

FARES

C.I. - Sunoco. Monday, March 25, 1940.

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People in the eastern states were rejoicing today because they can travel more cheaply. A new ruling of the Interstate Commerce Commission went into effect this morning. The maximum rate for passengers in coaches on the eastern railroads is two cents a mile. And round trips have been reduced so that in some places they're as low as one and a half. ~~cents, a mile~~. For instance, between New York and Chicago you can now go for eighteen dollars and twenty cents, [^] reduced from twenty-two sixty-nine. By the same ~~tax~~ token, the bus lines have reduced fares in some cases as much as thirty per cent. The Interstate Commerce Commission believes that with a lower rate, the railroads will get so many more passengers, that the revenue will be greater. Incidentally, from coast to coast, round trip, the fare ^{now} is ninety dollars. ~~that's~~ To enable people to see both the New York and the San Francisco World's Fares.

CANFIELD

Here's an adventure story from the Census Bureau. Out in Idaho, there's a romantic but desolate region called "the Panhandle." Only about one person per square mile lives there. On your maps you'll find it described as the "Salmon River country." In the language of prospectors and timber men, it's called "the River of No Return."

Tough as it is, the census needs to know all about that one person per square mile population. The Census Bureau offered the job to no fewer than half a dozen men, and they all dodged it. So finally Uncle Sam has to rely upon a woman, Mrs. Elva A. Canfield, sixty years old. She has started out already, got together her pack with bedding and food, and fastened on her skis. Her route will take her along the canyons of the Salmon River, in some places to an altitude of six thousand feet, and deep into vast canyons. She will have more than two hundred and fifty miles of skiing to do in order to ask questions of sheep herders, rangers, Indians and a few, mighty few, farmers.

Sixty year old Mrs. Canfield makes no bones about that job. "There's nothing to be afraid of. The trees and the animals are Nature, and Nature is God," says she. She carried no weapons

whatsoever because she says a person is safer in the woods than
in the city. As a matter of fact, she has taken that ski trek
before. She covered ~~that~~^{the} same area for a farm census. So ~~really~~
she'll be covering what is to her, old ground. ^{And} Sometimes she'll ^{go}
~~be two or three~~^{for} days without ~~seeing~~^{seeing} talking to a soul.

YANKEES

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How would you like to own a ball team? That's an ambition of many people, young and old. Here's your chance, ~~since it is~~ ~~new page one news that~~ ^{For} the world's champion ^{the} New York Yankees, are on the market.

^{To some this will hardly} ~~To many sportsmen this won't even~~ be news. ~~the~~ ~~rumor~~ has been in the air for a long while. In fact ever since shortly after the death of the late Colonel Jake Ruppert. The principal owners of the Yankees ^{today,} ~~you may remember~~ are three ladies, nieces, and a friend of Colonel Ruppert. Evidently, the ladies feel that owning a world's champion club - ^{and what a} ~~and what a~~ world's champion club! - is men's work.

What makes the sale of the Yankees news today is a copyright story in the NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM that the strongest bidders for that fence-busting team are two eminent politicoes, Postmaster General Farley, no less, and James Cox of Ohio, former Governor and former candidate for president. However, as soon as that report became public, ^{Gov.} ~~Mr.~~ Cox hastened to say it isn't so. Then he added:- "I'm a newspaper publisher and ~~am~~ planning to stick to that."

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But, there's no denial from Postmaster Jim. It is also related that Joe Paterson, of the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, has been dickering for the Yanks. All this comes on top of the report put out by our amaranthine^{""} colleague, Walter Winchell, that the most formidable bidder of all was another colleague, Major Edward Bowes. The versatile major has tackled many a line of endeavor in his rich and colorful life and done well at ~~any~~ every one of them. It is pretty reliably reported that he has accumulated no less than three separate and distinct fortunes and held on to all three. If he took over the Yankees he would probably make a fourth.

WAR

From Europe comes word of stern doings in ~~the~~ northern seas.

Britain getting ready for more
~~John Bull is evidently girding his loins for more desperate and~~

aggressive action. The Lords of the British Admiralty are tightening the ~~the~~ blockade; ~~tightening it~~ in a difficult, delicate and dangerous spot. In war-time the waters from the North Sea to the Baltic are particularly perilous. Narrow and rockbound, they lend themselves easily to mine defenses by the Germans.

In spite of this, it is reported that British warships are keeping

a close
~~a hazardous~~ watch over the Skagerrak, ~~that~~ *the* ~~highly~~ watery

doorway between Denmark and Norway. They ~~are~~ *are* even reported

barricading the Kattegat, that historic channel which separates

Denmark from Sweden.

The report from Copenhagen is that the Nazis have

already felt the force of this rigid blockade. Heretofore, *more*

in spite of the war, ~~their~~ *German* freighters have been plying from the

mouth of the River Elbe, steaming close to the Danish coast,

then dashing across the Skagerrak into Norwegian waters, so as to

get to a northern port where they take aboard those valuable

Swedish ores. But since the British ~~are tightening the screws~~ *grew more aggressive*
~~on the blockade~~, the German Admiralty has ~~ordered~~ *ordered* its freighters home.

