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THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 1938. The Eccentric is a member of the National Education Michigan Press Association, University Press Club and Oakland County Weekly Press Association.

Howard Hughes and his companions, in their flight around the world, not only set a new record, but established a firm reputation for the reliability of American airplanes.

There is no use in discounting the Hughes' achievement because it was backed by intelligent use of money. To travel around the globe in less than four days is a monumental achievement in the development of aerial navigation, which started during the lifetime of many people in Oakland County.

The surprise flight of Douglas Corrigan across the North Atlantic, a spectacular exhibition of flying skill, combined with exceedingly good fortune, robbed the Hughes' accomplishment of the front pages. The young aviator, with the patched-up plane, deserves the acclaim showered upon him and nobody wishes it otherwise. The progress of aviation is served better by the Hughes' flight although young Corrigan stir up the imagination and helps to enthuse the public with the glories of aerial navigation. Besides, in a world so large as our own, there is room for both types of individual daring and a mood to applaud all of the persons connected with the two flights.

The United States has several vexatious problems, centering around differences between races. On the Pacific Coast, the presence of many Japanese raises troublesome questions. In the Southwest, Mexican laborers cause friction. In the South, Negroes and Whites have to adjust themselves to actual conditions. In metropolitan areas of the North and Midwest, the presence of a large number of Negroes and foreigners often leads to complications.

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Press accounts tell of "smoldering ill-feelings" which broke out in sporadic street fights between White and Negro youths. At one time, several thousand persons were lined up on two sides of the three-mile area where the disturbances began. If the same thing had arisen in a rural area, the consequences would have been much more serious.

One police inspector said that the trouble started in a swimming pool and grew "little by little." Another asserted that the outbreak began "when a Negro youth attempted to dance with a White girl at a dance sponsored by the City Bureau of Recreation." Matters grew worse quickly and it took all available policemen to clear the area of roving bands which were attacking victims on each other.

The Pittsburgh riot received very little attention in the nation's newspapers. Candor compels the admission that if the affair had occurred in the South, it would have been headlined from coast to coast. In Pennsylvania, it should be noted, a drastic state law prevents any discrimination between the races in public places. Apparently, the law does not prevent situations that engender ill-feeling between the races.

The Pittsburgh riot is not the only recent example of race trouble. In two Southern states a few weeks ago, Negroes have been lynched. There is no excuse for such a crime. Public sentiment in this country, including the South, condemns lynching and public sentiment, in this country, is the only force that will put an end to such barbarism.

Racial antipathies are a problem throughout the world. The situation that creates ill-feeling and engenders strife is a condition which must be met by the people in the areas affected. They can rarely be helped by legislative fiat or in the officious meddling of those who reside in other places.

ANTHONY J. WILKOWSKI, of Hamtramck, State Senator, who is spending time in Jackson prison because he was convicted of participating in an election fraud, is still a powerful influence in Democratic political circles. Recently he was visited—against prison rules—by House Speaker Schroeder, regarding political conditions in Hamtramck; it seems that Schroeder wants to pull as many votes from there as possible, and desires Wilkowsky's advice. Poor Wilkowsky; so ventures into politics has cost him many months of freedom; poor Mr. Schroeder, who finds it necessary to win a prison inmate's support to get him to high places in his State government!

Senator George W. Norris, of Nebraska, who recently celebrated his seventy-seventh birthday, is the only living United States Senator who voted against the entry to the World War against Germany. Admitting that he "could never favor voting to put this country to war again on a foreign field," the Nebraska says that the horrors of war in China and Spain make him wonder if it would be better for America and perhaps France, Britain and Russia, to ally themselves in a World War to wipe out Fascism. Senator Norris is not a militarist. His record of public service marks him as a distinct friend of humanity. He has not only admired peace as an ideal, but he has been extremely practical in attempting to maintain it. What is it that now causes him to ponder the advantage of warfare today?

The answer is to be found in the unsettled affairs of the world, with every indication that Italy, Germany and Japan, the three "aggressor nations," are not only rising but are actually profiting of national advantage, but are actually planning warfare on a large scale whenever it promises dividends to them.

If peace could be maintained for many years by a policy of tolerance as these nations threaten and stability, the price may not be too much to pay. However, there is no reasonable prospect that such a course will avoid a greater war. This is why Senator Norris wonders whether a younger generation of Americans, fighting a World War against nations some twenty or thirty years from now, may not wish that the Americans of today had defeated "Fascism in its infancy."

There are many observers in the world today who do not believe that the question involves a division between war and peace. They think that the world trend points unmistakably to a future war and the only question to be decided is when the fighting will take place. If this is correct, the sooner the democratic countries start the battle, the better their chance will be to win.

The experts, however, may be wrong; there may be a way to avoid another World War. This is the hope that keeps the democracies from doing anything that might precipitate the struggle now.

