

SUBSTITUTE KRUG C.T.P. & H. Thursday, Nov. 10, 1949.

Today's resignation of Secretary of the Interior Krug broke just about every precedent that could apply to such a case. Usually, no matter what the real feelings may be, there is an exchange of polite letters and compliments -- the President accepting the resignation with deep regret. But late this afternoon in Washington, President Truman did not know about the resignation of the member of his cabinet, until ~~Rx~~ White House Secretary Ross handed him a dispatch from a news wire. Moreover, Secretary Krug, a physical giant, made the announcement with just about the smallest use of words, as follows: I am leaving. I have wanted to leave for a long time."

Behind all this are long time reports, that 'Cap Krug' as he is called, has been unhappy in his position; with the White House ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ reciprocating that state of emotion. We hear that, in presidential

circles, it was noted that the Secretary of the Interior did not display any great amount of enthusiasm for the Truman cause in the election last year -- which was true of a number of other prominent Democrats.

Washington thinks that Krug's successor will be Oscar Chapman, Under Secretary of the Interior -- who did come out and battle vigorously in that political campaign.

STEEL

It looks as if the steel strike will be settled tomorrow morning, shortly after ten o'clock. The biggest of the companies, ~~the~~ U S Steel, today presented a pension and insurance offer to t^h union, handing it to the lawyers representing the steel workers. They have studied it - and the company will present the program to union President Philip Murray in the morning. Tonight Murray indicates - that the offer is okay, and will be accepted.

We hear that the ^{proposal} ~~provisal~~ presented by U S Steel follows the "Bethlehem Formula," ~~the plan in which~~ ~~the~~ pensions of a hundred dollars a month for steel workers, with insurance benefits to the cost of which the steel workers ~~s~~ themselves ~~,~~ will contribute.

COAL

In the coal controversy, John L. Lewis gave a brusque reply today, and got an equally brusque message in return. Summoned to Washington for government sponsored talks with company representatives, he sent back a curt notice that he would show up on Monday. ~~He~~ said he had other things to do today.

To which federal mediator Cyrus Ching responded that he would not be available on Monday - he, too, having other things to do. Which was followed by a warning that the government will take action to prevent a new coal mine strike on November Thirtieth - Lewis having sent the miners back to work until that date.

TRUMAN

President Truman today squelched a persistent rumor - that the United States intends to increase the value of gold. Which would, in effect devalue the dollar. The report has been going around ever since the British devalued the pound, and other countries followed suit by making their own currencies worth less. The story was that then United States would follow the trend - and devalue the dollar by cutting the price of gold. ~~This has~~

~~been repeatedly denied by Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, who said there was no sense in tampering with what he called - "The last sound currency in the world."~~

But the report was stubborn, and kept circulating - until now President Truman states in the most positive terms that the United States will not

~~Denying this Pres. Truman~~
~~increase the price of gold. He~~ put it so strongly as

to say that the dollar will not be devalued this way, as long as he is in the White House.

DEMOCRATS

In Washington, the Democrats are cheering their election results; but, a number of the big time politicians in the party have reason to moan. They're going to have a big harmony dinner, put on by Congressman Frank Boykin of Alabama, and the main course was to have been bear steaks.

But today down in Alabama, Congressman Boykin looked on with a mournful air - while a game warden went into the Congressman's deep freeze, and hauled out a dressed bear. Game killed out of season - and, according to law, the bear steaks go to a local Alabama hospital.

This is the climax of a story so sad - it's almost unbearable. Some little while ago, the news told how Congressman Boykin had invited President Truman to go on a bear hunt in a region of wilderness the congressman owns in southern Alabama. The President did not accept. Which was lucky, because the congressman soon had to

explain in a hasty way that he meant he was inviting the President to shoot rabbits or squirrels. Because bear hunting was out of season.

But, nevertheless, a bear got shot on Congressman Boykins property, and found its way into the deep freeze - ready to be sent to the harmony dinner of the Democrats in Washington. The explanation is that the bear was a menace to the countryside, raiding the beehives on the Boykin property, and consuming Twelve Hundred Dollars worth of the Boykin honey. So the beekeeper couldn't stand it any longer, and opened fire when the bear was raiding the beehives again.

Which is a good story, but that Alabama game warden is a hard hearted man. So hospital patients are getting the bear steaks, and the Democrats will have to do with ordinary filet mignon. Literally - unbearable.

~~would you say, Nelson?~~

CRASH

Tonight we have the story told by the Bolivian flyer, Eric Rios Bridoux. Released at the investigation of that worst of air accidents, his accounts states that an engine of his fighter plane was working badly, and he radioed that he wanted to land at the Washington Airport. He says he received what he understood to be permission to come in - after another plane had landed. He looked for the plane, looked up, and saw a plane, thinking it was the one he was to follow in. He heard instructions - clear to the left, repeated again and again. He says he was looking to the left, and never saw the big airliner until he crashed into it, pieces flying around him.

