

CHINA

C.T. - P. & S. Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1949. (Truckee)

All kinds of negotiations are going on in China, and an air of mystery surrounds them. Not surprising, since China has a way of being mysterious. The new government of acting-resident Li Tsung-Jen has sent a mission to Peiping, the northern capital now in the hands of the Reds. The mission consists of five Shanghai businessmen, who will observe the state of affairs in Peiping under the rule of the Reds. Should be interesting observation for those five merchants of Shanghai. There is a rumor, however, that the real purpose of the mission is to negotiate a special peace for the area of Shanghai - that great port given permission to make a deal of its own with the Red leaders. This the five businessmen deny, saying that they have no authority to sign a special peace.

At the same time, still another mission has gone to confer with the Communists at Peiping. This one consists of - eight professors of Nanking. They, going by plane, will present to the Reds what

the professors call "a peoples peace plan." We don't know just what that means - a lot of mystery surrounding the five merchants of Shanghai and the eight professors of Nanking.

News from Tsing Tao, where the U.S. Marines have their base. Communistic mortar shells are falling within a mile of the Tsing Tao airport, and the signs are that the Marines are getting ready to pull out. Only about one hundred and fifty of the leathernecks are still ashore, the rest having been moved to quarters aboard American ships in the harbor. The docks are described as a scene of beehive activity -- U.S. Navy transports taking aboard huge quantities of military equipment, the belongings of the Marines.

From the war line along the Yangtze, the Communists are pictured as preparing for an attempt to cross the wide river. They are said to have mustered five hundred boats on a lake - which body of water is connected with the river -- between the river and the Grand Canal, engineering masterpiece

in the ancient days of the dragon throne - now a factor in the strategy of the communists.

CHIANG

The whereabouts of Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek have been dim and uncertain in the news for the past few days, but now we hear that China's war leader, fleeing from the tide of Communism, has gone to his native village. <sup>π</sup> He was born in a small ~~pi~~ place called Fenghua, in Southern China, down near Canton. So that's where he is now, and the news dispatch describes him ~~of~~ living the life of a country squire. They say he refuses to see political visitors, spends much of his time strolling through the countryside, where he romped as a boy. <sup>π</sup> Last Sunday, in his native village, the one time master of China presided in a manner fitting the fact that he is a Christian - a devout ~~methodist~~. He ~~not~~ attended services at a local church, and autographed some two hundred Bibles.

In Tokyo there is trouble for Premier Yoshida. He has run into an uproar - even though his Democratic Liberal Party won the recent Japanese election with an outright majority. The election might seem to have fixed things fine for Yoshida. But alas, something awful happened in the voting - and Yoshida did it himself.

The Premier went to his hometown, a place near Yokohama, to cast his own ballot. Presumably he voted for himself -- which was okay. But, when he went into the polling booth, he failed to take off his shoes. That was a violation of good manners in Japan. Here we take off our hats - there they take off their shoes. But the Premier walked into the polling place klumity-klump with his shoes on. This created high indignation in the town near Yokohama, and today an official board took up the matter. The town fathers were mad enough to demand that the whole election be tossed out. However, cooler councils prevailed, and it was decided not to inflict a public censure on the

Premier of Japan. A more moderate course was adopted. The meeting voted to refuse a town celebration, when the Premier forms his new cabinet. They had planned to have a high old time to hail that event, but now there will be no festivity at all - because the Premier of Japan voted with his shoes on.

ATLANTIC PACT

From Washington we hear that the United States government intends to discuss matters with Norway - matters concerning the North Atlantic Security Pact. Soviet Russia is asking Norway to explain her attitude toward that alliance of western democracies. Also - do the Norwegians have ideas of granting bases on their soil to the western powers? All of which amounts to Soviet pressure - to prevent the Scandinavian Kingdom ~~in~~ joining in the Atlantic Security Pact.

R As matters now stand, there is sort of a tug-of-war, with the Scandinavian countries in the middle. Sweden wants to follow a policy of neutrality, as between West and East. Norway inclines to the West. R All of which is the background for today's intimation in Washington -- a State Department press officer declaring: "We hope soon to be in a position to discuss the subject of a North Atlantic Security pact with Norway and other governments." R Other governments include Denmark, Iceland, Ireland, Portugal and ~~Spain~~ possibly Italy. The idea is to bring them in, when

the North Atlantic Treaty is signed, some time after March First.

