

O.P.A. *L.D. Snow - Sun. July 25, 1946*

O.P.A. is to be with us again for another year. President Truman ^{has} signed the bill, ^{he said} ~~telling~~ newspapermen that he had done it "reluctantly." ^{And, he'll} ~~soon~~ soon announce his appointments to the de-control board of three ~~men~~, which will have the real ~~ultimate~~ power ^{over} ~~in~~ control of prices. ~~This feature of~~ the bill recalls the days of the late President Roosevelt. You may remember how, when one of the numerous government agencies got into a jam, Mr. Roosevelt, instead of abolishing it, would appoint a new one to take over part of its functions. So now we have a de-control board to check up on O.P.A.

People in Washington are wondering what we are going to have to check up on the de-control board.

O.P.A. ^{will} ~~begin~~ begin its new ~~phase of~~ life ~~on~~ August Twentieth. Meanwhile, ~~the~~ prices, ~~of~~ ~~retails~~ particularly ^{on} ~~meat~~ meat and butter, ~~without~~ ~~benefit of O.P.A.~~ are steadily going down.

~~The revival of O.P.A. of course means also~~ a new lease of life ^{for} ~~to~~ the black markets. Some of the

CROSSROADS

The ~~an~~ under-water atomic ^{apparently} bomb has left the floor of the Bikini Lagoon resembling a naval junk yard. The score to date, ~~is~~ eleven vessels sent to the bottom, four other heavily damaged. Nor is that the final score, since those waters are still believed to be boiling with radio activity.

The warships at the bottom of the lagoon are the great Battleship Arkansas, the mighty aircraft carrier Saratoga, a tanker, two landing craft, one mechanized landing vessel. And, five submarines are believed to have been sunk, though they are still to be investigated. The Battleship Nagato and the Battleship New York, the Destroyer Hughes and the Attack Transport Fallon, are reported badly damaged.

Vice Admiral ~~Blandy~~ Blandy says he isn't sure whether the sinking of the submarines was due to structural damage from the bomb burst. He believes it possible that the huge wave moving

At the speed of five hundred feet a second, might have cut the air hoses leading to the submarine from the surface. And that would have flooded the submarine ballast tanks.

It will be three days before there will be any boarding of the radioactivated ships -- maybe five days. Every ship anchored in the circle beneath that giant radioactive pillar of water is considered to have been affected. So nothing is known of what happened to the animals left aboard. After the first bomb - the one that exploded in the air over the warships, the goats aboard one of the battleships lived for some days apparently unharmed, and then died.

Many Navy men were sad today over the sinking of the Saratoga, once the flagship of Admiral Mark Mitscher, a gallant ship, and once Queen of the fleet. The score board on her "island" carried stars signifying she had taken part in eight major Pacific campaigns, and with bars for ~~f~~ carrying out

twenty-three missions: the landing at Guadalcanal, the battle of Guadalcanal, fighting in the Eastern Solomons, other landings in the Solomons, the Gilberts and the Marshalls, the raid on Sabang, the attack on Soerabaja, and finally Japan itself. More than one hundred thousand plane landings were made on her deck. Six times the Japs reported her sunk, and six times she showed up again, more alive than ever.

Torpedoes struck her twice, but her blisters protected her from serious damage. It took an atomic bomb to spring those massive steel plates.

In the landing on Bougainville, air groups from the Saratoga put ten enemy ships out of commission, and Admiral Nimitz sent a message to her Captain saying: "You are the mainstay of the Fleet".

She was one of the fastest ~~vessels~~ vessels afloat, with a capacity of thirty-four knots, which means nearly forty miles an hour. Before the war, when something went wrong with the lighting system of Tacoma, Washington, the Saratoga tied up at the wharf and supplied power to the people of Tacoma from her generators.

Dr. Clyde Hutchinson, Vice-Chairman of the committee of atomic scientists of Chicago, ^{today made} ~~attored~~ a protest ^{about} ~~against~~ the way Congress is handling the problem of atomic energy. He pointed ^s ~~out~~ that New York, Chicago and Dallas, Texas, could be wiped off the face of the map with no more than eleven atomic bombs. In the face of ^{which he says} ~~that awful fact~~, the lawmakers in Washington are jeopardizing the world's hopes for international atomic control. Scientists believe that the proposals put forward by Bernard Baruch are the only real step ~~toward~~ toward effective international handling of the problem. ^{And they believe that} The amendments ~~that have~~ ~~been~~ added in the House, largely through the influence

~~of Congressman~~
~~of Representative Andrew~~

May, will weaken our national defense and hamper our present United Nations effort.

