

MOSCOW

In the Western Capitals, the question of a date for the summit conference - is considered of only minor importance. They'll find a way to accomodate Khrushchev - although there are a few complexities.

In accepting the western invitation to a top level parley the Soviet Premier said he couldn't make it ~~■~~ - on April twenty-seventh. So he proposed <sup>o</sup> ~~that~~ they change the time, ~~Make it -~~ April twenty-first or May ~~third~~ <sup>4th.</sup>

The reason April twenty-seventh is inconvenient for Khrushchev - is because it would keep him away from the Moscow May Day celebrations.

In London, it is pointed out that May third would be awkward for Prime Minister MacMillan, ~~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 reminder is that President Eisenhower

expects to visit Moscow sometime in May. So he might have to postpone his Russian trip, if the summit conference were held in May.

The Western Powers - to take up these problems immediately.

MOSCOW - CHRISTMAS

I don't know what's happening in Moscow, but the comrades are sure going in for sweetness and light. A hard boiled Communist should hate Christmas. Religion being - "the opiate of the people," ~~XXX~~ according to Marx.

But a Kremlin spokesman, today, called a news conference with an apology. Announcing the Khrushchev acceptance of a summit conference, he said - he was, indeed, sorry to disturb the reporters on their holiday. "But," he added, "I have good news, which I want to share with you," Which ~~E~~ certainly sounded like the Christmas spirit.

In a message to North America, the Moscow radio said: "At this Christmas season, we are better off than we were last year. The Soviet people and the American ~~XXX~~ people will become better friends."

*And* There were Soviet Christmas greetings to countries around the globe. ~~Mar~~ Moscow news broadcast gave the information that Christmas church services were held in the Soviet Union - in Catholic Churches, *- Russian orthodox;* Also in Lutheran Churches of Latvia.

## MARTINIQUE

A French cruiser - on its way to Martinique, ~~to~~ help -  
~~in~~ suppressing political disturbances on that island in the  
Caribbean. Martinique - also caught in the wave of nationalist  
cries for independence.

Rioters - attacking shops and automobiles, striking  
windows and setting buildings on fire. Three lives lost -  
in clashes with the police.

So, today, from the French Naval Base at Brest - out  
steamed the cruiser Degrasse, bound for Martinique.



## SUPERWOMAN

In London, the superwoman spent Christmas -~~XX~~ in a hospital. Doctor Barbara Moore having collapsed after her latest exploit. She lived on fruit juice and vegetables - to which diet she attributes her phenomenal prowess. So, to prove that she really is a superwoman, she took a stroll from Edinburgh to London three-hundred-and-seventy-three miles.

In Britain, she's a headliner - and a huge crowd gathered at the Marble Arch, ~~Her~~ destination - as she came trudging in. Received - with tumultuous cheers.

The superwoman accepted the ovation - throwing her head high, and smiling. But, ~~she~~<sup>really,</sup> she was all in - and why not? She couldn't go a step farther, and an ambulance took her to the hospital.


WALLY HICKET - ALASKA U S A

The news is light tonight - so I'll tell you an Alaskan story. Mail sacks to Alaska, ever since our far northern frontier became the forty-Ninth State have been full of letters all asking much the same question. Herb Hilscher, Alaskan author, of a new book - Alaska - USA - tells me these letters usually go about as follows:

"Dear Governor Egan I am forty-five years of age, and out of a job. <sup>My</sup> ~~My~~ wife is about to have another baby. We have decided to move to Alaska. Where do you suggest we head for?"

The answer is, you had better stay right where you are - unless - unless - unless you have whatever it is that Wally Hicket has.

Wally, only a few years ago was a youngster in a small town in Kansas. When he was twenty he decided to head for Australia. In Los Angeles the British Consul said he couldn't



give him a visa without his parents' consent because he wasn't twentyone. So he stayed there eleven months, and the day he was twentyone he re-applied, only to be told ~~that~~ there <sup>now</sup> would be a ninety day delay. Fed up, he decided to buy a ticket to the place farthest away that he could get ~~with~~ with what money he had left. The best he could do was a <sup>ticket</sup> ~~steerage~~ <sup>^</sup> to Seward, Alaska, where he arrived with thirty-seven cents, ~~in his pocket~~.

