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FORD

R.J. - Sunoco. Thurs., April 28, 1938.

This week's
~~The~~ big newspaper gathering in New York brings forth a
tonight--
first class headline - well, those editors and publishers should
know something about headlines. Tonight the American Newspaper
Publishers Association is staging its big banquet, and Henry Ford
will be there. The renowned motor magnate is much in the news
~~these days,~~ after his widely heralded luncheon at the White House,
and the instant question that was raised:- Did Henry Ford, the
New Deal antagonist, come to some understanding with the
President? Was there - a meeting of minds, as they call it?
Is Ford joining the group of biggest big business men who have
made an offer to cooperate with the New Deal administration?
So, there's headline importance in the announcement - Henry Ford,
a guest at the Publisher's Banquet tonight. And - Henry Ford
making a speech. ~~That ought to give some hint of his cooperation~~
~~or non-cooperation with the President and the New Deal.~~

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That's what I was thinking this noon at luncheon,
the New York Advertising Club Luncheon, where ~~a number of~~ *many of the*
top ranking publishers were ~~among the~~ *honor* guests. You ~~can~~ *can* surmise
what they were talking about - what would Henry Ford say at the

That was the theme as I sat
banquet tonight? ~~I was sitting~~[^] with James G. Stahlman, President
of the American Newspaper Publishers Association; Frank Noyes,
the retiring President of the Associated Press; Robert McLean,
the new A.P. President; [†] Ken Cooper, General Manager of the A.P.;
Hugh Bailey, head of the United Press; Roy Howard of the Scripps-
Howard papers; and ^{Merlin} ~~M.H.~~ Aylesworth, New York's ~~newest~~
newest publisher.

"What do you suppose Henry Ford will have to say tonight?"

I pressed the question.

"You never can tell," ^{said} ~~laughed~~ Frank Noyes, the retiring
A.P. President. "That's something you can never figure out. I
remember once Henry Ford was scheduled for a speech before ^{an important} ~~some~~
~~great~~ national ^{group.} ~~organization.~~ Every body was all keyed up for the
things he'd utter, the statement he'd make. Then Ford got up,
and this is what he said: 'I make automobiles - I don't talk
about them.' Then he sat down. That was the address he made." ^{So,}
^{laughed Frank Noyes,}
^{So,} "you can't tell what he'll talk about tonight."

Well, now that it's several hours later, ^{and} ~~perhaps~~ I can
tell, ~~and~~ let you in on ^{the} ~~a~~ secret. Henry Ford will talk about -

nothing. This bit of information developed during the afternoon in a press interview with the mogul of motordom. The newspaper reporters pressed the question on Ford - would he in his scheduled address to the publishers say anything about his luncheon with the President? Did he agree with the presidential policies? Was there any cooperation? Henry Ford responded as follows: "I shall attend the banquet," said he, "but I'm not going to make a speech. I'm just a guest."

To that a representative of the publishers replied: "Mr. Ford will of course be called upon, and the response he makes will be up to him."

Well, I could suggest a response for Henry - if he sticks to his determination not to make a speech. I think he ought to get up and just repeat the words attributed to him at the Ad Club Luncheon today. Just say all over again: "I make automobiles - I don't talk about them,"

In spite of all these complications, however, I think we can safely answer the question about the Ford-Roosevelt luncheon. Things that the king of autos has been saying indicate

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he sticks firmly to his lifelong philosophy, no change. He's still for individualism and keep the government out of business and cut out the spending. It's apparent that, White House luncheon and all, he's as firm as ever against the New Deal policies.

Today at ^{his}~~the~~ press conference he uttered some cryptic words, and I will leave it to you to guess what he meant - whom he meant. "There are a lot of people who are half asleep," said Henry Ford. "They're looking for a leader and they have one who is putting something over on them - and they deserve it. People ought to be their own leaders."

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What leader did he mean - who's putting something over? The question was instantly asked - did he mean some labor leader perchance? He refused to answer, wouldn't specify. ^{So}~~But~~ the remark remains cryptic - as cryptic or uncryptic as you choose to consider it.

FOLLOW FORD

Here's a late flash, hot off the wire, ~~xi~~ red hot.

