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ELIZABETH CITY, NORTH CAROLINA, TUESDAY EVENING, JULY 27, 1926.

THE WEATHER

Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday. Extra change in temperature, soft rain, and east winds.

SIX PAGES.

NO. 175.

CANTON AT LAST IS WAKING UP TO CLEAR ITS NAME

Underworld Leaders Are Ceasing to Fraternize with Police Force and Changes Being Made

HAD BEEN PROUD

Before Mellett Murder Canton Had Been Visited for Sake of McKinley But Now It's Different

By ROBERT T. SMALL
Copyright, 1926, by The Advance
Canton, Ohio, July 27.—The social anomalies in Canton's murder hunt seem to have ceased. Few of the leaders of the underworld, the bootleggers, gamblers and general hooligans, are to be seen about their old trysting place. Be he it or not, this trysting place was nowhere else than police headquarters. The gang used to meet there to play pool with the boys in blue and the plain clothes men.

Even during the first eight days of the Mellett murder mystery, this fraternizing of the known "tough" characters of Canton and the police continued as in the gala days of old. It has been one of the amazing phases of this whole amazing situation.

But now there has been a falling away, almost to the vanishing point. Underworld leaders who were inclined to regard the Mellett affair lightly, to say the least, are growing sullen. Chief Lengel's suspension has given them the tip to be on their guard. The chief was "set down" largely because of his association with some of these men. The chief had known "Jumbo" Crowley, commonly rated as the king of "the jungle" ever since "Jumbo" was a hard working more or less law-abiding bartender of the old school. "Jumbo" admits the self-impeachment of many members of his later years, but grows indignant over the taking of a human life, by a "jungle man" or any one else. He says that is the poorest sort of work.

An evidence of the growing tensity of feeling and the cooling off of close relationships was the attack by an ex-bootlegger on a private detective in front of police headquarters. The fight grew out of some old feud, but it was just as fierce and just as bitter as if it had to do with the Mellett case. No arrests were made, no word of administration spoken.

When the newspaper correspondents from distant cities first came to Canton, the "kings" and "dukes" and some of the mere "subjects" of the underworld called upon them to offer their hospitality. They wanted the reporters to see what sort of "denizens" they were and they wanted the "boys" to feel free and safe to come into "the jungle" at any time. They even submitted to lengthy interviews and to having their pictures taken.

But here, too, the relations are beginning to become strained. It begins to look as if friendships were ceasing all along the line and that a real earnest effort at last is to be made by all hands to clear up a deplorable situation.

Chief Lengel is taking his suspension philosophically. As he emerged from his office in citizens' clothes, with his uniform tucked under one arm, an umbrella and a pair of gumshoes under the other, he was heard to remark:

"When the wife sees me coming in the house this way she'll say, 'I know, suspended again.'"

Unquestionably there is a new atmosphere about Canton today and a feeling that at last something is going to be done; that even if the murderer of Don Mellett, publisher of the Canton News, is not turned up, conditions will thereafter be made as unpleasant as possible for the underworld characters and crooks who have felt a welcome always awaited them in Canton.

The murder hunt is becoming centered at police headquarters where before it was only too apparently an unwelcome and irksome task. The police force has been shamed from top to bottom, and as tragedy very frequently has its comic side there is here the case of "Fats" Metzger, headquarter detective. "Fats" used to be on the uniformed force. For two years or so he has been at headquarters. The work there agreed with him so much he took on some 40 or 50 additional pounds. One of the first overt acts of Director of Public Safety Hexamer in assuming charge of the force, was to order "Fats" back to the street. "Fats" naturally was dumbfounded.

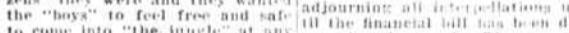
"Aw, Hex," he protested, "you don't mean it?"

"Back to the force for you tomorrow," replied the director.

"Aw, hell, Hex, you know I can't get back into that old uniform of mine. You know it, Hex. It would take me two weeks to get a new uniform made. Aw, hex."

"Hex" was adamant, except he has permitted "Fats" to take four days off that were coming to him, and at the end of that time there will be a hefty new patrolman on the street in some sort of uniform.

Pearl Handle



So Abuse of America Is Now Daily Feature Certain British Newspapers Once Friendly

U. S. SITS TIGHT

Keeping Cool and Sane and Normal About Best Thing This Nation Can Do and It Is Doing It Now

By EDWARD PRICE BELL
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London, July 27.—Cancellation of Great Britain's debt to the United States is the object underlying all of Winston Churchill's recent speeches in the House of Commons and all the abuse of America now a daily feature of certain British newspapers, especially those which issued from the genius of Lord Northcliffe and which at his death passed into the hands of his brother, Lord Rothermere.

Mr. Churchill's antipathy to America is notorious. His bent for fishing in troubled waters is equally notorious. He has embarrassed every government of which he has been a member and he is profoundly embarrassing to Prime Minister Baldwin in these surprisingly difficult times.

