

**It Was Hot Stuff  
For a Few Minutes**

Doug's Imagination Lands Him  
In Jail But the Reporter  
Has Not Landed Yet.

What appeared to be one of the best stories that has broken in Gary in many months was nipped in the bud yesterday.

The day had been a dull one as far as news was concerned and the reporter walked his shoes soleless, hoping that something would break. Everybody he met gave him the Indian sign.

He was about to cuss himself and the world at large, when he met an old friend with whom he had been employed at the Acme Explosives company several years ago.

"Well, hell, there Doug, what are you doing nowadays, that Acme is no more?"

"Doing?" returned Doug. "I'm not doing anything now am I going to do anything for some time to come?" he said with all sincerity.

My father died recently, leaving me and my brothers and sister his wealth of \$200,000 apiece a 160 acre farm and some real estate so I don't have to do anything but take things easy."

The scribe shifted from one foot to the other and remarked: "Why, that will make a swell story Doug, old boy, if you'll only give me the rest of it. I'm sure glad to hear of your good fortune and congratulate you."

"I was just over to the garage," Doug roamed on, "and bought me a swell new car and was just on my way to close up a real estate deal. That's the safest bet a going, and am going to invest all my surplus cash in Gary real estate. Bought two lots yesterday and expect to make another \$5,000 deal on Broadway tomorrow."

"So long, I'll see you again," the reporter yelled back as he headed for the office on third speed, a reporter only has two speeds, reverse and third.

He dreamed of a scoop, front page story and big headlines.

As he broke into the city room out of breath, the city ed took in the details with open mouth. "Pretty good yarn, suppose it's true?"

"Sure, he just told it to me himself," answered the reporter.

Just before going to press, with the Doug story on p. 1, it was learned from information received at the police station that Doug's imagination had gotten away with him. On a complaint, he was later taken into the custody of the police, charged with being demented.

The heir to the alleged fortune will be tried before physicians today for his mentality. He is a well known Gary man.

What the City Ed said to the reporter in person also will not be printed. So endeth the day's lesson.

movement. It is a patriotic affair. The practice of extortion and profiteering is sure to lead to bolshevism or socialism. No more important matter has been called to the attention of the attorney-general's department and the prosecuting attorney's office than this.

"I hope to hear from you, and if I get any further information that I believe will aid you, I will communicate with you."

**John E. Underwood Receives Instructions From Dr. Barnard in State H. C.**

**L. Fight.**

John E. Underwood, of the E. C. Minas store of Hammond, who during the war was Lake county merchant representative, has received the following letter from H. E. Barnard, federal food administrator:

"The United States Food Administration for Indiana, which under Mr. Heller you served so efficiently, has been instructed by Attorney General Palmer to enlist all its agencies in a concerted effort to curb profiteering, check advancing prices and prevent waste. I have today asked our county administrators to form a committee consisting of the price reporter, labor representatives, merchant representative, chairman of women's clubs and several consumers. The committee will investigate prices and reports of profiteering and hoarding, publish fair price lists, collect evidence of violations of the Lever law and in general check wasteful practices in the distribution and sale of food and extravagant habits of life."

"Will you, with the co-operation of your county food administrator, through your local associations and with the help of the merchants of your county, start campaigns against the profiteer in food and the ordinary necessities such as dry goods, shoes, coal, ice, rentals, etc.?"

"You did splendid work while the war was on. Our country faces a social and economic crisis today that is even more serious than the menace of war. I know that you will unreservedly throw your agencies into this war work to which the food administration has been called."

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