general of the Philippines. His political career has been checkered with a few defeats, including a hefty one in New York State at the heavy hand of Al Smith. He has his scars, but what warrior hasn't?

56
It would be interesting to see young Teddy leading the Republicans in their present battle. Roosevelt eat Roosevelt.

ESKIMO

You know how it is. You're as old as you feel.

And if you feel frisky you are young! That's the way many an old girl looks at it, including the Alaska Lady ~~whose~~ whose name is ^{Kavalil.} ~~Midnight Sun~~. In the land of the Midnight Sun, at Anchorage, Alaska, Kavalil arrived looking for medical treatment. She came from further to the north where the sun is still more midnightish. Kavalil is an Eskimo. I suppose we ought to call her Eskimo Lil. She has a large family. She doesn't know quite how large. When the doctor asked her to be specific she answered "I dunno Doc, I lose count. But maybe I think I have about twenty boy and girl."

By the way, Kavalil was wearing a thousand dollar fur coat. Eskimo Lil is right! But ~~xx~~ then, furs are plentiful in the land of the reindeer, the seal and the polar bear.

The doctor seems to have fixed Kavalil up fine, because this mother of twenty more or less said she was going out to catch up on her dancing. She explained that when she was a little girl she learned to dance the white people way,

where men hug white women very close, and go round and round fast. That's the way she explained it. So out went old Eskimo Lil in her thousand dollar fur coat, to go 'round fast and get hugged.

A tax return was made for Joe. It shows that he made eighty thousand dollars. That's humanly possible. Joe deducted twenty-five hundred dollars exemption for himself and his wife Josephine and that seems human.

The only thing that's not human about the business is Joe. He's a millionaire. The curator of the Detroit Low Museum filed the return for the income that Joe, the Chief, has earned from exhibitions. The curator says that even if Joe isn't married, you can't say that he's the head of a family, like a lot of other apes.

INCOME TAX

The income tax figures look mighty impressive tonight. Uncle Sam has collected twice as much money thus far as he did in a similar period last year. The figures eloquently reflect the economic recovery -- one hundred and twenty-five million dollars to date from income tax payers -- and that doesn't include Joe Mendi.

A tax return was made for Joe. It shows that he made eighteen thousand dollars. That's humanly possible. Joe deducted twenty-five hundred dollars exemption for himself and his mate Josephine, and that seems human.

58 The only thing that's not human about the business is Joe. He's a chimpanzee. The curator of the Detroit Zoo made out the return for the income that Joe, the Chimp, has earned from exhibitions. The curator says that even if Joe isn't married, you can't deny that he's the head of a family, like a lot of other apes.

FARLEY

Here's news. It's about politicians. They are honest. So says Post-Master Jim Farley. I wonder that the folks out here in Indiana will say to that -- for instance, the Raggedy Man who works out our way. "Honest?" he's say. "If so, Land's sakes, what a lot o' mistakes some folks makes." That's what he'd say.

Jim Farley heard somebody say that politicians were not altogether pure and incorruptable. I wonder who said that? But Jim says "Tut, tut, I've been active in politics nigh onto twenty-five years, and I find more honesty and truthfulness among politicians than any other class. "What good eyesight our postmaster general has! Oh Grandfather Jim, what big eyes you've got.

Anyhow, Jim explains it this way: "If you're in politics these days you've got to be honest because if you're not, they tag you. Jim is so innocent the Goblins'll get him if he don't watch out.

And as the good old Hoosier port would say: "Goodbye Jim -- take keer o' yourself. And SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

LT in
Detroit.
Mar. 20, 1934.