

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Much comment in Washington on (the anti-third term amendment. Now written into the Constitution with Nevada, the thirty-sixth state to ratify, providing the necessary three-fourths.) Republicans hail this twenty-second amendment - - which they put through Congress as a reaction against the four terms of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Some Democrats think it might turn out to be a mistake.

But the most interesting person to comment would be President Truman - - who is exempted from the provisions of the amendment. He could run for a third term, and there's plenty of discussion about his intentions. Today, newsmen asked him for his reaction to the anti-third term amendment. The President replied briefly: "I have no comment. It does not affect me." Which left wide open the question of whether or not he intends to run again.

GOVERNOR WARREN

Later news - Former President Hoover testifying before a joint Senate Committee today said the Red Army could sweep to the English Channel in twenty days, and that all American forces in Europe would be swallowed up. He repeated his argument in favor of sea and air power. Such overwhelming might on the water and in the sky that the Soviet War Potential would be "pulverized".

Meanwhile, Governor Warren of California comes out for what is being called the "International Wing" of the Republican Party. Today he gave his own opinion in the controversy about sending American Troops to Europe - - whether the consent of Congress. He said it should be up to our military leaders to decide where soldiers should be sent.

Thus, Governor Warren lines up with Governor Dewey of New York, whose running mate he was in the last presidential election. Similarly, he sets himself against that line of Republican thought expressed by former President Hoover and Senator Taft of Ohio - - they arguing against American land-power posted in Europe.

KOREA

This is news. Our forces in Korea are no longer out-numbered. Right now the UN troops hold a slight numerical superiority over the Communists.

This was stated today at the headquarters of the U.S. Eighth Army with the explanation that the Chinese and Korean Reds south of the thirty-eighth parallel have lost so heavily - - their numbers have been chopped down to a figure below that for our side. The UN Troops, which consist chiefly of seven American and four South Korean Divisions, have a total of a hundred and sixty-thousand. The Reds have been cut down to a little less than that.

This heartening word is accompanied by continuing news of favorable developments on the battle-front - the main line of enemy defense has been smashed over toward the east, near Pagnim, and the Reds are fleeing northward through the mountains. Their losses - heavy. Our own - light.

At the west of the central front, a strategic ridge in the Yongdu sector was captured today, and the

victory went to Australia. A force of infantry from Down Under stormed a two-thousand foot summit - - Hill Six Hundred and Fourteen. The Reds had burrowed into the hillside, and threw hand grenades from tunnels. But fighter-bombers laced them with rockets and flaming gasoline jelly, after which the Australian Infantry completed the job by going up the steep slope.

Everywhere, the story is much the same - - eleven Allied divisions hammering the Reds. Today's news dispatch calls it all "the most concerted action of the week-old Killer-Offensive."

The latest - - An American reconnaissance patrol crossed the Han River tonight, and fought its way into the suburbs of Seoul, the Capital City.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The Red Czechoslovakia is preparing for another of those big Communist purge trials - - this one featuring former Foreign Minister Clementis. He'll be tried as a spy and a Titoist plotter, the charge being that he and other high Red officials schemed the assassination of Communist President Gottwald, and intended to seize control of Czechoslovakia. The rumor was that Clementis had been able to flee to Western Territory for safety, but that report turns out to be false.

Six other prominent Communist leaders are linked with Clementis, and have been expelled from the party. At least, five have been arrested - and a number of lesser Reds also will face a Communist Court.

Along with all of this, is another Communist announcement. A big purge of the membership of the Communist party has been going on during the past year. One-hundred and sixty-nine-thousand-five-hundred-and-forty-four have been expelled. This comes to more than one-tenth of the total number of Communists in Czechoslovakia.

PRISONERS

The warden of the Louisiana State Prison asked the Governor today to send a psychiatrist - - to find out what weird craze has got into the heads of a number of convicts.

Eight days ago, thirty-one convicts, with a razor blade, hamstringing themselves, crippling the left leg, and then hopping around, singing all the while a weird sort of hill-billy song. They were taken to the hospital, where the doctors treated the wounds and prepared to graft the severed tendons together.

Now comes the word that ten of these crippled convicts have cut the tendons of the other leg. It happened late yesterday, word out today. Somehow, they got hold of a razor blade. And what happened is told by Supervisor C. P. Haygood: "When I went into the room I heard several say", "I got mine." I saw one toss a blade to another, after he had cut his own tendon."

