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FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1939

Just 25 years ago last week, Europe was plunging into a bath of blood. In the previous week of 1914, Austria-Hungary had invaded Serbia; pious Nicholas II, Czar of all the Russias, had ordered general mobilization. On August 1, Germany declared war against Russia, and on August 3, against France. On August 4, German troops crossed into neutral Belgium; Britain declared war on Germany.

Last week, as these fateful August days passed again, Europe was not at war. But in the newspapers of Europe, preparations for war, and not for peace, made the biggest headlines.

There is much speculation in political centers over the possible boomerang effect of John L. Lewis's wrathful personal assault on the second highest elected officer in the land—white-haired, apple-cheeked, 70-year-old John Nance Garner. To nearly all observers, it seemed that the head of the Congress of Industrail Organizations had committed a huge political blunder, a blunder likely to do two things: (1) enhance Garner's chances for the 1940 Democratic Presidential nomination, and (2) set back, at least slightly, the fortunes of both Lewis and the C. I. O.

Lewis's attack came as he testified before a special meeting of the House Labor Committee. The meeting had been called to cvonsider proposals for amending the Wages-and-Hours Act to exclude certain groups of workers from the minimum pay provisions of the law. Vigorously condemning the proposals, the C. I. O. chieftain suddenly assailed the Vice President of the United States as "a labor-baiting, poker-playing, whisky-drinking, evil old man."

Works Projects Administration workers will receive a monthly average of $250 more pay after Sept. 1, but there will be about 300,000 fewer persons on the rolls.

Officials so interpreted an order issued by Col. F. C. Harrington, WPA Commissioner, establishing 60 new wage schedules for five types of employment in three areas.

Colonel Harrington's order was designed to put into effect requirements of the new Relief Act, calling for a general overhauling of WPA wages without changing materially the present national average. That average, Colonel Harrington said, stood at about $53 in June. The new schedules will increase it to about $55.50.

The Commerce Department announced last week that retail business was about $1,000,000,000 better in the first half of 1939 than it was the first six months of 1938. The increase was achieved despite a fall in prices.

Retail trade for the first six months of this year totaled about $17,900,000,000, a gain of 6 per cent over the first six months last year.

John M. Carmody, Federal Works Administrator, has ordered that Public Works Administration personnel be cut in half.

The reduction will be started Sept. 1, and continued—with cuts every two weeks in successive pay days—until the present enrollment of 10,417 persons has been brought down to about 5,200. The order affects 2,472 Washington employees and 7,945 field employess.

"A major victory in the 1939 campaign to boost the domestic consumption of cotton" was the decision of the Great Atlantic and Tea Company to use cotton flour bags instead of jute ones, according to the Cotton Textile Institute. The A & P's initial order for 2,500,000 bags, it was said, would provide a full week's work for 18,000 agricultural laborers.

A total of 531 boys and girls from 22 counties in the state attended the twenty-first annual 4-H Club Week at the University of Maryland from August 7-12. The number from each county ranged from 1 from Worcester county to 78 from Montgomery county. Allegany county had 4 boys and 30 girls.

Stocks of wheat in Maryland mills and elevators of July 1, were estimated by the Maryland Crop Reporting Service at 50,000 bushels. Present stocks are considerably below those of the past five years, excepting 1938.

A FOGGY POLITICAL SEASON

J. E. Jones

Washington, D. C., August 14—Long lists of legislation that was proposed to the Congress at its recent session are listed by the newspaper and correspondents. The lists show some substantial victories for the President, including the appropriations he asked for his defense program, the reorganization of Government, and a continuance of his monetary authority and the 2 billion dollar stabilization fund.

It was the greatest spending Congress on record. The President is recognized as the greatest spender on record. He was deniel a good many spending privileges. He failed to get legislation for a 3 billion dollar lending program and an additional 800 million of funds for the United States Housing Administration.

These matters do not prove that the recent Congress was either efficient or thrifty.

The fact is Congress also grabbed off a lot of the money that in former times would have been given to the President, and they blew it in there own way. They gained victories for themselves, but they didn't do the taxpayers any good.

So, there isn't very much for anybody to crow about, even though Congress decided to "keep us out of war" by defeating the neutrality bill that the President said was so essential if we were to remain out of the forthcoming fight.

After the political fogs in Washington, what's next?

A national discussion of the issues that were so bitterly fought in the battles between the President and Congress is needed. Both sides claim that they were, and are, right, whereas, as a matter of fact aresume of the past seven months in Congress doesn't indicate that any of them deserve any orchids.

