

C.T. - Sunoco. Wed., May 19, 1943.

5/19

UNION

Here's the latest bit of news tonight -- a bulletin of number one importance from the world of labor. John L. Lewis <sup>and</sup> ~~of~~ the United Mine Workers have applied for readmittance <sup>into</sup> ~~to~~ the American Federation of Labor. This is <sup>just</sup> ~~is~~ announced by the A.F. of L. Executive Council.

Lewis was the leader of the C.I.O. when it broke off from the A.F. of L. in Nineteen~~Th~~irty-Six. Later, he and his miners' union split with the C.I.O. Now, he moves to lead the miners back into the A.F. of L. President Green of the Federation says he will appoint a committee to consider the application.

COAL

From Johnstown, Pennsylvania, comes word of strikes that bode no good in the coal mine labor dispute. Union chief John L. Lewis has extended the coal mine truce until June First, but this is ignored by twenty-seven hundred miners, who walked out today at Johnstown. The strike has shut down three coal mines. The miners held a mass meeting last night and ~~expressed their opposition to the John L. Lewis truce to allow more time for the negotiation of a new contract between the union operators.~~ They voted to strike - in spite of the fact that the United States Government has taken over the mines. And so three coal pits were shut down today.

## EXTORTION

Two important labor leaders were indicted in New York today, Joseph S. Fay, international vice-president of the Union of Operating Engineers, and James Bove, international vice-president of the Hod Carriers ~~and Common Labor~~ Union, ~~of America~~. Both ~~unions are~~ A.F. of L. The two are accused of extortion to the tune of seven hundred and three thousand dollars. Fay and Bove are alleged to have exacted that much money from employers, on the threat of calling strikes. The employers named in the indictments include contractors working on a huge New York City water project - and Kaiser, the shipbuilder.

## ETHIOPIA

One of the delegates to the Food Conference at Hot Springs, Virginia, is Yelma Deressa, who represents Ethiopia - the restored Haille Selassie regime at Addis Ababa. And ~~this~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~statesman~~ statesman from East Africa appears to have some highly traditional ideas about money. <sup>It</sup> When he arrived by plane to attend the Food Conference, he had some battered old valises for baggage. These he took with him to Washington, and proceeded to the State Department. There he opened them, and out gleamed a glitter of gold. There were heaps of gold coins, old coins - British sovereigns, some of which dated away back to Queen Victoria's reign.

Yelma Deressa of Ethiopia explained that he hadn't had time to procure American currency in London, so for cash he had brought gold - two quarts of British sovereigns worth about eleven thousand dollars.

Well, Ethiopia is supposed to have been the

kingdom of the Queen of Sheba, and what were the gifts that she brought to King Solomon? Gold, frank incense and myrrh, I believe. And now, more than twenty-five hundred years later, we find the Ethiopian delegate arriving for the Hot Springs Food Conference - ~~and~~

bringing gold, *ancient gold, traditional gold.*

Today began the second week of the latest bombing cycle against Nazi Germany. <sup>Another</sup> ~~For seven consecutive~~ days, violent assaults were launched with calculated regularity, and this was the eighth day of the same thing. The high spot, of course, was the bombing of the dams - and news still keeps coming in about the havoc wrought by the inundating waters in the Ruhr Valley, the heart of the war production. But every other day of the weeklong series of attacks witnessed heavy devastation, bombs hurled upon the Nazis at an average of more than a thousand tons a day.

~~Today - the wires flashed the news of another~~ raid by American Flying Fortresses. - They <sup>smashed</sup> ~~hit~~ submarine yards at Kiel and Flensburg. Following the round-the-clock schedule, the Americans sally forth by day, the British by night, and so, after the Flying Fortress expedition in the clear light, we may assume

that British bombers are on their ~~nightly~~ <sup>night</sup> job in the dark hours over Europe, right now.

With the bombing news comes the story of a psychiatrist. Modern war, especially the war in the air, attaches a lot of importance to those physicians of the mind, who study the psychological reactions of men in battle. One of these is Lieutenant David G. Wright of Philadelphia, ~~He is~~ a United States Air Force Psychiatrist, in England, <sup>who</sup> ~~and goes on bombing raids to observe ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ the reactions of the embattled airmen.~~ <sup>who</sup> He went along, ~~for example,~~ when Flying Fortresses recently assailed the German submarine base at Lorient, <sup>and</sup> today we have the story of ~~how~~ the Philadelphia psychiatrist, who is being hailed as a hero - for bringing <sup>the</sup> a bombing crew home alive. He didn't do it with psychiatry, however. It took something a good deal less soulful.