Homer Martin, president of the Auto Workers Union, challenges Henry Ford to a debate. Martin wants Ford to match oratory with him on the ~~im~~ subject of unionism -- debated before the workers in the Ford plants.

Gee whiz, Homer, I'm afraid Henry isn't in debating mood these days. He's kind of silent and wordless. Don't you know, he makes automobiles -- ~~he~~ doesn't talk about them.

NAVY

(^{Why}~~What~~ of the big Navy? Why the huge appropriation for giant ships? In Washington today ~~the~~ Republican Senator Vandenburg of Michigan made a sharp answer to that.) The attack on the big Navy program is going on hot and heavy. Senator La Follette of Wisconsin made some strong statements against it this morning, including the charge that the President was using international war scares to divert attention from the economic conditions in

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this country. ^{Later on} ~~Then~~ Senator Vandenburg made his statement -- that the only reason for the stupendous Navy program is an unconfirmed article in an Italian newspaper.

(It all concerns those 45 thousand super-sea giants that Japan is supposed to be building.) We may recall that at the time when the 45 thousand report broke, we had some discussion of the fact that the source of information was a prominent Italian newspaper, "Giornale D'Italia" which in fact ^{is} ~~was~~ Mussolini's own paper. Today Senator Vandenburg waved the clipping from that Italian journal and declared the article was entirely unconfirmed. Furthermore he read a "New York Times" dispatch from Rome which intimated that there was probably no truth in the story of new Japanese warships of 45 thousand tons. "Yet," proclaimed the

Senator, "our program to build sea mammoths above the 35 thousand limit is because of nothing more than that unconfirmed Italian story."

~~There~~ a sharp attack indeed, although it does seem fantastic to think that the State Department and the Navy Department have no better information ~~in~~ of Tokio's battleship building plans than a mere rumor printed in Rome.

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NAVY

Who won the war? The big battle in the Pacific - the American fleet in its stupendous fight with the enemy? We don't know. Only the high naval command has the secret of the victory, only the most recondite of navy experts can figure it out.

The last action of the battle was fought last night off the California coast - the purple fleet thundering to the attack, and the green fleet thundering just as loud in the defense of the American shore.

Among those who don't know who won the battle are fifty-six thousand gobs. They were in the thick of it, firing the guns, ^{They arnt} ~~firing up in the engine rooms. They're no higher~~ strategists, and all they know is that the great manoeuvres are over, and now - it's shore leave for them. You can have the victory, they'll take the shore leave.

The State Department this afternoon officially confirmed a previous report from Berlin -- that the American ambassador is looking into that latest Nazi decree, which requires all Jewish property in Germany to be listed with the Nazi authorities. Goering, the economic dictator is making this move with a view of "utilizing" Jewish property and wealth. That's the word used -- ~~utilize~~ ^{utilize. But the surmise is, confiscate!} The decree affects not only the property of German Jews but also the possessions in Germany of Jews living abroad. ~~These~~ ^{many, many,} Thus it would affect Jewish American citizens and that's what evokes the interest of the United States government. *And it,*

Hugh brings the report that Ambassador Wilson in Berlin will demand that the Nazi government ^{clarify} ~~verify~~ and explain; Just how does the decree affect the American property of Jewish American citizens?

At the State Department, Assistant-Secretary Sumner Welles said today that Washington is watching the situation, and is ~~xxx~~ receiving full reports from the ambassador in Berlin.

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LONDON

Agreement on all points - that's the word from London.

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(Today the British and the French began their conferences designed to reenforce the union between those old partners, Britain and France. A virtual alliance for war and peace is planned,) so they say. The British, headed by Prime Minister Chamberlain, and the French delegation led by Premier Daladier, had two sessions, before and after lunch, and the diplomatic day ended with the issuance of an official statement which summarizes it in these words: "Full agreement has been reached on all points discussed."

What points? We are told that the British-Italian agreement was talked over, with the Paris delegation saying complimentary things to the London statesmen. The French added that their negotiations for an agreement with Italy are progressing satisfactorily. Here's one point that was not discussed - Czechoslovakia. Not that they're going to pass over the troubles and perils of that little republic ⁱⁿthreatened by Hitler. They didn't consider Czechoslovakia today, because the theme is so important they're going to devote a whole session to it. A large whole file of documents was delivered to the conference, documents

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prepared by Czechoslovakia for guidance - the Prague government giving its own analysis of the problem raised by the three and a half million Germans within its borders, and the eighty million Germans just beyond its frontier.

