

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1935.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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The relief question forges to the front today in several directions. Last night we had occasion to observe that the administrators in several states had been obliged to take sharp measures to combat labor shortage on middle western farms. Those orders are now backed up and reinforced from Washington. Instructions have gone out to administrators in all districts with the words: "Cut down your relief rolls everywhere." Further than that, the slogan in Washington today is: "Every one off the relief rolls by November first."

The Relief Administration had been waiting for Congress to adjourn before taking sharp measures. But the issue became so acute that prompt action became necessary. The President's Board on Work Relief has recommended an appropriation of Two hundred and fifty-eight million dollars. The object is to put a hundred thousand of the jobless in thirteen states on relief projects.

To help along the good cause, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has agreed to buy Two hundred and thirty million dollars' worth of

P.W.A. bonds so as to make the money available for building projects.



The relief problem has taken on a serious political complexion. It has become a threat to the popularity of the President himself. About a year ago, Ex-Governor Al Smith said: "Who ever heard of anybody shooting Santa Claus?" Events today are proving that Al Smith's ironic question was not so well put. The Federal Relief Santa Claus has come down the chimney with money to be sure, but also with a code of manners that has not aroused gratitude, but has aroused hostility. It's not his fault. When public money is being distributed, it becomes necessary to see that it is not distributed among the wrong people. Two magazine articles have appeared this week reflecting the attitude of people who are on relief. One by Dorothy Thompson, in the SATURDAY EVENING POST; the other in the AMERICAN MERCURY. The gist of both stories shows that people on home relief are exceedingly restive and uncomfortable. The families have to submit their intimate private lives to the gaze of relief

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investigators. And then the social workers dictate to a penny how the money shall be spent. If sister buys a package of cigarettes, the investigator hears about it, and utters words of caution. If little Johnny is reported to have been seen at a movie, the investigator wants to know where the fifteen cents came from.

This enables us to realize why the potentates on the Potomac are anxious to get everybody off relief by November first.



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President Roosevelt expressed himself at his Press Conference today in a fashion ~~that~~ at first sounds peculiar. He objected violently to a suggestion that corporation gifts to charity should be exempt from taxation. The suggestion had been made to the Committee on Ways and Means ~~of~~ the House, backed by a lobby of charity organizations.

But as the President explained his objection, one <sup>follow his point of view.</sup> can ~~at least understand it~~. In his opinion the officials of a corporation have no right to spend the stockholders' money in that fashion. And he added, "There is a strong suspicion that such gifts are made just to purchase the good will, in other words sops to public opinion on the part of the companies that have made themselves unpopular." Mr. Roosevelt told the correspondents of ~~the~~ <sup>a</sup> case in point. He <sup>s</sup> ~~s~~aid the president of a utility company in a southern state has openly admitted that he ~~is~~ has instructed all his agents to be the first to contribute to charity, and the purpose of that was to obtain good will throughout the state. "No company has the right to buy good will by such methods," says the President.

Mr. Roosevelt also published the protest against the

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the Clark Amendment to his Social Security bill. That's the amendment which would exempt corporations that have private pension plans of their own.

~~ix~~ Another subject discussed at the White House today was the business of keeping Uncle Sam out of European wars. <sup>The President</sup> ~~ix~~ says he would like to see Congress adopt a neutral program. Several Congressmen and Senators have submitted <sup>neutrality</sup> measures which are being considered. Mr. Roosevelt hopes the best of them will be passed, a bill that will definitely prevent the sending of American soldiers and spending of American money on quarrels that are not ours.

## LIBERTY

A prominent young lady of these United States is apparently suffering like the rest of us from an excessive attack of heat. So the physicians are proposing to equip her with an internal cooling system in the region south of her esophagus. The young lady in question is Miss Liberty, the formidable and picturesque dame that beckons those who enter New York harbor.

"If so much money is being spent on one project or another these days," the National Park Service says, "why not throw in half a million to doll up the old virgin of Bedloe's Island." She needs cooling off, not so much for herself as for her visitors. Also she needs a marcel and a manicure. She's going to celebrate her fiftieth birthday next year and it would be nice to give her a shave and a haircut for a celebration.

## CINDERELLA

Theatre managers and magazine editors tell me that the one sure fire plot that never fails is the old Cinderella story. So here goes for what seems to me a most engaging one from real life. On the evening of July seventh, a totally unknown young girl made a radio appearance over an N.B.C. amateur hour. Up to then she was utterly obscure. In case you didn't happen to hear her, when the Major asked her, "What are you going to sing?" She replied: "I'm not going to sing, I'm going to talk my song." She talked it so charmingly that she was one of that week's prize winners. But that wasn't all.

