

L.J. - Lunoco. Thurs, July 7, 1938

NEW YORK CONVENTION.

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The time was a few years ago when plain speaking and downright sense from Al Smith were a phenomenon of this nation. The man in the ~~xxx~~ brown derby was known for his vigorous, picturesque language, and his salty phrases. And today it was the same old Al, expressing himself bluntly, talking right out in class.

It was at the New York Constitutional Convention in Albany, where there's a fight to take the anti-gambling provision out of the State Constitution. Al got up before the assemblage of solemn statesmen and declared himself thusly:

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"Horse race betting is rampant throughout the State", said he. "Everybody bets, even the Judges bet." And then he followed with a typical brown derby bit of candor. "I made a bet myself when I was Governor, ~~he confessed~~ "I got a hot tip from a State official. And only regret was that the horse I bet on chased all the rest around the track."

Al said that if there were any real attempt to stop gambling in New York State, there wouldn't be enough Police to arrest the offenders, ~~or~~ enough jails to hold them. He

pointed out that the anti-gambling clause of the State Constitution was so broad and vague, that nobody had any precise idea what constitutes gambling. And again he resorted to the picturesque.

"I come out of church on Sunday morning," said he, "and a little girl runs up and asks me to take a chance on an automobile for the benefit of an Orphan Asylum. I answer 'Yes', ~~give her~~ give her ten cents, and tell her to mark down her own name. Now, "argued Al, "No one would charge that the little girl and I had done anything wrong. Yet we had violated the penal laws. The little girl and I had trampled the State Constitution under our feet."

Then he made a suggestion: "Give us a real definition of what constitutes gambling."

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HINES.

In New York's big racketeering prosecution, the Court today denied the petition of James H. Hines - the far famed Tammany leader. Jimmy Hines is accused by prosecutor Thomas Dewey of having received large moneys from the Dutch Schultz numbers racket, in return ^{for} ~~of~~ using political influence in the Courts to protect the gang. He's indicted along with various other defendants in the racketeering case, including Dixie Davis - who was Dutch Schultz's lawyer. Jimmy Hines made a plea to the Court, asking two things. A change of venue, transfer his trial to some place else, because of publicity and prejudice. And grant him a separate trial, dont make him face the Court along with the others accused. But today New York Supreme Court Justice Pecora ruled against Hines and decreed he must go to trial as scheduled.

McCALL

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Today the Florida board of pardon handed down its decision in the case of Franklin Pierce McCall, sentenced to death for the kidnapping ~~of~~ and murder of five year old Jimmy Cash. And in the proceedings that led to the verdict there was a scene of tense emotional drama.

When
~~The~~ the Pardons Board was considering the plea for mercy, two women met in the outer office of the Governor - two grieving mothers. One - the mother of the kidnapper, McCall. The other - the mother whose child he ~~is~~ killed. The two women were not strangers. Mrs. McCall's husband used to be the pastor of the Nazarene Church in the little town of ~~Princeton~~, where the crime occurred, and she's the mother of the present pastor of ~~that~~ church. And Mrs. Cash is well known in Princeton, her husband a storekeeper and gasoline station owner, a prominent citizen.

When the two mothers ~~was~~ saw each other, they both broke into tears. The white haired Mrs. McCall went to ~~xxxx~~ Mrs. Cash, and spoke to her sobbing, ~~he~~ begged her to join in the plea for mercy. She implored the mother of the

murdered child to help her save her ^{boy.} Mrs. Cash shook her
head. "Your son not only killed my son," she wept, "But he
as good as killed my husband and myself. No punishment can
pay for his crime, or relieve us of our misery."

She refused to intercede for mercy, whereupon the
pardon board handed down its verdict:- ~~the~~ plea denied. The
board refused to commute the sentence of death on Franklin
Pierce McCall.

COLORADO

The report is that the party of scientists voyaging down the Colorado River is safe. It's more than two weeks since they set out to navigate the raging rapids of that most perilous river - for the purpose of making scientific observations. Long overdue, missing, - until today's report.

