

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A late bulletin reports a revolt of negro convicts in the Florida Keys. On an island off the coast the prisoners revolted and used weapons consisting of sharp tools and what are called "bombs" of potash -- alkali. Barricaded in barracks, they fought off the police for hours. One convict killed before the revolt was suppressed tonight.

BULGARIA

In circles that have to do with Iron Curtain affairs, there's a sensation - because, in the big Red trial in Bulgaria, the chief defendant ^{refuses to confess.} ~~has withdrawn his confession.~~ Former Deputy Premier Kostov, number two Bulgarian Communist, retracts and denies the confession he made to the police.

The news about this was confusing at first, ^{but now it} ~~and it now~~ appears that Kostov, when called upon to make the usual confession, said - no, not guilty! To the police he had made a statement admitting the most abominable treason, sabotage and espionage. But, in court he would only concede that he had opposed ~~particular~~ of Soviet Russian policies in Bulgaria. Which would amount to Titoism.

The astonishment that this creates in circles familiar with Communist affairs is illustrated by the fact that it's the first time in eleven years, that an important Communist put on trial before a Red court, has pleaded - not guilty. The last time it happened was in the great Moscow purge trials, Nineteen Thirty-Eight - when Krestinski, who

had been one of the top officials of Soviet Russia, astounded everybody by refusing to confess. The prosecutor in the purge trials was Vishinsky, now the Soviet Foreign Minister, whose noise and bluster is familiar in the councils of the United Nations. Vishinsky made his usual ferocious accusation, but Krestinski replied: "I do not admit my guilt." He was taken away, and then brought into court again the next day. By this time he had changed his mind. He pleaded guilty, and confessed like the others. And, like the others, was executed.

~~In the case of Kostov~~, ^{Kostov} when ~~he~~^{he} refused to confess yesterday, he was taken out of court and given fifteen minutes to change his mind. But he came back, still repudiating the confession he had made to the police. ~~Today in court he was still spouting defiance.~~ Today in court he was still spouting defiance.

~~ago Kostov, during the night, changed his mind. But today~~
~~he was not brought into court again. He was behind~~
~~the scenes to something that was done by the~~
~~manipulation of the~~

Today, however, other defendants confessed, five of

them - and they included former big time Communists, right up there with Kostov. One, who had been Finance Minister in the Bulgarian, Red government, told a story of how he did spy work for ~~the~~ British. He said that, all along, he was a Trotskyite, who worked his way up in the Stalinist Party - on orders from chiefs of the British Intelligence. Others were equally profuse in telling how they did spy work, declaring that the chief of the ~~the~~ plot was - Kostov, who now withdraws his confession.

So matters are tangled, - and the Bulgarian Red trial is not going according to script. What's the matter with those Communists? Don't they even know how to run a trial?

Meanwhile, a new Red trial seems to be brewing in Czechoslovakia. A bulletin from Prague states:- "The Communist Czech government has begun to arrest Communist Party members because Angl^d-American Intelligence agents have infiltrated their ranks." This charge that British and

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American espionage got into the Communist Party over there,
certainly sounds like the height of something or other -
probably Titoism.

CHINA

The United Nations has referred the China question to what is called - the Little Assembly. Which is a sort of committee that is in session all year round. China ^{(demands} ~~insists~~ that the U.N. condemn Soviet Russia for helping the Chinese Reds, while the Moscow delegation claims that China should be represented in the U.N. by the Communist regime. The General Assembly, instead of giving a decision on this, puts it off by referring it to the Committee - which is instructed to hand down a report at the next meeting of the Assembly, the fall of next year.

In China, the Nationalist government has moved officially to Formosa, transferring everything to that island -- and abandoning the mainland.

ATOMIC

At Oak Ridge, Tennessee, most of the strikers went back to work today. Which is good news indeed, since the walkout was tying up construction at Atom City.

