

SUB LEAD SPY C.I.T. & H. Feb. 3, 1950. Fri.

In that sinister espionage sensation today, F B I Director J. Edgar Hoover is quoted as saying that Dr. Klaus Fuchs a top-ranking atomic scientist in Britain, was planted by the Soviets as a spy. This was in Nineteen Forty-One, when the young physicist was chosen by the Reds because he was so violent an anti-Nazi.

He is the son of a professor now in a University of Eastern Germany, Soviet Zone -- the father a Protestant Minister, and a lifelong pacifist. The whole family was persecuted by the Nazis, and young Klaus Fuchs had the bitterest hatred for the Hitler crowd. It was this reputation which caused the Soviet Communists to suggest that he go to England, become a naturalized Britisher. And cultivate <sup>(associations in)</sup> ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ high British scientific circles. Britain was then arming against nazi Germany, and he was readily accepted.

J. Edgar Hoover <sup>(is further</sup> ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ) said to have declared that Dr. Fuchs has now confessed, at least

in part, that he did transmit atomic secrets to Soviet Russia. The F.B.I. director is reported to have told all this at a closed hearing of a congressional committee. His only public statement tonight is that the F B I is still investigating American angles connected with this new headline espionage affair in London. <sup>R</sup> There are quick statements tonight that the secret information which Fuchs had was enough to enable the Soviets to speed up their own atomic bomb - and get a start of a whole year. Moreover, he is said to ~~xxx~~ have had secrets of the hydrogen bomb - which, even in wartime, was recognized as a scientific possibility. The indications of all this are that hydrogen bomb research has been going on for a long time, and that ~~xxxx~~ what we are now doing is - engineering work, the final phase.

Today in W<sub>a</sub>shington two investigations were immediately ordered, etc. etc.

SPY

A storm is blowing in Washington, an atomic tempest - stirred to wrath by today's news of the arrest of a top ranking British scientist, accused of atomic espionage. He is Dr. Karl Fuchs, the senior principal scientific officer to the British Ministry of supply, who has been working at the Harwell Atomic Research Center, Britain's biggest. He was arraigned in court today, charged with having transmitted atomic secrets to foreign agents, who are not identified. But the implication is clear-Soviet! His acts of espionage are said to have been committed at a time when Dr. Karl Fuchs was in the United States, where he had a high position in the war-time development of the atomic bomb. Hence the uproar the London arrest creates in Washington.

Today, two investigations were immediately ordered - one by the Congressional committee on atomic energy, the other by the committee on un-American activities. General Leslie Groves is

called upon to give testimony - as the wartime head of the atomic bomb project. Queried today at Norwalk, Connecticut, General Groves says that Dr. Karl Fuchs came to this country in Nineteen Forty-three, as a ranking member ~~■~~ in the British Atomic Science Mission, helping in the work on the bomb. At that time the atomic project was a three-nation affair, the United States, Great Britain and Canada, in equal partnership, and sharing all secrets. General Groves declares that the loyalty of Dr. Fuchs was, in the General's words, "vouched for by his own government,"

He worked for the Manhattan Project, so famous ~~is~~ in the creation of the bomb, and was at Los Alamos, New Mexico, when the first atomic missile was put together. He ~~participated~~ participated in the proceedings when the all-important discovery was made, the "critical mass" as they call it.

This factor, which made the explosion possible, was the big secret that Soviet Russia

could not know - all the rest of the atomic secret being public scientific property. The year was Nineteen <sup>(Forty-Five,</sup> ~~xxxxxx~~ and in that year Dr. Karl Fuchs transmitted atomic secrets to foreign agents, according to the indictment in a London court today.

He was here again in Nineteen Forty-Seven ~~xxxxx~~ at which time the American-British-Canadian partnership had ended, and the atomic research over here was all-American. But Dr. Karl Fuchs, so high a British official, is said to have spent two weeks at the Oak Ridge, Tennessee, atomic plant - and the London charge specifies that he handed over secret information ~~it~~ in that year of Nineteen Forty Seven also.

~~This atomic scientist was born in Germany, and later went to Britain. Right now his father is a Professor in a University of Eastern Germany, Soviet zone. All this is reminiscent of the previous case of Dr. Allan Nunn May, the British nuclear scientist who confessed that he gave atomic secrets to Soviet Russia, and was sentenced to ten years in~~

*the father is a Prot-immunist - a secret*

prison. This new sensation of espionage has an immediate bearing on the fact that Soviet Russia was able to develop an Atomic Bomb ahead of time, before Western science thought possible.

