

Substitute UMT

The House of Representatives spent today throwing - somersaults. That's the best way to describe a series of reversals that changed from "yes" to "no", and back to "yes" again. <sup>Then</sup> ~~But~~ finally - "no". Subject - the bill for U.M.T. which has been pigeon-holed. Sent back to the House Armed Services Committee - an overwhelming defeat for the Administration.

First came a triumph for U.M.T., the bill to give all <sup>our young men</sup> ~~young men~~ military training in army camps. A striking victory for the administration following an eloquent speech by the Speaker of the House, Sam Rayburn of Texas. Rayburn addressed the Congressmen as "a very old friend" of theirs, reminding them of his long service in Congress. On this basis, he argued in favor of U.M.T. and got an ovation.

~~But~~ <sup>Then</sup> - bang! Another vote - and U.M.T. was tossed out. The House plumped in favor of a substitute brought in by Congressman Brownson, an

Indiana Republican - who proposed that military training be given in high schools - ROTC.

Then, another reversal. The House - rejecting the high school ROTC program. Reversing the previous reversal. Followed by still another vote - whether or not to send the bill for U.M.T. back to a Committee - for a re-study. Which might delay the whole thing indefinitely.

Somersaults indeed. With back flips.

The final vote - sends the bill back to the Committee in a stunning blow to Democratic House Leaders; ~~Here is the vote:~~ <sup>By</sup> Two-hundred-and-thirty-six to one-hundred-and-sixty-two.

~~As <sup>Said</sup> ~~Chairman~~ Carl Vinson~~ of Georgia, Chairman of the Armed Services Committee; ~~put it,~~ "the bill is dead for this session".

RED SUBMARINES

The Dominican Republic makes a protest to Soviet Russia -- charging that Red submarines have been sent into Dominican waters. There have been reports of mysterious undersea craft off the coast of the West Indian Island -- and now <sup>the</sup> Dominican Government states it will bring the case before the United Nations.)

~~the Dominican Government has stated~~ Saying it has been "definitely confirmed" that the submarines were -- Russian.

CORPORAL

The State Department discloses what information it has about Corporal Alexander Czarnecki (Char-neski) of Ozone Park, New York. He's an American soldier of Polish extraction, said to have taken refuge behind the Iron Curtain, seeking political asylum in Communist Poland. That's the story the Reds give.

The State Department declares that Corporal Czarnecki was attached to a unit of the Sixth Cavalry at Landshut, Germany - and vanished fifteen months ago. Nothing was heard from him for more than six months, until last June, when a note arrived in the U.S. Embassy at Prague - smuggled in.

The note, signed with the name of the Corporal, said: "I want to inform you that I am detained at the district prison <sup>in</sup> ~~at~~ Prague," and <sup>then it</sup> went on to appeal to the Embassy for aid.

An inquiry was made, but the <sup>Embassy people</sup> ~~Reds~~

~~Reds~~ could get no satisfaction from Red officials.

They tried to see the American soldier, tried to find out on what charges he was held - but it was no go. The Communists would not admit they knew anything about the missing G.I.,

until Friday of last week - when the Red Government replied with a note stating that Corporal Czarnecki deserted from the U.S. Army, and asked to be admitted into Red Poland - as a political refugee. The note stated that Czarnecki disagreed with American foreign policy - the usual stuff about imperialism and war-mongering. <sup>P</sup>"The wording of his reported request for asylum," says the State Department, "was merely a hackneyed ~~parrot~~ <sup>parrot</sup> of the Communist line." American officials giving the opinion that it might be - "the result of pressure." So the word from Washington is that the United States is making a demand on Red Poland - insisting that U.S. officials be permitted to visit Czarnecki.

At Ozone Park, Long Island, the Corporal's mother says she does not believe her son ever went willingly to Red Poland. He has two brothers, both veterans. One served in World War Two, The other in Korea - where he was wounded, and earned a military decoration. A sister of the Corporal is a Roman Catholic nun. The mother says that she is the only member of

the family who has ever been in Poland - all part of a background which certainly does not jibe with any story of a G.I. fleeing behind the Iron Curtain.

