

L.I. P. G. News - June 4 - '53.

The news from Korea indicates - that the Reds have accepted the Allied compromise proposal. Their answer, a secret. But the word is - that it agrees with our terms on almost every point. The Red communication was handed to our negotiators at Panmunjom, at the secret session today. It was immediately flashed on to Tokyo - and Washington.

Actually, it was a counter proposal. But, we hear that it's almost identical with that Allied compromise - except in the matter of different wording. Tonight's dispatch from Tokyo says: "It appeared to have been 'plagarized' from the Allied plan."

So there's a rise of optimism out there - the belief that an armistice would soon be signed." Which is echoed in Washington tonight. Officials are still cautious, recalling the tricks the Reds have a way of playing. But the general feeling is that an armistice is a greater probability now, than at any time since the truce negotiations began.

FOLLOW KOREA- TRUCE

Here's the latest -- General Mark Clark flying to Seoul for urgent conferences with South Korean President Syngman Rhee. The Allied Commander-in-chief hurries, presumably, to deal with South Korean opposition to the compromise -- all adding to the belief that an end to the Korean war may be within sight.

The battle - still on, at the strong point called Luke-the-Gook's Castle. South Koreans counter-attacking - to win back advance positions captured by the Reds. At last reports they had retaken one, and were fighting for possession of the others.

At the headquarters of the U.S. Fortieth Division, a tale of heroism - as the Commander of a tank company was decorated, ~~Will~~ Colonel William Fondren of Memphis, Tennessee. The Colonel gets the decoration for the outfit - and talks about the valor of his men.

His Company of tanks was isolated, surrounded by a sudden enemy thrust. Tanks were damaged, put out of action - and it was hand-to-hand battle for the crew.

"Our boys," relates the Colonel, "used ~~their~~ ninety millimeter guns at point blank range. They fought from bunkers and turrets, ~~an~~ with anything they could lay their hands on." He tells how five men, one badly wounded, took positions around their tank, and held the Communists off with carbines and

hand grenades.

The outfit surrounded for fifteen hours - until another armored force cut through, and rescued them.

JET

At a U.S. airbase in Fairfoot, England, an atomic bomber streaked in for a landing today. The first of the fifteen B-47s -- on a mass flight across the Atlantic. The jet bombers coming in - one after another.

The lead plane was piloted by Colonel Michael McCoy of Pomona, California, who averaged five hundred and fifty-five miles an hour across the ocean. Which, however, did not ~~beat~~ ^{beat} the record. Meaning - that Mike McCoy did not beat himself. He set the trans-Atlantic jet record last month - in another B-47. This time it took him sixteen minutes longer - from Limestone, Maine, to Fairfoot, England, in five hours and fifty-three minutes.

ATOMIC

Here's news from the town of Los Varriles, in southern Mexico. The people there saw the flash of today's atomic explosion - eleven hundred and fifty miles to the north. An observer way down there in Mexico, declares: "The brilliant flash seemed to come from all over the sky."

That's accompanied by news from the town of Leftbridge, far up to the north in Canadian Alberta - a thousand miles away from the explosion. They, too, saw the flash.

Never before has the stupendous glare of an atomic blast, in these United States, been witnessed so far away. Which is graphic evidence of the fact that the device detonated today was, apparently, the most powerful of all - in the series on the Nevada desert. Said to be two and a half times as violent as the bomb dropped at Hiroshima.

GRUNEWALD

In Washington today, sentence was imposed on Henry Grunewald, the Dutchman, the mystery man. Convicted of contempt of Congress, ~~when he~~ ^{ing} refused to answer various questions in the scandals of income tax. He could have drawn a year in jail, but the judge suspended the prison sentence, and merely imposed a fine of a thousand dollars. Which Grunewald promptly paid - in cash.

TAX

The Speaker of the House speaks out in support of the Administration program - to continue the excess profits tax on business for another six month. Congressman Joe Martin of Massachusetts declares that, unless the excess profits tax is extended, it may be impossible to cut personal income taxes next year - January first, according to the Administration schedule.

Last night, President Eisenhower put emphasis on this tax issue - in his television-radio discussion; the President of the United States in a round table discussion with four members of his Cabinet. Skillfully done too - with an air of intimate, informal discussion for the public. Something new in the ways of politics and government - the President acting as a TV-Radio master of ceremonies.

