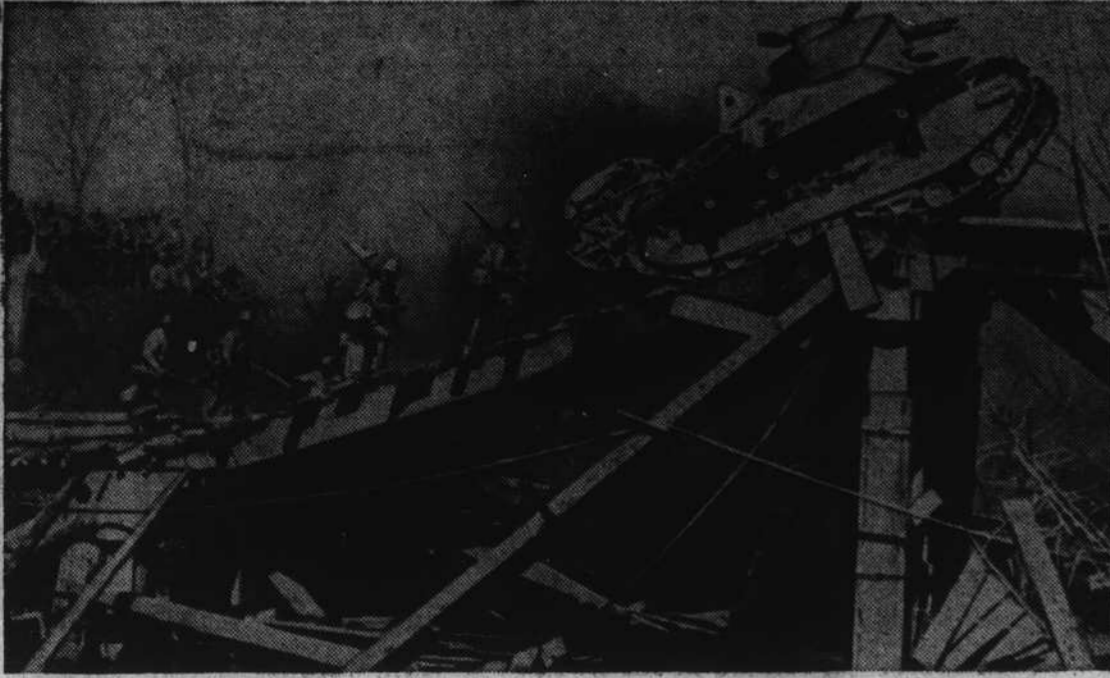


Over the Top Means Rickety Ride for Japs



A partially demolished bridge on the Chinese front provides the setting for this unusual picture. A Japanese tank followed by soldiers rumbles cautiously over the unstable structure as the army moves forward to a new fighting position on the way to Nanking.

General Billotte Takes Post of Governor of Paris

Many-medaled General Henri Billotte, new military governor of Paris, pictured shortly after he had



taken over his important post to succeed the veteran, one-armed General Giraud, hero of the World war.

World's Tiniest Ocean Spanners



Probably the world's tiniest ocean voyagers are these four-month-old twins, Helen and Hertha Coelln who sailed on the Europa for Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, recently. Until their destination is reached, they will be entirely in the hands of traveling agencies. Their mother died recently and their father is sending them to relatives in Germany.

Machine Tells Sex of Eggs



Dr. Willard P. Funk, (sitting) of Los Angeles and his assistant Jack Davenport shown demonstrating the operation of his new machine which can determine immediately whether a newly laid egg will hatch a pullet or a cockerel. Dr. Funk claims he can change the sex of eggs with the new device. In the past 80 per cent of chickens hatched were roosters. When the contact is made with the egg, the instrument gives off an audible male or female signal indicating its sex.

