

C.T. - P. & G. Tuesday, Nov. 11, 1947.  
(Night Show)  
November 11, 1947

LABOR DRAFT

In London, tonight, the ~~British~~ Labor Govern-  
ment dropped ~~what amounts to a veritable~~ <sup>something of a</sup> bombshell  
among the British ~~people~~ -- a labor draft, the govern-  
ment having power to put non-productive workers into  
the battle of production to fight for Britain's  
economic survival. This labor draft, we are told, is  
aimed at everyone not doing useful work. <sup>P</sup> It will in-  
clude peers, if they are not usefully employed, the  
idle rich, gamblers, night-club workers, street vendors,  
and hat-check girls. ~~Women between the ages of~~ <sup>women between the ages of</sup>  
eighteen and forty-one and men from eighteen to fifty-  
one are subject to the new labor draft slated to rope  
in nearly a million workers -- and the penalty for  
refusing to register for the draft will be two years  
imprisonment and a two-thousand dollar fine.

~~This drafting of non-productive workers all  
sounds like totalitari<sup>n</sup> methods to us over here,  
but the British Labor Government feels it is essential--~~

MARSHALL

Senator Taft is definitely going to oppose Secretary of State Marshall's recommendations for economic aid to the free nations of Europe - recommendations that call, for a total of between sixteen and twenty billion dollars over a four-year period. The Ohio Republican leader thinks the figures are too high.

~~Today, Secretary Marshall gave testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Analyzing the economic problem for the western democracies of Europe, he said the key was - Germany. That country, he argued, will have to stop being a ~~burden to~~ *perpetual burden* to the taxpayers of the United States, and would have to do its bit toward post-war reconstruction. To do this, the Germans will have to have American aid - another item in the financial requirements of the Marshall Plan. Moreover, China would have to be helped, Secretary Marshall suggesting sixty million dollars for the Far Eastern republic.~~

~~Senator Taft, a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, took a look at the itemized figures, representing~~

~~American aid, and said - they were too high.~~ "I am absolutely e  
opposed to any such amount," he declared. And announced that he  
would definitely <sup>work against</sup> ~~oppose~~ the Marshall program in the Senate. This s  
means a vigorous debate, when the special session of Congress  
convenes.

Senator Vandenberg, Republican leader on Foreign  
Affairs, has promised that there would be prompt action, but he  
too indicates <sup>S</sup> there will be plenty of debate. ~~on the Marshall Plan,~~  
~~the 2 huge figures presented by the Secretary of State.~~  
There's no doubt about that - with the powerful Republican  
leader, Senator Taft, going on record in opposition, saying  
he'll make a fight in the Senate, on the ground that the  
figures are too large.

ATOMIC

In Washington today, there was a disposition to ridicule reports that Soviet Russia has the atomic bomb - and already has exploded one. The skepticism emanates from official quarters also from atomic scientists - which is more important. Today Dr. William Higginbotham of the Federation of Atomic Scientists expressed his opinion with a word that you won't find in the technological vocabulary of nuclear physics. The words was - "fishy."

The reports are insistent, the latest appearing today.

3 (The dispatch states that the Soviets detonated an experimental atomic bomb nearly five months ago - back in June. The <sup>test</sup> ~~experimental~~ explosion is said to have been staged in Siberia - a place called *Atongrad*, not far from Irkutsk. This first atomic bomb of the Soviets is said to have weighed thirteen and two-tenths pounds, and the sound of the blast was heard for a radius of eighteen-and-a-half miles. The story goes on to say that many high ranking Soviet scientists, military commanders and Communist Party politicians witnessed the test - a most historical test, if it actually happened.

( This information was printed in Paris today, in the form of a dispatch said to have emanated from Moscow via Prague, capital of Communist-controlled Czechoslovakia. ) The Prague dispatch is signed with the name of - "John Griggs." Whereupon inquiries were immediately made at Prague - who is this newspaper correspondent, John Griggs?

The reply was rather mystifying. In Czechoslovakia, all newspaper correspondents are required to register with the Ministry of Information- but there is no John Griggs on the ~~registry~~ registry at Prague.

The skepticism in Washington concentrates on two statements in this alleged account, ~~of the first experiment with the atomic bomb in Soviet Russia.~~ Atomic scientist Dr. Higginbotham notes that the blast of the Soviet atomic bomb is supposed to have been heard for a radius of eighteen-and-a-half miles - an absurd figure. The roar of the first American atomic bomb, in the experiment on the New Mexican desert, was heard for two hundred miles, and the flash could be seen much farther than

that. So a blast heard for a mere eighteen-and-a-half miles would indicate, not an atomic bomb, but an atomic peanut, *or one of Napoleon's Waterloo cannon.*

The Soviet experimental bomb is described as ~~being~~ *weighing* thirteen-and-two-tenths pounds. If that means the over-all

weight, including the mechanism, the story is, in Dr.

