

CHINA

L.J. - Sunoco and T. & G. Tues., Feb. 18, 1947.

(China has made a strange request -- something that sounds weird indeed. Tonight's news dispatch ~~from Washington~~ from Washington calls it -- astounding. The Chinese government has addressed to Washington a suggestion that China be allowed to sell two hundred million dollars worth of UNRRA supplies, sell these to the black market. The government of Chiang Kai Shek is trying desperately to check the spiral of inflation that has China dizzy. For this the government needs financial assets, and would like to sell UNRRA supplies for cash.) It would seem that the only place that this can be done is on the Chinese black market. So we have that astounding request, which UNRRA officials in Washington have referred to the State Department.

ATOMIC

Soviet Russia has put an okay on a large section of the American program for atomic control -- an okay with a lot of ifs and buts. This afternoon, Gromyko agreed that the atomic business must be handled internationally, and not by national governments -- which is the first time that the Soviets have conceded that much of the American plan.

^RThe concession, however, was accompanied by Gromyko demands for nine changes, Some of these ~~xxx~~ of a highly controversial nature. The nine changes are intricate and technical. ^RAnd, there is a further Gromyko demand. It was like singing an old tune this afternoon when, before the Security Council of the United Nations, Gromyko said that ~~xxx~~ first the United States would have to scrap ~~xx~~ its atomic bombs. The Soviets have been harping on that point all along -- we ~~must~~ ^{to} give up our atomic power before there is any treaty to set up international ~~xxxxx~~ atom control.

BYRD

Word has come in about ~~Admiral~~^{that} Byrd's

flight over the South Pole, an abundance of detail.

(The Polar sky voyage turns out to have been, in fact, only one of a concerted series of exploration flights made at the same time -- a fleet of planes covering vast areas of the Antarctic solitude.

From Little America ten took off in a parade of exploration. In various directions, over the Antarctic continent, they surveyed hundreds of thousands of miles hither-to unknown. They discovered two great mountain ranges, the existence of which was unsuspected until now. They spotted immense new areas of ice fields. Today's dispatch from Little America uses the phrase -- forty-eight hours of the most spectacular exploration in history.)^{TP} And it adds:

never before has the unknown shrunk so rapidly".

The unknown simply melted away -- in that parade of exploration. (The last two planes in the parade took the sky trail to the South Pole -- Admiral Dick Byrd in one of them.) The two Navy planes flew along the

great glacier to the summit of the South Polar plateau, the highest plateau in the world, one immense glacier, the greatest of all glaciers. ^R And then on they went following the one-hundred-and-eightieth meridian. They rode the meridian straight down to the Pole. Admiral Byrd gave instructions to the pilot of ~~his~~ his plane -- telling him how he would recognize the South Pole, which is nothing like a barber's pole sticking ~~up~~ up in the ice. ^R Byrd said: "when the declination of the sun equals the altitude of the sun with the bubble octant then we are sure we are at the Pole". And soon they were at that point -- declination, altitude, bubble octant. ^R ~~Over~~ Over the Pole from an altitude of twenty four hundred feet Admiral Byrd tossed ~~out~~ ^{out} a bundle. That bundle contained flags -- many flags of silk, each six inches square. They were the flags of all the United Nations. ^R On his previous flight to the South Pole, in Nineteen ~~Twenty-Nine~~, Byrd had dropped American and British flags. Since then a new world organization has come

into being -- so the Admiral of the South Pole thought that the flags of the United Nations were the ~~right~~ right thing this time. ^WByrd believes that the bundle must have burst when it hit the ice of the South Pole, and ^{that} the flags must have scattered a many-colored pageant of the United Nations ^{at} ~~in~~ the southernmost tip of this earth.

(They circled the Pole and then the two planes flew farther on. Admiral Byrd had stated that he wanted to go beyond the Pole and have a look at a region utterly unknown) -- the most inaccessible place in the world. Well, he did have a look -- flying eighty-one miles past the Pole and cutting a circle eighty-six miles to the right -- as far as they dared ~~to~~ go before turning back. ^WWhat did he spy in that ~~xxxix~~ sector of the utterly unknown? New mountain ranges -- or maybe another polar oasis, a land of lakes? Nothing of the sort. (All they saw was a flat expanse of ~~xxxx~~ unbroken ice,) the glacier of the South Pole extending unchanged ~~xx~~ as far as

they could see. Today's dispatch quotes Byrd as saying that as they flew they could see one hundred miles in every direction -- with never a glimpse of anything save level ice, which looked as flat as a skating rink -- a stupendous and intermitable skating rink.

The temperature ^(at the South Pole) ~~was~~ ^{was} *only* forty below zero, and it was almost that cold inside of the two planes. They had heating equipment but it was so cold the heating equipment froze. In the cockpit Byrd's hands got stuck to the navigating instruments, freezing to them -- as they calculated position. It was so cold that one member of the crew crawled into his sleeping bag to keep warm. He didn't ^{even} bother to take a look at the South Pole -- it was too cold.

