

FRANCE

L. P. Doctor & Gamble Wednesday, Nov. 19, 1947.

The Government of France has resigned. Tonight's word from Paris is that Premier Ramadier has stepped out, making way for a new head of the Government.

The ^{new} Premier ^{who} now ^{will} take office ^{is} ~~will be~~ the aged veteran, Leon Blum, who will form a middle-of-the-road government in an effort to stop what France fears may turn into Civil War. That is, Civil War between the rampant Communists and the conservative forces of General DeGaulle who won so striking a victory in the recent election.

Leon Blum, for long years a Socialist leader, is opposed to the extremists of both Left and Right, and will seek measures to curb the clash ~~that~~ threatens a Civil War.

Meanwhile the Red strikes are increasing in France, with ^a ~~the~~ threat of ^{nation-wide} ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ paralysis.

[^]The ~~the~~ coalminers walked out today. And the estimate is that in the vital industries of France, a total of three hundred and fifty thousand are out in Communist-led strikes.

too —
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In Italy, the disturbances were aggravated today by a farm workers' strike -- protesting against the Government's efforts to put down the campaign of Communist violence, which has been going on for fifteen days now.

MARSHALL PLAN

Prompt action in Washington on the Marshall Plan.

Today the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate gave its unanimous approval to the Emergency Relief Bill, to ~~give~~ provide five-hundred-and-ninety-seven million dollars' worth of immediate aid to France, Italy and Austria. The Committee voted - thirteen to nothing, with only a few minor amendments.

Whereupon the Chairman, Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, who is also President of the Senate, announced that the debate of the Emergency Relief Bill will begin in the Senate on Monday. He expects the bill to be passed by Thanksgiving Day. (If not, he will hold the Senate in session on Friday and Saturday, following the holiday - in accordance with the declaration by Secretary of State Marshall that the bill ~~is needed~~ for immediate aid to France, Italy and Austria is needed not later than November Thirtieth.)

As for the controls the President has asked, the Republican view ⁱⁿ of the Senate is that action will not be taken by the present special session of Congress. Republican leader

Senator Taft stated today that the debate on the authority to ration food and restrict prices and wages, for which President Truman has asked, will have to go over to the regular session of Congress - the beginning of the year. ~~And~~ the special session will consider other phases of the presidential program, according to the Ohio Senator.

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However, a contrary view seems to prevail in the Lower House - where Congressman Wolcott of Michigan, Chairman of the House Banking Committee, announced today that his group will start considering all of the suggestions made by the President, including rationing and wage-price controls.

U.N.

(The United Nations has voted to take up the problem of the Soviet veto. The Political Committee today decided to ~~refer~~ refer the veto question to the "Little Assembly", the *all-*
year-round
Committee representing the General Assembly, ~~which is a~~
~~year-around affair~~. Today's move was bitterly opposed by Soviet Russia; ~~and~~ ^{but} was carried by thirty-six to six -- only the Soviets and their satellites voting against -- eleven nations abstaining.

This action was provoked by the twenty-two vetoes the Soviets have ⁺~~case~~ - the United Nations now deciding to try and do something about it.

MEYERS

The General Meyers extravaganza goes on. Today's congressional hearing in Washington continued the fantasy of war-contract finance, with new highlights of comedy.

Major General Junius W. Jones of the Army Air Forces was asked again about that anonymous letter - the one charging that General Meyers, as a high war-time procurement officer in the Air Forces, had made a million or two out of dealings in Aircraft Company stocks. This anonymous letter, sent to the F.B.I., was forwarded to the Air Forces, where nothing was done about it. How come? General Jones was asked that question all over again today, and replied that the letter, without a signature, looked like a smear job with an element of malice, written by a paranoiac.

Whereupon, Committee Chairman Senator Ferguson produced a copy of the Air Force Manual on Investigations, and pointed out two paragraphs pertaining to anonymous letters. In these two paragraphs, there's a recommendation that letters without signature should be investigated. The Air Force Manual

uses the following words: "There appears to be a disposition to dismiss such letters as having little merit. This is a serious mistake," says the Manuel.

After referring to this, Senator Ferguson asked:

"Who was the author of that particular ^{part of the} book?"

To which General Jones replied: "I, probably am, Sir."

Apparently the General wrote it, but he didn't practice what he preached, and perhaps tonight he's reflecting on that famous line, "Oh that mine adversary had written a book!"

Other testimony continued the story told by the self-styled dummy-president of the Aircraft Company, which War-Time Procurement Officer General Meyers is said to have owned. Today, the dummy-president was followed by a dummy-vice-president. According to previous testimony, the dummy-president received a nominal salary of thirty-one thousand dollars a year, of which he kicked back twenty ~~seven~~ ^{eight} thousand to General Meyers. So his actual salary as dummy-president was ~~four~~ ^{three} thousand a year.

