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FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1947

Star Program

State ports with Wilmington favored in proportion with its resources, to include public terminals, tobacco storage warehouses, ship repair facilities, nearby sites for heavy industry and 35-foot Cape Fear river channel.

City auditorium large enough to meet needs for years to come.

Development of Southeastern North Carolina agricultural and industrial resources through better markets and food processing, pulp wood production and factories.

Emphasis on the region's recreation advantages and improvement of resort accommodations.

Improvement of Southeastern North Carolina's farm-to-market and primary roads, with a paved highway from Topsall Inlet to Bald Head Island.

Continued flow through the City's Industrial Agency to attract more industries.

Proper utilization of Blueenthal airport for expanding air service.

Development of Southeastern North Carolina's health facilities, especially in counties lacking hospitals, and including a Negro Health center.

Encouragement of the growth of commercial fishing.

Consolidation of City and County governments.

GOOD MORNING

Think not those faithful who praise all thy words and actions, but those who kindly reprove thy faults.—Socrates.

Wilmington Azalea Pageant

After so long a time of hoping Wilmington at last has taken a definite step toward an azalea festival. The group that endured the heat at Woodrow Wilson hut on Wednesday night, and upon whom the chief responsibility for engineering the preliminary arrangements, accomplished more in some two hours than has been done in several years.

It is in this spirit, the willingness to thresh out details and arrive at decisions only after careful consideration that holds the best promise of success for the initial event.

For example, it was difficult to decide whether to seek a movie starlet for queen, leave the selection to competition among southeastern North Carolina eligible, or crown a Wilmington girl. The starlet was settled upon because of her advertising value, but only after the other two proposals had been fully considered.

The same consideration was given the program, each day's attractions being thoroughly studied. In fact the decision to open on a Thursday night and close on the following Saturday night with a name band dance, required expression of varying views before it was settled. So it was with the flower show, the parade, the water carnival, and particularly the pageant. The time consumed, and it was blisteringly hot, was well spent in that it brought forth a schedule which can now be presented to the city's many organizations in soliciting their cooperation. While the schedule is necessarily tentative, it is something to work on.

One event, which had not previously been considered but promptly received unanimous endorsement, is the pageant. As the plan now stands it would be held at the Legion Stadium, weather permitting, or indoors if the evening were rainy. The Thalias will be invited to produce it, with whatever additional help may be needed. It will have to do with the birth and development of the azalea.

So popular was the proposal that it is probable the name of the festival may be Wilmington Azalea Pageant.

Now that a start has been made and 1948 settled upon for fulfilling a cherished community aspiration, it is possible to discuss the economic advantages to Wilmington. There would be a wide advertising campaign, such as Mobile and Charleston conduct in connection with their similar projects. Many thousands of persons would find

Wilmington's name in their daily newspapers, on their movie screens and in their radio receiving sets. How many would attend, naturally is problematical, but certainly a large percentage. Visitors spend their money more lavishly when away than while at home. Merchants, hotels, restaurants, all business concerns would reap unprecedented profits. It is so in Mobile, so in Charleston, so in Pasadena and Portland, on the Pacific coast. It will be so in Wilmington.

It is reasonable to expect the firms of whatever nature that stand to reap the harvest will not be reluctant to share in sewing the crop.

Crossed Lines

A difficult situation is created by the action of the Chamber of Commerce Aviation committee in its endorsement of State Airline's petition to the CAB to reconsider the certificate tentatively awarded to Piedmont Aviation Corporation to operate commercial air service to Wilmington.

It is not that the committee should have sided with State Airlines. The committee is well within its rights when it does so. But there is just complaint that it should have taken this step, and proposes to ask the city and county governing bodies to follow in its footsteps, without first hearing what Piedmont has to say for itself.

That is the procedure in legal matters. It is the procedure of federal bureaus constitutionally established. It is the method employed by the CAB, which does not issue certificates to any air line without hearing all applicants desiring to provide identical or similar service. It was the method of the CAB in the present case.

Yet the committee took action without first hearing Piedmont's plans.

This is not typical of the committee, composed as it is of leading Wilmington business men not given to precipitate decisions. The only way, apparently to account for its action is that only four members were present in person, the balance of the votes endorsing State's proposal being represented by proxies. Even Hamilton E. Hicks, the committee's chairman was absent.

