

★BLOCK'S DOWNSTAIRS STORE★

The Stranger's Return



THURSDAY, NOV. 23, 1933

PAY DAY!

SATURDAY is pay day for 3,600 casuals of the depression in Marion county. Thirty-six thousand dollars will go into their empty pockets. This money is not degrading charity. It is an honest payment for honest services rendered to the community.

At last society has learned that it is far better to pay men for working than to pay them for idleness. Call the food baskets and rent payments "poor relief" or anything else, but they were actually a dole. There were children in Indianapolis who did not know what it meant to have their fathers working. Born at the beginning of the depression they could not remember any support except charity.

The 3,600 formerly unemployed men will, in many instances, receive their first pay envelope in many months. It will mean food, shelter, clothing. It will be a primer for local business. But above all it will give the 3,600 a new morale. It will give them renewed confidence in the great principles of American government.

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November 23, 1933

JIM FARLEY IS
VICTIM OF JOB
RACKET GANGS

Postmaster-General Finds
Path Blocked Daily by
Hundreds.

By WALKER STONE
Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—James A. Farley, postmaster-general, probably has been "sold" more times, for more things and by more people than any other man in the present administration.

The good-natured, hand-shaking Democratic national chairman makes an ideal target for the fixers, the job racketeers and others who peddle their "influence." No man in America can call more persons by their first names but just the same he can't place in his memory one man out of ten who hails him with "Hello, Jim."

Wherever he goes, men swarm about him. Some want jobs, others want favors, and still others merely want to make a showing of being "in with Farley." Once the latter have created this impression, they can play on the credulity of others who want something from the government—jobs, contracts, departmental favors.

A man who is believed to have the ear of the administration's political manager finds it easy to convince suckers that the pathway to government favor can be paved for a consideration.

"Just Speak to Jim"

"Sure, I'll speak to Jim about it," says the man who is "in with Farley." That is, he will "speak to Jim," providing the sucker pays him for the service. Having obtained the retainer, the racketeer sometimes operates as follows: He watches for an opportunity to catch Farley in a crowd, plants friend Sucker on the sidelines, walks across the room, grabs Jim by the hand and exchanges a few casual remarks, perhaps about the weather.

Then he ambles back to the sidelines to report to friend Sucker, "I spoke to Jim about you and he promised to fix it up." And Jim, smiling blandly and handshaking all comers, doesn't know what has taken place.

Mr. Farley never can be sure when an impostor is moving in on him, but twenty-five years in politics have taught him to be suspicious. For that reason, when in Washington, he seldom eats in public.

He generally lunches at the post office department cafeteria and has his dinners served in his room at the Mayflower hotel. When he does go to a public restaurant, it is his practice to take along some trusted friend and pick a table with only two chairs, so there will be no empty chair for some one to slide into and start a conversation.

Accosted at Every Turn

But try as he does to avoid them, Mr. Farley can not steer entirely clear of the racketeers. He knows, for example, every time he steps out of his automobile in front of the Mayflower that he will be accosted with a "Hello, Jim," a half dozen times while walking across the lobby from the revolving door to the elevator. And if suckers are planted on sofas behind the palms, Jim just can't help it.

A story is told here of a Washington police court lawyer who used to thrive defending bootleggers, but whose practice has declined since the police have stopped bothering prohibition violators. This lawyer actually has no more influence than a race track tout. But he was able to sell himself to a deserving Democrat who came to Washington seeking appointment to a \$5,000-a-year position. For \$500 the lawyer agreed to fix things—\$100 down and \$400 when the appointment was made.

To appear to be earning his fee, the shyster took the jobseeker to the postmaster-general's office, planted him in the reception room with a score of other jobseekers, and slipped mysteriously out a side door.

Applicant May Get Job

Fifteen minutes later, the lawyer came back into the reception room, smiling, took friend Democrat in tow and departed, explaining that he had gone into Mr. Farley's inner office through a secret entrance and had secured Jim's promise to make the appointment. Actually, the door through which the lawyer had disappeared and reappeared does not lead into Mr. Farley's inner office.

The applicant in this case may get that \$5,000 job. He apparently is qualified and is indorsed by the Democratic senators, congressmen and party leaders of his state. He may get the job, that is, unless Mr. Farley finds out about the shyster lawyer.

The postmaster-general knows the "influence racket" is widespread.

"You can quote me to this extent," he said when asked about it. "You can say that, if I ever find out that any one in a government position paid money to anybody to get his job, then I'll do everything in my power to get that person fired. No man who will try to buy a government job is qualified to serve."

Racketeer Fails

Mr. Farley tells with relish the story of one racketeer who was thwarted. He met this man at a public gathering about a year ago. Several times later he encountered the man, and noticed that always the man seemed a bit overanxious to stand by his side.

Claiming close friendship with the postmaster-general, this man sought employment with a large corporation which has considerable business with the government. The job he sought was that of Washington representative.

By accident, Mrs. Farley met an officer of the corporation while visiting out of town.

"By the way," said the officer, "I met Mr. So-and-So the other day, who is a good friend of your husband."

"Jim knows him, but he is not a friend," replies Mrs. Farley. "Jim would like to wring his neck. He suspects Mr. So-and-So is trying to sell him out."

The man did not get the job.

Photo-electric rays a mile long are being used by Germany to protect its border against smugglers; if a person or automobile crosses the border an alarm is sounded.

SCORES 'IDLE RICH'

CLUBHOUSES ON
CITY LINKS TO
BE SHUT DEC. 1

Economy Step Is Taken by
Park Board at Conference.

All clubhouses on municipal golf links will be closed Dec. 1, as result of action taken by the park board yesterday.

The board has kept clubhouses at South Grove and Pleasant Run courses open all winter for the last several years, but was forced to order them closed this year to avoid the cost of heating and maintenance.

Contract for construction of the base of the proposed Lincoln statue in University square was awarded to the Elliott Myers Construction Company on its low bid of \$3,690.

\$180 Krinder Stolen

Theft of a grinder, valued at \$180, from the Anderson Steam Vulcanizing Company, 1109 North Hamilton avenue, last night, was reported to police today by Thomas Beams, manager.

Fixer Stuck by Sticker

Negro Attorney's Promise to 'Fix' Ticket Lands
Him in Jail and Client in 'a Mess.'

A POLICE sticker stuck James C. Hawkins, Negro attorney, in jail today for two days.

It stuck Cleveland Wilson, Negro, 2126 Pleasant street, in what he calls a "mess" and all because his wife wanted a receipt for money paid out of the family budget.

SETTLE RECORD
OVER 11 MILES61,237 Feet Is Official
Height of Flight.

By United Press

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—The stratosphere balloonists, Lieutenant Commander T. G. W. Settle and Major Chester Fordney, reached

a height of 61,237 feet on their flight, the National Aeronautic Association announced yesterday.

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