

BRITAIN

L.J. - Sunoco and P. & G. Thurs., Feb. 13, 1947

The plight of the ~~helpless~~ people in the British Isles reached a new low today, another day of freezing temperatures. ~~Here's a list of the latest happenings:~~ Coal stockpiles continue to shrink at ~~the~~ plants manufacturing gas. One of the least of the hardships, although a new one, is a cigarette famine.

~~in London~~ The biggest restaurant chain in the country advertised today that it would stop serving lunches tomorrow ~~through~~ ^{because of} lack of power, ^{- unable to prepare food.} The British gas council is planning to shut off gas from all non-essential industry and commerce. And tonight the ~~street~~ lights went out all over Great Britain. ^{- the street lights.}

In Ireland, people ^{reported to be} ~~are~~ suffering too,

owing to a shortage of not only coal but peat, which ^{is the fuel for most} ~~furnishes a considerable part~~ of Ireland. ~~in fact~~ The Minister of Industry and Commerce warned the householders all over the island that supplies of both peat and coal may soon be cut off entirely. The roads in Eire are ~~blocked~~, temperature there as in England, below

freezing, no shipments of coal from England or Wales. *Even*
The animals are freezing in the Dublin Zoological Gardens
because the authorities have had to shut off the steam
heat.

A freighter carrying coal ~~to Waterford~~
foundered in a gale Saturday. Sixteen seamen missing.

In England, six mines closed down because of
lack of coal cars.. As an instance of what individuals
are suffering all over the island, women have to keep
their babies' milk warm in thermos bottled during the
hours the electricity is shut off. The unglamorous
affliction known as chilblains ^{is} ~~has~~ affected ^{ing} ~~ed~~ some people
so seriously, they are unable to walk. ~~That is something~~
~~we seldom hear of here.~~ Waterpipes freeze and burst.
Many people are unable to get their rooms warmer than
fifty degrees. In London, subway trains run when they
can without any pretense of schedule. Passengers ^{often} ~~have~~
to wait ^{for a} ~~sometimes~~ half an hour. ^{It} President Truman took
counsel with his advisers today, to find out ^{how we} ~~whether we~~
~~can~~ ^{could} help. The British have not asked us for it,

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because they ^{have felt that} ~~considered~~ coal from ^{here} ~~the U.S.A.~~ could not get there in time, and would cost too much, ~~and it would~~ take them at least fifteen days to chute coal to England.

But Pres.

~~Mr.~~ Truman has ordered the coordinator of Emergency Export Programs to determine how much coal we could land in British Ports, and how ^{quickly. Said the} ~~soon~~ ~~The~~ ~~President:~~ ~~said:~~

"This government stands ready to do everything within its power to relieve the plight of the British people in their present fuel emergency."

POLAND - LANE

The United States Ambassador to Warsaw, Arthur Bliss Lane, has been recalled, so says Warsaw tonight.

Moreover it is said that Ambassador Lane definitely will not return to Poland after his recall.

Washington observers feel that our veteran diplomat, one of the ablest in our service, will ~~not~~ come home and report to the President and to Secretary of State Marshall, and then will be succeeded by another Ambassador. As a result of Lane's recent ~~report~~ report about the Polish elections he no longer would be persona grata to Warsaw and Moscow. Hardly!

Lane's recall from Warsaw should be further evidence, if any is needed, that our government disapproves of the recent elections in Poland. ~~It~~ Washington has made it clear that the terrorism used in the Polish election campaign violated the letter and the spirit of the Potsdam and Yalta agreements.

DISARMAMENT

(The Security Council of ^{the} United Nations has finally taken definite action about disarmament. It established a Commission, ^{composed of representatives} ~~to be composed~~, of the eleven nations, to make plans to that end.) And it issued what amounts to an order to the Big Five Powers to hurry up ^{with} ~~their~~ preparations for creating an international police force.

