

L.T. SUNOCO - August 3, 1933

*Bridgport*

Good Evening, Everybody:-

All you baseball fans -- hold everything! It has happened! What? Why, the Yankees were shut out today! -- Shut out for the first time in three years! It happened at the Yankee Stadium. Lefty Groves was pitching for Philadelphia. And Philly beat the Yanks 7 to 0. The first shutout for the Yanks in 308 games!

We have another flood story in today's news and from Mile-High Denver, Colorado, of all places -- the roof of the world we used to call it out there. There is no river, properly speaking, in Denver. But running through the city is a narrow stream called Cherry Creek. Well, many months of the year Cherry Creek is hardly more than a trickle. Nevertheless some of those western creeks have peculiar ways. They can be almost as ~~dry~~ dry as a bone one minute and a raging torrent the next. They don't do things by halves out West. This used to be disconcerting at times to the old Colorado pioneers, because harmless little Cherry Creek would behave in the same fashion as some other little rivulets and sweep down on them like a raging lion. In more modern times they took precautions against Cherry Creek's vagaries and confined the stream between concrete walls.

LEAD - 2

But today those walls proved insufficient. The first thing that happened was a huge downpour, a regular cloudburst southeast of Denver. The next thing, the caretaker of an irrigation dam thirty-five miles away saw that it was about to break. He immediately telephoned police headquarters in Denver. By telephone, by motor car, and on horseback messengers spread the alarm all along the road to Denver. Police cars rushed through the streets with sirens and fire bells screaming, warning everybody to get out of the way of the flood.

~~And~~ <sup>And</sup> sure enough, a wall of water eight feet high swept down upon Denver and flowed over the retaining walls of Cherry Creek.

Captain Hanevuth of the Denver Police told me by *long* *distance* ~~distance~~ & telephone that several hundred homes were flooded, two people were reported drowned. Bridges and boulevards were swept away. The flood, the worst that Denver has seen in twenty years, broke down communications. Although the waters were receding late this afternoon, a good deal of Denver is still under four feet of water.

*and nearby farms are inundated.*  
Hundreds of people are homeless. <sup>^</sup> The police and

LEAD - 8

fire departments of Denver and ~~the surrounding~~<sup>nearby</sup> towns were mobilized in full force.

Railroad tracks are washed out at ~~several~~<sup>a few</sup> points and several bridges have been swept away. So there's plenty of excitement in my old home town N.B.C. tonight!

## NAVY

Advocates of a big navy for Uncle Sam will be encouraged by an announcement from Washington. Secretary of the Navy Swanson has just awarded several contracts under the new program which provides for the building of 278 million dollars worth of new warships.

Today's announcement covers the building of thirty-seven new vessels. Twenty-one of these will be built by contract at private yards and sixteen at Uncle Sam's Navy yards. Incidentally, beginning next Sunday all those Navy yards will go on the basis of a 40 hour week. That's not such good news for the men as it sounds. Hitherto they have been working five and a half days and getting six days pay. Under the new order, they will work five days, but only get five days pay for it.

NBC

STRIKE

( That coal strike in Pennsylvania threatens to bring about a crisis of alarming proportions. In the first place all the mines of the Pittsburgh Coal Company are shut down, all those of the Jones and McLaughlin Company, the Frick Company, and half those of another big producing company. )

The situation threatens to affect everybody. I have a message from Pittsburgh which brings the information that the steel mills in that district have only a ten day supply of coal with which to carry on. And one plant in Youngstown has only enough for six days.

This comes just as the steel industry, the barometer and mainstay of all industries, was beginning to pick up. For instance, new contracts awarded by Uncle Sam's Navy Department jumped the unfilled orders of the Bethlehem Steel Company sixty-four per cent in one day.

The entire steel industry depends on the mining ~~industry~~ <sup>country</sup> around Pittsburgh for fuel. Already purchasing agents are

STRIKE - 2

cudgelling their wits and scouring the country to replenish their supplies of coal. (If the mines continue to shut down and no other supply is available, the steel plants will have to follow suit. And anybody can see what that means to the Recovery program.)

Well, General Johnson, the Administrator of Nira, is working tooth and nail to iron out the situation, which is ~~somewhat~~ somewhat complicated. No code has yet been adopted by the coal industry. The date set for the hearing on the code submitted is August 9th. General Johnson had announced that the National Recovery Administration could take no part in labor difficulties unless they involved the violation of a code in operation. As there is no code operating in this situation, the General has not yet the authority of the Act to back him up.

