

Swan Interviews McKinley

By O. A. Kennedy

Swan Swanson wanted a letter written to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior. It was in regard to grazing lands. I suggested that a man with sheep on a thousand hills would do well to cultivate the local land officials and that the honorable land commissioner would probably be the final arbiter of his case.

"Nothing doing," said Swan, elevating a number twelve shoe to my desk. "I never waste time on clerks nor under-stoppers. If you want to get quick action go right to the main guy, the man at the top, and let him call in the little fellows, if he wants to. I suggested that a secretary of the interior was of necessity a very busy man.

"Not too busy to act on an important case like mine. Anyhow, what makes him busy? Why, I tell you, like me. If I don't help him busy, some other geezer will, so there you are. Besides, these big fellows like to have you bring your troubles to them. They like it."

"Are you sure of that?" I asked.

"Of course. I've talked with lots of them, senators, governors and presidents, and they all just human beings like the rest of us, and they like to be treated like human beings," he replied, putting the other number twelve shoe beside the first upon my desk.

"You see," he went on, "a man begins to rise in the world, say as a politician. He is elected a member of the legislature. People see him coming and they step back and get out of his way and say: 'That's Brown, state senator from this county,' and after while he is elected to congress and people whisper as he goes by and say: 'There goes Brown, member of congress.'"

"And they are afraid to talk to him because he is such a big man and when they do talk to him because he is such a big man they are afraid to tell him the truth for fear he may get like it, and they don't like to take up so much of his valuable time and they rush away before he has got through with all he has got to say.

"So the higher up he goes, the more they step back and leave him alone and the more he feels that he would like to talk to just common folks like me, it must be awful lonesome to be president of the United States."

"Did you say you had talked with some presidents?"

"Sure," I shook my head with Teddy a couple of times and with old Gen. Lissus Grant once when I was a boy, and I had a long talk with McKinley one time.

I was skeptical. Swan had been known to prevaricate at rare intervals, so I said: "When did you ever talk with McKinley?"

"Oh, let's see," mused Swan. "It was during the Spanish war, or right away soon after that. I had been to Chicago with sheep and stopped over in Omaha during a big doin'—they have them every year—and McKinley was there to make a speech.

"The reception committee met him at the depot and there was a long string of carriages with the tops let down, you know, and the mounted police and militia and brass bands. McKinley was in a carriage seated beside a governor, or something, and opposite to him was a major and a secret service man and there was mounted militia all around the carriage.

"And everybody cheered and waved hats and flags and McKinley kept lifting his hat and bowing right and left and smiling, and when they got right opposite to me, I saw I was in line, so I stepped on ahead and blocked the carriage so the carriage McKinley was in was stopped right there.

"Well, the crowd from behind pushed us people out into the middle of the street and I was in the front row and the first thing I knew I was right against the hind wheel of McKinley's carriage and not more than a foot from him.

"He was a small man and when he was seated in the carriage I could look right into his eyes and he turned his head and looked at me and I looked at him and he looked so friendly I couldn't resist the temptation and I reached out my hand and slapped him on the back and I said: 'Hello, Billy, old boy, how are you?'

"Well, sir, you never see a tickler man than little Mac. He just laughed all over his face and he grabbed hold of my hand and just shook and shook and shook. You can tell if a man means it when he shakes hands and he says: 'How do you do, sir, am glad to meet you, sir. What is your name?' and kept on shaking my hand.

"And you ought to have seen the way them other fellows in the carriage looked at me when I slapped the president of the United States on the back. If looks could kill! You'd have thought I had broke a light in a meeting house.

"The secret service man jumped straight up, and the governor tried to stomp me away, and a couple of mounted militia sprung their horses into the crowd and forced them back, but I stepped between the wheels and they couldn't get between me and the president.

"Anyhow, I was talking to McKinley and he was talking to me. I says to him, 'Billy, you are giving us a rattling good advantage after all the people are right back of you.'

"I am very glad to hear that," he says, "very glad indeed, and the governor or mayor or some other fella, or some remark but Mac only says yes to him and then he asked me my name and where I was from and I told him I was Swan Swanson from Ogden, Utah.

"He asked my business and I told him 'sheep' and then he asked what kind I preferred and just then the carriage started moving and I had to jump to get out of the way of the wheel, but McKinley shook hands and bid me goodbye."