The fortress was at lofty altitude - oxygen altitude. The doctor was amidships with the bombardier. The plane was under attack by Nazi fighters, and the bombardier had a feeling that something was wrong to the rear. The psychiatrist went aft to investigate, and discovered that plenty was wrong. He found a gaping hole in the tail of the Fortress, a shattered hole three feet across. ~~That was~~ <sup>And</sup> from the explosion of a German shell. The tail gunner's turret was blasted wide open. The gunner lay wounded. ~~Another crew member,~~ <sup>And a</sup> the technical sergeant ~~was~~ was unconscious - his oxygen supply had been hit and put out of commission by the shell.

That was no situation for psychiatry - it was something for a general practitioner. So the scientist of the mind became just an ordinary doctor. He administered artificial respiration to the unconscious technical sergeant whose oxygen had been knocked out,



revived him, and supplied him with emergency oxygen. While doing the hasty job, his own oxygen mask went haywire, and he slumped unconscious. A crew member fixed the doctor's oxygen and he revived, and on the way home gave the wounded gunner the necessary medical treatment. So the technical sergeant and the tail gunner owe their lives to the psychiatrist who turned general practitioner.

ATTU

Last night we made the assumption that on the Island of Attu, the ~~two~~ <sup>two</sup> American forces had joined hands - after capturing the ridge. This turns out to be correct - with today's Navy communique telling us that the Americans pushing southward from Holtz Bay, and the outfit driving north from Massacre Bay, have met. They came together in a pass of the steep and rugged ridge that had separated them. So now our soldiers are <sup>on Attu</sup> in a continuous line across the neck of land that connects the main part of the island with the smaller sections extending east. And that cuts the Jap forces in two - separating the enemy soldiers on the ~~remaining~~ part of Attu from their comrades who are on the eastern extension of the island.

It would appear that the American command will concentrate first on that eastern extension, and ~~will~~ wipe out the Japs there. These have retired,

leaving only snipers to impede our soldiers' advance.

*TP* *groups of Japs:*—

There are two ~~hostile parties~~ one along Holtz Bay,

near a harbor called - Chichagof. <sup>there</sup> They are being backed

against the sea - to be wiped out. ~~there~~ <sup>TP</sup> Then our forces

will turn against the Japs on the larger part of the

island of Attu. (American strategy in the landings on

the two sides of the neck of land is in accord with that

prime military maxim - divide the enemy forces, and then

defeat each isolated part in detail.)

~~Officials in Washington are exceedingly cheerful~~

~~about the situation at Attu, more particularly because~~

~~the American losses have been so small - casualties~~

~~unexpectedly light. However, they wish the weather~~

~~would improve up there, in that Aleutian haunt of~~

~~ferocious weather, and provide one clear day - just one~~

~~day of clear blue skies so that our bombers could go to~~

~~work on the Japs with unimpeded vision and sharpshooting~~  
~~marksmanship.~~

Corey Fad.

May 19, 1943.

SHORT CUT TO TOKYO

*We are mighty*

~~If you are~~ interested in that battle up

at Attu, - and ~~we all are~~ here's a book ~~you will~~  
~~want~~ to read. The title, ~~is~~ SHORT CUT TO TOKYO -  
the battle of the Aleutians. The author, ~~is~~  
Corey Ford, who has recently flown down from the  
Aleutians.

Aside from Corey Ford's description of  
the incredible weather in the Aleutians, the  
worst weather in the world, of which we have heard  
so much, I was interested in some things he had  
to say about one of the rarest and most valuable  
of all animals, the sea otter. Corey Ford reminds  
us that it was the sea otter that caused the  
Russians to discover Alaska in the first place.  
And it was not until they had practically  
exterminated them that they sold Alaska to us.  
The sea otter once lived both on land and in the

water. But, it became so terrified by man that Ford now tells me the sea otter, the few that are left, live only in the water, and are found off Attu, Amchitka, and a few other of the more remote Aleutian Islands trying to escape from man. And now look at them. They are right in the middle of a battle!

Also, Corey Ford tells me the Japs have done something more than just occupy a few of our Alaskan islands. But he's sitting beside me, so let's ask him about that.

COREY FORD: What I was saying to <sup>Lowell Thomas</sup> ~~you Mr. Thomas~~

was this: The Japanese actually made elaborate detailed plans for colonizing our Aleutian Islands. In fact they say that five million Japanese can be supported on those lonely isles of storm which under Uncle Sam's regime have been almost uninhabited.

L.T. And what about that Christmas tree story?