Prize Minister Baldwin, when he settled with America, averted many possibilities of danger. If let alone he will save Anglo-American solidarity the one sure hope of democracy. Meanwhile, for Americans the words are—serenity, sanity, objectivity. We have everything to gain by keeping cool; everything to lose by becoming heated.

Churchill and Rothermere are much alike in spirit and method. They are ill conditioned, insular, aggressive and essentially sensational. Of their patriotism there is no doubt; of their taste, fact and wisdom there is much doubt.

One of Northcliffe's settled policies in his newspapers was that of friendship with the United States. He knew not only its power, but its wish to do the right thing according to its lights. No writer in Lord Northcliffe's employ shrank the United States unless he wanted to lose his job.

Any writer in Lord Rothermere's employ, judging by present indications sees hope of higher pay in any fresh ingenuity he may develop as a reviler of "The great trans-Atlantic republic touching inter-allied debts, especially the debt of Great Britain to America. Lord Rothermere has constituted himself Don to the American people. He aspires to instruct them in these astoundingly intricate matters through the mediumship of Americans traveling in the British Isles, and on the continent of Europe. He asks these holiday makers to sit at his feet and then on reaching home to impart to their fellow citizens truths hitherto withheld by a sordid press from really fair minded and generous nations.

This educational enterprise is in full swing. Thus far, however, in his black type displays of "cold facts" Lord Rothermere has omitted to inform the traveling Americans and like wise his own readers how much money the city of London, and sterling holders generally, have made as a result of prime minister Baldwin's debt settlement with the United States. As sterling rose following the funding of the debt, financial Great Britain reaped a magnificent harvest.

It is scarcely a subject, one may conjecture, that Lord Rothermere would wish to flaunt before the British people for the vast majority of them held no sterling to receive the benefit of the appreciation flowing from Mr. Baldwin's sound financial policy.

There are other gaps in Lord Rothermere's financial curriculum for touring Americans. He does not discuss what might have happened if Mr. Baldwin had refused to settle with America. He does not tell Americans or his own readers that in the circumstances suggested, instead of pound being able at this moment to look the dollar in the face, it might be hiding its head somewhat after the manner of the franc or the lira.

In a word Lord Rothermere suppresses all information of the benefits accruing to Great Britain because of the Baldwin settlement while ostentatiously exhibiting its disadvantages. As stated above he like his political conductor, Churchill, seeks to shame or bully the United States into canceling the British debt. Both these two men are too proud to admit that their nation is carrying, or trying to carry, a load too heavy for even its broad and patient shoulders.

There is to be a new deal all around.

There was undoubtedly some feeling at first that the Mellett murder would hurt Canton. That feeling is dying away. In its place has come the resolve that he shall not have died in vain, and that a better Canton is to come of his efforts and his sacrifice.

Canton has been proud of its distinction as the home of a President of the United States. It has been proud of its growth, proud of the thousands of visitors who come each year to the McKinley shrine and is determined that the foul spot "down the hill" shall be wiped out forever.

"Hex" was adamant, except he has permitted "Fats" to take four days off that were coming to him, and at the end of that time there will be a hefty new patrolman on the street in some sort of uniform.

CHURCHILL NOT AN ADMIRER OF UNITED STATES

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Mr. Churchill's antipathy to America is notorious. His bent for fishing in troubled waters is equally notorious. He has embarrassed every government of which he has been a member and he is profoundly embarrassing to Prime Minister Baldwin in these surprisingly difficult times.

Fatally injured by a self inflicted bullet, fired in a period of melancholy, Mrs. T. D. Maness, of Concord, sister of Dr. William Parker, of this city, died last night at 8:30 o'clock at the Elizabeth City Hospital. She had shot herself through the head seven hours earlier at the home of Dr. Parker, on Riverside avenue.

Dr. Parker and another sister, Mrs. A. H. Weeks, of Richmond, who also had been visiting him for about a week before the tragedy occurred, left last night on the southbound train for Albemarle, accompanying the body. They expected to arrive late today. Final arrangements for the funeral were held in abeyance, pending the arrival of another sister from Florida.

Mrs. Maness did not regain consciousness after the fatal shot was fired. She had been despondent for many months over the death of her husband late last year. She leaves no children.

POINCARE IS GIVEN VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

Paris, July 27.—Premier Poincaré's new government was given a vote of confidence in the chamber of deputies this afternoon. The vote, which came after reading of the ministerial declaration of policy was based on the question of adjourning all interpellations until the financial bill has been discussed and passed. The premier asked that this be done and made the matter one of confidence in the government. The vote was 358 for the government and 131 against.

ROTARY AND GUESTS ENJOY BARGE PARTY

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REACH AGREEMENT RUM REGULATIONS

London, July 27.—The Anglo-American anti-smuggling discussions were ended today with complete agreement on eight far-reaching recommendations to hinder liquor smuggling to the United States.

Talk of setting up machinery to administer these recommendations which emanated from both sides will be started by Washington immediately. Brigadier General Lincoln C. Andrews, American prohibition enforcement chief, expressed himself as very satisfied with the result of the conference.

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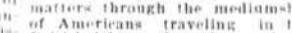
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