

## THE ELEANOR ROOSEVELT PROGRAM

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1951

Description: In this segment, ER and Elliott respond to a listener's question regarding conscientious objectors. In the following segment, ER interviews James Horan and Howard Swiggett, authors of "The Pinkerton Story."

Participants: ER, Elliott, James Horan, Howard Swiggett

---

[ER:] How do you do? This is Eleanor Roosevelt. Every Monday through Friday my son Elliott and I have the opportunity to visit with you here in my living room at the Park Sheraton Hotel in New York City. Each day it is our desire to bring interesting guests that we are hopeful you will enjoy meeting. Elliott, will you tell our listeners today's plans?

[Elliott Roosevelt:] All right, thank you, I will. For one hundred years, the watchful eye of the Pinkerton National Detective agency has been bent on criminals, bandits, and wrongdoers everywhere. The agencies' secrets are deeply interwoven with the secrets of American politics and big business. *The Pinkerton Story* a book by James D. Horan and Howard Swiggett is going to be retold for us today by the authors themselves, Mr. Horan and Mr. Swiggett. You will meet them shortly, but before their visit with Mrs. Roosevelt, there's some mail to go over and a message to be heard from the sponsors who make this recorded program possible.

[Break 1:06-1:26]

[Elliott Roosevelt:] And now it's time for our letter-answering period, mother. The writer of today's letter lives in Ohio, but asks that her name be withheld and here's what she says: "I'm a farmer's wife and have worked very hard to help raise my family of three boys, aged thirty-nine, twenty-nine, and twenty-three. Now I've always read your articles whenever I could and always admired you as I thought you a very brave woman who has had your share of troubles. Since you're on the radio, I listen to your talks whenever possible and enjoy every one of your talks. Now I'm going to ask you a favor. I live in an Amish and Mennonite settlement. In the Second World War my second boy had to go, was in the Air Corps over three years. Now my youngest boy left for camp the twenty-ninth of March. All the Amish and Mennonites are going on with their farming and do not have to go. They live in the USA, call themselves Americans, but I can't see it. I think if they don't want to do what our boys do they should be put on an island by themselves. They claim they don't believe in tractors or autos, but they are at your door three times a week to have you go for a doctor or take them someplace. They claim they don't believe in killing or wars. Well I am sure my-my boys don't either. And I am sure there would be plenty of jobs for them to do in the army without killing. When hunting season comes, they sure use guns and even go for deer and elk. Now someday I'd like to have you or someone else explain just why they are so free. I know they say it is their religion. Well our religion doesn't believe in killing. Also, we have Jehovah's Witnesses around here and they refuse to go to the army, but they put them in prison." Now, can you answer that?

[ER:] Well, um I don't know, I didn't know that we put Jehovah's Witnesses in prison unless [Elliott Roosevelt: Oh we--] they refuse to comply with um some law or that--

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Well when they're drafted, you know, they refuse to be drafted and so [ER: They refuse to be drafted.] we de- and they declare themselves conscientious objectors.

[ER:] Ah yes, but-but if you go through the motions, then as a conscientious objector you either are released--there's always been the question of whether you would accept work. Now, Jehovah's Witnesses are not like the Quakers. The Quakers accept other kind of work. Jehovah's Witnesses will not do anything, not even work in a factory which makes things that might be used in war. And very often in time of war um they uh won't work in anything because everything might be used, in uh-- So that's how they happen to go to prison. Now the Amish and Mennonites, uh most of them, as I remember in the last war uh that were of draft age, accepted work and some of them did really very good work in our mental hospitals. Um, some of them helped to uncover the abuses and helped to uh alleviate the shortages which created great abuses and then I would--

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Well did they--did they act as conscientious objectors? (5:01)