Nevertheless, he called a meeting today at which the President of the United Mine Workers, Governor Pinchot, of Pennsylvania, and the President of the M. C. Frick Coke Company were to be present. The trouble started at the mines of the Frick Company, which is most

STRIKE - 3

heavily involved in the dispute.

Governor Pinchot showed up and the representatives of the United Mine Workers. Thomas Moses, the President of the Frick Coke Company ignored General Johnson's invitation. General Johnson went ahead with the conference anyway, but Washington officials say they do not see exactly what he can do if the mine operators decline to arbitrate.

N.B.C.

NIRA

In other respects President Roosevelt's NIRA program is forging ahead with increased speed. Industries throughout the country are almost tumbling over themselves to sign the blanket code. From all parts comes word of increased wages, shorter hours, and larger payrolls.

By the way, General Johnson received an interesting letter today. It came from a sixteen year old lad in East Texas. This youth wrote to the General asking if something couldn't be done to make parents pay their children a better scale for mowing lawns. Perhaps my son will be waiting to talk that over with me when I get home tonight.

NBC



PRICES

The Department of Agriculture today announced that it will issue a weekly list of prices on necessities to protect the consumer from profiteering. That means that you will know from official sources whether you are getting gypped or not.

PIGS

A large crate was delivered at the office of the War Department in Washington today, a crate containing two pigs. It was addressed to Captain Thomas Jefferson Davis, who is attached to the office of the Chief of Staff. Captain Davis, as you may imagine, is of the famous Jefferson Davis family, the one time President of the Confederacy. Pigs do not often arrive at the War Department and naturally the ~~arrival~~<sup>coming</sup> of that crate created no little amusement. Captain Davis was ~~xxx~~ as astonished as anybody until he read the letter which accompanied the pigs, and explained ~~the gift~~. In Uncle Sam's Infantry there is a First Lieutenant named John B. Sherman, who is a grand nephew of the famous General Sherman, ~~you know, the~~ Marching through Georgia Sherman. Captain Davis once remarked to Lieutenant Sherman that his ~~venerable ancestor~~<sup>rampant grand-uncle</sup> in his march ~~through Georgia~~<sup>to the sea</sup> had stolen some pigs from the Jefferson Davis estate.

The crate of pigs was Lieutenant Sherman's answer. The letter was written on <sup>2</sup> War Department form, headed: Subject: Pigs.

In the letter Lieutenant Sherman begged to state that he was returning said pigs and hoped they would reimburse Captain Jeff Davis for the property stolen on Sherman's march to the sea, and he added he hoped those pigs would cement the friendly relations between the North and South. And then he probably added the classic remark made by the Governor of North Carolina to the Governor of South Carolina.

NBC

LISBON

7

We in the U.S.A. are not the only people who have been suffering from the heat. A wireless from Lisbon by way of London brings the news that for the last few days Portugal also has been in the grip of a terrific torrid wave. Millions of dollars worth of damage has been done to crops and owing to the long drought forest fires are raging throughout vast areas with no prospect of checking them.

N.B.C.

GENEVA

South America is in the news once more and on the subject of <sup>the</sup> Gran~~a~~ Chaco, that strip of land which has been such a long source of dispute between Bolivia and Paraguay.

The council of the League of Nations has accepted an offer of mediation made by representatives of Argentina, Chile, ~~Bolivia~~<sup>Brazil</sup> and Peru. These nations consider the long quarrel between Bolivia and Paraguay as harmful to South America and are anxious to clean it up.

## STOCKS

People who have been criticising Wall Street ought to be pacified by this one. Possibly in order to stall off regulation by Uncle Sam, the New York Stock Exchange has undertaken to reform itself and adopt measures to prevent or at any rate reduce such wild speculation in the stock market as the last few years have seen.

The Board of Governors have announced a new set of rules, and all New York is talking about them. And in other cities they're talking about it tonight. The most important of these raises the minimum of margins necessary for trading. In future if you want to trade in a small amount of stocks you will have to put up a margin of fifty per cent. If you're a large dealer you'll be let off with thirty per cent. This is effective immediately for new accounts and next month on old ones.

The Governors also notified members of the Exchange that in the future they must report every week all activities in pools, syndicates, and options. It has also announced that this is not a sudden development, that all these new rules have been under consideration for many months.