Today the dummy-vice-president testified that he was marked down for a nominal salary of fifteen to eighteen thousand a year, all of which he gave to General Meyers, except for twenty-five dollars a week. Moreover, the dummy-vice-president added that, even after he had been drafted into the Army and was a dummy-vice-president no longer -- his nominal salary of eighteen thousand ~~dollars~~ a year was continued, and kicked back to the General, and presumably his own actual twenty-five bucks a week was continued.

To cap the climax of comedy, the dummy vice-president stated today that, after having been drafted into the Air Forces, he presently found himself at Wright Field, with General Meyers as his commanding officer.

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The latest - a bulletin announcing a confession of false testimony at the Meyers inquiry. The admission was made by Bleriot Lamarre, the self-styled dummy-president. Under cross-examination he stated that he had lied when he appeared at previous hearings of the Senate Committee, secret hearings 115

last October. He declared that testimony he gave at the time was false and had been concocted by General Meyers to conceal the fact that Meyers had owned the Aircraft Company with which Lamarre had been connected. The story he told then was that he had dissipated the Company's money with reckless spending and gambling, money that actually had been handed over to Meyers. This admission of falsehood was followed by a statement from T.E. Readinower, the self-styled dummy-vice-president, who today swore that the General had tried to get him to tell the same story about dissipating the Company's money - but he refused.

All this alleged scandal of war-contracts during the greatest conflict the world has ever known, is a mighty serious matter - but serious matters have, so often, a way of going into ~~em~~ comedy, in this comic world of ours. Take some more testimony today - about General Meyers' father-in-law. The General married a lovely blonde actress, as his third wife, and shortly before that happy event, he is said to have given

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her father a thousand-dollar-a-month job in the Company headed by the dummy-president and the dummy-vice-president. In doing this, the General, according to testimony today, stated that his future father-in-law was a railroad man of wide experience. How wide? Actually, we are told, the gentleman in question had been a bus driver on a bus line operated by a railroad. Well, his experience, driving a bus, would seem to be far, if not wide.

(Night Show)
November 19, 1947

NEW DUKE

(In London, tonight, shortly after the final rehearsal for tomorrow's royal wedding, King George created Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, Earl of Merioneth and Baron Greenwich. At the same time investing him with the British Empire's highest honor, ^{the} Order of the Garter.)

~~There is quite a human story behind the King's action in making his future son-in-law a royal duke. King George, it is said, has been reading the private correspondence of his Great-grandfather Albert, the German prince who married Queen Victoria. These diaries tell of the bitterness and unhappiness caused to Albert-the-Good, as he was affectionately known, because of the prolonged snubbing given him by the British Parliament. Albert married Victoria when she was already a queen. For years she tried to prevail upon her ministers to declare him King Consort, but~~

not until four years before his death, in Eighteen-sixty-one, after seventeen years of humiliation, did the British Parliament grudgingly consent to name Albert Prince Consort -- not King Consort. And so, King George the Sixth is making sure his new son-in-law as husband of a prospective queen will never have to suffer in the same way, making Lieutenant Mountbatten, once a Prince of Greece, a Royal Duke with a seat in the House of Lords. A kindly act by a royal father-in-law. King George also wishes that his daughter shall be known as the Duchess of Edinburgh in addition to her title of Princess.

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The Dukedom of Edinburgh, bestowed on Mountbatten, is said to be chosen because of Princess Elizabeth's Scottish descent. The Dukedom was first created for George the Second before he ascended the throne, the last Duke of Edinburgh, a son of Queen Victoria dying without heir in Nineteen-hundred, the title going into abeyance. ^{It} ^{also} Wales is honored

by young Mountbatten succeeding to the ancient Earldom of Merioneth, once held by a famous Celtic warrior. ^RIn the Barony of Greenwich there's a gesture to the Royal Navy, Greenwich being a British naval center, an ancient fortress where the first great Queen Elizabeth, founder of the British Navy, was born. In Fifteen-eighty-eight, the Virgin Queen ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ sat in her Greenwich palace to watch Drake's ships sail out to overwhelm the Spanish Armada.