[ER:] All of them. All of them are conscientious objectors. Now, uh one great difficulty in nearly every country, now Great Britain is much more liberal in its conscientious objectors acceptance than we are. Uh they uh go all the way across the board and the conscientious objector who can prove that he belongs to a religion um can uh go on with his daily work, whatever it may be, because they feel that he produces more in doing that than he does when he's put at some um work that is found for him which he may not be well-fitted to do or may not uh do as-as--may not have learned any skill in. Now uh we um have never quite accepted that in time of war. Now the reason, probably, that these, um at present the Mennonites and the Amish people have not been taken is that technically we are not at war. Which is uh a-a um foolish thing, but still um it does mean that um they would have greater--it's only in time of war that you can actually put people in prison for um not doing something uh in a military way. And um I-I feel just the way the lady does, I've always felt that any man who could uh continue to practice his religion um and let somebody else make it possible for him to do it by sacrificing their lives, uh was a pretty poor specimen. And the reason that I have uh respect for the Quakers is that they will go on the battlefield, they just won't uh carry arms, but they will carry a stretcher and they will drive an automobile and they will go into any kind of danger.

They served in-in China in the last war and um uh they will do those things uh and I think carry their full share of-of danger and burden, do you see? The others who won't do anything um it has always seemed to me uh that it--that I just couldn't understand how a real individual, man or woman, could take that attitude. And um and in the present time, it's particularly difficult because um what we are doing is taking our place as world leaders and trying to show that a United Nations Army, a--can prevent aggression and can um stop war from spreading in the world. And so for the first time, no one can say that war is being waged for selfish purposes. War is being waged in an effort to prevent war and it's not an individual war, it's not a war by the United States, so our men have carried the greater burden, it's a war by the United Nations forces against an aggressor [Elliott Roosevelt: Mhmm.] um who wants to, who-who started to bring war to a peaceful people. Now um we were not organized for it, the United Nations had no army set up, it's been very slow in achieving its objective. The uh news looks better, but nevertheless um it's not um, it's not easy, I think, for us, in this country, eh to accept the conscientious objectors. And I've-I've never been quite able to make up my mind. I don't believe in forcing people to do something that is against their religion, and yet I cannot quite accept that they should do nothing and just be protected in-in making more money and-and doing the work um without carrying any burden. [Elliott Roosevelt: Yes. Mh-hm.] Um so that it's-it's a very difficult question. (9:49)

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Well, uh the question uh I think you've answered rather fully with regard to um what you feel uh they should be called upon to do. Uh But I'm interested in one other little paragraph in this letter in which uh she describes that they- - that these people because of their religion don't believe in the use of automobiles and yet uh the first thing they do when there's an emergency is run to somebody who has an automobile to help them out.

[ER:] That's one of the inconsistencies of human nature. They still wear bonnets and they still go 'round with long skirts where the women are concerned [ER laughs] and um uh they don't believe in anything uh mechanical, you see. They won't use tractors and yet they have beautiful farms. Um they-they probably wouldn't ride in the automobile, they walk miles. They probably wouldn't ride in it but they would let you do the telephoning or the use of the automobile to take um to get them the doctor. Um now they would explain that, I imagine, by saying that they are obliged to live up to their beliefs because they happen to hold those beliefs. [Elliott Roosevelt: Mhm.] But if you're going to use those things anyway and it doesn't--you're not going against your religion, so as a good neighbor you will do that little job [Elliott Roosevelt: Mhm]. That's what they would say, I'm sure [ER laughs].

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Well, I think that we've probably answered this letter as well as we can and uh I certainly uh feel as you do that uh regardless of your religion, if your religion does prevent your carrying arms that at least you should do your share within the limits of uh your religion toward the overall effort of the country in which you've chosen to live.

[ER:] I do too. Absolutely--

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Alright I think that uh now I'd like to have a message from uh our announcer and then we're going to go on in our program to the next uh interview, which is an extremely interesting one today.

[Break 11:58-12:09]

[ER:] With me today are two gentlemen who have written a book based on the files of an agency whose work has produced an inside story of a hundred years war against crime and violence on three continents. They are Mr. James D. Horan and Mr. Howard Swiggett, authors of *The Pinkerton Story*, recently published by Putnam. I'm very happy to present to you Messieurs Horan and Swiggett [ER laughs].

