

Sketches From Capital Life

By JIM RIVERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—There's a bit of Spring in the air these last few days. And Spring brings joy and rhyming words to a poet, but nothing more than a feeling of extreme laziness to the draftsman of this alleged column...

SO LET'S LEAVE all the heavy stuff to the Brain Trust, and sort of wander round... just looking, and think. Women are sure doing their part of the smoking nowadays. Half the ducks along the walkway are tipped with the carmine of milady's lip rouge.

THE SQUIRRELS on the White House lawn get most of the peanuts sold at Nick's newly-painted push-cart, across from the Treasury. The almost-white old patriarch on the lower rim of that elm tree must have been seen at least three different tenants of the executive mansion. Wise looking fellow. Wonder what squirrels think about... except peanuts?

STRAIGHT AND TALL, clothing immaculate, eyes clear, every whisker in its place... Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes of the Supreme Court is the embodiment in human form of Law, Smart as a whip, too; but he lost the Presidency in 1916 because he didn't believe it necessary to fraternize with California's Hiram Johnson. Thus an ordinary snub, dish up by the stately Justice, probably changed the course of world history. But heading up the Court's not a bad job, either.

THE MELLON GALLERY of Art, fast taking shape, is a mighty imposing structure. Ten million dollars worth of house is a considerable house, anyway you look at it. Can't help but wonder whether 'twas Gulf Oil or American Aluminum or Medicinal Spirits or some other of Andrew's many enterprises that paid for those giant steel girders.

TAXI DRIVERS are a pretty sharp bunch, and they're almost as accommodating as barbers about dishing up news, and telling their "fares" what's likely to happen come next election. "It's about time these Democrats were getting a licking," said our cabman with a strong suspicion of finality. "But it won't be Vandenberg—he's a stuffed-shirt. I wouldn't be at all surprised if it ain't Tom Dewey or Senator Lodge."

WONDER WHAT BECAME of that House resolution which lodged in the Senate last session... the one which proposed to appropriately attach the name of Congressman Robert L. Doughton to the Shenandoah-Smoky Mountains Parkway? Could it have been jealousy on the part of Virginia's Senator Byrd... or the plain cussedness of somebody else? Of course, Farmer Bob didn't exactly build the road by himself, but some pretty smart folks hereabout will tell you that, had it not been for his untiring fight, this beautiful project would today be in the junk heap with Passamaquoddy and the Florida ship canal.

COTTON ED SMITH, ebullient South Carolina Senator, is one of the best cussers in Congress. Speaking of the ever-present cotton problem at a public hearing, the peppery Palmetto petrel wound a few passages that sounded a good deal like this: "It's time we started raising hell around here. We'll never get anything by pussyfooting. We sit around like a bunch of fools and let men write our laws who wouldn't know a stalk of cotton from a Jimson weed or a cornstalk from a fishing pole. If a fool-killer ever comes around here there will never be a quorum in the Senate or the House!" Stout talk, Senator... very stout and hearty!

AND THE SOUTH goes ahead

with preparation for a new crop of cotton while Congress tussles with the problem of disposing of an 11,000,000-bale surplus, in which Uncle Samuel has, in direct cash subsidies, invested well over a half-billion dollars. And a fellow kinda wonders if American housewives had all the towels and the sheets and pillow-cases they actually need; and if the average man had a dozen shirts instead of two or three, and a complete stock of HVDs... he wonders if that wouldn't about solve the cotton problem. But, not being an economist, an ordinary fellow just wonders.

IT WAS AN EASY question the pudgy fellow asked... not hard at all for a hill-billy. "You mean you don't know what a 'gallacker' is, or was?... why he was the man who, 'way back yonder before WPA, made a pretty fair living pulling greens, or galax, in the Western North Carolina hills."

