

**GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:**

( In the House of Commons tonight, the Churchill Government won a vote of approval of its plan for changes in the Nationalized Health Service - Socialized Medicine. ) The Labor Party was in bitter opposition - supported by the small minority of Liberals. Some of Churchill's Conservatives were opposed to the reduction of benefits under Socialized Medicine. But the rebels were persuaded to stay in line, the bill was ekayed - three-hundred-and-four to two-hundred-seventy-nine.

MOSCOW

In Moscow today, Foreign Minister Vishinsky called the British, French and American envoys to the Kremlin - for a discussion of the note handed in, Tuesday, by the Western Big Three. We don't know what he is telling them, but, probably, it's nothing too favorable - on the subject of the Western demand that there must be free elections in Germany before a Big Power conference for a German Peace Treaty can be held. The contention being, that there must be a government of a United Germany to make peace with, and it must be a government freely elected by the Germans.

~~We hear that, when he received the note on Tuesday, Vishinsky gave it an unfavorable reception - off the cuff. He took a quick look, and said he didn't like it - but added that the message would be given due consideration. So now he has called in the Western envoys again.~~

In London the belief is that ~~there will be~~ a new Soviet note ~~which~~ will concede free elections in Germany. But - under the supervision of the Big Four, not the United Nations.

A high British official ~~has~~ states that such a proposal would be regarded in the West - with great caution. Because, with Soviet Russia sitting in on a supervision of German elections, would they be ~~not~~ really free?

However, all will be studied with plenty of deliberation. Moscow seems to be willing to go a long way - to prevent an armed Germany from becoming a member of the Western Power line-up.

INDO-CHINA

(Indo-China reports a big offensive against the Communists. Thousands of French troops - in a drive against an enemy division thrusting to within twenty miles of the vital seaport of Hanoi.) Supported by sea and air power, the land forces are thrusting to pin the Reds against the coast - where they'll be under the guns of French warships. It is the biggest offensive against the Communists in months. -

~~waters in a region of jungles and soggy rice paddies.~~

KOREA - TRUCE

At the Korea truce talks - a new snag. Another subject of argument came up today - when the Reds challenged the right of the U.N. command to speak for the people of South Korea. Hitherto, it seems to have been taken for granted that South Korea, in league with the world organization, was represented by the U.N. delegates. But the Reds now put up an argument - on what seems to be an academic, even silly, question.

ITALY

There'll be a three-power conference - on Trieste.

Great Britain, the United States, and Italy - to discuss measures for giving the government at Rome a larger voice in governing the Anglo-American Zone of the disputed seaport and its adjacent area. This - announced jointly by the Three Powers. Rome says the conference is likely to be held in London.

All - following days of disturbance in Italy, with crowds demanding the Italian possession of Trieste. This <sup>is</sup> ~~the~~ uproar, <sup>still</sup> ~~was~~ on today - on a smaller scale.

POLITICS

( The Semi-Official French News Agency  
declares tonight that General Eisenhower will ask to  
be ~~relieved~~ <sup>(relieved)</sup> of his European command on April Second,  
or shortly thereafter. ) The date is of key importance  
in General Ike's military affairs abroad. On April  
Second he is to present a report, as Commander under  
the Atlantic Pact ~~--- reporting on~~ <sup>--- telling of</sup> progress made.

Earlier today, the Chicago Daily News said  
it had reliable information that the resignation will  
come "at any moment now." General Ike -- to submit it  
to President Truman through Secretary of Defense  
Robert Lovett.

## TAX SCANDALS

~~The~~ Senate Republican Leader, Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, testified today - explaining his connection with the tax case of Hyman Harvey Klein of Baltimore. Who ran an investment of a thousand dollars into five million - in a Canadian whiskey deal.

It has been testified that the Senator communicated with tax officials, as did also the Washington mystery man, Henry Gruenwald, called the "Silent Dutchman" - because of his way of not answering questions about his connection with scandals of income tax. (Klein says he didn't know either the Senator or the Dutchman - and has testified that he was much astonished to learn of their interest in his tax trouble.)

Today Senator Bridges declared that he intervened at the request of William Power Maloney, attorney for Gruenwald. (Maloney, a friend of his; - and the Senator also knew Gruenwald. But he was not ~~acquainted~~ acquainted with Klein. <sup>Sen</sup> Bridges declares that



he acted in the normal way of a member of Congress - only to encourage what he calls "quick and proper action." ) But today he conceded: "If I had known the facts in the case, I would not have got involved."

## TRANS-AMERICA

The Federal Reserve Board has voted to break up - Trans-America, the largest banking empire on earth. Dissolve the stupendous financial institution founded by the late A.P. Giannini, son of an Italian emigrant, who started out with a small San Francisco bank early in the century <sup>- after the San Fran. Fire,</sup> Now - a combine with ~~six-hundred-and-sixty-seven~~ branch banks in five western states. With deposits of seven billion dollars - and about half the bank loans of the nation.