[Howard Swiggett:] Well--

[James Horan:] Thank you very much.

[Howard Swiggett:] I'm delighted to be here, Mrs. Roosevelt.

[James Horan:] And I am, too

[ER:] Very nice to have you. Before we get to *The Pinkerton Story* Mr. Horan, I noticed in your biographical notes, that as a reporter you have conducted investigations in crime such as Senator

[Estes] Kefauver's committee. Do you think such investigations really accomplish anything towards stamping out crime?

[James Horan:] Yes I do, Mrs. Roosevelt.

[ER:] What makes you feel that way?

[James Horan:] Well many of the-- if you look over the past performances of some of the excellent investigators New York uh has had, you will see that in the [John Harlan] Amen investigation uh dismissed-- uh resulted in the dismissal of more than three hundred police officers from the police force. And uh they also returned more than two million dollars in graft back to the city's fund and various other recommendations with the legislature uh accepted uh that was about ten years ago. And there was the Queens uh sewer scandal of 1928. And the investigations that go back even to the time of uh Boss Tweed.

Well, Boss Tweed and a special prosecutor at that time. So they have produced over the years uh more than the public realizes because when the headlines have died down and the actual work, the prosecution, and the investigation begin. (14:08)

[ER:] Um I uh had someone say to me the other day that um we must have uh a particular gift for criminals in the United States and uh that our papers carried and our news carried so much more um in the way of telling stories of crime than other--than you saw in other countries. Now you, have both of you, known a good deal about moral places in this country. I wonder if you would feel, as I do, that perhaps it's more a question of publicity than it is of actual, actually what's going on. That human nature is much the same everywhere.

[Howard Swiggett:] Well I think that uh our publicity is of course very much more widespread. Much that we have in uh headlines splashed across the paper would be called an atrocious incident in a London paper. Um but I that that um the Pinkerton's experiences in three continents indicate that crime is not limited to our good United States. [Laughter]

[ER:] Not limited to the United States!

[Howard Swiggett:] Very fortunately.

[ER:] That is-- well Mr. Swiggett that really uh is an encouragement to me because um--

[James Horan:] Although that doesn't apply to Denmark. I once uh mislaid something in Denmark and said to my agent that it must have been stolen. He said, "Impossible, no one steals anything in Denmark." And I understand that's true [Howard Swiggett laughs].

[ER:] Well how perfectly remarkable to have a-a record like that. Well, that's um- that's very interesting. I wonder if there's any other country in any part of the world where they would say that to you?

[Howard Swiggett:] Well you used to be able to leave things on English trains very freely, but [ER: On English--] I understand that under austerity it's no longer possible.

[ER:] Uh The need [Howard Swiggett: Yes.] has-has made a difference. Well, um Mr. Swiggett, I think I'd like to um ask you if you find grounds for believing that Allan Pinkerton made up the story of the attempted assassination of Lincoln.

[Howard Swiggett:] Oh, not at all. Uh, there can be no question that the Baltimore plot to assassinate the president really existed. Um in the first place, it would have been impossible for seven or eight people to have made up all the corroborative evidence that they did. Furthermore, people like Samuel Felton, who was then president of what was later the Pennsylvania, and brother of the president of Harvard was involved, the president of the American Telegraph. And uh, that is involved in aiding Pinkerton. And uh

[Howard Swiggett clears throat] their entire evidence is that uh the plot existed and was prostrated by Pinkerton. And it's the natural uh local patriotism of Baltimore that has made it appear uh to have been a hoax.

[ER:] Well now how valuable to the nation was the service of Allan Pinkerton in the Civil War, Mr. Swiggett?

