

P. J. - Sunoco. Friday, July 22, 1938.

FLOODS.

The rainy weather in the East has brought the usual consequence - floods. Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, a whole series of minor deluges are reported. At Torrington, Connecticut, the sweep of waters washed away the embankments supporting the tracks of the New York, New Haven and Hartford. Parts of Waterbury are under water, the Naugatuck River being the culprit. Winston has a bad flood, and highways are inundated far and wide.

Around New Milford, fields are flooded and crops ruined, for the Housitonic has risen more than five feet, *even up on the grounds of the famous Kent Prep School.* However, the experts say that Connecticut flood conditions will not become extreme, because upper New England has not been having its share of the drenching rains. And it's in upper New England that the tributaries rise, which feed the rivers of Connecticut.

Eastern Pennsylvania has had six consecutive days of rain and a series of violent electrical storms. There's much damage in and around Philadelphia, homes and business buildings flooded, and high tension wire^s knocked down. During the past

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month they've had a rainfall of nearly five inches, which normally at this time ~~is something over~~ ^{is around} two and a half inches.

MINE.

Today at Duncan City, Arizona, men dug their way in a mine shaft through thirty feet of fallen dirt, stone and mud. That was where the mine shaft had collapsed, and that was the barrier they had to dig through to get at five men entombed. Five men trapped for forty-eight hours, deep in the Veta silver mine, seven hundred feet below the surface.

Today the rescue party completed its task, and what did it find? Bodies of victims? No, they found the five silver miners alive and well, unhurt, not a scratch, one of them said when they brought him out: "I guess we were plenty lucky." "We were digging in the back of the tunnel when we heard a roar. We ran to the front but couldn't ~~not~~ get out."

Luckily, one airline remained undamaged by the cave-in, and through this food and water were sent down, while the rescue party kept digging and digging. So the five did ~~not~~ even have much discomfort. save for being as they say - plenty scared.

ADD MINE

Right when this mine disaster story was coming over the wire this afternoon, sitting beside me was an ex-coal miner from Wales, now a man of world wide fame, perhaps the greatest baritone of our day. He has just been telling me how, years ago, in a Welsh mine, the collar of a tunnel had suddenly ~~come~~ ^{gave} way, coming down upon him, crushed ^{ing} him, and for months and months they didn't ^{know} whether he would recover. His name is Moyfton Thomas, baritone of the San Carlo Opera Company.

POLITICS.

(Tonight the cruiser Houston, with the President aboard, is steaming from Clipperton Island to the Galapagos. How has the fishing been? Magnificent if this United press dispatch is not a fish story.) Off Clipperton, the first fisherman of the land and his fellow anglers caught so many big ones, that the sailors had to use a lifting crane to hoist the catch on deck. Among the various piscatorial trophies were five sharks, one of them a five-footer.

After that strenuous fishing, the President is having a rest as the speedy cruiser steams along - a Presidential rest from fishing, which means a bit of work in government and politics. Mr. Roosevelt is going through a stack of official documents he brought along, and he's keeping in wireless touch with government and political affairs at home - as the campaign for the fall elections gathers speed.

The fisherman of the White House may have heard today's news about another fisherman who used to live in the White House. Ex-President Hoover has just returned from an angling trip in British Columbia, and now it's announced that he will make a series of campaign speeches in September - to bolster up the

Republican cause in the fall congressional elections.

The Kansas campaign situation took a turn today with a declaration by Republican national chairman John Hamilton, who is a Kansan. He came out in opposition to the Reverend John B. Winrod, who is in the Republican primary for the Senate. Chairman Hamilton declared against the Reverend Winrod on the score of intolerance.

"Once again intolerance will raise its head," said Hamilton, "if Mr. Winrod is nominated for the United States Senate, intolerance will again be injected into the national campaign."

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The question of a federal national health program is getting Republican attention - that dispute between the health conference blessed by the President on one hand and the medical ~~association~~ association on the other. Today Glenn Frank, head of the Republican program committee, said that ^{at} the next program committee meeting in Chicago, they'd take up the question of what the government should do about national health. They'll propound a Republican stand on that medical question. Chairman Frank today was by no means for or against in any clear - cut way. "The medical question," said he, "contains

possibilities of both social advance and of great social error."

