

~~SECRET~~ L.I.-P.G. Tues. May 27 - '52.

(In Paris today, sixteen documents were signed - a ramification of military agreements, a western power alliance for the creation of an Army of a million and a quarter.) The Foreign Ministers, with plenty of signatures, completed an international system to defend Western Europe against possible Communist aggression. (This, following the conclusion of the German Peace Treaty yesterday, seals ~ the line-up of the West.)

There is immediate angry reaction from the Communist East. Today, the Red government of Eastern Germany created a forbidden corridor three miles wide. The Iron Curtain there taking the form of a belt of - No Man's Land. Yesterday, we heard of border activity rather obscure. Now, this is it - drastic measures to seal off the Soviet zone of Germany, an ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Iron Curtain - three miles wide.

## ITALY

The Italian elections take an unexpected turn - the main battle rather eclipsed by the sideshow. (The moderate parties, headed by the Christian Democrats of Premier De Gasperi, ~~made their big fight against the number one enemy - the Communist coalition. And~~ they beat the Reds all right. But, on the side, the parties of the extreme right slipped in with huge <sup>election</sup> gains -- the neo-fascists, as they are called, allied with monarchists. Making a surprise showing.)

~~Most of the gains of extreme Right Wingers were made at the expense of the Christian Democrats. The Communist vote remaining about the same.~~

~~The elections were local, municipal contests for the control of towns and cities.~~

## FOLLOW ITALY

Here are the complete returns. The moderate parties headed by the Christian Democrats of De Gasperi, take ~~xx~~ nearly thirty-eight percent of the vote. The Communists' coalition -- something under thirty-two percent. The combination of Neo-Fascists and Monarchists approaching twenty-nine percent. In other words, the parties of the extreme right almost equalled the vote of the Communists and their allies.

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(This had reference to disclosures that two-hundred-and-thirty-eight prisoners have been killed in the South Korean camps. One hundred and twenty-three - in saving with U.N. troops. One hundred and fifteen - murdered by Communist fanatics, tortured, executed. The Red negotiators at Panmunjon are making propaganda use of this and say their army will not

The latest from the Korean battlefield, where things are tense - pictures wide activity by Allied patrols. Probing thrusts - looking for signs of a Communist offensive. All along the warfront, the troops alerted - for a possible enemy drive.

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The verbiage recalls the menacing statements made by Chinese propaganda - just before Red China made it's entrance with the war a year and a half ago. At that time, the statement was that, if U.N. troops drove on to the Manchurian border, the Yalu River - the Chinese Reds would not "stand idly by." They didn't, either - a drive by Communist hordes forcing a rapid retreat. This now is remembered, as the Reds use the same verbiage - threatening an offensive along the warfront.

## EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Tonight the city of Barcelona is a scene of religious brilliance and splendor. The thirty-fifth World Eucharistic Congress of the Roman Catholic Church began today. Three hundred thousand pilgrims jamming the city - including a thousand from the United States. The harbor crowded with ships, all the way from huge liners to small boats. These to provide sleeping quarters for the many thousands who find no room in over-crowded hotels.

Barcelona - all dressed up for the occasion. Religious emblems everywhere. On top of a mountain towering over the city, stands a cross, one hundred and fifty feet high - shining and gleaming in the darkness.

# AIRLINER

Today's big air crash happened in one of the most forbidding areas of this earth - the Sahara Desert. Which, it would seem, saved the situation.

The big plane, with sixteen persons aboard, was on a flight from Tripoli to Nigeria - and was lost in the great area of eternal sands. But now the airliner has been found, after having crashed. Two persons - incurring minor injuries. The others - not harmed at all.

Which is to be explained, at least in part, by the first report of the sighting of the wreck - the plane partly buried in deep, soft sand. The sands of the desert - a cushion, softening the impact when the airliner hit.

In London today, a flare-up of that old controversy of royalty and romance - the abdication of Edward the Eighth. Sixteen years have gone by since the Sovereign of Britain gave up his throne - for the "Woman I love". But now there's a bitter dispute about it - between the press magnate, Lord Beaverbrook, and that illustrious newspaper, the London Times, *called The Thunderer.*

Lord Beaverbrook, in a radio address, brought up that old constitutional crisis - in which he played an important part. Beaverbrook was an adherent of Edward the Eighth, and now blames the abdication on - the London Times - accusing the editor, the Late Geoffery Dawson, of having swung public opinion against the King. Except for the influence of the Times, exerted by Geoffery Dawson, Edward the Eighth might have been able to marry Wallis Warfield Simpson and stay on his throne.

This is answered by Wickham Steed, who succeeded Geoffery Dawson as editor of the Times. In an angry letter today, he calls the Beaverbrook radio

broadcast a - "Public misdeed of heinous quality."

Calls it a - "Spiteful diatribe." He says that, in the abdication controversy, the Times did not swing public opinion - it followed public opinion.

As the old controversy flares again, the former Edward the Eighth arrives in London - a day late for the celebration of the birthday of his mother, the eighty-five year old Dowager Queen Mary. Late - because of a delay in the arrival of the ship he took.

The Duchess of Windsor, former Wallis Warfield Simpson, sailed with him -- but got off in France. She has never been accepted by British royalty, not even to this day - and does not accompany the exiled former King when he visits his native land.

I've some information here that raises a fascinating question -- a mystery of the Polar North.