The countries arranging the Security Pact are the United States, Canada, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. And today gives us the first official statement in Washington that the plan is to include those other countries.



It was disclosed tonight in Washington that at one time last summer the armed forces were ~~announced~~ prepared to demand a military budget of thirty billion dollars. That was at the time when the Berlin blockade began and when the Reds were seizing control of Czechoslovakia.

Also later when things eased a bit, they cut the figure to Sixteen Billion Nine Hundred million. This in turn was cut by President Truman to the present budget ~~figure~~ figure -- Fourteen billion four hundred million for National Defense.

All this was stated by Secretary of Defense James Forrestal speaking to the National Press Club in Washington today. Whereupon he was asked about some political matters. For example, about a report that he supported Dewey in the November election. There is a rumor the Truman secretary of Defense had contributed money to the Dewey campaign fund. This Forrestal today denied, and said he had not backed the Republicans. He declared that he voted for the President although he did not take any active part

in that blistering Truman campaign. He was too busy with official duties.

## REPUBLICANS

A new meaning is given to three familiar letters of the alphabet, G O P. Hitherto they have meant Grand Old Party; but now there is a new significance - Great On Progress.

This comes from Republican National Chairman Congressman Hugh Scott, who survived a hot fight ~~against~~ ~~him~~ at the Omaha meeting of the Republican National Committee. *Scott winning out. Now he* ~~is~~ is resting up at Palm Springs after that battle of Omaha. Today he said: "There was a terrible blizzard going on outside at the time of the conference, but it was plenty hot inside the meeting". To which he added that, staying on as Chairman, his policy is to make G O P mean - Great On Progress.

## SCHOOL.

In Chicago -- all the makings of tragedy and horror. A school full of pupils ~~was~~ gassed with chlorine -- the poison gas that was used first in World War One. The lethal vapor was spread through the school in a way that might have been devised for a mass horror.

The deadly chlorine gas was used to purify water in the school's swimming pool, and a big tank of it was stored in the basement. Some how, the tank fell over - which broke the pipe that led to the pool. Chlorine poured out, was immediately sucked in <sup>to</sup> the ventilating system, and in a brief ~~an~~ moment the poison gas was filling the class rooms. *Fortunately all were saved.*

~~The school janitor dashed into the basement and tried to cut off the flow of gas. He was overcome by the noxious fumes, and was dragged out. As for the children, hundreds of them, the first alarm was sounded. They started marching out in good order, as if it was a fire drill. Some of them dropped out of line, overcome by the poisonous gas of World War One. Many were affected by the deadly fumes. But~~

LEAD WEATHER

In Washington - <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ warning that the weather crisis of cold and snow has now become a problem of human suffering.

For days, the emphasis ~~have~~ been on saving the cattle. But now there is an emergency in communities and ranches, where people in some cases have been isolated for <sup>more</sup> than twenty days.

They are short of food and have been burning furniture for heat. So now - the human phase of the crisis.

WEATHER

The weather story <sup>today</sup> focuses on a remote area of some of the most wildest country on this earth - the Navajo reservation in Northern Arizona. There the Indians are in desperate plight, because of the blizzard. The story ~~break~~ broke last night, the first intimation being a report of <sup>a</sup> ~~one~~ hundred and twenty Navajo children marooned in a snowbound school house.

Today the news expanded with an account of a crisis for all the Navajo ~~tribes that are~~ <sup>people</sup> spread across the great reservation. Last summer the headlines told how the Indians there were in desperate shape because of drought. Now - the blizzard. The tribes are marooned, have run out of food, epidemics are threatening.)

~~gathering~~ Aid is being sent by air; ~~and~~ <sup>a</sup> doctors and a nurse <sup>landed today</sup> are going by helicopter. Meanwhile the haylift story continues, operation "haylife" to save western cattle ~~is~~ is in full swing, while ~~railroad~~ roads are being broken open on the ground.

In the south, a freezing cold day way down in deepest Dixieland - with bitter frost threatening

the vegetable gardens of southern Texas, the  
strawberry beds of Louisiana and the peaches of  
Georgia.

## TRUCKEE AIR CRASH

~~Some of the~~ Inhabitants of the high Sierras, in the Donner Pass country, had some excitement during the night -- an airplane crash, with dog teams to the rescue.

