

INSULL

So Samuel Insull will stay in Greece, gazing at the Acropolis and chanting an occasional chorus out of Sophocles or Euripides. That poetic part of it may be a bit imaginative, but the fact is that the Greek Court of Appeals today rejected the demand of the United States for the extradition of Samuel Insull, the former king of Chicago utility is, whose empire of finance rose as high and fell as disastrously as the fortunes of any tragic character out of Sophocles or Euripides.

The Greek Court hands down the opinion that under the laws of Greece, Insull in his financial transactions was not guilty of any crime. We commonly call a judge in Athens. Anyway, the Solons of the Athens Court of Appeal have given their judgment that Samuel Insull of Chicago was a victim of the depression and not a doer of dishonest deeds. The assembled Greeks in the courtroom greeted the decision with loud cheers. Insull was immediately released and now is free to commune with the shades of ancient Athens and -- perhaps ponder over the days when he was king in Chicago.

GOLD

There is still a lot of talk in International circles about a currency war. When President Roosevelt started his policy of announcing a special price for gold newly mined in America, he certainly started something. The foreign experts, apparently whistling to keep up their courage, said "Tush, Tush, this doesn't mean anything."

But now they are whistling a different tune. The rumors of a currency war between America and Europe simply will not die down. I have a message here from Washington which says that Administration officials do not expect any difficulty. Nevertheless, they are sitting tight and watching the financial news aboard with eagle eyes. The Washington dope today is that the Roosevelt Administration is not worried. They feel that the European treasuries are going to wait and see what happens and not go off half-cocked and jump into any wild international financial shenanigans.

At the same time, the European Master Minds are keeping their gold operations under cover. John Bull's treasury has what is known as an "Equalization Fund" to meet the fluctuations

in the rate of exchange. And even though it has always been the cardinal principal of the British Government that nothing shall be concealed from the Parliament, no information is being given out in London about these operations. John Bull is preserving a golden silence on the subject of gold.

All of this was made more acute by the rising quotations on the yellow stuff today -- i.e. for gold newly mined in America. The price announced by the R.F.C. was \$32.12 an ounce, a rise of 16 cents. Yesterday it was \$31.96. Jumping every day. The price now here in America is \$1.05 an ounce more than this morning's gold quotation in London.

And this is what has financial experts, statesmen, chancellors of the exchequer and chancellors of everything ~~else~~ else baffled, bewildered and wondering just what it's all about.

BLACK

In Washington they are saying it means something -- that visit made today by Governor Black of the Federal Reserve Board who called on Secretary Hull at the State Department. The wiseacres dope it out that Governor and the Secretary were discussing the advisability of sending a financial shark to the Pan-American Conference at Montevideo in December. The Secretary, on the other hand, said that Governor Black was a neighbor and that it was just one of those things -- a neighborly call to chat about this unseasonably warm weather that broke all Indian Summer heat records in some localities today.

NBC

STEEL

The argument about steel, the squabble precipitated by Mr. Eastman, Federal Coordinator of Railroads, seems to have been smoothed out. You may recall that on Sunday Mr. Eastman accused the four principal steel corporations of conspiracy to raise the price of the steel rails to be sold to Uncle Sam. These rails, according to President Roosevelt's program, were to be resold to the railroads upon exceedingly easy terms.

Well, that dispute has been ironed out. Evidently, the President did it himself. The price to be paid ~~to~~ the Steel companies is to be \$36.37½ a ton for those rails. The transaction should be beneficial all around. In the first place, it will give business to the steel industry, ~~which is~~ one of the crucial industries of America, and also it will enable the railroads to get the steel ^{on the cuff.} The railway companies have figured out that they need some

eight hundred thousand tons of rails. The railroads want more rails and less railway!

COAL MINES

Just as we all thought ~~that~~ the situation in western Pennsylvania, I mean the labor difficulties in the coal mines, had been ironed out, a new monkey wrench ^{appears in} ~~is thrown into~~ the machinery. We had heard from Washington that the mine owners, the labor unions and the N R A officials had reached a compromise, an agreement.