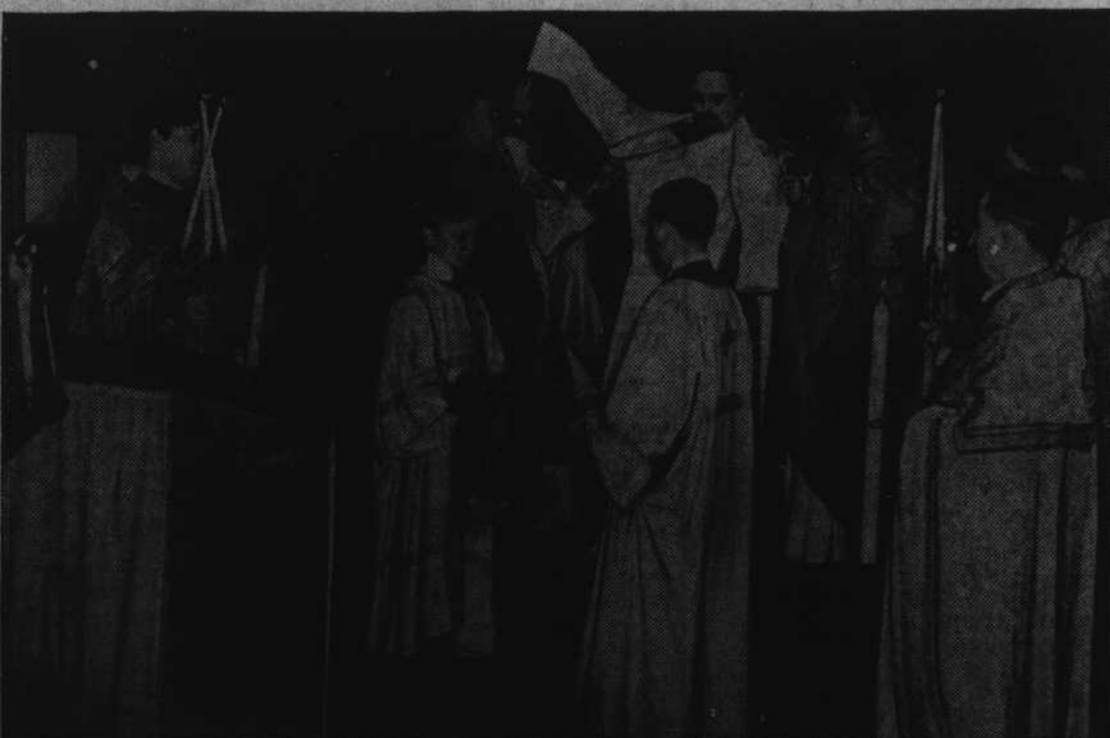
Cousin of Italian King Is Made Ethiopia's Viceroy

The duke of Aosta, cousin of King Victor Emmanuel of Italy who has been appointed viceroy of Ethiopia, succeeding Marshal Rodolfo Graziani,



and, who was relieved at his own request. The duke is married to the daughter of the duke of Guise, pretender to the throne of France. They have two children.

Russian Cathedral Observes Anniversary



The robing of his eminence the archbishop of North America and the Alentian Islands was one of the ceremonies in the services commemorating the thirty-fifth anniversary of the erection of the Russian Cathedral of St. Nicholas in New York, another church of the Russian Orthodox Greek-Catholic faith in the United States.

Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—President Franklin D. Roosevelt pictured on the rear platform of the Presidential special as he departed for a southern fishing trip. 2—Chinese in conquered Shanghai waiting in line for the handful of rice that will stave off starvation. 3—Homer Graber, eighteen, of Mineral Point, Wis., shown with his 1,243-pound Hereford steer that won the grand championship in the junior feeding contest at the International Livestock show in Chicago.

NEW CARDINAL



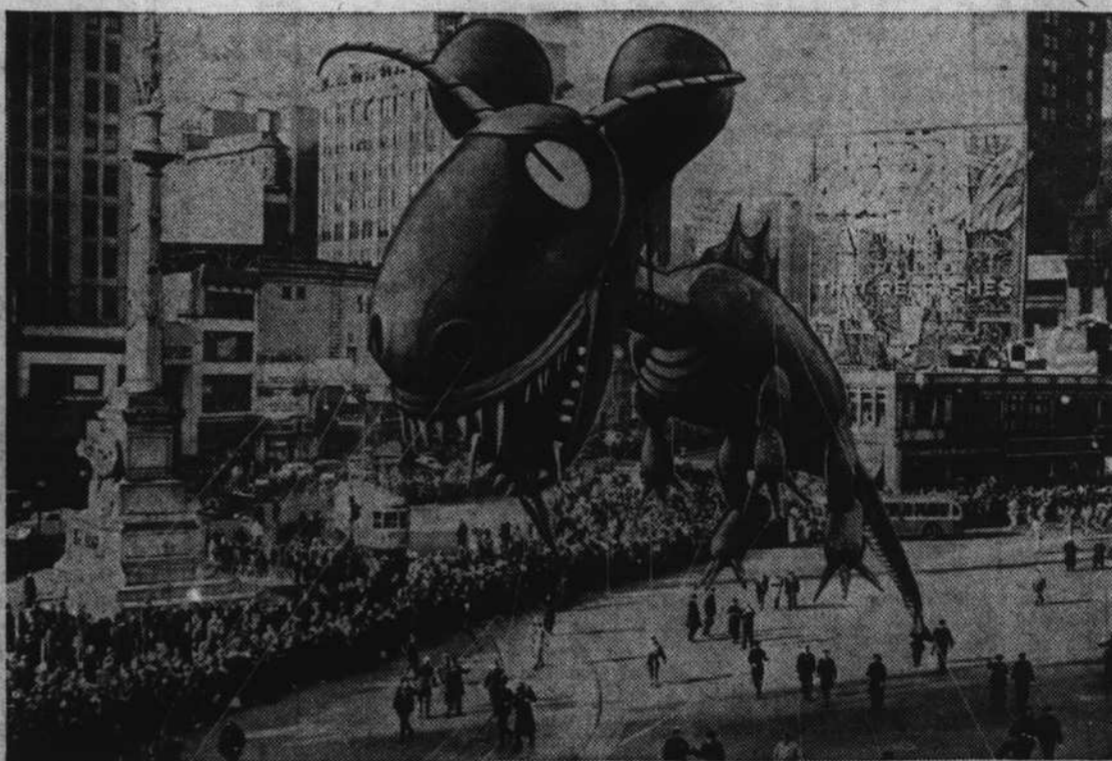
Most Rev. Arthur Hinsley, archbishop of Westminster cathedral in London, has been selected as one of five new cardinals by Pope Pius. He is the first Englishman to be accorded this recognition by the Catholic church in many years.