Was this in any degree because of secret information provided by the high ranking British scientist? That question raises immediate concern about our latest project, the hydrogen bomb - and Washington is worried. President Truman has been discussing the matter with the members of the cabinet - and has issued orders for new measures of secrecy to surround the H. Bomb.

The arrest of Dr. ~~Karl~~ Fuchs in London was made by detectives of Scotland Yard, who acted on information given them by the American F.B.I. So today, Senator Erien McMahon, Chairman of the Congressional Atomic Committee, congratulates F.B.I. director J. Edgar Hoover and his investigators for their ~~the~~ "excellent work" in a long, laborious investigation.

## HYDROGEN BOMB

Tonight, for the first time, Moscow makes reference to the news of the hydrogen bomb. Only the Soviet propaganda broadcast calls it - "the hydrogen Wall Street bogey." The Moscow radio dismisses the ~~H<sup>2</sup>~~<sup>H</sup> bomb as "a myth and a fairy tale," and - tells what it is all about, gives the deep secret. <sup>That</sup> President Truman handed out the myth and fable of the hydrogen bomb for the purpose of persuading the United States Congress to pass a gigantic military budget - put <sup>up</sup> billions of dollars. "This" says the Soviet version "is needed by Wall Street." So, it's all - a Wall Street bogey.

A dispatch from Washington states that a petition against the F B I is being circulated by a member of the former law firm of Secretary of State Dean Acheson. Today, Charles A. Horsky admitted his connection with the charge addressed to Congress, accusing the F B I of "lawless conduct."

This has to do largely with the controversy about wire tapping - J. Edgar Hoover's agents having tapped wires in the investigation of Judy Coplon former employee of the Department of Justice, and the Russian engineer Gubichev, both of whom are on trial for espionage. Charles A. Horsky is a member of the law firm to which Dean Acheson belonged before he became Secretary of State. He says he did not originate the petition, and refuses to say who did. "I am wholly a transmission agent" he declared today.



## TAXES

President Truman asks Congress to cut excise taxes to the tune of six-hundred-and-ninety ~~sixty~~ five million dollars - reduce the levies on luxuries. And, at the same time - increase taxes on corporations, estates and gifts. Plug loop holes - and put an excise tax on television sets. All - calculated to bring in more than a billion-and-a-half. Which would boost net revenue by a billion a year.

## POTATOES

The Secretary of Agriculture has authorized the dumping of the forty million bushels of potatoes. Secretary Brannan gave these directions today - saying that, as far as possible, the mountains of potatoes will be used for livestock feed or fertilizer - but a lot will simply be thrown away.

*that came in by wire tonight*  
Here's a question ~~instilled in the series~~  
*as a result of the series*  
of articles about our trip to Tibet. The first  
installment is in ~~the new issue of~~ Collier's, out  
today - written by the two of us, Lowell Jr and  
myself. The <sup>(question)</sup> ~~XXXXXX~~ is - just what are the  
geographical factors that make Tibet so tremendously  
isolated?

*particular*  
Well, the answer will develop ~~in a later~~  
~~speculation~~ *article -* ~~in this Collier's series~~ as our  
expedition pushes on into that Forbidden country.  
The geographical factor is ~~as you will see~~, one  
of - altitude. Tibet, is a plateau one-third as  
big as the United States, at an average altitude  
of over fourteen thousand feet, higher than the  
highest mountains in this country -and part of the  
time we were travelling at altitudes above the  
summit of Mt. Blanc, loftiest peak in ~~the European~~  
Europe proper.

Across that sky scraping plateau runs one of the world's great rivers, the Brahmaputra which traverses the roof-of-the-world for over a thousand miles, the loftiest great river on earth, <sup>is, it</sup> that runs the farthest at such a high altitude. To sail along in a boat, on a mighty river that is a couple of thousand feet higher than Leadville, Colorado, the highest town in the United States - gives you a weird sensation.

Some of you may remember the radio broadcast we did from a yak skin boat, navigating on the Brahmaputra, far up there in Tibet.

*At any rate*  
~~think of~~ if our articles in Collier's ~~make you~~  
*raise*  
~~think of~~ any questions you want us to answer, ~~just~~  
send them along and we'll try our best.

## GAMBLING

At Reno, ~~an~~<sup>an</sup> astonished gambler makes an offer. With sparkling eyes, the manager of one of the big gambling palaces, declares that he'd be willing to pay a hundred thousand dollars for a job in California - a kind of job created under a new law, if the law goes through.