Higginbotham's words, "patently absurd." To which the atomic scientist adds: "If it meant the weight of uranium, then I'm mum. Because," said he, "the critical size of the bomb is one of our most closely guarded secrets."

This applies to highly scientific technicalities about how much uranium it takes to make an atomic blast. Neither too much nor too little - to produce the famous chain reaction.

As an example of how deep that secret is, the official report on the American atomic project, while going into many scientific details, states that the weight of the uranium in the bomb is somewhere between two-and-two-tenths and two-hundred-and-twenty pounds, giving plenty of leeway. Unofficial guesses have varied from five to twenty-five to sixty pounds.

## STASSEN FOLLOW ATOMIC BOMB

These atomic matters focus ever-increasing interest on that grim fortress in Moscow, the Kremlin, <sup>---</sup> on the top ranking bosses there, particularly on one individual - Stalin. There are continuing rumors that the aging Soviet Premier is not in such good health - but that he still retains his one-man power. All of which, in turn, renews interest, in the last headline interview that a prominent American had with Stalin - that *Harold* Stassen interview.

Today, <sup>the</sup> former Governor of Minnesota, ~~Harold Stassen~~, was in New York, not so much as a candidate for the Republican nomination, as an author presiding over the appearance of his new book. The Stassen book is called, "Where I Stand," and in it he tells in detail about his interview with Stalin. We were chatting about this today, and I asked him to come along on this program tonight and <sup>give</sup> ~~tell~~ us of his impression of that famous interview - in the light of the day's news. So let's ask him.

STASSEN

L.T.: Governor Stassen, do you think Stalin was sincere when he told you that cooperation was possible between the United States and Soviet Russia?

---

GOV. STASSEN: Before answering that, let me give you an impression of the man - as he sat talking in his Kremlin office. His pictures have all made us familiar with his appearance, but he looked chunkier than I expected, and his hair was thinner and grayer. As he spoke - through an interpreter - he leaned across the table, looked at me with somewhat narrow eyelids. My recollection is of how keenly and steadily he kept looking at me. At the same time, he had a blue pencil, and was scrawling on a pad. Stalin is a doodler. I recall how, at one stage of the conversation, he was doodling a triangle. His tone of speech was positive, dogmatic.

---

L.T.: Well, so that was the Stalin who made a rather surprising statement.

---



GOV. STASSEN: It was surprising. I reminded him that Marx and Engels, who founded the gospel of Communism, had made a dogma of the innumerable evils of capitalism. In his answer, Stalin referred to Marx and Engles, and said: "They were unable to foresee what would happen forty years after their deaths." That was a surprise - Stalin stating he is not necessarily bound by the view of Marx and Engels, who taught that Communism and capitalism must eventually collide. It was in the course of this argument that he made the statement to me about Soviet-American cooperation. He said: "I want to bear testimony to the fact that Russia wants to cooperate."

----

L.T.: Do you think he was sincere about that?

----

GOV. STASSEN: I don't know. Stalin's promise of cooperation could have been so much conversation with an inquisitive traveler. He appeared sincere, but only the future relations of the two giant nations can answer the question. I don't know.

L.T.:- Thank you, Governor Stassen, for this fascinating bit of history - something for us to ponder over.

UNION (To follow Armistice - To replace previous story)  
( At Atlantic City, New Jersey, today, Walter Reuther was re-elected President of the United Automobile Workers -- ~~this is a CIO, Union~~ -- by an overwhelming majority.) Further, Reuther's candidate for Secretary-Treasurer of the powerful union was ~~also~~ elected, ousting George Addes who has held office since nineteen-thirty-six. <sup>TP</sup> Reuther's victory is held to be a dual and crushing defeat for the left-wing faction of the United Automobile Workers Union -- the reds and the pinks -- who tried their best to oust the union right-wingers headed by Reuther -- sworn enemy of the communist factions in American Labor.

## BULBS

In Washington, in the Civil Aeronautics Board, there was prompt reaction to an order issued today by the General Electric Company. That huge concern directed all of its factories to stop the shipment of the flash bulbs used by photographers - because it has been found that these photo flash bulbs can be set off by radar. (~~The General Electric order uses these words:~~

~~"can be ignited by high-frequency short-wave electromagnetic radi  
radiation such as is encountered from radar transmitters." )~~ X

The reaction of the Civil Aeronautics Board was to start an immediate investigation to determine whether photographic flash bulbs, carried aboard <sup>passenger airliners,</sup> ~~airplanes,~~ could be exploded by radar impulses from the ground. Radar is used to direct planes - and, in addition to guidance, radar signals might set planes on fire, by igniting flash bulbs aboard.

Memory immediately goes back to the aerial disaster of several weeks ago, when fire broke out in the rear baggage compartment of a crowded airliner - all lives lost. There is no indication that this might have been caused by ~~photo~~xxxx

photo flash bulbs. - But the whole question of fire aboard  
airplanes in flight was brought vividly to mind with the  
General Electric disclosure that recent experiments have  
established the fact that the electromagnetic radiation of radar  
signals can cause flash bulbs to explode.