Which seems like contemplating both sides of the fence from a
blanced
~~balanced~~ position on the fence.

GAS.

There's a wild boom on at Proctor, West Virginia.

Proctor was what is commonly described as a sleepy village, but today it's wide awake - popeyed, in fact. A gas and oil boom, with the usual accompaniment of skyrocketing property prices, a scramble for leases, and an invasion of prospectors and speculators. Have they struck oil at Proctor? No, but they've struck gas.

Three weeks ago, a party of operators drilled a gas well, which swiftly roared to a production of three quarters of a million cubic feet per day. Yesterday, another gas well came in, and today it's ~~producing~~ producing at the rate of two million cubic feet a day. Where there's gas, there's oil - that's the supposition. The Proctor boom is based on the assumption that the gas wells indicate the presence of an oil pool nearby. And the gas has been struck at a mere depth of six hundred feet, causing the further assumption that the oil pool also must lie near the surface - in easy reach, little drilling.

Add up those various factors and you have the makings

of one of those typical booms, with the usual accompaniment of frenzied folly and crazy finance.

PARIS.

King George and Queen Elizabeth have gone home and the big show in Paris is over. The serious work behind the scenes still goes on. Today the British war Minister Leslie Hor-Belisha and members of his staff had a long talk with the commanders of the French army. There's no official announcement of what they discussed, but the word is they talked over joint military plans should there be a general war. War moves to be made if England should again send an army to fight in France.

FAR EAST.

52 Soviet Russia puts it squarely up to Japan. (Moscow refuses the Tokyo demand to get the Red Army troops off that disputed hill on the border of Manchukuo and Siberia.

Soviet foreign minister Litvinov told the Mikado's ambassador that the strategic hill in question belongs to Russia.) He rejects the claim that it's the property of the Japanese - controlled state of Manchukuo. So the Red Army troops will stay. And that puts it up to Japan to make the next move.

Last evening the word flashed that Japan had used the menacing word - force. If the Red Army soldiers didn't get off that hill, Japan would use force to get them off. Today, Tokyo soft-pedals that discordant note. Its spokesman for the foreign office declares that the Japanese ambassador in Moscow did not threaten the use of force. Moscow, however, insists - yes, the Japanese ambassador did. And today the Soviet foreign office released a digest of the conversation between the ambassador and foreign commissar Litvinov. In this the threat of force is phrased in the curious, oblique way of diplomatic verbiage. Ambassador Shigemitsu is reported to have

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spoken in these terms: "It is necessary to take measures to restore calm, and to discharge the atmosphere now created on the frontier. "Otherwise," he is said to have said, "Japan will be compelled to draw a conclusion about the necessity of applying force."

Just why Tokyo has made such an issue of the Manchukuo-Siberian hill, is a question not easily answered. Just before the China war broke out, the Japanese pushed the Soviets around a bit on the frontier, apparently to see if Stalin would fight - a sort of trial punch to test the other fellow's courage. Stalin backed down and Japan went sailing into China, China, confident that the Soviets would do nothing about it. That's the interpretation commonly given of the border incident of more than a year ago. But today things are altogether different. Japan is now deeply involved in ^{her war with} ~~the struggle of~~ China, with a tremendous lot of her fighting resources drawn into the Chinese whirlpool. You'd think that this would be the worst time of all to pick a quarrel with the Soviets.

One version of the Red Army occupation of the hill is

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that the Soviets are now taking a trial poke at Japan, to see how Tokyo will react. Another is that the Japanese military party is simply creating and forcing an issue with Russia.

They say the Mikado's high officers believe they'll have to fight the Soviets sooner or later, so why not sooner? No matter how much Japanese strength is tied up in China - fight it out with the Communists right now. Stalin's government, however, does not seem to believe that this is the case. Soviet spokesmen say they are sure that Japan will not use force on that hill and thereby provoke a war. Negotiations and still more negotiations seem to be the most likely prospect.

This new far eastern complication is a little hard for us to understand. Surely the Japanese have their hands full, ~~as it is~~, without picking a quarrel with Russia.

