

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

(In Washington, sentence was imposed today on former Congressman May and the two Garsson Brothers. Prison terms to each -- of from eight months to two years After conviction on charges that Congressman May, wartime Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee of the House, accepted fifty-three thousand dollars in return for help he gave the Garssons in the operation of their seventy-eight million dollar empire of war contracts.)

The court today, having decreed prison sentences, refrained from imposing fines -- this on the ground that the defendants, all three of them, have no means of livelihood and their families are without funds. This financial condition is not surprising in the case of former Congressman May, but it does have a dramatic twist in the case of Garssons. They who had seventy-eight million dollars' worth of war contracts and who

threw spectacular millionaire parties during the war. Yet the Garssons stated today that they were nearly broke.

So the Judge imposed no fines today -- merely prison sentences of from eight months to two years.

HUGHES

The word in Washington is that those Howard Hughes parties came to more than sixty thousand dollars - that much charged on the books for entertainment. Investigators of a Senate Investigating sub-committee are said to have found vouchers listing the cuties of Hollywood and New York who attended the parties and were paid. The vouchers show that they got from fifteen to a hundred dollars an evening. That, of course, doesn't include the cost of what the beauties ate and drank -- girls being known to have expensive appetities at nightclubs and such. The government suspects that all the entertainment had something to do with forty million dollars worth of war contracts awarded to millionaire aviator Howard Hughes and West Coast industrialist Henry J. Kaiser.

Today in Hollywood, Howard Hughes made his first public statement since the Senate sub-committee, out in California, started investigating his affairs. He insists that the expensive parties attended by the well paid beauties had nothing to do ~~xxx~~^{with} the war contracts

- since the entertainment, given to government officials and Army officers occurred after Hughes had been awarded the contracts.

He likewise denies allegations that the huge amounts of government money produced no result. "I feel," he declares, "that I must emphatically deny right now the charge that my company has spent forty million dollars of government funds without ~~xxxxx~~ completing or delivering an airplane."

He calls attention to the fact that, of four planes he contracted to turn out, the government has received three. As for the giant flying boat at Hollywood which has not yet been flown, Hughes declares that he put into it seven million dollars of his own cash and expects to spend more. He declares he wasn't required to put up a nickel, but used his own funds because of his faith in aviation.

VOTE FRAUDS

This afternoon, in Washington, a few weary Senators were at their desks, bleary-eyed, worn out from lack of sleep. You know how it is when you've made a night of it, and get to bed about seven A.M. catch a couple of hours of sleep, and then report for duty. It was like that in the Senate - when up rose Kem of Missouri to call for a vote. He too was half dead with fatigue, but Senator Kem is a legislator of indomitable will. He demanded a vote on a resolution to investigate some charges of vote frauds at Kansas City.

That Kansas City affair has had turns of curious drama from the beginning. (The White House, with our Missouri President, set out to purge Missouri Congressman Slaughter, who had been conspicuous in opposing administration policies. So, with the help of the Kansas City Pendergast Machine, the Congressman was defeated for renomination. The candidate supported by the White House won, in the primaries, only to be defeated by a Republican in the election-- which was an ironical twist.)

(Thereafter, accusations were made that vote frauds had been perpetrated in the primaries, by *the* Pendergast machine. Attorney General Clark made an investigation, but found no reason to prosecute. That aroused an uproar in Congress,) with the Republicans charging gleefully to the attack. The leader of the assault was Senator Kem of Missouri - making it a Missouri affair all ¹around.

The climax of the Senatorial ructions came last night, when the Republicans tried to put through a resolution calling for an investigation of the Attorney General. The Republicans have a clear majority in the Senate - so how could they ~~xxxxx~~ lose? But they ~~x~~ did. They were talked out of business. The Democrats claim it was not a filibuster -- all they did was ~~to~~ stage an oratorical marathon that lasted through the night, the idea being to keep on talking until the Republicans were worn out. Maybe it was no filibuster, but it lasted until thirteen minutes past six this morning - with the Senate in a state of collapse.

Whereupon the Republicans gave it up, and called for adjournment - the Legislators going wearily to bed for a few hours ~~of~~ sleep.

At noon today, they were back in the Senate Chamber, the hardiest of them - ~~XXXXX~~ prepared to wind up a few things before the adjournment of Congress scheduled for this weekend. But up rose Kem of Missouri - the indomitable. Once again, like the repetition of a phonograph record, he called for ~~XXXXX~~ a vote on the resolution in the Kansas City vote scandals.