COREY FORD: I happened to be in the Aleutians this Christmas and one of the things I discovered was there isn't a single solitary tree in the Aleutians for a thousand miles. Well, that isn't quite true: There's one tree, on Umnak Island; a couple of Army pilots flew it all the way from the mainland ~~km~~ of Alaska and it's growing today inside a wooden stockage <sup>d</sup> with a sign "Umnak National Forest". But out in the Adreanofs, on Christmas Eve, we had a tree, just the same. The men went out behind the base and gathered armloads of tundra moss, and fastened it with baling wire in the shape of a small tree. They shaved a bar of soap for artificial snow; and for Christmas tree ornaments they hung ~~xxx~~ some empty fifty caliber armor-piercing shells they found in a B-24 that had just returned from a

raid on Kiska. (They made cornucopias out of red filmpac backs, and filled them with seabiscuit and compressed chocolate; and someone hung a thirty caliber bullet inside a red-and-green tobacco tin, and hung it from the ceiling for a bell.) Finally one of the men folded a red cellophane gas-mask over to make a Star of Bethlehem for the top of the tree. But the saddest touch of all was an enlisted man who got a present under the tree from the Chaplain. You see, there weren't many presents way out there; and he showed ~~m~~<sup>me</sup> what he'd gotten. "Look what they give me", he said, "no women for a thousand miles, and they give me an address book".

L.T. We all hope the title of your book ~~ix~~ is prophetic, Corey Ford, and that the Aleutians are going to provide us with our Short Cut To Tokyo - and that we hurry up about it. For the Japs are



working feverishly to build up the defenses of the vast empire they have taken from the Chinese, the French, the Dutch, the British and from us. ~~Every week we give them the harder it's going to be to free our men of Bataan, and our Wake Island Marines. Japan is our most dangerous enemy.~~

## CHURCHILL

The address that Prime Minister Winston Churchill made to Congress today was obviously designed to meet a good deal of congressional criticism that has been voiced, and loudly voiced, of late. For example, there was Senator ~~Happy~~ Chandler of Kentucky, who excoriated the policy of licking Hitler first - and letting the Japs wait. He demanded that we concentrate on the Japs; and, there have been complaining surmises that, when the European war was won, the United States might be left to bear the burden of fighting the Far Eastern enemy.

Today the British Prime Minister <sup>pointed to</sup> ~~gave Congress~~ ~~repeated assertions, repeating former pledges that~~ ~~Britain would be in full strength beside the United States in the final crushing of the Jap. He pointed~~ to the fabulous Eastern Empire that Britain has lost to the Tokyo militarists, ~~so Britain has the greatest~~

~~possible interest out there~~, "Let no one suggest,"  
proclaimed Churchill, "that we British have not at least  
as great an interest as the United States in the  
unstinting and relentless waging of war against Japan."

He pointed to a sign and portent that we have  
noted before - the fact that Churchill is accompanied  
in Washington by the top ranking commanders of the ~~British~~  
British forces in Asia, including Indian army commander,  
General Wavell. Their presence has given a vivid  
impression of Far Eastern angles in the ~~RXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
Roosevelt-Churchill war talks. The Prime Minister today  
expressed the idea in ironic words, that drew a round  
of laughter in Congress. Speaking of the presence in  
Washington of the British Asiatic heads, he said:  
"they have not traveled all this way simply to concern  
themselves about improving the health and happiness of  
the Mikado of Japan."

~~And~~ Churchill enunciated a formula for the theory of licking Hitler first. The formula, he said, was agreed upon by himself and President Roosevelt, when they conferred in Washington during the month after Pearl Harbor. Then they laid down a program for winning the war. The general formula was today expressed by Winston Churchill in the following words: "It was evident," said he, "that while the defeat of Japan would not mean the defeat of Germany, the defeat of Germany would mean infallibly the ruin of Japan." So that's the maximum, on the soundness of which hangs the wisdom of the policy of - "lick Hitler first."

As for doing that particular job, Churchill laid down <sup>a</sup>~~the~~ principle concerning air power, the bombing of the Nazis. Can Germany be bombed into defeat? He said: "Opinion is divided as to whether the use of air power could by itself, bring about the collapse

of Germany or Italy." And to this he added the following measured judgment: "The experiment is well worth trying so long as other measures are not excluded."

*As he*  
~~he exclaimed~~ *put it!* "there is certainly no harm in finding out."

~~So there is the theory. The violent daily bombing hurts and weakens Germany, and at the same time it is an experiment to find out whether the bombing can cause a Nazi collapse.~~

The same theory will be applied to the Japs, with Churchill speaking of what he called "the process, so necessary and desirable, of laying the cities and other munitions centers of Japan in ashes - for in ashes they must surely lie before peace comes back to the world," *said he.*

As for an invasion of Europe, that will come - "in due course," *said Winston Churchill.*

