EGYPT. L.T.-R.G.T nea. Feb. 5 — '52.

In London, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden told the House of Commons today - that Britain is seeking a direct settlement of the dispute with Egypt. He indicated that negotiations are on between London and Cairo. He declared for a settlement that will guarantee, what he called - "the security of the Suez Canal". And "the true and rightful aspirations of the Egyptian people."

All of which sounds like a mood for a compromise.

In Cairo, Meanwhile, the government of the new Premier, Aly Maher Pasha, announces the arrest of "several hundred persons," charged with guilt in the murderous riot which devastated Cairo on January Twenty-sixth. The Egyptian police were involved, and they will be punished, says Cairo, "according to their guilt!"

LONDON

In the House of Commons tonight, opposition leader Clement Attlee introduced a motion of censure against the Conservative government - censure of the trip that Prime Minister Winston Churchill made to the United States. The Labor Party charges that Churchill committed Great Britain more deeply than he admits - on the subject of a possible spread of the Korean war.

This followed denials, with ~~fx~~ Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden declaring that President Truman, Secretary of State Acheson, and General Omar Bradley, are opposed to any extension of the war to the Chinese mainland.

U N

The Sixth General Assembly of the United Nations concluded its meetings in Paris today - in a glum atmosphere. The delegates concede that this was the most futile General Assembly in the brief history of the U N. Little was accomplished - except noisy diatribes hurled between East and West.

Final action, before today's adjournment, was a vote to put off all consideration of the Korean war, until an armistice is concluded, or there's a break-up of the truce negotiations. In either event, a special session of the General Assembly would be called.

KOREA-TRUCE

(At Pan Mun Jom, the truce teams are holding plenary sessions, top level, not mere committee work.) They're now discussing what may get them into the biggest tangle of all. Item five -- that catch-all provision on the armistice agenda. The Reds are expected to use it, as a means of introducing a demand - for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea. Which would leave South Korea at the mercy of the powerful Red army of North Korea.

The news for the next few days is likely to tell of tangles over item five - although the U N delegation still expresses cautious optimism.

FLIER

Aboard the Navy carrier Essex, off Korea, is James Michener, author of that best seller - "South Pacific". Michener, a war correspondent of World War Two is out there writing magazine articles. Today, though, he turned newspaperman once again, filing a story through the United Press. So what has turned the author of "South Pacific" back to his old trade?

Well, It's the Bald Eagle. Commander Paul Gray of St. John, Kansas -- who, at thirty-five, deserves his nickname. He's as bald as an egg - but an ace Navy flier in battles against the Reds.

Today the Bald Eagle was grounded, definitely and finally, no kidding.

Commander Gray, specialized in low level attacks on Red rail transportation. We've been hearing how the Communist anti-aircraft fire has been growing more and more deadly, American planes shot down - and that was what the Bald Eagle was braving.

His first misadventure came when he laid the salvo bombs on a locomotive, blasting it into wreckage.

Enemy flak hit his motor, but he managed to steer his disabled plane out over the water. Bald-headed man in the drink - so freezing cold this time of year, where no one can survive more than twenty minutes. But a South Korean patrol boat picked him up in time.

A week later, he bombed some Red locomotives, at an altitude so low that he was blown up by his own bombs. This time he thought anything was better than that freezing ocean -- and managed to steer south for an emergency landing inside the U.N. lines.

Four days later after being hit by flak, he was able to reach his carrier -- with holes in his plane.

But the next time, after a big day bombing the railroad, he was shot down into the sea again. In the drink so long, his hands were frozen -- and, I suppose, his bald head was coated with ice.

That was when Admiral John Perry took action, growling: "No man in this task force is required to risk his life like that more than four times in a row." The Bald Eagle - grounded.

"But," relates the author of "South Pacific", "but this morning, before the word got to Gray, he was off again. In the bitter cold morning light, Gray hurried to his plane, revved it up, and roared out toward North Korea.

"I was in the ward room" say Michener, "when the news was broadcast: "Commander Gray has been shot down! He landed in the ocean off Wonsan; and has not been recovered!" An anguished hush fell over the Essex," Michener continues. "Men knew no pilot could expect to survive those waters three times running. A young kid next to me started to pray.

"Then" the author of South Pacific concludes, "came the astonishing news: "The destroyer Twining has succeeded to pick up Commander Gray, out of the ocean off Wonsan!"

The final comment comes from Admiral Perry: "From now on, paper work," he growls. So, from now on, They'll see a bald head bent over documents on a desk.

SWEDEN

There was melodrama in Stockholm today - when a Latvian refugee battled his way out of the Soviet Embassy was followed by an Embassy car, and took refuge with the Swedish police. The affair is being kept a diplomatic secret, but a good deal of the story has come out - because of the way things happened.

The refugee is a wood cutter, a worker of the forest, burly, powerful. He was decoyed by a fellow Latvian, who told him they were going to the fellow Latvian's apartment. But, when they entered the building it turned out to be - the Red Embassy. There the refugee was seized, and told - "You will be taken to Moscow at once."

