

L.T. - Olds, Thurs. Dec. 24 - 59.

LEAD

It's journalistic tradition that news is light at Christmastime. Which certainly is true this Christmas Eve. No wars or major disasters. Most of the news is in the spirit of Merry Christmas. A couple of important items - plus a series of stories, dramatic, <sup>— and</sup> romantic, ~~or comic.~~

Let's begin - with <sup>the</sup> ~~with~~ more serious aspect.

## FRANCE

In France, the DeGaulle government has weathered one of the most acute crises it has faced thus far, / On the question - that has divided France ever since the days of the French Revolution. The question - of government support for church schools. The DeGaulle regime - sponsoring a bill to give ~~catholic~~ church schools financial aid.

Actually, the measure met with opposition - from both Left and Right. The Communists, of course, bitterly hostile. The Socialist<sup>s</sup> - also in opposition. The Communists and the Socialist<sup>s</sup> - enemies, on other subjects, / But - at one on the question of the church schools.

On the other side of the political fence, even the catholic supporters of DeGaulle objected, / Because the bill for financial aid also provides for measures of government control, / State supervision - of text books, and the qualification of teachers.

Never-the-less, in spite of all the criticism from both sides, the bill <sup>was</sup> ~~still~~ carried by an overwhelming majority. The

DeGaulle measure winning out - by ~~four-hundred-and-twenty-seven~~  
to ~~seventy-one~~.

## ALGIERS

One ugly note in the news; from a place you might expect it. Algiers - with a Christmas Eve outrage by the Algerians terrorists. A bomb explosion - in the shopping center of the city of Algiers. Explosive in an automobile - blowing up. Two people killed - forty-one injured; and a wild panic - amongst thousands of Christmas shoppers.



# NIXON

Vice President Nixon - on his way to be placed in the New Hampshire primary; where a Nixon-for-president committee is busy taking the first necessary steps, collecting signatures on a petition.

The primary petition needs - only fifty signatures. But the Nixon enthusiasts are saying - they'll get a minimum of twenty-five thousand. New Hampshire Governor Wesley Powell - the first to sign.

## SMUGGLEING

In New York, today, nine woe-begone Sicilians, ~~Together~~ with a Norwegian ship's carpenter <sup>— all</sup> under arrest. The story - something like a plot for a movie.

A month ago, the freighter <sup>Fernriver,</sup> ~~FERNRIVER~~ put in at the harbor of Genoa. Where the ship's carpenter, Einar Knudsen, met a blonde, who asked him - how would he like to make twenty-thousand dollars? Knudsen was interested and the blonde gave him directions ~~to~~ for smuggling Sicilians into the United States.

SS Fernriver sailed ~~into~~ Naples, where Knudsen began by sneaking six civilians aboard, ~~hiding~~ them in the hold of the ship. At ~~another~~ <sup>port,</sup> ~~port,~~ he did the ~~same~~ same, with three more.

The Fernriver then set out across the Atlantic, with the nine illegal passengers in the hold. The ship's carpenter - sneaking food and water down to them.

It was a long voyage for a small freighter - but , finally, the vessel reached Boston a month ago. Knudsen - to put the Sicilians ashore there. But he failed to make

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**THEY**

**IN**

the contact - which, supposedly, had been arranged.

So the Scicilians were still down there in the hold -  
when the Fernriver left Boston, bound for <sup>Norfolk.</sup> ~~NEW YORK~~ The  
weather bad - those recent storms. Knudsen - finding it more  
and more difficult to get food and water to the stowaways, who -  
had a mighty rough time.

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At Norfolk, there was no way to get them ashore, and  
pretty soon the Fernriver started for New York. By this time,  
it was too much for ~~THEY~~ the unhappy Sicilians. They couldn't  
stand it any longer, and staggered up on ~~to~~ the deck, giving  
themselves up - to the captain.

The Fernriver docked at New York, today. The  
immigration authorities taking charge of the nine woe-begone  
Sicilians. They'll be deported. Knudsen, <sup>now</sup> charged with  
smuggling, ~~may get a term in jail.~~



## NAPLES

Over in Italy, at Naples - a melodramatic abduction. A young woman - kidnapped, and carried off. But there isn't too much excitement about it. In fact, the Neapolitans take the kidnapping quite calmly.