All we have is a flash from an amateur radio operator out in that isolated section, presumably in southern Utah, a flash that reads: "Colorado party a hundred miles above Lee's Ferry."

There's no indication of what may have happened to the scientific expedition of six -- including the woman; ~~no word~~ whether they were wrecked and marooned somewhere along the river. And there's no confirmation of the report that they're safe.

I said the other night that maybe Clyde Eddy, the explorer who knows the wild Colorado better than anyone, who has shot it both in high and low water, might again have to fly out there on a mission of rescue. But, if this radio flash is correct he can stay right in New York at the Explorers Club and spin yarns of his own adventures fighting the world's wildest river.

HOLY LAND.

(Two British cruisers ordered to Haifa in the Holy Land, ^{and} that's an indication of the gravity of the ^{present} trouble ~~there~~, the fighting between Arabs and Jews.) H. M. S. Emerald, a crack cruiser of the British navy, was on its way to the station at ~~Mi~~ Malta. Today the London Admiralty announces the Emerald has been ordered to change her course to Haifa. ~~Repulse~~ Moreover, the thirty-two-thousand-ton battle cruiser Repulse, one of Britain's sea giants, is due to arrive at Haifa tomorrow. The warships are to aid in the suppression of the shooting and the rioting. And another brigade of troops, numbering four to five thousand men, has been ordered to Palestine. That makes ~~three~~ three brigades dispatched to the Holy Land since last autumn.

(These naval and military reports emphasize the news that the bitter struggle in the Holy Land is flaring to a new pitch of violence and terror.)

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OFFICERS

No, there is to be ~~x~~ no purge of the officers of the United States Army. So says the War Department. However, a lot of officers will be retired from active service. This is described by the words - "Safety valve". Safety valve for the list of promotions. The Army now has a whole age level of officers whose careers go back to the World War. And, promotion being according to seniority rules, they stop the advancement of younger men. So, several hundred of ~~the less efficient of~~ these wartime officers are to be retired - to clear the way for the juniors to get ahead.

REFUGEES.

Today Belgium spoke up in support of the American refugee plan. But that very declaration of support was an indication of the difficulty of the problem. The Belgian delegate at Evian declared that his Government approved of the United States proposal to establish a permanent commission for the aid of the oppressed, help them to get out of the countries where they're deprived of human rights. But where shall they go? The Belgian delegate described his own country as already overcrowded, with no room for new comers. He said the same thing applied to nations like England and France.

And there's an echo of that in England, where the general secretary of the medical practitioners union today denounced the bringing of Austrian refugee Doctors to England. "We have decided to circularize every Doctor in the British Isles," said he. "We shall communicate with every member of Parliament." And he added that if that didn't work, ~~there~~ there might be a stay-in strike of the British Doctors - a sit-down strike. Well, Doctors are used to sitting at patient's bedsides. The serious point of it all is - the way an influx of refugees

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might affect the already crowded professions in various nations.

CANADA

Perkins Bull of Toronto, is the head of an old family with large estates given over to the care of dairy cattle. The career of wealthy Perkins Bull has been attended by an element of mystery.

Seven years ago he was hurt in an auto accident between Chicago & Toronto, and there were strange rumors that the cause of the accident was -- gangster bullets, shot at by Chicago mobsters. Later Toronto newspapers published stories saying that the gunmen of Al Capone were in Toronto, and their purpose was to get Perkins Bull. In Chicago there was an investigation concerning the stay of the prominent Canadian in that city and the reasons why he left. These rumors about underworld and gangsters were all denied.

One of the particular friends of Perkins Bull was

William Horlick, founder of the malted milk fortune. A few years ago Horlick's daughter, heiress to the wealth made from malted milk figured in a law suit filed by her husband. The husband sued his wife and Perkins Bull. The case was settled out of Court. For the past year the malted milk heiress, now a widow, lived as a guest at the Toronto home of the diary farming Canadian --. Now she has died -- and ~~There~~ Toronto authorities have ~~order~~ ordered an investigation.