[Howard Swiggett:] Well, it um- in what he set out to do he was conspicuously successful, which was in espionage and counterespionage. In sending people like the really magnificent Timothy Webster, a

parallel to Nathan Hale, into Richmond, where he was later caught and executed, and in setting up the general intelligence uh-uh routes of communication. However, [George B.] McClellan, who was a very strange fellow as you know, uh very much junior to all other men commanding the army of the Potomac, got him in as the chief intelligence officer of the army. There, Pinkerton, with no experience and with great admiration for McClellan, went completely off-base [ER coughs] in his estimate of Lee's strength. Um But in his service, particularly in the crucial years of sixty-- uh crucial months of early '61, he was invaluable. (18:15)

[ER:] That's very interesting.

[Howard Swiggett:] And you do know that at the end of the war, after he had not been in the Secret Service for two years, [Edwin] Stanton telegraphed him and said, "Try to catch Booth. Watch the western rivers."

[ER:] Did he really?

[Howard Swiggett:] Most dramatic telegram. Yes.

[ER:] That's very dramatic. Now I didn't know that--

[Howard Swiggett:] The original is in the Pinkerton files, yes.

[ER:] I didn't know that, that's very interesting. Well now, Mr. Horan, I'd like to ask you, what did the Pinkertons contribute towards the establishment of law and order in the Wild West?

[James Horan:] Well as you know Mrs. Roosevelt, at the--at the close of the Civil War, the uh frontiers began expanding and these towns would mushroom up overnight. There'd be a great deal of outlawry and rustlers and cattle thieves and gun fights and so forth, stage robberies and later train robberies. Uh then the Industrial Revolution in the east forced people to move across the country and the--the uh frontier expanded still more. Well there were only few courageous individuals at the time who maintained law and order. For instance, Bat Masterson, famous marshal of the west, and Wyatt uh Earp, the very courageous United States marshal of Tombstone and the other Arizona mining towns. Well they were the only few individuals, and the rest of the officers were either too cowardly or too corrupt uh to uh engage in uh any real law enforcement, to put down these gunfighters and these stage holdups and other robberies, but when the Pinkertons came upon the scene it was the first organized attempt to--to calm the west, to-- uh to uh take care of all these desperadoes and break up all these bands. And as in the case of

[Charlie] Siringo, the famous cowboy detective, he joined the Wild Bunch and became a train robber and so forth to gather evidence uh and finally broke up the gang and chased them to South America. Uh then the Pinkertons developed this pioneer rogues gallery, which the FBI practically uses today, of course it's more modern, but each uh uh physical uh uh deformity would be listed on a man's name and when a train would be robbed, say in Tipton, Wyoming, [ER coughs] the Pinkertons would grab the special train and be out there in a day or so. And they would span all over the country until finally they would capture them. They were very relentless and desperadoes knew that and they hated to have a Pinkerton on their trail. And practically the only-- uh they practically chased every and broke up every outlaw gang in the west, including the fabulous Jesse James gang. The only gang they didn't touch was the Daltons. That was because the Daltons never touched a bank or a railroad that was protected by the Pinkertons. (20:57)

[ER:] Well now, was the Jesse James gang the most colorful gang of outlaws in the west?

[James Horan:] No, our folklore tells us that, as England has its Robin Hood, America has its Jesse James. But Jesse was just a two-bit, small-time desperado who had become famed in song and ballad. But the

real and the colorful gang of desperadoes who little known, this is the first time this story's being told in this book, the Reno brothers who started as bounty jumpers in the Civil War. And they controlled for three years most of Indiana, electing all the police officers and the judges and the magistrates, the same as Mr. Kefau-- [James Horan laughs]

[ER:] The connection between crime and-and uh government goes quite far back doesn't it? [ER laughs]