Tonight the Anglo-French parleys turned to the ceremonial side. The French delegation is having dinner with King George and Queen Elizabeth - entertained at Windsor Castle.

POPE

The interesting and significant theme of a possible visit
by Hitler to the Pope is in the news again tonight. Mussolini
wants Hitler to see Pope Pius and have a conference with him.
This was stated in a semi-official newspaper at Rome.

And the latest is - official
confirmation with the Italian
Government expressing its hope
that Hitler will visit the pope.

DIONNE

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The Attorney General of Ontario handed down a decision today in the renowned case of the Dionne quintuplets. He gave his answer to the demand put in by Oliva Dionne, the father, the paternal demand that there be an investigation of the guardianship over the famous five little girls. The decision of Attorney General Gordon-Conant is - No. There'll be no investigation - he sees no need of one. So things will go on just as they are. Dr. Dafoe, physician to the quins, will keep his place on the board of guardianship - although he offered to step out, to placate the father.

The Attorney General pointed out that the case of the quins has already been investigated by Percy Wilson, the Ontario chief gardian, - who made certain recommendations. These recommendations ^{are to go} ~~have gone~~ into effect. ^{They} ~~He~~ suggested that some of the money ^{in the Quintuplet} ~~be put into~~ trust fund ~~to~~ be used to educate the other Dionne children, brothers and sisters of the five. Right now the father, Oliva Dionne, is getting an allowance of a hundred dollars a month, this to be increased to three hundred dollars a month. The religious aspect for the bringing up of the quins to

be carefully considered, they coming from a French-Canadian Catholic family. Also - steps to be taken to ameliorate the hostility that exists between the parents and guardians of the little girls. These things ^{are} to be done, as is affirmed by today's decision - refusing an investigation into the guardianship.

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REDFERN

The widow of Paul Redfern was today informed of the report that the Waldeck expedition to South America had finally ~~approx~~ proved ⁿ that the missing aviator was dead. She replied ^{no comment} ~~that she~~ would not say ~~anything~~ ^{hear} until she ~~had heard~~ directly from the expedition. She added that she herself was convinced that her husband, lost a number of years ago on a flight across tropical jungle, was no longer among the living.

The cable message from the Waldeck expedition, just returned ~~returned~~ ⁿ from the inner jungle, is brief but significant. "Arrived Georgetown today," it says. "Location of plane found. Have specimen. Decayed." This indicates that the expedition discovered the crashed plane of the American flyer, parts of it half decayed in the dank thicket of the tropics.

SLAP

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There are times when misfortune comes to a man, and all you can say is - he should have known better. In Philadelphia, a cartoonist got his face slapped, and he should have known what any cartoonist should know - be mighty careful when you draw a caricature of a lady. Nobody has to be told that in a caricature, the human face ^{and figure are} is not exactly beautified, and it's well known in history that ladies can be touchy on the subject of their beauty, ^{and their figures.} and their faces. Also - ladies can slap.

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Philadelphia Cartoonist Lou Hirschman drew a caricature on Ballarina Catherine Littlefield. She's a star of the Philadelphia ballet. Hirschman sketched her in one of her most esthetic ballet costumes. And he drew her - as a wild Indian.

Today to the Hirschman studio came Ballarina Catherine Littlefield. She was accompanied by two gentlemen whom the cartoonist describes as - big, husky brutes. Hirschman himself is neither big, nor husky, nor a brute. The ballarina walked over to the picture ^{- the caricature} of herself as a wild war dancing Indian, seized it, and ripped it to shreds. Then she turned to Cartoonist Hirschman and slapped him in the face. Slap! Slap!

This episode has the Philadelphia arty set buzzing with comment. Hirschman says he resents not the slap in his face but the slap at his art. The ballerina says the ^{offending} ~~pending~~ cartoon was a slap at her art. You slapped my art and I slap your face - seems to be the idea.

Well, as art it all seems ^{like} ~~to be to be~~ a lot of slapstick.

And now Hugh
What from you?

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