As Pegler Sees It

NEW YORK, June 11.—The nuisance of the Roosevelts continues with undiminished virulence more than two years after the passing of a man who gave us a new article in the moral code, superseding the austere and painful standard observed by Andrew Jackson and U. S. Grant. The professional demagogues still plod a weary way to Hyde Park on florid occasions, such as Memorial day, to punch the clock and commit carnival politics for the sake of the record and to confirm their own status in the organization. Attendance is not officially compulsory but is strongly advised.

The widow's constant presence has become an interesting role in these pageants of formalized mopey in view of the fact that she was so easily called away from her afflicted husband's side throughout his twelve years and somewhat in the White House. A canvass of the datelines of Mrs. Roosevelt's newspaper column from its beginning in 1933 to the date of his death in April, 1945, which found her in New York and him in Warm Springs, a thousand miles apart, would show that she spent no more than one night in four under the roof. Other wives and husbands have given contrasting examples of unremitting attendance in similar circumstances, but here again we may owe a degree of emancipation from old ways to the loose-jointed principles of conduct established for us by his happy and unconventional family.

We find her more ostentatiously devoted now than she ever was during the most difficult years of his life. Here again the contrast with the normal conduct of average human beings is interesting because, to use practical language, the run of us bury our dead with respectful rites and seldom go back, and certainly never to holler up politics. The Hyde Park pennant, postcard and peanut concessions are still open. Address applications to the executors.

Robert Patterson, the Secretary of War, was detailed to the duty of making the big harangue on Memorial day when the poor fellow might have slept late and shot a mess of golf. They have not yet come to the sensible expedient of recording such blab and hiring one of Jimmy Petrillo's union disc-jockeys to play it to the faithful.

Quoting the unblushing Patterson, the widow wrote "if we stand as the bulwark of freedom, if we prosper as a people and out of our prosperity extend assistance generously to the less fortunate" and so forth. We retained some fragments of our own freedom only by rejecting her proposal a few years ago that "the government" order us all men and women, to assigned tasks under compulsion, wherever any Ickes, Morgenthau or Leon Henderson might assign us. About the same time Harry Hopkins, the gritty Rasputin, was proposing that not just troops but civilians be indiscriminately quartered in our homes by order of local or neighborhood quartermasters, and "chuckering" at the prospect of "society" leeches, "become rooming house keepers." But possibly neither the nor the umbrella of Harry meant a word of it. It was another way of picking up a little easy money, and such writings have never been binding on these essayists from one day to another.

The lady's quotation of Patterson's awkward reference to generosity in discussing a Roosevelt also recalls a paradox. For Patterson said this at the grave of a man whose son, Jimmy, the eagle, actually asked for a ruling that the old man was a soldier on active service because he was titular commander-in-chief and that the estate therefore deserved a tax rebate of a few dollars.

The Jackson day orgies around the country have become a hilarious mockery now that the New Deal has taken over Old Hickory's character and personality at his own private moonshanty in the clubhouse wall. The sure, the little old gamecock introduced some realistic thoughts on spoliations but he remained, unto the very death, a gentleman of the most primitive and exacting honor in all matters of personal debt. They flew the widow to Hollywood for a Jackson day profanation and some of the high democrats of the reformed version came down of a nausea and had to leave town. Nevertheless, the shakedown proceeded at \$25 a copy. The receipts seem to have been highly satisfactory.

All this was ironic under the gaunt and scowling visage of the dying consumptive who busted himself to pay off the debts of an adopted son, Andy, Jr., who was not a spendthrift and a fool in business. Unlike the sainted martyr of the new regime, whose followers scrupled not to use Old Hickory as a kapok effigy, Andrew Jackson took no part in seducing suckers to be taken by his son and would have blown the man through who dared to suggest that he himself might use his office to swindle the creditors of their due. Marquis James, in the best of the Jackson Biographies, estimates at \$40,000 the amount that the old warrior scraped together at various times to bail the young scamp out of debt, and he tells us that some of these borrowings were debts only in the most technical sense at that. The same subject naturally recalls that U. S. Grant, for all his stupido and other faults, was also honest to a degree that a Roosevelt might consider not just stupid but imbecilic. He, too, paid off when he needed and both he and Jackson hurried to save their honor by cruel exertions while they were suffering the tortures of dissolution toward death.

It is no wonder then that the diners used Jackson's own day as an occasion to honor Roosevelt as the author of the new dispensation. It meant release from the restrictions and inhibitions long endured by men and women of honor as the price of decency and self-respect.