[James Horan:] And they [ER coughs] um they originated the train robbery. In fact, they committed the first train robbery in the history of the world, uh in 1866. And they became the first organized band of uh criminals in this country, numbering a hundred or two hundred, and they uh robbed many trains in Indiana and went across three states robbing banks and treasury offices and so forth. And finally after Pinkerton virtually kidnapped one of the brothers and sent him to Jefferson City Penitentiary uh the gang broke up, they fled to Canada, and there is an incredible story of how Queen Victoria's government and the Canadian government and our government had a three-fisted fight over who would get the train robbers. The very amusing story is the Governor General of Canada refused to believe that these debonair, suave men from Indiana were train robbers, so he went like Governor [Harold G. Hoffman] Hauptman did in uh-- Hoffman in the [Richard] Hauptmann case, went down in the cell to see these men and said, "You're really not train robbers are you?" He said, "Of course, we're the best train robbers in America." [ER laughs] Well that still didn't decide him and until finally that night his sixteen-year-old son says, "Daddy, you know that one of the Reno men offered me a thousand dollars to smuggle a revolver into him." Well the next day, of course, they were extradited. And they wound up in a very melodramatic, probably the most melodramatic episode in our history, when the Scarlet Mask Society, that was the second vigilante movement in this country, almost acting almost like an army with an army-like precision, went into the town of New Albany, Indiana and stormed the jail and lynched the entire gang. (23:18)

[ER:] That's very interesting. Well I want to come back in just a minute and ask you a little bit about the mafia. But for just uh two minutes we have to let our announcer have a word.

[Break 23:30-23:47]

[ER:] Now we come back to our interview with Mis- Messieurs Horan and Swiggett. And uh I'm not going to waste any time I'm going right back to the question I wanted to ask uh about the mafia, because it was mentioned by the Kefauver Committee and uh it's interesting that it should be featured in your book. I was fascinated by the story of Mr. [Francis P.] Dimasio who broke up the mafia in New Orleans, Ohio, and Pennsylvania and wondered at the statement that he's still living, is he?

[James Horan:] Yes he is. He's a very charming old gentleman. He lives in retirement in Dover, Delaware and he's near ninety now, but he has a very keen and alert memory and he can sit down and weave these, tell these very fantastic stories. And after you've studied these files, these original reports from 1890, it's almost incredible to believe that this little uh white-haired old gentleman sitting alongside of you is the same man who took part in all these uh uh wild adventures.

[ER:] Well he in um uh he really got most of the evidence didn't he?

[James Horan:] Yes in 1890 he was arrested in a plot concocted with the uh Secret Service and thrown into the old Paris prison in New Orleans as America's most famous counterfeiter. Of course it's a- it was a false arrest and uh he spent six months in there under very horrible conditions, he lost sixty pounds. But finally he gained confessions which he gave to the grand jury. Uh the grand jury acted upon these confessions to obtain numerous indictments. The defendants, however, were released through a bribed jury and uh Mr. [William] Parkerson, the very famous attorney of New Orleans, gathered a- gathered a

mob together the morning they were to be released, stormed the New Orleans uh Penitentiary and the mob uh uh lynched [ER: hm.] the nine mafia uh defendants.

[ER:] Well that's- all these stories I suppose are in your book.

[James Horan:] Yes they are. (25:50)

[ER:] [ER laughs] But now I want to come back to Mr. Swiggett for a minute. I'd like to ask you, was Eugene Debs right in calling the Molly Maguire's martyrs to the labor movement?

[Howard Swiggett:] Um [Howard Swiggett clears throat] he made this um speech, I think it was called "The Appeal to Reason" after Tom Payne's uh title, in 1907. And of course he was entirely wrong. Um there were nineteen of the Molly Maguires in the anthracite counties of Pennsylvania executed, and in none of the trials was there any evidence at all that they were anything but gunmen, without any possible interest in the labor- [ER: In the labor move--] in the labor movement or in the welfare of their uh fellow workers. Um it was a dreadful period in American history in the seventies when uh foreigner was allied against native-born, um the Welsh against the Irish, the late immigrant against the other, capital against labor, and even republican against democrat.

[ER:] Yes. [Howard Swiggett laughs]. And a little more violently than perhaps than they are today.

[Howard Swiggett: Yes.] What are the general facts as to the Pinkertons and labor?

