

L.T. - P&G Thursday, January 10, 1952.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY: In the British harbor of Falmouth tonight Captain Kurt Carlsen is asleep in a bed -- aboard the British tug TURMOIL. The first comfortable quarters he has had since the Flying Enterprise became a half-capsized wreck in a wild storm fifteen days ago. Tomorrow he will go ashore at Falmouth for the hearo's welcome that has been awaiting him there.

Last night we heard it was all a question of weather, and today the weather did its worst.

A wild gale was blowing - sixty miles an hour. Huge seas were running - waves twenty-five feet high breaking over the hulk. Veteran sailors knew -- that was the end of the story. The Flying Enterprise was listing at eighty-five degrees. Deeper in the water, filling up, and in process of slowly turning over.

Clinging to the deck house were Captain Carlsen

and British mate Dancy, his companion for the last couple of days. The word was signalled to them - a helicopter would fly over and try to pick them up from their precarious post on the almost perpendicular deck. The helicopter tried, but it was no go - the Flying machine buffeted violently in the raging gale. So they would have to get off by jumping into the sea.

They crawled their way along a smokestack, which was level with the water - and jumped into the boiling sea. The British mate went first, then Carlsen the Captain last to leave his ship. That skipper sure was obeying the old law of the sea. They had life preservers on, and within five minutes were picked up by the tug.

Within brief minutes after that, the Flying Enterprise turned completely over, bottom up - and floated that way for an hour. Then she plunged, stern first - going to the bottom thirty-five miles off Lizard's head, in ^{those} waters called the Graveyard of Ships.

For many long centuries sailors have dreaded

the swirl of current and cross-current off the south-western tip of England, ^{now} and a new name is added to the history of those evil waters - the Flying Enterprise going to her grave in the Graveyard of ships.

Too bad the great sea story could not end with the skipper bringing his craft to port. But he's in the harbor tonight - ready for a British welcome tomorrow.

FOLLOW CARLSEN

The latest, a statement from the Isbrandtsen Line--that the epic of the sea stands to cost the company about a million dollars. Take, for instance the fact that the firm ~~had~~ has to pay the expenses of the U.S. Destroyer Keith, which stood by for ten days. Which will come to about sixty thousand dollars.

In additon, the towing operation runs into plenty of money--and the ships that took aboard crew and passangers will have to be paid.

On the other side, of course, there may be the matter of insurance--about which we do not know.

Behind almost any glorious exploit of heroism, there is the question of finance, adding up the costs.

SHIP PACIFIC

Out in the North Pacific ships and planes are hunting for four lifeboats with castaways from the American freighter Pennsylvania - a few hundred miles west of the Queen Charlotte Islands. Their vessel broke open during a storm, and the crew of forty-five had to abandon ship. No word from the lifeboats, which have no radio! And the search is on!

CHURCHILL

There was an interesting meeting in New York today - Winston Churchill and the Duke of Windsor. They chatted in the apartment of American Elder Statesman Bernard Baruch. I don't know what they talked about, but memory must have gone back to that famous abdication fifteen years ago, when Winston Churchill was a staunch supporter of Edward the Eighth, and tried to keep him on his throne.

Tonight the Prime Minister takes a train for Canada. He was to have gone by plane in the morning, but the weather intervened -- not so good for flying.

TRUMAN

At today's White House news conference, they had a discussion of General Ike. (The President told the newsmen that, if the General wants to return home to campaign for the Republican nomination - he is perfectly free to do so.) Eisenhower says, of course, that he won't.

As they chatted on, the President remarked that, until recently, he had always considered Eisenhower a Democrat, he had been told that, at the age of eighteen, young Eisenhower was a Democratic precinct worker - campaigning in behalf of George Hodges, who ran for Governor of Kansas on the Democratic ticket.

Later on came comment from Kansas - where the President of the original Eisenhower-for-President club gave an explanation. He says that, when Eisenhower was a Senior in high school he was one of three boys who addressed a Democratic State Convention at Abilene. He spoke as a non-partisan, but the fact that he spoke at all has been the basis for a rumor ■■

down the years -- Eisenhower a Democrat. So maybe that was the origin of President Truman's notion that the General, as a boy, had been a Democratic precinct worker.

At the White House news conference today, the President spoke in praise of General Ike, paying him a variety of compliments. But he has no applause for any notion of - President Eisenhower. He may like Ike, but he's against any Republican as President.

There's been some talk that he might refrain from declaring his own intention - until he sees whether or not the Republicans nominate Eisenhower. This he denies. He says he'll make his declaration, to run or not to run - before the G O P convention assembles.

It doesn't make any difference whom the Republicans nominate - or whom the Democrats nominate - he'll be out campaigning for the Democratic ticket - no matter what Republican he opposes, including General Ike. So said the President.

One of the reporters played the part of an innocent sort of journalist, and I suppose there was naive wonder in his voice when he asked: "Mr. President, how could you run against a fellow you like so well?"

The Truman reply was grim and humorous, saying - he could do it easily. He had done it before.

Spoken like a veteran of the political wars - who might run for office in a noisy campaign against his best friend on the ~~opposing~~ opposing ticket.