ADD TAX

Here's the latest - the two biggest business organizations in the country declaring against the administration on the proposal to extend the excess profits tax. But the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers declared themselves - in opposition.

Substitute FRANCE

The French National Assembly, tonight, rejected the bid made by Pierre Mendes-France, who sought a vote of confidence. Which would permit him to form a new cabinet, and take over as Premier.

Mendes-France is a financial expert, who called for government economy - and promised to make a quick end to the war in Indo-China; a negotiated peace. All of which led to a long debate - and an adverse vote. The margin was narrow - three hundred five to - three hundred fourteen against.

So France is left, still, in the ambiguous position of not having a government.

CORONATION - COST

In England, they ^are figuring the cost. Any big party is likely to be followed by ^{the} ~~a~~ reckoning - the morning after.

So here are the official figures. The British Government spent three million, three hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars on the Coronation. But ~~the~~ the sale of seats in the reviewing stands, and money from other concessions, brought in one million, four hundred and thirty-six thousand. So that makes the net cost - one-million, nine-hundred-and-forty thousand. Quite a bill, but small indeed as government expenditures go. And in this case ~~however~~ there's a good deal to offset that - a

report made by the British Brewers, for example. They say that, with all those huge crowds thronging London, they sold so much beer and other liquor - that the tax revenue the government on that item alone takes ~~on this~~ will make up the Coronation deficit.

Today, newspapers advised the British public to get back to the world of reality - ~~now~~ now that the royal fairy-tale is over, the feast of make-believe. David Low, the famous cartoonist for the Manchester Guardian, says this in

a comic picture, in which he calls it a "one hundred million pound spree." Which would come to two hundred and eighty

million dollars - and that's not considered an exaggeration.

But not spent by the government.

British bankers report that, in the week before the Coronation,

people withdrew from their savings accounts five million pounds

more than they put in. The same - for the previous week. The

circulation of banknotes increased by nine million pounds -

during the Coronation feast.

So now, in Britain, the "morning after" slogan is -

let's get back to reality, let's get back to work."

EVEREST

In New Zealand, the public is demanding - that special honors be paid to E.P.Hillary, the conqueror of Everest. As things now stand, the New Zealander who reached the highest point of this earth, accompanied by a native guide - has no more title than that of "bee-keeper." His profession, operating beehives for the production of honey. Though, of course, he has long been famous as a mountaineer - having won a reputation as a climber of the ^{great} magnificent peaks of ^{the} New Zealand Alps - on the South Island, near Dunedin.

At the capital city of Auckland, today, the newspapers are saying that some special title should be created - for E.P.Hillary. One suggestion - that Queen Elizabeth name him - Lord Hillary of Everest. Which would have the same honored sound as - Lord Kitchener of Khartoun, Lord Roberts of Kandahar, or Lord Allenby of Megiddo, ~~or Lord Allenby of Armageddon~~

The New Zealand government states that honors for Hillary should wait - until the full details of the conquest of Everest are known. These won't be available until the

expedition makes its way down from the Himalayan heights.

Which will still take some days.

~~BHE~~, By the same token, some title might well be bestowed on the Sherpa tribesman, Tensing - who climbed with Hillary to the topmost pinnacle of Everest. His own tribe of Sherpas might call him - Lord of Cho-mo-lung-ma, Lord of the Goddess Mother of the World, which is the Tibetan name of Mt. Everest.

Last year, a Swiss expedition almost made it - and Tensing was on that one too. I've been reading an account of that climb in a book, "The Story of Everest", by W.H.Murray, *published in this country by Dutton.* Tensing accompanied the Swiss mountaineer Raymond Lambert, in trying to make the final ascent ^{— after} ~~after~~ a terrible night. They nearly froze. All night long, they had to slap each other - to keep their blood circulating.

"Although badly frozen," the account goes on, "they managed to start next morning at six o'clock. Mist and falling snow hindered their advance up the ridge. They sank

up to their knees in snow, and had to rest at every third step. They were unable to go farther."

"When I stopped, I felt magnificent," Lambert relates. But when they took a few steps forward and higher, they were ready to collapse.

With about eight hundred feet of altitude to go, they had to turn back, returning to a lower camp. "There," the account concludes, "Tensing lay on his back, in a state of coma - and had to be continuously awakened, and forced to drink."

So that suggests a picture of what happened a few days ago, the Coronation climb - that same Tensing, this time with Hillary of New Zealand. But they did not have to turn back. Instead, they made it. Hillary and Tensing - on the top of the world.

