

News Review of Current Events

OIL LEADERS CONVICTED

Government Wins Anti-Trust Case . . . A. E. Morgan Opposes President's Plan for More TVA Set-Ups

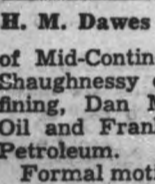


Senator Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana is here seen in action as he established a record for long talking in the senate, at least in modern times. Engaged in the filibuster against the anti-lynching bill, this successor of Huey Long spoke for 27 hours and 45 minutes—and he confined himself strictly to his views on the measure.

Edward W. Pickard SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK

"Guilty" Is Oil Verdict

UNCLE SAM won the long drawn out trial of oil concerns and their executives before Federal Judge Stone in Madison, Wis. Sixteen oil companies operating in 10 Middle West states and 30 individuals were found guilty of conspiring to violate the Sherman anti-trust law.



H. M. Dawes

Formal motion for a new trial was filed but will not be ruled on for several weeks. Probably the case will be taken to the Supreme court. The defendants were accused of entering into a secret agreement to purchase quantities of oil from independent oil producers at artificially high prices.

Huge Relief Expenditures

SOCIAL securities board announced that government agencies spent \$2,155,417,000 for public relief in the first eleven months of 1937, a decline of \$251,821,000 from the corresponding period of 1936.

Morgan Hits Power Plan

ARTHUR E. MORGAN, chairman of the Tennessee Valley authority, in secret testimony before the house rivers and harbors committee, declared his opposition to the President's program for the establishment of agencies patterned after the TVA.

In place of the A. E. Morgan regional resources agencies proposed by Mr. Roosevelt, Morgan recommended that interstate water control districts be set up.

"No More Regulation Laws"

GEORGE H. DAVIS, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, sent to the senate unemployment committee a plea for assurances that there will be passed at this session of congress no more laws for regulating business.

The real cause of the present recession," said Davis, "is lack of confidence in the future, caused cumulatively by the passage of laws culminating in the undistributed profits tax and the threat of the wages and hours bill."

There is no question in the minds of business men, he said, that these steps would restore confidence:

- 1. Repeat of the undistributed profits tax. 2. A sharp modification in the amount of capital gains tax. 3. Liberalization of the security exchange and commodity exchange rules to provide more liquid markets. 4. Assurance that, at this session at least, there will be no additional laws passed further regulating business, such as the wage-hour bill.

Business at White House

FIFTY members of the business advisory council of the Department of Commerce, all of them leaders of the nation's business and industry, went to the White House for a long conference with the President, and told him what they believed to be responsible for the current "recession."

The business men specified that necessities to aid in the struggle were limitation to wage-hour legislation, a truce with public utilities, no general purge or holding companies and no further tinkering with the currency.

To these suggestions Mr. Roosevelt gave his approval. Others were heard by him without comment. W. Averill, the council's chairman, issued a statement which embraced the views of his colleagues and which was read to Mr. Roosevelt.

The statement said re-employment in private industry is the critical problem now before the country. "We wish to record with you our faith in the efficacy of the principles of democracy, and yet our grave concern over the possible far-reaching effects of our present situation," the statement concluded.

At the conclusion of the conference the President announced that he will seek the formulation of a definite policy, designed to end the depression and create a framework for steady functioning of a nation's economic life through the appointment of a group representative of all the interests within the country. The group would consist of as many as twenty-five or as few as five or six persons, who would be charged with the task of sifting over all proposals to aid business and un-snaring all conflicts existing among the various interests with a view toward perfecting an administrative and legislative policy for business.

Flying Cadets Needed

MORE aviation cadets are urgently wanted by the War department. It announced that 232 unfilled vacancies exist for the March flying cadet class at the air corps training center, Randolph field, Texas. Only 112 qualified candidates thus far have been authorized out of the class' total of 344.

The War department ordered all regular officers in army posts to obtain blue dress uniforms before October 1. Officers buy their own outfits. The new uniforms cost about \$100.

