

Pleads Guilty to Drunk Driving

J. A. De Groat, charged with driving while intoxicated in Torrance last February 28, pleaded guilty when he came before Los Angeles superior court for trial this week and asked for probation. De Groat was bound over by Judge Charles T. Rippey last March 1. He pleaded not guilty when arraigned in the higher court, but changed his mind about standing trial between that date and Wednesday.

P. E. CLUB MAY DAY LUNCHEON

Pacific Electric Cheerio Club will entertain members of the mother club of Los Angeles at the annual May Day luncheon, which will be held in Torrance Woman's Club clubhouse, 1122 Encarnacion avenue, Tuesday, May 1, at 12:30 o'clock.

A program and cards will furnish entertainment for the afternoon. Mrs. Frank Miller of Torrance is president of the Los Angeles club.

Notes From Washington

By Charles J. Colden, Congressman, 17th District

When President Roosevelt stepped out upon the rear platform of the Pullman car which brought him home from his fishing vacation, I have never seen him looking so well and in such fine fettle. He beamed with health and good humor. Before his vacation, he showed signs of weariness caused by his exacting and strenuous labors. But as he stepped from his train, all the furrows of care seemed to have disappeared. Gathered about the President's pullman car were many Senators, Cabinet members, Representatives and other officials to greet him. The assembled dignitaries thoroughly enjoyed the merry razzing which the President, chuckling with good feeling and a mischievous twinkle in his eye, gave them.

Much has been said by critical newspapers about the supposed rift between Congress and the President. But this breach is largely a fiction of the imagination or a wish to spread the thought by those who oppose the President and his activities. If I am a judge of the reception of the President and his witty remarks, he was just giving his friends a good "kidding." If the



incident had occurred anywhere else in any other group, it would have excited nothing more than understanding, appreciative comment and friendly feeling. But every word of the President is twisted into various meanings to suit the purpose of propagandists. Persuasion of intent is also frequently applied to members of Congress by those who continually endeavor to discredit the motives of those whom they oppose. Wall Street and the Wirts would have

Band all dolled up in scarlet uniforms and it was a truly unusual spectacle. There are a lot of fat guys and bald-headed sojourns in Congress but when it comes to keeping step in a marching line, they are "not so hot" as the boys back home would say. But they reached the station on time just the same.

I enjoyed the President's razzing so much that I am yielding to the temptation to send it to you complete so you can draw your own conclusions as to whether he was having some innocent fun or whether he was making sarcastic threats at Congress as some of the newspapers would have you believe. Here it is in full:

"I am very glad to see you all, and it was mighty good of you to come down here. I can't be truthful and say that I am glad to be back, because I am awfully sorry to be back. But while I have been having a wonderful time, I gather that both houses of Congress have also been having a wonderful time in my absence.

"And furthermore, I expected on this trip to get some good publicity about the fish I was catching, but you couldn't get any publicity, in view of the fact that here in Washington apparently your good people have been going from Wirt to Wirt.

"The newspaper boys, coming up on the train, have been trying to make me say that I hope Congress would have some very soon. I can't say it, because I hope you will stay just as long as you like to. For you younger people in both houses, speaking from the experience of many years in Washington, I want to point out to you the advantages of the Washington climate in July and August. It rarely gets over 110 here. There is no humidity, and I don't mind if I stay here all summer.

"Well, any way, I wish you had the chance that I had to get away for two weeks. It has been a wonderful holiday and I came back with all sorts of new lessons which I have learned from barracuda and sharks. I am a tough guy! So, if you will come down and see me and as soon as you possibly can, I will teach you some of the stunts I learned.

"Many, many thanks, and I will see you all very soon."

placize the great contribution made to our country by Thomas Jefferson. Mr. Shannon, at his own expense, has provided every schoolroom in Missouri with a beautiful engraving of Thomas Jefferson. I suggest that all citizens, by visiting the nearest library and reading Congressman Shannon's address in the Congressional Record, will be amply rewarded by this unusually interesting recital of the achievements of this remarkable man.

Last summer after the adjournment of Congress, I made a pilgrimage to Monticello, the home of Jefferson. It was a deep desire I had cherished for many years and it was worthwhile. His beautiful home radiates his greatness of mind. It is one of the revered shrines of patriotism of our country. And you feel the spirit of this great statesman when you visit his fireside.

Congressman Robert L. Doughton, chairman of the ways and means committee and who has been a member of Congress for about 30 years, is dignified and serious. Since he was chairman of the committee and conducted the battle for the reciprocity bill, he was the target of many aggravating taunts from the Republican leaders. The minority also had much to say about the so-called "brain trust" and its influence in the administration's policies. On one occasion when a Republican opponent was exceedingly irritating in his thrusts at the "brain trust," Chairman Doughton retorted that he preferred the present "brain trust" to the past "bone trust." This remark relieved the strain and gave the House an opportunity to laugh.

This reminds me of the famous retort that one Senator made concerning another once upon a time. It appears that there was a personal feud existing between a senator from Massachusetts and one from the South. The Massachusetts senator had said some unkind words in private about his colleague from the South. Some busy-body reported these unkind remarks to the Southern senator who retorted: "The mind of the senator from Massachusetts is like the soil of his native state—poor by nature and impoverished by cultivation." So you see we have a laugh once in a while.

The bill guaranteeing the bonds of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation by the government has passed both the House and the Senate. It will make the bonds much more desirable to those holding mortgages that are overdue or are in delinquency and will be of great benefit to many distressed property owners. Some of the Republican members made a noisy fight against some of the provisions of the bill but at roll-call but one vote a Democrat from New York's east side, was cast against this measure.

I recently made a speech in Congress on the Philippine Islands' independence bill and believe it or not, the staunch old Republican New York Herald-Tribune printed most of my speech and it was merely mentioned in the Democratic papers of the big city. Just between you and me, this is a little sly campaigning I'm trying to sly across the editor's desk. If I am obliged to yield to the insistence of my friends to become a candidate for re-election, they'll have to have some good reasons why.

On April 13, Joseph Shannon of Missouri, delivered a very able address to Congress on Thomas Jefferson. It is a custom to commemorate the birth of our nation's ablest by some member delivering an appropriate address, rendering it as soon as the chaplain has said prayers for the day and the clerk has read the Journal. Mr. Shannon has made an intensive study of the life of Thomas Jefferson and was a pioneer in the movement to make Jefferson's birthday a holiday in Missouri. Every school in Missouri held commemorative exercises to em-

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