It was a frosty ~~and~~ adventure -- and one of the most memorable voyages of polar exploration.

MARSHALL

Secretary of State General Marshall made a reply to Moscow today -- a reply courteous but strong as iron. The United States rejects the latest protest made by Moscow.

The Soviet government had protested against a thing said by Under Secretary of State Dean Acheson, a statement made before a committee of the Senate. Acheson was asked about Soviet foreign policy, with reference to the atomic bomb. To which he replied: "I'm quite aware of the fact that Russian foreign policy is an aggressive and expanding one." Then he went on to express the hope that the United Nations would find ways of reaching agreements.

The Soviet protest was from Moscow Foreign Minister Molotov, who described the Acheson statement as a slander, and said it was inadmissible. In Soviet verbiage that word is a favorite -- inadmissible. It means -- verboten.

Today General Marshall informs Molotov that Dean Acheson as a government official, was giving answers to a congressional committee -- as a government official is

supposed to do under an American democracy. General Marshall says he thinks that the Acheson declaration was temperate and restrained. Which would seem to indicate a justification of the accusation of Soviet aggression and expansion. The conduct of the Under Secretary, says Marshall to Molotov is simply this: - the Under Secretary answered the question frankly and in accordance with his conscience, -- and that cannot be described as inadmissible, but was rather in the line of duty. So said Marshall to Molotov.

O P A

(There was a strong Republican demand today for the final abolition of the O P A. Republican Floor Leader in the Senate, Wherry of Nebraska, declared that all that's ~~if~~ left of the O P A must go. But he said that the budget plans of the Republicans call for the final ^{elimination} ~~extermination~~ of the once powerful ~~price~~ price fixing agency. Senator Wherry at the same time called on Congress to put an end to rent control -- to turn that matter over to the States.

This anti- O P A blast was followed by ~~prompt~~ prompt action.) The House of Representatives took a vote ^{today,} and refused to appropriate any more money for the O P A, -- no more cash. Instead the congressmen voiced a demand that the O P A kick back nine million ~~and~~ dollars. Republican legislators want the treasury to recapture nine million ~~dollars~~ of the remaining funds, of the O P A.

BUDGET

The Republican split over the budget came to a head today, when nineteen G O P Senators voted to reject the six billion dollar cut of the budget which has been recommended by the Republican controlled committee on finance. The Republican senators were of the opinion that a budget slash of four-and-a-half billion dollars would do. In ~~favor~~ favor of the six billion dollar cut were ²⁰ ~~nineteen~~ G O P legislators, making the division of opinion almost an even ~~thing~~ thing.

WRECK

Today they were still searching for the victims of the train wreck near Altonna, Pennsylvania last night. A passenger express ran off the tracks of a looping curve in the Allegheny mountains and two locomotives and five cars sent plunging into a ninety foot ravine. At last reports twenty-eight lives lost. And more than a hundred injured.

ROBBERY

I'm in Chicago tonight, stopping off on a broadcast trip to the West. We'll have this program from various points, on the way to the Pacific Coast -- and I'll try to pick up some interesting bit of news from each locality.

Here in Chicago I've just been having a chat with crime experts Dr. Keeler and Bert Massee of Lie Detector fame. Talking about a crime item and a bit of Chicago diplomacy. A taxicab driver, Thomas Spitters picked up two passengers and they held him up -- whereupon Spitters applied his Chicago diplomacy.

He talked himself ~~xxxx~~ out of that robber. And not only that. To the two crooks he said confidentially: I've only collected a few bucks, but I know a guy with ten thousand dollars. The two hold-up men looked interested and Spitters told them still more confidentially that he'd fix it to have the gentleman with the ten thousand dollars in his cab at a certain point -- "You wait there for me he said to the hold-up men and we'll all make some money."

The two crooks agreed. The rendezvous was made.

In due time the taxicab driver kept the appointment. In his cab was a gentleman who didn't have any twenty thousand dollars in his ~~nick~~ pocket. All he had was a detective's badge, in fact, there were two detectives -- who proceeded to make arrests.

π So, there was a diplomat -- who, in addition to talking himself out of a robbery, ~~was~~ also talked two ^{crooks} into jail. -- The height of Chicago diplomacy ^{call it.}

GRETA GARBO

It is always a thing a lady likes, when somebody leaves some money to her in a will. So let's offer our congratulations to Greta Garbo -- the moreso considering the kind of individual that has left her a legacy of twenty thousand dollars. There's something peculiarly appropriate about it. ^P La Garbo is famous for saying, in a Swedish accent - I want to be alone. And the twanty thousand bucks is bequeathed to her by a hermit -- a hermit who ~~ma~~ certainly did want to be left alone. He lived as a lonely recluse on a remote farm in Michigan. ^P The people in those parts tell of Edgar Donne, who was something of a mystery man. He came to this country from England, [^] which is nearly all that's known about him -- save that he was an ~~eee~~ eccentric hermit, who hated the thought of company, loathed society and preferred to be all by himself.