~~So that is the end of six weeks' argument,~~
~~a good deal of it quite angry.~~ The resolution was adopted ~~at last~~ by a vote of ten to nothing; which sounds unanimous. **B**ut it wasn't; because Gromyko of the Soviet Union declined to vote. He did ~~not~~ object to the resolution as a whole, but, he did take exceptions to ~~xx~~ some parts of it. [¶] The resolution required ^s ~~the~~ the Big Five to report progress by April Thirtieth on ~~the an~~ International Police Force. Its purpose ^{to} ~~would~~ be to protect peaceful nations from aggressive armies. On this question, the vote was nine to nothing, both Russia and Poland not voting.

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The resolution, as it stands, ^{seems} ~~is distinctly~~
^{okay} ~~satisfactory~~ from our point of view. ^{In that it} ~~It~~ establishes
~~that~~ ^a Commission, ^a part of whose task will be to scrap
all conventional weapons. It also provides that the
Atomic Energy Commission of the United Nations will
have control over the atomic bomb and other weapons
of mass destruction. ^{It} The eleven members ~~to~~ ^{to form the}
Disarmament Commission will include all the Big Five -
~~United States, Russia, France, R China, Great Britain,~~
~~Russia, and the United States.~~

ATOMIC

President Truman has thrown down the gauntlet to the Senate. If the lawmakers don't want David E. Lilienthal as head of the Atomic Energy Commission, ^{then} they will have to turn him down themselves, for Mr. Truman has ^{Lilienthal's} not the faintest intention of withdrawing ~~his~~ name.

Such was his answer to the suggestion of Senator Wherry of Nebraska and Senator Moore of Oklahoma.

Another group came to the front today, asking the Senate to investigate ^{fully} the charges of Communism against Lilienthal. ~~to the limit~~ This ~~is~~ group is an organization of some three hundred thousand reserve officers of the Navy, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps. ^{Their spokesmen} ~~They insist that~~ claim that the present hearings on the ~~case of~~ ^{matter} Lilienthal are perfunctory. And, they echo the statement of some Republican Senators that no man should receive this appointment so long as there is a taint of suspicion against him.

The Atomic Committee of the Senate has issued subpoenas for more witnesses.

ADD ATOMIC

Mr. Truman was emphatic, almost angry, when he announced his continued support of Lilienthal. A newspaperman asked him what he thought of McKellar's charge that Lilienthal was either a Communist, or a near Communist. The President replied, and allowed himself to be quoted: "They are absolutely unfounded." And he repeated that he had not the faintest intention of asking Lilienthal to withdraw.

APP. BUDGET

~~As for~~ President Truman, ~~he~~ made it clear today that he stands by the figures of his budget. ~~In fact, he almost indicated that the love feast with the Republican controlled Congress is about over. He~~

He told the newspapermen that a thirty-seven-and-a-half billion dollar budget was no more than was actually needed for the proper conduct of the country's affairs.)

~~And he~~ backed up the statement of Secretary Patterson, when he said that Generals MacArthur and Eisenhower thought we would ~~be~~ be inviting disaster both at home and abroad if the Republicans put through that one-billion, seven-hundred-and-fifty-million dollar cut in the military establishment appropriation.

ADD BUDGET

In a speech just delivered before a Washington audience, Secretary of War Patterson, appeals to Congress to wait for a report from former President Hoover before cutting the budget of occupation forces in Germany and Japan.

Mr. Hoover, for the second time in his career, is now on a world-wide mission of mercy.

War Secretary Patterson, in his speech tonight, warned that "hungry men are dangerous", And he added that the United States "must provide food for our former enemies because it is the humane thing to do".

Actually the Secretary for War is telling Congress: "cut the budget if you must, but wait till all the facts are in".

POLITICS

Some of President Truman's friends are ^{peevish} ~~so~~ with the Postmaster General -- ~~at Bob Hannegan~~ so the Washington gossip goes. ^{They} ~~they~~ ^{because}

^{Dem.} they think the national chairman spoke out of turn two weeks ago when he announced Mr. Truman's ~~xxxxix~~ candidacy for Nineteen Forty-Eight. They call it bad timing, poor political strategy.