Today it appears that this is not so. The miners' union, the United Mine Workers, are far from unanimous on the subject. One section of the United Mine Workers apparently accepted the agreement but another section protests violently. Mr. Martin Ryan, leader of the insurgents in the United Mine Workers, declares emphatically: "That ^{'s} ~~is~~ not an agreement. It merely ~~re~~ reestablishes the conditions we had before we came out on strike. None of our men will go back to work in the H. C. Frick mines under any such terms." *Said he!*

Mr. Ryan was talking specifically for the men who have been working for the H. C. Frick-Coke Company, the company where the trouble started forty years ago, one of the principal storm centers in America, the place where the practice of hiring gunmen as deputy sheriffs to shoot down the strikers was developed into a technique that has since been imitated in many other parts of the country.

8
Another labor union leader says: "This agreement doesn't give recognition to the United Mine Workers. That is one of the objects for which we've been on strike, the principal object we asked of the President when we went to Washington last week." And this labor leader added: "I don't think our men will accept this agreement."

Then comes a spokesman for two captive mines owned by the Republic Steel Corporation. ^{He}~~This man~~ says: "Our people will not go back to work under any such agreement."

NBC

FOLLOW COAL MINES

Well, on top of all that confusion comes late word that the officials of the United Mine Workers of America issued an order this afternoon, bidding the striking miners of western Pennsylvania to go back to work. The dispatch ends with the comment that it now remains to see what effect this order will have.

NBC

MILK STRIKE

Reports from Wisconsin say that the milk strike out there is a hundred percent effective in some places. Farmers are picketing the highway and stopping the delivery of milk. ~~In a few localities~~ Members of the Farm Holiday Association are trying to get the brotherhood of railroad ^{train} men to cooperate with them and refuse to carry milk ~~on~~ on their trains.

NBC

HUNTING

Here's our annual story the opening of the hunting season. I have a telegram from Adolf Muller, President of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Adolf blows a tootle on his huntsman's horn and tells me that the biggest army of hunters in America will take the field tomorrow. Adolf says:- "More than half a million men and women have taken out hunting licenses over here." One person out of every twelve in Pennsylvania is a hunter. More than ten million dollars is spent on hunting equipment in Adolf's beloved Keystone State. More than four million game birds and game animals are bagged in a season -- not in Adolf. Governor Pinchot is an ardent sportsman, and so is Adolf.

It is an enthusiastic telegram. Hunters are enthusiastic out in Pennsylvania, so enthusiastic that they mistake each other for deer, jack rabbits, and nightingales. I hope Governor Pinchot and Adolf don't shoot each other.

L.T. Correspondence.
Prosper.

CHILL

And now we have a question -- Which came first? Not the chicken or the egg, but the chill or the cold. Do you catch a cold because you had a chill? Or do you have a chill because you caught a cold? This riddle is propounded in the Week's Science Service by Dr. E. E. Free. For an answer he goes across the ocean to a meeting of the British Sanitary Inspectors' Association at Clacton-on-Sea in England. The president of that eminent body is Sir Leonard Hill, a distinguished London physiologist. Sir Leonard is so distinguished that I'll bet he can tell us whether the chicken came first or the egg. However, he contents himself with declaring that it isn't the chill that comes first, it's the cold.

He explains that for long generations the common observation has been that the first notable symptom of a fever or of a cold is a fit of shivering -- you know that old sensation when you feel cold all over for no good reason. And so people concluded that they got a chill and that brought on a cold. It's all wrong, says Sir Leonard. The chill and shivering are

CHILL - 2

merely the first symptoms of something you've already caught. People try to avoid those chills. They stay indoors in cold weather for fear of the bad effects of getting chilled. Sir Leonard says it's a mistake. He points out that keeping indoors with an absence of fresh, cool air is likely to expose you to a greater number of bacilli which cause the colds and fevers. Remember, the cold comes before the chill, so don't be afraid of the chilly open air.

Week's Science Service.

MOTORS

A report issued today by Uncle Sam's Department of Commerce shows a curious paradox, for while the exports of iron and steel in September dropped somewhat from the figures of August, the foreign sales of motor cars, in fact all automotive products, increased in September.

The total figure of automotive shipments in September amounted to \$8,610,000. This is attributed to increased demand abroad for low priced trucks and similar items.

