

Substitute FLOODS. *L.T. - Delet. Fri, Dec - 23 55*

Here's an explanation, given by the San Francisco

Weather Bureau - of the disaster of water. Two storms -
meeting
~~loading~~ over Oregon, Northern California, Nevada. One, a cold storm from the Artic. The other - a warm, swirling mass of air from the South, out of the Pacific. This latter - laden with moisture ~~XXXXXXXX~~ from the ocean. It just happened that the two coming in from the north and south met on the coast. The cold storm - causing the warm one to unload its masses of water in a continuous downpour of rain. A freak of nature - drenching a vast area. Bringing on the deluge - of overflowing rivers.

From Marysville, California, ~~is~~ at the junction of the Feather and Yuba rivers, ~~and~~ the Editor of the local newspaper, THE APPEAL-DEMOCRAT, reports: "Our town is like a soupbowl. If the levees break, we'll be under eighteen feet of water."

then adds:-
Editor William Monahan ~~says~~ "The town has been ordered evacuated." But this is not mandatory. "People," he goes on, "can stay in town and take their chances if they want ^{to}"

he says,
to " I don't know how many are staying" but five hundred have
already promised to stay and fight on the levee to save the
city." The only way out of Marysville is by one bridge. The
line of cars at the bridge - a mile long. Ten thousand people -
trying to get out.

The flood story extends from Oregon right on down to
California. The Russian River nineteen feet above the flood
stage. What about the camps at ~~the~~ famous Bohemian Grove?

Over in Nevada, at Reno, the waters are four feet deep around the
fashionable Mapes and Riverside hotels. The Truckee River, ~~is~~
always a rapid stream, Now - thundering along. Pouring into
Reno, where they put up hasty sandbag barriers, trying to hold
back the deluge.

United Press Correspondant, Robert Bennyhoff, wires:

"The river swirls over eight of the nine bridges, which span the
river ~~in~~ ^{the} Reno area - almost cutting the city in two. Only one
bridge remains to provide a round-about means of getting from
one side to the other. The flood," he adds "was caused by

heavy rains which melted the snow pack on the high Sierras. The downpour continued without let-up during the day."

Such is the story far and wide - towns washed out, homes swept away - at least thirteen lives lost. As one river after another - has risen to record-breaking flood level.

President Eisenhower ~~will~~^{may} not go South, after all.

Several weeks ago we heard how his doctors had recommended - a warmer climate. So the Chamber of Commerce at Key West, Florida, sent him an invitation - to visit their balmy island.

But the President replies: "Much as I would like to follow the advice of my physician to seek a warmer ^(climate) ~~situation~~ for a while, I doubt if I shall be able to leave Washington. If I do manage to get away," he adds, "I think I should go no farther South than Georgia."

Sounds as if the President expect^s a busy time these winter months. - He must be feeling in excellent shape.

Today, at Gettysburg, ^{aa} he signed a lot of documents - he was in the spirit of Christmas. Granting forty-two pardons and commuting one death sentence. The commutation was ⁱⁿ the case of a former soldier convicted for murder in World War Two while serving in Germany. That sentence commuted - to a prison term instead.

The word in London is - that Indian Prime Minister Nehru, will try to promote new talks on dis-armament. Especially - a ban on atomic test explosions. Nehru - having the approval of the Kremlin for this. ~~attempt.~~

The scheme originated, we hear, during the Bulganin-Khrushchev travels in India. Nehru suggesting to them - that he might act as a go-between, in arranging - a new East-West Conference on dis-armament and atomic subjects. Both Bulganin and Khrushchev saying - Da! Da! - go ahead! Giving Nehru assurances ^{that} ~~if~~ they will agree to what the London information calls any reasonable suggestions."

In all this, India would act as a Neutral; - which is Nehru's official position. ^{Not that he would} ~~He would not~~ want to participate in any such talks, ~~but~~ ^{He}'d merely like to arrange them - to be held in the coming Spring.

This is connected with ^{the} a visit the two Soviet leaders are to make to Britain in April; - if ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{plans are still on.} ~~plans are still on.~~

In London, there was talk - that the visit might be called off.

