

On the eve of election, Great Britain tonight reverberated with the explosion of a political bombshell - when the Liberal Party offered to support the Labor government. That is, if neither labor nor the Conservatives gain a majority tomorrow, the Liberals will support Labor. On one condition, however - that the Labor Socialists abandon their plan to nationalize the iron and steel industry, and agree to halt further nationalization for the next five years.

The one-time great party of Gladstone, Asquith and Lloyd George has been a mere small fraction in recent years - but in the present political campaign the Liberals have been expressing a hope of making something of a comeback. Their hope is based on their middle position in the bitter political struggle between Labor and Winston Churchill's Conservatives. So now, in a last-minute election maneuver, they make an announcement based on a supposition that the contest may be so

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close that the Liberals will have a balance of power. In which event, they offer to support the Labor government - though with qualifications. But the Laborites immediately reply that they want no coalition with the Liberals; - and the Liberal declaration looks like a move to attract the middle-of-the-road voters.

Their supposition of a close election would seem to be borne out by the latest polls, given out in London for publication tomorrow morning - showing the smallest fraction of difference between the two major parties.

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President Truman made a declaration on foreign policy today, and the news dispatch says it is regarded in diplomatic circles as "a major restatement." Well, restatement is right - the President declaring that this country is pledged to every effort to "Avoid the horrors of another war." But we will "Use force to defend Democracy", if necessary. He said we will not go into any two-way negotiations with Soviet Russia, and added that proposals to end the cold war should go through the United Nations.

This in a Washington's birthday address, at the National Masonic Memorial, where a statue of the first President was unveiled. American foreign policy - restated.

RED TORTURE

From Washington - a report that the State Department is preparing an expose of those Red confessions - gathering information about the way prisoners behind the Iron Curtain are made to say in court what they are told to say. We hear the project was first begun after the Hungarian trial of Cardinal Mindszenty, and has been speeded by the recent confession by the American telephone executive, Robert Voegler.

We hear that it will be an expose of ultra-modern torture - an official disclosure which will revolt the civilized world.

RED ACCUSATION

A senate committee has voted to investigate charges that an official in the Commerce Department sabotaged American aid to the Chinese Nationalists. Michael J. Lee is a Far Eastern Division chief in the department, and the claim is that he used his official position to hold up shipments of aviation gasoline and other war supplies until these were of no use to the Nationalists in their battle against the Reds.

Senator Malone of Nevada, claims that the original name of Michael J. Lee was Iphraim Zinovi Lieberman, and that he was born in Manchuria of Russian parents. The Senator declares that he was refused United States citizenship on three occasions - before he changed his name and married an American woman.

The Commerce Department replies that these accusations are old stuff, and have been discussed before - but today the Interstate Commerce Committee of the Senate voted an investigation.

COMMUNISTS

In Washington today, an agent of the F.B.I., who was a Communist Party member for seven years, testified that Henry Wallace and his Progressive Party solicited votes of the Reds. Matthew Cveltic was a Red leader among Slavic-Americans in western Pennsylvania, and today he told of an interview with the former vice-president and his campaign manager, C. B. Baldwin. It was in the fall of Nineteen Forty-Seven, when the Wallace Third Party movement was being formed - and the question concerned the American-Slavic Congress, called a part of the Communist front. The witness declared that Wallace and Baldwin asked him - how many votes the American-Slavic Congress could deliver to the Progressive Party?

He said there were only about five hundred and fifty Communists in western Pennsylvania, but they got key positions in the Wallace Progressive Party - which, in that area, polled about four thousand votes.

CAVE

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation was asked today for a million dollar loan to develop a sort of "Noah's Ark" to save remnants of civilization and humanity - in case of devastation of mankind by atomic war. Lester Dill of Stanton, Missouri, owns a huge cave in the Ozarks, which he thinks is just the place.

Applying for an R.F.C. loan of a million, he says he wants to create an underground city, which could be a refuge for several thousand top ranking scientists and scholars - to keep civilization going. Also young men and women - to keep the human race going. Not to forget a selection of animals, much in the style of Noah's Ark.

"This subterranean community," says Lester Dill, "could be the nucleus for an entirely new world. The country in the immediate vicinity of the cave is excellent for farming, grazing and the beginning of a new life." So you see the picture - after worldwide atomic destruction they emerge from the cave, and start

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— in the Ozarks.

the world all over again, Jules Verne never thought of anything better than that.

The^{is} cave, centuries ago, was used by Indians as a shrine for their aboriginal Gods. More recently, it was a hideout for Jesse James and his outlaws. Now - proposed as an ultra-modern Noah's Ark in an atomic deluge.

TELEPHONE

The telephone union agrees to postpone the strike - which had been set for next Friday. This is in response to an urgent request by President Truman, who suggested a sixty day postponement, while negotiations for a settlement go on. To which the union responds - okay, strike put off for sixty days.

COAL

In the coal crisis - no real news except a repetition of alarming reports from across the country. Industry in a slow-down because of the shortage, and people at large left with dwindling supplies of coal. In New York State, the legislature today voted the dictatorial powers that Governor Dewey asked - authority to seize private stocks of coal, and impose price restrictions.

