

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, APRIL 15, 1935.

*Quinn  
W.C.*

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Let's begin the week with a few cheers. Not only because the baseball season begins tomorrow, but also because there is some good news from the Capital of Autodom. Experts have been telling us that the motor car industry has been one of the stabilizing agents in these six years of stress.

So it's a good appetizer - or <sup>s</sup>dessert - for tonight's dinner to observe that the quarrel which threatened to bring about a strike of tire makers has been settled; that rubber walkout.

And that's particularly fitting because production in the automotive industry, right now, has reached a higher peak than any time during the last five years. More than one million, three hundred thousand cars of all kinds have been turned out since January first. In fact by the end of April Detroit, Lansing, Flint, South Bend and <sup>other</sup> auto building centers will have manufactured more cars than in all the twelve months of Nineteen thirty-two.

The prophecy is that before the end of the year, Four million new streamline speedsters will have been made in the U.S.A. All the more important that the rubber fuss is no

longer stretched to the breaking point. (And I hope the people who buy all those cars will use the right kind of gas).

Then again, Washington has optimistic information for the owners of those Four Million gasoline buggies:- out of the Four Billion, eight hundred million dollars voted by Congress, Uncle ~~xxxx~~ Sam is going to spend One billion dollars on highways - new trunk roads, new crossroads, speed highways, and the like. What is more, between a hundred and two hundred million dollars is going to be used to eliminate grade crossings. Three cheers for that. Because it will lessen the chances of accidents like that tragic one in Maryland, just over the District of Columbia line, when fourteen children were trapped in a school bus on one of those deadly grade-crossings.

## TREASURY

Last night many of you heard Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, singing a cheerful song about Uncle Sam's pocket book. We learn that the Treasury has pulled off a stroke of financing by which the cost of carrying the national debt is cut by around a hundred million dollars a year. Although Uncle Sam owes Eight billion dollars more than he did ten years ago, he is actually paying out less money in interest, says Mr. Morgenthau.

But there's still more reason to be encouraged by the Treasury Secretary's announcement that the congestion of capital is being broken up. Money, says he, is flowing more freely into business. And that means more business and better business.



LONDON FOLLOW TREASURY

While America was digesting this ~~cheery~~ news, John Bull's Secretary of the Treasury was <sup>also</sup> giving Britons some encouraging information. John Bull is going to have a surplus, a surplus of twenty-seven million dollars by the end of the fiscal year. That's what Sir Neville Chamberlain, His Majesty's Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the House of Commons. And he's going to achieve that surplus without raising either the income tax - which is a formidable thing in England - or customs duties.

## EUROPE

Melodrama today from Europe. It was just what we needed to give a little color to the rather anti-climactic shifting of the scene from Stresa to Geneva. While the prime ministers, potentates and plenipotentiaries were moving themselves and their props from beautiful Lake Maggiore in Italy <sup>Just as</sup> to beautiful Lake Geneva in Switzerland, the gendarmes of Marseilles unearthed a plot. A sure-enough dirty plot, a ten, twenty, thirty plot. The idea was to assassinate Mussolini, on Italian soil, then slip over the Alps and kill Pierre Laval, the hard-headed, common sensible Foreign Minister of France, Doctor Benes, Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia and Monsieur Titulescu, Foreign Minister of Roumania. England's Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald and Foreign Secretary Sir John Simon should feel insulted because they weren't included in <sup>this big time plot.</sup> ~~the~~

The Marseilles police evidently had the goods, because they arrested two of the plotters. And the story goes that they <sup>prisoners</sup> made no bones about it. They confessed to being Anarchists of the old-fashioned type that used to run around assassinating presidents, prime ministers and Czars, just for the good of the cause.

The story is unverified and fragmentary so far. But it's

a safe bet that the complete details will make interesting reading in your papers.

The news broke first in Marseilles and was denied there, but was confirmed by the Geneva police, who dug up information on their end; and that seems to throw a little doubt on the Marseilles denial.