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SCANDINAVIA FOLLOW WAR

That British blockade is not greeted with loud cheers
by the Scandinavian countries. It makes the plight of Norway,
Sweden and Denmark ^{every} more difficult to endure than ~~it was~~ before,
~~and that was plenty.~~ The Norwegian Government in particular is
complaining that British warships are violating Norway's neutrality,
^{steaming}
~~sailing~~ over the boundary line into Scandinavian territorial waters.
They ^{are} protest ^{ing} the sinking of those two German freighters in the
~~Skagerrak~~ Skagerrak.

TURKEY

The war commentators have been prophesying trouble in the Near East, and here's a symptom to back them up. The Turks grew loud ⁱⁿ criticisms of the Nazis today. ^{Turkish} ~~Their~~ editors started what ^{is} ~~was~~ evidently a concerted ^{newspaper} attack on German ambitions in the southeast. Their editorials ~~were~~ the usual sort of thing for such an occasion. ^{It} The ~~only~~ important part of it all is that the Turks ^{are on the} ~~continue to be~~ aggressive, ~~show no signs of weakening in their~~ ~~stern opposition to Nazi and Bolshevik ambitions.~~

BERLIN FOLLOW TURKEY

The Turkish outburst

~~The eruption of bile in Turkey,~~ followed the rumor that Berlin had sent an ultimatum to Roumania. ~~Incidentally,~~ *which* ~~that report~~ was officially denied at Bucharest. And, the denial is echoed today in Berlin. An inspired statement in Hitler's capital has it that the Nazi Government is going to be firm with the Roumanians but is not putting any pressure on them.

The crux of it all is that the Nazis are dissatisfied with the decreasing volume of supplies they're getting from Roumania. For instance, they expected much more oil. Now, it has been said by petroleum experts that the Roumanian oil fields are becoming exhausted and that the Germans can't expect any more than they ~~are~~ *are now* getting. This is what the Germans can't swallow. They refuse to believe it. Furthermore, they aren't getting as much grain supplies as they expected. ~~And that's~~ *all* because the Roumanian army is mobilized for defense, consequently a lot of labor has been drawn away from the fields. *And* ~~that's~~ *is* one of the things the German military mission in Bucharest is trying to bring about; ~~persuade~~ King Carol to demobilize part of his army and get out more crops.

PLANES

Uncle Sam

~~Our government~~ is easing ^{a bit on} ~~up the xxxxx~~ restrictions ^{regarding}

^{the} sale of planes to Great Britain and France. Some five or six hundred new fighting aircraft being made for Uncle Sam, are to be released for export. The Allies have placed orders for several thousands which haven't been filled, ^{so} the idea is to help manufacturers fill those orders.

This isn't official. ^{But} ~~the~~ story ~~xxxxx~~ as it ^{comes} from Washington is that this new policy has been agreed upon by the chief officers of the Army and Navy and the President. But, ~~there is~~ ~~a string to it.~~ [†] The decision is only tentative. ^{so far.}

DIES

The Dies Committee ~~today~~ ^{is} back in action. ~~once more~~ ^{Today it}

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heard testimony from an American Bolshevik. James H. Dolsen is a member of the Red Party from Pittsburgh. He told the Congressmen that American Reds sometimes have phoney names on their membership cards. The Committee showed him a card on which was written the name "Franklin D. Roosevelt." And Dolsen explained ^{that} it belongs to some other person who used ~~that~~ ^{the} name for his own protection. Chairman Dies asked him whether the Communist Party allows members to use the names of important people, even of the President. Dolsen replied that a person can use any name he wants.

~~A not interesting statement of the Dies Committee~~
~~It was another interesting session of the Dies Committee~~

~~today~~. The Pittsburgh Bolshevik had more than one run-in with the Committee, was quite defiant, and refused to answer questions. ~~He~~ ^{He} ~~refused~~ ^{ed} claiming his constitutional rights, the rights given him by our Constitution which he and his mates want to overthrow.

The Committee evidently became a bit ~~irritated~~ bored by that. They insisted upon knowing the identity of the Bolshevik who had used the President's name on his party membership card. Dolsen stuck to his guns. So later in the day the Committee voted

to cite him for contempt.

The Congressmen ^{on the Committee also} ~~on the Dies Committee had been curious~~
~~about one point of the party line. Like many other people, they~~
wondered how, even a Bolshevick could claim that the Russian invasion
of Finland was self-defense, self-defense for the Russians. Dolsen
explained ^{it} ~~the party line~~ in this way:- He said it was a war forced
on Russia by ^{Chamberlain} ~~Chamberlain and his group~~ and Daladier. Dolsen also
spoke in praise of the Russian soldiers, saying, "They showed what
they were made of by breaking through the Mannerheim Line."

Evidently he was quite proud of the Russians.

He also told the Committee a lot about the beauties of
Russia, the opportunities for youth - ~~there's~~ no unemployment in
Russia, ^{and so on. When} ~~When he was~~ Asked why he didn't go to Russia, he replied
that he is an American citizen and doesn't see why he should have to
go there.