Huge Loss Laid to C.I.O.

FROM the lips of Mayor J. K. Carson of Portland, Ore., the senate's joint committee on commerce and labor learned that the activities of the C. I. O. and Harry Bridges, its leader in that region, have cost the people there more than a billion dollars in the last three years. This was due to strikes and maritime tieups.

"Bridges cannot even vote in this country," said Mayor Carson, "yet he exercises more power over the maritime industry of the Pacific coast than all the ship owners and all the seamen combined."

Bridges, who came from Australia, is not naturalized. He is a Communist and his deportation has been requested by the inspectors of the bureau of immigration and naturalization, but issuance of a warrant has been prevented by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

Mayor Carson said the shipping and fruit industries of the West Coast had suffered not only because of maritime strikes but also because of tie-ups caused by the longshoremen's unions, which are controlled by Bridges. "The fruit industry is endangered by the present attitude of maritime labor," Mayor Carson said. "The continued disruption of deliveries has resulted in a lack of confidence in our ability to fulfill orders, causing us to lose our European markets to Argentina and South Africa."

Every Tenth Worker Idle

STATISTICS released by Secretary of Labor Perkins showed that every tenth worker in the country is without employment. Her findings were disclosed as the senate unemployment and relief committee called state and local relief administrators to testify on increased demands for aid during the recession.

Approximately 1,162,000 persons filed unemployment compensation claims for benefits during the first week of January when 21 states and the District of Columbia began this new plan, the secretary reported.

Chautemps in Again

FRANCE'S latest governmental crisis ended with the return of Camille Chautemps to the post of premier. He and his Popular Front cabinet had resigned because of financial and labor troubles. Several old timers tried in vain to form a new government and Chautemps was again called on for the job.



Camille Chautemps

More Woe for Jews

RUMANIA'S government, headed by Premier Octavian Goga, is so anti-Semitic that thousands of Jews are seeking means of escape from the country. Jewish committees visited foreign consulates in Bucharest to ask about the possibility of emigration to Brazil, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mexico, or Australia. One of the latest moves of the government is the issuance of orders that make virtually impossible the intermarriage of Jews and gentiles.

All alien Jews not engaged in farming were given 30 days in which to quit Ecuador, under a decree by the provisional military government of Col. Alberto Eriquez.

Egypt's King Weds

FAROUK, king of Egypt, was married in Cairo to Miss Fraida Zulfikar as cannon boomed a salute. The city was thronged with natives, but they had no glimpse of the bride, because the Moslem clergy were in control and would not permit her even to be present at the ceremony. They did, however, consent to a semi-public reception afterward in the Abdine palace at which the seventeen-year-old queen made an appearance.

Stalin Checks the Purge

NOT a single bit of legislative work was accomplished by the first session of the new parliament in Soviet Russia. But there was a lot of speech making, and external enemies, especially Japan, were denounced and defied. Dictator Josef Stalin, through the central committee, ordered an end to the mass expulsion of Communist party members, which has usually been followed by death, banishment or loss of jobs.

Pravda, the Communist party newspaper, indicated satisfaction with the results of the purge, but assailed "rotten leaders" who played into the enemy's hands. "Under the mask of false vigilance agents of Fascism sought to break up and out from the ranks our bolshevist personnel," Pravda said.

Floyd Gibbons' ADVENTURERS' CLUB



HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!

"When the Volts Broke Loose"

By FLOYD GIBBONS Famous Headline Hunter

HELLO EVERYBODY: You all know what happens when the lions get loose. Here's something that can be just as deadly as a full grown, man-eating lion. It's a doggone sight more common than lions, too. You've got 'em in your own house, and they travel along every street in the city you live in. It's volts I'm talking about—those little electrical sledgehammers that pack such a terrific wallop.