^P Presumably the lonesome recluse had heard about Greta Garbo and her echoing refraine -- I want to be alone. Anyway, he was found dead recently in his hermit shack. He left a will reading: "I hereby give my estate to

Greta Louisa Gustafson whose ~~xx~~ stage name is Greta Garbo". ^{TP} Apparently, the strange recluse, Edgar Donne had an idea that he might endure a bit of company, some slight human society, if need be, because the will goes on: "If Greta Garbo becomes my wife ~~xx~~ then my estate goes to Greta Louisa Donne". ^{TP} All of which raises the beguiling vision of Greta Garbo married to a hermit. ^{Then} They'd be hermits together, singing together in a duet -- I want to be alone.

But it never came to pass. The best the Michigan recluse could do was to will his lonely estate to Greta Garbo, who presumably, if she gets the legacy will want to be alone with ^{the} twenty thousand bucks.

SOUTHERN ACCENT

Here's a chance for all you northerners, a chance to acquire a southern accent. I don't know why you should want to talk the honey-chile way, want to say -- yōw' all; -- ~~hxt~~ but anyhow, here's how you can do it:-

In Hollywood, that place of perennial wonders, there's a voice teacher, Vivian Richart who instructs people in the arts of charm, winsome ways and an alluring appeal -- and one of the methods that she prescribes is the acquisition of a southern accent. This lady teacher points to the fascinations exerted by the girls from Dixie Land -- she says it is the way they talk that does it, that lingering southern drawl. It is like vocal honey, says she; and ^{she} adds: -- it is intimate, and primitive. And so, girls if you want to be intimate and primitive, all you all have to do is talk like a southern honey-chile.

It works for men also. It makes them intimate and primitive too and adds another charm as well: It gives men, says teacher, an irresistible

helpless-boy charm". That sounds wonderful -- there are so many of us who often feel helpless but seldom like boys.

Vivian Richart added that anybody can acquire a southern accent, especially if they've got a Russian accent to start with. No matter if you come from Maine, or Minnesota, Connecticut or Colorado, you can learn to talk as if you hailed from ^{Mobile}~~Charleston~~ or Savannah. So, this I can recommend to some ladies I know -- it would help if they were to acquire that honified voice, [^]intimate and primitive. And as for you, Hugh, how about cultivating some of that irresistible Dixieland helpless-boy charm? Nelson ~~Hugh~~ [^] will you all pass the cawn pone? Or just pass the cawn!

EISLER

The House of Representatives has formally cited Gerhart Eisler for contempt of Congress. Eisler, the Communist charged with being a Soviet spy, and Moscow's boss over the American Communist party.

The vote of the Lower House to cite Eisler for contempt was almost unanimous, but not quite --- three-hundred-and-seventy to one.

Who was the lone Congressman to vote in favor of Eisler? You've guessed it, Marcantonio of New York. Often attacked as a left-winger, who follows the Communist party line, Congressman Marcantonio today made a speech in favor of Eisler, alleged chief ex Soviet agent in the United States.

LABOR

A F of L President Green told the Senate Labor Committee today that organized labor is against nearly all the anti-strike measures that the Committee is considering -- all the important ones.

The committee gave this blanket opposition a hostile reception. Senators Ellender of Louisiana and Ives of New York informed the Federation President that it would be wiser for the unions to work with Congress, instead of merely opposing -- because congressional action is inevitable -- especially in the matter of jurisdictional strikes.

PALESTINE

(The ancient city of Jerusalem was shaken
by^a/violent explosion today. A mine blew up a British
Army truck ~~in~~ near the biblical ~~city~~ area of the
Old Tombs. At the same time, explosions were
reported in other parts of Palestine.)

U N

At the U N today Gromyko made a slight ~~for~~ concession, or seemed to -- giving Soviet approval to one of the angles of the American plan to out-law the atomic bomb. But (Gromyko ~~demande~~ ^{demande} that, before international control is ~~not~~ set up, there ~~it~~ must be a treaty whereby we will scrap our atomic bombs. The Soviet boys sure do keep harping on that one point -- they want us to give up our atomic power before they will talk atomic control.) Gromyko said: After ^{the bombs are} ~~we~~ scrapped ~~our bombs~~ then a treaty ^{can} ~~could~~ be negotiated to establish a world control body on atomic energy.

What's the American feeling about this?

It is the ~~main~~ emotion that you right now are ~~experiencing~~ experiencing. Our delegate, Warren Austin, immediately rose and said that Gromyko's proposals -- about our getting rid of our atomic bombs right away -- was contrary to the whole American plan of establishing a genuine international control to start with.