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News Review of Current Events the World Over

Probing the Morro Castle Disaster—Textile Strike Mediation Fails and Rioting Is Resumed—Profits in War Munitions.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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NEARLY always in the case of a marine disaster persons come forward with accusations of negligence and misbehavior on the part of the officers and crew of the vessel concerned. This is true now of the Morro Castle, which burned eight miles off the New Jersey coast with a loss of 136 lives.

The ship's master, Capt. Robert Wilcott, had died of heart disease only a few hours before the tragedy, and William F. Warms, chief officer, was in command. With 12 other officers and members of the crew he stood by the blazing ship until the hull was towed to Asbury Park and beached.

Several of the surviving passengers testified before the federal steamboat inspection board that no alarm was sounded and little or no aid was given panic-stricken passengers by the members of the crew. Then George W. Rogers, chief radio operator, and his first assistant, George I. Alagna, told of the delay in sending out the SOS call, asserting they could not obtain an order for it from the bridge. This, of course, was explained by the usual reluctance of steamship officers to call for help because the salvage charges are heavy. Alagna was put under arrest as a material witness after he had told his story to a federal grand jury. The value of his testimony was somewhat lessened by Rogers' admission that Alagna had been distrusted by Captain Wilcott as a radical and an agitator, and that Alagna some months ago tried to instigate a riot on the ship as a protest against the food served the crew. The first actual evidence indicating that the fire was of incendiary origin was furnished by Quartermaster Gus Harmon.

"It was like the flash of a 16-inch gun," he declared. "It couldn't have been gasoline because it traveled much faster. It might have been some sort of chemical, all of which would light up when one point of it started. There was a funny, acrid smoke coming out of the flash."

Other officers of the ship testified that they believed the fire was of incendiary origin and was fed by gasoline or chemicals, but they could suggest no motive for such a horrible crime. Acting Captain Warms said he based his opinion that the blaze was incendiary on two facts: First, because on August 27, on a previous voyage to Havana, there was a suspicious blaze in the No. 5 hold; second, because reports to him indicated that the writing room locker, in which the fatal fire started, exploded. The flames, he explained further, acted "like gasoline or kerosene," and fire extinguishers had no effect on them.

The chief of the secret police in Havana declares the burning of the Morro Castle was an act of sabotage by members of a secret international maritime association that takes its orders from the Communists of Moscow.

THE International Typographical union, in convention at Chicago, defeated a proposal by delegates representing local No. 6 of New York for a four-day strike this week, to be optional with each local by a referendum vote. Charges were made that the plan had been instigated by Communists in control of the New York local, who are seeking to wreck the international organization and vilify its officers.

The accusation was denied by the president of the local, which has a membership of 10,500 union printers in New York. Other delegates supplied the convention with circulars setting forth the charges of communist interference.

EFFORTS of President Roosevelt's mediation board to bring about a peaceful settlement of the textile strike failed when the employers, according to the board, refused to make any concessions that would open the way to arbitration. The strike leaders had insisted that all the mills must remain closed pending arbitration, and this was rejected by the mill owners. The cotton textile employers then declared flatly that they did not believe the is-

sues at stake are "appropriate subjects for arbitration."

The immediate result of this breakdown in negotiations was the resumption of violence and disorder, especially in Rhode Island. Thousands of strikers and their sympathizers fought with National Guard detachments in Saylesville and Woonsocket, driving back the greatly outnumbered soldiers. Tear gas, nausea gas and finally bullets were used to check the rioters and many persons were wounded, some fatally. Governor Green made concessions to the Saylesville strikers and ordered that there should be no more shooting. But at Woonsocket conditions grew momentarily worse and the police commissioner of the city asked the governor to obtain federal troops to stop the rioting. The major in command of the National Guardsmen there admitted the situation was out of control. Great crowds were looting shops in the downtown section and others were threatening the Woonsocket Rayon company's plant.

Fearing major bloodshed and death, Governor Green read the riot act and asked President Thomas F. McMahon of the United Textile Workers of America to hasten there from Washington. The governor also ordered the mobilization of 1,000 World War veterans and a statewide roundup of Communist agitators.