Contrast In Claims

The Russians claim the United States wants to rule the world. The United States claims that the Soviet Union is determined to rule the world.

There is a difference between these claims.

The United States wants only to have the peoples of separate nations rule themselves. Russia wants the peoples of separate nations to become Soviet satellites.

Russia has made tragic progress in attaining its goal. In Europe, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania,

Editorial Comment

LIKE COALS OF FIRE

Keep your temper. Do not quarrel with an angry person, but give him a soft answer. It is commanded in the Holy Writ—and furthermore, it makes him make more than anything else you can say.—Rockingham Post-Dispatch.

Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania are snugly behind the Russian iron curtain. Eastern Germany is dominated by Russia. Communist guerrillas are still fighting on Greece's northern border and when wounded are hospitalized in Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, in both of which countries recruits to continue the battle are being trained.

Mark F. Ethridge, United States representative on the United Nations Balkan Investigating Commission, just home from Eprope, declares that communists would already control Greece but for the United Nations. It is only UN intervention that can keep Greece from being hidden by the Russian iron curtain.

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By WESTBROOK PEGLER
(Copyright, 1947, by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

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Speeding Up Telegraph Service

WASHINGTON, June 11.—Long range implications of a Federal Communications Commission request for a \$375,000 appropriation from Congress to investigate Western Union Telegraph Company's service, rates, and operation are now considered drastic.

If the FCC should make its investigation and find that U. S. telegraph service was not as efficient as it should be, there would still remain the problem of what to do about it. Three possibilities have been suggested.

Let the government subsidize Western Union so that it could give better service for lower rates. Let the government take it over and merge it with the U. S. Post Office Department. A number of foreign governments have long since socialized their telegraph business, running it as a branch of the postal service. Finally, merge Western Union with American Telephone and Telegraph Company's Bell System, to let one government run all of the country's communications business. Most telegrams get delivered by telephone anyway.

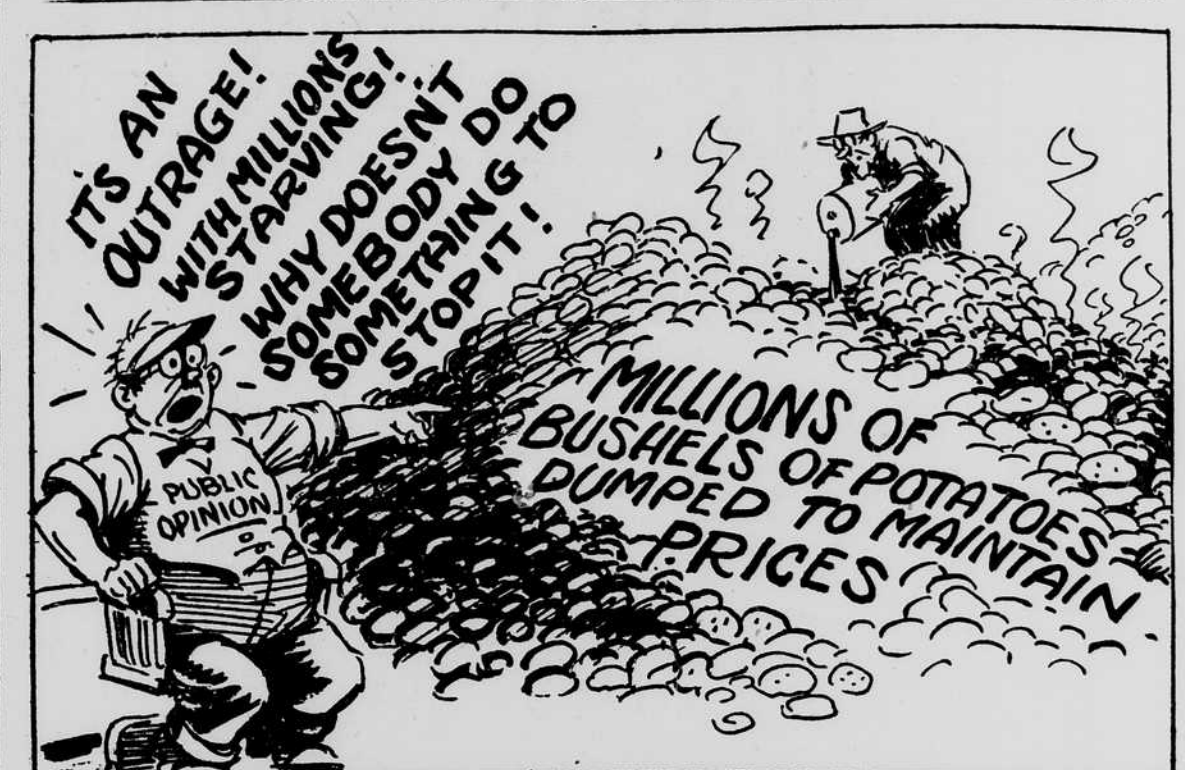
Western Union naturally isn't too happy about these prospects. A survey by FCC would cost the company as much as the government.