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From Farm To Auto Factory

"Well, Ma, while you're finishing up your chores, I guess I'll go over to the north '40' and cultivate that crop for next year's automobile production."

Sounds as if Farmer Jones might be a bit "teched" by the heat of the noonday sun. But don't jump at any hasty conclusion. For such imagined discourse isn't so farfetched.

Few realize how much of the material in their cars is grown on farms. In recent years a great many industrial uses for farm products have come out of research laboratories, opening up new markets for farmers and adding to their ability to buy the products of industry. Here are just a few examples of the uses General Motors makes of farm products:

Cotton is used in making lacquers, plastics, tires, upholstery, artificial leather, electrical insulation, safety glass, felt.

From Corn come adhesives, textile sizing, alcohol, molded plastics ...corn stalks make fiber board.

Sugar Cane furnishes alcohol and insulating material.

Flax yields linseed oil for paints, soap and foundry core oil.

Goat Hair makes mohair for upholstery.

Hides mean leather for belting, upholstery, and many other uses.

And the science of chemurgy—of adapting farm products for industrial use—is still in its infancy. New uses are being developed constantly and the many crops so carefully tended by the Nation's more than 6,000,000 farmers promise still more new materials for men to work with, not just to eat or drink or wear.

* * * *

Political Tangles

Party lines in Congress crumbled, crashed and divided into blocs, factions and coalitions in the last days of the past session. Ordinarily at the close of Congress there are major moves made by leaders to restore harmony and patch things up. It was different this time. Lewis's attack upon Vice-President Garner, and the widespread speculation over a possible rift between President Roosevelt and Mr. Farley are straws in the wind that may swing state delegations in 1940. Conservative and New Deal Democrats are headed in different directions right now. What may happen in the next ten months before 1940 conventions is something to guess about.

The Republican situation is not such a complicated tangle because Republicans are a minority party. They are "fishing" for ideas and a definite program—in fact most anything to find a way to win.

TRAINING COURSE ON PNEUMONIA

Preparations are under way by the State Department of Health, before the pneumonia season opens.

As a preliminary step, Dr. R. H. Riley, Director of the Department announced that an institute, for the instruction of county health officers, public health nurses and laboratory workers, in the newer methods of treatment of the disease, is to be held in Baltimore City, September 22. According to present plans, the morning session will be held at Osler Hall, 1211 Cathedral Street, and will be devoted to a review and the discussion of various phases of pneumonia control. The afternoon session will probably he held at one of the local hospitals and will be devoted to instruction in laboratory procedure with specific reference to percautionary measures to be used in the newer methods of treatment.

The course is being arranged under the direction of the Pneumonia Control Committee of the State Board of Health—Dr. M. C. Pincoffs, Professor of Medicine at the University of Maryland, chairman; Dr. Huntington Williams, Commissioner of Health, Baltimore City and Dr. R. H. Riley, Director of the Department. Instruction in the most recent methods of treatment will be given by Dr. Perrin Long of the Johns Hopkins Hospital and by Dr. Horace L. Hodes of Sydenham Hospital.

In announcing the arrangements for the course, Dr. Riley said: "Funds were appropriated by the last session of the State Legislature for pneumonia treatment and control in the counties. In order that the most effective use possible may be made of these funds, it is important that the county health officers and the county nurses who will be assigned to this service be familiar with the new procedures.

"Pneumonia ranks fifth as a cause of death in Maryland. In the toll taken of human lives it is exceeded only by diseases of the heart, the kidneys, cancer and cerebral hemorrhage. In the last three years over 10,000 cases with over 5,000 deaths from the various forms of the disease have occurred in Maryland. There were 3,396 cases with 1,858 deaths in 1936; 3,466 cases and 1,833 deaths in 1937; and 3,150 cases and 1,351 deaths in 1938.

"For four years special laboratory service as an aid in the diagnosis of pneumonia has been available to physicians in the counties, through the central and branch laboratories of the State Department of Health. The Department has furnished the matching serum for the treatment of the disease The serum treatment marked a great advance in the control of the disease. We are looking forward to even greater results from the use of the new drugs now available. The funds set aside for this purpose will enable the Department to provide the necessary laboratory aid to physicians and to furnish the drugs for residents of the counties unable to buy them at their own expense."

DRINKING ON INCREASE

The United States is confronted with a steady increase in excessive and uncontrolled drinking, in almost all age groups from adolescence onward, Dr. HerbertI. Mossen writes in the North American Review.