In California, there's a move to ~~tax~~ legalize gambling - just as its legal in next door Nevada. The plan is to put the question before the voters, and for this a petition with more than two hundred thousand signatures is necessary. Today the word is that one-third of the necessary signatures ha~~ve~~<sup>ve</sup> already been obtained.

The drive is sponsored by ~~the~~<sup>the</sup> old-age pension people, who want to use revenue from legal gambling to ~~ix~~ finance bigger benefits for the aged. One pension organization has filed sixty-five thousand signatures. The promoter is Willis Allen, who sponsored the famous ham and eggs ~~p~~ pension plan of the Nineteen Thirties. That failed

to go through. - <sup>he</sup>But <sub>^</sub> sees a new version of ham-and-eggs in legalized roulette, black-jack and craps.

All of which excites plenty of interest in Reno, the capital of gambling - and there's one angle that has the Reno gamblers wide-eyed. Under the proposed California plan, the gambling business would be put under control of five commissioners, who ~~might~~ would be elected by the people. Gambling czars, as they are being called. In Nevada, the business of games of chance is regulated by a state commission, which includes representatives of business, banking, mining, livestock, agriculture - all as safeguard. But California would elect four "gambling czars" each paid ten thousand dollars a year.

Hence the offer made by the big Reno gambler today. One hundred thousand dollars for a place on the four-man California gambling commission. He says he'd ~~at~~ have no trouble finding three other gamblers to put up a hundred thousand each - for

posts as gambling czars. The job would be - in his words - "a short-cut to becoming a millionaire."

... carpenter, always was a quiet, sensible fellow, and they can't understand how he got into the...  
... business, the...  
... gold.

... fact is that...  
... negotiations...  
... offered to...  
... million dollars...  
... on the dollar...  
... half a million...  
... letter...  
... who...  
... the fact that...  
... million dollars...  
... officials...  
... Canadian...

## TREASURE

At Bridgewater, Nova Scotia today, the neighbors were saying that Herman Westhaver, the local carpenter, always was a quiet, sensible fellow, and they can't understand how he had got into the pirate treasure business. ~~He was always sane and sober, as he worked away with hammer and saw, and was the last you'd ever connect with~~ buccaneers<sup>S</sup> and Spanish gold.

Nevertheless, the fact is that carpenter Westhaver went to Montreal, and opened negotiations with a company that deals in gold. He offered to sell them two million dollars' worth of pirate treasure - at a bargain, twenty-five cents on the dollar. They could have it for half a million.<sup>R</sup> As evidence of ~~his~~ good faith, he presented letters allegedly signed by a farmer on the Gaspé Peninsula, who vouched for the fact that Carpenter Westhaver had discovered the two million dollars' worth of treasure trove. The company officials were suspicious, and informed the Canadian Mounted Police, who soon



found out that the letters, proving the existence of the buccaneer-gold were a fake.

They set the usual trap, <sup>with</sup> ~~two~~ two mounties, to deal with carpenter Westhaver. <sup>They</sup> ~~pretending~~ pretending to be agents of the Montreal concern, all set to close the deal. <sup>As</sup> they seemed about ready to hand over the price, <sup>the</sup> ~~half~~ a-million, ~~when~~ suddenly they disclosed themselves as ~~the~~ royal mounted police.

The carpenter blinked in astonishment, but rallied quickly, and is quoted as saying: "Okay boys, call it off, there ain't no such treasure." <sup>And</sup> ~~then he~~ <sup>he</sup> added: "I don't know what makes me do things like this."

Well, neither does anybody else. That's for the court to figure out, when the pirate-gold carpenter is tried for attempted fraud.

MAYOR

At the town of Magog, in French Quebec, they are in a pickle - or, however, you'd say "pickle" in Canadian French. They have a new mayor, and yet they have not a new mayor - and it's all mighty confusing for Jean, Jacques and Pierre. They held a town election, and Ernest Simard, was ~~the~~ chosen to succeed mayor Maurice Theroux. Which was okay - thus far. But before leaving office, Mayor Maurice Theroux fired the town secretary ~~→~~ ~~XXXXXX~~ treasurer, Alphonse Girard. Which he had a right to do, and all was legal.

But, according to law, a new mayor can be sworn into office only by the secretary-treasurer. So there's nobody to swear in the new mayor, Simard. Nor can a new one be appointed, except by mayor Simard - after he has been ~~the~~ sworn in, which he can't be.

Well, it's too much of a puzzle for me - just as it is <sup>in Quebec</sup> for Jean, Jacques and Pierre - ~~or there in Quebec~~ and how about you, Nelson.