

L.T. SUNOCO - TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1934.

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

A singular trial is on in New York, full of weird drama. It concerns the assassination of an Archbishop. And it's all woven in with mysteries of political terror in a dim corner of Asia.

Today the defendants were put on the witness stand. They say they are not guilty. But, the prosecution claims that those defendants executed a sinister decree, the decree of the Tashnag, a command to assassinate the Archbishop. And that takes us to strange affairs in a strange distant land.

It's always beguiling the way some outlandish thing happens in some outlandish place and reaches around the globe, right into our own work-a-day midst, to cause fantastic events right here among us.

One of the oldest and most historical countries on earth is Armenia -- and, one of the most tragical. For an age we were told of the oppression the Christian Armenians

suffered at the hands of the Moslem Turk. Then came the climax, the World War, the Armenian nation almost wiped out by the fanatic sons of Islam. We heard a great deal about that. But what has happened to the Armenian nation since? That question is brought into vivid light by the murder of the Archbishop in New York.

Most of what is left of the Armenian nation is now in Russia, in those wild mountains, the Caucasus. The Christian Armenians used to be under the dominion of the Mohammedan Turk. Now they're under the dominion of the anti-religious Red Communists. That makes a situation loaded with social explosive. A large proportion of the Armenians are bitterly hostile to the Soviets. But there is one faction within the Armenian Church that is playing ball with the Red rulers of Moscow. And the head of this pro-Bolshevik faction was the Archbishop Leon Tourian.

They nominated him to come to the United States, to be the spiritual head of the Armenians over here. He made no secret of his Communish sympathies. When Litvinoff, the Soviet Commissar of Foreign Affairs came to the United States last fall to negotiate with President Roosevelt for the recognition of Russia,

a grand banquet was held in his honor in New York. And only one churchman, one Ecclesiastical dignitary was present -- the Armenian Archbishop - Leon Tourian. In Chicago last year they celebrated "an Armenian Day", and that same Archbishop refused to make his speech until an anti-Soviet Armenian flag was removed from the stands. That created a disturbance. There was another disturbance for similar reasons when the Archbishop attended a big Armenian festivity in Massachusetts. Trouble and danger doings were brewing. And they came about swiftly in wild spectacular fashion.

Away in distant Armenia in the craggy Caucasian Mountains there is a mysterious terrorist society -- the Tashnag. It is the central Armenian revolutionary organization waging secret warfare against the Red regime. And it has its ramifications and tentacles all over the world, wherever Armenians are. And they say the Tashnag decreed the death of the Archbishop.

So the day came when this bustling Western metropolis of New York was startled by an act of melodramatic terror. The Archbishop, of towering stature, grey-bearded, majestic in full canonicals, with a golden mitre on his head and his shepherd's

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staff in his hand - stabbed to death by a party of swfit-acting
killers, struck down by knife thrusts as he led the Sunday procession
up the aisle of his church. Now it's all being thrashed out in a
New York courtroom.

HAYS

Another
~~An~~ interesting drama in a New York court: ~~It was~~ the spectacle of a Jewish lawyer pleading for the rights of anti-semitic Nazis in this country *--the right for them* to talk as they please. Arthur Garfield Hays, the lawyer in question, went even further than that. He pleaded for the rights of Nazis and Nazi sympathizers to express their animosity against the Jews.

Mr. Hays is a Jew himself and proud of it. But he has always been found in the front of any fight for freedom of speech, freedom of thought. He is counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union.

It seems strange that "The Friends of New Germany", which is what the Nazis call themselves in this country, should chose a Jewish attorney. Well, Arthur Garfield Hays appeared in court for them because as counsel for the Civil Liberties Union he considers it his duty. It's the old story of Voltaire. Remember how Voltaire said: "I disagree with everything you say, and I will defend with my life your right to say it."

ROOSEVELT

Although Congress has gone home, all eyes are still on Washington. Everybody is waiting, to learn the personnel of the new government ~~agencies~~ agencies created by the last Congress. For instance, there's the Commission of seven men to take over the ^{work} ~~work~~ of the old Federal Radio Commission. The new governing body for radio will be known as the Federal Communications Commission.

Then there are the new Stock Exchange Commission and the Federal Housing Committee.

Maybe that explains the presence of Postmaster Jim Farley, the Chief job distributor, at the President's Hyde Park home over the weekend.

These appointments constitute Mr. Roosevelt's principal concern while he is getting ready to go for his cruise through the Canal to Honolulu.