There are a lot of technicalities but a layman might well get the impression that as first reported - a defective knowledge of English was one reason for the worst of air crashes.

ATOMIC

At the United Nations late this afternoon, Soviet delegate Vishinsky talked - atomic. He said Russia has, what he called - "As many bombs as we need, no more and no less." His version is that the Soviets are using atomic energy at a great rate for peace-time purposes. "We are changing mountains," he said, "We are irrigating deserts, cutting through jungles," and so on.

Speaking of atomic control, he mentioned huge and elaborate plants needed to produce the bomb, which is taken as a tip that the Soviets have had to go through as huge a process as we have.

BIG THREE

In Paris tonight the Foreign Ministers of the Big Three completed their conference. Tonight is correct -- two-ten Paris time. Secretary of State Acheson, British Foreign Secretary Bevin and French Foreign Minister Schuman, stuck to it until that late hour, after a series of talks for fourteen hours today.

What decision did they arrive at? We are told little or nothing. For example, on the question of dismanteling German factories -- not a word.

The Foreign Ministers ^{contented} ~~contended~~ themselves ^{with} ~~by~~ issuing a bulletin in the most general terms, saying they agreed to promote what they called -- "a progressive integration of the German peoples into the European community". Also - that the three western powers will never again permit any country -- 'to menace the peace and security of its neighbors.'

That sounds much to the point ^{for} ~~on~~ ~~the~~ Armistice

Day but the phraseology could apply to other nations
than Germany.

CHINA

Last night we had from China the surprising story of airlines deserting to the Communist officials. Astonishing - American aviators going over to the Reds, along with the Companies that employ them. The Chinese airlines use American pilots largely, and today Forty-Five of these announced that they were going to keep on flying their planes - but on the Communist side. Eight of them have already gone - the rest going.

A spokesman for the group gives an explanation which the news dispatch from China puts in the following words: Their loyalty lies with their firms"; - not to mention their salaries. (They say they have notified the American state department, and argue: "There is nothing illegal about it." Well, maybe not. But it does make our comment of yesterday a little ridiculous - that changing sides is an old Chinese custom. Because now we have to amend the news, and say that the airlines

CHINA....2

have gone over to the Communist officials, planes -
and American pilots.)

DORSEY

In Richmond, Virginia, a milkman claims that band leader Jimmy Dorsey hit him over the head with a clarinet - causing a big bump. Why? The milkman says that he didn't do anything, except to go up to Jimmy and ask was he a brother of the trombonist, Tommy Dorsey? Whereupon, wham!

Sounds mystifying, but the report has long been that the two musical Dorsey brothers have been on the outs for years. Maybe thats why the milkman has a bump on his head.

We've often heard about poetic justice -- and here's a glittering example, in New York, Macy's Department store, advertising low prices, preaches a doctrine of save your pennies. It's smart to be ~~thix~~ thrifty -- that's the slogan. So now what have we? A clerk at Macy's embezzling fifty thousand dollars. But he saved it. He squandered not a nickel. He salted away the stolen fifty thousand with the utmost frugality. So what could Macy's do - being the great exponent of thrift?

In a New York court today, Hugh Hickey faced the judge. A mild mannered bachelor of fifty-eight, who had worked at Macy's for twenty-six years. He was in a position to deal with customers bringing goods back and demanding a refund. So he wrote out fake refund orders, and sent them through the pneumatic tube -- and back would come the money. In that way he

embezzled up to two hundred and fifty dollars a day.

He saved it all. Store investigators found that he had eight accounts in savings banks, and owned fifty ~~shares~~ shares of Macy's stocks, not to mention investments in other gilt edged securities.

At first the clerk tried to pretend that he had squandered the money on women and horse races. He wanted to hang onto it -- still thrifty. But finally he handed back the fifty thousand to the penny. Today the Judge asked in amazement: "Did he not dissipate any of the funds?"

"No" replied the Assistant District Attorney -- who thereupon recommended that this prodigy of embezzlement and thrift, be released on parole. No prosecution. That's the way Macy's wanted it -- faithful to their advertising. He had practiced what they preached - it's smart to be thrifty. And as it turned out -- it was.

BASEBALL

The news wire brings the latest in an argument that has hit the world of baseball. We are given some comment on the subject by a philosopher of the national game. Subject - the spit-ball. Philosopher - Branch Rickey, boss of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

There's talk of bringing back the spit-ball - and that evokes ^{baseball} memories of long ago. The younger generation has never seen a pitcher, with a jawful of slippery elm, put the ball up to his face and give it the saliva. But now Ford Frick, President of the National League, proposes a revival of that ancient practice - to improve the pitching.

But Branch Rickey does not agree. He thinks the fans like home runs better than a pitcher's battle - and he harks back to the history of the spitter. In the old days a pitcher, in addition to slippery elm, might use emery to grind a rough place on the ball, or even have a nail in a hip pocket to scratch it.

"Why", says Branch Rickey, "I even knew a pitcher who had a special metal plate made for his

front teeth. He'd bring the ball down in front of his face, and dig into it - cutting six grooves. *And then the things that ball would do!*" exclaims Branch.

