

L.I.-P.G. Monday, Sept. 12, 1949.

(Given by Clifton Fadiman)

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:-

The Washington conference ends with an agreement -- and with cheers and hoorahs from the British. After days of negotiations, the British, American and Canadian representatives formulated a seven-point program, to bolster up the shaky British economy. The most important clause provides that Marshall Plan money need not be spent in the United States. Britain may use the funds to buy cheaper elsewhere.

The British Chancellor of the Exchequer says: "As a result of the talks, we have brought our reserve position into manageable condition." For an Englishman, that's enthusiasm. In plain English, he means that the settlement will enable the British to earn the dollars that they need. Altogether - a cheerful outcome to a conference that began on a not over-optimistic note.

SUBSTITUTE STEEL

The steel workers have dropped their demand for a fourth round of wage increases, and have agreed to a truce of eleven days -- delaying a strike for that length of time.

On the other hand, the Hawaiian Dock Strike peace talks in New York have ended in failure -- negotiations were broken off tonight.

SUPERFORTRESS

A Super Fortress crashed in flames today near San Jose, California. A motor caught fire. The B-Twenty-Nine virtually exploded in the air before plunging to the ground. A crew of twelve aboard -- and how many lives were lost? **You ARE** Well, one technical sergeant suffered a wrenched back -- ~~as~~ **FLOATED SURELY** All twelve ~~came~~ down by parachute.

ARMED DISPUTE

American armed forces are staging a sham battle in Germany and this today turned into a war of words between Army and Airforce. In the big maneuvers, a column of infantry was wiped out (theoretically) by air attack -- or so the flyers claim. The Army denies it, hotly and says the annihilated force of soldiers is fine and dandy and full of fight. The Army, at the same time, declares that a large squadron of the Airforce tried a lowlevel strafing attack, and was virtually wiped out -- which the Airforce in turn hotly denies. So the imaginary battle against the enemy has turned into another of those inter-service arguments -- not imaginary at all. So serious, in fact, that the Airforce is threatening to withdraw its planes from the war games -- and let the Army have an oldfashioned campaign, all on the ground. Well, well, thought the war was over!

Into the picture of the Navy dispute in Washington strides Admiral Halsey, retired - the famous Bull Halsey of the South Pacific. He speaks out in defense of Captain John G. Crommelin.

Over the weekend, Captain John G. Crommelin, a veteran Navy flyer, issued a statement declaring that he had helped to stir up the agitation against the B-36 program of the Air Force. He justified himself by launching a series of bitter charges against the unification program - saying that the Air Force and Army are out to destroy naval aviation, so as to increase their own control of national defense.

That was followed by a meeting in Washington between Crommelin and Admiral Halsey. Today the wartime South Pacific commander issued a statement calling upon all naval officers to support the outspoken flyer. Many people are saying that it took real nerve for Crommelin to risk his career. For the Captain was in line for promotion to Rear Admiral in a few months -- and it sure takes courage to jeopardize a step-up like that.

ROOSEVELT

Married life has broken up for Elliott Roosevelt and Faye Emerson. Today the noted actress confirmed reports that she and her husband have separated, and that she will seek a divorce. Theirs was a headline romance, much talked of, several years ago - but now it's at an end. The divorce will be the third for Elliott Roosevelt, and the seventh for the five children of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt. They don't quite seem to have the knack their father had of keeping one job a long time.

GERMANY

The West German Government elected its President today Dr. Theodor Heuss, a sixty-five-year-old veteran, whose previous political experience goes back to the days before the Nazis took power. He is the first German President since von Hindenburg, Hitler having ruled with a title he invented for himself - Reichsfuehrer.

Although as a Conservative member of the Reichstag, Dr. Heuss voted for the measure that put Hitler in control, he soon incurred the enmity of the Nazis. Writing on the subject of Nazi race theories, he said: "They say race, but mean cash." x This accurate but rather mild description of the Nazi supermen as crooks caused him to be kicked out of political life. He lived for some time in obscurity. Today he is the first President of the West German Republic.

PALESTINE

Late word from Tel Aviv discounts the seriousness of a hair-raising incident in the Parliament of Israel today. A man stole from the visitors' gallery to the forum where the Cabinet of the Jewish state was seated, headed by Premier David Ben Gurion. He had a light machine gun, which he aimed at them, and is said to have shouted - "Kill Ben Gurion." The Tel Aviv Parliament was in a panic of excitement at what seemed to be a melodramatic attempt to now down the heads of the government of Israel. Before the man could shoot, however, he was rushed by the police, and arrested.

Later word quotes the Tel Aviv police as saying that the man in question is mentally deranged. He is described as - "ultra-orthodox." In his pockets they found pamphlets advocating the rebuilding of the Temple of Jerusalem. Tonight he denies that he actually intended to wipe out the Cabinet of Israel, and the police are inclined to ~~believe~~ believe him. They consider it more a case of emotional display,

than an attempt at assassination. "Melancholia," said the police, not politics. Melancholia with a machine gun is a new one for the psychiatrist's case-book.

YEMEN

The United Nations may soon receive a complaint from the land of Yemen - a protest against the actions of the British. The Yemen, in southwestern Arabia, is legended as the Kingdom of Coffee, and is ruled by an Iman, a religious and political chieftain whose Arabic name means - "the sword of Islam." He charges that British warplanes, equipped with bombs and rockets, have assailed villages inside the Kingdom of Coffee, and he threatens to bring the matter up before the U.N.

The Yemen is next door to the British protectorate of Aden, and a strip of land is claimed by both sides. The British declare that Bedouin warriors moved in and the air attack was made in order to drive them out.

All this may sound pretty remote, but things are troubled in the Arab world, and any violent incident might cause a train of explosions. So the ~~222~~ Security Council of the U.N. is likely to give serious attention to the dispute

TIBET

Tonight's report from the expedition into Tibet gives us Lowell Thomas in a recorded broadcast from some of the wildest country on the road to the Forbidden City of Lhasa. That Himalayan journey is the roughest of going for a radio newsman - also for the radio equipment. For one thing, there's altitude. The roof-of-the-world reaches an average height of fifteen thousand feet. In addition, the changes of temperature are extreme, As for transportation, the backs of mountain mules are no Beauty Rest mattress.

Lowell took along the latest radio ^{DODDADS} ~~mechanism~~,
gadgets just invented, - which means they could never have been tried out in circumstances even remotely resembling those on the Himalayan trail. It's an adventure of equipment, as well as of human beings - so let's see how the adventure's ~~turning~~ turning out, as we listen to this recorded broadcast from Lowell Thomas in Tibet.

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STEEL

A steel strike has been averted - temporarily at least. The C.I.O. steel-workers accept the recommendation of the President's Fact-Finding Board - also President Truman's proposal to put the strike deadline off for eleven days. The announcement is made by C.I.O. President Philip Murray, who says he regrets the decision of the Fact-Finding Board, rejecting a wage increase of twelve and a half cents an hour for the steel workers. But, in the public interest, the C.I.O. is willing to go along and continue negotiations.

On the other hand, the Hawaiian dock strike peace talks in New York have ended in failure. Chief Federal Conciliator Cyrus Ching says the two sides are so far apart in their thinking that further mediation at this time would be useless.

END

Well, the equipment sounds okay. And now, from Lowell Thomas broadcasting in far-off Tibet, we pass to Nelson Case right here in the studio.

As Lowell Thomas says, SO LONG TILL TOMORROW.