A chartered plane found itself in trouble, flying at around ten thousand feet, the carburetor iced up and they couldn't make it to Reno or Sacramento. A few miles from Truckee, on the eastern side of the Sierras, there is an emergency field. So the pilot decided to try for that. It was snowbound -- which meant a crash landing. The four in the plane, all from San Francisco, bound for Reno, survived, and were rescued by dog teams from Truckee -- dogs driven by Lloyd Van Sickle and Ed Crandall. <sup>TP</sup> One a dog team of white Samoyeds that attracted a good deal of attention at the San Francisco World's Fair. The other a rather extraordinary ~~dog~~ <sup>of</sup> team ~~of~~ cross breeds, Irish setters crossed with ~~atag~~ <sup>stag</sup> hounds, <sup>^</sup> the new breed named "Targee" -- for the Targee Forest. <sup>TP</sup> Van Sickle who drove them, won the last American dog derby run at



Ashton, Idaho, and during the months of the deep  
snows in the Sierras, <sup>he has been telling me today that</sup> he uses these dog teams for  
carrying the mails to snowbound localities, and for  
rescue purposes like this one.

Today I've been out in the mountains, the  
Sugar Bowl country, <sup>^</sup> on Mount Disney, <sup>^</sup> with Mountaineer  
Bill Kline, and on a night flight, with the carburetor  
iced up that plane might have been impaled on <sup>one of the</sup> ~~the~~  
<sup>^</sup> spectacular peaks <sup>^</sup> Sierras where we were today.

TRUMAN

President Truman gives himself a new title.

He calls himself - "a busted merchant".

Referring back to Nineteen Twenty One when he was a partner in a haberdashery store.

Talking tonight to business and labor leaders, gathered in Washington to develop a National Economic program, the President urged planning against the possibility of another depression. He recalled that after World War One, there was a quick slump - in the early twenties, which was the time he chose to go into business - that haberdashery store, which failed. So, he was then - "a busted merchant". But he is now - the President of the United States.

## LADY WRESTLER

Today I took a look at a newspaper brought up here to Donner Pass, <sup>^</sup>the Sacramento Union, and saw something that had to happen sooner or later- a man beaten up by a Lady wrestler. They are becoming increasingly the vogue -- those <sup>feminine</sup> ~~female~~ grapplers, who toss each other around with as much violence and fury as any ponderous pachyderm. So many a man has wondered, with a shudder of fear - suppose he got into the clutches of an ~~ag~~ angry lady wrestler.

Well, the Sacramento Union tells ~~how~~ just *how* that painful misadventure happened to a local citizen with the sonorous hispanic name of Salvador Maruriques. In court, he is charging that the Lady Wrestler beat them up and threw him out of an automobile. <sup>π</sup> Many a frail and timid girl ~~had~~ <sup>s</sup> had trouble in an automobile; but the situation should be no problem to a lady wrestler. Nor was it in this case, according to the story told by the muscle girl. She claims that Salvador Maruriques started to get too romantic - where <sup>^</sup> upon she put a hammerlock on him, tied him in a knot and tossed him out of the car.

Salvador, however, tells another story. He claims that the lady wrestler and two girl companions took him for a ride, robbed him, and then the strong woman applied the <sup>h</sup>hammerlock, bent him into the shape of a pretzel and hurled him headlong, the way wrestlers toss each other out of the ring.

All of which is up to the Judge to decide. Truly a modern Solomon confronted with his newest problem of our advancing civilization -- the lady wrestler.

And now from the lady wrestler -- to our Hollywood announcer, Ken Stiles,

GIRLS

Here is what would seem to be a champion question of all times. A query addressed to Stalin at the Kremlin, asking the Soviet Dictator the following question: "Who would succeed to rule in Russia if Stalin and the Politburo were all killed?" which is quite something to ask Stalin.

So who tried to do it. Five college co-eds. Five girls students of the University of Iowa, thought that inside information would be nice to have in their final examination in political science. So they put in a long distance call to Moscow, Kremlin, intending to ask that Sixty-four dollar question, or would you call it a sixty-four dollar question?

So what answer did they get? They made the phone call at night, when it would be morning in Moscow. The reply they got was that the Kremlin was ~~open~~ open only between seven a.m. and two a.m. Iowa time. That would mean afternoon and night, Moscow time.

So did the five co-eds try it again? They did not. The call cost them Twelve Dollars which reduced

GIRLS - 2

them to virtual ~~bankrupt~~ bankruptcy. They did not feel like investing another twelve bucks. So for their exams in political science they will never know who will ~~run~~ rule Russia if Stalin and the politburo ~~is~~ are killed.