In Congress moves are being planned to permit government seizure of the mines - and negotiations continue between the union and the mine owners. But we know little of what goes on in the conferences. How little, is indicated by an interview with John L. Lewis.

As he entered the conference room today, reporters asked him if he had anything to say about the progress of the talks.

To which John L. Lewis, with majesty, replied:
"I have nothing to utter this morning for publication."

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A newsman pressed the questioning, and

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asked: "Have you anything not for publication?"

"What would you have?" said John L. Lewis
"something facetious, serious, historical, economic
or philosophical?"

Whereupon he went into the negotiations, and
we don't know what he had to say there - something
facetious, serious, historical, economic or ~~philosophical~~
philosophical.

ALLEGIANCE

This next would be most appropriate to Washington's Birthday, only it happened in Canada. - But, even so, our Canadian neighbors are at one with us in allegiance to freedom and democracy.]

Like George Washington, whose allegiance to liberty was forever unshaken.

In Ottawa, capital of Canada, an emotional outpouring of allegiance. In a court room, Canadian citizenship was being granted to a young woman from Austria, and she knew what it meant - coming from a country in the grip of totalitarian tyranny. When she took the oath of allegiance to Canada - she burst into tears. Wept with joy, wept with allegiance.

The Ottawa county judge, Canada's A. H. McDougall, tried to quiet the excess of emotion by making a light, sympathetic, humorous remark. "Now, now," he smiled. "If you must weep - I think you should do it on my shoulder."

No sooner said than done. She took the judge at his word, went to the bench, and sobbed on his

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shoulder. Burying her face in his judicial robe, she wept to her heart's content. This, in the crowded courtroom, was a climax of allegiance - to the slight embarrassment of Judge McDougall.

Later he said: "I was only trying to cheer her up, and had no idea she would take me ^{literally} ~~seriously~~ I'll know better the next time."

STROMBOLI

Here's a financial report on - "Stromboli."
That much debated movie has been in the theatres for a week. So how has it been doing, as box office?

Well, it started out under grave handicaps - or were they handicaps? There was the scandalous romance of the producer and the star, Rossellini and La Bergman. Which drew a fire of moral protest - with ministers and local politicians demanding that "Stromboli" be banned, on moral grounds. Most of the critics panned the picture unmercifully, and Rossellini himself disowned it, saying that Hollywood had cut and ruined it.

The United Press informs us that "Stromboli", on the very first day, took in sixty per cent of its total cost. It was made cheaply in Italy, for eight-hundred-and-fifty-thousand dollars, and they spend about a million over here in promotion - making it an exceedingly low cost affair, according to Hollywood rates. (~~Wednesday of last week, the film made a simultaneous appearance in theatres throughout the~~

CACTUS

Here's the doctor's report on movie actress Arlene Dahl. The surgeons have been busy performing a complicated operation, necessitated by the character of the accident that befell Arlene Dahl.

While riding in the desert, she was thrown from a horse; - and I can sympathize ^{with her on that.} ~~having been thrown from a horse on the Roof of the World.~~ But what happened to me was nothing at all - mere multiple fractures of the hip. A trifle, when compared with what happened to Arlene Dahl. The horse threw her, and she landed sitting down - in a clump of cactus. Something to see - doll sitting in a cactus patch.

Hence the complicated operation today - the doctors reporting that they extracted forty cactus needles from Arlene Dahl.

TENNIS

From London - the news of an uproar in the sedate world of British tennis. The official host of the Wimbledon Tournament has resigned - and all because of the famous lace panties of Gussie Moran.

The story goes back to Wimbledon last summer, when Gussie, the star from Santa Monica, California, played a tournament game clad in an abbreviated skirt and a display of lace that startled all England. The shock was so great, that Gussie wore the article with all the ~~x~~ frills in only one game.

The official host at Wimbledon was Colonel ^{the sedate Col. Teddy Tinling} Teddy Tinling. So you may ask - did ~~he~~ ^{he} approve of Gussie's lace panties? Why, the ^{eminent} colonel designed ^c ~~them~~.

According to the news dispatch from London today,

Colonel Teddy Tinling makes a hobby of designing what are discreetly called - feminine under-things. ^{Would you} ~~not~~

^{say, something to} take the colonel's mind off battles and campaigns? [?]

In the aristocratic circles of the all-England tennis club, there was a raising of eyebrows, ^{— until those} ~~which~~ ^{British eyebrows} practically climbed right off the face. But the

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the Colonel without even harrumphing,
doughty Colonel held his ground. Today, ~~he~~ said: "The Club Hierarchy thought the lace panties outrageous, but I thought them glamorous." ~~and sensational~~

Today there was a showdown meeting of the club committee - ~~which~~ ^{where} at the same time, Colonel Teddy Tinling disclosed to the newsmen that Gussie Moran had written to him, asking him to design something for her this coming summer at Wimbledon. "Something really sensational", says the colonel. "So will he do it? Well, he already has done it. He says he has given Gussie an article of apparel that will make the lace panty creation seem as old-fashioned as Queen Mary's hat.

As for the committee showdown today - you ~~guessed it.~~ ^{— formerly of His Majesty's Forces —} Colonel Teddy Tinling ~~resigned~~ as official host of the Wimbledon Tournament ^{was tossed right} ~~out on his--ear.~~

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Nelson. All because of Gussie's panties,