

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1930

GANGSTERS

Uncle Sam is out for the scalp of the racketeer. The Federal authorities are determined to put an end to the reign of the gangster. Attorney General Mitchell announces that there is to be a drive by every federal agency that can be mustered, -- the Department of Justice, the Narcotics Bureau, the Immigration Department, the Alcohol Bureau, the Prohibition Bureau, Coast Guard and Customs Service. The drive is to start in Chicago.

The opening gun has been fired. A special agent has been rushed to Chicago to act as assistant to the United States District Attorney. This special agent is to direct the war against the gangsters.

Every possible Federal law will be used -- The income tax law is one of these, and it has some lethal possibilities. It carries

1 heavy penalties, and can be used with
2 telling effect against the gangsters, who
3 ^{usually} are not ^{so} careful about ^{their} income tax reports.
4 Then there are other Federal laws that
5 can be used as ~~powerful~~ weapons:--The
6 Harrison Drug Act, the Mann ^{act,} ~~white slave~~
7 ~~act~~, The Volstead Act, and the Dyer
8 ~~Automobile~~ Theft Act. The underworld
9 is constantly violating Federal statutes,
10 and if somebody puts long enough teeth
11 into these laws, ~~quite~~ a few of the boys
12 will go to jail. Anyway, Attorney
13 General Mitchell says it will be a
14 finish fight against gangdom.

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AMMELS

Roy Ammels, Chicago's flying broker, cracked up in Panama today. He made a non-stop flight from New York to Panama recently and today he took off to make another non-stop hop, this time from Panama to Chicago. His plane was heavily loaded with 700 gallons of gasoline. He got into the air but couldn't make her climb. The plane stalled when he was about a hundred feet up. Then down she crashed into a lake, a total wreck. But the water kept her from catching fire. Captain Ammels was rescued and rushed to a Panama hospital. A late dispatch from the International News Service says that the extent of his injuries has not yet been announced.

MAURETANIA

The Mauretania came in this forenoon with the 28 survivors of the Swedish steamer Ovidia -- the ship that sank the other day. Before the Mauretania got here, Jimmie Walker, New York's genial Mayor, sent a radio to its skipper Captain McNeil, asking him to call at City Hall to receive official congratulations. And when the big liner nosed into her pier in the Hudson River, there were big crowds to offer more congratualtions.

Captain "Sandy" McNeil's reply is almost a classis. It's so good, and so typically British, that I am tempted to call it the News Item of the Day.

Well, when those crowds came to congratulate Captain "Sandy" McNeil his reply was:

"Congratulations for what?"

And there you have the typical attitude of the British. They insist that any act of heroism is all in the day's work. "Sandy" McNeil said he had been lending a hand to sinking ships for 23 years. And he didna see any reason

why there should be any hullebaloo over this one.

Captain Sensy McNeil is the man who played an important part in the rescue of the crew of the great battleship "Majestic" when she was torpedoed off Gallipoli during the war.

ACCIDENTS

But you don't have to go to sea to find perils.

Home Sweet Home should be changed to "Home, Dangerous Home". This was revealed at the White House today at the Child Welfare Conference. Louis Dublin, a statistical expert, told the delegates there was no place like home all right - but what he meant was no place like home for accidents. According to the United Press, insurance companies report more accidents happen to folks right under their own roofs than anywhere else. He mentioned fire, leaking gas, stepladders that collapse, and shaky chairs that give way. Mr. Dublin said what every community needs is a safety engineer for the home.

And here's another slant on accidents. It's from an interesting article in the new Literary Digest. Accidents are decreasing in factories, but increasing on public thoroughfares it says. And one of the chief causes according to the Digest, is the large number of dilapidated second-hand cars on the road, cars with worn out brakes and so on.

WEATHER

Those snowdrifts that I told you about out in Colorado that were three feet deep several nights ago, - well, the United Press says they are twenty feet deep now. Not only are automobiles snowed in but even railway trains have been lost in the drifts. Hunters are missing in the mountains. Doctors are answering their calls on snow shoes.

In Hawaii they are having floods as the result of a twenty-four hour rain. Nine lives have been lost and thirty more people are reported missing on the island of Oahu.

Hawaii's world famous volcano is doing a little celebrating. I mean Mt. Kilauea. For a year or so this giant volcano has been playing possum but now molten lava and great masses of fire are shooting hundreds of feet in the air, says the International News Service.

Let's hope neither snow drifts, floods, or molten lave will be with us tomorrow. Because, it's a big day in football.

1 John Griffith, Athletic
2 Commissioner for the Big Ten Conference,
3 a group of the strongest football teams
4 in ^{America} ~~the world~~, says that unemployment
5 and depression have had no ill effect
6 on football attendance. The crowds
7 have been just as big as ever.