"Say, Swan," I said, "do you mean to tell me that really happened?"

"Cross my heart," replied Swan. "I've got an Omaha paper that tells about it with my picture in. And that ain't all. The procession moved up about fifty feet and then something happened. After a minute or two I see McKinley turning around in his seat and looking back and being taller than the most of people, he saw me and he motioned for me to come. So I stepped on into the street and walked right up to the president's carriage. On account of the militiamen I had to come up on the other side from where the president sat.

"That secret service man— he just gazed, and so did the governor and mayor, or whatever they was, but little Mac leaned over and he says, 'You didn't finish telling me what kind of sheep you consider the most profitable, Mr. Swanson.'"

"I told him I preferred Rambouillet, but most flockmasters out our way was strong for Southdowns. Then he asks: 'What do you figure it costs you a pound for your wool?' I told him 'ten to twelve cents.'

"Then," he says, "Mr. Swanson, what in your opinion would be the effect on the industry to repeal the tariff on wool?"

"Billy," I says, "I would sure knock it seven ways for breakfast."

"Do you think so?" he says.

"I know it, I tell you. I have been raising wool ever since I was a boy and it can't be did for less than ten cents a pound."

"I am very glad to get those fig-

ures," he says, "I shall have occasion to use that in a very glad, always to get to talk to a man who knows."

"Then the carriage started again and he shook hands again and so did the governor and the mayor, but that secret service man—you bet your life he never shook hands."

"Now Swan," I said, "look me in the eye. Is this all true?"

"Every blasted word," he declared. "It was in the papers, I tell you. When Mac's carriage drove off, I felt some one pulling my coat and here was a correct and a note book and a pencil in his hands."

"What's your name, please?" he says.

"What in blazes is that any business of yours?" I says.

"You were talking to the president," he says, "what the devil is that to you?"

"I says, 'I've a right to talk to him.'"

"Where are you from?" he says.

"That's none of your business, either," I told him. And then I see that he was writing down in his note book every blasted thing I had said."

"I looked around and there was three other fellows writing in notebooks and they all just human beings like the rest of us, and they like to be treated like human beings," he replied, putting the other number twelve shoe beside the first upon my desk.

LENINE CALLS FOREIGN AFFAIRS LEAGUE FAILURE

Premier Declares Capitalistic System of World Is on Verge of Collapse

MOSCOW, July 24.—(By the Associated Press)—Nikolai Lenin, the soviet premier, speaking at the opening session of the third international congress of workers of all nations, stated that the world's economic crisis and the failure of the league of nations to reconcile and unite the interests of capitalistic governments were the most important factors promoting the aim of a new international congress of workers to consolidate and organize world revolution.

After Lenin's address, in which he declared, among other things, that the entire capitalistic system of the world was threatened with collapse and that the league of nations contributed to communism, the international adopted a resolution calling on workers of all nations to institute an economic blockade of Poland. Lenin pointed out that even in countries where there were the most favorable conditions, such as America, Japan and England, the increase in the cost of living was disproportionate to the rise in wages and profits and that those who benefited in all countries were in infinitely small proportion of the population.

The deportation of 500 communists from America would not help the capitalistic regime while need among the laboring classes was increasing and capitalists were continuing to enrich themselves at the expense of the workers, the premier continued. The working classes were ripe for a broad revolutionary movement and the task of this international was to consolidate and organize world revolution, he said.

"Collapse of the entire capitalistic system was threatened, Lenin said, owing to the impossibility of settling war debts without involving many countries in economic ruin and because of the hopelessness of reconstruction under a capitalistic regime. Russia's economic, such as Kent, he declared, had already advanced the idea that annulment of war debts was necessary for the re-establishment of international credit.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS ABUSE BY MILITARY IN MEXICO HALTED

MEXICO CITY, July 23.—Orders have been issued to General Guadalupe Sanchez, chief of operations in the Vera Cruz district, giving instructions that the military forces limit themselves to executing the rulings of the civil authorities, and avoid abuses, says a government press bulletin tonight.

General Arnulfo R. Gomez, chief of operations in Tamaulipas has reported the routing of the rebel leader Manuel Larranga near San Jose del Pinto. (Advices to the state department in Washington of July 20, told of the rout of General Larranga, who with 500 men was said to be operating about 75 miles west of Tampico.)

