

L.T.-OLDS. TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1960

(Given by W.Cronkite, L.T.Mammoth Mt., Cal.)

GOOD EVENING:

They may never know the number of lives lost - in the Moroccan earthquake horror. The resort city of Agadir, on the Atlantic shore of Morocco - lies in utter devastation. Today's dispatch states - "From the air, Agadir looked as if a giant foot had stepped on the city, and squashed it flat." Uncounted victims - buried in the wreckage.

The Moroccan Ministry of Health has ordered the removal of the whole remaining population of Agadir - some forty thousand. It was a brilliant vacation resort yesterday. Today - an expanse of rubble, considered uninhabitable.

The city consisted of a rich section of resort hotels in the style of Miami. And a Moslem quarter of the usual teeming sort - facing the water front.

There were two shocks about midnight - which some

LEAD - 2

of the modern buildings withstood fairly well. But one hotel did collapse - burying tourists.

The Moslem quarter, shattered - and then, in rolled a huge tidal wave which engulfed the wreckage of blocks of native houses. The French navy is rushing help, and so is the U.S. Air Force.

CHINA

The Chinese Reds have rejected a British protest - complaining that Communist forces invaded the territory of Hong Kong. An incident - which occurred a week ago.

Twenty-seven Chinese, in a boat, were trying to escape from the realm of the Reds, and were pursued - by a motorized junk. The refugee vessel was beached on the coast of the British Hong Kong territory. The fugitives - trying to get away in the hills. But the Reds landed, and captured twenty-five of them.

The British note protested that the landing was illegal invasion. But the Red Foreign Office in Peiping replies - it knows nothing of the incident. Protest - rejected.



## EISENHOWER

President Eisenhower addressed the Congress of Chile, today. He received - a standing ovation. Talking to the Chilean legislators, the President spoke of the forthcoming summit conference. Saying - he hoped it will, in his words, "permit at least a partial relaxation of tensions, and a modest advance along the road to lasting peace."

Turning to Western Hemisphere topics, President Eisenhower denied that the U.S. supports Latin-American dictatorships. "We repudiate dictatorship in any form, Right or Left," he said.



## CIVIL RIGHTS

The southern filibuster against the president's civil rights bill goes on in the Senate - the only vote today one early this morning that overwhelmingly - 55 to 6 - turned down an effort to end the continuous session.

There are efforts to hurry a bill through the House that might be acceptable to the southern Senators - but Republican minority Leader Dirksen still says the Senate battle could run on a week or two.

## CHESSMAN

Governor Brown of California says he will make a recommendation tomorrow to the California Legislature, to repeal or modify the death penalty.

This, of course, has a special reference to the case of Caryl Chessman, the convict-author - so long under the death sentence for kidnapping and sex crimes. The sentence - to be executed, apparently, unless capital punishment is meanwhile abolished in California.

Governor Brown, today, said it will be a difficult matter to get the measure passed, because - of the Chessman Case. He explains - that the California legislators feel the emotionalism surrounding the case will make it hard for them, in so important a matter - as the abolition of capital punishment, to proceed objectively in the short time before Chessman is due to die in the gas chamber.

## ALABAMA

In Montgomery, Alabama, today, a march through the streets. A thousand negroes, two-by two in a line that extended for three city blocks. A demonstration - by students of Alabama State College, a negro institution.

This was an incident in the wave of protests in southern states - against the exclusion of negroes from lunch counters in stores. Sit-down strikes by negroes in such places-with occasional violence and many arrests. At Montgomery, there was an attempt to intergrate a lunch counter at the State Capitol. Which resulted in the arrest of eighty persons - nearly all of them negroes.

Hence the rally today. Negro students - in a protest march to the capitol building. But there was no disturbance. The students gathered in a huge crowd on the Capitol steps. That same edifice with white columns - where, ninety-nine years ago, Jefferson Davis took the oath of office as President of the southern confederacy.



They sang the national anthem and recited the lords prayer. Then they dispersed, and went back to their classrooms.

There was a similar demonstration in Orangeburg, South Carolina - scene of a lunch counter sit-down strike several weeks ago. Today, four hundred negro college students marched through the streets, carrying anti-segregation signs. No trouble - just a silent parade.

charging - that Van Hise, the ships radio operator, committed the crime, when the victim - refused to continue a shipboard romance with him.

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## COURT

A courtroom scene, which seems to be without precedent - was enacted in Boston, today. The defendant in a murder trial addressing the jury - making a personal appeal to them.

This occurred at the trial of Willem Van Rie, the Dutch sailor accused in the death of Mrs. Lynn Kauffman, a young woman, who was beaten and thrown overboard - from a Dutch steamship. The prosecution charging - that Van Rie, the ships radio operator, committed the crime, when the victim - refused to continue a shipboard romance with him.

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previous case in which a murder defendant accepted such an offer.

But Van Rie did, and spoke to the jury - pleading his innocence. He admitted - misconduct with the young woman passenger on the ship. They he stated "My wife has forgiven me, and god has punished me." To which he added - "I have no other sin."

The case now goes to the jury.



## VICAR

At the town of Yarnton, in England - a secret is out. The secret - of the Reverend Humphrey Perry-Gore. Who, for eight years was the Vicar of Yarnton.

He had what was considered - an odd eccentricity. When he first came to Yarnton, he posted a notice on the door of the church - stating - that all requests were to be made to him in writing.

If a parishoner met him on the street, and asked about a wedding or a christening, he always replied "please write me a letter." So there was no end of letter writing - in that parish in England.

The Vicar of Yarnton kept altogether to himself. Preaching sermons, conducting the ritual - in the usual way. But - no social contacts.

Now he has died, and the secret of his eccentric behavior is revealed. The Vicar of Yarnton - stone deaf - he couldn't hear a sound.

The church sexton says "I'm the only person in the parish who knew it." The two - having kept the secret for years.

Now, here is Dick Noel - who is keeping no secrets.

The rock-n-roll celebrity 's being mustered out of military service - after eighteen months as a soldier in Germany. Today he held a press conference and said - The army has made a man of him. So much so - that he intends to quit soon his rock-n-roll singing.

The Presley proclamation: "I want to be more of an actor and less of a singer - and, it's not going to let my sideburns grow."

Someday the world just won't be the same.

As Lowell would say, so long until tomorrow.

## PRESLEY

I suppose this is news of a sort - that Elvis Presley will not let his sideburns grow. Of course, he got a regulation hair-cut in the army - and he'll stick to that. No more sideburns.

The rock-n-roll celebrity is being mustered out of military service - after eighteen months as a soldier in Germany. Today he held a news conference and said - The army has made a man of him. So much so - that he intends to cut down his rock-n-roll singing.

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