All this is accompanied by further word from the State Department that two other Americans, a soldier and civilian, are believed to be held in Red Czechoslovakia, after entering illegally last year. Efforts to get information <sup>about</sup> ~~in~~ them have been futile. <sup>We hear</sup> At the same time, we are told, negotiations are progressing <sup>to set free</sup> ~~the~~ American Newspaperman William Oatis, whom the Reds of Czechoslovakia have in prison on a charge of "espionage." Officials in Washington <sup>say</sup> ~~declare that the~~ hope for his release is - better.

KOREA - TRUCE

At Panmunjom today, the arguments echoed back and forth. The Allies insisting that no prisoners should be forced to go back to Communist territory against their will, while the Reds insist that all prisoners must be returned. As Admiral Libby said after the meetings: "The repatriation issue is back where it was on December Eighteenth."

Meanwhile, in the other tent, our negotiators report ~~that there was~~ "practically no progress" on the question of Russia as a truce supervisor.

Today's meeting lasted less than  
15 mins.

## JAPAN - EARTHQUAKE

~~Five reports~~  
~~are~~ <sup>The first real reports</sup> are now coming in ~~now~~ from the Japanese islands of Honshu and Hokkaido, following last night's earthquake and tidal waves. General Ridgway's headquarters <sup>tells of</sup> reports some ten thousand people homeless, two hundred dead, wounded, or missing. The tidal waves that crashed along the shores and swept inland <sup>along</sup> ~~across~~ the coast appear to have done most of the damage. In their wake, they left smashed fishing vessels, docks, derailed trains, and inundated villages.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Air Force has begun an emergency airlift of food, clothing and medical supplies, ~~flying in aid~~ <sup>for</sup> the victims of the worst Japanese earthquake since Nineteen Forty-Eight.



## MOSCOW

In Moscow, as picturesque a throng as you'll find on earth - has gathered. The Supreme Soviet - which is the nearest thing to a parliament in the vast lands of Russia. Of course, all actual power is exercised by Stalin and his Politburo. But the Supreme Soviet meets once a year, and makes up in colorful spectacle - what it may lack in real authority.

Delegates ranging from Moscow technicians - to tribesmen of the Arctic and <sup>the</sup> barbaric solitudes of Central Asia, who have traveled by railroad or plane, <sup>by</sup> reindeer sled or <sup>(two-humped)</sup> camel caravan. Members of fifty nationalities - many in the native dress of ancient tradition. Some in costumes of the Caucasus fit for brigands - with cloaks and daggers. Others in reindeer skin of the polar shore, or the silken robes of the ~~Uzbeks~~ <sup>of Uzbekistan.</sup>

The main business of the Supreme Soviet is more modern - and ominous! - The budget, which they'll

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okay - the amounts of money which the Stalin regime proposes to spend for various purposes. Number One purpose - military, the build-up of that enormous Red war machine.

A lighter bit of news tells of a Communist move - to change the game of chess. Which form of mental acrobatics is hugely popular in Russia - subsidized and encouraged by the Soviet Government. But the symbols of the game are most aristocratic, <sup>and</sup> medieval: - the king, the queen, the knight, and the bishop. ~~we~~ we hear that proletarian substitutes may be put in their place. Chess pieces might be named after heroes of Soviet industry, champions of digging coal or puddling steel.

~~I telephoned the magazine "Chess Review,"~~  
~~today, and asked~~ "What are the traditional names of the chess pieces in Russian? Do they say - king, queen, bishop?" The answer was - not exactly. The king, yes. Called - "Korol," which means king in Russian; while

"Tzar" means emperor. But the Queen is different - the Russians using an old Persian word, meaning - Vizier, oriental prime minister. Which reminds us that the game of chess came from the East, via Persia. In the U.S.S.R. the ecclesiastical bishop has a name meaning - elephant, reminiscent of - India. So chess in Russia already has a flavor of the Orient - instead of medieval Europe.

The name of the game in Russian has the same origin as elsewhere - royal. Derived from the Persian - shah, meaning - king. We still say the Shah of Persia. Evidently the Reds want to get rid of even mentioning oriental royalty!