The bulletin announces that the strikes in Tampico and other parts of the country have been settled.

TIDEWATER CONGRESS ASKS U. S. TO ACT

DETROIT, Mich., July 24.—After passing a resolution urging the United States congress to act quickly for a waterway connecting the Atlantic with the Great Lakes, the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Tidewater congress adjourned today.

Call for the next congress was left with the executive committee of the Tidewater association, which has a membership of 14 states.

A telegram from Herbert Hoover, in which the former food administrator urged building of the proposed Great Lakes-St. Lawrence waterway under a provision of a consolidation of the construction and engineering departments of the government into a single public works department to replace the present department of interior, featured the closing session of the congress.

SIX BUILDINGS NEAR FORT WORTH BURNED

FORT WORTH, Tex., July 24.—A bank, three hotels and two dry goods stores were destroyed by fire, which swept three blocks of the business district of Desdemonia, in the Texas oil fields. The loss was estimated at half a million dollars.

The fire started in an unoccupied restaurant building and gained considerable headway before it was discovered.

No fire-fighting equipment is available at Desdemonia, formerly known as Hogtown, and dynamite was used to flatten out buildings in the path of the fire.

Wanted—A Salesman. Read "Jake's New Job," page 4.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS PREDICTION MADE THAT MONEY WILL REMAIN TIGHT FOR REMAINDER OF YEAR

Prediction Made That Money Will Remain Tight for Remainder of Year

NEW YORK, July 24.—Foreign affairs dominated the financial markets to an unusual degree this week, international exchange becoming acutely unsettled in consequence of latest complications in the Russo-Polish imbroglio.

Another significant phase of the international situation was presented by the record of exports and imports for the fiscal year. In volume these figures were unexpectedly large but the June trade balance in favor of this country was the smallest of any month prior to the war.

The fact that several of the federal reserve branch banks recently approached the limit of their rediscount resources was regarded as sufficient proof that the credit situation has lost little of its protracted tension.

The opinion was expressed by the chief executive of the country's largest national bank that money would remain tight if not stringent, for the remainder of the current year.

The stock market during the week lapsed into apathy. Spasmodic outbursts of activity were almost wholly at the expense of quoted values.

The wage increase award and prospects of an early advance in freight and passenger rates imparted a measure of firmness to transportation shares, but this was forfeited when shorts extended their commitments to seasoned or representative industrialists.

Judge Gary's view of future industrial conditions prompted some speculation regarding the earnings of the United States Steel corporation for the second quarter of the year. These are to be made public Tuesday. Conservative opinion believes that they will exceed the first quarter's return by a considerable margin.

ITALY AFTER ITS RICH MALEFACTOR

ROME, July 23.—Interpellated in the chamber today on the recent disorders in Italy, Premier Giolitti declared the government would discover not only those guilty of actual law-breaking, but the instigators.

"We are no respecters of persons," he said, "if anybody imagines he can influence the political life of the country with ill-begotten millions, this person will soon discover his foolish mistake."

The premier alluded to reports that persons enriched by the war were now spending their money to foment disorders with a view to overthrowing the cabinet, or hindering parliament in its functions, and thus prevent enactment of the proposed patrimony bill, which would confiscate excess profits.

It is announced that some investigations already made in Rome into the disorders have resulted in discovery of a financial plot against the state, showing that in two days alone about ten million state bonds were sold in order to depress the market. Judicial authorities, it is asserted, have issued warrants for the arrest of those responsible. Similar investigations are being held in other cities, especially Milan, Genoa and Turin.

PUBLISHER OF GERMAN WEEKLY IS ASSAULTED

STOIX CITY, Ia., July 24.—Oscar Hoffman, publisher of a German weekly newspaper here, was beaten over the head by an unidentified man with a "black jack" today. He is expected to die.

Hoffman was attacked from behind an hour after the negro visited his office to get a history of the war. He is unconscious.

STRIKE IN LUMBER CENTER CALLED OFF

MAHINETTE, Wis., July 24. By an unanimous vote last night the Timber Workers' union of Marinette and Menominee having over 1,200 members called off the strike for an eight hour day which has been in progress since May 30. This lumber center is about the last to resume operations and the timber workers' strike in Wisconsin, Minnesota and upper Michigan appears to be over.