8 Up at the New Haven bowl 80,000
9 people have booked seats to see the
10 annual eastern classic, the ~~xx~~ big game
11 between Yale and Harvard, ^{with} ~~the~~ Yale
12 ~~team is~~ a heavy favorite.

13 In the Middlewest all eyes
14 are turned on the big gridiron match
15 between Notre Dame and ^{North} ~~Western~~, and the
16 game between Wisconsin and Minnesota.
17 In the Far West another classic will
18 be staged, the annual battle between
19 Leland Stanford and University of
20 California.

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1 This next one is the latest war
2 news--hot from the battle front--the
3 battle front of Ohio Wesleyan University.
4 Out at Delaware, Ohio, there are plenty
5 of fights among college boys. This time
6 it was the girls who went at it. The
7 senior class ordered all the freshmen--
8 maybe it ought to be fresh girls--~~at the~~
9 ~~University~~ to wear their berets--those
10 little artist caps the girls stick over
11 one ear a la Paris Latin Quarter. The
12 freshmen said nothing doing--they wouldn't
13 take orders from the seniors. The
14 seniors said they'd be ducked in flour
15 and water if they didn't. When they
16 tried to do the ducking, ~~the battle was~~
17 ~~on.~~ ^{there was a} free-for-all fight. ~~broke out.~~
18 Faces were scratched, dresses ~~were~~ torn,
19 hair pulled. It stopped only when the
20 police were called in. But, says the
21 International News Service, the freshmen ~~or~~
22 ~~or fresh girls~~--didn't wear those berets.

23 This next war item is a
24 little more serious.
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RUSSIA

Two battalions of the Red Army have mutineered near Moscow. The Daily Express of London says they killed their officers and then engaged in a fierce battle with the Soviet secret police. The Daily Express declares the mutineers lost the fight. That's one version. But on its heels comes an Associated Press dispatch from Moscow contradicting the London report. Soviet leaders claim it's a bally British cock and bull story.

Another interesting dispatch comes out of Russia today. It's about a scheme to make Russian literature more communistic. A writer will be allowed to write articles or whatever he likes and then the employes of a factory are to be his censors. They will be allowed to change and cut everything that is written.

Even the theatres in Moscow have been placed under control of Committees of workmen who look over all plays and censor them. A United Press Dispatch from Moscow says that even the workmen revolt against Bolshevik art occasionally. At a motion picture show the other day, one that was highly

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Communistic in tone, the audience hissed and whistled and walked out. It was too much propoganda even for them.

POLAND

80,000 people over in Poland have the Flu. The epidemic is in the heart of the great textile manufacturing district of which the city of Lodz is the center. 20% of the population is down with the Flu, says the Associated Press. Let's hope the epidemic is not coming this way. America has already had more than its share of that long ago.

1 The air is charged with electricity
2 over in London these days. That Round
3 Table Conference where they are discussing
4 the problems of India is packed with
5 drama. ~~Some of the Indian Princes and~~
6 ~~other delegates from the land of~~
7 ~~Hindustan have been saying what India~~
8 ~~wanted. But~~ ~~Everybody~~ leaned forward
9 in their seats when Prime Minister
10 McDonald got up to express the views of
11 the British Government. According to
12 the United Press, Ramsay McDonald made a
13 carefully guarded speech. The Indians
14 have been demanding dominion status.
15 Ramsay McDonald said not a word about
16 that. Instead he suggested a form of
17 federal government with a constitution
18 that would permit India to grow gradually
19 towards self government.

20 One of the delegates for that
21 conference is the Aga Khan. Not only is
22 he one of the richest men on earth, but
23 he is the head of a Mohammedan sect whose
24 adherents look upon him as second only to
25 God. In fact, they worship him, ~~well,~~
*and even pay high prices to drink his
bath water.*

Well,

1 the Aga Khan had not yet spoken at the
2 Round Table Conference. But ~~today~~^{suddenly} he
3 threw a bomb shell into it. He got up
4 and said that Mahatma Gandhi, the
5 little man whom the British have in jail
6 out in India, should be released from
7 prison and should be brought to London
8 to attend the conference.

9 There's an extraordinary article
10 about Gandhi in this week's Literary
11 Digest. It tells a thrillingly dramatic
12 story about a time when a mob in South
13 Africa wanted to lynch the Mahatma. He
14 was raising cain about the way Indian
15 workers were being treated in South
16 Africa, and a mob of whites wanted to
17 burn him at the stake. The Digest
18 quotes from the book "Ghandi-of-India" by
19 ~~Charles~~ F. Andrews and tells how the
20 mob came raging on and how Gandhi was
21 saved.

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1 From Abyssinia comes word that the
2 new Emperor Ras Tafari is broke,
3 absolutely flat. According to the New
4 York Evening World, he blew himself on
5 that grand coronation. Half of ^{the men in} his
6 army are going without wages this month,
7 and many of his chief officials are
8 quitting their posts and looking for
9 another job with more regular pay.