STAYING IN CONGRESS after they get here is highly important to members of both the House and the Senate, this matter presenting a problem which constantly harasses a law-maker's mind. But it becomes increasingly apparent that North Carolina's Bob Reynolds has a recipe that's hard to beat. A denizen of Tarheelia's hinterland, on visit in the Capital, made mention of the fact that "Senator Reynolds has taken the doubtful alien menace, an unfathomable international situation, a yet-unorganized organization known as the 'Vindicators,' and an abundance of abuse from newspaper commentators... and stirred said ingredients into a 'batter' which ultimately will add fifty thousand votes to his already-imposing primary majorities"; and probably true... for didn't the amazing Robert step forward on a soggy platform in a State of Saharian aridity, and—well, he sure did wallop ole Cam, now didn't he do it?

WELL, WHAT do you know about that? A taxi just passed labeled "John Garner—Cab No. 1." Couldn't be possible that the "Chaparral Cock" has gone to hacking?... surely not!

MRS. S. L. HOBGOOD ENTERTAINS

Franklinton.—Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Hobgood entertained at their home Friday night in honor of their Sunday School and Intermediate League classes of the Free Will Baptist church.

Games and contests were enjoyed by all and a Major Bowes amateur program was conducted. Prize winners were Margaret Hobgood and R. T. Catlett, Jr.

Afterwards delicious refreshments consisting of fruit punch, cookies and salted nuts were served. Assisting the hostess were Misses Josephine Perry, Cleo Hobgood and Margaret Hobgood.

"SERIOUS REDUCTIONS"

Washington, D. C. (Special).—Drastic curtailment of political activities of WPA employees was announced by Col. F. C. Harrington, WPA administrator, Friday, soon after he had stated "serious reductions" in relief rolls will be necessary unless Congress votes an additional \$150,000,000 appropriation before the end of the month. Colonel Harrington's statement envisaged a slash in WPA employment from 3,000,000 to 2,000,000 if Congress persists in its refusal to allot WPA the full sum demanded by the President.

Sources close to the President indicated that FDR will make renewed presentations to the Congress this week.

TUBERCULAR CLINIC

Dr. Godwin, Specialist from the N. C. Tuberculosis Sanatorium, will conduct a Clinic at the Franklin County Health Office April 3rd to April 8th. Dr. Godwin will make a physical examination and if any patient has a suspicion of Tuberculosis a Fluoroscopic examination.

If you have any idea you have tuberculosis or have been living in the home with anyone having tuberculosis or closely associated with such a person come to the Health Office and make an engagement as to time and date. An engagement is necessary as all hours are expected to be filled.

R. F. YARBOROUGH, Health Officer.

The total amount of gold held by the Government is \$14,064,534,061. The amount of money in circulation at the present time is \$6,699,707,987.

12 CENT COTTON

Washington, D. C. (Special).—The Senate Agriculture Committee Friday unanimously approved a bill guaranteeing cotton producers 12 cents per pound on their 1939 crop in a plan to increase Southern income and reduce the 12,000,000-bale carry-over from other years. The measure was drafted by Chairman Ellison D. Smith.

Smith says the bill authorizes cotton farmers to make withdrawals from the 12,000,000-bale surplus, on which the Agriculture Department has been making loans, in lieu of planting cotton for the 1939 season. His contention is that acreage control, plus diminution of the lan stocks, will bolster prices and eliminate necessity for exorbitant subsidy payments.

Another provision would permit the farmer to withdraw loan cotton for sale on the market when the price is sufficient to pay off the full Government loan, plus handling and interest charges.

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W. E. COLLIER Louisburg, N. C.

Sentinels of Health

Don't Neglect Them! Nature designed the kidneys to do a marvellous job. Their task is to keep the flowing blood stream free of an excess of toxic impurities. The act of living—its itself—is constantly producing waste matter the kidneys must remove from the blood if good health is to endure. When the kidneys fail to function as Nature intended, there is retention of waste that may cause body-wide distress. One may suffer nagging backaches, persistent headaches, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—feel tired, nervous, all worn out. Frequent, scanty or burning passages may be further evidence of kidney or bladder disturbance. The recognized and proper treatment is a diuretic medicine to help the kidneys get rid of excess poisonous body waste. Use Doan's Pills. They have had more than forty years of public approval. Are endorsed the country over. In fact, on Doan's. Sold at all drug stores.

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