NBC

KIDNAP

5

The kidnap racket is developing some new ideas. One enterprising gentleman in Brooklyn who was hard up conceived the ~~new~~ notion of kidnapping himself. He figured that he was worth five hundred dollars to his family. Unfortunately for him the family did ~~not~~ play ball. They reported the matter to the police and the police set a trap for the kidnapers. As a result the gentleman himself is in the coop together with one of his employes accused of having conspired to kidnap himself.

Then the case of that sports promoter who was abducted in Brooklyn also has a new feature. It indicates that the people in the kidnapping racket are going in for credit. The next thing we'll know they'll be in the instalment business.

They released the sports promoter they had abducted on his promise to pay two thousand dollars within a reasonable time.

Police headquarters tells me that the kidnapped man's family refuse to cooperate with the authorities. In fact, they even asked the cops to lay off. But the officers are going ahead anyway.  
N.B.C.

KIDNAP - 2

Senator Copeland of New York who has been made Chairman of the Special Committee to investigate all rackets and crimes in the United States, made a timely announcement. He says the first meeting of his committee will be held in New York City on August 14th.

And I hear from California that Governor Rolph has just ~~made~~ signed a bill which provides death or life imprisonment as a penalty for kidnapping when the victim is mutilated. This law was passed because of a recent case in San Diego. There a seven year old boy was so treated. The San Diego police say that a nineteen year ~~old San Diego~~ high school graduate confessed to the crime.

N.B.C.



BRIDGEPORT

I've been in Bridgeport, Connecticut, today, Bridgeport, where they manufacture everything from needles to shells for long range guns. And, they all told me that things are definitely looking up.

J. L. McGovern, Editor of the Bridgeport Times - Star, helped me line up some of my news for tonight. Here's one local item he gave me. Bridgeport Airport will be a thing of the past tomorrow. It is being re-christened "Mollison Airport" in honor of Amy and Captain Jim, who will be there to do the christening. You will recall, it was near Bridgeport that the Mollisons crashed after they had made their great flight across the Atlantic.

L.T.

## BANDITS

The bandit industry wasn't so profitable in Chicago today. Five robbers with shotguns invaded the offices of a firm of coffee importers. They made the entire office force, forty-eight people, lie down on the floor with their faces to the ground. They rifled the pockets of the staff, all forty-eight of them, and how much do you suppose they got? Just three hundred dollars, to be split five ways. One fifth of three hundred dollars wouldn't keep a Chicago robber in cigars in boom days.

N.B.C.

EURELIA

As you may know, I am constantly getting called on my pronunciation of place names -- and other things! So a story in the current issue of the Literary Digest rings a sympathetic note in my ears.

Out West in Montana there's a town whose name is spelled E - u - r - e - l - i - a. Now the pronunciation of that name has been the source of continuous dispute between the conductor and the brakeman on a train that passes through E - u - r - e - l - i - a. Their quarrel is sorely confusing to passengers. For whenever the train reaches that station they hear the conductor exclaim: "You're a liar! You're a liar!"

*That's his pronunciation of it.*

Then from the other end of the train they hear the brakeman shouting: "You really are! You really are!"

*His way of saying it.*

As for me, I am glad I don't have to pronounce the name of that town at all.

Literary Digest.

POSTMASTER

①  
San Francisco is giggling ~~today~~ at the expense of the new Postmaster, William H. McCarthy. Mr. McCarthy walked into his new job today, and the first thing he did was to write letters acknowledging the <sup>congratulations</sup> ~~communications~~ ~~he~~ of his friends. He dictated letters to all parts of the state, and his secretary mailed them out. Incidentally, the stamps were not on the house, ~~they~~ that is to say, on Uncle Sam. Mr. McCarthy paid for them.

Later in the afternoon Postmaster McCarthy received his first official communication from any one of his departments. It was brief and to the point and read as follows:

On letter to Fresno please forward  
two cents postage due.

WANT ADS

The inhabitants of Rocky Spring, Wyoming, were somewhat startled the other day. They saw an announcement in the Rocky Springs Rocket, the town newspaper, which read as follows:

"A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Bruce at the Wyoming General Hospital." Just below that came a line reading: "Rocket Want-ads ~~ads~~ bring results."

Rocky Springs Rocket

And here I go, off like  
a rocket, & s-l-u-t-m.