This weird performance is described by the crippled convicts themselves as a protest against

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brutality. But Louisiana Governor Long said he had an investigation made, and found no basis for the charge. Moreover, old-timers in the prison take note of the fact that all the Achilles tendon-cutters are newcomers, recently arrived. "They want publicity - we're ashamed of them," says a safe cracker with a long prison record.

The prison warden wanting an official explanation for the fantastic business, today asked Governor Long to send Dr. E. M. Robard, a psychiatrist, to make a mental study of the convicts and their weird craze for crippling themselves.

FRANCE

France narrowly escaped another cabinet crisis tonight, when Premier Plevin won a vote of confidence by a narrow majority - - with one-hundred and fifty-nine deputies abstaining. His cabinet decided to resign, but President Auriel refused to accept the resignations. Which staves off a crisis that would have left France without a Government.

All this was stated in a special message to Congress today with the War House warning that the increases are essential - so that the post-office deficit can be met.

POSTAL RATES

President Truman calls for a hike of postal rates to the tune of three-hundred and sixty-one million dollars a year. He proposed that penny postal cards be raised to two cents. That the postal rates on newspapers, magazines, and advertising circulars be doubled. That the charge be increased for special delivery, registered, insured, and C.O.D. mail.

All this was stated in a special message to Congress today with the White House warning that the increases are essential - so that the post-office deficit can be cut.

DRAFT

The drive for an eighteen year-old draft is renewed, both secretary of Defense George Marshall and Chairman of the joint chiefs of staff Omar Bradley argue against the compromise to draft youths beginning at the age of eighteen and a half. They say the eighteen year-old figure is necessary for National Security.

JOHNSON

Economic stabilizer Eric Johnson tonight signed the ten percent wage ceiling formula -- which has been so hotly attacked by the Unions. They want a limit of twelve percent on wage hikes, with grants of "Fringe" benefits like - - Pension Plans, Eric Johnson in putting ten percent formula into effect, urged the wage stabilization board to modify it - - so as to permit "Fringe" benefits.

Previously, the charge was made that the fabulous fur was given to Young by a furrier who wanted a loan from the RFD in which Young replied -- that he would pay the full retail price for the "Natural Royal Pastel Skin."

Today the testimony was that the money for the fur was loaned to Earl Young by Joseph J. [Name], a lawyer who had represented various firms getting RFD loans.

Chairman Senator Fairbridge of [Name] suggested that the money for the fur was advanced because Young was opposed to the influence of the [Name], and

(The investigation of the RFC brings forward a sumptuous, magnificent mink coat. Described as "Natural Royal Pastel Mink." Priced eight thousand, five hundred and forty dollars. This expensive fur is worn by Mrs. Loretta Young, who is assistant to President Truman's private secretary at the White House. Her husband, Merl Young, was an official of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.)

Previously, the charge was made that the fabulous fur was given to Young by a furrier who wanted a loan from the RFC to which Young replied - - that he paid the full retail price for the "Natural Royal Pastel Mink."

(Today the testimony was that the money for the fur was loaned to Merl Young by Joseph Rosenbaum, a lawyer who has represented various firms getting RFC loans.)

Chairman Senator Fulbright of Arkansas suggested that the money for the fur was advanced because Young was supposed to have influence at the White House, and

with the board of directors of the RFC, but Rosenbaum denied this.

He likewise denied any impropriety in the fact that he sold some stock to Young at a dollar a share - when Rosenbaum's own law firm had paid two hundred dollars a share for the stock last year. The lawyer admitted the transaction, but said he doubted that the stock in question would be worth more than a dollar a share right now.

A NEW CABINET MEMBER

My colleagues of the press, and I used to do the same thing in the days when I was a newspaper reporter, often insist that you give them a story whether you feel you have anything to say or not. THIS happened to me here in Cincinnati today. So out I blurted an idea that is not at all new. Several of my other radio colleagues have presented the thought at one time or another - - Ed Murrow quite recently.

Those of us who travel about the world, quickly make the discovery that on the whole, we Americans are just about the most misunderstood of all peoples. In older countries they look upon us as immature politically, always thinking in terms of dollars, slaves to gadgets, caught in the wheels of the machine age, boastful, and so on.