CANADA AVIATION

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There was an announcement in the British House of Commons today that Canada has made an offer to help British military aviation. Canada is willing to establish aviation centers to train Royal Air Force Flyers. There has been some recent debate about this in Canada, and now Premier Mackenzie King has come forward with today's offer. And, it was quickly accepted. The London government is sending an officer to the Dominion to work out plans to establish Canadian centers for the Royal Air force.

AVIATION

At Albany today papers were filed for the formation of a corporation to be called "The Association Of Men With Wings." And in the documents submitted to the New York Secretary of State it is specified that the immediate purpose of the association is to bring back to the United States the historic airplane with which the Wright Brothers made the first successful flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. The President of this new corporation is Colonel ^{Charles "Chuck"} Kerwood, World War member of the Lafayette Escadrille, ^{and a famous} ~~an~~ aviation soldier of fortune. Among the members ~~is~~ are such pilots of renown as Frank Hawks and Casey Jones.

Everybody interested in aviation will be a hundred per cent for the effort of the men with wings to bring back the ~~the~~ famous Wright plane from the Kensington Museum in London. It was sent abroad as a result of the dispute between the Wright Brothers and the Smithsonian Institution, which championed the aviation pioneering claim of its own great faculty member, Professor Langley. (The Wright Brothers thought that the

Smithsonian Institution was ~~infringing~~ infringing their own

honors as the first ~~to fly.~~ *human beings to fly. Anyhow!* ~~But~~ the historic Kitty Hawk

plane belongs in the United States.

FARMER

Near Weatherford, Oklahoma lives a farmer named Herman Schapansky, who until several years ago lived an uneventful agricultural life. Those several years ago Herman suddenly became air minded and took a few flying lessons at a nearby airport. And that inspired him with his great idea. He thought -- it would be a wonderful thing to fly his butter and eggs to the market. Ever since, Herman has been trying to do just that --- but without success. Time after time he procured and patched together an old warplane, loaded it with tubs of butter and crates of eggs, and took off. But every time he crashed. And you can imagine how crashing a crash can be when the plane is full of eggs, with butter for the fatty content. Herman's butter and egg crack-ups have been the talk and the wonder of the local Oklahoma countryside.

Today he made another attempt, with a patched-up plane knocked together out of aviation material and old automobile parts. And he loaded aboard an extra heavy cargo of smeary butter and fragile eggs. This time the trouble started right

with the take-off. As the plane lifted off the ground, it lost one wheel of the landing gear. Herman observed this and was worried. He had had enough trouble on previous occasions landing with two wheels. So as he flew, he tried to figure things out.

On the ground, watching him were his wife and children. His wife saw things go wrong on the take-off, and immediately she started getting out the family car to bring Herman back, alive, if lucky. She was used to that. ~~Times before~~ She had *often* driven in the old bus to fetch him in previous crashes. So she knew just what to do.

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But this time she didn't have to. Herman, ^{up there} flying, figured things out --- remembering that he read about crack pilots who made one wheel landings. He thought he'd better try it on his own farm, where he knew the lay of the ground. So back to the farm he came winging. The landing he made is described in his own words as follows: - " I held my breath, and side-slipped 'er down -- easy-like. We hit the grass and went wiggling across the pasture like a crippled duck. We crow-hopped about a

8 1/2 hundred yards and folded up against a fence."

Yes, the ~~an~~ plane, Herman and all the butter and eggs folded up against the fence. It was one enormous smear of butter and an immense yellow goo of busted eggs - all mixed together, with Herman scrambled in the colorful ooze. His

wife and children dragged him out, felt him all over for

broken bones.

And there were none.

~~Nothing fractured -- so Herman is ready to have another try at his life's ~~ambition~~ delivering his~~

~~butter and eggs to the market by the sky route.~~

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9 1/4
~~I think~~ Wallace Kellett ought to loan Herman one of his fool proof autogyros. Or Franks Hawlos might give him one of those never-crash Swinn Air Cars, so Herman can realize his life's ambition and deliver his butter & eggs by the sky route. *f s-l-u-t-m.*