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And, we have long had the impression that the Soviet^s had ~~e~~ internal problems to solve, problems that would make it desperately awkward if they became involved in a war. So, what's it all about? ~~ff~~ I have just heard ~~from~~ some illuminating comments on this from Bonney Powell, Fox Movietone^r chief on the China Coast, who is just in from the Far East. His comment on it is this: That the Hill in question is along a frontier ~~in~~ where the ~~hard~~ boundary is ~~actually~~ ^{still} in doubt. And, he says it is quite likely the hill actually belongs to the Russians.

~~But~~, here is the illuminating flash: Bonney Powell says that if you so much as touch a Japanese soldier's ~~in~~ rifle he considers that you have insulted his Emperor and ^{he} is likely to run you through with a bayonet. He says it might have ~~easily~~ been possible ~~for~~ the Russians ~~to do~~ ^{did} some little thing at a Japanese frontier outpost that ~~would~~

would cause ^{1 a} ~~some~~ Japanese officer to protest to Tokyo, and *then*

cause all this hullabaloo. Powell declares that "out

east" this sort of thing happens all the time, so often *that*

the average European in those parts thinks nothing of it.

says
I He ~~thinks~~ it will all blow over and amount to nothing.

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MEXICO

In Mexico City today Government ~~xxxxxx~~ leaders were debating what to do about Secretary Hull's strong note to Mexico. Should the Cardenas Government ~~yield~~ yield to the American demand, or should they stand pat?

Secretary Hull ~~xx~~ spoke specifically about American-owned ~~xxxxxx~~ farm lands in Mexico, which Mexico ~~sz~~ seized. Recent attention has been focussed on the American oil wells seized, but they're only part of ~~the xx~~ the story. Mexico has confiscated American property of all sorts. And now the American State Department makes demand for payment, and calls upon Mexico to have the ~~question~~ question arbitrated.

Mexico has hitherto refused all suggestions of arbitration, saying there was nothing to arbitrate -- that Mexico had a perfect right to seize the American belongings. And the newspapers in Mexico City today reiterated that contention -- said Secretary Hull's demanding note was against the sovereignty of Mexico. But as for the chiefs of the government, there's no word of the stand they will take. They're ~~xxxxxxx~~ still debating.

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MARRIAGE.

The way of a lady can get all tangled up in modern complications of marriage and divorce is illustrated by the intricate status of Nancy Pierson Brooks Macy Brill, prominent in society. A few years ago Nancy Pierson Brooks married George H. Macy, of the department store Macys. That wedding didn't turn out so well, and after a while there was a Reno divorce. Later on Mrs. Nancy Pierson Brooks Macy married William Hunsaker Brill. That wedding turned out even less well, because he left her on their very wedding day. He found that her divorce from her first husband was invalid, and went ahead and had his marriage to her annulled, legal proceedings at Hollywood. These marital affairs are so mixed up with legal technicalities that now Mrs. Nancy Pierson Brooks Macy Brill doesn't know what's invalid and what's annulled.

"I can't figure it out," she said plaintively today.

"In Reno I'm recognized as Mrs. Brill but not as Mrs. Macy.

In Hollywood I'm recognized as Mrs. Macy and not as Mrs. Brill.

I don't know whether I'm married, single or divorced."

Which is a lot not to know. She adds that her first

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husband has invited her to come back to him. And if she did that, I suppose she might know less than ever whether she is Mrs. Macy or Mrs. Brill, single, married or divorced.

*But our only comment
is on that is coming until Monday.*

DIDRIKSON

58 1/2 (Babe Didrikson is foremost of woman athletes, a lady of power and great muscular attributes. She starred in the Olpymics, won just about every event in which she engaged - and she's one of the most ~~v~~^versatile athletes. Right now she's a professional golfer. A Mighty woman is she.

George Zaharais is ^awrestler, a man of huge muscles and bulging biceps, ~~He's~~ one of those titanic pachyderms of strength, who heave and toss and groan and grunt in the bone-bending contests. A Mighty man is he.

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□ What about these two examples of physical prowess? They're to be married.) Today they announced their engagement - the romance of the mighty woman and the mighty man.

59 1/2 And our only comment on that is solong until Monday.