


ATOM BOMB PROGRAM

EJ-P+g Tues. Nov. 21 - '50.

In Washington today word is that President Truman will ask the Lame Duck Session of Congress to give top priority to a new multi-million dollar grant for increasing atom bomb production. The figure is a secret, but Senator Maybanks of the ~~Senate~~ Appropriations Committee says he will ask Congress to give the Commission "All it wants". Officials of the Atomic Energy Commission refused to say how the money would be used; for atom bomb stockpiling "is our top secret of the cold war."

U.N.

At Lake Success today, John Foster Dulles said the United States would support a proposal for a special U. N. committee to investigate the charge that Russia engineered the Red sweep in China. The proposal was made to the U. N. Political Committee by Nationalist delegate Dr. Tsiang, renewing charges made last year by *Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek*. Dr. Tsiang said a U. N. Fact Finding Commission would show "the true nature of Soviet aggression in China."

Dulles told the committee that if recent events in China were fully exposed they would serve as a warning not only to the people of Asia, but of the whole world. (A warning of the danger "to which none of us can be indifferent," *said he. Adding,* "If Asia is being subject to aggression cloaked by fraud, then exposure is a good preventive.") 

^{But}
~~the latest~~ Britain strongly opposes this
^{said}
suggestion. The British delegate ~~said~~ tonight: "There
is no need for me to emphasize the gravity of the
situation in the Far East. Nothing that tends to
embitter that situation can do anything but harm." ^{Therefore} ~~The~~
^{"the} proposal in Britain's view, ^{said he, is} ~~is~~ ~~he said,~~ ^{to be deplored."}

CHINESE DELEGATION

In Prague today the nine members of the Chinese ^{Red} delegation on its way to Lake Success got their

visas. But the Chinese did not show up at ~~the~~ ^{our} Embassy.

^{They simply} sent their passports around ^{by} ~~with~~ the local U. N.

officials instead. For days we have been wondering just when the Chinese would arrive. - now we learn; - they will be here on Friday, for sure. o

The advance by the South Koreans has given

them the distinction of being the northernmost of the Allied forces in the Korean war - and it is even of the Seventh Division which yesterday was in the lead over

the Communists' 201st

In northwest Korea, tonight, seven Allied

divisions - three American, four South Korean and the British Commonwealth Brigade, are waiting for a final drive against the Reds. Facing them is a giant force

of Chinese - Chinese Army, a hundred thousand strong - with reinforcements reported moving across the Yalu River

in the northwest and the 10th of June about over

positions reported all along the line. Around the

KOREA

On the east coast of Korea today, the South Koreans scored an important advance. They broke through the last Communist defence line in the northeast and pushed ahead twelve miles - to within fifteen miles of Chongjin - which is the only eastcoast port still in Communist hands. They hope to have the port by tomorrow.

Today's advance by the South Koreans now gives them the distinction of being the northernmost of the Allied forces in the Korean war - north ~~at~~ even of the Seventh Division which yesterday got to the Yalu River, to the Manchurian border.

In northwest Korea, tonight, seven Allied divisions - three American, four South Korean and the British Commonwealth Brigade, *about 100,000 in all,* are massing for a final drive against the Reds. Facing them is a giant North Korean - Chinese Army, a hundred thousand strong - with reinforcements reported pouring across the Yalu today. In the northwest too the lull seems just about over - skirmishes reported all along the line. Around the

hydro-electric basin half of which is already in our hands, U. S. Marines are fanning out to the northeast and northwest. In the air fighter-bombers have been concentrating on Red supply routes and strongholds; - against all points where the enemy is massing troops for an attempt to hold off the final push by the U. N. forces.

BERLIN

In Germany today the Soviets set the stage for a possible new Berlin blockade - a blockade of all railways from the American, British and French zones. A protest from Russian zone railway workers says that not more military supplies and troop reinforcements will be allowed to cross the Russian zone. So far it's only a threat; but, if a rail blockade does ~~come~~^{go} into effect, a new ~~staggering new~~ airlift problem ^{may} ~~will~~ face our flyers

including
-- how to airlift the giant new forty-ton tanks. *Or*
maybe we will face the situation this time and not resort to the tremendous extra expense of an air-lift.

SENATE

President Truman has on his desk a scathing critical report, handed in today - and he is likely to pay more attention to it because it is from the Senate sub-committee on preparedness. That's the successor to the old Truman Committee which the President headed, when he was a senator. So it is as if Harry Truman were hearing from his old outfit.

The report, with caustic words, does a skin-'em-alive job on the sale of surplus war products. As the "horrible example," the sub-committee cites the story we had the other night - how a Texas farmer bought a heap of "computers," for which he paid five cents apiece, ^{and} they turned out to be fire-control instruments of the latest model, which the Texas farmer resold to the Air Force at sixty-three thousand dollars.

The comment of the sub-committee is as follows: "It all becomes government officials to ~~xxx~~ conduct the public business with less prudence than they would display in operating a charity bazaar."

The report points to the sale of many kinds of property called "surplus," -- which, actually, are badly needed in the nation's rearmament program. This applies to the disposition of huge gasoline and alcohol refineries, which were sold, with no possibility of ~~rx~~ recovery -- although they are urgently required for the building of American armed power. There seems to have been an orgy of selling "surplus property" left over from the war -- which was not "surplus" at all. So the President hears from the successor to the old Truman committee.

COBALT

In Washington today the National Production Authority clamped down on the second vital metal required for the "defence drive." Last week it was aluminum; today it's cobalt, ^{so necessary} ~~an alloy used~~ for hardening steel. Cobalt steel is ^{much} used ~~most~~ in the field of radio and electronics - for making magnets. This month's quotas of cobalt for non defence purposes are cut by seventy percent. -- but, next month, the radio and television industries may get a little more.