Western Union's President Joseph L. Egan appeared before the House Ways and Means Committee recently. He testified that what the business needs more than anything else is to get out from under the government's 25 per cent excise tax. This makes per cent of sending a wire too high, without the company getting any benefit from the increase.

Furthermore, company spokesmen say that before Western Union is probed, it should be given a chance to finish its \$60 million modernization plan, now scheduled for completion by the end of 1949.

This project calls for the erection of nearly three million miles of radio relay systems and the leasing of another million miles of Bell system land lines. Western Union would then be permitted to dispose of most of its poles and wires. Western Union is now trying to get rid of a number of its offices which don't produce revenue, substituting agencies in drug stores, filling stations and such places that are open long hours. FCC has to grant permission for the closing of any office. Opposition usually comes from chambers of commerce, neighborhood business associations, and

DON'T WORRY, SOMEBODY IS!



The Book Of Knowledge

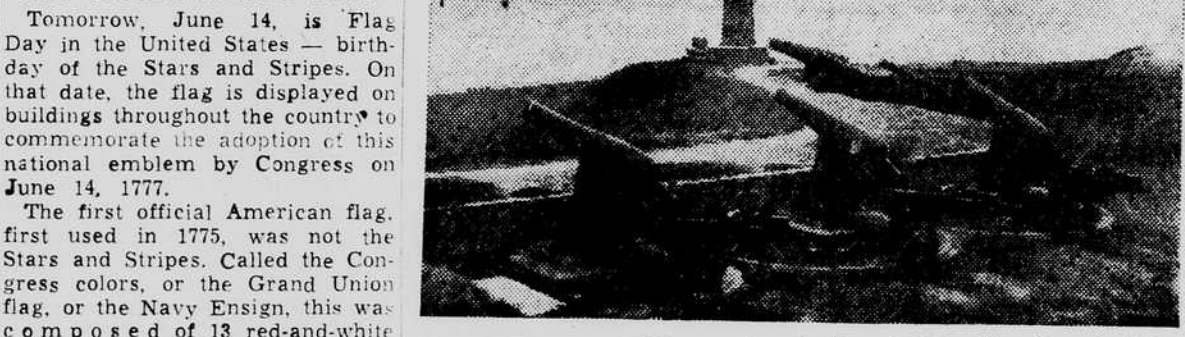
(Department: — FAMILIAR THINGS)

THE UNITED STATES FLAG
Tomorrow, June 14, is Flag Day in the United States — birthday of the Stars and Stripes. On that date, the flag is displayed on buildings throughout the country to commemorate the adoption of this national emblem by Congress on June 14, 1777.

The first official American flag, first used in 1775, was not the Stars and Stripes. Called the Congress colors, or the Grand Union flag, or the Navy Ensign, this was composed of 13 red-and-white stripes to signify the thirteen original colonies, with a small Union Jack (flag of Great Britain) in the upper left-hand corner. This showed that the colonies still felt their union with the mother-country but had grown up into an independence which could not be suppressed.

The Congress colors were flown for the first time on Dec. 3, 1775, on the Alfred, a small vessel, John Paul Jones, great naval hero who at that time was a senior lieutenant, raised the flag. A month later it was raised over the Continental army at Boston. However, it was never carried in battle.

After the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, this flag bearing the British Jack was no longer appropriate, but there



Fort McHenry at Baltimore—inspiration of "The Star Spangled Banner." Sight of American flag still waving over fort, after all-night bombardment by British in 1814, inspired Francis Scott Key to write what is now the national anthem.

employees of the telegraph offices which the company wants to close. The modernization plan also calls for installation of a number of facsimile telegraph transmitters, spotted around like mail boxes in business building lobbies and private offices. Charge account customers would have keys to these boxes. They would write out their messages on telegraph blanks, drop them in a slot, push a button. The machine would do the rest, delivering an exact copy of the message just as written. The bill would come later.