Tonight, the Duke of Edinburgh -- his royal highness -- held the traditional bachelor party, attended by his naval friends and his Uncle, Earl Mountbatten, and the Marquiss of Milford Haven, the best man. This party after the final rehearsal for the wedding behind the locked doors of Westminster Abbey -- everyone going over his part with split-second precision. -- ~~and shivering probably because of the lack of heat.~~ The new duke, the king and queen, the Archbishop of Canterbury, primate of all England,

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L. T. - 4

Princess Margaret Rose, the best man and the brides-
maids. Everything set for the royal wedding -- except
the weather, which threaten's to be cold and rainy,
with little hope of the sun shining on the royal
bride, *tomorrow.*

OPERA

~~Here's a story from the world of music, though it has little to do with violin, horn or clarinet. It's about that good old puzzle - the English language.~~

In New York, the Metropolitan Opera House has opened its tuneful season, with a resounding success made promptly by - an orchestra conductor. They have a new Italian conductor at the Met, Maestro Antonicelli, ~~who has been carrying off operatic honors. Through an old friend, Carlo Edwards, who~~ ^{one time} used to be an assistant conductor at the Metropolitan, ~~I had~~ ^{introduced us.} dinner with Maestro Antonicelli and his gifted wife, an American soprano who has had a headline operatic career in Europe under the musical name of Franca Scogli. The talk had plenty to do with music, but it also featured the difficulties of the vernacular for someone who is just picking up English - like the Maestro.

^{And} He told ^{me about his language troubles} how in London he had a trip to make in the underground. In the London subway, you buy a ticket for ^{your} ~~the~~ destination, ~~to which you happen to be going.~~ So the Maestro

went to a ticket window and tried to speak with great precision. He said most distinctly: "To - Piccadilly."

Whereupon the ticket seller handed him two tickets to Piccadilly. The Maestro thought this peculiar - the more so as on the train the conductor proceeded to collect only one ticket.

The next time, having to make another trip in the underground, the Maestro said: "To - Charing Cross." And again he got two tickets. 200

Then, one day in an underground train, he saw a lady in some kind of uniform. She was hunting around - couldn't find her ticket. Whereupon the Maestro came to the rescue - he had his usual extra ticket. Bowing and smiling, he handed it to the conductor. The lady in the uniform gave him a severe glance, and spoke in an austere voice. "I accept this," she told the Maestro icily, "as a contribution to the Salvation Army."

For the Maestro, it was too, too perplexing. ~~And now -~~

~~For Nelson case. And maybe we'll get two talks about Ivory.~~

HURRICANE

From the South, we hear of a competition of cities - Miami, Jacksonville, and Orlando, in Florida. Maybe also - Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, New Orleans. The competition of the cities is in the matter of hurricanes. No, I don't mean that these great communities of Dixieland want to have a hurricane. They've had enough of those tropical howlers - five hurricanes having hit Florida and the Gulf Coast this autumn, with damage at some two hundred million dollars. So they don't care if they never see a hurricane again.

The competition is for ^{the} a Hurricane Warning Center of the United States Weather Bureau, which is soon to be decided on. Ever since Nineteen Forty-Two, Miami has been the place. ~~at which storm tidings have been assembled and from which hurricane warnings have been issued.~~ Previously, the storm warning center had been at Jacksonville, and Jacksonville wants it back. Orlando, Florida, is in the competition too, and the other southern cities previously mentioned are expected to be heard from. ^R Pressure is being brought to bear on the

Weather Bureau, the officials of which are soon to meet in Washington and make a decision. History tells us that in the classical days of yore, seven cities competed for the honor of being the birthplace of Homer - while today American cities strive for the distinction of being what might be called "the capital of the hurricane."

The reason is - the publicity. Hurricane warnings are published with a dateline, naming the city from which they emanate. That's good home town advertisement^{ing}, according to Chambers of Commerce down there in Florida and along the Gulf. Publicity brings tourists, even publicity that derives from the dateline on a hurricane warning.

However, none of the cities in question wants to be in the headlines when the hurricane actually hits. That's when the Chambers of Commerce go into hiding. Because dramatic bulletins about the havoc of the tropical tempest, frightens the tourists and scares them away. All of which produces those mixed motives and mingled emotions, which are so common

in this human life of ours. They want the storm publicity,
without the storm. They want to be the Hurricane Capital -
without the hurricane.

GAMBLING

The University of Chicago has identified two students, just graduated, who went to wide open Reno, and played the roulette wheels. They had three hundred dollars, which they ran into twelve thousand - to the astonishment and consternation of the gambling houses of Reno. ^R One of them was a medical student, which doesn't mean anything much - roulette not being a form of physiology or anatomy. The other is a mathematician, who received his degree as a Master of Science ⁱⁿ ~~and~~ ~~Mathematics~~ ~~and~~ ~~Mathematics~~ only three months ago. He was brilliant in trigonometry and calculus at college, and then went on to the science of roulette. ^{He may} ~~which you might call, applied mathematics.~~

~~Running three hundred bucks into twelve thousand, ¹ ~~you may~~~~

figure - why bother about the quantum theory and Einstein

relativity; when by using applied math at Reno you can run 300 bucks into 12000?

Would you know whether it's easy to do, Nelson?