The girl named Vittoria, who was to ~~be~~<sup>be</sup> married, this coming Sunday ~~to become a bride of~~<sup>to</sup> a wealthy spaghetti manufacturer.

The I E kidnapper<sup>His</sup> named Sebastiano, who, with two friends, forced his way into Vittoria's home. Where, at that very time, her intended husband, the spaghetti manufacturer, was a visitor. He tried to protect Vittoria. ~~But he~~<sup>But Senor Spagetti</sup> was knocked flat. The bride to be - then carried away.

Sound like an atrocious outrage. But the Neapolitans are saying that Sebastiano, the kidnapper, was in love with Vittoria. So, with her wedding scheduled for Sunday - the time had come for ~~the~~ decisive action.

In such cases, kidnapping is not ~~an~~ uncommon in southern Italy; where the family arranges the daughter's marriage,



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ficking a husband for her. If possible, a wealthy one. And  
sometime - darling daughter does not agree. Maybe she has  
a Sebastiano in mind. The <sup>is</sup> kidnapping, in fact, more like an  
elopement.

So that's why Naples is not over-excited, because  
Sebastiano abducted Vittoria. Leaving Senor  
Spagetti alone with his ravioli.

## TIGER

Last year, in our Hi-Adventure television series we had a tiger story, a motion picture thriller - of a man-eater in the jungle of Assam. A tiger - preying on tea plantation workers. Our television expedition was asked - to help in hunting down Master Stripes. The tiger, in due time, cornered and killed. At any rate we hoped it was the right one.

So that's the recollection, which adds a personal interest to a tiger story in the news today. The scene - Malaya. Where a Chinese, Chan Hai Yeu - has a small tea plantation, near the village of Tana Rata.

Chan Hai Yeu, who is forty-five years old, was working out in his tea garden; his wife, and their one year old daughter, nearby; when a tiger came dashing out of the jungle. The mother screamed, picked up the child, and ran. Chan Hai Yeu, fleeing along with them. But he saw the tiger would surely catch his wife, and the

little girl.

So he turned, and faced the tiger. His only weapon, a parang, a Malay knife, something like a West Indian Machete. The tiger attacked him, and Chan Hai Yeu fought the man eater. The sharp, slashing parang - versus fang and claw.

Did Chan Hai Yeu kill the tiger? He did not. But he slashed Master Stripes around the head and the neck in such fashion, that the man eater turned, and went slinking back into the jungle. At any rate, Dick - he sure trimmed the tiger's whiskers.

## BUSES

At a catholic school in Provo, Utah, they had a couple of school buses, ready to fall apart. One, in fact, lost a wheel.

The school principal, had what sounds like - a weird idea. He wrote to a trading - stamp company, the Sperry Hutchinson Company, and asked - could he use trading stamps to get school buses?

The company, astonished, replied - yes, if there were enough trading stamps, but it would require mountains of them.

With that answer, the school principal sent letters to all the catholic schools in the nation - some eight thousand of them. Explaining the situation - and asking for stamps.

Result? Today, for Christmas, the school at Provo has two brand new buses. Which cost - seven million-seven-hundred-and-eight-thousand-and-eight



hundred trading stamps.

And now to all of you - Merry Christmas -

and so long until tomorrow.

In the Eastern Capital, the question of a date for the summit conference - is considered of only minor importance.

They'll find a way to accommodate Eisenhower - although there are a few complications.

In accepting the western invitation to a top level parley the Soviet Premier said he couldn't make it in - on April twenty-fourth. So he proposed that they change the time. Make it - April twenty-first or May

The reason April twenty-fourth is inconvenient for Eisenhower - is because it falls just the week prior the Russian May Day celebrations.

In London, it is pointed out that May would be awkward for Prime Minister Churchill, because a Conference of Common wealth Prime Ministers is scheduled for that same time.

In Paris, the objection is to the earlier date, April twenty-first. Because President Charles DeGaulle plans to be in Washington at the time.

In Washington, the reaction is that President Eisenhower