Mr. Truman himself gave some color to that gossip at his Press Conference this afternoon. One correspondant mentioned ^{Mr.} ~~Bob~~ Hannegan, whereupon the President ~~promptly~~ took a piece of paper from his desk and read; -I quote:

"In view of certain comment regarding the Presidency, I wish to say there has been no change in my attitude since the statement I read to you on November Eleven, Nineteen-Forty-Six." What did he say on November Eleventh, Nineteen-Forty-Six? That he intended to do what he thought best for the country without regard to narrow political considerations, and ^{that} he stood ready to cooperate to the fullest extent with the new ~~new~~ Republican ~~controlled~~ Congress.

This announcement seems to be having a double effect. It counteracted what some consider the untimeliness of the Hannegan remarks, and at the same time it saves Bob Hannegan's face and leaves him - the President - completely free to announce his candidacy at a time of his own choosing, if he wishes.

MORGENTHAU

Remember that recent dispute about the Morgenthau diary? Recriminations flying back and forth? Well, everything appears to be fixed up now. Former Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau has agreed to return, to the government, any controversial or secret materials which now are part of his nine hundred volume diary; the diary he kept while serving as Secretary of the Treasury.

So what looked as if it might be an acrimonious issue between Mr. Morgenthau and his successor, John Snyder, appears to have blown over.

Morgenthau wrote a letter to Snyder today saying that, while he didn't believe any official documents ~~were~~ were contained in his nine hundred volume diary, nevertheless, ~~is~~ he would be willing to have a Treasury official go over the volumes and take out what was deemed to be government property.

Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder has never authored nine hundred volumes himself --

not even a diary -- and he melted today in the face of Henry Morgenthau's suggestion. Several weeks ago Snyder was stern about it.

Secretary Snyder says an official of the Treasury Department will examine the ~~x~~ books and will remove ~~as~~ only such parts as he feels belong not to Mr. Morgenthau but to the people of the United States.

MAYOR

Back in Nineteen-Forty-Four, Corporal Peter Defusco of the Army of the United States, was murdered near Camp Phillips, in Kansas. Another soldier, Private A.B. Richie of Hickory, North Carolina, was accused of the murder, tried by an army court-martial, convicted, and sentenced to ~~hang~~ hang on April First Nineteen-Forty-Five.

Just one person ~~in the entire country~~ never lost faith in the innocence of Private ~~A.B.~~ Richie, ~~that~~ was his wife, Inez. She ^{devoted} ~~used~~ all her time, all her slender resources, trying to see ^{people} ~~somebody~~ in high office to plead ^{ing} for her husband. ^{All in vain.} ~~In Washington, she couldn't~~ ~~come near anybody.~~ Finally she read that in June, Nineteen-Forty-Five President Truman was to visit his home in Independence Missouri. ^{Whereupon she} ~~Mrs. Richie~~ took the last of her savings, went to Independence and saw ^{the} Mayor ~~Walter Sermon~~ ^{who} of that city. ~~He has~~ has been Mayor of Independence almost more years than he can count, and ~~is~~ a lifelong friend of Mr. Truman. Mrs. Richie pleaded her husband's case with ^{the} Mayor, ~~Sermon~~ begged him to tell

her story to the President and ask him to save her husband's life, if only for a little while.

The kindly Mayor of Independence was convinced, and told her story to the President. A month later, almost on the eve of the date of the execution President Truman commuted Private Richie's ~~xx~~ sentence of life imprisonment.

And now comes the surprise: Today a man named Otto Stockdale walked into police quarters at Fresno California, gave himself up, and said he had killed the man at Camp Phillips.

When a ~~direct~~ dispatch conveying that news was given to Mayor Roger Sermon of Independence, he chuckled joyfully, and said: "Bedad, I knew it! I knew it! And in Hickory, North Carolina, a young man with her five year old daughter, is joyously happy for the first time in almost three years.

OUMERI

Over in North Africa, the people of Algiers are being both scared and thrilled by the exploits of a bandit who calls himself Oumeri. He has a large band of followers, natives of the rugged mountains that surround the Bay of Algiers. They claim to be descendants of settlers who inhabited and cultivated that area when Algiers was a rich and productive colony of ancient Rome.

Oumeri has the French Police virtually handcuffed by adopting the tactics used by American gangs in the 'Twenties and 'Thirties. Striding at the head of his men, he goes into a bank or shop, lines everybody there against a wall, and then ^{he and his men just} ~~they~~ help themselves. As they go out, Oumeri warns, ~~then~~ in the Algerian, ~~disables~~ that anybody who cries out, within ~~the next~~ five minutes, will be shot.