Orphan Is Lamb-Raising Champ



Boyd Maryhew, age fourteen, of Belleville, Ill., an orphan, was the first of 2,000 boys and girls to win a championship at the national 4-H club congress in connection with the International Livestock show in Chicago recently. Boyd is shown with his yearling Southdown-Shropshire lambs which were awarded the blue ribbon.

Synthetic Sea Serpent Visits New York



A 120-foot sea serpent which required 50 men to hold it down was one of the features of a recent holiday parade in New York city. The balloon with a helium capacity of 5,300 cubic feet is shown as it passed through Columbus circle. It was entered by a leading department store.

Delicate Surgery Saves Boy's Life



Saved from starvation by surgery after he had accidentally seared his throat with sulphuric acid, nine-year-old Ernest Silvicki of Minot, N. D., will soon be able to resume a normal life. Doctors at the Abbott hospital at Minneapolis, Minn., first fed the boy through an incision made in his stomach. Then they laboriously worked a string up through the stomach and out of the mouth, tying a larger rubber tube to the string each day.

She's Best Canner Among 4-H Girls

Miss Mary Frances Thompson of Durham, S. C., given the title of national canning champion by the 4-H club congress held recently in



connection with the International Livestock exposition at Chicago. Prize canners from every state participated in the contest.

What Irwin S. Cobb Thinks about

Prehistoric Lore.

DEL RIO, TEXAS. — According to the scientists, who have a great way of naming earthly phenomena without inquiring into the wishes of the phenomena, we are now living in a terrestrial era known as the Holocene period.

This will be news to a lot of people who rather suspected we were living through a stage which might be called Chaos.

Still, it's no wonder that the word hasn't got around generally yet, because this present era is quite a young era as eras go. It's merely a few million years old, which, to our true geologist, is the same as yesterday. Mention a few million years to him and he'll say "phew!" and just snap his fingers—like that.

I wonder if the authorities would pardon a suggestion from a poor ignoramus whose acquaintance with geology is largely limited to two of its surface phases, namely: Regular paved roads and those derved detours. When we consider most of the humorous illustrations and the bulk of the humorous text printed in the average smart magazine of today, and the even spicier lines heard in smart modern plays, wouldn't it be more fitting to call it, not the Holocene, but the Obscene period?

The Law's Long Arm.

THE long arm of the law—it's a grand phrase, isn't it? So mouth-filling, so satisfying to the honest citizen's soul!

It conjures up visions of unrelenting warfare against crime, inevitable punishment for the guilty. It's the bunk!

It's the bunk because of crooked lawyers; venal policemen; complacent prosecutors; soft-hearted or corrupted jurors; witnesses, bribed or intimidated; the law's delays; reversals of fair verdicts on foolish technicalities; a false sentimentality which forgets the widow and orphan of the victim and thinks only of the family of the killer; most often of all, abuse of the powers to commute and to pardon and to parole.

These days, when I see a sentenced offender handcuffed to an officer, I find myself saying to myself, "Chances are that fellow, literally or figuratively, is wearing that decoration only temporarily."

The Passing Years.

EVERY newborn year is a rosy prospect just as nearly every dying year is a dum-colored disappointment. But without revived hope what could we look forward to except being measured for a shroud?

It seems only yesterday when 1937 was busting in, a radiant, bouncing baby-child, his arms burdened with promises, bless his little soul! After several false starts, happy days were here again. Nobody was aiming to remodel the Supreme court. Senator Ashurst told us so, and didn't he know? He didn't!

Secretary Wallace, slightly assisted by Divine Providence, would immediately have the crop situation well in hand. Grass would grow only in the street leading to the almshouse. The Wall Street boys were expecting two suckers in every pot. And the song of the Bulbul was heard in the land—ah, the bull-bull!

Within the 12-month the Republican party again would be a going concern. Well, if it's a going concern, the question is, where?

And now, laden with future gifts, comes 1938. How time flies! Why, before you know it, Sistle will be old enough to take a job with the radio and Buzzle will be signing testimonials.

Gambling Houses.

ONCE famous card-sharp—not reformed, but retired—said to me:

"Show me a professional gambling house where the roulette wheel isn't crooked, where any other mechanical device is on the square, where the operatives from the bosses on down won't skin a customer—call him a sucker, if you want to; the terms are interchangeable—and I'll drop dead from shock, because no such outfit ever existed nor ever will, not so long as games can be tricked, as all of them can, and gamblers are out for the coin, as they naturally are, and the hand is quicker than the eye, which it is."

"But how about the mathematical percentage in favor of the bank— isn't that enough?" I asked.

"How about the mathematical percentage of crooked law-enforcement officers who have to be bribed?" he countered. "There's never enough coming in to satisfy those babies."

IRVIN S. COBB

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