10 But the Emperor still has an ace in
11 the hole, according to the ^{N.Y. Eve} World. Ras
12 Tafari has one sure way of making money.
13 Abyssinia is rich in oil. As a last
14 resort he can always let out a few oil
15 concessions to the foreigners, ~~and~~
16 ~~that's just what a lot of foreigners~~
17 ~~are eagerly waiting for.~~

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1 Remember Tin Can Island, the tiny
2 spot on the map where the American naval
3 observers went to look at the eclipse
4 last month? Well, it seems to be
5 famous for other things besides eclipses
6 and tin cans. The scientists have just
7 arrived back in San Francisco, and,
8 according to the Associated Press, they
9 report that the natives of Tin Can
10 Island are the champion gum chewers of
11 the South Seas. They have even
12 introduced fancy gum ^(stretching, popping and) snapping into
13 their ceremonial dances.

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1 Have you ever wondered where
2 Santa Claus came from? Well, some
3 ~~German~~ scientists believe they have
4 found the original from whom our modern
5 conception of Santa Claus may have been
6 taken. Over in Germany at a place
7 called Trier, some Roman ruins have been
8 discovered, and among them hundreds of
9 small statues of Roman gods. One of
10 these is fat, has round cheeks, a pudgy
11 nose, and a long beard. On his head is
12 a pointed cowl. Old Santa Claus himself.
13 He seems to have been a Roman god in
14 ancient times, ^{says} ~~This account appears in~~
15 the New York ~~Evening~~ Telegram.

1 Those grasshoppers down in Arizona
2 are causing a lot of discussion. The
3 other evening I told you about a couple of
4 letters which said it was the butcher
5 birds that put the grasshoppers on the
6 thorns of the cactus. And that theory
7 has a lot of support. Here's Arthur
8 Dervaes of Tampa, Florida, who writes
9 saying that he has seen the butcher
10 birds impale insects on the barbs of a
11 barbed wire fence. And C. H. Smith of
12 Jacksonville, Illinois, says that when he
13 was a boy sixty years ago he saw the birds
14 doing much the same thing. T. A. Winfield
15 confirms this and says he has seen butcher
16 birds in Florida attack cats and dogs.
17 He even saw one go after a big rattle-
18 snake. Another Floridan, J. C. Mackay
19 also votes for the butcher birds.

20 On the other hand, James Collins
21 of New York accuses the butcher bird-
22 advocates of being nature takers. He
23 says that the grasshoppers grew desperate
24 on account of the drought down in
25 Arizona, and that thousands committed

1 suicide by hurling themselves on the
2 cactus spines. Maybe the flight of
3 grasshoppers hurled themselves at the
4 first green thing they saw, and if that
5 green thing happened to be a cactus -
6 well some grasshoppers would get hurt.

7 A bit of added comment comes from
8 Mr. T. E. Walsh of Yonkers, N. Y. He
9 says those butcher birds ought to migrate
10 to Yellowstone Park, where they'd find
11 their grasshoppers on ice. He declares
12 that thousands of grasshoppers have been
13 frozen into the ice of one of the
14 glaciers out there. Well, well, some
15 of those sound like tall stories.

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17 LAKES

The United Press says that an expedition has just returned to civilization from a trip into a remote section of the Cascade Mountains, out in Oregon. The expedition discovered 17 lakes that do not appear on any maps. What's more, nobody who lived in Oregon had ever heard of them.

1 Here's a bit of news that makes me
2 want to ask a few men a very personal
3 question. Well, I'll tell you the news,
4 and then ask the question. The New York
5 Evening Journal states that Jesse Crouse
6 of Pasadena, California, lived the
7 proverbial three score and ten years,
8 and he never wore pajamas. He wore the
9 old-fashioned night shirt. The other day
10 Jesse was warming himself at a gas heater
11 when his night shirt caught fire. It
12 began burning up the back, and Jesse had
13 to duck under a cold shower to put out
14 the fire. He went to the hospital,
15 suffering from minor burns on the neck.
16 At the hospital they gave ~~him~~^{him} a pair
17 of pajamas. He angrily protested, but
18 ~~pajamas were all they had, and~~ pajamas
19 he got.

20 Now, the question that occurred to
21 me was this: How many men wear pajamas
22 and how many are like ^{a former} President ^{of the U. S.} ~~William~~
23 ~~Howard Taft~~ who preferred the old
24 fashioned night shirt and even appeared
25 in it semi-publicly once or twice when

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newspaper men called him late at night? My guess is that a lot ~~of~~ more American men wear them than will admit it.

Well, that night shirt item seems to bring us to a natural conclusion to the evening's news -- well, something to retire with, at least. So, SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.