FOUR members of the Du Pont family, Pierre, Irene, Felix and Lamont, appeared before the senate munitions inquiry committee and told of the huge business the Du Pont corporation has done in supplying war material. Between 1914 and 1918 the company, which was founded in 1802 to manufacture black powder, filled \$1,245,000,000 worth of war orders. In that time it did about 35 times the business it had in the year just before the World War, when its sales amounted to \$36,000,000.

Irene du Pont testified that the corporation subscribed to preferred stock in the German dye patents seized during the war by the United States. He said these patents had resulted in a "great service" to America. The corporation entered the dye business after the war as a licensee of the Chemical Foundation, Du Pont said.

There did not seem to be anything very sensational or scandalous in the facts elicited from the Du Ponts, but previous witnesses had told a lot about the deals of airplane companies and other corporations with foreign nations in which it was alleged they had been aided by United States diplomats and army and navy officers. There was a lot, too, about graft on the part of South American government officials. One of the stories told brought in the name of King George of England, and this resulted in official protests by British diplomats both in Washington and in London.

Just what Senator Nye and his committee expect to do with the information they are gathering is not certain. There are suggestions of government ownership or at least government control of all war munition manufacturing and selling. Plenty of evidence was brought out to prove that the makers of these wares sell to both sides in warfare.

IN the fifth installment of the senate banking committee on its stock market investigation internal revenue agents were charged with "laxity in enforcement" for accepting, without examination, income tax returns prepared by J. P. Morgan & Co. The committee presented a long review of evidence that officials of the Morgan company, Kuhn, Loeb & Co., and the National City bank of New York "avoided" income taxes by "a variety of methods."

"Many returns, particularly of partners in large banking houses, were exempted from adequate scrutiny," the committee said.

"When examinations were made the time devoted to them was comparatively short, in view of the wealth of the taxpayers and the complex nature of their transactions."

"Thus, in 1930, according to the bureau's own records, one day was spent in checking the partnership return of J. P. Morgan & Co. and Drexel & Co.—the most powerful banking group in the world."

"This return was not subjected to

any field examination and apparently the agent's explanation was sufficient to satisfy the internal revenue bureau that none was necessary."

RECONSTRUCTION Finance corporation announced a new \$100,000,000 corn loan program. Farmers will be offered loans on corn of any crop year at the rate of 55 cents a bushel by the Commodity Credit corporation, the RFC disclosed. The RFC has turned over \$100,000,000 to the commodity corporation, which is really a branch of the RFC, for the carrying out of the program. States included in the new loan plan are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Ohio, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Colorado.

SENATOR HUEY LONG won handsomely in his fight for absolute control of Louisiana, his candidates for congress, state supreme court and public service commissioner defeating those of the "old guard." The election was quite peaceful despite the predictions of bloody "civil war." The Kingfish is now expected to press his investigation of graft and corruption in the affairs of New Orleans and to undertake to have his arch enemy, Mayor T. Semmes Walmsley, ousted from office through action by the legislature, which he controls. Huey is now the virtual dictator of the state, but his opponents have not given up the fight.

NEW DEALERS rejoiced in the results of the Maine election, though their victory was incomplete. Gov. Louis J. Brann, Democrat, was re-elected by a substantial majority over the Republican candidate, Alfred K. Ames, a wealthy and aged retired lumberman. Senator Frederick Hale, veteran Republican, was returned to the upper house for his fourth term, but his majority over F. Harold DuBord, dynamic Democratic nominee, was so slender that Hale must have felt rather humiliated. The New Dealers won two of the three congressional seats.

William A. Comstock lost the Democratic nomination to succeed himself as governor of Michigan, being defeated by Arthur J. Lacey. The Republicans named Frank B. Fitzgerald, now secretary of state.

In South Carolina the textile strike injected itself into the election. In a runoff election Olin D. Johnston, union sympathizer and former mill hand, won the Democratic nomination over Cole Bleas.

In Arizona the Democrats renominated Senator Ashurst and Congressman-at-large Isabella Greenway. The New Dealers tried to get the gubernatorial nomination in Colorado for Miss Josephine Roach, coal mine operator and social worker, but she was beaten by Edward C. Johnson, the incumbent. In Washington, also, the New Dealers lost out when J. C. Stephenson was defeated by Lewis Schwellenbach for the Democratic senatorial nomination.