NBC

RAILROADS

4

Some interesting facts are being made known through the Convention of the Investment Bankers Association in Hot Springs, Virginia. One of these facts came to light today in the report from the Railroad Securities Committee of that Association. The gist of it is that the railway lines are still hard up and that they expect the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to continue lending them plenty money.

~~I remember reading the other day that one railroad president consented to having his salary cut to the pitiful sum of \$60,000 a year. Isn't that just too bad!~~

Here's another slant on the railway situation. If you are a railroad executive and you want to reduce fares so as to get more business, you have to get permission of the government to do it. The lines through the west and the southwest have been wanting to do that and have officially obtained permission from the Interstate Commerce Commission to take this measure. Consequently, after December 1st you can travel a bit cheaper on the western and southwestern railroads.

FRACTIONATING

Here's ^{something about} ~~where there are some~~ big doings. The biggest single shipment, that is the shipment biggest in sheer, gigantic bulk ever handled by the Pennsylvania Railroad was just hauled from Chester, Pennsylvania, to Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania. It was a prodigious steel cylinder, a fractionating tower. That's a big word - fractionating. It means something they use in refining gasoline.

It is nearly fifteen feet in diameter and eighty-three feet long, and weighs two hundred and ninety thousand pounds. They had to load it on two pairs of freight car trucks. An ordinary flat car wasn't big enough. It was necessary at several points to move the railroad tracks over to give enough clearance ^{and} headroom, for the ponderous bulk to get through. All tracks were cleared on both sides while the fractionating tower was on its way. No other trains were permitted to pass it on adjacent tracks in either directions. It stuck out so far on both sides that if a train on the next track ^{had} came whizzing along it would

have bumped right into the fractionating tower and something would have been reduced to fractions.

This immense contraption was built at the plant of the Sun Shipbuilding Company at Chester and went hurtling along to the plant of the Sun Oil Company at Marcus Hook.

It sounds like one of those Sunoco tall stories, but it is

^a~~the~~ plain and simple fact as set down on the records.

L.T. Correspondence.

KIDNAPPING

12

That was a lurid bit of melodrama in ^{staid old} Marshall, Michigan, today. A bunch of crooks kidnapped a local leading citizen, who was a millionaire manufacturer and used to be mayor of the town. His name is Louis C. Brooks, ^{-- an old friend of mine too.} The kidnapers were two men and a woman. They held up the manufacturing plant, tied up the watchman, and forced the millionaire owner to open the safe in his office. Then they made a getaway, taking him along with them. Two miles out of town the bandits turned ^{the ex-Mayor} ~~him~~ loose. Getting his freedom back, however, wasn't all so sweet and dandy for ^{Marshall} the millionaire. It seems he started to fight and one of the thugs hit him over the head with a gun and battered him severely. Sheriff Frank A. Furner of Marshall, Michigan, gives the word that the amount of money the robbers got away with doesn't amount to much.

LITVINOFF

In Paris today the French Foreign Minister received an interesting guest, who before long will also be an interesting guest in the domain of Uncle Sam. I mean Maxim Litvinoff, the Moscow Commissar of Foreign Affairs, formerly known as the big bad Bolshevik, but now a gentle spirit on a mission of amity and harmony to our own country.

①
Another traveler taking his way westward across the sea is Norman Davis, American Ambassador at Large. He sails for home tomorrow on the President Roosevelt, to present a report on the Disarmament Conference to the Secretary of State at Washington.

NBC

NIGHTIES

This next dispatch gave me a bit of a shock when I first read it. It relates that at the Broadview Junior College, yes, it's Broadview, not Broadway -- it's a Seventh Day Adventist Theological seminary -- the students, boys and co-eds, were out on the campus last night in their pajamas and nighties. That does sound more like Broadway than a theological seminary. However, don't be alarmed. It wasn't any high jinx of flaming youth. The flame^{ing} was done by a fire, which destroyed one of the campus buildings. The boys and the co-eds in pajamas and nighties formed a bucket brigade and tried to quench the flames. It was all ~~un-~~^{to us} available. The flames roared high and one co-ed nearly got her nightie on fire. I said nearly.

Which reminds me that somebody will set my ~~nightie~~^{tail coat}

on fire unless I say

NBC

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.