Well, I should think so - - The pitcher ^{*training*} ~~chewing~~ the ball with fangs of metal.

(Branch Rickey also argues that its easy to learn to throw the spit-ball -- not much skill. "When I was coaching at the University of Michigan," he relates, "we had a good team - but no pitchers. So I found three senior law students, all big fellows, who never had come out for the baseball team - but were willing to try. They learned to throw nothing but the spitter, and were my leading pitchers that year.")

But there's still another argument. The boss of the Dodgers recalls with a smile that, when the spit-ball was abolished in Nineteen Twenty, one reason was that the name didn't sound dignified, not refined.

Now, that really is a reason! But ^{*they*} ~~just~~ Branch, couldn't you call it the saliva ball or the expectoration

ball? ^{*And that*} ~~wasn't~~ would be ~~more~~ refined, wouldn't it, Nelson?

You are our every Emily Post!

LEAD

Here's the latest news - Secretary of the Interior Krug has just resigned. This follows a long series of reports, that he was unhappy in his position, and that President Truman has not been too well pleased. His announcement tonight is terse and brief: "I am leaving. I've wanted to leave for a long time," says J. A. Krug, as he quits the post of Secretary of the Interior. *Pres. Tru - didn't even know he was quitting*

MACY

We've often heard about poetic justice - and here's a glittering example. In New York, Macy's Department Store, advertising low prices, preaches a doctrine of thrift. 'Save your pennies. It's smart to be thrifty - that's the slogan. So now what have we? A clerk at Macy's embezzling Fifty Thousand Dollars. But he saved it. He squandered not a nickel. He salted away the stolen Fifty Thousand with the utmost frugality. So what could Macy's do - being the great exponent of thrift? Here's the answer - and, as justice, it certainly is poetic.

In a New York court today, Hugh Hickey faced the judge - a mild mannered bachelor of Fifty-Eight, who had worked at Macy's for Twenty-Six years. Several years ago, the doctor told him he had an ailment that might cause him to retire soon. Which made him think of accumulating something for that rainy day.

He devised a clever scheme. He was in a position to deal with customers bringing goods back and demanding a refund. So he wrote out fake refund orders, sent them through the Pneumatic tube - and back would come the money. In that way he embezzled up to Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars a day. He thought he would never be detected, because Macy's, that biggest of department stores, handles a volume of sales that some times hits a Million Dollars a day. So the amounts that he took would never be noticed.

Actually, they never were, but the store detectives noticed something else. Keeping check on employees, they observed that the clerk whose wages were less than sixty dollars a week, had eight accounts in savings banks, and owned fifty shares of Macy's stock, not to mention investments in other gilt edged securities. So they got on to his little trick, and found he had run

his daily thefts up to a total of Fifty Thousand Dollars.

The game was up - and, at first, the clerk tried to pretend that he had squandered the money on women and horse races. He wanted to hang onto it - still thrifty. But the detectives knew better, and finally he handed back the Fifty Thousand to the last penny. He had saved all of it - living in a cold water walk-up flat. Rent, Twenty Four Dollars a month. No expensive clothes, no expensive fun.

Today the judge asked in amazement: "Did he not dissipate any of the funds?"

"No," replied the assistant district attorney - who thereupon recommended that this prodigy of embezzlement and thrift, be released on parole. That's the way Macy's wanted it. - faithful to their advertising! He had practiced what they preached - it's smart to be thrifty!

And, as it turned out - it was. *He went free.*

SERBIA

One of the strangest of lawsuits is being held - a suit for Four and a Half Million Dollars in a Communist country; ~~it's in~~ Red Yugoslavia, ~~and the case has a reminiscence of past history.~~

During the First World War, one of the prominent figures in statecraft was the Serbian premier - Pashich, who figured largely in the creation of what is now Yugoslavia. He was a wealthy owner of mines, silver and lead. After his death, his only son appealed to the Yugoslav courts - claiming that he should have inherited rich mining properties, ~~but that these had been alienated by fraud.~~ He charged forgery - against his mother and sister. That was ~~in Nineteen Twenty-Nine,~~ Twenty years ago.

The case went dragging through the courts. ~~cases have a way of doing.~~ The Second World War came, the affair still not settled. Communism came, the Red dictatorship of ~~Marshal~~ Tito, and all the mines of Yugoslavia were confiscated. ~~You'd think that that~~

~~would have ended the lawsuit, but it didn't.~~ Communism
or no Communism, the case kept on going - and the trial
began in the Red capital in Belgrade today, *with*

But what's the use? The clue to the answer
lies in the fact that the disputed mines were signed
over to a British corporation - the son of the Serbian
war premier claiming that, in the transfer, his mother
and sister forged his father's name to the document.
So the suit in the Red courts has that point - directed
against a British concern.

~~In Yugoslavia~~ not a word ~~is being~~ published
about ^{it} the case, which might seem a little too odd to
people in a Communist nation.