

ROOSEVELT.

L.T. - Sunoco Fri. Nov. 26, 1937

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Well, here's news - a Press conference at the White House. Sounds like an old story, but it hasn't been for nearly two weeks. The President was back at his desk today for the first time since he took to bed with an affected tooth and stomach trouble. And the first thing he did was to call the White House correspondents in for a talk.

The theme was - business, with the President saying that he's in favor of revising those bitterly debated business taxes as soon as Congress is ready for it. He didn't say specifically that he wanted it done during the present special session. When Congress has time to prepare a bill abolishing the undivided profit^s tax - that's the presidential time. All of which brings up the question - how long will it take Congress to do it? Chairman Vinson of the sub-committee of the House Ways and Means Committee immediately made the comment, ^{that} it's okay with him to take up the tax question during the special session - if there is time to formulate a well-rounded program. The Chairman didn't know whether there was time or not, but added that his sub-committee is working

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on the job as hard and fast as possible. Other Congressional leaders, however, are outright in saying they don't think a tax bill can be drawn properly by the time the special session closes.

(At the White House conference the President ~~s there~~
~~was also business - when he declared himself in two different~~
~~ways, spend and don't spend, yes and no.~~ He said he had given
instructions for the immediate disbursement of money
appropriated for supplies on Federal projects. That money has
got to be handed out anyway - so do it now. Speed the
spending to stimulate business - the pump priming idea as
applied to the present recession.)

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Then Mr. Roosevelt went on to just the opposite -
spend less. He said he's going to send a special message to
Congress on Tuesday asking the law-makers to cut down the
spending on roads and highways - a large reduction. Right now
the Government is handing out two hundred million dollars a
~~year~~ year to the States, helping local highway improvement.
The President wants that chopped down drastically. In previous

times the Government used to contribute eighty or ninety million dollars a year to State road projects. And maybe the President has the idea of returning to some such figure. The purpose of the cut is - balance the budget, part of the retrenchment policy necessary to get the Treasury Department out of the red.

FARM BILL.

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Here's something that may baffle and worry us a bit - a Senate drive to cut the value of the dollar, make a buck worth less. That's something calculated to send a shiver down our spine - the idea of tampering with the value of the currency. But the suggestion was made today by a powerful Government group. The Senate Agricultural Committee busies itself with wheat and cotton and corn, beets, cucumbers and potatoes - things that grow in the fields. But today the Agricultural Senators made a recommendation concerning something that neither grows in the fields nor on trees - dollars.

The Committee proclaims the idea this way: - considering how prices have dropped since last spring, the dollar is now worth a hundred and nineteen cents. The farmer gets so much less for his produce, that the dollar has swollen in value so far as he is concerned. He finds cash harder to get. So the way to buck up prices for him, help him to get more for what he grows is to devalue the dollar, make it worth less gold. Cut the dollar down to a hundred cents in terms of farm prices - that's what the Agricultural Committee recommends.

FARM BILL.-2.

The idea will be pushed when the Senate convenes again on Monday, after its Thanksgiving recess. The Farm Bill, which the committee has been considering, will ^{then} come up for ₁ debate.

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Today various Senators spoke out in criticism of the Farm Bill provision for compulsory crop control. The argument is loud and contentious, and it's likely to become louder and more contentious when the Senators get around to the subject of cutting the value of the dollar.

LABOR

No ^u~~A~~nion buttons were worn today at the Ford plant in Kansas City, when the men returned to work. The company shut down the factory six weeks ago, labor trouble flaring - a dispute with the C.I.O. Now the plant has reopened, and a stream of men went back to work today - without union buttons.

The local C.I.O. chief said they were told that if they wore the C.I.O. insignia they'd be fired.

At Pontiac, Michigan, today's story is likewise - back to work. Two thousand men returned to their jobs at the Fisher Body plant. Three thousand more will go back on Monday. This ends the six day outlaw strike - unauthorized by the union.

In consequence - ten thousand workers will return to their jobs in the ~~xx~~ Pontiac Motor Car Company, which had to shut down because of a shortage of automobile ^{bodies} ~~bodies~~ -- shortage caused by the Fisher Body strike.