Hearing that, he broke away. It seems that he had a big snife, and got out. He ran down the street, and dashed into an engineering plant where he asked them to call the Swedish police. The engineering people did, and saw a Soviet Embassy car draw up outside - the Swedish police arriving shortly thereafter.

In that brief interval, the Latvian was able

to gasp out as much of the story as I've just related. The rest of it - covered promptly by official secrecy. Why did the Soviet Embassy want to kidnap the wood cutter, and smuggle him to Moscow? Sounds like another sinister puzzle of international Communism.

COMMUNIST

There was an uproar in Los Angeles today - at the beginning of the trial of the second string leaders of the Communist party, fifteen of them. A large crowd gathered outside the courtroom, demanding admission; but there was room for only a few. The others jammed the corridors, greeting the Reds with a hostile demonstration as they entered. There were boos and catcalls, the crowd so noisy that Deputy Marshals threatened to clear the corridors.

POLITICS

President Truman is going to stay in the New Hampshire primary. Last week, he said he would withdraw -- his name having been entered without his consent. But now he has changed his mind - saying it's on advice from Democratic National Chairman McKinney. But, this, the White House explains, does not mean that the President will seek the Democratic nomination, - still keeping 'em guessing!

The New Hampshire primary, on the Democratic side, now becomes a sort of popularity contest, between Truman and Kefauver - the Tennessee Senator figuring as the only Democrat openly seeking the nomination.

EXPLOSION

At San Mateo, California, today, Thomas Keen, a prominent figure in dog racing, went to the garage of his home - and got into his car. He put his foot on the starter - and, as he did so, an explosion blew him through the top of the car, and through the top of the garage. The blast shattered the garage walls, and all that was left of the automobile was - the rear part of the chassis.

The sensational murder has all the marks of a gangland plot. Thomas Keen, fifty-years old, started in dog racing back in the twenties - when he was connected with the Florida tracks controlled by Scarface Al Capone. He ended as a capitalist interested in dog racing at various places. Portland and Denver are named, - and he was President of a company manufacturing totalizers, the "tote boards" at race tracks. Keen made history in dog racing by developing the mechanical rabbit which the greyhounds chase.

¶ At San Mateo, the former Associate of Scarface Al Capone was known as a sportsman who lived in dignified quiet. The police declare they have no

clue to any reason for the crime; - murder by devastating explosion.

FISHERMAN

Here's a story that beats the old line - about a fisherman catching a whale. Captain Lars Fahlen of Portsmouth, Rhode Island - caught a submarine.

The Captain is a commercial fisherman - and, off Block Island, he was navigating along with a dragnet. When, suddenly, he sure caught a big one - a fish that simply kept on going, and pulled his boat backward.

TP Actually, a Navy submarine, navigating under water, had got caught in the long lines extending from the fishing boat. The sub, unaware, continued its course and there was the skipper - full steam ahead, but he was going backward! "It was an odd feeling," he said today. "I was afraid we'd be tipped over or towed under. So I cut the lines."

All of which was authenticated when the submarine went back to its base - dragging along the fisherman's lines. Today the skipper asked the Navy to settle - for the six hundred feet of net he lost.

A RT

News from the world of art gives us the story of a triumph scored by a modernistic masterpiece. At Toronto, there's an exhibition featuring those abstract paintings which look like a nightmare in Bedlam, and the innocent bystander can only wonder - what's it all about? But the esoteric experts understand, and they've been waxing enthusiastic over an abstract painting called - "Melancholia in the Swamp". Sounds goofy - but, then, the picture looks goofy. Which makes it even Stephen, I suppose.

"Melancholia in the Swamp" is the work of a youthful painter, seventeen years old, Bob Nealess of Vancouver. They've been hailing him as a young genius in the realm of abstract art - who has introduced a new modernistic inspiration.

Today Bob Nealess came clean, and confessed. His futuristic masterpiece is an old piece of cardboard on which commercial artists had cleaned their brushes. At Vancouver there's an engraving plant which employs a number of artists - who, to get paint off their brushes,

would smear them on a discarded sheet of pasteboard. This lay around, until Bob had his modernistic inspiration. He took the mess of smears and daubs, framed it, and gave it a name - "Melancholia in the Swamp". Which was an inspiration; then he sent it on to that exhibition in Toronto.

In the history of art, there has been many a hoax - and this is one of the richest. At the exhibition, "Melancholia in the Swamp" was discussed and criticized with no end of esthetic erudition and big words. The curator of the art gallery, congratulating the young artist, wrote him as follows: "You seem to be aware of the accidental effects that can result from lines, calligraphy, blots, and the use of a spray gun." To which he added that Bob was, in the words of the art critic - "Considerably interested in a variety of effects that can be arrived at through experimental use of your materials."

So, Nelson, that's the story of Canada's new masterpiece of abstract painting - "Melancholia in the Swamp."