The more of those volts you get together in one place, the more of a wallop they pack. A hundred and ten of them—the number in your lighting circuit at home—will knock a man flat on his back if he gets in the way of them. But this story is about a lad who was fooling around with eleven thousand of those ornery things—and that's three or four times as many as they run through the electric chair up at Sing Sing.

Richard Flushing of Jamaica, N. Y., is today's Distinguished Adventurer, and he wins the honor with the story of how it feels to see the volts come hopping out of the cable eleven thousand strong. Dick is an electrician, and he says he's had plenty of close calls of one sort or another, but this one with the galloping lightning was the biggest thrill he ever had or ever expects to have.

The date was February 7, 1933. At that time Dick was working for the Long Island railroad. It takes a lot of current to run those electrified trains that run out of New York on the Long Island, and Dick's job was in the road's key sub-station, where the voltage came through in large quantities.

Thought It Was a Simple Job.

Dick came to work at four o'clock that February day. He and his partner worked the four to midnight shift. They had only been on the job for five minutes when they got an order over the telephone to put



Eleven Thousand Volts of Current.

into service an eleven thousand volt feeder that had been taken out by the day men while some tests were being made.

Both of them started for the cellar of the sub-station where the disconnecting switches are located. They took along their switch sticks, but they didn't bother about rubber gloves, for their job was a simple matter of throwing a switch and letting the juice ride on through. At least, that's what they thought. But when they reached the cellar they discovered that something was wrong. Ground wires—high-tension cables—were dangling in the air when they should have been hanging on brackets. The two men laid aside their switch sticks and proceeded to put those wires where they belonged. The wires were dead, for the switches were still open, and Dick and his partner figured there'd be no need for gloves or any such precautions.

Dick's partner put one set of wires on the brackets and in doing so he passed within a few inches of the open switch. Dick thought he went a little TOO close to it for comfort. He hung his own set of wires on the brackets and, in passing the switch, took care to be farther away from it than usual. The cable in Dick's hand was at least eight inches from the switch when, suddenly, things began to happen.

Eleven Thousand Volts Hit Them.

A back-feed was what did it. An extra load of power was suddenly shunted back from another station. It hit that switch, but couldn't get through it because it was open. If there had been no other metal in the neighborhood that current would have stayed where it was. But there was that ground wire in Dick's hand—eight inches from the switch. That current—eleven thousand volts of it—streaked out toward that wire with all the force of a thunderbolt.

Dick felt himself being picked up off his feet and hurled through the air in one direction, while his partner, standing near by, was hurled in the other. Each of them landed twenty feet away, on opposite sides of the switch. Dick's eyes had been seared by the terrific blast of the power. He felt the floor come up and hit him, and then the next thing he remembers is staggering to his feet and seeing his partner, forty feet away, doing the same thing.

His face was scorched and burned from the terrific heat. He put his hand to his head—and it was bald! Every bit of hair was burned, not only from his head, but from his arms as well. "That current," he says, "had given me a heat shave, cleaner than any barber could have done it, and all in a fraction of a second."

Dick walked back to the switch from which those deadly volts had broken loose. His partner came over and joined him. The switch was nothing but a mass of molten metal. Lumps of hot copper lay on the floor. The big insulators were gone. There wasn't so much as a sign of them. They had been blown to dust.

Lucky to Escape With Their Lives.

Says Dick: "Even the fireproof barrier had whole bricks burned out of it. Both my partner and I considered ourselves mighty lucky to get out with our lives. I don't believe either one of us had taken much of the voltage through our bodies. I escaped because I was holding the ground wire at a place that was well insulated. Had my hand been in any other place, or had there been a slight leak in the wire, I would unquestionably have gone up in a cloud of smoke."

So, if you were to give Dick a choice between a bunch of loose lions and ten or fifteen thousand loose volts, I have a hunch that he'd take the lions every time. There may not be much left of you when a crowd of lions get through looking you over, but there'd be a darned sight more than the volts would leave.