ADD LABOR.

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There's a telegraph strike in Philadelphia. A
hundred and fifteen operators walked out today and tied up
virtually every wire of the Postal Company. A few days ago
there was a telegraph strike in St. Louis - now in Philadelphia.

FOREIGN.

The foreign news tonight tells us the Japanese have seized the Shanghai customs - ~~and they are~~ the richest source of revenue in China. The neutral nations are doing nothing about it - just accepting the Japanese explanation that the Chinese customs men were incompetent and inefficient.

A savage bit of news comes from North China. In the region where fighting is raging there - eight Catholic missionaries are reported massacred, one a Bishop. ~~They were~~ French, Dutch, Czechoslovakia and Polish. A Czechoslovakian layman is said to be among the victims. The report tells that the Bishop had been assured the missionaries would be protected. In spite of this they were seized, carried away, killed by soldiers with bayonets, and cremated. One of the most ferocious reports that has come out of that wa^{re} of ferocity.

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In Spain the Armistice talk continues more insistently than ever. Negotiations under British auspices are said to be progressing - with bright promise of a truce between Franco and the Left Wingers. Today's story carries the added detail that the proposed Armistice involves a restoration of

the Monarchy - that's an idea propounded by the British.

No, not the return of King Alfonso. The candidate mentioned for the Crown is Don Juan, son and heir of the former Monarch.

In Germany, Hitler has finally accepted the resignation of Dr. Schacht as Minister of Economics. The Doctor offered his resignation some time ago - it was not accepted then, but it is now. The interpretation is that Goering now becomes the economic dictator of Nazi Germany.

FRANCE

France is still in an uproar about

that night riding
~~the~~

mystery order - the

~~in French means~~

Hooded Ones.

We'd call them Ku Kluxers.

Anyhow

the
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Wearers of white hoods ~~they~~ are accused of a reactionary plot

to overthrow the Paris Government. When there's any kind of

political sensation in France, there's one word you are likely

to hear - Germany. And that's what comes to our ears tonight --

a statement that Germany ^{has} had a hand in ^{this white hood} ~~the saguier~~ business.

They say the French police, in a series of raids, have seized

documents indicating that the right wing revolutionary

organization had at least one center of action located ~~xxx~~

beyond the Rhine. And the Socialist newspapers of Paris are

openly charging that the whole affair was schemed and directed

from within Germany - the Nazis trying to promote a Fascist

revolt in France.

The mention of Germany ties in strangely with rumors

about General Weygand, that French commander of renown in the

World War. He cut a ~~xxxx~~ memorable figure in the defeat of

Germany, was right-hand man to Marshal Foch, and succeeded Foch

as Vice-President of the French War College. Reports are

circulated in Paris that General Weygand is implicated in the plot of the Hooded Ones, rumors serious enough to bring a reply from the general -- a formal denial.

In Paris the police are searching tonight for a secret explosive factory, where the conspirators are said to have been making high powered stuff to blow things up. The supposition is based on the fact that a glycerine factory has been systematically robbed -- long continued thefts of glycerine. That of course points to the theory -- nitro-glycerine secretly manufactured.

FRATERNITY

One of the big events of the collegiate year is on in New York - the Interfraternity Conference, with its annual international forum. Talking to Guy Pierce, National President of Theta Delta Chi, he tells me that the conference includes seventy-six undergraduate college fraternities, with twenty-three hundred chapters in a hundred and thirty colleges. An active membership of sixty thousand students and seven hundred thousand graduates.

The Interfraternity Organization represents groups with two thousand chapter houses of a total value of seventy million dollars. These fraternities spend twenty million dollars a year, much of it for cultural purposes, prizes, scholarships, and so on. Guy Pierce ~~ix~~ tells me that the big idea right now is, cooperation between fraternities and faculties, for the betterment of scholastic life and standards.

Today Chancellor Chase of N.Y.U. summarized the fraternity spirit by saying "they do much in molding attitudes of undergraduates. They are extremely valuable instruments on the college campus".