^{That} The House, in other words, is ruining the McMahon Bill as passed by the Senate.

~~All of which is due largely to the work of Andrew~~

~~May~~

The High Commissioner, in his orders today informed British soldiers that wherever they are forbidden to associate with Jews in Palestine. They may not even enter Jewish premises, dine in Jewish restaurants or visit Jewish homes. In other words, no fraternizing, no mingling either social or business way.

The Jewish Agency again strenuously denies having had anything to do with the explosion. It even says that the telegrams published by the British Government are spurious. Moreover the Jewish Agency challenges the British Government to prove that the Agency was responsible for either the composition or the sending of the telegrams which indicate that the Agency had some real connection with the King David

PALESTINE

More bodies were found today in the ruins of the King David Hotel at Jerusalem. The number of known dead from the explosion has risen to sixty three, with forty-eight ~~xxx~~ missing, -- probably dead -- and forty-seven badly injured.

The High Commissioner, in his orders today, informed British soldiers that henceforth they are forbidden to associate with Jews in Palestine. They may not even enter Jewish premises, dine in Jewish ~~x~~ restaurants or visit Jewish resorts. In other words, no fraternizing, no mingling either socially or in a business way.

The Jewish Agency again strenuously denies having had anything to do with the explosion. It even says that the telegrams published by the British Government are spurious. Moreover the Jewish Agency challenges the British Government to prove that the Agency was responsible for either the composition or the sending of the telegrams which indicate that the Agency had some ^{responsibility} ~~responsible~~ in connection with the King David

Hotel disaster.

In London, the British Government has invited leaders of both Arabs and Jews to a conference on Palestine, a round table meeting. To take place in London before the next two months are over.

This step should have been taken years ago, says the Syrian leader and political writer, Ameen Rihani. Back in Nineteen Thirty-Six, when Rihani was here in New York, he told me that by a round table conference, the Palestine problem could have been solved. But he added that even then, in Nineteen Thirty-Six, it already was too late.

Now the British are going to try ~~in~~ such a conference. Invitations have been sent to ~~x~~ Representatives of States that belong to the Arab League, also to all Jewish and Zionist Organizations. The United States has been invited to send ~~observers~~ observers. The meeting to take place sometime before the September Twenty-Third session of the United Nations. To discuss not only Palestine, but the plight of European Jews,

tens of thousands of whom are still in camps, waiting to learn where they may be allowed to live.

The United States Army. One month later, at the request of Major General William H. Porter, Garrison was transferred to the Fourth Medical Battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia. Four years later, he was promoted to Captain in command of a medical service company in France. His regimental commander ordered him on January Twenty-Fourth, Nineteen Forty-Five, to take a certain tactical position, which was held by his medical service company. Garrison refused, and his commanding officer was wrong, and that the position was tactically unsound.

The following day he refused again to move and was relieved of his command. The next thing he did is that the Honorable G. Fred Hoy got off the job, and a letter to many other than Garrison, then Garrison was sent to Europe. The long and short of it was that he begged Eisenhower to intervene in the case of Captain Garrison, and Garrison was sent to Europe.

MAY

In March, Nineteen Forty-One, Joseph Garsson, the son of Murray Garsson, was inducted into the United States Army. One month later, at the request of Major General William N. Porter, Garsson was transferred to the Fourth Medical Battalion at Fort ~~XXXX~~ Benning, Georgia. Four years later, he was a Captain in Command of a chemical mortar company in France. His regimental commander ordered him on January Twenty-Fourth, Nineteen Forty-Five, to take a certain tactical position, ~~before the town of Griesse~~ with his mortar company. Garsson refused, said his commanding officer was wrong, and that the position was tactically unsound.

The following day he refused again. So ~~then~~ they relieved him of his command. The next thing we find is that the Honorable Andrew May got on the job, with a letter to none other than General Eisenhower, then Supreme Commander in Europe. The long and short of it was that he begged Eisenhower to intervene in the case of Captain ~~Jx~~ Joseph H. Garsson, whose father was one of

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his, May's warm personal friends.

Eisenhower replied courteously, acknowledging the letter, and saying he would give the matter his attention. Then we find Andrew May writing again on May Second, Nineteen Forty-Five, describing Captain Joseph Garsson as a warm personal friend of his, a young man in whom he has been personally interested for a number of years, and for whose integrity and honesty he did not hesitate to vouch. Then he used these words: "I hope when you have all the facts, you can make a final report completely exonerating him of any wrongs or lack of proper military discipline and disobedience to his commanding officer." And he added: "I am confident that when all the facts are disclosed, you will feel more like commending him than censuring him."