The decision is based on the Anti-Trust Law, and would require Trans-America to get rid of affiliate banks, with ~~one-hundred-and-thirty-seven~~ branches. But the Giannini concern would retain The Bank of America, the world's largest individual bank - with its ~~five-hundred-and-thirty~~ branches. So that - even the split-up would leave the Gianninis with a vast financial empire.

Two years are allowed for the dissolution.

But Trans-America will appeal to the courts, and that may take years.

(The Trumans are living in the White House again - after three years in ~~the~~ Blair House.) The President returned from his Florida vacation today, and, with Mrs. Truman, went home to the old presidential residence. They walked in - beaming and smiling. Yesterday we heard that H.S.T. might carry his wife in. But, if that was the idea, he decided ~~again~~ ~~again~~ against it. Or - maybe she did.

Anyway, ~~it~~ was a happy home-coming to the renovated White House, which will promptly break into the splendor of a royal visit of state. <sup>The</sup> Queen Juliana of Holland and her husband, Prince Bernhardt, arrive on Wednesday - and will stop at the presidential mansion during their three days in Washington.

SOVIET CRASH

( Word comes through of a frightful air disaster in Soviet Russia - where a crowded airliner collided with a military transport, also crowded. Seventy lives lost.

At the Moscow airport, a civilian plane was coming in to land, but overshot the field - and just beyond a military transport was taking off. The one - crashing into the other. Said to be the worst air disaster that Russia has known since the Second World War.

## CRASH

In Kansas today, forty-five airline passengers were praising a pilot - and well they might. The big plane, flying from Denver to Dallas, seemed to be doomed - when a starboard engine caught fire. Pilot Jack Stanford of Dallas steered for an immediate landing <sup>-- with only</sup> ~~about 100 miles~~ ~~west of~~ ~~the~~ ~~city~~ ~~of~~ ~~Wichita~~, ~~Kansas~~ ~~farmland~~ below. He started out from six thousand feet, and at three thousand - the blazing engine dropped clear out of the wing. But Stanford made it, and brought the burning plane down on a wheat field. The forty-five passengers got out in a hurry, ~~as~~ as did the four-man crew - and, within minutes, the airliner was one mass of flames.

Today Pilot Jack Stanford was shrugging off the praise. Saying: "The only sensible thing to do was land." As simple as that <sup>a</sup> ~~^~~ wheat field, emergency landing, with a plane on fire, and a blazing motor falling out.

## SNAKES

A late story reports one of the weirdest of thefts - in Denver. Sacks of snakes - taken from the automobile of a Denver dealer in reptiles. And one is - a King Cobra, among the deadliest of serpents.

Hard to figure why anybody would steal sacks of snakes - but the belief is that the crook thought them all harmless. Which they all were; - except that King Cobra. That burglar had better, well that Cobra will get him if he don't watch out!

## CAVE IN

At Salida, Colorado - just below the Continental Divide - they say that Charles Dennis is alive -- because of stones and rocks that fell on him. He was caught in the cave-in of a well, and buried for twelve hours. Rubble piled over his head for five feet. Stones and rocks mostly; and that was lucky.

Dennis, a laborer from Denver, was working at the bottom of a fifteen foot well, when the sides gave way. And he was, buried standing up; and it took the rescuers a long time to dig down through the five feet of rubble and reach the head of the man buried alive.

Alive he was! - and that was because of the stones. Rounded rocks, with air between - so he could breathe. If it had been dirt, he would have suffocated. Not much fun, to have a shower of stones bouncing on your head - and it must have raised a few bumps. But - in this case the rocks were life-savers.

The rescue job took all night - under flood lights. Half the people of Salida stayed up, watching - and listening. A microphone was taken down the well

- so Dennis, as they dug him out, could talk to the folks on the surface. He was cheerful throughout, and is in a hospital tonight. "Resting comfortably," say the doctors. Except, maybe, <sup>for the</sup> ~~the~~ bumps on his head.



London reports - they are looking for a proper title for the Duke of Edinburgh. Constitutional experts consulting, today, with Queen Elizabeth. What ~~title~~<sup>title</sup> to give her husband? The supposition has been - Prince Consort. Which was ~~the~~<sup>the</sup> title held by Albert, husband of Queen Victoria. But, the opinion is - ~~there~~ there should be something more suitable. Something - that might express better the present situation of Britain. So the husband of the Queen may be named - Prince of the Commonwealth. Which would signify the change of the old British Empire to an association of nations. That, we hear, was what the Constitutional experts were discussing with the Queen today. For Philip, a title entirely new - Prince of the Commonwealth.



COMMONS

In the House of Commons tonight, Conservatives won a vote on that African issue - three-hundred-eight to two-hundred-eighty-six. In case you are interested, Nelson, the House of Lords will have its debate on Monday.