Strength of a Lion

Naturalists have seen a lion leap over a nine-foot wall with a calf in his mouth, honeysuckle extinguish the flame of a candle with the breeze created by their wings, and a secretary bird, four feet high, kill a venomous snake with one blow of its foot.—Collier's Weekly.

Indians Used China Brier

The China brier, which grows in Florida, was used by the Seminole Indians to prepare a dish called coontie, or contee, which was made from the starch roots of the China brier. The roots were chopped up and pounded in a mortar. Then this meal was mixed with water and strained through a basket. The sediment, when dry, was a red meal. This meal was mixed with honey and warm water. It jelled as it cooled and was eaten with corn bread or cakes.

The Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic has both historic and scenic attractions. Ciudad Trujillo, formerly Santo Domingo, is the oldest European settlement in this hemisphere, having been founded by Bartolomeo, a brother of Christopher Columbus, in 1496.

Snake Rattles Don't Count

A persistent and popular notion is that the age of a rattlesnake may be told by counting the rings or buttons of the rattle, each one of which is supposed to represent a year in his life. This is entirely erroneous, says a writer in the Detroit News, because they actually take on an average of three each year. Vibration at the tip is so pronounced that very frequently a segment is broken off and lost. Some small specimens carry more buttons than some twice their size.

Historic Hoaxes

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

Western Newspaper Union

Many Ladies' Man

EUGENE FIELD took special delight in tormenting Edward S. Bok, because Bok, who was a bachelor, was editor of the Ladies' Home Journal. That apparent inconsistency was amusing to the poet and humorist.

One day he inserted in the news columns of the Chicago Daily News a notice of Bok's engagement to Miss Lavinia Pinkham, granddaughter of Mrs. Lydia Pinkham of patent medicine fame. The story went out over the Associated Press and was reprinted in papers throughout the United States. A few days later there was a story about Miss Pinkham's departure for Paris to buy a trousseau.

Soon letters and inquiries began to pour in upon Bok, who pleaded with Field to put a stop to such stories. Field obliged him by printing a denial of the Pinkham engagement but at the same time linked Bok's name with that of Mrs. Frank Leslie. Again there was a flood of letters to the unfortunate editor of the Journal, also some caustic comment about the fickleness of his affections. Shortly afterwards Bok's engagement to the daughter of Cyrus H. K. Curtis, publisher of the Journal, was officially announced and Field was very contrite for the joke he had played on the Philadelphia editor.

But that didn't stop him playing jokes on Bok. His next was a fake interview "at quarantine" with Bok upon his return from a trip to Europe. Since the interview dealt with changes in women's fashions in Paris it was widely copied by fashion papers all over the country and it even fooled Bok's office in Philadelphia. The people there believed that he was still in Europe and there was much scurrying around to prepare for his arrival before they learned that it was another of Eugene Field's jokes.

John Wilkes Booth Mummy

IF AT some county fair or in a "museum" you were told you could see the "mummified body of John Wilkes Booth" upon payment of a certain fee, it is to be hoped that you took advantage of the opportunity. For if you had, you would have gazed upon one of the greatest hoaxes in American history.

Around the turn of the century a house painter in Enid, Okla., known as John St. Helen (his real name was David E. George) convinced Finis L. Bates, a Tennessee lawyer, that he was in reality John Wilkes Booth. He asserted that he had escaped from the burning barn in Maryland a few days after the assassination of Lincoln, and now, struck with remorse over his deed, had to confess to ease his soul.

Bates tried to interest the United States government in his discovery, so he could collect the \$100,000 reward offered for the slayer of Lincoln—this, despite the fact that that reward had long since been paid to the captors of Booth. But the federal authorities weren't interested.

In 1903 St. Helen (or George) committed suicide and the Tennessee lawyer claimed the body. In 1908 Bates published a book, "Escape and Suicide of John Wilkes Booth," to bolster up his claim. For a time the mummified body of his "Booth" was exhibited in Memphis, Tenn., and in 1923 it was said to have been sold "to parties in the West." Where it is now is unknown but wherever it may be, this is true: it is NOT the body of the man who killed Abraham Lincoln!