~~It's worth remembering that the line of thought that~~
~~this Pittsburgh Bolshevick revealed today would be compulsory for all~~
~~of us if he and the gentry of that stripe had their way in the~~
~~United States.~~

GRAFT

25-
A rather spectacular trial began this day at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The defendants at the bar were eight of the foremost leaders of the Democratic Party in Pennsylvania. This is another aftermath of the ^{now} ~~two~~ over the so-called Little New Deal, the administration of former Governor ~~George H.~~ Earle, now Uncle Sam's Minister to Bulgaria. The principal defendant is David Lawrence, Democratic State Chairman. He and his colleagues all pleaded not guilty. They're charged with having conspired to squeeze political contributions out of state employees.

CAMERA

There had been two burglaries at a theatre in Plymouth, Massachusetts, ^{at} the Old Colony Theatre. One of the employees of ~~that theatre~~ is a camera fan, likewise a bit of an electrician. So he rigged up a gadget. It consisted of a synchronized electric circuit, a hidden camera, and a series of flash bulbs.

When ~~that~~ ^{is} amateur photographer showed up for his job at the theatre, he found the circuit had been broken. In the camera was an exposed negative. When it was developed it showed a clear and recognizable photograph of the intruder. ^{And} When the photograph was shown to the chief of police he immediately recognized the subject and arrested an eighteen year old lad, a graduate of a reform school. The lad started to protest his innocence. But the sight of ~~that~~ ^{uncanny} photograph made all denials useless. And the police now declare that he ^{has} confessed to nine other burglaries.

~~Which tends to show that there is more than one usefulness for a camera fan.~~

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EGG ROLLING FOLLOW EASTER

At Washington, twenty-six thousand and fifty-eight children assembled on the south lawn of the White House. There was a fierce wind bringing ten or eleven degrees of frost, but evidently you can't daunt the youth of Washington on Easter Monday. From the feel of the air they ought to have been singing Christmas carols but they were there to roll eggs on the White House lawn, and roll eggs they did, twenty-six thousand and ~~fifty-eight~~ fifty-eight of them. ~~It~~ Mrs. Roosevelt ~~hadn't~~ had the eggs cooked extra hard, ^{and the First Lady} ~~they would have cracked on the frozen ground. She also~~ ~~was~~ undaunted by the weather, appeared on the lawn ~~shortly before~~ ~~ten o'clock~~ in riding clothes and no hat.

~~The only thing missing from the annual egg rolling was the President himself. Although his cold is better, doctor's orders kept him indoors and he attended to several matters of official business in the study of the White House.~~

SKI WEDDING

As further evidence that Winter is still with us, how about that ski wedding up ~~on~~ the Eastern Slopes, at the foot of Mt. Washington? With the bride and bridgroom, the parson, and all the guests, assembled on a nice cozy snowbank; ~~with~~ the frost king's outdoor chapel decorated with up-ended skis and ski poles; ~~a~~ wintry wind whistling the wedding march; ~~the~~ bride carrying a handsome bouquet of snow balls - with which to pelt the bridegroom as soon as she became his Little Woman, no doubt. ^{TP} The wedding vows were spoken. The couple then cut a wedding cake-of-ice for their one hundred ^{odd} friends, and then half numb with the twenty degree cold, and with frostbitten ears and noses, they all started jauntily and merrily ~~off~~ for the Tuckerman head wall.

EASTER BLIZZARD

Reports of that weekend blizzard are still coming in from the North -- particularly from Canada, and the Adirondacks. Thousands of ski enthusiasts who went to the Laurentians to enjoy a few days of sunny Spring skiing ran into the stiffest winter weather of the whole year. Instead of Spring skiing, the kind where you shed most of your garments and go shirling down the sun-bathed slopes garbed as though you were in the tropics, the skiers found it necessary to put on their red flannels, pile on the sweaters, and put up the hoods of their parkas. Yes, it was a storm that will enable the skiers to continue their sport for at least another month.

In the Adirondacks a number of parties were marooned. Relief expeditions were organized by Acting Mayor Del Coburne and led by explorer Jacques Charmox from Patagonia. Olympic Bob sledder Hubert Stevens, Iron-man Bob Kehoe, and others. Some, when brought through the storm, were almost ready to drop in the snow and end it all like so many Russian soldiers, -- they had to fight their way through a howling blizzard in which they couldn't see. The press wires today are carrying many odd bits of information concerning the unseasonable Easter weather. For instance, there's the one about the passengers on the express

train between Montreal and Chicago. They kept wondering why the train was stopping so often. The reason was, to pick up motor car travelers who were stranded along the ~~main~~ main line.

I have just been talking to Joe Ryan at Mont Tremblant, way up in the Laurentians. He tells me that eight thousand skiers were obliged to spend the entire night on snow-bound trains in the Laurentians -- probably the largest number of skiers ever stranded in America, or anywhere. But, he added, that the wind has now blown itself out, leaving the mountains buried far deeper with snow than they were in January and February.

Spring is here? Where? *Maybe Hugh knows. How about it Hugh?*

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