MACGRATH

President Truman names the one to head ~~the~~ his drive to clean up corruption in government - Attorney General McGrath! There have been large reports of presidential plans to name a special clean-up commission headed by an impressive name. But today he told his news conference he has dropped the project - the Attorney General will do the job.

McGrath's own department of Justice has been in the middle of the scandals, and there have been demands - that he be ousted.

So you can imagine the Republican uproar tonight. Congressman Hillings of California shouts "whitewash", and asks, "How can McGrath investigate himself?" Which reminds one of a Gilbert and Sullivan line in the Mikado. The Lord High Executioner says: ~~the~~ "A man can't behead himself." To which poo-bah replies: "Well, a man might try."

(Today began the seventh month of the truce talks in Korea -- all tied up in a deadlock.)
Negotiations have been going on for six months; and everything boils down to a stalemate on two points:—
~~The~~ construction of Red air fields during a truce and
~~the~~ exchange of prisoners on a voluntary basis.

A dispatch from Tokyo today quotes an American, who has been dealing with Chinese in the prison camps. He says that hundreds of the captives have threatened - mass suicide rather than return to Red China.

Most of the Chinese, he explains, are neutral politically. "They don't know where they are or why," says the observer, Adding - that a few are die-hard communists. A considerable percentage - anti-Red. *and*
Numbers of these prisoners, he declares, have signed petitions in blood begging not to be sent back to Communist ~~R~~ China.

STRIKE-BALTIMORE

In Baltimore today, the slogan was - "share the ride" or "walk to work". All because of a transit strike that has tied up every street car and bus. Traffic was jammed all over the place, and one worker was seen going to his job on roller skates.

No trouble reported - and local defense ~~plants~~ plants report little disruption of production as a result of the tie-up of street cars and buses.

STRIKE-INSURANCE

At Newark today a throng of policy holders invaded the offices of the Prudential Life Insurance Company - one hundred policy holders. The company called the police - making a charge of -- disorderly conduct. Actually, the policy holders were insurance agents, on strike. They have been picketing the Prudential) ~~Prudential~~ Company, and figured out a new stunt.

Any agent selling insurance would, according to every kind of logic, have a policy on himself - so the striking agents thought they'd exercise their own rights as policyholders. The company didn't think it so logical - that mob scene.

SWINDLE

One of the trickiest of swindles is disclosed by the arrest of a crook - who registered forty times for selective service. So how do you tie the two things together - running a fraudulent game and reporting for the draft that often?

Well, in Chicago, Robert Freimann, twenty-one years old, confesses that he has been cashing stolen checks for several years. He'd want to identify himself as the person to whom a check was made out, so he'd go to a draft Board and register under that persons name - which would get him an identification card. He cashed the checks of forty different persons - which led him to ^{different} draft boards forty different times.

All of which seems to produce an explanation of a curious twister reported in the news the other day. In Chicago, the Army called Mrs. Joe Willie Reilly, a gold star mother - ordering her to report for military duty. Sounded like a good old Army snafu.

Mrs. Reilly's first two names, Joe and Willie,

sound as if they belong to a man. But it was hard to

figure she ever got on the books for the draft.

Today Freimann confessed that he stole and cashed a

check made out to Mrs. Reilly, under the masculine-

sounding form of her name - and in doing so, he may

have registered at a draft board under that same name.

He isn't quite sure ^{because} he reported so often for military duty.

But this ingenious young man is also being held for -- evading the draft! He never did register under his right name.

SWEATER

News today - that our eastern states have been invaded by the "explosive sweater". Peddlars have been going around selling sweaters that burst into flame.

California had ~~xxx~~ them first, several people injured -- when the material caught fire. So now, in Albany the police report that at least half a dozen have been sold by two peddlars traveling in an automobile. At Hudson, New York ten got into circulation

In Massachusetts, Manuel Mello, of Fall River, bought four for twenty dollars. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Then he remembered reading about "explosive sweaters" on the Pacific Coast. So, making a test, touched a match to one of his - and it sure was a flaming beauty.

In Boston, the state chemist, Dr. Joseph Walker explains that the material in the sweater consists of a rayon fabric with a thick nap. The rayon is inflammable, the nap can be touched off by a spark - bursting into flame.

That's a new kind of explosive sweater!

MALARIA

In the world of medicine, we hear of a long search which now ends - in your garden. Supposing that you have a garden - with one very common flower in it.

For years medicine has been seeking a drug for the treatment of Malaria - in addition to quinine. Urgent during the Second World War - when sources of quinine were cut off.

The scientists got on to a clue - in China. Where they have a home remedy for malaria - made of a plant called Chiang Chan. Laboratory experts produced an effective drug out of the Chinese plant.

But the shrub, Chiang Chan, is limited to China. So they wondered was there any American plant that had the same chemical properties. Which led to a search, up and down the line of American botany.

Today the announcement - they have the answer. They have produced the drug to cure Malaria - from ^a ~~just~~ flower ^{that is} common in our gardens. The remedy is being [^] tried out successfully - the drug so new it has no name, as yet.

But the flower has a familiar name. In fact it's one of the most ornamental of them all -- the hydrangea, which now provides a new wonder of science.

So when spring comes, Nelson, let's go out into the garden and salute the hydrangea.