There is talk in Washington that before the President leaves he will have some other announcements to make, in addition to the appointments. These are changes in the N.R.A. Codes and in the policy of the N.R.A. The grapevine telegraph report is that

the President believes there should be fewer codes, fewer and simpler.

Oh, just a moment -- the President has something to say to us all right. And he is going to say it on Thursday evening over this network. It will be an address outlining his plans for the future.

DEFICIT - FOLLOW ROOSEVELT

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Uncle Sam's

~~The~~ Treasury deficit is much less than the President prophesied. More than a year ago he uttered the warning that in order to put through all the emergency measures necessary, the deficit for the year would be more than seven billion dollars.

It now becomes evident how shrewd Mr. Roosevelt was, in setting the figure at such a large sum. For instead of seven billion dollars the Federal deficit will be four billion. The Treasury collected over a billion dollars during the year, a huge increase. Most of this was because of more income taxes paid.

Nevertheless and notwithstanding, four billion is no mean sum for even a government to be in the red.

HOPKINS

Another way to save the country is on tap in Washington. The proud father of the idea is Harry Hopkins, Federal Relief Administrator. He ~~has expressed~~ says we've got to decentralize industry -- spread the factories all over the country, take the workers out of city tenements and put them in small houses with a plot of ground, where they can cultivate their own gardens and grow vegetables when they are not working in the factory. Of course, that sort of experiment has already been made at Readsville, West Virginia. It is called the Farm Homestead Subsistence Experiment. Henry Ford also had some visions of vegetable growing. So maybe he's the father of the idea. The theory of decentralized industry was also put forth in a book by Gina Lombroso, daughter of Lombroso, the anthropologist. She is the wife of the historian Ferrero. She strongly advocated reducing industry to small factory units - which probably makes her the mother of the idea. I guess that idea will have a hard time find^{ing} out who its parents are.

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However, right now it is saying "papa" to Harry Hopkins. He's an interesting fellow. Though a social service worker, there is nothing smug about him. In some ways he is more like a Hollywood

actor than a social worker. He plays bridge and poker, takes a drink and belongs to no church. He was married and divorced, married again and is the father of three sons and a two year old daughter. He is forty-three years old, long faced, with burning eyes and hair that is growing thin. He works in a tiny office with no clock because he doesn't want to know how late it is. He ought to try that *clockless, timeless idea* - ~~idea~~ - on the radio.

He is full of wisecracks. Once a Washington newspaper printed his picture and mislabeled him as the Attorney General. Harry Hopkins sent the picture to the Attorney General with a note saying: "I am delighted to see what a fine, upstanding young man you are getting to be. Your face is beginning to show real character and all your friends are delighted."

CHRYSLER

The annual outbreak of Commencement exercises is about over. Tonight one of the last is being held -- and one of the most interesting. There is something particularly attractive about an educational institution which makes a specialty of giving ~~a~~ workmen in an automobile factory a chance to study engineering ^{and get even a doctor's degree.} The fellow who works with tools and machines all day long should have a peculiar interest in the ~~the~~ theory and science that govern ^{his} ~~an~~ occupation, his life.

That's one of the main ideas at the Chrysler Institute ~~Institute~~ ^{of} Engineering in Detroit. Today twelve men, workmen in the Chrysler plant, are members of the graduation class and are receiving ~~an~~ degrees as mechanical engineers.

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But it isn't all mechanical and engineering, it's musical too. The tunefull proceedings are contributed by the Chrysler choir of two hundred men, all workers in the big automobile factory. Will they be accompanied by bassoons and French horns or by trip hammers and automobile horns?

GERMANY

In Germany a new kind of bootlegging has cropped up. The bootlegging of opinions. This has grown amazingly in the last few days, since that speech made by Vice Chancellor Von Papen - whispered opinions, secretly circulated pamphlets.

The Nazis control the press, the radio, all public utterances.

However, this may turn out in the long run to be a bad thing for them. Many a great history-making movement has gained enormous strength by being driven underground. Hence the popularity of bootlegged propaganda in the Fatherland.

The recent outburst of opposition has driven some of Hitler's supporters to wild extremes. For instance, one of his deputies, speaking over the radio, said: "The leader (meaning Hitler) is beyond human criticism. Everyone feels and knows he always has been right and always will be right."