The British - not liking the ~~the~~^{noisy} noisy anti-British statements which ~~both~~ Bulganin and Khrushchev made in India. But, from what we now hear, ~~Nehru's~~ Nehru hopes the London trip will be a proper time for Bulganin and ~~Khrushchev~~ Khrushchev to discuss a conference as proposed by Nehru.

OTTO JOHN.

In West Germany, today, the turn-coat Intelligence Chief, Doctor Otto John - was arrested, on suspicion of treason. Actually, the charge is made - as a precaution mostly. The belief being - that Otto John might try still another ^{switch.} ~~turn-coat~~ operation. He might ^{even} go behind the Iron Curtain again. So now he's in jail - for safekeeping.

They've been questioning him, ^{ever} since the surprise return of the West German version of our own J. Edgar Hoover. The word being - that they don't believe the story Otto John has been telling; That he was drugged - when he went over to the Reds.

He says that on the day of his disappearance, he was at the West Berlin office of a friend of his - Doctor Wolfgang Wohgemuth - with whom he had a cup of coffee. This Doctor Wohgemuth - said to be a secret Communist. Anyway, Otto John claims the coffee was ^{a Berlin Mickey Finn - and that} ~~drugged, and~~ he was kidnapped, while unconscious. Declaring - that, two days later, he awoke in a hospital room in East Berlin, guarded - by Russian soldiers.

A lot
Anyhow The story sounds all the more improbable when it is

recalled that - when in East Berlin, Otto John gave a news interview, in which he said that he had fled behind the Iron

Curtain of his own free will. *Remember how then he* ~~and~~ gave ~~the~~ reporters - a *strong*

Communist *spell?* ~~line of talk.~~

The word now is - that, during his long stay behind the Iron Curtain, he made three trips to Soviet Russia.

More and more confusing becomes this mystery of Otto John.

was over.

BERLIN.

For many families in East Berlin ^{— it will be anything but} ~~it won't be~~ a Merry Christmas. No presents from Santa ~~Clause~~ - and a skimpy Christmas dinner.

Yet they had saved up their Christmas money; ~~they~~ went to the stores and bought bundles of good things. But the stores where the good things are to be had are in West Berlin. So with their bundles, they had to pass across the border of the Iron Curtain - going back to their homes in the Communist area.

At the border, the Reds ~~have~~ stationed ~~strict~~ vigilant guards - ~~and they're~~ ^{all} confiscating Christmas purchases made in West Berlin. It is against the Communist Law - to go trading like that in the Free World.

So, In East Berlin, little more than the barren necessities of life are available - this Christmastime. In West Berlin, on the contrary, the stores are so well stocked that the Allied part of the city is ^{called} ~~the~~ the "Show Window of the West." ^{But} ~~so~~ to those East Berliners, it is a mockery to say, "Merry Christmas."

HERO

At an airforce base in Louisiana Staff Sergeant Raymond Doyle of New Bedford, Massachusetts, is being recommended - for the Distinguished Flying Cross. Well, at least it was a distinguished repair job!

A huge C-154 transport was coming into the Barksdale Base, with fourteen aboard, when it was found - that the landing gears would not lock in place. Something had gone wrong.

So that was when Sergeant Doyle did - the distinguished repair job. He tied a long strap around his ankles, and had his comrades lower him so that he x could get at the landing gear. The Slip-stream below the plane was blowing at - one-hundred-and-sixty-five miles an hour.. In that blast of wind the sergeant worked away. A locking pin was out of place, and it required forty-five minutes to get things fixed for landing. Hanging by his ankles in the violence of the slipstream for three quarters of an hour - but Doyle saved the situation, and the huge plane landed okay. So now his ~~Commanding~~ Officer is recommending - a Distinguished Flying Cross for a distinguished repair job.

IMPOSTER.

Down in Texas, officials at the Stateprison were greatly pleased - with Doctor Benjamin W. Jones. Employed, last Summer as a physician for the penitentiary. The doctor not only knew how to prescribe medicine, but also showed - he knew how to handle prisoners. So, in a brief period of time, he was promoted - given the post of Assistant Warden.

