

HAGUE

P.S. - Lunoco. Monday, June 5, 1939.

Some time ago

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~~The friends of~~ Mayor Hague of Jersey City ~~will readily admit~~
~~that he is a tough scrapper. Some time ago he~~ put down his foot
and said that no C.I.O. union organizers should do any organizing
in his bailiwick. In his time ^{Hague} ~~he~~ has defied legislative committees,
and ~~even~~ members of Congress. He would allow nobody to talk in
Jersey City if he thought they were going to say anything that ran
against his principles. He ~~has even~~ ordered his police to deport
speakers of whose opinions he didn't approve *and Jersey City*
didn't approve.

enemies
The ~~name~~ ^{of} Mayor Hague have compared him to that
legendary judge in Texas, who is said to have declared:- "I am the
law west of the Pecos." Frank Hague, so his enemies say, has taken
the attitude that he was the law in Jersey City. But today he got
his big set-back. The Supreme Court of the United States ~~told him~~
~~off.~~ ^{decreed} ~~Said the high tribunal~~ in effect:- "You must not stop any
people from exercising their rights to assembly, of free speech
and free press." It was not a unanimous opinion. Mr. Justice
McReynolds and Mr. Justice Pierce Butler dissented, said that
Hague was all right. But the majority opinion was written by a
conservative, Mr. Justice Owen Roberts, who ^{put it this way:-} ~~said~~ "Citizenship

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of the United States would be little better than a name if it did not carry with it the right to discuss national legislation and the benefits, advantages and opportunities to accrue to citizens therefrom." ~~And he added that all of the activities forbidden by Mayor Hague and his police had a that single end in aim, to prevent citizens from exercising their constitutional rights.~~ The Supreme Court therefore approved the injunction against Hague and his police, issued by the district court.

It became evident why the high judges took so long making their decision. It took five separate opinions for the justices to express themselves. And at that, two of them, Frankfurter and Douglas, took no part in the judging of the case. The dissent of Justice McReynolds declared that the injunction is an unwarranted interference with the essential rights of a municipality to control its own parks and streets.

Mayor Hague himself didn't have anything to say about this ruling. But his personal counsel ^{did:-} ~~said:-~~ "The pronouncement of the Supreme Court is the last word. ~~Regardless what the opinions hold,~~ It will be followed implicitly by the Mayor and every member of the city administration," *said he.*

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FORCE BILL

The House of Representatives today was considering a bill to increase the punishment of spies in peacetime. Suddenly an amendment popped up offered by Democratic Representative McCormack of Massachusetts. This amendment makes it a felony for anybody to urge the upsetting of the government by force. ~~The amendment put teeth into the prohibition also, for it made~~ any agitation of this ^{to be} sort punishable with five years' imprisonment and a fine of five thousand dollars. The amendment went through with only seventeen members voting against it, three hundred and fifty-three in favor. After that, the House rushed through the entire bill.

Obviously, this is aimed at Communist comrades, Nazi ~~But it is also said that his~~ particular ~~target is~~ Communists.)
fuehrers and Fascist duces in the U.S.A.) It's a rather startling departure from precedent. Several of the individual states have passed laws against criminal syndicalism. But if ~~it's passed,~~ ^{this goes thru} ~~it will be~~ ^{has gone thru} this is the first time ~~that~~ an act of this kind ~~will have appeared~~ ^{Congress.} ~~on the national statute books.~~

HATCH BILL FOLLOW FORCE

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~~And~~ ^{The} Hatch Bill is on its way through Congress,
at a gallop. That's the bill to keep politics out of relief.
For a long time this measure was buried. But latterly the ways
have been greased for it. The Senators passed it, and now a
sub-committee of the House puts out a favorable report.

W.P.A.

An interesting show was put on before the committee of the house investigating ^{the} W.P.A. An investigator for the committee said that the W.P.A. sewing project in New York City was controlled by the garment workers union. Workers, he said, were placed on the W.P.A. rolls when the union certified them. The question whether they were eligible for relief was investigated afterwards. And when they were investigated, he continued, forty-one per cent were found to be not eligible, had no right to relief. He also told the committee that one New York gentleman was engaged as a consultant at a pittance of seven thousand, two hundred and sixty dollars a year. This salary ~~was~~ paid out of W.P.A. funds. But, he said, investigators never could find this man at work, what's more they learned that he was still manager of a private business concern. The chairman of the committee asked:- "Did he render any service in any way?" And the investigator replied:- "Not that we could find."

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ADJOURNMENT

Last week we heard that Congress might adjourn by July Fifteenth. Today the ~~head men of the legislatures at Washington told~~ President ^{heard} Roosevelt a different story. If the House and the Senate do all ~~that~~ they should do this summer, they ^{ill not} ~~can't promise to~~ go home. ~~next month.~~

The big obstacle, we hear, is the Neutrality Act.