That was the only thing that really happened today to give any color to the gathering at the Palace of the League of Nations. Fresh from the conference at Stresa, the French delegates opened the ball in Switzerland with their formal protest against Hitler's denunciation of the Versailles Treaty. Obviously this is going to turn into a more or less cut and dry affair. It has been pointed out all along that all the League can do to Germany is to shake its finger ~~xx~~ and say, "Naughty, naughty" and to proclaim to other nations that Hitler's example should not be followed.



POLAND FOLLOW EUROPE

The ~~Polks~~ have different ideas about the treatment of Germany. Instead of shaking their finger they throw bricks, smash windows, fire shots. In the troublesome Polish Corridor German citizens were bashed in the eye and several grievously injured. Windows were smashed. ~~π~~ Instead of whispers of "Naughty, naughty", there were yells of "Throw the German <sup>S</sup>~~pig dogs~~ out!"

ABYSSINIA FOLLOW POLAND

Against this counter point of tumult there comes one gentle chirp from the dove of peace. Also a vindiction for the distressed League of Nations. The long threatened war between Italy and Abyssinia, it now appears, will not break. The Duce will not have to say forward march to those thirty thousand troops which he has on African soil and send them to storm the Ethiopian emperor's capitol at Addis Ababa. And, the Lion of Judah, His Majesty Haile Selassie, will not have to mobilize his entire ~~arm~~ population including the women as was announced yesterday.

The issues between the Duce and the King of Kings will be arbitrated by the League. That's the latest.



## DROUGHT

Today again opaque clouds of murk and dirt hang over the land all the way from Brownsville, Texas, north to Denver, Colorado. There seems to be no end to this latest form of destruction that Nature introduced to us last year. Western Kansas, Eastern Colorado, the Texas Panhandle, Oklahoma, New Mexico, parts of Missouri, Nebraska and Iowa are still afflicted. Railway service came to a halt on parts of the Santa Fe System. Elsewhere trains, busses and cars are crawling along with the aid of headlights. People escaping from those dirt showered areas come out with sore lungs, coughing and breathing with difficulty.

The situation is all the worse because it is comparatively new and there seems no possible or imaginable immediate method of coping with it.

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Storms of a different kind are swooping down on the Atlantic Seaboard. Uncle Sam's weather bureau is warning all ships to be careful. Small boats at sea are scurrying back to port. Storm signals are out all along the coast from Cape Hatteras to Boston. The ~~xx~~ weather sharks expect gales from the Virginia Capes north to Nantucket.

## PRISON

An ironic commentary on the crime situation in America comes in a bit of news from Columbus, Ohio, where the Ohio State Penitentiary is located. One thousand convicts went on strike, refused to do their work in the prison factories. And what for? Well, the answer is curious.

Chiefs of Police, prosecutors all over the country and all the really knowledgeable writers on the subject have pointed out that most of the most desperate crime is committed by ex-convicts who have been set free by parole boards or governors. While I was down at Washington last week, I listened while J. Edgar Hoover, the boss of Uncle Sam's agents told me how many of America's public enemies had committed their worst outrages while out on parole.

Now those thousand convicts in Columbus, Ohio, went on strike because the parole board in that State was, in their opinion, too stingy with its paroles. They <sup>2</sup>trew down their tools and refused to do a tap of work. They have a new warden at that penitentiary and he took sharp measures to prevent an outbreak. He ordered every man to his cell. With a mere handful

of guards it probably would have been impossible either to persuade or compel one thousand men to go back to work. So the warden decided that a few days of confinement in cells would prevent one of those serious jail riots that shock us from time to time.

It is interesting to observe that these outbreaks almost always occur in prisons that contain factories. One of the things I learned from Mr. Hoover in Washington was that this kind of prison is the most dangerous of all, that is dangerous to society at large. It's an idea of the reformers that men allowed to work at a trade while serving their sentences can be reformed; also that in this way the prisons can be made self-supporting. The idea has always been protested by labor unions, because they point out that the goods made by cheap convict labor compete with the products of factories that employ free men. But still more serious than this, as Chief J. Edgar Hoover points out, is the fact that it is impossible to prevent escapes or indeed wholesale jail deliveries from these factory penitentiaries.

Incidentally, five or six years ago, there was a fire



at the Ohio State Prison in which five hundred convicts lost their lives. The fire started in the factory.

