

THREE CASES OF SMEAR ATTACKS LAID TO F. D. R.

Long Time Sleuthing Against McNutt and Rap at Lindley Are Cited.

By LUDWELL DENNY
Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, March 21.—One of the greatest Presidents in our history, Mr. Roosevelt, is also one of the most ruthless. Those who get in his way, he tries to mow down. And those who seriously disagree with him are either fools or knaves.

Currently he is conducting his smear in three cases. One is against members of Congress and officers who question his policy of selling our latest airplanes to the Allies. Another is against his friend and biographer, Ernest K. Lindley, who dared write a newspaper column he didn't like. And the third is against his friend and associate, Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt, a Presidential candidate favored by some New Dealers.

These cases are not unusual. It is not necessary to recall the long line of friends he has used and broken—the Moleys, Tugwells, Achens, the Lewis Douglasses and others.

Name Calling Recalled

Or the ill-starred purge he attempted against Senators who disagreed with his Supreme Court packing plan, a record exhibition of vindictiveness. Or his name-calling to discredit the sincerity of opponents of his revision of the Neutrality Law. Or his effort to undermine the press for covering his third-term maneuvers and daring to ask him his intentions on that very public matter.

Now with such words as "bunk" he tries to prejudice the public against Congressional inquiry into the sale of our war aircraft.

This highly proper functioning of the legislative branch is damned by the President—by the executive whose national-emergency decree gives him more power than any peacetime predecessor, and whose administration has spent more than any other in a peacetime Army—an Army which according to its generals is still unprepared.

In the Lindley case, the President said Mr. Lindley's column on what Mr. Roosevelt told a fellow politician about the candidacies of Jim Farley and others was made up out of whole cloth. He included all columnists by saying that Mr. Lindley and a few others were 20 per cent of the time and all others were wrong 80 per cent of the time.

Knows Lindley's Record

Forgetting for a moment about the many other newspapermen thus smeared, it happens that the President knows all about Mr. Lindley. He knows that Mr. Lindley is of the highest integrity, far superior in character and intelligence to most New Deal officials.

Mr. Roosevelt knows that a newspaperman stands or falls—like a banker or a President—on his reputation for integrity. But he accuses his columnist friend of faking which is the same as accusing a banker of being a thief or a President of being a crook. Fortunately Mr. Lindley's earned reputation is so secure it cannot be ruined even by his White House friend.

The smear of Mr. McNutt is more complete because it has been going on for eight months. For that long a large crew of Federal sleuths has been interviewing scores of persons from coast to coast and searching records many years old for evidence of McNutt income-tax evasion.

Innuendo Perpetuated

As a result of these methods he is being discredited, although these sleuths have turned over no evidence to the Justice Department. The Administration neither gives him a clean bill nor prosecutes him—it merely perpetuates an innuendo capable of assassinating his candidacy.

If the President has evidence against Paul McNutt, presumably he would not wait all these months to act and would neither have appointed nor retained his friend in high office.

Perhaps politics must be that dirty, and maybe great political leaders must be that ruthless. Apparently Mr. Roosevelt thinks so, anyway.

COURT FREES 16 OF GAMBLING CHARGES

Gambling charges against LeRoy Donnelly and 15 other persons to-day had been dropped.

The defendants were arrested in three raids on an alleged gambling establishment in the 100 block N. Delaware St. Judge John McNeils of Municipal Court dismissed the men after ruling the arrests were illegal because the arresting officers had no warrants.

IN INDIANAPOLIS

Here is the Traffic Record DEATHS TO DATE

County City oval

1939 8 7 15

1940 5 10 15

—March 20—

Injured 12 Arrests 45

Dead 0 Accidents 18

WEDNESDAY TRAFFIC COURT

Cases Convic- Fines

Violations Tried Paid

Speeding 25 24 \$155

Failure to stop at through street 11' 9 42

Reckless driving 28 23 43

Disobeying traffic signal 21 19 40

Drunken driving 1 0 0

All others 58 53 36

Totals 144 128 \$214

MEETINGS TODAY

Advertising Club of Indianapolis, Indianapolis Athletic Club, noon.

Sigma Chi, Board of Trade, noon.

Caravan Club, Murat Temple, noon.

Oil Club, Hotel Sevier, noon.

Construction League and Indianapolis, Indianapolis, 110 E. Market St., 8 p. m.

Beta Theta Pi, Gamma Cottages, noon.

Chi Alpha Alumni Association, Russells Cafeteria, noon.

Indoor Basketball, Indiana State, 110 E. Market St., 8 p. m.

Community Coordinating Council, 801 Indiana, 110 E. Market St., 8 p. m.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis, annual stockholders meeting.

Winship's Tale of 'The Good Earth'



Streets Commissioner Wilbur Winship (left) and Councilman Harmon A. Campbell inspect the road grader.

NAZIS RAID SHIP, KILL 4 BRITONS

Six Are Hurt as Germans Renew Sea Warfare in English Channel.

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Escaped on two rafts and were sighted by a British plane.

It was these ships which, according to reports here, were minded or torpedoed.

The Norwegian steamship Svina, 1267 tons, was sunk in the convoy attack and the Swedish steamship Utikko, 1509 tons, and the Norwegian steamship Tora Elise, 721 tons, were damaged. The Svina's crew was saved by another Norwegian ship, it was said.

BERLIN, March 21 (U.P.)—German airplanes, in an attack on British convoy protected by cruisers, destroyers, airplanes and an armed merchantman, sank nine warships and merchantmen totaling about 40,000 tons and seriously damaged two merchantmen totaling about 11,000 tons, the High Command asserted today.

The attack, 24 hours after the British raid on Sylt Island, took place "toward evening" yesterday off Scapa Flow, British fleet base in the Orkney Islands above Scotland, the High Command asserted.

One of the attacking German planes is missing, it was said, and one British plane was downed.

It was now established, the High Command said, that three British planes were destroyed in the Sylt raid.

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