FLORIDA

I told last night about storm and shipwreck, a British freighter driven on the reefs of the Dry Tortugas. Those islands are off Key West, southern tip of Florida. But the Key West Chamber of Commerce wires me there was no storm down that way at all. The shipwreck occurred off Haiti. Today's news is that everybody has been saved from the sinking British freighter.

AIRPLANE.

Good news tonight on a subject that has so often brought us tragic news -- an Airliner missing, eleven people aboard, lost for 48 hours. A plane could hardly have a misadventure in more perilous country than in this case, *up in* Canada, ^{*in*} Ontario. The liner took off from Sioux Lookout bound for Pickle Lake. That was last Wednesday and the flight should have normally taken an hour! ^{*TP*} Missing for 48 hours! Heavy blinding fog! Forced down! The sky ship equipped with skis. It could land safely only on one of the various frozen lakes. But the lakes had soft ice, thin ice and it was feared the heavy ship might crash through and sink to the bottom. Rescue pilots eager to fly out and search, but the fog was too dense. Not even the birds were flying, grumbled the grounded pilots.

But this afternoon the fog cleared, and the sky search was on. Now flashes the good news. The plane is safe.

It was forced down by the fog at Doghole Bay, Ontario. No damage no ~~XXXX~~ casualties. *although they are marooned*

indefinitely on that
~~journey~~ journey to Pickle Lake.

FIRE

Cleveland today thrilled with the ominous headline -
Hospital Fire, a maternity hospital, the wild rage of ~~flak~~
flames devastating an institution for mothers and babes. But
instead of tragic horror, the theme is - brave rescues.

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A workman was using a blow torch on a painted
wall when suddenly a sheet of flame leaped high. In brief
minutes the whole hospital wing was a roaring blaze.

Seventeen mothers and seventeen babies were
imperiled. Of the seventeen mothers, ~~thex~~ three were able
to ~~xxxx~~ walk. The other fourteen were carried out by nuns
and nurses, carried out through a blinding smoke. The new
born babies? Yes, they too were carried. . Everybody saved
in the hospital fire while frantic fathers stormed the fire
lines.

OIL

At Olney, Illinois, scenes fabulous yet familiar are being witnessed - familiar when there's ^{an} oil boom. In the district around Olney, black gold has been struck, on town lots in the rural farm - back yard oil wells, as they are called. And there's a sudden, luxuriant crop of newly rich, well-to-do over night. Farmers on ~~xx~~ poor acres that barely give them a living, are suddenly tossed into the ~~x~~ lap of luxury, *flowing gold!*

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Today the estimate is that at least two million dollars has been paid out for leases and royalties during the brief extravaganza of the boom. And the town of Olney is swamped with oil hunters, promoters, lease buyers, drilling crews. Prices are skyrocketing, and OLNEY might as well change its name to OILNEY.

BANDITS

Nobody need shed a tear for three bank robbers at Claymont, Delaware - although they shed plenty of tears. The three walked into the bank with pointed ~~machine~~ machine guns and held up the employees. One of these employees was Miss Esther White, bookkeeper. As the machine gun robbers came stalking to get the money, Esther White moved her foot, pressed one toe of her slipper on a ~~knit~~ button. That released the bank protection against hold-ups -- tear gas protection. And the burning fumes spurted out. The moment the bandits felt the tear gas, they turned in a panic and dashed out. Got away in their car, weeping with failure and without a nickel.

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FOOTBALL

Rose or Sugar - that's the question for the crimson wave. They can have the Sugar, but they'd rather have the Rose. Meaning - the undefeated Alabama team has received an invitation to play in the New Orleans Sugar Bowl on New Year's Day. So says the Sports Editor of the Birmingham Post. But they haven't replied, not yet. They're delaying an answer, until it becomes known whether or not Alabama will be invited to the Rose Bowl. They prefer the Los Angeles Rose, if they can get it. But if they can't - they'll take the New Orleans Sugar, *and say s-l-u-t-m.*

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