## BRITAIN

In London today, the extreme Left Wing of the British Labor Party and its leader, Aneurin Bevan, suffered what is described as their "worst defeat." The vote came at a secret caucus of Labor leaders, called to discuss a vote of censure against Prime Minister Churchill brought by <sup>"Nye"</sup> Bevan <sup>| This |</sup> called for a cut in Britain's four billion dollar rearmament program, and a boost for the social welfare scheme. Though the meeting was secret, word did leak out, and we learn that the Party leaders voted down the <sup>"Nye"</sup> Bevan motion three-to-one. Which would seem to indicate former Prime Minister Attlee still in full control of the British Labor Party - handing Aneurin Bevan his "worst defeat."

MORAN

In New York, a ~~severe~~<sup>stiff</sup> sentence was imposed on James J. Moran today - long time political associate of former Mayor William O'Dwyer. The judge gave him from twelve-and-a-half to twenty-five years in prison - Moran having been convicted of running a half-a-million-dollar-a-year shake-down racket in the New York City Fire Department. In addition to which he had already been sentenced on a charge of perjury before the Kefauver Crime Committee. He drew five years for that - which may be added to the sentence imposed today. Actually, the verdicts of guilty were such that Moran could have been given a total of three-hundred-and-forty-eight years in jail. But what he does get is plenty severe - for the fifty-year-old politician who was on the public payroll for twenty-two years, and rose to high office under Mayor O'Dwyer.

## FLIES

Now let's have an old refrain - "Shoe fly, don't you bother me." Today brings a warning from an organization called - The National Pest Control Association. "Pest" is the right word, because the warning is - flies and more flies. We are told that the champion nuisance among the insects is taking an early start this year, which threatens a plague of buzzing flies this coming summer. A pest control expert notes that flies usually begin to hatch about the middle of April. But this year they began to appear - in February. The earliest - in the past thirty years.

One explanation is that the insects are becoming immune to D.D.T. - that number one destroyer of pests. They say a more hardy race of flies is developing - which resist the poison of D.D.T. and even start hatching in Feb. instead of April.

Anyway, housewives are advised to take precautions - which consist, mostly, of sanitary measures. Also, have your screens in good order this approaching summer.

Just to scare the daylights out of people, the pest

control expert <sup>says</sup> ~~gives a figure to illustrate the fertility of the~~  
~~common house fly - the way the critter will breed. He says~~  
~~these~~ experiments show that one pair of common flies could start  
breeding in April, And, by August, they'd produce <sup>(one)</sup> ~~one~~ hundred and  
ninety-one septillion flies. To get an idea of the size of the  
figure, just consider <sup>that it has</sup> ~~one~~ <sup>twenty-four</sup> zeros.

~~Which certainly is enough to make one sing - 'Shoo fly,~~  
~~don't you bother me.'~~

## WEATHER

The weather is acting up in the Mississippi Valley <sup>and</sup> ~~in~~ the South. From Wisconsin to Missouri - a bitter cold wave, winds up to forty miles an hour, the blizzard so bad that snow plows have to take shelter. ~~shut~~ <sup>Wait it</sup> out, before they can rip into the huge drifts.

Arkansas to Georgia - tornadoes. A whole series of small, but vicious, twisters wrecked houses over a wide area today. In Texas, a tornado changed from a circular storm, and blew straight ahead - a line squall. Slamming - all the way to Georgia, to the coast. Tremendous hail storms, too. Thunder and lightning and hail stones as big as golf balls.



## QUEEN

In London, Queen Elizabeth the Second has -- picked her birthday. She was born on April Twenty-first, but that will not be the date for the celebration of the royal nativity. In this, the new sovereign follows the custom set by her father and grandfather. Their birthdays fell at a time of year when English weather is not so good for such royal ritual as the Trooping of the Colors. Her father, King George the Sixth was born in December -- in which month London weather can be something frightful. So he changed his birthday to June Seventh -- when the chance of clear skies is much better.

April, in England, can be damp and rainy -- so Elizabeth the Second, now also chooses June. But not any one date. It will be on a Thursday in June -- and she will announce which one from year to year. For this year she has named -- June Fifth.

The royal privilege of the Queen -- to pick

her own birthday. And that I would say,

Nelson, is quite a royal privilege!