

OPA. Things were stormy at today's hearing by the OPA Price Decontrol Board. Yesterday the question of price restrictions on grain was considered. Today the subject was --meat. And a stream of cattle owners and meat packers from the west paraded to the witness stand.

They were all dead against restoring the OPA ceilings on meat. They testified that there is an abundance of livestock, and plenty of grain to feed cattle and hogs. They charged that the Administration has been spreading false reports about food shortages in this country -- propaganda for the purpose of retaining control over the national economy. And they predicted that if the OPA restrictions are restored, the result will be the triumphal return of the black market.

All this was disputed by a representative of a newly formed Council of Small Businessmen -- a representative who used to be an OPA official. He called the talk about black market propaganda. He declared that what he called " A Meat

Monopoly" was exaggerating the black market for the purpose of stopping the price controls.

It all ended in a lively row with plenty of noisy arguments. One side saying -- the government was indulging in ~~prop~~ propaganda on the subject of meat prices. The other side declaring that the Black Market was just ~~prop~~ propaganda.

WELLS

One of the great writers of the world died today -- H.G. Wells, seventy-nine years old and long ill. It is well for this ultra-modern world to take note of the passing of H. G. Wells, for he was one of its prophets. He won literary fame with scientific romances of what might happen in years to come. He foresaw many of our later day miracles, -- yes even including the atomic bomb. H. G. Wells, author of so many famous books -- Outline of History, The Lost World -- he left today for the next world.

LEAD

The tie-up of news from abroad still continues -- foreign dispatches cut off by the strike. As we heard last night, the Telegraphers Union is involved in a labor dispute and again today refused to handle any stories coming into the United States.

So, this country today was under a virtual news embargo. A new sort of isolationism. One most of us has never thought of before.

The blackout would be complete, if it weren't for the fact that the news associations are contriving to get some information through -- a few paragraphs of foreign news -- that's all.

So let's see how we can get along with a minimum of tidings from abroad.

PALESTINE

One foreign story that has come through tells of the dramatic and wildly emotional events that occurred in Palestine today -- at the seaport of Haifa.

There was enacted ^{today} the first large episode in the carrying out of the new British policy on illegal immigration in Palestine. The British Government has decreed that illegal immigrants shall be interned on the island of Cyprus, in the Eastern Mediterranean.

At the port of Haifa were ^{those} two refugee ships, crowded with illegal immigrants, about thirteen hundred ^{of them}. The vessels are described as hell-holes of filth and stench -- some refugees having been aboard as long as twenty days under the worst of sanitary conditions. When British Marines went aboard to remove them they ^{British} were greeted by a barrage of bottles, cans and sticks. Several Marines were injured. Illegal immigrants fought hand to hand battles ~~with~~ while others yelled and screamed in a frenzy. Clubs and fists, the resistance was so violent that the British had to throw smoke bombs to suppress it.

Finally they got the refugees into small boats. The plan was to take them ashore for brief sanitary measures, and then put them aboard transports bound for Cyprus. This means the illegal immigrants were on the soil of Palestine for a brief period -- ten minutes. They were actually in the Promised Land, Zion, the ~~gam~~ goal of their dreams. After which the British had the task of taking them away from the promised land -- away from **Zion**.

Then The fighting broke out all over again, the screaming, the tears. Resistance ~~was~~ more violent than ever. The refugees yelled raging epithets at the British -- "Fascist! Nazi!" They sang, they struggled, they screamed, they fought.

While this was going on, forces of Zionists descended upon Haifa from the land side. They were from a village on the slopes of Mt. Carmel, which overlooks the port, and they came storming down, called out by the secret Zionist *which calls itself* Radio -- the Voice of Israel.

The radio commanded them to break the curfew -- the

British regulation ordering them to remain indoors. Obeying "The Voice of Israel" the people of the village broke the curfew, and came marching down to Haifa -- where the battle with the refugees was going on.

