

L.T. P. & G. THURSDAY, April 14, 1949.
(Durango)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Today brings a sensational story about the atomic war power of this nation. The disclosure has such remarkable aspects that it is well to begin by taking a look at the source, whence it comes. An article written by Professor J. A. Campbell of the chemistry department of Oberlin College, printed in the "Armed Forces Chemical Journal," published by the Armed Forces Association.

Neither the Journal nor the Association has any official connection with the American Armed Forces, nor does the Association assume responsibility for the article published in the Journal. With all that made clear, let's see what it says.

Professor Campbell argues in opposition to much of the secrecy surrounding the atomic bomb.

He criticizes for example the refusal to disclose how many atomic bombs this country has -- the stock pile. So he proceeds to declare that we are

turning out atomic bombs at a rate of at least one a week, and says the present stock pile is between one-hundred and two-hundred. He adds that the bombs cost about a million dollars each to make -- which is fairly expensive ammunition.

One headline secret is the size of the bomb. But the scientist says this can be figured out from technical evidence already published. The atomic bomb, he declares, is about the size of a soft ball. But what soft ball player would try to hit a home run with that kind of spheroid? He said that the bomb weighs about thirty pounds--mighty heavy for a soft ball. But then uranium, the atomic explosive, is the heaviest of the elements.

The account goes on to state:- "No smaller atomic bomb can be made and any larger piece will explode spontaneously." Just why that should be I don't know -- something in the esoteric mysteries in the atomic science. But it has been stated repeatedly

that there is a critical size for the bomb--it cannot be smaller or larger.

Another secret -- the height at which the atomic bomb was, when it exploded over Hiroshima. Professor Campbell says about a third of a mile. Which would be something less than two thousand feet. He adds that at that altitude the explosion hurls a blast wave, which accomplishes what he calls "one hundred per cent destruction" over a circular radius of a mile.

But now the most sensational part of it all-- a statement that the atomic bomb is the fourth most important weapon that this country has. It's merely-- number four -- three others out ranking the atom bomb in deadly power. One, declares Professor Campbell, is biological warfare. Another is radio active dust or spray. The third -- a secret not to be mentioned. These three, including that ultra-secret weapon, come ahead with the atomic bomb -- which is merely number four.

I don't know how much there is in all of this, but it does sound startling.

Quake--1

Scientists estimate that ~~yesterdays~~ earth-quake in the Pacific Northwest exerted energies ~~equal~~ equal to one hundred atomic bombs. Science has standard for measuring forces, atomic or earth-quake, and the unit is called an "erg". The figures are astronomical, the number of ergs, but the calculations indicate that yesterdays earth-quake equalled one hundred times the power of an atomic bomb. They figure that the devastating San Francisco earth-quake, the disaster of nineteen hundred and six, released energies equal to a thousand atomic bombs.

Meanwhile the Pacific Northwest was cleaning up today, after all the damage to the buildings.

Damage estimated at twenty million dollars.

Bullgaria--1

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An astonishing headline from Bulgaria:—
retirement of Dimitrov as the premier of the
Red government and as the chief of the Bulgarian
communist party. The surprise is redoubled by
that headline of a few days ago--the ouster of
vice-premier Kostov, who was ~~the~~ number two
Communist in Bulgaria. He was tossed out because
he refused to obey Moscow abjectly enough, the
assumption was that this left Dimitrov supreme--
~~holding~~ ^{HC} the most faithful kind of stalin
henchman.

But tonight the word from sophia is that
Dimitrov has been removed as premier and communist
party head! The explanation is that he ~~will~~ will
go to Moscow for medical treatment. But at the
same time the ousted vice-premier Kostov has been

Bulgaria--2

given a new government job--in spite of the charge that he was not sufficiently subservient to Stalin. Maybe Kostov is making a comeback--but the whole thing is a puzzle as the news of Dimitrov's retirement is announced tonight.

Note to Mr Thomas.

The two flyers broke the endurance record, staying on in the air. With that change the previous story stands.

thats all

Montgomery Ward--1

Tonight one of the greatest American business firms is left without a single big executive. Montgomery ward has no president, no vice-president, virtually no nothing--except Sewell Avery, the chairman of the board. There has been a mass resignation of the top executives of the four hundred million dollar mail order firm--and the trouble, we hear, is because of Sewell Avery's refusal to let the high officers have the share of authority they ~~thought~~ they are entitled to.

The ~~summit~~ seventy-five year old business magnate is on record as a formidable individual. Remember the time he was carried out bodily out of his office by the united states army, when during a war-time strike-dispute the army took over Montgomery Ward? Well, tonight Sewell Avery is virtually in single-handed control of Montgomery ward, after the walk-out of the top executives.

Flyers--1

~~A couple of hours from now~~ a new endurance flying record; ~~will be set,~~ ^{by} ~~if all goes well with~~ pilots Bill Barris and Dick Riedel, at Fullerton California. ~~If they can keep going, for a mere two hours more,~~ They ~~will~~ have been in the air continuously for more than seven-hundred-and-twenty-six hours, breaking the world's record, set back in nineteen thirty. ~~But~~ ^{Still} they won't come down. Bill and Dick having ideas of staying up for a thousand hours-- "something for other flyers to shoot at", say they.