The solution of the housing problem in the United States depends upon developing mass production of houses. Mr. Corbett declares, "If we attempted to build a car today the way we build a house, it would cost \$50,000 and would not run."

Automobiles vs. Houses. Mr. Corbett declares, "If we attempted to build a car today the way we build a house, it would cost \$50,000 and would not run."

There certainly seems to be an opportunity to improve the method of house construction in the United States. Some smart industrialist will begin the fabrication of houses in a factory, which will be fitted together on the building lot. It is barely possible that large construction organizations will visit various localities for the purpose of erecting fifty or a hundred homes in a few weeks.

Meeting the objection that the pre-fabricated method will be standardized, Mr. Corbett says it is not necessary as each builder will be able to construct his model, with definite prices for each unit that he puts into his structure.

The brutality of the aerial murder of defenseless men, women and children in Spain and Italy, is in the opinion of military observers, amplified by the stupidity of such tactics.

Undoubtedly designed to break down the morale of the opposing armies, the aerial slaughter of thousands of non-combatants in China and Spain has produced an appreciable weakening in the resistance of military units. Most military experts believe exactly the contrary, that such barbarism produces intense emotions which tend to stiffen resistance.

A soldier, fighting in a front line, and knowing that the enemy may be dropping bombs on his family in some peaceful village, is apt to fight the foe with hatred and enthusiasm. In fact, the knowledge of what is going on behind the lines, in most cases, will lead an individual fighter to take additional chances in order to kill more of the enemy in front of him.

The death rate for the present generation continues to fall nearly everywhere on earth and the expectancy of life has increased generally in all age-groups, but most for babies, according to statistics contained in the League of Nations Yearbook.

In the United States, according to this authority, a white girl born in 1935 could expect to live 64.72 years—the highest expectancy of life since any child on earth. A white boy, born in the same year, could look forward to four years less expectancy, but, even so, his chance for long life was better than in any other country except Denmark.

It is interesting to observe that an infant, born in India, could expect only twenty-six years of life. In Japan, it is stated, the average life expectancy is forty-six years. These figures reveal that children born in the United States are blessed not only with the political freedom and economic advantages that are unrivaled in the world, but that they have a prospect of living longer than children born in other countries.

A DETROIT MOTHER and her daughter plan a 1500-mile "bike" trip around Michigan. This ought to be regular "bike" paths in this and other States. In Europe, especially in Holland and Denmark, you may see thousands of people riding bicycles, on concrete, stone, or brick, for purpose. We suggest to State Highway Commissioner Murray D. Van Wagoner that he consider a few such paths for Michigan.

Happenings of Long Ago

Fifty Years Ago. A very tall young man and his very best strawberry blonde young girl were out riding Sunday. They had Beattie's best span of horses, a bay and a white and they were out riding Sunday. A happy frame of mind he said, jocosely: "Well darling, whoever sees you won't have to look for the accompanying white horses, will they dear?" This raised up her dander and she quickly replied: "I wouldn't say anything about hair at all if I hadn't any more than you have this minute, on top of my head. No, no, no, young man is rapidly growing bald, a fact that he mourns greatly, by the manner up and she, seeing her hair, added: "I suppose when you were young you had water on the brain and your hair fell in and got drowned." He sadly replied: "No, pet, that's not it at all. When they were passing hair around in our family, I was the last and they left me only a lot of red hair. I said no thanks, and I went bare." She roared: "whoa," jumped out of the buggy and walked home. And that's why Bert doesn't have any more of Beattie's double rigs, but does it alone altogether.

Twenty-Five Years Ago. The following is derived from George Gillespie in Detroit "I read, with some surprise, the following in your issue of July 27. For sale, a violin 45 years old with the owner, worth \$25 easily, but will sell for \$125. If the seller is a man he is certainly dirt cheap and this will be a good chance for some of the girls."

Millions of Scientists, Veterinarians and other chaps, battalions of the weed army are being destroyed on Bates street by the champion weed eater, the world, William Reynolds. This cheerful agent of war is in the weeds of the city, and is gradually annihilating any dear little weed you may lamp in your yard.

Retail merchants, who will push revenue drive here, New Association approves uniform schedule of store hours, will elect of LaBelle is temporary chairman.

Two youths set fire to house so called "Bloomfield Hills home" in a deserted Bloomfield Hills home abate then await alarm at street.

James Gilhula to swim here, World's champion free style swimmer exhibition at B. A. C. next Friday.

DeMolay elect R. J. Melrow to two high state posts, Hassberger chapter advisor will resign to assume new positions.

Bonds-for-tax office opened, Mrs. Woodie and Halkie begin early negotiations in city obligations.

County valuation is reduced by state, Tax commission's figure is, however, \$55,000 higher than supervisors.

Balance Sheet. The Ford Motor Company total surplus, \$608,085,325, still lag behind the Roosevelt deficit—Minneapolis Journal.