"There are certain figures that are incontestable," he says, "for example, the mounting registrations in public and private alcoholic wards and sanatoriums, and the very substantial increase in the annual production of spirituous liquors.

These statistics would seem to be graphic and tragic enough to fix anyone's attention:

"In 1934, in the public hospitals of the United States, 4.9 per cent. of all patients were suffering from alcoholic insanity—almost 1 in 20. In 1936, the Bureau of Census reported that more than 11 per cent. of first admissions to public and private mental hospitals were alcoholics.

"Distilled spirits (including industrial alcohol) have risen in this country from a production of 241,610,000 gallons in 1934, to 48,138,000 gallons in 1937, or almost precisely 100 per cent. in three years."

Salt is a useful ingredient for seasoning a number of different ways, says Margaret McPheeters, Nutrition Specialist for the University of Maryland Extension Service. It will be found helpful in bringing out the best flavor in melons, grapefruit, cocoa, chocolate sauce, candy, ice cream, preserves, pies, and puddings. Salt will intensify the natural flavor and offset cloying sweetness or flatness. However, unless a recipe gives a definite amount to be used it is better to "salt to taste", proceeding cautiously and tasting as one goes.

Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to he end dare to do our duty as we understand it.—Lincoln.

CHILDREN LOVE TO HELP MOTHER PREPARE DINNER IN A NEW ELECTRIC RANGE

You can almost hear the youngsters say, "Gee, Mom, I'll bet even we could cook the dinner with your new Electric Range." And mother agrees with them, because she now knows how simple it is to cook electrically.

If you're struggling along with an old, outdated range, why not decide right now to cook the clean, easy, modern way—Electrically! Actually, a modern electric range cooks as fast as food can cook, and the low electric rates make it cheaper to operate.

A popular model is the Crawford Electric Range with four fast top units, all with five speed controls; extra-large storage compartments and waist-high broiler. Price $137.50 cash (installed under standard conditions). Slightly more on our convenient budget plan—easy terms!

Come in and see this and also Westinghouse, Hotpoint and Quality Electric Ranges. All big values!

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CONOWINGO POWER COMPANY

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Lights of New York

by L. L. STEVENSON

Novelette: She's not unattractive, yet no heads turn as she passes. Three years ago, she came here from a well-known woman's college with an ambition to make journalism her career. Though she made a diligent search, she couldn't find a job. Being broke, she turned to writing love stories. Though in all her life she had never had the slightest heart flutter, in fact not so much as one man friend, she succeeded in putting into her work that for which pulp paper magazine editors pray. Not only did she sell her first story but her success continued, the demand for her work being greater than she could supply. A year ago, she met a young artist. A few months later they were married. They are still supremely happy, in fact, quite mad about each other. There is just one drawback. Ever since she met the man she married, she hasn't been able to write one love story an editor would accept.

* * *

Illegal: Beggars, venders, musicians and bootblacks have found the subways a fertile field of endeavor for quite some time. Rush hours they did not work for the simple reason that they could not pass among the losely packed passengers. But at other times they have proffered their wares, solicited alms, shined shoes and even put on concerts and collected, the collection in each instance of course being important. And passengers locked in speeding cars simply couldn't escape. Various efforts were made to root them out but nothing much happened save an occasional disorderly conduct arrest which brought only a conduct reprimand. Recently a new state law, which makes it a misdemeanor to sell, beg, sing, dance or shine shoes in subways went into effect and now passengers have to endure only usual undergound discomforts.

* * *

New York Mysteries: How taxi drivers continually quarrel yet seldom, if ever, fight . . . How people can stand all day watching an excavation . . . How New Yorkers can be squeezed to a pulp in subways yet never complain to the authorities . . . How thousands of small retail merchants can eke out an existence . . . What one night's electric bill on Broadway amounts to . . . How police officers escape injury in the midst of the traffic maelstrom . . . How movie theater doormen bark raucously all day long above the roar of the passing traffic throng without getting a sore throat . . . The stillness of a Sunday morning on Broadway . . . All of which puzzle Joan Edwards no end.

* * *

Showmen: George Jessel figures that during the last 20 years he has played more than 1,500 benefits and has served as toastmaster at 300 banquets. He recalls the time when having played his fourth benefit in one night he was on his way to play his fifth along with Eddie Cantor. Naturally it was pretty late and when Cantor and Jessel arrived at the theater, they found that everybody had left. But they had a great routine prepared and didn't want to waste it. So they called in the door man and went through the entire sketch for him. Both claim that though he was their smallest audience never had they had one more appreciative.

