

SUB PLANES

L.I. - P. & Thursday, Nov. 17, 1949.

Out in the Atlantic, just at nightfall, a great bomber in the dark sky spotted a gleam of light on the black ocean below -- two red flares burning on the surface of the sea. Which immediately raised the highest of high hopes.

The big plane was a sister ship of the L-29 forced down yesterday with twenty men aboard - lost in the blinding weather, radio compass out, fuel exhausted.

TP The ~~greatest~~ air search ^{went on} ~~ever was on~~ ~~lasting~~ all through today -- a fleet of planes criss-crossing a hundred thousand square miles. Canadian vessels joined -- including the aircraft carrier Magnificent and its planes.

The sea was calm at the time of the forced landing, and presumably the twenty men had a good chance to get away on liferafts. But the weather ~~was~~ for searching was unfavorable, clouds and mist -- though, as

as the day ended, reports came that the weather was clearing.

Then this latest -- two red flares spotted on the surface of the sea. The search plane was ordered to stay and circle the spot, and other rescue planes were sent out.

Such is the latest report on the greatest air search ever - with good hope, though it is not certain that the flares belonged to the survivors.

But this has to be accompanied by a B-29 story, dark and tragic -- in California. The word tonight is that eighteen perished, and only three survived in the collision between two super-fortresses.

The three who were ~~at~~ saved came drifting down by parachute, and can give no explanation of why the accident occurred. ~~and~~ ~~They say that~~ all they know

is that there was a collision, the plane began to fall -- and they were able to bail out.

COAL

President Truman states outright that he will invoke the Taft-Hartley Act, if necessary to prevent a coal crisis. He says that no emergency exists to justify a court injunction - not right now. But, if John L. Lewis carries out his threat to call another walkout on December First, the President may proclaim a national emergency and get a Taft-Hartly Act injunction.

BUDGET

Once again a Presidential hint of higher taxes next year - President Truman stating today that in January he will send Congress a - "water-tight" budget, one that can't be cut. But to a news conference today he repeated that he knows no way of balancing the budget without increasing revenue - more taxes.

CHINA

The President joins the chorus of indignation over the arrest and imprisonment of American Consul General Angus Ward in Red Manchuria. Today, he declared our government will press in every way possible for the release of that diplomatic official.

In China, the United States today closed the consulate at Chungking - the far inland city intended to be the capital of the remnant of the Nationalist regime. Red forces are drawing so near, the American consulate closes.

From Hong Kong a report that Chiang-Kia-Shek will resume formal control of what's left of the Nationalists. The word is that acting President Li-Tsung Jen is about to retire, and the one-time all-powerful Generalissimo will resume control of the little that remains of his former government of China.

There is to be an emergency conference of all the top U.S. diplomats in the Far East - a meeting to be held at Bangkok, Siam. This was disclosed by President Truman today, who stated that the crisis in Asia calls for

a conference of all American diplomats on the other side of the Pacific - to discuss the sweep of the Reds.

SHAH

The shah of Persia spoke today, and President Truman made appropriate response. The young sovereign of Iran, Reza Pahlavi, told a news conference that his kingdom needs more American armament - being rich in oil and situated on the border of Soviet Russia. The American military assistance program now in force provides more than Twenty-Seven Million Dollars for military equipment, of which Iran receives a part. The Shah today stated that his country is resolved to defend its integrity, but needs a greater supply of weapons - more guns.

Whereupon the Washington dispatch goes on to say that the President today made a present to His royal guest. Amid ceremonies of hospitality, the President handed the Shah a Thirty Calibre big game rifle. Well, that's one gun, anyway.

TYPHOON

Out in the far Pacific, the Island of Guam had a lively breeze today - but not the ~~howl of a~~ typhoon, ~~as had been~~ ^{they} expected. The tempest was heading toward that American bastion in the far Pacific (and winds of over a Hundred Miles an Hour seemed to be a sure thing.) But the storm veered, swung off in another direction, and only the fringe hit the Island. (The breeze, to be sure, blew at Fifty-Five Miles an Hour - but that is a mere breeze in terms of a typhoon.)

KIDNAP

The police in California ^{today} ~~have~~ arrested Fred Stroble, for whom there had been a manhunt far down into Mexico. Wanted in connection with the atrocity murder of a ~~Six~~ Six Year old girl, Linda Joyce Glucoft, the ~~Sixty-Seven~~ Sixty-Seven Year old suspect was picked up ~~today~~ in downtown Los Angeles. Questioned by the police this afternoon, Stroble confessed, admitting the hideous crime.

COUNTERFEITERS

From Belgium - the report of a round-up of counterfeiters, false money swindlers, operating in Belgium, Northern France, Holland and Western Germany. Large gang, Thirty Six under arrest - after manufacturing Millions of dollars' worth of counterfeit. ^R They ran their nefarious business in the guise of a travel agency, the name of which would indicate a sense of humor. They called it - "Gulliver Travels". Hard to imagine what kind of whimsy was in the brains of those rogues on the continent. Maybe they didn't know who Gulliver was in that famous masterpiece by Dean Swift. Or maybe they were having a joke, by linking their fake money with the fabulous travels of Gulliver, who went visiting among the Lilliputians.

The counterfeit mob, with a manufacturing plant in Belgium, turned out Ten Million West German marks, Ten Million Dutch guilders and Twenty Five Million francs - these in the form of Belgian travelers checks.

The method of passing the counterfeit was to have crooks pose as tourists, and go to banks and hotels

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escorted by representatives of the fake travel agency, phoney tourist guides wearing handsome badges on their coat lapels. Badges reading, "Gulliver Travels."

Well, if the shade of that satirical Dublin clergyman, who wrote the Gulliver story should happen to be around, I can imagine the saturnine grin on the face of Dean Swift.