Last week the news told of a find made by the two Air Force fliers, who were the first to land by plane at the North Pole. The day after that, they were flying along the Polar shore of Ellesmere Island, when they spotted - a tripod built of broken sledge runners. Which was a marker for four metal cases. The place -- Cape Columbia. Which was the base camp for Admiral Peary, in his dash to the Pole. So the assumption was - documents left by Peary. It was known that, up there in the Arctic, he did leave a record of the North Pole discovery.

All so fascinating that I addressed a query to Commander Donald MacMillan, who was with Peary. I was in Los Angeles, and sent the request through the United Press to the great veteran of the Arctic, who lives at Provincetown on Cape Cod, Massachusetts. So now I get a reply that puts an accent of strange mystery on that latest find in the North.

Explorer  
 Captain

MacMillan tells me that Admiral Peary did indeed leave a memento -- but it wasn't anything like that. <sup>There</sup> At Cape Columbia he <sup>did</sup> set up a marker -- but something very different. Peary, returning from the Pole, decided to leave a formal record of the exploit. But what kind of record? That's the surprise.

MacMillan writes: 'We constructed an aviator's guidepost, probably the first in the world. Peary, with remarkable foresight, said to me: 'Within a short time the airplane will be flying up and down this coast and out over the Polar Sea.'

Remarkable foresight, indeed, back in Nineteen Nine, when the first airplane flights by the Wright Brothers were hardly known. This new mystery today - coming up in a flight by North Pole airmen winging over the place where Peary left his aviator's guidepost. But that was not what they found.

Commander MacMillan says they made the guidepost out of sledge planks, with four arms pointing the four directions. Below the arms - an inscription

framed and covered with glass. Dated June Twelfth, Nineteen Nine, a record giving a brief account of the discovery of the Pole.

"This," writes MacMillan, "is all that was ever left at Cape Columbia." No tripod of sledge runners, nor any boxes, with or without documents. Yet these are what have now been found -- making it all a mystery.

"I've a recollection," says MacMillan, "of reading an account of a sledge journey made by two or three Danes, fifteen or twenty years ago." He says there was something about a marker of sledge runners -- which puzzled him at the time. "There is a possibility," writes MacMillan, "that the framed record was taken away by the Danes who left boxes and crossed sledge runners."

Strange, indeed, in an affair of great historical importance. All going back to the famous case of Dr. Cook, who claimed to have discovered the Pole -- his account branded as a fraud. Enemies of

Admiral Peary declared that he made his own claim,  
only after he heard about Dr. Cook. MacMillan says  
that the Peary expedition first heard of Dr. Cook on  
their return to civilization in August and September,  
thirteen nine -- several months after Peary left their  
record at Cape Columbia. So the Cape Columbia record  
would be the definite proof that Peary made his claim  
before he ever heard of Dr. Cook.

But the document framed under glass has  
vanished. In its place -- a tripod for a marker, and  
four metal cases presumably containing documents.  
Perhaps the doing of a party of Danes, but all -- a  
mystery. *Swift* *the map* *one for MacMillan to investigate by going*  
up there and opening *three* the boxes.

~~TEXAS~~  
Late news from Texas gives a picture of Eisenhower people -- tossed out; Today, with supporters of Senator Taft in full control, the Republican Executive Committee gave the old heave-ho -- to Eisenhower delegates claiming places in the State Convention.)

At the town of Mineral Wells, there were contests all over the place - Taft delegate versus Eisenhower delegate. Each claiming to be the rightful representative, chosen in his locality. Six hundred and nineteen of these contests; and today the Executive Committee gave the decision to Taft in five hundred and eighty-nine of the 619!

The ousted Eisenhower delegates were chosen by majorities in county Republican elections. But the claim is that those majorities were produced, actually, by Democrats - who went to Republican meetings only because they like Ike.

~~The Executive Committee seated a Taft delegation from Rusk County - although, in that county,~~

~~the Taft Republicans didn't even bother about a county convention. Eisenhower supporters did, and named four delegates. Later, on, the Taft backers got together and selected four in opposition. These get the nod from the committee -- but that, they say, will probably be reversed ~~EM~~, a little too drastic.~~

The state convention, all Taft - will elect thirty-eight supporters of the Senator as delegates to the G O P National Convention in Chicago. Thirty-eight being the total for Texas.

(And what a battle about this there will be at the Republican Convention! It may be the crucial fight between these two powerful factions.)

## FOLLOW TEXAS

The latest -- (the Eisenhower people have bolted, calling the Taft maneuvers - "an infamous national scandal".) The Texas convention delegates who like Ike walked out of the convention and adjourned up the street to a hall of their own. There, (they named a delegation to go to the Chicago convention, and put up a battle against the Taft delegation.)

Meanwhile, another candidate enters the race, claiming the Presidency on the ground that he has a slogan as good as - "I like Ike." The publishing firm of Simon and Schuster launches the boom in the form of a campaign book. Candidate, the old schmoose - Jimmy Burnside. Slogan - "Gimme Jimmy." Which, says Schmoose, is just as good as "I like Ike."

"Gimme Jimmy."

well, in case,  
it's an open race,  
better there's a place  
for Case!

POLITICS

(It's an Eisenhower sweep in Connecticut)-  
either complete, or nearly so. (Today the Republican  
State Convention elected a delegation of twenty-two -  
with twenty of the delegates openly committed to  
General Ike.) The other two have not declared themselves  
- but the Eisenhower adherents claim them also.

Senator Taft hadn't expected much in Connecticut, but  
his backers hoped they <sup>would</sup> get a couple of delegates.

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schnozzler - Jimmy Durante. Slogan - "Gimme Jimmy."  
Which, says Schnozzle, is just as good as "I like Ike."  
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Well, in case,  
It's an open race,  
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