

The news from Indianapolis today was again a song of speed. This time more so. Lee Wallward winning the Classic in record-breaking time, averaging more than one hundred and twenty-six miles an hour. The previous record was little more than one hundred and twenty-one miles an hour. During most of the race Wallward was driving at better than one hundred and thirty miles an hour -- with one stop for a tankful of gas and a new tire. His time for the five hundred mile grind was a little more than three hours and fifty-seven minutes. The first time the speed race has been driven in less than four hours.

He competed against the fastest field on record. Trying to catch up, his rivals set a new mark for the average of cars that finished. But a smaller number finished than ever before. The pace that Wallward set was such that of thirty-three entries, twenty-five dropped out and eight finished. The smallest number previously was -- nine.

PK

Willward was in the lead nearly all the way,
and won by more than two laps, a race in which the
roar of motors was -- a song of speed.

Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Sherman began his testimony today -- in the inquiry concerning the dismissal of General MacArthur. And - discussed the MacArthur proposal for an American ~~new~~ naval embargo against Red China. The insistence on which - was one of the points in the dismissal of the Supreme Commander.

Admiral Sherman stated today that, at the United Nations, our government has been pressing for a naval blockade. But -- by the U.N., and not by the United States alone. He argued that a blockade, simply American, might bring dangerous complications - drawing us away from our Allies. But a blockade proclaimed by the U.N. would be supported by everybody -- except, of course, the Soviets and their satellites. Admiral Sherman said that, in his opinion, Soviet Russia would probably not react violently against a U.N. blockade -- as it might against an all-American affair.

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He thought a sealing up of the ports of Red China would be highly effective -- compelling the Chinese Communists to get vitally-needed war materials from Soviet Russia alone. Which would tax the limited capacity of the Trans-Siberia railroad. But - it should be a U.N. blockade, he insisted, and ^{he} said we are pressing for that. Which urging has been partly successful, he noted -- successful to the extent of bringing about a U.N. embargo of war materials declared against Red China. The embargo, remarked Admiral Sherman, was a step in the direction of a U.N. blockade.

The Admiral was asked about the meetings of the Joint Chiefs of Staff -- in connection with the recall of General MacArthur. And - revealed that he had made a suggestion of his own. He proposed that an officer, equal in rank with the Supreme Commander, be sent to Tokyo to discuss the complaints against MacArthur, the statements he was making. This officer

would either straighten out the whole thing, or inform MacArthur that he would have to be replaced.

To which Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire asked "Why was that proposal rejected?" The Admiral replied that it was a mere suggestion, no conclusions were reached. He said that, when he left the meeting, he had no idea that, in his ^S own words -- "the matter would come to a head as quickly as it did."

(But he supported the ouster of the Supreme Commander, and today read a memorandum in which he gave his reasons. ~~This was based on the future.~~ The Sherman memorandum stated -- "that we must have a Commander in whom we can confide, and on whom we can rely, that General MacArthur has not been sufficiently responsive to the directives and policy given, and that, from a military point of view, he should be replaced."

In Korea the Allied Forces have driven to what is called the "Iron Triangle of the Reds". That is, the heavily fortified line from which the Communists launched their ill-fated offensive, which was beaten back with such savage losses. There were advances all along the line today, but they ran into increasing resistance, as the "Iron Triangle" was approached. ^R At the west, above Seoul, American tanks and infantry punched out a two-mile gain, and captured hills overlooking the town of Yonchon. Over on the east, there was a four-mile drive up the highway to Kumhwa. ~~only~~ At last reports, the American vanguard was within twelve miles of that place, Kumhwa, a highway center.

The "Iron Triangle" ~~is a~~ ^{is} a labyrinth of bunkers and foxholes, like a sort of Red Maginot Line -- north of the thirty-eight parallel. ^{(The enemy} is expected to make a strong stand there, checking the confused retreat, following their luckless offensive. But tonight, that main defence line is in range of American big guns, ~~and~~ ^{bombard} and is under heavy cannonade. ~~The artillery had to bomb~~

COMMUNISTS

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A Congressman demands that something be done about the Communists who arrange for families ^{over here} of American prisoners of war in China to receive -- peace messages. We have been hearing for ~~some time~~ some time that the Reds try to use casualties of war as a means of insinuating Communist propoganda into families in this country, so now Congressman Kenneth Keating of New York states that Red agents contact families of prisoners of war, and tell them to contact a certain address in Red China. In return they get Communist indoctrination. There have been cases says the Congressman of prisoners of war writing home in response to all this -- and propounding Communist ideas. "No doubt under duress" says he, and wants an investigation.

