

U.N.

L.J. - Sanco and P. + G. Tues., Nov. 26, 1946.

Well, the United Nations debate on the disclosure of military forces finally got around to brass tacks today - atomic tacks. The statesmen, after talking for several days, about making reports on the sizes of their armies, came around to what they were thinking about all the time - the atomic bomb. Who mentioned the bomb? You guessed it - Molotov.

~~The U.N. is trying to work up some kind of plan for a reduction of armaments, and ^{one first} ~~therefore~~ Molotov contribution was a demand that the big powers should begin by giving an account of the military forces they had in foreign countries - like the British in Egypt and Greece, the Americans in the Philippines and China. How many soldiers?~~

~~The Western powers came back with a proposal that the nations should also disclose the size of their military forces at home. That was a good reply to ^a catch~~

~~in the Soviet suggestion - the point being that the outside countries in which Russia has armies are next door neighbors. That is, of course, the Moscow satellites - as in the Balkans. The Soviet home army can get in and out of those areas in a hurry - being at the border line already. Hence, the British and Americans wanted the number of soldiers at home included in the military tally.~~

Today, Molotov said ^{that} ~~it should go even farther than that armament should be included. Soldiers should be counted, and also weapons should be~~ ^{reported. He} ~~added up the~~ mentioned jet propelled weapons, for example, and also included that telltale word - atomic. In other words, Molotov finally got around to the question - how many atomic bombs has

Uncle Sam, and how fast ~~can~~ he produce them? Molotov thought this information should be given at once - no delay

The ~~AMER~~ Americans and British immediately objected - nothing doing. A British delegate explained -

the Western powers are quite willing to give to the United Nations full information about the quantity of atomic bombs they have, and how fast they can produce the bombs. But - not until some real kind of disarmament proposal has been adopted. In other words, we don't intend to reveal our big military secret at this stage of the game, when there's nothing more substantial than talk - and lots of it.

Here's a ~~news~~ dispatch that's hard to believe. Yet we have it on the authority of the magazine NEWSWEEK. It tells of a speech made by Elliott Roosevelt in Moscow - an address described as pro-Soviet. If the quotations as given by NEWSWEEK be accurate, then the Elliott Roosevelt harangue must also be described as -- anti-American. ~~Roosevelt~~ ^{He} is described as talking at a reception given by a member of the staff of the American Embassy at Moscow, a reception in honor of the Soviet Chief of Cultural Propaganda. NEWSWEEK states that ~~his~~ ^{and} its informant was present at the reception, that he quotes Elliott Roosevelt as follows:

~~"Elliott started off by explaining that foreign correspondents have no more freedom in the United States than they have in Russia. 'Take for instance,' he said, 'the case of Ilya Ehrenberg.' Throughout his recent stay in America, Elliott Roosevelt is reported as saying, 'the noted Soviet writer was followed by a State Department agent.'"~~

~~And Elliott Roosevelt~~ ^{He} is said to have

declared that the United States had no business meddling in the Danube area -- or, in the matter of Gibraltar.

Also
he said the Soviets must have control of those historic straits. "They would, " quotes NEWSWEEK, "be foolish to agree to internationalize unless the United States agrees to nationalize the Panama Canal," *said Elliott Roosevelt,*

The NEWSWEEK story goes on: "Elliott also thought the Soviet Union had never broken its word while the United States and Britain repeatedly violated their pledges." *P* And we are told that Elliott Roosevelt ended his discourse with the following challenge to the audience: "Can anyone here," he demanded, "name one instance where the United States acted to further the cause of peace?"

"After a momentary hush," goes on NEWSWEEK, "an American correspondent suggested -- had not the United States done everything to strengthen the power and prestige of the United Nations?"

"But," the account goes on, "Elliott was ready for that one: 'You know as well as I do,' he told the

questioner, 'that the United States is supporting the U.N. for purely selfish and imperialistic reasons.'

It seems incredible, but such are chapter and verse in the NEWSWEEK account of the Moscow speech made by the son of the late President Roosevelt.