GARRY DAVIS

In Paris, that citizen of the world, Garry Davis, is thinking about becoming an American citizen again. He has changed his mind often - making headlines months ago by renouncing his nationality. He handed in his passport, so as to become a complete internationalist - on a mission to promote world peace. Since then he has been in difficulties, a man without a country, preaching a gospel that has won followers over in Europe. People have been flocking to meetings of peace propaganda held by the citizen of the world.

Today in Paris, Garry Davis was brought to court, together with a flock of his disciples - charged with blocking the public streets and tying up traffic, while holding a rally. In France, according to long tradition, a courtroom trial gives an agitator a big chance to make a speech. But the Parisian Judge today was a Solomon. The moment ~~that~~ Garry started to talk, the magistrate said quickly and decisively: "That's enough. Say no more. You are acquitted."

Turned loose, the citizen of the world said he

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is thinking of returning home. *He put it this way:-* and said, "I would not be averse to taking out my papers as an American citizen."

Well, your Uncle Sam might have something to say to that - and he did today, through the passport section of the American embassy in Paris. There, the official statement was - Yes, Garry Davis can become a U.S. citizen again, if he wants to. All he has to do is wait for Five Years, and go about it like any other alien. *In other words you can't toss it away - and then get it right back again just whenever you feel in the mood.*

LONDON FOG

In London some figures were made public today, an appropriate time - with the British capital just emerging from one of the worst of its famous fogs, which blinded the place for ~~Twenty-Four~~ Hours. The figures have to do with that well known product of England - the peasouper. They show that London and large parts of England are blanketed by fog for an average of ~~Sixty~~ Days a year, with an amount of damage that comes to a Hundred and Sixty Nine Million Dollars a year.

The cause? Partly the way of the weather, and partly - coal smoke. The burning of soft coal, is responsible for about Fifty Per Cent of the peasouper. More than Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Tons of soot are spread over Britain each year. In the manufacturing areas of Yorkshire there's an annual deposit of Seven Hundred and Ninety Three Tons per square Mile. London gets Four Hundred and Twenty Six Tons of soot Per Square Mile every year.

The Professors conclude their report with the

following unflattering words: "Britain is the dirtiest, foggiest country in the world." Hear, hear! - supposing an American said that!

But what to do about it? Stop the burning of soft coal in factory furnaces - and, especially in the domestic fireplace. The worst of all is that British method of heating the home - a fireplace with a grate burning soft coal.

Maybe something can be done; although the professors agree that a total abolition of coal smoke is impossible. They heave a sigh of nostalgia, and look back to the days of yore, when merry England was really merry. Even in those Middle Ages there was a smoke menace - but England knew what to do about it, the professors declaring: "Six Hundred years ago King Edward the First imposed the death penalty for burning smoky, fog-making coal." Unfortunately, in these modern times, not even Sir Stafford Cripps, with all his austerity, can act like a king and roar: "Off with his head."

BOOKS

The Library of Congress has sent an exhibition throughout the country - most appropriate for the season of the year. It's a display of books for children - though there's a lot in it that no youngster would ever recognize. Rare children's books, volumes of the past, historical, showing the origin and development of juvenile literature as we now know it.

For example, one source of our present tradition of stories for children was the "Gesta Romanorum", a medieval collection of tales, "The Deeds of the Romans," consisting largely of legends brought back by the Crusaders - oriental stories twisted around, adapted, made meaningless, and given new meanings. Then there were the romances of chivalry, "Aesops Fables", old French stories like "Reynard the Fox" and "Mother Goose," followed by Grimm's and Andersens "Fairy Tales" of the Germanic north.

The exhibition includes treasures dating back a century or two, like a jolly book for children published in Eighteen Sixteen - the multiplication

table illustrated.[!] Another volume called - "Marmaduke Multiple's Merry Method of Making Minor Mathematicians." Which certainly was a brave attempt to put a sugar coating on the last of those three R's. Another, published in Eighteen Twenty Five, sounds more promising: "The Life and Death of an Apple Pie."

Put to my mind the prize title belongs to a tome called: "The Childs Grammar, Designed to Enable Ladies Who May Not Have Attended to the Subject Themselves to Instruct Their Children." The grammar of the title would seem to indicate that it was written by one of those ladies who may not have attended to the subject themselves.

COLLEGE

Tonight, in a secret place at San Rafael, California, Helen of Troy is being held captive. This is a modern version of Homer, a collegiate version - the college students out there being well enough acquainted with the Iliad and the Odyssey to have heard about Helen of Troy. So they apply their classical erudition to football.

Tomorrow night, under the lights, the college at Santa Clara will play a game with Santa Rosa. St. Clair, St. Rose, and Helen of Troy; - it seems to be all mixed up. But that's the way things are in California - saints and a heathen beauty on the Santa Rosa side. One of the chief attractions this year has been, not the halfbacks and fullbacks, but Miss Jone (correct) Pederson, a co-ed, who came in as Number Five at the Atlantic City beauty contest to pick Miss America. Jone is officially rated the most beautiful blonde in California.

So last night Seven students from San Rafael waylaid and kidnapped her. Overpowering and tying her

escort up, they carried the beauty away, taking her to Santa Rosa - just as Helen, those eons ago, was taken away to Troy. Tonight the blonde captive will be exhibited at San Rafael - a trophy. Paraded on a float through the streets - while thousands will cheer.

Well, in the story told by Homer, the seizure of Helen was followed by the Trojan War. That, in California will be the football game tomorrow night - Achilles running with the ball, and Hector trying to tackle him. ~~So~~^{So} don't say the students out there are not up in their study of Greek literature, *Nelson!*