FLOODS

~~In Sacramento today~~ Governor Warren ^{today} declared a state of emergency. He ordered out the National Guard to help fight the worst floods in the history of California. Thirteen rivers fed by melting snows in the high Sierras and by a nine day steady downpour yesterday burst their banks. The scene of all this flood being the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys.

Just north of Sacramento, the American River is at a record level - up forty-five feet. With hundreds of families driven from their homes. Four thousand acres of Sacramento suburbs are under water. Tonight word is that the waters are beginning to recede - leaving in their wake a vast scene of devastation.

RENO FLOOD

The western floods seem to have stepped up the already high speed tempo of life in Reno. The news wires tonight tell of the wildest party ever in Reno. A mad spree of gambling in that glittering city of roulette, blackjack, and one-arm bandits.

The Truckee River which flows down the eastern side of the Sierras went over its banks. The waters of the Truckee surged through the streets of Reno. The water rose above the five bridges that span the stream, cutting Reno in two. This meant that thousands were marooned in the gambling houses. Whereupon they made one long continuous party of it - whooping it up and playing the wheel, cards and dice.

In the million-dollar plush Mapes Hotel the flood rose ~~in~~ two feet in the lobby - whereupon three hundred and fifty refugees from the deluge were invited to the fourteenth floor skyroom, where

the gambling went on. The electricity blacked out, but they kept right on by the ~~z~~ flickering light of lamps. Much the same in the other gambling joints. Reno in the deluge, never saw such a party before.

All of which leads us to paraphrase Lincoln, who said: "You can fool some of the people all the time, and all the people some of the time - but you can't fool all the people all the time."

Well, in Reno, some of the suckers lose all their money. But when the flood came, all the suckers lost all their money.

Or did they? Maybe some of the boys and girls cleaned up while ~~z~~ the waters of the Truckee roared through Harolds and all the other joints.

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

This is the time of year when magazines, newspapers and what not - start picking the story of the year, the man or woman of the year, and almost anything else that was tops in the twelve-month period. So now we have the United Press taking a poll of newspaper editors across the nation, and the results lead off with a familiar name - General Douglas MacArthur. So far ahead as the man of the year - there's hardly a second choice.

The lively competition was for the feminine honors - the woman of the year. Various candidates were favored, and the final count showed - the winner, Mrs. Perl Mesta. Our minister to Luxembourg, ~~is~~ ^{chatted with} ~~is~~ ^{in New York today,} ~~is~~ ^{is hailed} as - the lady of Nineteen Fifty. Right after her, in second place, is Florence Chadwick, the channel swimmer. So there you have the one-two -- her excellency the ^{to the Grand Duchy} Minister [^] and the channel swimmer.

Long years ago there was an oddly mated couple in American diplomacy - when Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan went on the Chataqua Circuit, with a

WOMAN OF THE YEAR....2

lecture, and was followed by some Swiss bellringers.

~~XXXXXX~~ In those halcyon days, there was no end of laughter over that billing - the Secretary of State and the Swiss bellringers. Today we find a plenipotentiary,

Uncle Sam's diplomatic ~~post~~ ^{representatives} rated slightly above ^a channel swimming ^{er.} ~~ing.~~

So hail to Madame ~~the~~ Minister, ~~and~~ Perle Mesta - the lady of Nineteen Fifty.

COPYRIGHT

This is an important week in the world of entertainment - the financial aspect of it. Two famous copyrights expire - those on the music of Sir Arthur Sullivan, of Gilbert & Sullivan, and on the works of Oscar Wilde. Whatever they wrote ~~is~~ now ^{comes into} the public domain, and can be played or printed without payment of royalty.

There's an odd coincidence -- this year being the fiftieth anniversary of the death of both Sir Arthur Sullivan and Oscar Wilde. In the case of the composer, his music enters the public domain tomorrow, and he died just fifty years ago tomorrow. (So I called the legal department of the British Information Service and asked -- was there any connection? Or was it just a ~~mere~~ coincidence? The British lawyer replied that, to the best of his legal knowledge, it was mere coincidence -- one of those curious twisters.)

But don't think, that after tomorrow, you can give a public performance of Gilbert & Sullivan without paying royalties. The copyright on the music ~~expires~~

expires, but not on the words. They are protected for ten more years. So you can't sing the lyrics - of "The Duke of Plaza-Torro" for example. The lilting melody, okay. But not the line:- "That celebrated, cultivated, underrated nobleman, the Duke of Plaza-Torro."

Well, a lot of the Sullivan tunes would be insipid without the Gilbertian words. Take that exquisite mockery of the House of Peers in Iolanthe. Who would want the tune, without the words? :-

"When Wellington licked Bonaparte, as any child can tell, the House of Peers, throughout the war, did nothing in particular - and did it rather well.

The works of Oscar Wilde are not so popular, though there are performances, from time to time, of the Wilde comedies - like "Lady Windermere's Fan," and "The Importance of Being Ernest."

In London recently, a newspaper asked - what were the last words of that master of wit and satirical epigram? Readers wrote in saying that they had heard

an account -- and this illustrated Wilde's favorite method of making a witty remark. By taking a common phrase or proverb -- and twisting it. One time he said, for example, "Nothing succeeds like excess." So now he went back to the old expression living beyond our means.

The story was that was Oscar Wilde lay dying, in Paris, the doctors were arguing about the bill, the number of francs they were going to charge. The celebrated satirist and wit overheard the financial debate. "Gentlemen, I am dying beyond my means." Those were the last words of Oscar Wilde.

4
Now Nelson, how about one of your half-Wilde epigrams?