

LEAD P.J.-P+L. Thurs. May. 4 '50.

President Truman hands over the loyalty files.

-- ~~that's the latest tonight~~ ^{So} ~~in an~~ announcement ¹ by
Senator Tydings of Maryland, Chairman of the ~~Investing~~
Investigating Committee. Hitherto, in spite of all
demands, the President refused to let Congress have the
records on government officials accused of Communism -
especially in the case of the sensational charges made
by Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin. But now that refusal
is reversed - The President today agree^{ed} to give the
Senate Committee the loyalty files in the State
Department on eighty-one officials named by McCarthy.
The records of the F.B.I. will not be handed over. - but
the F.B.I. material in the State Department files will
be.

COMMUNISTS - MCCARTHY

Into the McCarthy charges now appears - the atom bomb. The Wisconsin senator declared today that the Amerasia case in Nineteen Forty-Five disclosed the fact that Soviet espionage, aided by officials of our State Department, procured atomic secrets of the bomb - six months before it exploded at Hiroshima.

~~(McCarthy stated that this very testimony was being given to the Senate Investigating Committee in a closed hearing today - given by Frank Bielaski, former agent who conducted the F.B.I. raid in the Amerasia case)~~

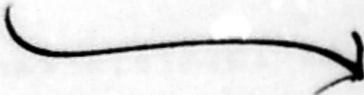
More and more, this Amerasia business is coming to a focus - and it was a peculiar affair to start with. In Nineteen Forty-Five, the headline broke that highly secret documents of the State Department had found their way into the office of Amerasia, a magazine devoted to Far Eastern affairs. Six persons were arrested, including officials of the State Department. One - John Stewart Service, still with the State Department, and now accused of being a Communist. He was cleared by a grand jury. Another

State Department official was convicted - after pleading guilty to a charge of conspiracy to steal government records. He was fined five hundred dollars. The editor of Amerasia was Philip Jaffe, a wealthy greeting card manufacturer, often alleged to be a Communist. He, too, pleaded guilty in the theft of State Department secrets - and was fined twenty-five hundred dollars. Other defendants were either cleared or paid fines - and the Amerasia case disappeared quickly from the news.

In the raid conducted by the F.B.I. many confidential State Department documents were seized in the office of Amerasia - and now Senator McCarthy declares that these included secret information about the atomic bomb.

All of which put the focus of attention on Frank Bielaski, the F.B.I. man who conducted the raid - and who, today, was testifying at ~~the~~ ^a closed ^{committee} hearing. So Bielaski was questioned by the newsmen, and he called the McCarthy story - "An enlargement." Some of

it would have to be qualified, he said. But, talking of the Amerasia case, he added - "There is something of the atomic aspect to it."



FOLLOW MCCARTHY

In New York Wild Bill Donovan wartime head of the office of Strategic Services was questioned. He had much to do with secret service action during wartime -- and he states that Bielaski is a trustworthy witness. Which adds importance to the Bielaski testimony that there was an atomic angle in the Amerasia case.

TRUMAN - HOOVER

President Truman disagrees with the proposal made by former President Hoover - the suggestion that Soviets and satellites be excluded from the United Nations. Yesterday Herbert Hoover visited the White House, and had a talk with the President, during which they discussed that idea. They are on friendly terms, as the President emphasized today saying, also, that he is against the Hoover proposal for a United Nations without the Reds.

He went on to add that defense expenditures will be reduced for Nineteen Fifty-Two - because there is not so much alarm about the international situation. Which is in contradiction to strong statements made by the defense chiefs, who have been warning about the danger of war. President Truman admitted that he was optimistic, but said the peril is not nearly as bad as it was in the first half of Nineteen Forty-Six, and that world relations have been improving.

TRUMAN - POLITICS

At the White House today, President Truman was asked about the statement made by Senator Glen Taylor of Idaho - that the President had invited the Senator for a ride aboard the Presidential train during the Truman trip to the West. Which aroused a good deal of agitation among Democrats. And no wonder seeing how the Democratic senator bolted party and President in the last election, and ran for vice-president on the Henry Wallace ticket, amid shouts that the Wallace Party was partly Communist.

Since then Glen Taylor has returned to the Democratic fold, but there is no fatted calf for the prodigal son. Particularly in Idaho where other Democrats would like to oust Glen Taylor, and take his place. Former Senator ~~Worth~~ Worth Clark, in particular, whom Taylor defeated for the Democratic nomination six years ago.

All of which produced a political hot potato. So what's the verdict? Well, President Truman denies that he ever invited Glen Taylor for the train

ride, and says the coaches will be reserved for the White House party and the newsmen.

Whereupon the Idaho senator ~~was~~ told ~~him~~ - the President said he never invited him for the train ride. To which Glen Taylor replied: "If he said he didn't, that settles it." Settling, we presume, the question of possible Truman backing for the recent Henry Wallace vice-presidential candidate.

CHRYSLER

The end of the Chrysler strike presents no picture of good fellowship - as when company and union representatives make a joint announcement, while newsreel cameras film an exchange of smiles and hand-shakes. The long drawn out negotiations, the marathon/~~xxxxxxxx~~ bargaining talks, with bitter charge and countercharge, had created too much irritation and lacerated feelings. So the company made its own separate announcement - denouncing the union angrily. While the union did the same - with wrathful remarks about the company.