ROMANIA

The State Department has sent ^{a biting} ~~another~~ note to the Communist ^{puppet} ~~Stooge~~ Government in Rumania -- a note charging that the recent elections ~~held~~ in that country were fraudulent, ~~and not in the Democratic tradition.~~

Washington doesn't say

~~We don't say in our last protest to Bucharest~~

that we will refuse to recognize the newly chosen Rumanian Government. But we do say that we will refuse to recognize the results of the recent elections. Which

sounds pretty much like non-recognition.
~~I should suppose, amounts to about the same thing.~~

~~How much further we can go in forcing the Communist-dictated Government of Bucharest to live up to its promises about free elections is hard to say. The next step would seem to be up to the Rumanians. Maybe they'll retaliate by refusing to recognize the result of our recent elections. Lots stranger things have happened in Rumania.~~

ITALY

And, the word is ~~late word is~~

that negotiations have broken down between Italy and Jugoslavia. This - because of a demand made by the government of Marshal Tito, a demand that the Jugoslavs be given an important town called Monfalcone. Tito wants this in return for an agreement to allow Trieste to be internationalized.

PALESTINE

Palestine had another bitter fight today - aboard a ship. And again the trouble broke out when British troops boarded a refugee ship crowded with illegal immigrants. So fierce was the resistance of Zionists eager to get into Palestine, the soldiers had to charge the deck four times - with clubs and tear gas bombs. One British soldier is reported to have been drowned, one Jewish illegal immigrant killed.

When, after a savage hand-to-hand struggle, the troops got control of the refugee ship, they found a sign painted on a wall. The sign read: "Warning! For each Jew murdered or wounded aboard this ship, you will pay with British blood." Signed, "Commander-in-Chief Jewish Resistance."

~~From London the word is that the round-table conference on Palestine will be postponed. The British talks with Zionists and Arabs, which were adjourned~~

INDIA

The seriousness of the crisis in India is indicated by word from London that the Viceroy, Field Marshal Viscount Wavell, has been invited to fly to London with five top Indian leaders - over the weekend. These leaders include Hindus and Mohammedans, and it is believed that one of them will be Jawaharlal Nehru, the Indian nationalist chieftain who is at the head of the present interim government. Also - Mohammed Ali Jinnah, President of the Moslem League.

The trouble, of course, is the savage clashes between Hindus and Mohammedans, rioting and bloodshed, which has been going on for weeks. The disturbances have been so murderous, that the British fear the interim government may collapse - the regime set up as a caretaker^{er} affair to run things until a formal government of an independent India can be established. ~~(A constituent~~

~~assembly is scheduled to meet at New Delhi on December~~

STRIKE

Congress has subpoenaed Secretary of the Interior Krug to answer questions about the Big Inch^{and}-little Inch oil pipelines. This follow^s~~ed~~ the appearance of an official of the Interior Department, who said the government has been considering an emergency operation of the pipelines, to bring oil and natural gas to the eastern states, as a way to ease the coal shortage, ~~because of the strike.~~ The Congressional Committee wanted to know why the government had failed to plan such emergency operation a few weeks ~~ago~~ ago - when the first threat of a coal mine strike appeared. They wanted to ask Secretary Krug about that, and invited him to appear. He failed to show up - so this afternoon a subpoena was issued.

Meanwhile, in Washington there were new repetitions of the government's intention to fight it out to a finish with John L. Lewis - and press the court case against the mine union chief, who is to go on trial

tomorrow. At the same time, signs increased that the Truman administration may welcome a way out - hoping that Lewis might get together with the mine owners and reach an agreement with them - union and operators settling things between themselves and leaving the government out. More and more the question is asked - even if you send Lewis to jail, will that mine coal? Maybe Lewis could provide a way out of the dilemma by making a deal with the mine owners - and let the government turn the coal pits loose.

~~Meanwhile, the steel industry announces new curtailments of production - because of the lack of soft coal. And unemployment is increasing not only in steel but in rail and trucking companies. It is estimated that fifty thousand employees are off the job - because of the strike, now in its sixth day.~~

ADD STRIKE

In Birmingham, Alabama, Irving S. Olds, Chairman of United States Steel, made a speech tonight at a dinner celebrating the diamond jubilee of the founding of Birmingham, "the Steel City of the South."