So what happened? Nothing - even the Senator's own Republican colleagues showed no enthusiasm, and gave him no sign of encouragement. They looked as if they were afraid the Democrats would start that oratorical marathon all over again. Whereupon even Kem of Missouri gave up. In a sad tone of voice he said; "Hope springs eternal in the human breast." Then he sat down. Hope springing eternal, and hope getting doused with cold water.

The best the Republicans could do was to

mutter that, while the Democrats had won the all-night filibuster, the Kansas City affair will go into the Presidential campaign next year. - ~~T~~hat's what they're growling tonight.

MERGER

The unification bill of the armed services has finally completed its trip through Congress - the House of Representatives ~~xxx~~ today passing the bill to create a single department of national defense, with separate branches for the Army, Navy and Air Forces. The measure now goes to President Truman, who has been demanding it all along - and his signature will be prompt.

ATOMIC

(Today a German atomic scientist told of something that had happened in Nineteen-Thirty-Nine, the year Hitler launched the **S**econd World War. He is Dr. Hans Bomke, then an assistant to Dr. Otto Hahn, the top German atomic scientist - who discovered the fission of the uranium atom.) That, of course, was the decisive step ~~XXXXXX~~ toward the atomic bomb - splitting the atoms of uranium.

Bomke worked with Hahn in the history-making experiment, and today he told how (in Nineteen Thirty-Nine he sent a report to the Hitler ~~XXXXXX~~ Government, to the Nazi Minister of Education. In this he stated that it would be possible to make an atomic bomb - something vastly more devastating than anything ever used in war.) Also, it would be possible to produce atomic power, which might propel submarines and airplanes. He spoke of atomic ways of developing extreme degrees of heat for the manufacture of steel, and added that there were important medical angles - like atomic treatment of cancer. In short, this Dr. Hans Bomke gave the Hitler people a

correct forecast of startling things that were soon to come true.

What reply did he get? Today he stated that (his report on atomic possibilities was returned to him with a notation, a comment scribbled in blue pencil. The notation was as follows: "This man must be crazy. He should write Jules Verne stories, and not waste our time.")

Of course, the Nazi Official who scribbled that contemptuous line might have remembered how ~~many~~ many of the Jules Verne stories had come true. But he didn't - the atomic proposition turned down with scorn.

Then a year later, the head of the Hitler Air Forces, General Milch, called a conference of Germany's top nuclear physicists, and begged them to plunge into atomic research and produce a bomb. Bomke says it was too late. The war was on, Hitler's war; - and Nazi Germany, drained by the demands of the blitzkrieg, could not undertake the immense industrial effort necessary to produce the atomic bomb. So the ~~xx~~ world was spared that.

We've often wondered - what if Hitler instead

of rushing into war, had sat back and thrown German resources into atomic development - ~~the~~ of the bomb? After all, the decisive experiment had been accomplished in Germany - the fission of the uranium atom. It's a nightmare to imagine - Hitler suddenly appearing with an atomic bomb in his hand! But the Nazi Fuehrer missed the trick, the supreme ace of trumps in the game of world dominion. I suppose it was too much to ask a ~~mad~~ mad dog dictator to wait a while for an exploit of science.

But back to Bomke, what's he doing? He is on his way to the United States - another of those German scientists brought over here to work for us. Today he told how the Soviets tried to get him - made him a fat offer through the number one Russian Atomic Physicist ^{- Peter} Kapitza. Nothing doing! Bomke preferred the U.S.A. Some other German atomic scientists, ~~many~~ however, have gone to Russia, and the ~~the~~ Soviets have a staff of able physicists for atomic research, - so said Bromke today. One of the top men is Dr. Kapitza himself, who in the

past worked at England's University of Cambridge with Lord Rutherford, foremost pioneer in the world of the atom.. Another is Dr. Abraham Joffe, formerly of Poland, who once worked in the German laboratory of Roentgen, discoverer of the X-ray. Dr. Joffe is now head of the scientific committee in the Soviet Army.

According to Bomke, the Soviets have ample supplies of uranium, the explosive material for the bomb. These deposits are in ~~Turkestan~~ and Bomke ~~is~~ points out that during the past fifteen years, no new maps of Turkestan have been published - not even ordinary geographical maps, let alone charts that show mineral resources.