## TRIALS FOLLOW PRISON

While the Warden at Columbus was coping with this threat, two important trials started in different parts of the country. Out in St. Paul, Uncle Sam brought twelve into court. The government accuses these eleven men, and one woman, of being the public enemies who kidnaped Edward G. Bremer, the young banker of St. Paul, fifteen months ago.

You will remember that this was one of the sensational snatchings of the year. They held the young banker for twenty three days and didn't release him until a Two hundred thousand dollar ransom had been paid. The prisoners were members of the famous Barker - Karpis mob, headed by Arthur, commonly known as "Doc", Barker. The government authorities say that if these eleven men and one woman are convicted, they will have disposed of all but one of our worst public enemies. That one is Alvin Karpis, who shared the leadership of the mob with Barker. Karpis today is Public Enemy Number One.

The other trial that began was that of the gentleman born Arthur Flegenheimer, publicly known as "Dutch Schultz". The government men have not been able to bring any proof of violent

crimes against Mr. Flegenheimer, though they intimate that he was responsible for plenty of them when he was a tycoon of the beer racket in prohibition days and of the policy numbers racket since repeal. Uncle Sam wants to send Mr. Flegenheimer to join Al Capone in Alcatraz. And for the same crime - ducking his income tax.

Mr. Flegenheimer, Dutch Schultz, is out on bail. But, it has been observed that he might feel more ~~fast~~ comfortable in jail. At any rate, he is surrounded by his own formidable bodyguard, both in and out of court.



## WIVES

I was interested in a trial of a different sort that has just been decided in Africa, in Uganda, which is ruled as a protectorate by John Bull.

Over here a great many people have been attacking the N.R.A. In Africa they believe in it strongly. They have codes, code authorities under the chieftains all of whom in turn are under British administrators.

The most important code over there concerns brides, which are a most important commodity in Africa. Formerly there used to be endless haggling between the would-be bridge-groom and the father of the would-bridge. Papa naturally wanted to get as much as he could for his daughter, while son-in-law didn't want to pay any more than he had to. There was a lot of dispute about unethical practices. Fathers with a large supply of daughters on hand would cut prices and bring about a condition of ruinous competition.

Hence a code was established, with five head of cattle as the price per bride. In dispute the Administrator always functions as arbiter. One case was that of a young man who said that the bride he had his eye on was not worth five cows. The young lady's father

however held out for the code price. During a public hearing it was established that the bride was neither lame, halt nor blind. So Papa won.

However that didn't end the case. After a few months of marriage the husband appealed saying that the lady had not been worth five cows. He wanted his money back or rather his cattle back, all five of them.

Evidently that was a tough case for the trial lasted for two days. The decision on the subject was worthy of Solomon. The divorce was granted and the bride, now second-hand, was returned to her father. And he was instructed to give back three of the cows and keep two of them. However, if the daughter develops a re-sale value, if another warrior comes along who is willing to pay more than three cows, the ex-husband is to receive the surplus. The calves, if any, are to be divided equally.

Such wisdom as that leaves me almost speechless.



I'm wondering this evening whether we are really in the United States of America. Maybe this land of ours, or at any rate most of it, is just -- Albemarle County, Virginia. Everything from the broad Atlantic to the still broader Pacific is just so much Albemarle County. This thought is suggested by some information I have from Gilbert Campbell of the Albemarle Motor Company. Mr. Campbell reminds me that <sup>this weekend</sup> ~~Saturday~~ was the birthday of Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson was a native of Albemarle County, and he made the biggest real estate deal in history:- the Louisiana Purchase. Moreover, the actual negotiations were ~~xxx~~ conducted by one of Mr. Jefferson's Albemarle neighbors -- James Monroe. The winning of one large chunk of the West was achieved by George Rogers Clark, also from Albemarle. ~~xxxxx~~ The Pacific Northwest was gained for us by Jefferson's young secretary, Meriwether Lewis, of Albemarle, whose partner in the expedition was William Clark, <sup>a</sup> brother of George Rogers Clark. Finally, Florida was purchased during the presidency of James Monroe. He wasn't born in Albemarle, but made his home there.

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So when we sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee," maybe we mean Albemarle County. And the "Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave" -- that's Albermarle. So Albermarle to you and --

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.