"FROG MAN"

In World War Two, John McClay of Lawrence, Massachusetts, was a "frog man" in the Coast Guard. Today, three children owe their lives to that fact - the training that John McClay had in under-water tactics, swimming submerged.

~~At Lawrence~~ An automobile crashed through the railing of a bridge, and plunged into the Charles River. In it were two women and four small children, two and three years old. One woman and one child were thrown free, in the crash. The other woman could not be saved, but the three remaining children were - though they were trapped inside the car, which was on the river bottom, upside down.

The former "frog man" saw the automobile take the plunge, and ran to the bridge. "I spotted some air bubbles rising from beside the car," says McClay, "and that was the spot where I made my first dive."

With all that under-water skill, which he learned in the Coast Guard, he was able to open a door of the over-turned automobile. He got out one child, then another,

"FROG MAN"

and a third. Then, the irony! He rescued two dolls, which he mistook for children. Down there under the water, the "frog man" couldn't tell the difference - the dolls were so much like tiny tots.

BASEBALL

Baseball dramatics - at Pittsburgh today. The Pirates playing the Chicago Cubs - and batting practice was on. The Pirates were having their turn - Ralph Kiner, the home-run hitter at the plate. Kiner had just slammed a couple of balls over the fence - when a messenger came running to him. Whereupon Kiner went over to the dressing room of the Cubs. When the game began, he was playing left field for Chicago.

Branch Rickey had pulled a fast one. The boss of the Pirates had been trying to trade Kiner for some time - and the deal was made suddenly today. An estimated hundred-and-fifty-thousand dollars and six Chicago ball players - for the home-run champ, and three other Pittsburgh players.

So, were the Pittsburgh fans amazed! The crowd seeing - Kiner, a favorite, in left field for the Cubs. The stands roared out in protest.

The ball game, itself, was not so dramatic.

Pittsburgh winning six-to-one -- not seeming to miss Kiner. The big slugger ~~h~~ himself, just average. He didn't hit a homer, but he got one hit, a double -- after that sudden switch.

JAPAN

The night is glimmering, near the Benkei Bridge in Tokyo - as Japanese children, and adults too, celebrate the annual feast of the fire flies. Each night, until Monday, five thousand lightning bugs are turned loose near the bridge, and go sparkling like a myriad of tiny lights in all directions. Children and adults are out in row boats, or go scampering along the banks of the stream - with nets on long poles. Catching - fire flies.

Typically Japanese, and I suppose they have some sort of oriental song for it. If not they could sing that song that I'm sure you used to sing, Nelson;-
"Shine little glow worm glimmer, glimmer."

PRINCESS

In London, following the Coronation, attention is turned from the Queen - to Her Majesty's younger sister. Ever since Princess Margaret Rose grew up to be a young lady, the British have had a sentimental guessing game - picking a husband for her. Which now, however, becomes a bit worried.

The list of bachelors, eligible to marry the Princess, has declined, almost vanished. Most of the young peers of the realm who used to squire her around - have married. So now the gossip mentions candidates who are decidedly - ~~ineligible~~ ineligible.

London was shocked by the newspaper report that Margaret Rose had fallen in love with Captain Peter Townsend, a handsome aviator, and a member of the royal circle. But - divorced. Which really caused a shiver. Everybody recalling - the last time a member of the royal family got the idea of marrying a divorced person. Edward the Eighth - who gave up the throne because of it. They wouldn't want Margaret Rose to get into any jam like that.

Still more perplexing - the story that Margaret Rose was going around with Robin McEwen, whose family is old and aristocratic indeed. Wealthy, too. But he's a Roman Catholic. And Britain has - the Protestant Succession.

Every reader of English history knows how the royal House of Stuart ~~which~~ lost the throne - because they turned Catholic. Ever since William of Orange - the Protestant Succession has been basic policy.

Queen Elizabeth has two fine, healthy children. But, after these, Margaret Rose comes next - and her marriage to a Catholic would not be permitted.

But here's the latest. A London paper devotes a full page to what it calls "Princess Margaret's friend." He's a curate, a parson. The Reverend Simon Phipps, distinguished as a chaplain in World War Two. They've been going out - dancing. Seems odd for a curate to dance. The Princess and the parson - there never was any such marriage in

the annals of British royalty. Why, however, before long, Nelson, the Queen may make the Parson a knight

of the Garter - and the Bull!