## FOOTBALL

In the world of football, Notre Dame denies that Frank Leahy has submitted his resignation as Coach of the Irish. The report was printed in the "Detroit News" today, on the ground of what the newspaper called "a well founded rumor." The story went on to say that Leahy, having submitted an oral resignation, may retire at the end of the present football season.

This newspaper account is along the line of a number of rumors that followed the announcement of a severance of all football relations between those two famous rivals, Notre Dame and the Army. This, it was said, is because Notre Dame, coached by Leahy, was too powerful <sup>— so powerful</sup> ~~to such an extent~~ that prominent college football teams wanted ~~to have~~ nothing to do with the South Bend juggernaut. Leahy's own personality has also been mentioned in various versions of Notre Dame's present plight.

FP The <sup>+</sup> story today in the Detroit News puts it in these words:

"He is accused of being responsible for Army and several western conference colleges terminating football relations ~~with~~

with Notre Dame - reducing the Notre Dame schedule to that of a secondary school. It is reported," the newspaper goes on, he told "that the executive head of Notre Dame that if his continuance as head coach meant the ruination of Notre Dame's football future, he would gladly step aside - and that is his intention."

So if Leahy should actually resign on that score, he would become, in the words of the paper - "the first coach in football history who quit because he was too good."

Frank Leahy is quoted as making a melancholy remark to a friend, a twist of lugubrious philosophy: "There's an old saying," <sup>said</sup> ~~says~~ Leahy, "that nothing succeeds like success, but I don't think it's true," *he added ruefully.*

~~However, we now have the denial from Notre Dame, the Vice-President of the college telling the Cleveland Press on the telephone that Leahy has not resigned.~~

## GUN DUEL

At Beeville, Texas, today two crooks made a bad mistake. They were arrested by Sheriff Vail Ennis, for passing ~~bank~~ <sup>phones</sup> checks. He had them in custody, when one drew a pistol and shot him three times. Tonight the doctors say the Sheriff, though gravely wounded, will recover.

The mistake ~~that~~ the crooks made was in failing to be aware of the fact that Sheriff Vail Ennis of Bee County was one of the best pistol shots in Texas - a land of ~~pistol~~ <sup>the six</sup> shooting <sup>er.</sup> ~~er.~~ The Sheriff has won over a hundred medals in ~~contests~~ <sup>of marksmanship</sup> ~~sharp-shooting contests~~ all over the country. So today, ~~he was~~ <sup>tho'</sup> knocked back against a wall by the impact of the ~~three~~ <sup>th</sup> bullets that hit him - ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> badly wounded as he was, he whipped out his six-shooter and fired like an old-time sheriff of the west.

~~And~~ <sup>And</sup> Tonight, the two crooks are not around to testify to the six-gun prowess of one of the best pistol shots in Texas. They cashed in their checks.



# ARMISTICE

A rainy Armistice Day in Washington. The celebration led by President Truman; at the Arlington Cemetery where he placed the traditional wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier -- a tribute to those who gave their lives in two World Wars.

## COURTING

Tonight in an English jail, there's a mailman who can sadly reflect that, even under a Labor government of Socialism, you can't insist on barging in at the country estate of a lord for the purpose of courting His Lordship's daughter, especially when you have never been introduced to her.

Near Northampton, there's the baronial estate of Lord <sup>N</sup>Noton, with a stately ancestral mansion, Fillongley Hall. There the mailman delivered letters and packages - and time and again he went in, seeking to pay courtship to Lord Norton's twenty-five year old daughter, the Honorable Mary - whose acquaintance he had never made. <sup>R</sup>Ten times in a row Lord Norton chased the mailman off the grounds of Fillongley Hall. The eleventh time, the mailman went right ~~into~~ the drawing room, ~~of Fillongley Hall~~. Whereupon Lord Norton lost all patience, and brought him to court - the bewigged judge issuing an order to restrain the mailman from continuing his persistent wooing of <sup>The Honorable Mary</sup> ~~Lady Mary~~.

You'd think that would have been that - but it wasn't. At Fillongley Hall, who should appear again - but the mailman. And who should confront him again, but ~~xxxxxx~~ Lord Norton. His Lordship told the mailman he was a fool, but the mailman replied ~~blithely~~ blithely! " I've come to see <sup>The Hon.</sup> ~~Lady~~ Mary and see if she will go for a walk."

That was not only lovelorn folly, it was contempt of court - a mighty serious matter in England. So the bewigged judge remanded the mailman to jail for an indefinite period, giving him <sup>an in-</sup> a definite time to reflect on the fact that he must have made a mistake when he thought the Labor Government and Socialism had abolished class distinctions to such an extent that you might barge into a baronial ~~x~~ mansion to pay court to a Lord's daughter, if she likes <sup>who</sup> it or not. You couldn't ~~xxxx~~ do that even in the case of <sup>the</sup> a farmer's daughter, <sup>could you, N?</sup>