One of the officials of Rockefeller Center happened to be listening in. Just for fun. Not as a scout. But he promptly telephoned the order: "Get hold of that girl and engage her for the Rainbow Room." That still isn't all.

That eighteen year old girl whom nobody had ever heard of made her appearance at the Rainbow Room atop the dizzy R.C.A. Building, and made such an instant hit with the audience, that offers began to stream in from all over New York.

{ That child whom nobody had heard of three weeks ago, now is in the language of the show business, "made".



And that's the Cinderella story of young Doris Wester,  
an ash blonde with green eyes.



TENNIS

There's quite a kick in the tennis news today. Uncle Sam won, won on two courts. Wilmer Allison, the white haired boy from Texas, wiped out ~~Henrieh~~ Heinrich Henkel of Germany in three sets at Wimbledon. But it was a tough match, running into two deuce sets. The score, six-one; seven-five; eleven-nine.

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But the big surprise came when our Mr. Donald Budge mopped up Germany's ace, the formidable high well born Baron von Cramm, in four sets. The heavy money betting had been that the high, well born gentleman would ~~win~~ nudge Budge all over the place.

~~So, thanks to the white haired Allison from Texas and young~~

~~Mr. Donald Budge,~~ <sup>So</sup> Uncle Sam is in the finals for the Davis Cup on

~~And~~ <sup>It</sup> The experts are rubbing their eyes at the choice of players ~~that have been~~ selected to represent the Stars and Stripes.

For the singles <sup>matches</sup>, the team captain has chosen Donald Budge <sup>Farone,</sup> and not Wilmer Allison but Sidney Wood <sup>for the other.</sup> That choice, say the experts, is

hard to understand. Mr. Wood didn't shine on the courts of

Wimbledon this year, whereas the boy from Texas has performed

brilliantly. The probable reason was that last year Allison

didn't have much luck against Fred Perry, the English champion.

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However, Wilmer Allison has been picked to play with John Van Ryn in the doubles. So on Saturday we shall see what we shall see.

NEIDECKER

A banker's life is not usually associated with adventure. But there's an ex-banker <sup>under arrest</sup> ~~in custody~~ in New York, whose life's story reads like a page out of Balzac.

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In the American Army of Occupation that Uncle Sam sent to Germany after the Armistice, was a young man named B. Coles Neidecker. Good-looking, smart, well bred in appearance, he had been to Harvard and before the War got some experience in Wall Street. Young Mr. Neidecker was among the soldiers mustered out of ~~the~~ service <sup>at</sup> ~~in~~ Coblenz-on-the-Rhine. ~~He was~~ <sup>H</sup> Strapped; hadn't a cent. But that didn't bother him at all. He observed that Uncle Sam was paying his soldiers in Germany something like a million dollars a month. Though without real funds, Neidecker set up a bank to handle all that money. He got hold of an old two-story building and remodelled it, purely on credit. As fiscal agent for the doughboys' money, he began to prosper immediately at an amazing rate. His brief Wall Street training stood him in good stead. He was <sup>keen</sup> ~~wise~~ enough to foresee that inflation was coming in the Fatherland. He took advantage of the situation and ~~just~~ started in to pile up ~~the~~ profits.   
- except maybe, "raus mit em."  
All this, mind you, without any knowledge of the German language!



Neidecker prospered so and built up such a name for himself that he became President of the Travelers Bank in Paris.

There, for a while, he prospered even more. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ But *it was a house built on sand.* ~~apparently that prosperity was on a sandy foundation.~~ The Travelers

Bank of Paris closed last Thursday. <sup>H</sup> When the French authorities stepped in and seized the bank's books and funds, they found, or at any rate so they say, a deficit. But they didn't find Mr.

Neidecker. So the Paris police telegraphed Father Knickerbocker's cops, saying: "Please arrest B. Coles Neidecker on charge of being a fugitive from justice. Arrest also all his family and hold their baggage. So today the youthful American who had such a meteoric career ~~xxx~~ as a European banker, is in the custody of his lawyer, pending a court hearing on Habeas Corpus proceedings. *Six members*

*of his family were arrested*

RELIGION

What a strong contrast we find in two pictures in different parts of the world. In Germany the Nazis have decreed the abolition of another Catholic organization, the body called the "Deutsche Jugendkraft". Its name means "German Youth Strength". Actually, it was a Catholic sports organization, organized more for games than for religion. Nevertheless, the ~~German~~ Nazi government has dissolved it, seized its treasury and all its properties.

