

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY

Uncle Sam's Navy appears to have a mystery on its hands. It sounds like the most baffling since the United States Navy Collier "Cyclops" disappeared without a trace somewhere in the Caribbean during the First World War.

On July Twenty-Fourth, three small ships, all new landing craft left Panama City, with crews whose numbers added up to a hundred a five men. They were to have docked at New Orleans July Thirtieth. Late today, the Headquarters of the Eighth Naval District announced that nothing has been heard or seen of those landing craft.

The new ships did not run into any bad storms. The Navy Meteorological experts reported that the weather between here and Panama had been navigable all that time. One other Naval vessel which traveled

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the same route docked at New Orleans today. Its Captain and crew reported it had seen nothing of the missing ships and were unable to give any information which might provide a clue. That ship had nothing but good weather all the way.

Vessels of all types are combing the waters of the Gulf of Mexico between New Orleans and Panama. Naval long range aircraft are flying backwards and forwards scanning the surface of the Gulf.

The disappearance of the Collier "Cyclops" twenty-eight years ago ranks with the famous story of the Brig "Marie Celeste", as one of the baffling mysteries of the sea. For a while, it was believed that a German man-of-war had sent the Cyclops to the bottom. But when the war was over, the archives of the German Navy had no record of any American Naval vessel of any type having been sunk by a German warship in the Caribbean. Furthermore, when a ship sinks either from enemy gunfire or torpedoes, some trace of her is found. It may be a ship's boat

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or a hatch, or life rafts, or some part of the ship's fittings. Nothing of the sort was found as a relic of the Cyclops, although the Navy made the most painstaking search possible.

Of course the three missing landing craft are as yet only three days overdue. Still, it is remarkable that no other vessels plying the same route caught ^{so} much as a glimpse of them.

WAR PROFITS

The Investigating Committee of the Senate today heard that a Wall Street banker had made a loan to one of the Garssons on the strength of a promissory note signed by Congressman Andrew J. May. The witness was Elisha Walker, partner in the firm of Kuhn Loeb and Company. He said that in the spring of Nineteen Forty-One, Murray Garsson asked him to join with him in acquiring some manganese property in West Virginia. Walker investigated and said he was not interested. Garsson then came back to the banker, said he needed five thousand dollars. He offered a note signed by Andrew J. May as security. He had never met May or had any relations with ~~t~~ him, but knew him by reputation.

So in April, Nineteen Forty-One, Elisha Walker handed him a check payable to Andrew J. May. The loan was to be paid August of that same year. When the note fell due, all that Walker received was a renewal note from May. When that one fell due, May sent another note. So far the money had not been paid.

Walker added that it was his own money he loaned, had nothing to do with Kuhn Loeb and Company.

CONGRESS

United States Congressmen in future will receive fifteen thousand instead of ten thousand a year. Two thousand five hundred of the money is in the form of an expense allowance, tax ~~is~~ exempt. In political circles, such an expense allowance is known familiarly as a "looloo."

Furthermore, the Senate, instead of having thirty-three committees, will have only fifteen, while forty-eight committees of the House are merged into nineteen. The military and naval Affairs Committees of both Houses will be combined in one single committee of national defense.

All this became law today when President Truman signed the Congressional Reorganization Bill. Mr. Truman said that the raise in salaries for Congressmen was long overdue, and he added that he had nothing but admiration for the way in which this reform of Congressional procedure had been considered and planned.

Another provision of the bill is that

Legislators who serve six years and are sixty-two years old, will be entitled to the same retirement benefits as other federal employees. Every committee will have the benefit of the services of four experts, eight thousand dollar a ~~2~~ year men. The appropriations Committee is allowed to engage more.

change And here is a provision which the Lobbyists will not like. They will be required to register, put on record who employs them, for how much, and for what purpose.

The Seventy-Ninth Congress will come to an end tonight, probably about midnight. And members of both Senate and House agree that it cannot be too soon. It has been one of the most troublesome sessions in the history of the Republic, with much disagreement between the Capitol and the White House. It lasted twenty ~~and~~ months. ~~Several important issues are left unsettled, including the world court.~~

(more)

Several important issues are left unsettled, but late this afternoon the Senate voted in favor of the measure by which the United States of America accepts the jurisdiction of the world court.

However, this is not unconditional. The Senate voted an amendment which reserves to the government of the United States the decision whether or not an issue under dispute is domestic, and thus Beyond ~~the~~ the scope of the world court.

ATOMIC

The American plan for international ownership and control of raw material for atomic energy is a tremendous revolutionary proposal. There has been nothing like it in international affairs before. So said Philip John Noel-Baker, British Minister of State in the House of Commons today. He is in favor of both the American and the Russian plan. There is no conflict between the American program and the Russian proposal to outlaw the manufacture and use of atomic energy for war purposes.

change President Truman today received ~~two~~ two reports on the atomic bomb tests at Bikini. One of them was made by the President's own evaluation board, composed of civilians; the other by a commission appointed by the joint chiefs-of-staff of our military establishment. The civilian group found the under-water activity produced by the second bomb test had far more deadly potentiality than the bomb blast itself. It declared further that, "Future wars employing atomic bombs may well destroy nations and

change present standards of civilization." It is evident, the Civilian Board added, that if there is to be any security or safety in the world, war must be eliminated as a means of settling differences among nations.