Along another atomic angle, General Groves, wartime head of the atom project, speaks up to deny impressions that his testimony yesterday was a refutation of the story of former Air Force Major George Racey Jordan. General Groves stated that he was never pressured by Harry Hopkins, confidential aide to wartime President Franklin D. Roosevelt or by former Vice-President Henry Wallace, to give atomic secrets to the Soviets. But today he says he thinks that the testimony Jordan gave should be investigated to the limit.

~~General Groves~~ General Groves declares that he ^{did} withheld atomic secrets from the former Vice-President. He says he showed one secret report to Wallace, but refrained from showing ~~him~~ four others. ^{Asked} ~~about~~ the reason why, he said: "My decisions were based on what I thought the best interests of the United States. I decided I wasn't going to show any more reports to Mr. Wallace."

FOLLOW ATOMIC

The former Vice-President is demanding a chance to appear before the Committee on Un-American activities and deny the charges against him, and he will have the opportunity. Wallace wanted to give evidence next Monday or Tuesday, but the Committee replied that its next meeting will be December nineteenth and twentieth -- and at that time he can have his say.

N.A.M.

The National Association of Manufacturers has a new President -- C. A. Putnam of Keene, New Hampshire. Meeting in New York, the N.A.M. took a vote, and the prize went to a one-time apprentice-machinist, who worked his way up to the Presidency of a machine company -- C. A. Putnam, new President of the N.A.M.

A.M.A.

Looks as if the doctors are going all-out against what they call - socialized medicine. There was drastic action today - when, in Washington, the American Medical Association voted to collect ~~the~~ a year's dues from each of its members, twenty-five dollars - to fight against "compulsory nationalized medicine."

Also - to expand voluntary health plans. ^PThe A.M.A. has nearly a hundred and forty-four thousand members - and each one, with some exemptions, will have to ante up the twenty-five bucks or be dropped from the rolls of the ^lMedican Association. Which means a probably collection of three million dollars - for the battle against the Truman program of compulsory health insurance.

All this is stated by Dr. Louis Bauer, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, who intimated that this year's assessment may continue next year, and indefinitely - if the Administration continues to push, what the doctors consider, socialized medicine.

This brings to a climax the bitter campaign the A.M.A. has been waging. Last year the Medical Association announced a similar assessment of twenty-five dollars per doctor - which drew a protest from a number of doctors. They refused to chip in. Whereupon the Association proceeded to formulate a program for increasing voluntary hospital and medical care. So now the revival of the assessment proposes to use the money to further that program - as well as to conduct propaganda against the Administration health bill, which comes up before Congress in January.

There is immediate reaction on the side of the Truman Administration, Federal Security Administrator Oscar Ewing pinning a label on the money to be raised. He calls it - "a lobbying fund."

This next news item begins twenty-six years ago - when, at the New Hampshire State House, a nine year old boy looked up at a plaque inscribed with Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. And was he astonished! Couldn't believe his eyes - because he knew the Gettysburg Address.

He called over the official guide, who showed visitors around the State House. "Say," said the nine year old, "there's a word missing." He pointed to the plaque, and sure enough - the word "created" had been omitted before the word "equal." Remember how it says - "dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal?"

Well, the boy was told that the mistake would be corrected. ^{26 yrs ago! That 9 yr. old lad is known to many} He is John Hershey, author of "Hiroshima," epic story of the atom bomb. But here's the news: Today, at the New Hampshire State House, they took down the plaque to correct the mistake. Finally, after twenty-six years! Ivory works faster than that, doesn't it, Nelson?

you today.

EXPLOSION

Tulsa, Oklahoma, had a spectacular explosion today -- and it would have been catastrophe piled on catastrophe, ten times over, except for a break of luck. As it was, the city was shaken, and people saw a dazzling display of fireworks. One eye-witness tells of ~~seeing~~ what he calls -- "a flaming ball". It was shot into the air, and was followed by towering, leaping flames.