ALMANAC

"A lie stands on one leg and truth on two."

AUGUST

27—Rumania declared war on Germany, 1916.

28—Petroleum was first discovered, 1859.

29—Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, author, born, 1809.

30—The "Soak the Rich" Tax bill was passed, 1935.

31—Delaware was granted to William Penn, 1682.

SEPTEMBER

1—Floods in southern Illinois caused loss of life and property, 1926.

2—Gold was discovered in the Black Hills, 1874.

Don't Stop Me: The story is making the rounds concerning the actor who was reading a new book about Lincoln. Lucille Manners, the soprano, had read the book and to make conversation, during an idle few minutes in a rehearsal, started to talk to the actor about it.

"It's a swell book, isn't it?" remarked Miss Manners. "Have you come to the part yet where Lincoln was assassinated?"

"Don't tell me!" shouted the actor. "Do you want to spoil the story?"

* * *

End Piece: When Milt Herth moved to his present apartment, neighbors seeing his electric organ being carried in and knowing his reputation as a swing organist, believed themselves in for a lot of sleepless nights. So imagine their surprise when they learned that Milt, when home, plays only the softest and sweetest church hymns. He used to be a church organist back in Kenosha, Wis., and likes the hymns because they remind him of old days.

(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

Horses Pass Speed Limit And Law Bars Pursuit

PACIFIC GROVE, CALIF.—This city, which has many antiquated "taboo" laws, ranging from prohibition against the tango to pulling down the curtains, had another one violated for the first time in many years.

It fixes the speed of horses in the city limits at six miles an hour. All the peace officer was able to ascertain was that the horses were driven "like mad" by a movie company on location, but he could not overtake them without violating the law himself.

On Needlework 18 Years

HALSEY, ORE.—Eighteen years ago Mrs. Herman Koch started sewing on a fancy bed spread. She sewed in more than a mile of thread a year until this year the spread has 26 miles.

Nothing tickles a writer's vanity like having people unwittingly quote his stuff back at him as something good they have read.

Edict Cuts Bulgaria's Production of Rose Oil

Much of Bulgaria's income is derived from growing flowers from which oils are extracted to be blended later into perfumes. The oils once were almost precious substances and still are expensive because flowers and fruits usually contain them only in minute quantities, making extraction a difficult, tedious process, says "Technology Review."

A ton of geranium leaves, for instance, will produce less than two pounds of geranium oil; a ton of rose petals—3,000,000 flowers—will yield only about one-half a pound of attar of roses. Rose oil, therefore, is worth from $125 to $175 a pound, but in spite of the rapidly growing use of perfumes for personal and manufacturing applications, the Bulgarian government has issued, over the last few years, a series of edicts designed to decrease the acreage devoted to growing roses, to eliminate entirely the growing of white roses—which give only half as much oil as the red variety—and to encourage the raising of chrysanthemums for insecticide extraction.

The authorities at Sofia believe that the former market for their rose oil never will be fully regained; they are probably right. Natural attar of roses costs more than $125 a pound, as previously mentioned; its synthetic twin costs $22.50 a pound.

Bulgaria's loss, however, is the world's gain, for the synthesis of innumerable aromatic compounds has permitted the masses not only to smell as only the rich once could but has also permitted them to anoint themselves with scents never before known to man or beast.

Monkeys Learn Barter System in Record Time

Chimpanzees, like their human counterparts, quickly learn a monetary system with all its attendant bickering and hoarding, Dr. John B. Wolfe, of the University of Mississippi, has learned.

They learn to work for food, then for "tokens"—and how to spend these tokens for food, water, tidbits, the psychology professor told students at Tulane university.

And just by way of education the professor, during his four years of experimentation with the chimp colony at Yale, introduced a token which would buy nothing. The chimps discarded the worthless tokens.

Dr. Wolfe introduced tokens of varied value and vending machines which dispensed water and food. The Chimpanzees soon learned which tokens bought one, two and three portions of food and singled out the ones which bought the most.

They learned to work for the tokens, as they had previously learned to work for food, and began hoarding the valuable pieces of tender.

In one experiment, Dr. Wolfe deprived one Chimpanzee of water for several hours and another of food for the same period. Then he gave the thirsty chimp tokens which would buy only food, and the hungry brother tokens which would buy only water.

The wise chimps looked at their money, exchanged the tokens through cage bars, and went to the vending machines.

Each minute of the day's 24 hours, this Nation makes $6 worth of sun glare glasses and goggles.