[Howard Swiggett:] Well, of course the-the leftist press as-as it's called, uh takes the view that they have been oppressors of labor. Uh actually, they have um moved with the times I think very well. They changed in 1892, after the homestead uh business, and gave up certain practices. Uh after the La Follette-- uh during the La Follette investigation they gave up uh uh, what is it called, labor espionage in uh factories. And they have really a magnificent record of generosity after the fact. That is, after they have uh uh suppressed crime or uh they have befriended the men who did it and tried to set them on the right track. I don't feel that anyone can justly say that they have ever been oppressors of uh labor.

[ER:] Well um I'd like to ask you specifically, did the Pinkertons massacre helpless people at the homestead in '92 or [Howard Swiggett: Well--] is that not so?

[Howard Swiggett:] Well the-the massacre started when the uh mob of workman on the bank fired on the Pinkerton barges coming in. Eh it's impossible to go into the whole story here, but uh, seventeen Pinkerton men were killed and a hundred wounded, some under the most savage circumstances, and only seven strikers uh were killed, so that uh the facts there speak for themselves, but it's a long and involved story having to do with the really federal relations existing between capital and labor at the time, where capital said, "We are the only judge of what a man shall have and how he shall have it."

[ER:] It was really the development of um labor and capital relations [Howard Swiggett: Yes.] and the development um complicated by great many other uh irritants [Howard Swiggett: Yes.] that existed.

[Howard Swiggett:] I feel rather uh strange about it this particular day, because I, in the book, I'm setting the deal against Mr. Henry Clay Frick of Carnegie Steel, and I've just been extended extraordinary courtesies in regard to another book for the Frick Gallery, [ER laughs] endowed with the millions made. (29:25)

[ER:] [Howard Swiggett laughs] Oh dear that is, yet still, history must be history [Howard Swiggett laughs]. Um I wonder if you could tell me one more thing, did you give this mu- why did you give so much space to Adam Worth?

[Howard Swiggett:] Oh well because he's been written up by so many people as this blood and thunder character and he's-he's uh to me one of the most comic figures in all crime and one of the most comic in history. Um here is the great period of the Victorian Age going on, Mr. Adam Worth going around stealing millions of dollars here and there and getting into fantastic situations uh where he-he climbed in a window and stole the Gainsborough Duchess of Devonshire and uh did all sorts of things entirely oblivious to all that was going on and right next-- almost next door Mr. Henry James was living, if you like that [Howard Swiggett laughs].

[ER:] [ER laughs] Well that's very interesting. Well now, Mr. Horan I'd like to ask you something, because with um twenty thousand Americans who sat for days glued to their TV sets, listening to the Kefauver Committee hearings, and are now I think extremely conscious of crime and criminals and politics and all the other things that uh seem to be woven together, uh I think the story of the criminal Willie "The Actor" Sutton is particularly interesting. Is it true he opened a school of drama to obtain uniforms, to gain entrance to banks, etcetera?

[James Horan:] Yes in 1930 uh Mr. Rosseter, uh one of the gentlemen down at the agency who's now retired uh uh stormed the-- uh uh raided the hideout of Willie Sutton and a young boy, a young college graduate, a very intelligent boy, uh in fact he was an honor student at Syracuse, his name was Marcus Bassett, and together they had uh held up many banks and jewelry stores throughout the metropolitan area, gathering almost a million dollars. Uh At the bottom of the trunk was a small card which intrigued this Pinkerton man. It had the school of drama, I forget either the- the associated school of drama I think it was, in this neighborhood. So he wondered what Willie Sutton was doing with a school of drama. So he decided to go over there and on a hunch he took a picture of Willie Sutton, and went over the superintendent building and said uh, "Who is the man that runs this drama school?" The fella said, "Oh, Mr. Patterson. William Patterson." And the Pinkerton man took this picture out and said, "Is this your Mr. Patterson?" He said, "Why, yes. He and another fellow rented this place and gee they had some people up here and they gave me a song and dance about a big drama school, we gave them a contract, they were here for two weeks, and then they never showed up again. We've been trying to find 'em to sue 'em." So they found out that the allied costuming company, one of the largest in the country, uh had some bills against these people, so they went down and they found out that Willie and his partner posing as the heads of this drama school, went down to the costuming company, got a lot of costumes for a thousand dollars, and they were costumes of police officers and guards and so forth, and with these uniforms they went around holding up banks and jewelry stores [James Horan laughs] and various other places.