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What comment can you make about that? It reminds me of one version of a story they tell in Italy. On the heights of Olympus, among the gods and goddesses, a visitor noticed that Jupiter was acting rather strangely. The visitor went to one of the goddesses and asked:

"What's the matter with Jupiter?"

"Oh," replied the goddess, "he thinks he's Mussolini!"

I suppose we might revamp that story and have it go this

way:

"What's the matter with Mussolini?"

"Oh, he thinks he's Hitler!"

TRADE WAR FOLLOW ENGLAND

Still another warlike word comes from London. However, this is trade war, not a bullet and bayonet war. The House of Commons has given the British government extraordinary powers for a commercial struggle. It gives the Cabinet authority to impound all German moneys in British dominions as a punishment for defaulting on German debts. Of course, Germany has threatened retaliation. The answer of the English Parliament is to give His Majesty's ministers the power for counter retaliation, to slap on all sorts of trade restrictions against any power.

ENGLAND

One day last week I mentioned that England was determined, like Japan, to abrogate the present naval agreement and build a stronger navy. It now turns out that the reason for this lies across the North Sea. Everybody in Great Britain is convinced that Hitler's protestations of peace and goodwill don't mean anything, and that Germany is secretly preparing for war.

So they say that John Bull is determined to have, once more, the strongest navy in the world -- and also to increase his air force and re-equip his army.

One significant thing is the tremendous reception that has been given in England to General Weigand, Inspector General of the French Army. It is apparent that he has been in England consulting with the British authorities on things to be done by France and England *in case of war.*

His visit has brought out one startling fact. England is again thinking about Belgium. John Bull is renewing his determination to defend the low countries, Belgium and Holland, against any attacks. England talking once more about Belgium and Flanders Fields -- that's something to think about.

GANDHI

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A Boy Scout band in India certainly did its day's good deed yesterday, did it quite unintentionally.

There was a mass meeting scheduled at Poona, a meeting at which Mahatma Gandhi in his scanties was to be the principal speaker. There was a huge crowd. The Boy Scout band was there, all set to play an anthem of welcome. There were also a couple of fellows with bombs, waiting to blow ^{right out of his scanties.} ~~up~~ the Mahatma, ^{PA} large automobile approached. The Boy Scouts, believing it to be the arrival of Gandhi, struck up the band. The horns blared and the piccolo shrilled. The bombers, taking their cue from the band, also assumed that it was Gandhi. They tossed a bomb into ~~the~~ ^{the} car. The missile exploded, and injured ~~at~~ five people. Gandhi of course was not ^{there at all.} ~~in the car~~. So the Boy Scout Band saved him from injury and possibly death.

This was not the first attempt that has been made on Gandhi's life during his present speaking tour. He says he is going right on. But he'll do the rest of it on foot. Maybe as penance.

GLIDER

The glider record is back in America now. It went to Germany three years ago when a young man named Gunther Groenhoff flew without power for a hundred and thirty-six miles. But now we have Richard Dupont of the ^{upcity up} Wilmington Duponts. A hundred and fifty-five miles in a glider was ~~the~~ ^{of young Dick of the Dynamite family.} astonishing exploit. What makes it more astonishing is that in gliding from Elmira, New York, to the Somerset Hills, ⁱⁿ New Jersey, he had to cross the dangerous ridge of the Allegheny Mountains, a ridge that has its perils even for planes equipped with ^{400 horse power} motors. Incidentally, he kept himself ^{there} up in the air for almost six hours.

I suppose he is bemoaning his hard luck. He was just fifteen miles short of winning the three thousand dollar prize put up by his father, a prize for the first man to glide from Elmira to New York City. ^{3 1/2} But after all what's 3000 bucks to Dynamite Dick of the T. N. T. fortune?

AIRLINE SLEEPER

Here's an old thorny problem that seems to be solved. I mean the problem of the upper. The railroads find that travelers prefer lowers. But it is different with the airplane, the flying sleeper, the Pullman of the sky. There's an exhibit at the Waldorf in New York right now, which shows a section of the first all-sleeper airplane, operated by the American Airlines.

In ^{that} ~~the~~ giant Curtiss-Wright Condor the cabin looks like a Pullman car -- when the berths are made up. Yes, there are uppers and lowers -- and the uppers are preferred. That's because they afford a better view through the windows. A better view of ^{the} ~~the~~ thrilling sights of night flying, the gleaming lights on the earth below, and the sheen of moonlight on billowing white clouds. So -- I'll take an upper, a sky-flying upper --

and -- SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.