Bomke tells us that the world's principal resources of uranium are in four places - Russian Turkestan, ^{the} Belgian Congo in Africa, the ^{Great} Bear Lake Region in Northern Canada, ^{— at Yellow Knife —} and our own Colorado in the U.S.A. ~~He adds that he has heard, without complete confirmation, that there are large uranium deposits also in New Zealand and Argentina.~~

But what about the Soviets and the bomb? Have they got it? That's the question. The opinion of the German atomic physicist is that right now the Soviets have probably made atomic bombs - in the course of laboratory research. But most likely they are not yet able to produce ~~many~~ bombs in any quantity. What they lack ~~is~~ is large numbers of technicians - the manpower of science. "The Russians," he says, "undoubtedly know ~~exactly~~ exactly how to make atom bombs, but will likely need several years before they can produce enough atomic weapons," ~~and he adds: "The main question is ~~how~~ how long it will take them to develop fully a big plant for making atom bombs."~~

Over in England, George Bernard Shaw spent his ninety-first birthday hard at work on his newest play. Shaw never did like birthday celebrations, and last year, when he ~~XXXXX~~ reached the epoch age of ninety, he had to endure festivities that he swears nearly killed him, ~~XX~~ So today he fiercely rebuffed any suggestion of that happy-birthday-to-you line of lyrical effusion. Instead, he was working at his desk in a rural English garden, when he received United Press correspondent Robert Musel, and all he would talk about was the play he was working on - to be produced at the Malvern Festival next year.

P What sort of drama is the ninety one year old Patriarch writing? A comedy. He describes it as - "A comedy of manners set somewhat in the future."

"At my age," said G.B.S., "One writes mostly about trifles."

At his age, he will probably turn out another one of those brilliant mixtures of Shavian whim and wisdom. Anyway, George Bernard Shaw is probably the oldest man to write a play and get it produced, since Sophocles - as

the news story notes. Sophocles great classic dramatist
of Ancient Greece, wrote and produced his next-to-the-
last play when he was eighty-seven. He lived to be
eighty-nine, and his last play was produced shortly after
his death. So George Bernard Shaw, at ninety-one, is
outdoing Sophocles, in a competition of writing plays at
a great age.

And now a few words of wisdom from you, Hugh.
Sometimes
~~Something~~ the advice you give us is as wise as
anything ever said by George Bernard Shaw or Sophocles.

LEGS

In Phoenix, Arizona, tonight, the word is revolution.

A revolution among the ladies. Begun in Phoenix by a group of western young women -- who don't want to hide their legs, because, they say, western gals' legs are the prettiest in America.

And so they are revolting against those new long skirt styles that are sweeping the country. Their slogan: "You can rope and tie western cattle, but you can't ride herd on western gals."

In their protest they are calling upon all their western sisters to boycott the new styles that are bringing hemlines farther and farther below the knees.

"Our knees are our charms" they chant behind their leader, a pretty twenty-three year old housewife who is President of The Western Women's Society For the Preservation of Short Skirts.

Says she: "The person responsible for lengthening women's skirts must have overlooked the fact that western women, because of the opportunity for outdoor life and

the abundance of sunshine have the best shod legs in the world." "And," she adds, "We don't intend to hide them either."

Later bulletin: Many western men supporting the movement.

And was movement are you supporting tonight, Nelson?

EXPLOSION

There was a fantastic accident in Pittsburgh today - when a huge electrical generator, rotating at a high speed, went so fast that it flew apart, blew up. Centrifugal Force.

At a Westinghouse Plant, the five-ton generator motor was whirling at ~~sixteen~~ eleven hundred revolutions a minute when suddenly there was a rending crash, and huge chunks of steel flew out like giant projectiles. ^R There were four "poles," as they are called, each weighing eight hundred pounds. Three crashed inside of the plant. - One worker killed and five injured. The other pole went smashing through the roof, flew ~~ix~~ for three hundred feet, across a street, and hit a hotel. The eight hundred pounds of steel ^{in that one} smashed the front wall of a building at the fourth floor, then fell into the crowded street below. As by a miracle nobody in the hotel or ~~in~~ the street was injured. The massive hunk of metal fell on top of a watermain, smashed it, and a deluge of water flooded the street.

All ~~this~~ a devastating example of the power of centrifugal force.