Of course, he is prejudiced, as we all are to a lesser or greater degree. Among other things he said: - "It may sound trite to say that the public interest is paramount. Still this nation, if it is to survive, must continue to be a nation of law and order, where neither one man nor one group can be allowed to put selfish interests above the national welfare." Then he went on to refer directly to the coal strike, how it has "disrupted the national economy and may inflict irreparable injury on all of us." And he concluded: - "The issues raised must soon be disposed of in a sound, fair, and permanent way."

Even as he spoke, the steel mills in Birmingham were shutting down, their coal stocks almost gone. And the word is that all of Birmingham's mills will shut down in a few days.

In the West, at Denver, all seventy-six public schools have shut down for lack of coal. At Boulder, the University of Colorado announces that it will close its fall quarter on Saturday, two weeks earlier than usual. And the Colorado State College of Education --- meaning Greeley I presume -- all classes suspended until further notice.

And the same news from a number of other cities in the West. All over Utah, the report is that county schools are shutting down. With the Governor of Nevada urging the people to conserve coal -- for cold weather is coming.

LEWIS

In all this hubbub, the central figure is, of course, that burly gentleman with the big eyebrows, deep rumbling voice, and an air of the ponderous and inscrutable. What sort of man is John L. Lewis? We know him, of course, as a dramatic figure, the bold and ^{imperturbable} ~~important~~ player of the game at top stakes. ^P This mine union chief, who began in the coal pits, has also a formidable reputation for literary scholarship. Of all public figures at this moment, John L. Lewis, in his grave and sententious utterances, uses just about the most classical brand of literary English, second to Winston Churchill. They say he gets his style from the Bible and Shakespeare, but I rather think he has modelled himself on classical English of the Eighteenth Century - with more than a side glance at Gibbon. ^P I remember at the time of the previous coal mine crisis, last Spring, he let out a tirade at a group of manufacturers, a harangue that, to my ear, could

have been put before a college class in English as a model of that rhetorical method called - ~~antithesis~~ antithesis, the balancing of opposites in rolling sentences. *P*Of course, Lewis knows a lot more than merely literature - coal mining, for example. All sorts of mining in fact. A few weeks ago in Washington, I happened to encounter him at dinner with a mutual friend, and we sat down for a chat. Talking to the big mine union chief, I couldn't help thinking back to the days when I myself was ~~was~~ a miner, *in small way,* ~~a youth holding a~~ *job* in a Colorado gold mine. So I spoke with Lewis about labor figures of those turbulent days in the gold mines. He knew them all, and had interesting things to say about mining camp characters who were a legend when I was a boy - and sometimes a rather rough legend.

Today I encountered something in the New York
~~but I can tell you another thing about this labor~~

~~leader, regarded as being so tough an opponent,~~

Evening Post which ~~was~~^{clar}ified my impression of John L. Lewis no little - ~~was~~ an anecdote in a labor column by Victor Riesel'. The labor columnist asks a question - "How does Lewis operate in a typical coal crisis?" And Victor Riesel answers: "Well, he doesn't spend all his time posing in lonely hotel lobbies or reading Greek classics, as he would have the world believe. That's a gag he has been pulling on the public for years."

To which Riesel adds an anecdote to illustrate.

"Back in the 'Twenties, when he was bucking Calvin Coolidge during a similar uproar," writes the labor columnist, "Lewis rushed to Washington by train one day. Reporters finally found him alone in his seat. And, instead of discovering him pouring over legal papers and statistics, he was calmly reading W. Shakespeare's "Richard the Third."

~~Henry~~~~Fourth~~~~Fourth~~ What the reporters

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didn't know," ^{Riesel} ~~Bussell~~ concludes, "was that Lewis had already made a deal with the government."

No, he doesn't spend all his time reading

Shakespeare!

BEETHOVEN

In Holland, a professor of psychology has gone to an old Dutch town on the Zuider Zee, to investigate one of the strangest stories ever told - a story concerning music, the Composer Beethoven.

It is related that a couple of days ago, the conductor of ^{the} a town orchestra called his fifty musicians for a rehearsal of a Beethoven composition. This was an orchestration, made by the town conductor, of the Beethoven anthem, ~~called~~ "The Honor of God is Reflected in Nature." ^{TP} The musicians played, the conductor beating the time fervently.)