Then, recently, a convict noticed a peculiar thing. In a magazine, he saw an article about an imposter - Ferdinand Waldo Demara. A fraud - with an imposing record. Demara - having posed, from time to time, as a college professor, a Trappist Monk, a surgeon. *You may recall that story we had a* A few years ago, *he* got into the Canadian Navy, and performed operations on soldiers in Korea - successful operations, too?

The magazine article included a photograph of the master imposter - Demara. ~~and~~ *the* convict, looking at the picture - was amazed. It bore such a striking resemblance to Dr. Benjamin W. Jones, Assistant Warden, at the penitentiary.

This was brought to the attention of Dr. Jones. Who

was - indignant.

"I'm not going to stay around here and be insulted,"
he snapped - and walked out. ^{and he} ~~he~~ hasn't been seen since.

In his quick exit, he left some laundry behind -
marked with the name "Demara."

So now the Texas prison officials are aware - that
they were the latest victims of an imposter ^{who is a} ~~with an~~ ingenious
^{at} ~~for~~ fooling people.

They say the doctor was backed by the most impressive
credentials. Actually, there is a Doctor Benjamin W. Jones, a
Professor of Medicine, with all kinds of degrees and honors.
These were used by Ferdinand Waldo Demara - who always arms
himself with top-drawer credentials when he's out hoaxing
somebody.

ROBBERY.

At Dearborn, Michigan, George Doherty is a businessman,

and ient
~~and~~ a businessman ~~is~~ always looking for a good profit? ~~so~~
what's better than doubling your ~~money~~ *dough?*

Doherty was interested, when Bob Wilson put the proposition before him. An investment of twenty-five thousand bucks - and a profit of twenty-five thousand.

Doherty runs a lumber and wrecking company, and he raised the money. So, When Wilson appeared for a closing of the deal - a certified check was ready. But Wilson said - "No," the transaction would have to be in cash.

The lure of profit prevailed. They went to the bank, where Doherty got the twenty-five thousand in cash - and started by automobile, bound for the place where the deal was to be made.

On the way, Wilson stuck a gun in Doherty's ribs and told him to pull the car over to the curb. Also - hand over the cash. Across the highway, an automobile was waiting. That was the get-away car. He took the money - and off he went.

Which was no way to trick a businessman. It was ^a one

deal deal deal hundred percent all right. - not profit, but loss!

ANTARTIC

In London, the fear is expressed - that British mementos in the Antartic may be plundered. A London newspaper speaking of - "indiscriminate American souvenir ~~hunters~~ hunters."

Admiral Byrd's Antartic Expedition has arrived on the coast of ^{the} Ross Sea - where there are two huts, used by Captain Robert Scott - huts with mementos of the tragedy of that great Antartic Explorer, Scott - who lost his ~~life~~ life in quest of the South Pole, perishing ^{in a storm - on his return} ~~amid the ice~~ ^{after reaching the Pole.}

A correspondent for the LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH is aboard the American Ice Breaker at Edisto, and he reports that American sailors have removed what he calls "several mementos." Which leads the DAILY EXPRESS to say "deep concern has been expressed over the possibility of indiscriminate souvenir hunting by U. S. personnel aboard this ice-breaker, at the historic Antartic huts."

Well, sailors like souvenirs - but those huts, and their furnishings, have been left as shrines dedicated to the memory of an Antartic Explorer, as gallant as he was unfortunate. *We hope the souvenirs will be returned.*

BETHLEHEM.

This morning a barrier opened at the border in Jerusalem - the border where the Holy City is divided between Arabs and Osrael. Two hundred pilgrims - went through. Going to the old city within the walls. To visit holy places there. The scene of the Last Supper, the via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and then proceed on to Bethlem for Christmas.

A few days ago, there was violent rioting in the Jordan part of the Holy land, and the word was that the scene of the Nativity might be closed. Today, however all was quiet - as the pilgrims marched along the five miles from Jerusalem to Bethlehem. The weather bright and ~~fix~~ fair.

The pilgrims today were mostly English and French, and other hundreds who are following - include a few Americans. We hear that Americans are deterred by the Anti-American character of the recent rioting in Jordan. The people there opposing a line-up with the West. The United States - regarded as the chief Western power and as the chief sponsor of modern Israel. As we know since World War II Americans havn't been popular anywhere. And are having their difficulties, Henry, even attending Christmas services where the Saviour was born.