His operations are so reckless that in one day he ~~committed~~ committed three robberies in one small town, and shot a rival bandit into the bargain. Sometimes Oumeri works by himself, a lone highwayman along the twisting footpaths through the mountains. Sometimes he

does a solo act, looting houses in small settlements. But mostly he works with his gang, holding up buses and sometimes whole villages.

One ~~dx~~ day the police had him and two of his gang cornered in a house. But after ^{the} fashion recalling some criminal episodes in our own history, Oumeri with ~~his~~ two men, and a gun in either hand, shot his way out. ~~and wounded two policemen. And they~~ ^{And they} ~~used~~ to show ^{his} ~~his~~ ^{disdain for the police} ~~what he thought of the cops,~~ he held up a bus the ~~very~~ next day.

The son of one man ~~whom~~ he had killed, swore to avenge him, ~~he~~ got together a band of his own and ~~undertook~~ undertook to smoke Oumeri out. The two mobs met in a wooded valley and shot it out. The day ended with two of Oumeri's Lieutenants dead, but ~~also~~ ^{the} man who had sworn to be avenged on Oumeri, ~~he was dead too.~~ ^{he was dead too.}

And now 2 - Sun ~~Hughes~~ ^{turn to you!} Nelson - let 'em go with both barrels.

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SAVINGS

It seems that we in the United States are not so badly off, after all. The people of this country between them have a fund of savings amounting to three hundred billion dollars. That's almost twice the national income, and represents assets of two thousand a hundred and forty dollars for each person in the U.S.A. ^{And, it's} ~~also, it's~~ forty billion dollars more than the national debt.

~~This comes to light through a survey made by the Research Council for economic Security. That three hundred billion dollar figure includes a hundred-and-seventy-five billion ⁱⁿ cash, bank deposits and government bonds. Privately owned real estate, sixty billions. Investments such as stocks and industrial bonds, thirty billion. Life insurance, actual cash value, forty billions. The total number of dollars in life insurance runs up to a hundred and four billions, five hundred millions.~~

~~All this does not include such ~~prize~~ private security plans as hospital insurance. Six million~~

STRIKE

A sit down strike - the first ~~that has~~
happened in the U.S.A. in more than ten years. ~~It is~~
~~going on~~ At a coal mine near Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

^{TP} Thirteen diggers, well equipped with fresh food and
blankets, are camping out in a shaft eight hundred feet
below the surface. ^{TP} Some twelve hundred of their ^{colleagues} ~~men~~
stayed away from the pit head in sympathy. There were
fifteen ^{strikers at the start - but one} ~~originally~~ ~~but one of them~~, became ill and
another ~~was~~ a bridegroom. ^{That is,} When his bride appeared at
the pit head, he decided ~~that~~ honeymooning would be more
fun than ~~the~~ striking.

What's it all about? One afternoon recently
they mined their quota of coal before the end of the
day and left work. The company deducted part of their
wages, ^{which} ~~so~~ they don't like. ~~that~~ Hence the strike.

RENTS

Senator Albert Hawkes of New Jersey told the banking Committee today that without a fifteen per cent raise in the rent ceiling, there will be no solution of the problem of providing houses for veterans. ~~to rent~~. With this he suggested abolishing all controls on new housing. ^{TR} One reason for the present situation *said* he, is that too many landlords would rather sell the houses they own at the present high prices than rent them at ceiling rates. Many veterans have been compelled to buy houses that are much too costly, just to provide a roof over the heads of their families. Rent ceilings, he *added*, ~~could~~ should give landlords a reasonable return on their property. ^{For} Men just won't build houses if they ~~cannot~~ cannot make any *money at it* ^{things by doing so.}

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people have prepaid medical care, ^{and} more than twenty three millions have hospitalization insurance. Also, forty four million individuals carry ~~seven~~ hundred millions in health and accident insurance. In addition to which there are pension plans, group annuity plans, and so on.

~~forty~~

Three hundred billions. ~~you might call that~~

~~quite a~~ Just a nest egg for a rainy day!