Everybody in Washington agrees that it will have to be ~~amended~~ amended, but no two ~~people~~ can agree on how. Many millions of words will pour into the atmosphere of the House and the Senate and over the pages of the Congressional Record, before that argument is decided.

PENDERGAST

Last week ^{Tom}~~Thomas~~ Pendergast, the ex-boss of Kansas City, went to Leavenworth Prison to serve a term of fifteen months. Today comes word that he is in a bad way. ~~He was~~ Stricken with a heart attack yesterday, and ~~put~~ in the prison hospital. Today, the report is that his condition is serious.

SUN

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Over at the World's Fair ~~today~~ I saw a Nineteen Thirteen automobile and right beside it a Nineteen Thirty-Nine model of the same car. The Nineteen Thirteen job weighed two thousand, two hundred and fifteen pounds and cost a thousand, one hundred and twenty-five dollars -- ~~that's~~ fifty cents a pound. The ^{Thirty-Nine} Nineteen car weighs three thousand and twenty-five pounds, *and* costs seven hundred and eighty-two ~~REXXE~~ dollars -- ~~or only~~ twenty-six cents a pound. The Nineteen Thirteen car had four cylinders, ~~and~~ developed ^{ing} thirty-one horsepower, ~~while the~~ ^{the} Nineteen Thirty-Nine car ~~has~~ six cylinders, ~~—develops~~ eighty-five horsepower. That's what twenty-five years of research engineering and modern production methods have done. Better cars for less money and cheaper to run. Industrial research work is not only a job creator, but also a value creator.

ROADS

Seventeen years ago, a farmer near Attika, New York, scratched his arm with a thorn on a rosebush. Blood poisoning set in and he almost lost ^{the} ~~that~~ arm. So he set himself to a job that would have appealed to the imagination of the late Luther Burbank. It became his ambition to grow a rosebush without thorns. And now he claims that he has done the trick; ~~It has taken him~~ nineteen years to do it. His name is Edward C. Stroh and he has named the new rose the "Dorothy Stroh", after his wife.

But rose fanciers must not get too excited about this news. They can't immediately rush to a nursery and get one of these thornless rosebushes. They won't be available to the public for a few years, says this New York Luther Burbank.

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What's a rose without thorns?
It's a Dorothy Stroh.

AIR MAIL

The British are going to have their trans-Atlantic air mail ^{running} in short order; ~~There'll be~~ regular service between England and Canada by way of ^{Ireland} ~~the~~ and Newfoundland. That's what the postmaster general of Canada tells us. The first Imperial Airways plane on this service will take off from Shediac, New Brunswick, ^{on} June Twenty-Fourth. After July Twenty-Second ^{then} there'll be a regular weekly schedule.

REFUGEES

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There seems to be some hope for those nine hundred refugees from Nazi Germany. For a while today it must have seemed that the liner ST. LOUIS, which is carrying them, was more like a seesaw than a ship. First came news that a New York lawyer had an idea whereby the ST. LOUIS might land those nine hundred and twenty-two Jewish exiles at New York. Then came a radio dispatch from the master of that Hamburg-American liner, saying that he was steering back to Germany, as there seemed to be no hope of landing his passengers on this side of the Atlantic.

Then a message from Havana changed the picture entirely.

President
It was a statement by Laredo Bru of Cuba. He's ready to revoke the treaty which kept the refugees out of that island. Maybe they'll be allowed to land and put up for a while in a concentration camp. Said the Cuban President:- "The Cuban government should be disposed to consider adopting some measure permitting the refugees to organize a provisional concentration camp at some appropriate place such as the Isle of Pines." They'll have to guarantee that they won't become public charges and they'll have to put up the money to cover all expenses.

President Laredo Bru placed the blame for the plight of the refugees on the steamship company. He said that they *Hamburg-American Line* had been warned early in May that the Cuban government would not permit those immigrants to disembark without permission from the *Cuban* Secretary of State and ~~the~~ Secretary of Labor. The steamship company ~~said~~ *retorts* that the Cuban Director of Immigration had said it would be all right. But the President of Cuba says the steamship companies were expressly informed that such authorization is valueless without the okay of the Secretary of State and ~~the~~ Secretary of Labor.

~~The refugees have until noon tomorrow to decide whether to accept that offer.~~

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THETIS

Great Britain fairly ^{shakes} ~~shakes~~ with anger today. From Lands End to ^{John O'Groats,} ~~Cape Wrath,~~ the people of the island are roaring their indignation over the THETIS tragedy. ^{Still,} ~~How could it have been allowed to happen,~~ say the people, members of Parliament, and newspaper editors. Nearly everybody wanted to know, "Why can't we be as good at rescue work as the Americans?" That's the British point of view. ~~Actually,~~ professional divers report that even if the British Navy had possessed a rescue chamber - such as the one that saved thirty-three lives from the SQUALUS - that rescue chamber could not have been used in the strong swirling tides of the Irish Sea. Furthermore, even without the tides, it could not have been used to save the men from the THETIS, because the British submarine was standing on her nose in the mud at an angle of forty-five degrees. Only a few cooler heads, members of the government, and two ~~less~~ newspaper editors, are saying, "Let's take it easy, let's withhold judgment until we know facts."