This Andrew May wrote about an officer who had flatly refused to obey an order given to him by his superior officer on the field of battle.

As a matter of fact, the court martial

found him guilty and recommended that Captain Joseph Garsson be dismissed from ~~the~~ service; but also recommended that the sentence be suspended.

Gen. Eisenhower reviewed the case, upholding the suspension of sentence, and Captain Garsson eventually was reinstated.

The letters in this case today became part of the proceedings before the Mead Committee at Washington.

The committee also sent for Major General Porter and his successor in command of chemical ~~xx~~ warfare service, Major General Alden H. Waitt.

Tomorrow will be his Ninetieth Birthday. Who? Why George Bernard Shaw. And it will be unbearable, so he says. By the way, he's still insisting that he hates publicity. But no one believes him. For publicity has brought millions to the caustic Irish nonagenarian - or to the British tax collector.

Today visitors were flocking around his house, bashing holes in his hedges in order to get a shot of him with their cameras, and behaving in a way that might be expected to irritate the patriarch. He was heard to mutter in his beard today: "They've come to see the animal, just because he's ninety".

One of the ironies of the occasion is that the city of Dublin is sending a committee of six to present him with the freedom of the city, a city on which he has always lavished the utmost scorn.

Seventy years ago, George Bernard Shaw wuit his tiresome job in a Dublin real estate office,

and went to London armed with a few shillings and the devout hope that he would never have to look upon the city of his birth ~~any~~ again. In addition to those shillings he took to London one of the brilliant minds of our time, a gift for writing English which eventually won him world fame, also a capacity for work and study such as would stagger any half dozen ordinary writers.

So tomorrow, after seventy years, after having been frequently denounced by infuriated Irish because of the scathing things he has said and written about them, the Irish wit and scholar George Bernard Shaw will become a free citizen of Dublin.

BANK

A banker in Indiana was robbed five times in the last ten years. Today he announced to the world at large "Let somebody else's bank get robbed for a while." With that, he paid off his depositors and shut up shop.

This happened in the little town of Carbon, Indiana, a town of five-hundred-and-ten citizens. Forty one years ago, twenty of the ~~sixty~~ citizens got together and organized the Carbon State Bank. Eventually, Judge B. Marshall became not only President, Cashier and Manager, but also sole owner of the bank. Ever since Nineteen Forty, he has been doing business behind locked doors. If a customer wanted to deposit or withdraw money, he had to wrap on the window until Judge Marshall came and opened the door.

And that worked okay until Nineteen Forty-Four when some one wrapped on the window. Judge Marshall thought he recognized the callers. But when he opened the door they were strangers, and once more the Carbon Indiana State Bank was in the news. It was a

hold up.

Judge Marshall wanted to quit then and there, but his Hoosier fellow citizens beseeched him to stay open. How could they get along without a bank?

Today, however, bank President ~~Mark~~ Marshall said he had had enough; losses from robberies he could absorb, but, interference from government agents and the hundreds upon hundreds of conflicting rules and regulations they were too much. So, said he, at the age of seventy-one: "Now I'm going to go out to pasture and have a little fun." And that leaves a town in Indiana without a bank.

WAVE

Lieutenant Commander Bernice Ann Boner of Uncle Sam's waves was ~~was~~ dissatisfied with her work. So ^{at} three o'clock this morning she got into a taxicab and drove to the Francis Scott Key bridge over the Potomac, where she expected to meet friends from New York. They did ^{not} show up, so she told the hackman to drive over the bridge. Halfway over, she jumped out of the cab and climbed on the parapet. The Hackman tried to stop her, but she eluded him and jumped, ninety feet, ^{down} into the river.

The taxi man drove like mad for the police station, and the officers got a row boat, expecting to salvage nothing but a drowned woman. Instead, they found Lieutenant Commander Boner swimming strenuously around in circles. Her nātātion was fine, but her navigation not so good, ^{for she was} ~~she was just~~ swimming ^{and swimming and getting nowhere,} ~~to no place.~~

When the officers tried to pull her aboard, she refused, saying she might swamp the boat. So she took hold of the stern and they towed her ashore.

~~By the time they got her to the hospital, she certainly was one wet wave.~~ The officers who rescued

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her, ~~said she was~~ describe her as tall, slender and beautiful. And a

~~if that is true, presumably she still is.~~ At any

90-foot ~~rate, her~~ midnight dive ~~and swim~~ didn't seem ~~to do her any~~ ~~to have done~~

~~her no~~ harm.

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And now Hugh will you paddle over her and take over this mike.