Actually, the blast occurred in a giant oil refinery just across the Arkansas River from ^{Tulsa.} ~~Oklahoma~~. A pumping station blew up, ~~and~~ the explosion hurling the roof right off the building and flinging scrapmetal for two hundred yards. The pumping station a bursting volcano of flames, ~~a~~ billion dollars worth of damage, four employees injured, no fatalities -- in the explosion and fire right in the middle of oceans of oil. ^R A mere hundred feet away, were immense tanks containing as much as three hundred thousand gallons of gasoline. The saving grace was the wind. If the breeze had been blowing in the direction of those tanks, the whole refinery would

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have gone up in utter destruction. But, as it was, the wind behaved itself, and the fire was put out by the company employees, who did not have to call for help -- their own skill and first-rate fire fighting equipment being sufficient.

At the same time they had a spectacular exhibition near Centralia, Missouri -- where a big gas pipeline blew up. Carrying gas from the Texas Panhandle, and supplying industrial fuel all the way to Detroit, the pipeline exploded suddenly this evening, and blew a hole in the ground twenty-five feet deep. Flames soared high into the air, and the ~~stopping~~^{halt} of the flow of gas has caused factories to close down all the way from Centralia to Detroit.

BARRYMORE

A story on the news wire states that a young actor is scheduled to give ~~them~~ the soliloquy from "Hamlet." Which certainly would not seem to be news. The yen that actors have for "Hamlet" has given their profession its nickname - "ham." This particular rendition of "To Be Or Not to Be," will be on television -- ~~but~~ ^{but} I suppose that, even on video, there has been considerable spouting about "the slings and the arrows of outrageous fortune." The news is in the name - John Barrymore, son of the Great Profile.

The drama is that young John Barrymore is following in the footsteps of his father, although he never wanted to. More especially - his mother never wanted him to. She, herself, was an actress of renown - the film star Dolores Costello. ~~Her own father was the rival of the bobby-soxers of another generation - floppers, they were called then. Maurice Costello - star romancer of the old silent films.~~ Dolores Costello's marriage to John Barrymore was no dream of wedded bliss, and she never

wanted her son to become an actor.

Today, young John ~~Barrymore~~ says he saw his father only once. "That," he relates, "was Christmas ten years ago. He brought me a large model sailboat. I still have it," *he adds.*

There was, of course, the tradition of the clan, called "the Royal Family of the Theatre" -- with Lionel Barrymore and Ethel Barrymore. The boy could have become a child actor, but his mother refused - Dolores Costello. He was turned away from anything resembling a stage.

Today he says: "Why, ~~I never even went in for theatricals or that stuff at school.~~ I'd skip English classes, when there would be readings from Shakespeare. ~~I liked Shakespeare well enough, but I thought it was silly, making school kids try to read the speeches aloud.~~"

The lad loved the movies, but avoided films made by his father, and never saw one until recently - in the current revival of old-time classics of the movies. A few months ago he was persuaded to attend the showing of a

John Barrymore production called - "The Great Profile."

In New York, he takes a look at the old Plymouth Theatre, with its memories of John Barrymore in Tolstoy's "Resurrection," and that flaming melodrama, "The Jest." And, most of all, the memorable performances of Barrymore in "Hamlet."

I suppose it was just ancestry catching up with the son of John Barrymore. Anyway, he has become an actor. He started off with a secondary role in a Hollywood film, soon to be released - and he's to be given the leading role in another, soon to be made.

But, most reminiscent of all, he's to give the Hamlet soliloquy on television. "For who would bear the whips and scorns of time?" Which certainly is getting into the footsteps of father - right into the toe-prints. Not wanting to become an actor, John Barrymore's son becomes a - "Ham-let." He weakened - he lost out. Or, as the soliloquy says:

"Thus conscience does make cowards of us all,
And thus the native hue of resolution →

~~~~~> is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought.

↑ Strange how lines from Shakespeare so often hit the spot!

Have your Shakespeare — any ham  
in you, Nelson?