All these changes look towards mechanization of the telegraph business, to reduce manual operations and labor costs. Over 70 cents out of every telegraph dollar now goes to labor. This compares to 40 cents in the telephone business, which has cut labor costs by dial phones and other technological improvements.

A large part of Western Union's woes can be attributed directly to government interference. In the war times, telegraph company pay scales were sub-standard. But a few days before it went out of business, War Labor Board handed down a decision giving Western Union employees \$31 million in back pay. That reduced the company's surplus from \$36 million to \$5 million. On top of that, WLB granted a wage increase which cost the company another \$23 million, and threw it in the red, though 1945 had been its best year.

A year ago one of Secretary of Labor Lew Schwelienbach's fact-finding boards granted telegraph workers another wage increase which cost Western Union another \$23 million. A third raise, to cost the company another \$6 million, has just been agreed to with AFL unions outside New York City.

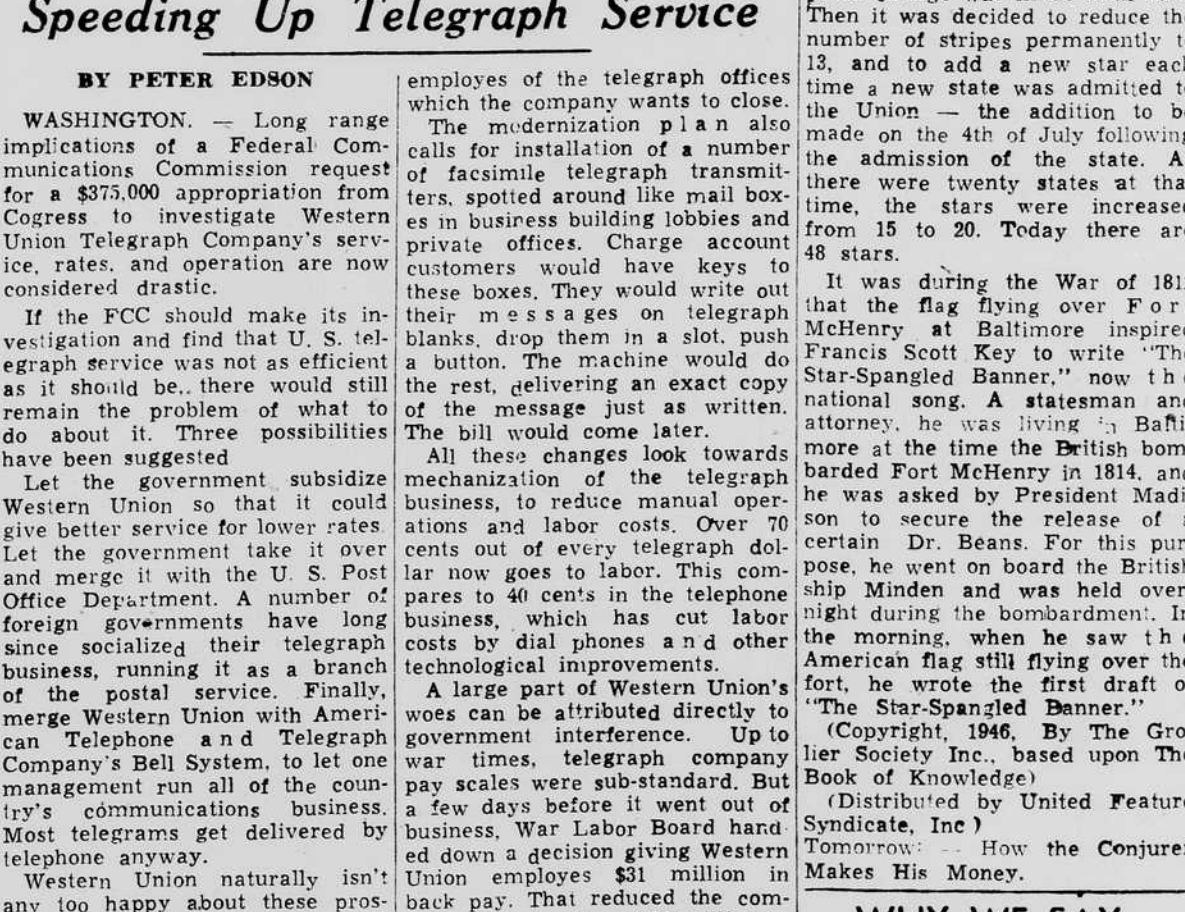
The CIO union in New York is still holding out, but the total of all increases in the last year and a half added \$1 million a week to Western Union costs.