At a climax of the music, he raised his baton for a crashing chord - and then stood as if transfixed, staring at the ^{pages} music. His orchestra players were amazed. They crowded around the conductor, ~~stunned~~ who stood like a statue looking down at the score. And on the page the musicians saw a dark spot which was spreading out -

in the shapes of a picture of Beethoven's face.

That was the end of the rehearsal. The musicians went home - the conductor hasn't emerged ever since.

The story spread, as people were astounded, impressed.

A United Press correspondent reports that he has gone to the town on ^{the} Zuider Zee, and has seen the strange phenomenon. He says that on the page of the orchestra score there is a sort of blotch that is easily recognized as a portrait of Beethoven - and now a professor of psychology has gone to make his own study of ^{this weird} ~~the strange~~ story in the world of ~~xxx~~ music.

ANTARCTIC

From Washington tonight we hear more about that expedition to the Antarctic, how the Navy plans to fly twin-engine transport planes off the deck of an aircraft carrier -- planes the size of commercial air liners -- which sounds like C-47's.

This to be the first time in aviation history for land-based air transport planes to take off from a carrier. Although that great Army flier, Jimmy Doolittle, did it easily with big twin-engine bombers when he and his men left the deck of The Hornet to bomb Tokio.

Well, we hear that six transport planes will be taken to a point a hundred miles or so from Little America. There from the deck of the twenty-seven thousand ton aircraft carrier, Philippines Sea, with the assistance of "jato-jet" power bottles fastened to their wings, they'll take off -- for the Antarctic ice shell where they'll land -- at Little America.

Another surprise for the penguins who oughtn't be surprised at anything by now. *And Nelson - a little surprise from you?*

EGYPT

The Egyptian Chamber of Deputies this afternoon gave a vote of confidence to Premier Ismail Sidky Pasha, which was a sort of response to violent rioting in Cairo today. The vote of confidence was on the subject of a treaty between Egypt and Great Britain, a pact for the withdrawal of British troops from Egypt.

We ~~can~~ understand that the treaty has two main clauses - one which provides for a British withdrawal from Egypt in twenty-seven months. The other clause concerns - the Sudan, the treaty proposal being that a vote be taken among the people of the Sudan, to decide whether or not that ^{huge} ~~vast area~~ of African ^{a country} ~~land shall~~ be given to Egypt.

An ultra-national faction in the land of the pyramids opposes the treaty, demanding that the British make a complete evacuation at once, that the Sudan be turned over without any plebiscite. And it was these

ultra-nationalists today who were doing the rioting.

The disturbance took the form of mobs with torches, the riotous crowd setting fire to things. They set buildings aflame, and burned buses and street cars. Cairo today ~~was~~ having a fearsome sort of thing - arson riots.

WARDROBE

Taken from early Nov. 26/46 bc.

At Sarasota, Florida, the laugh is on the funny man. He tried to get a treasure insured, and the company said - "We'll insure that for a maximum of one dollar."

It really is a treasure, according to Emmett Kelly, the clown - comic hobo star of the Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey Circus. It's his wardrobe, which features a tattered, ragged tuxedo, battered derby, and a clothespin for a tie-clasp. It doesn't sound so expensively stylish - but Emmett Kelly remembers the time when a top tailoring establishment in New York was unable to duplicate the exquisite rag-bag effect of ~~the~~ tuxedo, ^{so} ~~and~~ the master clown had to buy a brand new tux, and have old Modoc, the elephant, trample on it in a pile of dirt. As for the derby, it's a kelly which only Kelly can produce - and the clothespin tie-clasp is really a gem.

The hobo of the circus has signed up for an

engagement in London, and he wanted to insure the treasured wardrobe against fire while en route. Today's news tell how the insurance representative took a look ~~at~~ *the clown's wardrobe* and said with a snort: "That's nothing but a pile of old rags, and I wouldn't insure it for more than a dollar."

What makes the clown really scream with anguish is the matter of premium. "Here's the pay-off," he yells. "One dollar is all the insurance they'll give me, and the ~~maximum~~ minimum premium for a fire insurance policy is two dollars."

Well, we serious people have the joke so often on us, that it's a pleasure when the laugh is on the funny man.