SPY

Word in London is that the Number One atom spy, Klaus Fuchs, has been removed from Wormwood Scrubs Prison. Wormwood Scrubs is a penal institution famous in British history for toughness. So now Fuchs has been taken out for what are called -- reasons of health. We hear that the arch atomic spy while at Wormwood Scrubs was promoted to a post of supervisor for good behavior and was ~~no~~ no longer required to work at sewing together mail bags. Fuchs has been transferred to Stafford prison, a milder institution of correction.

Perhaps this has nothing to do with recent rumors -- that Klaus Fuchs, now in deep remorse has been doing ~~atomic~~ atomic work for the British government, *at any rate* but he has been taken out of Wormwood scrubs.

IRELAND FOLLOW ITALIAN ELECTIONS

Ireland has an election today -- although it is too early to tell anything about it. The principal issue, was whether DeValera would or would not regain control of the government. Dublin says the betting is about fifty-fifty -- for DeValera to win the seven extra parliamentary seats ^{that he} ~~he~~ would need to become Prime Minister of Ireland again.

IRON

From northern South America we have the announcement of a discovery that may be of world importance. Huge deposits of iron ore have been found -- along the border of British Guiana and Venezuela. The veins of iron are said to be two hundred and thirty feet deep and it seems as if they might add up to the biggest bed of ore in all the world. The discovery was made by geologists of the United States Steel Corporation -- working in an area that is known to be rich in minerals.

^{TP} The discovery of the vast new sources of iron ~~is~~ ^{could be} of the utmost importance -- but there is a ~~rather~~ troublesome angle too. The ore beds are in a territory under dispute -- along a border about which there has been longtime wrangling between Britain and Venezuela. There is a question of whether this area belongs to the British colony of Guiana or the South American Republic -- and the argument can be made only the more stubborn by the finding of what may turn out to be the world's greatest deposit of iron.

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Canadians are using a primitive yet most modern way of battling fires in the forest of Ontario. They are taking Indians by helicopter to critical places threatened by the ~~xx~~ sweep of the flames. The special fire fighting brigade, as it is called, made up of Ojibway and Cree Indians who know the woodlands as only the Indians can. They are set down by helicopter to put out fires at critical danger points. They don't need any compasses or maps to tell them where they are says an official of the Canadian Department of Forestry today. They know the woods as well as I know the back of my hand. They have an uncanny ~~xx~~ sense of the bush. That is why we use them in preference to white ^(MEN)~~MEM~~ for this job.

FLIER

The North Pole flier landed in New York today -- after another long distance flight. He began by ^w singing from Northern ~~xxxx~~ Norway, straight across the Pole to Fairbanks, Alaska -- in ten hours and ~~xx~~ twenty-nine minutes. *After a brief rest,* ~~he~~ ^{he} started out for New York. Captain Charles Blair, veteran pilot of Pan American Airways flying a converted Mustang fighter plane, made the solo flight over the North Pole in history. On landing in New York, he said it would be feasible to operate intercontinental flights across the Pole -- as easily in fact as flying west across the Atlantic, when ~~you~~ ^{as you usually} have to buck strong headwinds.

MAGIC

Here's evidence that should be conclusive concerning one of the most famous of legends -- the Hindu rope trick. You know - the story how the wonder-working fakir, out in India, tosses a rope in the air, where it hangs all by itself, suspended from nothing. Then a boy climbs the rope.

The authority is an interesting combination -- clergyman and magician. Dr. John Nicholls Booth ^{of Boston,} who has traveled a great deal out East, and is an amateur magician. He has written books on magic -- and one, called FABULOUS DESTINATIONS, about his adventures. Right now he is attending ^{the} a convention of Magicians in New York - a thousand wonder-workers, each of whom is capable, at any moment, of producing a rabbit out of the salad bowl or vanishing a plate of soup.