And indeed facts are few. But at least it is ^{now} ~~is~~ known how the accident happened. The water of the Irish Sea poured into the tragic submarine through one of the forward torpedo tubes. That

flooded two compartments in the bow of the undersea ship. This explanation was given to the House ^{of Commons} this afternoon, and owing to the public fury it came from the mouth of Prime Minister Chamberlain himself and not through a representative of the admiralty.

Incidentally, though it's not unusual for Britains to get worked up about the government, seldom is it concentrated upon the admiralty.

As a rule, that's the one branch of the public service which most Britons consider as flawless as ~~xxx~~ human endeavor can make it.

But today, the lords of the admiralty are the storm center of *British* indignation almost without precedent.

The Prime Minister further announced that the reason the sea poured in through that torpedo tube is because the outside door of the tube was open. But the opening of that door he was unable to explain. As the water poured in to the forward compartments, the men there made a rush to get out, but they couldn't close the first watertight bulkhead behind them.

Then, says Chamberlain, "the main ballast tanks were immediately emptied by compressed air with the intention of bringing the submarine to the surface. But," he added, "she continued to dive

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at an angle of thirty-five degrees and hit the bottom at a hundred and thirty feet." That shock, declares the Prime Minister, ~~made~~ ruined ~~the~~ signaling apparatus of the submarine. So the Commander was unable to communicate with the surface. Then, as in the case of the SQUALUS, the THETIS released marker buoys. But they were not seen by any craft on the surface.

Apparently there has been some whispered criticism of Captain Oram, the officer who was the first to break through to the surface by means of the Davis lung. The Prime Minister took occasion to answer that sentiment, saying:- "It was with great gallantry that Captain Oram undertook to escape under conditions which were most dangerous because it was ~~k~~ not known whether the submarine had been located. The men who escaped," it is said, took a tremendous chance as, for all they knew, there might not have been a single craft in sight.

The director of a shipbuilding firm added his comment to that. Said he:- "The first two men who came up were the most useful in directing rescue operations." And he observed:- "It was a ~~very~~ brave thing to do. They came up with the knowledge

that they might be in the open sea with no one to receive them."

(The Prime Minister ~~also~~ answered the cries of indignation at the admiralty for permitting a hundred and three men to be aboard a craft constructed for a crew of fifty-three. Chamberlain ~~xxxxxx~~ said that ~~xxxxxx~~ on trial runs ^{of a submarine} it is usual to have extra people on board. ^{Civilian technicians.} The extra people in this case numbered fifty. It has been inferred that the presence of so many men must have made death come faster because of the exhaustion of the oxygen in the THETIS.)

Another fact came to light today which fanned the blaze of public indignation. It turns out that the THETIS was considered a hoodoo ship, ^{had had} ~~that~~ other accidents ~~have happened~~ before. And again the divers reported that they hadn't received orders to fly to Liverpool until twenty-four hours after it became known that the THETIS had come to grief. If they had been on the spot fifteen hours earlier, they might have saved the men who died. That's what the divers say.

~~At any rate~~
~~Criticisms from this side of the water would be in bad taste and ill-advised.~~ One thing the British Prime Minister has

promised - an inquiry to be held in public. And that's indeed news in the land of Britannica.

~~We also learn that the job of raising the THETIS may be accomplished in two days, in two months, or never. That's how serious a salvage job is in those waters.~~

POLAND

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The^{is} was a meeting in New York today between a group of bankers and the Polish Ambassador, Count Potocki^{skoe}. His Excellency told the bankers some interesting news about European politics. There will be no agreement between Poland and Russia, he says, which will permit ~~the~~^{the} Soviet to send troops ~~against~~ across Polish territory. Then he explained:- "Poles consider choosing between Russia and Germany, the same as a choice between ~~measles~~^{cholera} and small-pox."
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HITLER YOUTH

In Hitler's Germany a new edict was published today which ought to interest parents and school teachers. In the German Reich, a child ~~must be~~ may not be chastised if it is wearing the uniform of the Hitler Youth Organization or the

Hitler Girls Union. The idea is something like this:-- If ~~junior~~ ^{skinny} or Fritzzy I should say, heaves a rock through the neighbor's window while he is wearing

his uniform, and ~~if~~ you thereupon turn him over your knee, you

are violating the dignity of that uniform.

You are not spanking Fritzzy - you're spanking Hitler

~~We've been hearing for some time that Nazi ideas~~

--and s-l-u-t-m.

~~and English customs are highly popular with the young people of~~

~~the new Germany.~~

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