So British Troops now were faced with attack on the land side, and another battle developed -- fighting so fierce that the soldiers opened fire. Three Jews were killed -- one a woman:

Meanwhile, ~~the~~ the illegal immigrants were ~~being~~ forced aboard two transports, which thereupon put out to sea -- bound for Cyprus.

They were hardly out of the harbor when two other ships were sighted, coming in -- two other refugee ships. One is said to have aboard fifteen hundred illegal immigrants -- and now, presumably, the same scenes will be enacted again, when the people aboard the other two ships are taken off and sent to Cyprus.

FOLLOW PALESTINE

Still another dispatch has come through, a late one, telling of riots and violent demonstrations in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The secret radio "Voice of Israel" has called upon the Jewish population to ~~show~~ ^{show} disapproval -- and that disapproval is being shown in the form of angry crowds marching through the streets and fighting with the police. ~~rocket.~~

SWEDEN

Here's a rather sensational flash.

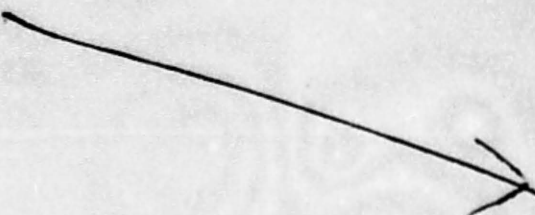
Sweden announces that a Swedish military plane ran head on into a rocket. It has been known that the Soviets have been conducting rocket experiments in the Swedish area, and this underscores that fact, in spectacular fashion, the collision of a Swedish military plane and a rocket.

insert three were killed.

PEACE CONFERENCE

At the **P**aris Peace Conference a bitter Soviet attack was made today -- against Italy. Molotov denounced the present Italian Government -- which was formed after an election in which the Communists took a bad beating. He claims that the regime at Rome is not Democratic. ^{TP}At the same time Molotov's Deputy, Vishinsky, made a passionate plea in favor of Rumania -- the government of which is dominated by Communists. So apparently Rumania, with a Red Regime, is democratic.

Today's proceedings at the Peace Conference included another thrust by Molotov against the United States and ~~Great~~ Britain -- the Soviet Delegate accusing the two great western powers of trying to monopolize the Mediterranean.



IRAN

From Washington there is word that the Soviet Red Army is again making gestures in the direction of Iran, the ancient land of Persia. This is stated by ~~M~~ Hussein Ala, Iranian Ambassador to the United States, *who* declares that Soviet Troops are massing along the Northern Border of his country. *all or* Which follows reports that British Troops have been sent to the frontier of Iran -- as a precaution against disturbances in the great Persian oil fields ~~which~~ the British own.

FOLLOW PEACE CONFERENCE

We are gaining, meanwhile, some notion of Soviet plans for the Dardanelles, those all important Straits which for centuries have been a goal of Russian ambition. Moscow is propounding to Turkey a scheme of joint Russian-Turkish defense of the Dardanelles. The scheme calls for Soviet bases in Turkish territory along the Dardanelles. Joint defense meaning -- the Russian acquisition of bases.

LOWELL THOMAS JR.

I am reminded now of how the poet Maeterlink wrote a famous drama about a man who went looking for the Blue Bird of happiness. He went searching all around the world -- but in vain. Then, at last, he returned, and there was the Blue Bird of happiness in his own home.

That parable is recalled by the shortage of foreign news tonight. Looking for tidings from abroad I find some right here, close at hand. It happens that the Junior member of the family has just returned from flying around the world, during the course of which he was in Japan. He's been telling me some interesting things he saw out there in the realm of MacArthur. So I've asked him to fill in and comment on an item from Japan. Will you do that? How about it?

MACARTHUR

The story you refer to is this one: Less than a year ago no name was so hated in Japan as the name of Douglas MacArthur. But how things have changed. There is a report just in from Tokyo that the most popular man in the Japanese Islands today is General MacArthur.

And, the dispatch goes on to say that MacArthur would rather continue his job out there than be President of the United States. His one ambition being to make his administration of Japan a model one.