They took off, on March fifteenth, and flew from California to Miami. There they circled around for days then returned to their California base this week where they continued to circle. Up in the air all that while, they have re-fueled three times a day, swooping down and picking up gasoline and other supplies from ^a speeding jeep. ^{TP} Now, after nearly a month without landing-- only two hours to go to break the record.

Manhunt--1

Today an Ohio farmer saw a strange sight.-

He could hardly believe his eyes. Out there in a field of his, were two policemen shackled to a cherry tree. Each had his arms around the tree, his wrists fastened with locked handcuffs; ~~and~~ one of them ~~was~~ a police lieutenant. The farmer had to saw down the cherry tree to release the two officers. Which certainly was a humiliation for the police.
And tonight one of the biggest man-hunts is on for the insolent crooks who did it.

The story begins in Weirton, West Virginia, where lieutenant Al Rossell and Patrolman James Her^man stopped three men in a car, and took them to the police station for questioning. It is now believed that they were three bandits who yesterday robbed a bank at Follansbee, West Virginia.

But the police lieutenant and the patrolman never ~~mm~~ suspected the dangerous character of the prisoners they had picked up, and ~~the~~ the next thing

Manhunt--2

you know, the three bandits, in the police station, turned on the two cops, overpowered them, and ~~is~~ kidnapped them. They put the captives in their car, and went racing through the streets of Weirton, out into Ohio.

Near the town of Hanoverton they stopped, took the policemen over to a nearby farm--a place belonging to ~~F~~ Farmer George Bets⁺. There, using the officers handcuffs, they shackled lieutenant Rossell and patrolman Herman to that cherry tree.

Then the banits went speeding away--leaving the two officers of the law in the humiliating position, until ~~the~~ Farmer Bets⁺ got them loose by sawing down the cherry tree.

Nothing ^{more} ~~so~~ remarkable has happened since George Washington ~~has~~ chopped down the ^{at} cherry tree with his little hatchet.

Girl--1

The "Maid of Cotton" returned home today, back to America. Sue Howell of Bakersfield, California, who won a beauty contest held by the cotton growing states, and was ~~more~~ acclaimed "Maid of Cotton". Of course, she is not made of cotton, but consists of the usual--"rag and bone and a hank of hair"^{— to quote the poet Kipling.} Or rather, maybe I should say--fabric, osseous material and silken tresses. That, I am sure, is the way Sue would rather have it expressed--after what she had to say today about high class language.

Landing in New York, she related that her trip to New York had been delightful, and added: "I would like to go back sometime". But then she corrected herself, and told the reporters: Make that "I would like to return". The words "go back" were not elegant enough, as Sue explained. "Mother", said she, "has been writing me to watch my grammar."

Girl--2

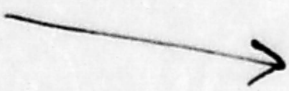
While I was away, she sent me clippings telling things I had said and ~~she~~ underlined ^{ing all the} sentences ~~that~~ I ~~had~~ loused up." At this point, Sue

corrected herself again, and told the reporters,

"Please make that--slaughtered". So she ^{been} ~~is~~ slaughtering ^{ing} the sentences. It ~~never~~ would never do to say

"Loused up" in the company she met in Europe.

In London she was the guest-of-honor at a cocktail party given by Sharman Douglas, daughter of the American ambassador to Great Britain, and there she met a number of English noblemen, including Lord David Westmoreland, ~~who was~~ a beau of Princess Margaret. Sue was also a guest of the Earl of Warwick, having ~~met~~ tea at Warwick castle. Good going, Sue! or rather I should say-- elegant proceeding, Sue!



Girl--3

Today the "Maid of Cotton" wore a green cocktail dress, brilliant with green sequins, a creation of cotton designed for her by one of the leading fashion experts of Paris.

Posing for the new photographers she called their attention to the cocktail gown and cried, "Isn't it yummy"?

No, Sue, not yummy. That might shock Lord Westmoreland or the Earl of Warwick, not to mention mother. You should say--"Isn't it fashionable, ornate, resplendent". Not yummy, Sue! not * yummy!

Goose

The city of San Francisco was made the defendant today in a large damage suit. Mrs Velma White says she was attacked by a goose--and, claims the goose did one hundred thousand dollars worth of damage.

She relates that in a San Francisco Zoo she was assailed by the bird, which beat and pecked her in the region of the stockings. So she suffered what the complaint calls, "bruises-contusions, and nervous shock". Must have been quite a goose.

City officials are looking into the matter, and have asked the zoo for a report on the goose-- whether or not ^{a goose is} ~~any~~ a public danger. Sounds like a public disaster--when a goose causes a hundred thousand dollars in damage, *wouldnt you say so, Ken?*