As I remarked to the newspaper reporters here, we have demonstrated several times to the world that we can out-produce other nations, and that we can win wars. But, as statesmen so often tell us, we don't know how to win the peace. What to do about it? Well, let's have

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a new member of the President's cabinet, equal in rank to our present Secretary of Defense. His assignment, to preside over a general staff created for the sole purpose of winning the good-will of all our fellow men - - to explain our ideas of freedom, explain the way our republic works, and to help them! If this were done, skillfully, and on a vast scale, armies and armaments could be slashed, and there would be little danger of a third World War. It would save the United Nations from foundering. We soon could balance our national budget, reduce our taxes, raise our standard of living - - and, at the same time boost the standard of living for all other nations.

Just throwing out a few names at random, I suggested that ROY Howard, who long ago was a newspaper reporter here in Cincinnati, and now is a press elder-statesman, would be excellent for this cabinet post. Under him should be men corresponding to our Secretaries for Army, Navy, and Air. I said there were a large number who would be qualified. In the press world,

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Kent Cooper, Hugh Baillie, Barry Farnis, Bob Considine, John Knight, Westbrook Pegler, Walter Winchell, Paul Smith, and many others. In the world of radio there are my colleagues Ed Murrow, H.V. Kaltenborn, Elmer Davis, and others. At their weekly and monthly meetings what battles these men would have! On many things they would disagree violently. But that's our way. At any rate, if drafted, they could do the job. What would it cost? The amount of money we turn over to any one of our three military branches would do it. The Russians are far smarter when it comes to winning the minds of man than we are. They have been doing this for years now, with their world-wide crusade on a foundation of lies. With all their effort and expense their structure could be overthrown in a year or two by the crusade I suggest. For their structure it built on the shifting sands of falsehood, murder and hate.

LIQUOR SYNDICATE

At Nashville, Tenn., the authorities are saying how lucky that the three boot-leggers, in Alabama, were not arrested sooner. They were locked up by the local Alabama cops, who found them transporting ninety-two cases of illegal whiskey. Members of a bootleg syndicate, doing business in prohibition states and counties, all over the south.

The three run runners were thrown into jail, their trial set for March Fifth. But that will be a mere formality. Verdick not guilty. Because Harry Lauderdale, William Argo, and Charles Ford turn out to be secret agents, doing detective work. They joined the syndicate gathering the facts about the twenty million dollar a year racket.

When the local cops arrested them, the Alabama authorities were all set to give them terms in prison - and the secret had to be let out. Which put an end to their investigation. But, luckily, they had almost completed the job - gathering information that will be sent on to the Senate crime investigating committee.

If they had been locked up earlier by local cops - -
the whole plan would have been spoiled.

three star players of OCA, and announced they look
forward to their games. A meeting of the team was
held and was addressed in dramatic terms by Floyd
the star defense player. He led a pep rally with
the slogan, "Let's get behind the team", which
he was sure Co-Captain - - - - -
Floyd was himself has not mentioned that he took
forty-five hundred dollars in bribes to throw games
in various the case cracked since

BALL

(The irony of the Basketball scandal tonight is to be found in a scene staged a few days ago after three star players of CCNY had confessed they took bribes to throw games. A meeting of the team was held and was addressed in dramatic terms by Floyd Lane, the star defense player. He lead a pep rally with the slogan, "let's get behind the team", whereupon he was made Co-Captain - - and tonight the word is that Floyd Lane himself has now confessed that he took forty-five hundred dollars in bribes to throw games.)

He was in the same crooked ring.

CINCINNATI RED CROSS

I am in Cincinnati tonight cooperating with Procter & Gamble's president, Neil McElroy, and his associates in the launching of the annual Red Cross drive. For this is Red Cross week everywhere. I suppose Cincinnati is as Red Cross conscious as any city. For here on the banks of the rather uncertain Ohio River the RED CROSS has played a tremendous part in the life of the people. Cincinnati, Dayton, and all the towns along the Ohio, Miami - the Little Miami, and Whitewater, know what it's all about to live rather dangerously. THEY have had a number of historic floods; and how much more terrible those floods would have been without the Red Cross - - which, as we all know deserves the enthusiastic support of every American.

And, now, back to you in New York, Nelson.