But, anyway, the long Chrysler strike is over - the eighty-nine thousand union members getting a guarantee of pensions and a hospital-medical program. No question of wages was involved.

Tonight the word on the union side is that, the Chrysler strike having been settled, the next move will be to make similar demands on General Motors.

STRIKE - GONDOLIERS

In Venice - victory for a strike. The gondoliers in a labor dispute - against the motor boats. Which is an old quarrel in the city on the canals. The motor boats compete with the gondoliers, who can't go nearly as fast - though more romantic. Also - a speeding engine ^{- driven} ~~motor~~ craft sets up waves in a canal, which threaten to swamp the leisurely gondoliers, as they sing their songs. Hence the strike - with a demand for a law to slow down the motor boats.

The walkout lasted for forty-eight hours - no gondoliers in Venice. Which certainly must have disappointed the tourists. So today the municipal council backed down, and tonight the gondoliers are back on their boating job. In Venice - where the streets are water.

JAPAN

Tragedy. In Japan, one of those terribly swift episodes of tragic doom. At Osaka, a thirteen year old boy was bouncing a ball, which rolled into an open manhole, leading down into a pit. The boy climbed down to get his ball - and didn't come out. His father descended into the manhole to look for him - and he failed to emerge. A neighbor followed, to see what was wrong, and he never climbed back up out of the manhole. Then a fireman went down to investigate - and he did not reappear. Later, all four were taken out - asphixiated by methane gas.

FAKIR

Over in France, in the City of Lille, they are having a show, weird and wonderful - something to delight the French love of the fantastic. In a Lille cafe today, while a crowd of wine drinkers watched, an Indian fakir took his place in a glass coffin, and laid down on a bed of jagged broken glass ^{- - along with} ~~and with him~~ were a hundred poisonous snakes. Thus he expects to remain for six weeks, in an effort to break the world's record for - fasting.

Merinhdrah Burmah, a majestic wonder worker from Hindustan - six feet tall, with a white turban on his head. ^{Fakir Merinhdrah} ~~who~~ decided to show France ^{some of the} ~~exotic~~ marvels wrought by the holy men of India. Demonstrating a method of Yoga called Joghu, he said: "I am convinced that, by the Joghu system of reducing the heart beat, I can stay without food for six weeks."

On exhibition in the cafe and surrounded by wines, he will get a couple of pints of water every day, fed to him through a tube. But no, that's not all, - and it shows how western ways have invaded the

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marvels of the Orient. Into this glass coffin, along

with his bed of broken bottles and his hundred snakes, *the*

from Hindustan
fakir ~~of Hindustan~~ took five packs of French cigarettes.

LONDON BOBBIES

In London, another transformation is threatening - a change to make it all the more evident that the British Empire is not what it used to be. The proposal is - to put caps on the bobbies. Imagine a London bobby wearing anything but that black helmet, strap under chin - which for generations has been the very symbol of Piccadilly, ^{Leicester} ~~Font~~ Square, and Limehouse.

However, the London police authorities have devised a smart-looking cap, with a snappy peak. The only question being - do the bobbies want to wear it? That is now being put to a vote - the bobbies themselves to decide whether or not to banish the black helmet, which was issued to the ^{London} ~~the~~ metropolitan police eighty-six years ago.

MONEY

At Dayton, Ohio, - the mystery of the seven thousand dollars in moldering, decaying bills, found on a trash heap! City rubbish collectors discovered the money - wrapped in small packages, so damp and damaged that it took some time to make a count.

The place, a fashionable suburb^{by} the grounds behind the home of the president of a bakery company. Which was interesting - because, in that very home, several years ago, the police/arrested two hold-up men, wanted for robbery in California. The president of the bakery company denies that he knows anything about the moldering cash, but says that, shortly before the find was made, he cleaned his wine cellar, and threw out some things - "because they were all wet", as the packages of bills surely were. The two robbers ^{those years ago} arrested in the house deny that they know anything about the money.

All a mystery - with the seventy-two hundred and twenty dollars claimed by the city trash collectors, who found it.

EL

There would seem to be little relation between high tide and a New York elevated railway. But today train service was disrupted on the Third Avenue el; - because, of the tide. The water came in high, raising the level of the East River so much that a flood poured down into an excavation for a new underpass, filling it to a depth of twelve feet. The seepage threatened the underpinnings of the Third Avenue el, which might collapse, trains and all. So, in lower Manhattan, service was discontinued for five hours, while engineers went to work - the el tied up by the tide.

ROCKING CHAIR

At Muscatine, Iowa, the self-rocking rocking chair! Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Holladay declared today that they have been offered a thousand dollars for the prodigy. But they are holding out for a higher figure.

Meanwhile, they are thinking of charging admission to their home - as curiosity seekers crowd for a look at the ancient rocker, which goes back and forth all by itself.

The Holladays insist that they ^{have}~~are~~ moved their self-propelled rocking chair from one room of the house to the other. But it still goes on rocking as ^{there knitting and rocking away,} if some invisible grandmother were sitting ~~there~~.

^{no} satisfactory explanation has been advance - though one supposition is that the house has vibrations, which cause the rocker to rock.

And now Helen, will you put down your knitting, leave your rocking chair and join the party?