Wedding Story

DURING the winter of 1929-30, Robert Quillen, editor of the Fountain Inn (S. C.) Tribune printed a story about a wedding in his community which wasn't complimentary to either the bride or groom. As a climax, it intimated that this had been a "shot gun wedding" and then added: "This may be the last issue of the Tribune but my life ambition has been to write up one wedding and tell the truth. Now that is done, death can have no sting."

This story was widely reprinted throughout the country, because many an editor, no doubt, had often wished to write just such a story and was glad to know that one of their number at last dared to do so. Some of them suspected that it was a fictitious yarn, but others believed it was genuine and criticized Quillen for "exposing and treating people so cruelly."

It was a hoax, all right, but it is still often reprinted as a real wedding story, perhaps the most famous one ever written.

Even Beginner Can Make These

Here's a chance to please everybody—the delighted youngster who gets his set and yourself who makes it! You'll want to crochet a set for all eligible young misses, the pieces work up so well. Double crochet and popcorns—the latter in white or a contrasting color—



Pattern 5953

are the "making" of it. Use 4-fold Germantown—it works up just right and makes a set as warm as toast.

In pattern 5953 you will find instructions for making the set shown; illustrations of it and of all stitches used; material requirements; color suggestions.

To obtain this pattern, send 15 cents in stamps or coins (coins preferred) to The Sewing Circle, Household Arts Dept., 259 W. Fourteenth St., New York, N. Y.

Keep your body free of accumulated waste, take Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, 60 Pellets 30 cents.—Adv.

Fruit of Patience Patience is bitter, but its fruit sweet.—Rousseau.

ARE YOU ONLY A 3/4 WIFE?

Men can never understand a three-quarter wife—a wife who is lovable for three-eighths of the month—but a hell-at-the-fourth. No matter how your back aches—no matter how loudly your nerves scream—don't take it out on your husband. For three generations one woman has told another how to go "smile through" who Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It helps nature tone up the system, thus keeping the discomforts from the functional disorders which women must endure. Make a note NOW of this bottle of Pinkham's today WITHOUT FAIL from your druggists—more than a million women have written in letters asking for its benefits. Why not try LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND?

Our Vocation The vocation of every man and woman is to serve other people.—Count Tolstoy.

For Chest Colds

Distressing cold in chest or throat, never safe to neglect, generally subsides up when soothing, warming Muterole is applied.

Better than a mustard plaster, Muterole gets action because it's NOT just a salve. It's a "counter-irritant"—stimulating, penetrating, and helpful in drawing out local congestion and pain.

Used by millions for 30 years. Recommended by many doctors and nurses. All druggists'. In three strengths: Regular Strength, Children's (mild), and Extra Strong. Approved by Good Housekeeping.

Anxiety Usless Anxiety never yet successfully bridged over any chasm.—Ruffin.

Advertisement for St. Joseph's Genuine Pure Aspirin, World's Largest Seller at 10¢.

Real Riches And his best riches, ignorance of wealth.—Goldsmith.

BLACKMAN Stock and Poultry Medicines

- Are Reliable • Blackman's Medicated Lick-A-Brick • Blackman's Stock Powder • Blackman's Cow Tonic • Blackman's Hog Powder • Blackman's Poultry Tablets • Blackman's Poultry Powder • Blackman's Lice Powder. Highest Quality—Lowest Price. Satisfaction Guaranteed or your money back. BUY FROM YOUR DEALER. BLACKMAN STOCK MEDICINE CO. Chattanooga, Tenn.

Advertisement for Magic Remedy, Small Size 60¢, Large Size \$1.50. Brings Blessed Relief from aches and pains RHEUMATISM NEURITIS and LUMBAGO. At all good drug stores.