GENERAL FELIX DIAZ WOULD LEAVE MEXICO

MEXICO CITY, July 23.—General Felix Diaz, erstwhile revolutionary leader in the state of Vera Cruz, is ready to leave the country, considering the revolutionary movement ended, according to an announcement tonight by the war department. Most of General Diaz's forces have been disbanded, it is stated, and the remainder are being paid off under the war department's supervision.

STRIKE IN SPAIN

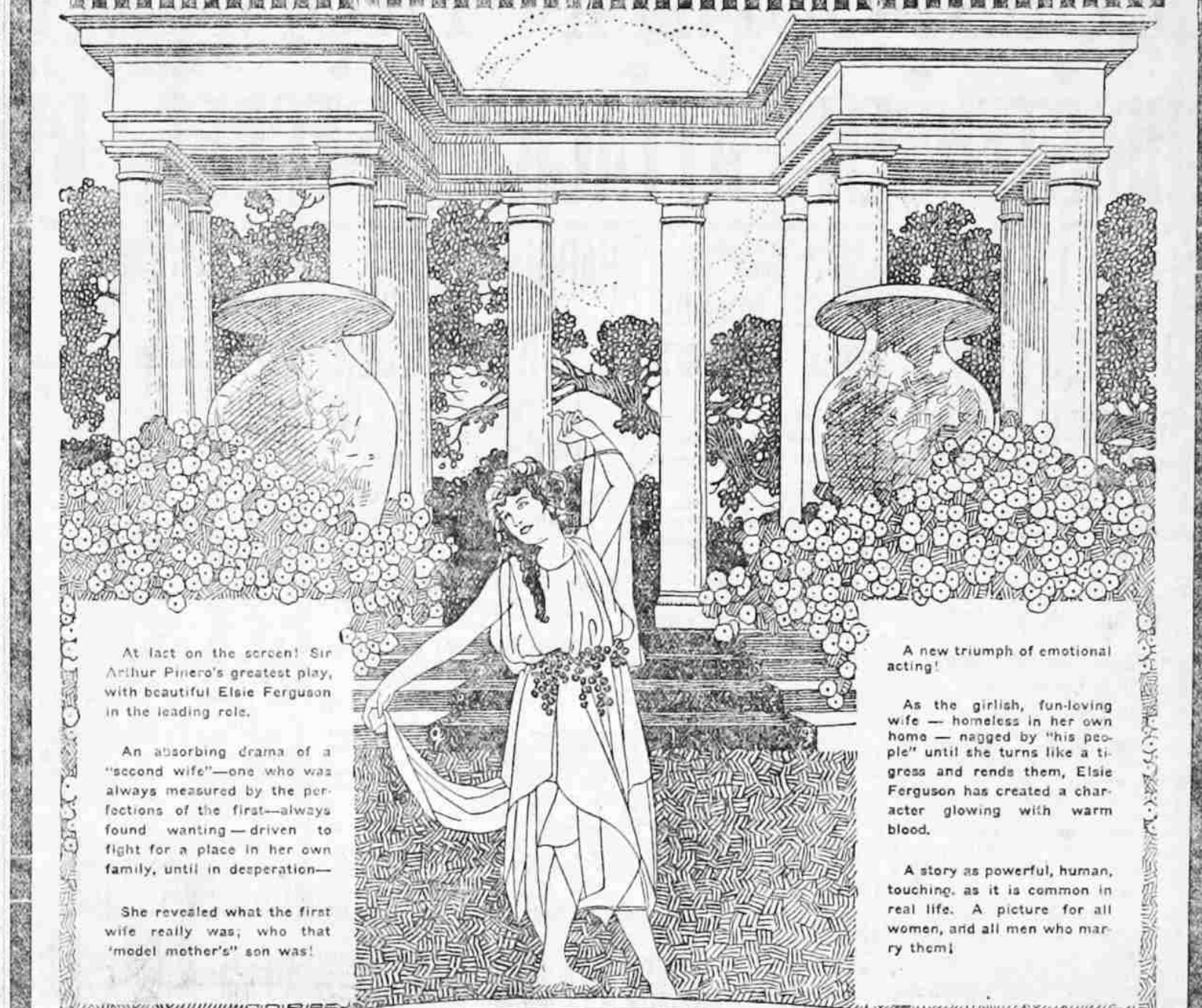
BILBOA, Spain, July 22.—Twenty-five thousand metal workers struck today, demanding a 110 per cent increase in wages.