MacArthur is said to be in tip top shape. Sixty six years old, he works eighteen hours a day six days a week.

Next to the conduct of his troops, the General is proudest of his eight year old son, Arthur, who already is distinguishing himself by composing for the piano. No prodigy except Mozart, so far as I know, ever accomplished that, at eight.

In Tokyo crowds of Japanese still gather at the entrance to our headquarters - they come every day to see MacArthur, and they always greet him with a cheer. At first, his staff officers ordered the guards to keep the crowds back, but upon hearing of this the General cancelled the order.

According to this U P story, there are a good many Japanese who look upon our General MacArthur as their liberator.

This Japanese adoration might even equal that of the Filipinos one day, the way they feel about MacArthur. I had an odd experience that involved the General ~~MacArthur~~. It was the day before the Independence ceremonies in Manila. Upon arriving at Nichols Field in an Army C-54, my companions and I were met by a battery of photographers and high ranking officers. There was a military band and several platoons of Filipino soldiers, standing ~~xxx~~ rigidly at attention. We didn't know that General MacArthur was right behind us on his way from Tokyo to take part in the Independence. They thought we were MacArthur.

But there were no dignitaries at all on board our ship. In fact, no one of higher rank than Colonel.

No sooner had we climbed down from our C 54 than a two star General rushed up to us, pointed at the plane and said in a tone of great pain: "How long will it take to get that thing out of here?"

VETERANS

As a veteran here's one that
will interest you! - Another political revolt of the veterans

-- this one in Arkansas. At the town of Malvern Ex-G.I.'s were up in arms today against the local political machine, which they call -- "A Little Tammany." This was election day, and the veterans procured a court order giving them the right to do a watching job inside polling place -- keeping an eye on the voting and on the counting of the ballots. The judge, in granting this court order, instructed the sheriff to serve it on local election officials. ~~The~~ sheriff, against whom an Ex-G.I. is running -- refused. Whereupon the Judge gave the court order to the State Police to serve -- and they did. So today the Arkansas Veterans were keeping a close watch on the election.

This, of course, follows the revolt of former GI's at Athens, Tennessee -- which led to fighting and bloodshed. And today the Arkansas veterans gave warning that, if they had to fight to keep the election honest, the battle of Athens would be a picnic in comparison.

DIPLOMATS

President Truman has signed the bill to give American diplomats a better chance to marry American girls. That's the angle that gets the most attention -- as romance always does.

The bill the ~~P~~^President signed today has other features -- more important, perhaps, though not so sentimental. Our diplomats are given a raise in pay. Ambassadors get a boost from seventeen-thousand,-five-hundred dollars a year to twenty-five thousand -- and the increases go all the way down the line. ^WThis will get a nod of approval from anybody who has seen the way our diplomats abroad have been pinched for expenses and have often had to dig into their own pockets to support costly establishments.

On that romantic side, the new law gives diplomats more opportunity to come home and get acquainted with American girls -- object matrimony!

INDIANS

In Washington the great white father today had a pow-wow with the Redskins. President Truman signed a bill designed to help the Indians in pressing claims against white men -- and the ceremony was attended by a party of full-blooded Sioux, Blackfeet, Chocktaws, and Utes. They were dressed as if for the warpath -- in the full glory of the feather headdress of the American Aborigine.

The mighty chiefs gave the President a pipe of peace -- a symbol that might look good at the Paris Peace Conference, for example. The President accepted, but did not smoke the pipe of peace. Not that his intentions were warlike -- the aboriginal method of using tobacco is just a little complicated for the White House today.

The news dispatch from Washington notes that only one thing went wrong. One of the Indian Chiefs glanced in a mirror and saw that he looked a little pale. That Redskin was almost as much of a pale face as the Great White Father. So, in his white feathered

regalia, he was seen putting a bit of makeup -- some tan face powder.

And that brings us to Pale Face Chief

Hugh James.