Always The report of the experts of the joint chiefs-of-staff declared it was too soon as yet to analyze all the meanings of those tests. But it is not too soon to examine the necessity for immediate and intensive research into several unique problems. For one thing, we need to study methods of protecting not only the crews of ships but also the populations of cities. An enemy having as many as two atom bombs might dispose of a fighting fleet for many months.

One report points out that the first bomb showed that a large proportion of the crews of the ships would have received fatal doses of neutrons and gamma rays. But, the bomb touched off under water would have left far more deadly and persistent radio-activity.

LOGAN

The negro arrested on charges of having murdered Mrs. William John Logan of Flower Hill, Long Island and shot her daughter on July 24 twenty fourth, has confessed. So says the District Attorney of Nassau County, Long Island. Miss Logan, a former Captain in the WACS, positively identified the fellow last night.


Today he broke down and led the officers to the place where he had hidden the gun with which he committed the murder and the shooting. The prisoner is from South Carolina.

The police caught him after a hunt that lasted eight days, not far from the scene of his alleged crime. He had been working around several Long Island houses as butler and ~~man~~ chauffeur.

ATHENS

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The cause of it all was the determination of a reform element described as the G I party, to smash the machine which has been in power for ten years in McMinn County, Tennessee, of which Athens is the county seat. The G I's vowed they had had enough of the machine and supported a Republican-coalition ticket. When they learned their candidates were being counted out, the veterans moved to protect the ballot boxes. Thereupon the sheriff, who was boss of the machine with his deputies, seized thirty G I sympathizers and threw them into the county jail. Incidentally, the veterans claim the Sheriff had sworn in a lot of outsiders, foreigners as they call them, as deputies. Several of them are said to have admitted it.

The G I's took prompt and forceful action to release their friends. By midnight, they had the county jail in a state of siege. The deputies inside the jail threatened to shoot the G I hostages they were holding. Thereupon the G I's outside the jail

used three charges of dynamite and made a wreck of the building. A terror stricken voice was heard saying "we surrender". Seventy-five deputies, white faced and trembling, walked out of the jail with their hands high in the air. They were marched through a cordon of G.I. and their friends who were armed with rifles and tommy guns. The mob started to beat up some of the floater deputies, but the disciplined G.I.'s protected them, even saw that some of them got hospital care.

By this time, the sheriff was nowhere in sight, nor any other machine leaders. The police force as I mentioned, had gone into hiding. The town was in complete possession of the G.I.'s. Somebody telephoned the Governor, who ordered the State Guard to move into Athens. But by half past seven this morning there wasn't a militiaman anywhere in sight, and later on Governor Jim McCord rescinded his order -- said he was sure everything would be allright. In point of fact, it seems there was no looting, no lawlessness,

no violence except between the enraged G.I.'s and the imported out-of-town deputies. The worst sufferer, according to a correspondent's report, was a citizen known as "Windy". There is at least one such in every town. He works at a pool hall, when he works and was active at the polls yesterday against the G.I.'s—active and well armed. When the shooting began, it turned out that he was a Deputy. Today he is unarmed, but a badly bruised Windy.

A round dozen cars, several of them shiny new models were smashed and overturned in front of the jail. Most of them have out-of-county licenses, which bears out the charge that the Sheriff had imported foreign deputies.

Today, the G.I. leaders are the law in Athens, Tennessee, since any other form of law is either absent or in hiding. The Army veterans are keeping excellent order, patrolling the streets and regulating traffic. They claim they have won the election and smashed the Sheriff's machine. They have

the crucial ballot-bosses and voters carefully guarded.

The leaders of the G.I. non-partisan association are a former Lieutenant Commander in the Navy, and a former G.I., James Buttram, a towering six-footer and a former football player. As campaign manager Buttram issued a statement this afternoon that his side went to the polls unarmed, to have a fair election as the Sheriff had promised. They were met with blackjacks and pistols; several G.I.'s were beaten, and the ballot boxes moved to the jail. The G.I. supporters, he continued, went to the jail to get the ballot boxes and were met by gunfire. So they met fire with fire. Buttram concluded by announcing that the G.I.'s have been elected and will serve as the officials of that county, beginning September First, Nineteen Forty-Six.

Of the wounded men there were only eight Mansfield Deputies, the others partisans of the G.I.'s.

All in the spirit of good, clean democratic fun.

In Washington, The Department of Justice

announced that it had started an investigation of last night's jamboree. Complaints have been filed with the Civil Rights Section of the Criminal Division of the ~~XXX~~ Department of Justice.

A spokesman for the American Veterans' Committee declared that last night's proceedings in Athens were part of a fight which veterans intend to carry ~~on~~ on for clean elections throughout the United States. Charles G. Bolte, National Chairman of the Veterans Committee, said all former G.I.'s should make it their business from now on until November to see that a fair count is given to all candidates so that good government becomes a reality everywhere in America.

AND NOW GOODNIGHT