PRICES 10c 20c 30c ALHAMBRA Starting TO-DAY

WE Cater to Those Who Appreciate Quality

A COOL PLACE TO REST -- Pictures Unequaled

A Roaring 2-Reel Comedy--"A NIGHT OF A DUB"



At last on the screen! Sir Arthur Pinero's greatest play, with beautiful Elsie Ferguson in the leading role.

An absorbing drama of a "second wife"—one who was always measured by the perceptions of the first—always found wanting—driven to fight for a place in her own family, until in desperation—

She revealed what the first wife really was; who that "model mother's" son was!

A new triumph of emotional acting!

As the girlish, fun-loving wife—homeless in her own home—nagged by "his people" until she turns like a tigress and rends them, Elsie Ferguson has created a character glowing with warm blood.

A story as powerful, human, touching, as it is common in real life. A picture for all women, and all men who marry their men!

ADOLPH ZUKOR presents ELSIE FERGUSON in "HIS HOUSE IN ORDER" A Paramount Arcraft Picture

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SIR THOMAS GETS THIRTEEN CATS FROM ADMIRERS

ON BOARD THE STEAM YACHT VICTORIA, July 24.—(By Wireless to The Associated Press)—Sir Thomas Lipton sat in the shade under the striped canopy rigged over the after-deck of the Victoria today, dividing his time between conferences with his chief yachting advisers and listening to his secretary, who read aloud the cable messages and aerograms which poured in with cheer and encouragement from all parts of the world.

Of the many presents which Sir Thomas has received from admirers since he began his fourth attempt to lift the America's cup, the most popular variety has been cats.

The Irish baronet received his thirteenth pedigreed kitten today.

RELIEF FROM PAPER SHORTAGE HELD NEED

MILWAUKEE, Wis., July 24.—Courtland Smith, president of the American Press association, discussing the print paper situation before the Wisconsin Federated Printing and Press association today, urged country publishers to demand congressional action to solve the print paper problem and suggested inquiring the attitude of Senator Harding and Governor Cox on the subject.

"What we want is definite assurance from one of the candidates that he will call a special session of congress to put through a bill relieving the present newspaper shortage," Mr. Smith declared. "There should be established a parcel post rate of one pound on print paper with no zone rate so that small publishers could buy direct from the mills."

13,000 CARS NEEDED FOR COLORADO CROPS

DENVER, Colo., July 24.—Thirteen thousand refrigerator cars will be required to move Colorado's fruit and vegetable crop, according to reports of state utility commission inspectors today. The west slope will ship 9,000 cars and the Rockyford melon crop will fill 3,000. The shipments will begin August 15.

UNDISIRABLE TRAIN ARRIVES IN GOTHAM

NEW YORK, July 24.—Sixty-three aliens, charged with being "undesirables," arrived at the Ellis Island immigration station today under a heavy guard of federal agents, to be held for deportation. They were brought here from Seattle, Chicago, Kansas City and other points of the west and middle west, where they had been taken into custody by department of justice agents.

WHITE HOUSE PICKET SUED FOR DIVORCE

TOPEKA, Kan., July 24.—Mrs. Effie W. Maine, Kansas woman suffragist, named some time ago as one of a num-

MORE VEGETABLES AND FRUITS ON MARKET

WASHINGTON, July 24.—Fruits, vegetables and all forms of garden truck are now on markets in supplies between 10 and 15 per cent greater than during the same period in 1919, the United States bureau of markets reported today. The movement to consuming markets by railroad, the bureau estimates, is now 2,000 cars a day and as much more normally comes to the larger centers by truck and local haulage.

SUGAR BEET AUTOMATIC DUMPING RACK

May also be used for hauling hay, manure, tomatoes, etc.

Perfect in construction and operation.

The Best on the Market

New Patent

C. HANDLEY CO.

2248 Hudson Ave.

PRESTON FLOUR PROOF IN EVERY SACK

PRESTON FLOUR PROOF IN EVERY SACK