In Seward and nearby Anchorage, he ~~as~~ washed dishes and did odd jobs ~~in~~ on the Alaska Railway, - ~~the one line that runs a few hundred miles into the interior, to Fairbanks.~~

One day he heard about a fight promoter who was offering one hundred and twenty five dollars to anyone who could stay in the ring for eight rounds with a certain welter-weight pro. Wally accepted the challenge. He not only lasted the ~~eight~~ eight rounds, he won the fight.



Then he went on fighting and used his earnings to buy materials with which he built a house - with his own hands. This he sold for a handsome profit. He built more houses, sold them and built a hotel - much of it with his own hands. The Travellers Inn, in Anchorage. And then a larger one in Fairbanks. Now he's getting ready to build a fourteen story ultra-modern hotel, The Captain Cook, on a ~~spectacular~~ bluff overlooking ~~the~~ Cook Inlet and its <sup>spectacular</sup> snow-capped mountains. It will cost around Eight Million Dollars.

The young Kansan is now a real Alaskan millionaire.

So our Forty-Ninth State is a land of opportunity if - you have the drive, the enthusiasm, the sagacity, the imagination of a Wally Hickel.

*In which case you probably will be a success anywhere.*



## BURRO

This morning, the Coast Guard in Florida - reported a strange sight, ~~A~~ cabin cruiser, abandoned at sea - with a burro standing on the deck.

What on earth was a donkey doing aboard a cabin cruiser? *- at sea?*

Well, the Coast Guard was going ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> the rescue, and we could only wait - for an explanation. So now - we have it.

The Reverend and Mrs. Don Powell had a mission on Mangrove Key in the Bahamas, and thought - they needed a donkey for transportation. So, with ~~the~~ their three children and the family dog, they made a voyage to Miami, where they bought a burro - and took it aboard, starting homeward bound - for the Bahamas.

But their cabin cruiser was caught in a storm. Things looking dangerous - when a steamship came along, and picked them up. The Powell family - and the dog. But, in the heavy seas, they couldn't rescue the burro - which remained there, on ~~the~~ the deck.

When the ~~the~~ Coast Guardsmen arrived, they found a mournful donkey - soaking wet, and sea sick.

**BURRO - 2**

Tonight, in Florida, the burro is ok - able to eat his

oats.

Page Henry Volinere, deciding to play the good

man for his children, wanted to be sure they wouldn't

recognize him. Henry has perfected his disguise.

So, the kids didn't recognize him and neither the family

dog, who attacked Santa Claus furiously, and took two

filled out of Henry's leg.

Merry Christmas Henry, and I hope you have had

a merry one - Dick - you and your wife and your two

lovely daughters.

## SANTA CLAUS

At midnight, last night, Santa Claus made his appearance at the home of the Molinaro family, in Pittsburgh. And you never saw a better version of Kris Kringle. Completely convincing - with his red coat and white whiskers. And the pack on his back - with all the toys. Result - Santa Claus had to go to the doctor for treatment.

Papa Henry Molinaro, deciding to play the good saint for his children, wanted to be sure they wouldn't recognize him. Hence the perfection of his disguise. No, the kids didn't recognize him and neither the family dog, who attacked Santa Claus furiously, and took two bites out of Henry's leg.

Merry Christmas Henry, and I hope you have had a merry one - Dick - you and your wife and your two lovely daughters.

**WIFE**

W.I. - 0122. MONDAY. SE. 23. 1952.

At Santa Fe, New Mexico, Mrs. Lillie Grigo -  
bought her husband a rifle for Christmas. Then shot him  
with it.

When hubby came home Christmas Eve night he had  
had a few too many! So wifey took his Christmas present  
and opened fire. Hitting him in the leg.

I hope you - all of you have had a more  
successful Christmas than that - and so long until  
Monday.

President Eisenhower, today, gave his approval  
of that. London agrees, and Paris is saying, that the  
precise date proposed is May Sixteenth. Which, in all  
probability is correct.