Shades of Lincoln? Let no citizen think that we are immune to these seeping dangers that come others by the throat—Vandenberg's Gettysburg Address.

Wisdom of the Press. The simple truth is that there is no entirely satisfactory system of taxing intangibles, or anything else—Columbus 18, (C) Record.

Where the Pravinishti Are. The Maharajkumar Shri Pravinishti of Sant and the Maharajkumar Shri Pravinishti of Sant—London Times.

Only Fair. Before passing the national debt on to the young grad, ordinary sportsmanship would suggest that we try to get H. V. Wade in the Detroit News.

Personal View. Personally, I do not think that there is any likelihood of war being averted by otherwise, in this blessed England of ours—"Modern" (London).

Wrong Sex. Late figures show seventy percent of our wealth is in women's hands and we wonder why that? Kentucky depository has been renamed Fort Knox—Chicago Daily News.

LOOK WHO'S ASKING. THE LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE QUESTION. THE THIRD TERM QUESTION. QUESTION MARK DEMOCRATS. F.O.R. Random Remarks. Wm. C. Bullitt, U. S. Ambassador to France. Alfred E. Smith, former Governor, New York. Key Pittman, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Alfred E. Smith, former Governor, New York. Key Pittman, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Key Pittman, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

WASHINGTON LETTER BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Investigation and Prosecution Head the News From Washington

WASHINGTON—Most of Washington's summer program could be printed in two columns headed "Investigations" and "Prosecutions."

On Aug. 11 the House committee headed by Congressman Martin Dies of Texas will start investigating un-American activities. First to testify in the hearings will be representatives of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the A. F. of L., and other organizations which have been investigating such activities independently.

Dies says the inquiry is to disclose "foreign activities in this country, financed by foreign money," and denies that "his committee will try to build up a case against C. I. O. and liberal politicians, as it has been suggested it might."

If the committee can uncover evidence that Communist activities in this country are financed by Soviet Russia, or Nazi activities by Germany, the hearings will be sensational.

THE JUSTICE Department, prosecuting monopolistic practices, may move on next to the alleged violation of anti-trust laws in the beverage bottling industry. If a suit is brought, Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold and his staff will produce evidence they have been collecting, and allege that there is a lack of competition in this business and that prices are too high. These prosecutions sometimes drag along indefinitely.

A FEDERAL investigation of motion picture companies was begun about two years ago. Recently suit was brought against eight major producers, on the ground that monopolistic practices drive independent movie issues out of business.

In the movie suit, however, the alleged control of theaters by theater companies and the practice of block-booking of films, have been going on for years. The big movie men will consent to divorce their production, distribution and ownership from their theater ownership, and eliminate block-booking.

Quite Right. It might seem a Japan fight of the did conquer China and then had to govern it. Springfield Union.

It Won't. It won't hurt some people to discover that "roughing it" means more than what it does in the Los Angeles Times.

Correct. As we understand it, a Chinese bandit is any Chinese who doesn't move to where a Chinese speaks. Key West Fla. Citizen.

Now It's a Golf Course. The age has passed when a small town considered a band more important than a fire department. Atchison Globe.

They Have. The pointers who blazed their way now have descendants who burn the road—Greensboro Herald-Journal.

When the Sun Peaks Through. Those multicolored and striped B. N. D.'s for men will make a colorful background for one-size Palm Beach trousers—Atlanta Constitution.

"See America First" By RAYMOND PITCAIRN National Chairman. Countless Americans, as this is written, are either planning or embarked upon their annual program of nationwide summer travel. This is an excellent thing. It has particular value at a time when discouragement and pessimism flood so much of the world. For Americans and understood as a whole, has an inspiring message to impart.

To all who live it with open eyes and open mind, America offers not only grandeur of scenery, but a record of grandeur of character on the part of its builders as well.

In the fertile farms of the Mississippi Valley, in the productive industries of the East, in the sprawling ranches of the great West, it dramatizes the story of the men who, by their own strength, their own energy, their own spontaneity and creative courage, harnessed the power of a continent to build a free and mighty nation.

Everywhere they will see what can and has been achieved by the unshackled spirit of a people who demanded only opportunity and independence.

What a pity the oppressed peoples of Europe—who are taught that in order to advance, men must be the instruments and the dependents of the State—cannot see these things!

What a pity the theoretists who urge on our people a policy of lean- ing upon government and looking to the politicians rather than to their own abilities for help and direction, will not understand America's message!

To all who really see America it tells the inspiring story of what can be achieved by the free spirit of a great people unshackled by dictatorial repression.

And dictators, or their admirers, who preach that progress depends on the loose slip of regimentation—or blind dependence on bureaucratic power, should relinquish the reins of authority for the steering wheel of an open roadster, and see America First.

Patron (posing for photo)—What will these pictures cost me? Photographer—"They're \$25 a dozen. Now look pleasant!"

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