NATIONWIDE distribution has been started on a poster pledging the public to support Blue Eagle business establishments. Four inches square, it is gummed for pasting in windows. Code authorities and local NRA committees are counted upon to aid its distribution.

This agitation is to accompany the temporary internal reorganization of the recovery administration, as decided upon by President Roosevelt and Hugh S. Johnson, the NRA administrator.

Authority is to be split three ways instead of the present one-man control. General Johnson is expected to continue in an important post. Separate agencies will be in charge of policy-framing, administration, and deciding controversies.

WHEN the League of Nations met in Geneva an invitation to Russia to join the league was circulated, signed and sent to Moscow. The council then announced that an accord had been reached to grant Russia a permanent seat on the council, and it was expected that only Portugal and Argentina would continue to oppose this. Richard Sandler of Sweden was elected president of the league assembly by an almost unanimous vote.

Poland gave a jolt to the league by announcing that it will no longer abide by the general treaty for the protection of minority peoples. Joseph Beck, foreign minister, told the assembly that until all states protect the rights of minorities Poland would refuse any control by an international organization of its treatment of minority groups.

CATHERINE BRESHKOVSKAYA, "grandmother of the Russian revolution," died at her home near Prague. During most of the ninety years of her life she struggled to free Russia and she spent 23 years in exile in Siberia. Her contribution toward the downfall of the Romanoffs was considerable.

FROM the American Federation of Labor comes a suggestion that the government create a "central agency, representing organized business, labor, consumers and the government, to lay out a production program and carry it through."

Whale Harpooned and Shot Off Long Island



THIS fourteen-foot whale was harpooned and then shot, by five fishermen who encountered the huge mammal ten miles off Fire Island inlet, Long Island. After destroying the monster the fishermen hauled their great catch into Lindenhurst.

BEDTIME STORY FOR CHILDREN

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

A LOVING MATE BUT POOR HOUSEKEEPER

"IT'S TIME for my dust bath," said Mourner the Dove to Peter Rabbit, as the latter sat thinking over what Mourner had just told him about eating gravel as an aid to digestion. "There is a dusty spot over in the Long Lane where I take a dust bath every day," continued Mourner.

"If you don't mind," said Peter, "I'll go with you." Mourner said he didn't mind, so Peter followed him over to the dusty place in the Long Lane. There Mourner was joined by Mrs. Mourner, who was dressed very much like him save that she did not have as beautiful a neck. While they thoroughly dusted themselves they chatted with Peter.

"I see you on the ground so much that I've often wondered if you build your nest on the ground," said Peter. "No," replied Mourner, "Mrs. Dove builds in a tree, but usually not far above the ground. Now, if you'll excuse us we must get back home. Mrs. Dove has two eggs to sit on, and while she is sitting, I like to be close at hand to keep her company and make love to her."

The Doves shook the loose dust from their feathers and flew away. Peter watched to see where they went, but lost sight of them behind some trees, so decided to run up to the Old Orchard. There he found Jenny and Mr. Wren as busy as ever feeding that growing family of theirs. Jenny wouldn't stop an instant to gossip. Peter was so brim full of what he had found out about Mr. and Mrs. Dove that he just had to tell some one. He heard Kitty the Catbird among the bushes along the Old Stone Wall, so hurried over to look for him. As soon as he found him, Peter began to tell what he had learned about Mourner the Dove.

"That's no news, Peter," interrupted Kitty. "I know all about Mourner and his wife. They are very nice people, though I must say that Mrs. Dove is one of the poorest housekeepers I know of. I take it you never have seen her nest."

Peter shook his head. "No," said he, "I haven't. What is it like?"

Kitty the Catbird laughed. "It's

about the poorest apology for a nest I know of," said he. "It is made of little sticks and mighty few of them. How they hold together is more than I can understand. I guess it is a good thing that Mrs. Dove doesn't lay more than two eggs, and it's a wonder to me that those two stay in the nest. Listen! There's Mourner's voice now. For one happy he certainly does have the mournful sounding voice. To hear him you'd think he was sorrowful instead of happy. It always makes me feel sad to hear him."

"That's true," replied Peter, "but I like to hear him just the same. Hello! Who's that?"

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Mother's Cook Book

NOW IS THE TIME

NOW is the time when each fruit comes into the market to have at hand a few of the delectable recipes which have waited for them. While the fresh berries are plentiful prepare them for the winter when jellies, jams and preserves of all kinds are so much enjoyed.