[ER:] That was a very clever game, wasn't it?

[James Horan:] He's a very smart man.

[ER:] Well now are the Pinkertons ever hired by district attorneys and public prosecutors to help solve crimes, say, of murder?

[James Horan:] Yes that's [James Horan clears throat] uh, few people realize that the Pinkertons up until the time of the FBI-- the FBI really took over in this country-- uh they were the civilian FBI. Uh They assisted public prosecutors and uh uh held investigations and so forth in many, many states [James Horan clears throat]. In fact in 1923, they solved the first torch murder. And um the prosecutor of Union County, New Jersey, hired the Pinkertons and a Mr. Wagner, who is still down at the Pinkerton office, broke the murder case using a small piece of a shoe as the only clue. When broke the case, I think it was ninety days.

[ER:] Now that's interesting. Well now who was Marion Hedgepeth [Harold Swiggett coughs]?



[James Horan:] Well, with all the TV [Howard Swiggett coughs], with all the TV uh sets going full blast at six o'clock and all the youngsters running around with guns and so forth, uh we find it hard to believe that Marion Hedgepeth was a western des-desperado, but he was and he was very vicious and he's one of the few people who'd draw from the hip and could shoot at a minute's notice and so forth and he held up trains and he held up various jewelry stores throughout the west and he, all in all, was quite a fabulous character who is little known.

[ER:] Well that's very interesting. Mr. Swiggett, I want to ask you just one more thing, because I know the Hudson River Valley pretty well, and I wonder if you'd de tell me something of the Cold Springs Gang? (34:28)

[Howard Swiggett:] Well, unfortunately, I can't tell you very much except they're the most charming people from the Hudson River [ER laughs]. They're straight out of Daniel Defoe and the people they robbed are straight out of Edith Wharton [ER laughs]. One of them was named Lynchee. He was seventeen years old, five-feet-one, wore a cutaway coat, and smoke a cigar. That's all we know about him. And another one was called Christopher Pinto. And they robbed the Pells, the Livingstons, the Osmonds, doubtless the Roosevelts, and uh uh there is, the thing about them is that they're written up in this uh journal of 1878 of the Pinkertons, this beautiful script. And I've put these descriptions of them in. And that is all we know about them.

[ER:] That's all you know--

[Howard Swiggett:] But they're well worth, one of them fished for Mr. Rockefeller in the Hudson, you know, let us be fishers of men [Howard Swiggett laughs].

[ER:] Oh, I think that's wonderful. Well I hate to say that our time has come to an end. But I'm sure that everyone will want to read this book about the Pinkertons. Thank you very much for being with me today, Mr. Horan and Mr. Swiggett.

[Howard Swiggett:] Thank you, Mrs. Roosevelt.

[James Horan:] Thank you, Mrs. Roosevelt.

[Break 35:30-35:38]

[ER:] The child who loses his mother in a crowd is a pretty unhappy youngster, as you know. But what about the child who suddenly loses both parents forever, the orphan? What can he do? That's the plight of thousands of children in Korea today. Orphaned war babies, cold and hungry. They need your help through CARE. CARE for Korea quickly turns your ten dollars into a package of warm clothing or of nourishing food for these little refugees. So contribute today to CARE for Korea, 20 Broad Street, New York, or your local CARE office.

[Elliott Roosevelt:] And now it's time to close the program and to remind you that you've been listening to the Eleanor Roosevelt Program, which comes to you each Monday through Friday at this same time. And this is Elliott Roosevelt speaking and wishing you all good day.

---

Transcribed from holdings at Franklin D. Roosevelt Library (FDRL)  
File(s): 72-30(179) Track 1

Transcription: Olivia Grondin

First Edit: Meg Brudos  
Final Edit: Andreas Meyris

The Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project