The only way these costs could be met was for another arm of the government, FCC, to grant Western Union rate increases. This FCC has done twice, for 10 per cent each time, giving the company \$35 million increased revenues.

Currently Western Union is netting about half a million a month and is getting by on a big economizing drive. The telephone strike this spring helped Western Union business by three or four million dollars. But that strike may have revealed that any merger of telephone and telegraph companies would be suicide for the national communication system.

WHY WE SAY

"GRIN LIKE A CHESHIRE CAT"



This very common expression originated in Cheshire, England, where cheese was sold in molds shaped like a cat. These molds always portrayed a grinning cat.

The Doctor Says—

BODY MAKES OWN REPAIRS IN SLEEP

By WILLIAM A. O'BRIEN, M.D.

During sleep most of the body's functions drop to low speed, but the body has a chance to catch up with necessary repairs.

Blood pressure comes down during sleep. It is lowest at the fourth hour and stays down just before waking. If it is disturbed by noise or dreams, pressure may rise at any time.

Body temperature goes down during sleep. Tests made on persons the temperature of the evening shows that it is earlier than in others.

The pulse is slow and regular. Breathing also is slower and regular. Kidney activity is increased. Perspiration is increased during sleep. The fluid lost during the night is almost as great as during the day. The secretions of the stomach are not changed during sleep and are eaten just before retiring. As in the waking hours, the same motion will proceed at the same rate.

Sleep requirements of different persons of the same age are different. Older persons usually need less sleep than in middle age, and young children require the most sleep of all.

A good rule for persons of average age is to go to bed when the next morning completely fresh, without being called. To get a night of restful sleep, one should prepare for it by getting rid of troublesome thoughts. Taking troubles to bed with you interferes with the early part of your sleep, which is the most important.

During the summer months, rest in the middle of the day is advisable for all persons, especially for the very young and the aged.

QUESTION: An X-ray examination was made of my neck because of backache, and hypertrophic changes were found in the lumbar spine. What does this mean?

ANSWER: With a few years, the vertebrae develop thickening and irregularities in the intervertebral discs. They are caused by wear and tear.

McKENNEY On Bridge

South West North East
1 ♠ Double Redouble 2 ♠
Pass 3 ♣ Double Pass
4 ♣ Pass 6 ♣ Pass
Opening—♦ K.

♠ A
♥ 8 7 3
♦ A J 9
♣ J 10 6 5

♠ K 10 8 6
♥ A Q J 5
♦ K Q 7 5
♣ None

N
W
E
S
Dealer

♠ J 2
♥ 10 8 6 1
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ 7

Grosser
♠ Q 7 5 4
♥ K 4
♦ None
♣ A Q 9 3 2

Tournament—Both vul.
South West North East
1 ♠ Double Redouble 2 ♠
Pass 3 ♣ Double Pass
4 ♣ Pass 6 ♣ Pass
Opening—♦ K.

BY WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY
America's Card Authority
Written For NEA Service

Here is an interesting hand from across the sea. Dr. Paul Stern of London, who has won some fine hands in the past, has this one. He has just won a new book. When I receive a copy we will have a few articles about it.

The squeeze in today's hand is one of the most unusual I have ever seen. Dr. Stern said it was played by Paul Grosser, former member of the representative Czech team.

The opening lead was a dummy with the ace of diamonds. Mr. Grosser discarded a heart. The declarer, a small hand, cashed and a small heart was West winning with the ace. He came back with the queen of hearts, which declarer trumped with the deuce of clubs. The four of spades was trumped with the four of clubs, and dummy's eight of hearts ruffed with the three of clubs. The seven of spades was played, and declarer was called to ruff this in dummy with the ten of clubs.

Next he led the four of diamonds, and made another squeeze play by trumping with the ace of clubs. The ace of clubs was cashed, and when declarer led the ace of hearts, West was squeezed. If West threw away a diamond, declarer would overtake in dummy with the jack of clubs, and ruff the nine of diamonds in his own hand, thus establishing his my diamond jack. If West discarded a spade, declarer would play dummy's ten of clubs on the nine, then ruff the nine of spades in dummy, establishing his spade queen. West's last trick.