Spiced Rhubarb.

Put into the preserving kettle six cupsful of rhubarb peeled and cut into small pieces, one cupful of seeded raisins, one cupful of apple vinegar, four cupsful of sugar, one teaspoonful of cinnamon and one-half teaspoonful of clove. Bring slowly to the boiling point and let simmer until of the consistency of marmalade. Put into glasses and seal with paraffin. If the vinegar is very strong dilute it with water.

English Gooseberry Pie.

Line the side only of a deep pie dish with rich paste. Fill with one quart of ripe gooseberries which have been stemmed and cleaned, pour boiling water over the berries and drain and cool. Add one and one-half table-spoonfuls of butter and one-third cupful of currant jelly. Moisten the edge of the pie with cold water and spread a top crust with a few perforations in the center. Flute the rim and bake forty minutes. Serve turned upside down on a platter. Serve with hard sauce.

Baked Peaches.

Select large ripe peaches for baking. Peel, cut into halves and remove stones from the peaches. In the cavity place a seeded raisin, one teaspoonful of sugar, one-half teaspoonful of butter and a sprinkle of mace. Bake slowly in a moderate oven until the peaches are soft. Serve on rounds of sponge cake with sweetened cream.

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QUESTION BOX

By ED WYNN... The Perfect Fool

Dear Mr. Wynn:

I read in the newspaper that a well-known shoemaker was arrested for bigamy. He has two wives. The verdict is that he must give one some money, and live with the other. Which wife do you think he'll live with, his first or second wife?

Yours truly,
MARY WONCE.

Answer: If he is a shoemaker, as

Thank God for a Friend Like You

By ANNE CAMPBELL

THANK God for a friend like you in bitter days! Your handclasp is firm and true, And staunch your ways.

Though shadows are bleak upon The morning skies, I glimpse the first hint of dawn Deep in your eyes.

Thank God for a friend like you! In joy or pain, A bird soars into the blue! I dream again!

Hope arches a rainbow high In the day's design! Thank God, as Time marches by, You're a friend of mine!

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is this: If he kisses me shall I scream for my family?

Yours truly,

HOPE HEESGOOD.

Answer: Not unless you want him to kiss them, too.

Dear Mr. Wynn:

My uncle, a man about forty years of age, has a habit I cannot understand. Every night just before he gets into his bed he puts some money under his pillow. Can you tell me why?

Sincerely,

AL E. GATOR.

Answer: That is very simple. He puts money under his pillow so he feels that he has something to fall back on.

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Gingham for School



Gingham seems to be the thing for young misses to wear to school this year. Carmecita Johnson, a featured young player of the screen, is seen wearing a charming gingham dress which she wears during the four hours she must attend school daily while working on a picture.

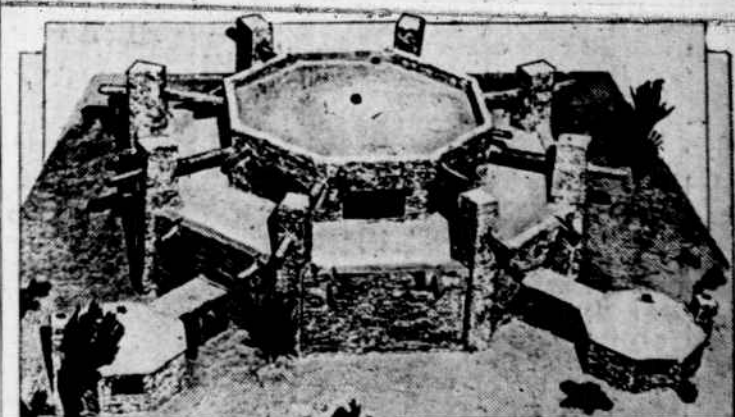
DADA KNOWS



"Pop, what is sentiment?" "Damp sponge."

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Navajos to Have Modern Homes



A DOBE buildings with steam heating, watertight roofing and steel window frames in the modern manner will be features of the new capital on the Navajo Indian reservation in Arizona. The building of the Navajo capital is being financed by a Public Works administration allotment of \$500,000. The photograph shows what one of the dwelling units will look like when finished.