Dr. Booth has been telling me how, in India recently, he made a conclusive investigation of that

famous rope trick. "I put a big advertisement in ~~the STAR OF INDIA~~ ^{the} ~~at~~ ^{paper;} Calcutta," he says, "and offered twenty-five thousand rupees -- eight thousand dollars -- to anyone who could do the rope trick, or prove it had ever been done. There was not one reply."

After which the clergyman-magician went on a tour of inquiry among the wonder-workers of India. Some -- modern magicians, Western style. Others, the fakirs, the Jaduwallahs, in loin-cloths and turbans, who practice their traditional tricks -- like the dancing cobra.

"When I asked them about the rope trick," Dr. Booth relates, "they simply smiled and shook their heads, said it was all a myth, nothing to it."

"I talked to Hindus of every sort, and their attitude was the same. The only people I found in India who believe in the rope trick were several British and Americans who said: 'I know it has been done because I have a friend, who knows a friend, who saw it.' The

Indians, themselves, wonder at the ~~the~~ gullibility

of Westerners." *So says Dr. Booth, the*
clergyman who is also a magician, Nelson,
~~I asked Dr. Booth -- what's the answer? He said~~

he had come to the conclusion that the Hindu rope
trick is nothing more than an Indian version of a
familiar legend, found all around the world -- Jack
and the Beanstalk. "In our own American West," he
explained, "it's a cornstalk. One Indian tribe tells
how, long ago, they lived far underground, but a
cornstalk grew so tall down there - they were able to
climb up and reach the surface of the earth. In China,
it's a stalk of rice," the clergyman-magician went
on -- noting that, in India, a hemp-growing country,
rope was typical. So were the wonder-working ~~fakirs~~
fakirs, seen everywhere. Hence the version which
old-time travelers from the West accepted - Jack and
the Beanstalk transferred to India in the form of a
rope thrown into the air by a fakir.

ROYALTY

Word from London is that King George has cancelled his trip to Northern Ireland -- but Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret will go, according to schedule. They are to arrive in Belfast on Friday.

The cancellation of the King's visit to the north of the Emerald Isle is not because of threats made by Irish Nationalists -- who planted a bomb which slightly damaged the British Embassy in Dublin last week. Extremists have been making dire threats against His Majesty, and they plan a demonstration in Belfast tomorrow. But the King's reason is -- influenza.

He got the flu last weekend, and has not been able to shake it off. So he has cancelled all engagements -- including attendance at the Derby today. That classic of horse racing was run without the royal presence - and was won by ARCTIC PRINCE. Odds - twenty-eight to one.

Well, when the flu keeps the King from going to the Derby, it is quite enough to prevent His Majesty from visiting Ireland.

ITALIAN ELECTIONS

Tonight's election figures from Rome give a final picture of the triumph of the anti-Communists -- headed by Premier de Gasperi's Christian Democrat Party. The returns from Northern Italy are all in and show that parties fighting the Reds have won control in twenty-three out of twenty-eight provincial capitals -- cities like Genoa, Milan, Venice. The only large city retained by the Communists is Bologna, called -- "the Red capital". Even there the Communists won because a neo-Fascist party split the Right Wing vote. This revival of Mussolini's oldtime outfit showed a good deal of strength and, in Bologna, polled seven thousand votes, taking that many away from the Christian Democrats and their allies. The Reds, got a majority of two thousand -- and the margin is so small that a recount is being demanded.

The returns from the smaller places are equally impressive -- the Reds thrown out of power in seven hundred and seventy-five towns. In the last municipal elections, ■ 1946, they won control in eleven hundred and seventy. In this latest vote, they carried

only three hundred and ninety-five. ~~However, the Christian Democratic Party of Premier de Gasperi showed a decline, polling six percent less than the last time. That is explained by the fact that smaller non-Communist parties, including the local independent groups, made considerable gains -- at the expense of the Christian Democrats.~~

IRAN

The anglo-Iranian oil company received official notification today -- which ~~was~~ carried out an ultimatum from the Teheran government earlier this week. The company was told that if it did not join in the proceedings by Thursday, Iran would nationalize. So today the formal declaration was made. Next week, a three man commission will go in to the oil fields, the control of which will be transferred to a government board.

Late news -- the arrest of four Russian employees of a Soviet consulate, who were agitating Communist demonstrations against Britain and America. This ~~occurred~~ at Tabriz -- the Soviet Russians taken into custody while plastering inflammatory placards on walls.