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But, there's a dramatic antidote in the news from Mexico. President Cardenas has declared the church's chief persecutor an outlaw. Governor Tomas Garrido y Canabal, for eight years absolute dictator of the State of Tabasco, is forcibly deposed, proscribed, *— and very much in the tabasco.* a fugitive ~~x~~ from the federal forces. So many a priest, many a devout soul, south of the Rio Grande, is breathing more freely this evening.

This curious personage, Governor Canabal, has show<sup>n</sup> himself perhaps the most violent of all fanatics of the century. As we've often been able to observe, there is no bigot so absolute as a violent Athiest. Canabal employed no subterfuge in his fight on religion. He was interviewed a year ago by George Creel of

COLLIERS, to whom he said: "Thank God, there's neither priest nor bartender in all Tabasco". ~~But~~ He forbade all exercise of religious ritual or observance. He publicly burned sacred relics, exalting these ceremonies with the name of "The Incineration of Fetiches," a sort of modern Auto de Fe in reverse. Anything pertaining to religion he called a fetich. Even a tombstone or a grave marker.

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He was just as extreme in his enforcement of prohibition. His pet phrase was: "Religion and alcohol are society's worst curses." He ruled the state of Tabasco as absolutely as Huey Long rules Louisiana. And he made it hot for anybody in Tabasco who displeased him. Beggary was a two year prison offense. With one stroke of the pen he put pants and shoes on thousands of naked Indians. (He also wiped out all middlemen. Nobody ~~was~~ allowed to transact business except as producer, retailer or consumer.)

cut.  
In his eight years of rule, he made himself a millionaire. He owned a huge banana plantation, from which he made large profits. But his peons were perpetually in debt.

Personally, he is like a figure out of an Augustus Thomas melodrama or, as George Creel says, a Wyoming cattle man in town for a Saturday night binge. He is stout, heavy set, wears



braid on his pants, <sup>vast</sup> silver spurs, and huge sombreros with scrambled egg decorations.

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He served one term in the <sup>Mexican</sup> federal government as Secretary of Agriculture, but that was some years ago. Since then he has more or less defied Mexico City and has been the thorn in the side of two presidents. He reached the end of his rope when he provoked those riots at the University of Mexico last Sunday, ~~the~~ riots in which several students were killed. At least President Cardenas puts the blame for that disaster upon General Canabal.

When his state <sup>today</sup> was occupied by loyal government troops who dispersed Canabal's own bodyguard, the Atheist-dictator fled. That's the political end of a figure so curious that you can hardly believe he really existed.

LaGUARDIA FOLLOW RELIGION

For a long time we've had reason to fear that repercussions of the Nazi fight on Jews and Catholics would be felt in America. And here they are, right in our midst. The first explosion comes from the firey Mayor LaGuardia of New York. The row started in a small way. A German subject applied for a license as a masseur<sup>h</sup> in New York City. Mr. LaGuardia's License Commissioner refused to issue it. Thereupon Mr. LaGuardia's Corporation Counsel said: "You can't refuse that license, to do so is illegal because of a treaty between Uncle Sam and Berlin."

Thereupon, ~~the fighting~~ LaGuardia said in effect:

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"Illegal be hanged! It is well known that American citizens of Jewish faith have been discriminated against in Germany. So I don't see how ~~at~~ the German government can insist on their alleged rights."

Of course that ~~was a peculiar proceeding.~~ ~~didn't end the matter then and there.~~

It was followed today by a roar of protests from Germans and people of German origin in New York. Nazi sympathizers are quite numerous in the five boroughs. And tonight indignation meetings are being held to protest. If other mayors in other states with large German

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populations follow suit, we shall be seeing ructions all over the country.

But that's not all. Indignation against the Nazi treatment of Jews and Catholics came to a head in Washington today, and broke violently. Curiously enough, it was Senator King of Utah, who gave voice to the feeling. Mr. King proposed to break off diplomatic relations with Berlin. The Senator <sup>said he would offer</sup> ~~offered~~ a resolution to that effect in the upper Chamber today. He declared: "America is justified in breaking off diplomatic relations with Germany, because the Nazi government has failed to discharge its obligations to this country by its oppression of Jews and Catholics."

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ENDING

By Jove, I almost forgot to give you the news from  
Ethiopia. The news is that there aint ~~going to be any~~<sup>no</sup> news from

Ethiopia. If that's as big a relief to you as it is to me, it's as  
welcome as a cold wave would be right now  
as I say

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

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