

D.T. - P. 9 Tuesday, February 22, 1949.

President Truman tonight ~~he~~ lashed out in an <sup>extra</sup> ordinary <sup>an</sup> attack as has ever come across a news wire from the White House. He challenged people who have been attacking a member of his official family. The President dared any such critic to try to overthrow any member of his cabinet or ~~xxxxxx~~ staff. The Presidential words were much stronger than that. He challenged any -- S O B. <sup>Yes he</sup> ~~he~~ used those initials. He referred further to what he called - "some smart aleck statement over the air." He intimated furthermore, that the attacks were actually aimed at him. He used these words: "Unjustified and not directed at my aide, but at me."

So who is being assailed in such fashion as to warrant so sharp a Presidential defense? The President referred to his military aid General Vaughan. He defended Vaughan as -- "able and efficient." After which the question is -- who is doing the attacking? Who is assailing Presidential Aid General Vaughan? The President himself did not state, but

from the White House <sup>came</sup> a series of statements  
defending General Vaughan, one of which emanates  
from Major General Edward Whitsell, Army Adjutant  
General. He speaks of Vaughan's job in the following  
words: "not all parades, and balls, Drew Pearsons  
and decorations. <sup>and he added!</sup> "It has a seamy side." The  
reference is thus to columnist Drew Pearson, all  
this ~~comes~~ in a rather hasty and rather furious  
dispatch from the White House. Details undoubtedly  
to develop tomorrow.

The President's statements were made at a  
dinner given by the Reserve Officers Association  
at the Army and Navy Country Club in Virginia, just  
outside of Washington. The dinner was given in honor  
of Presidential aide General Vaughan, and Mr. Truman  
made an informal address -- in which he made the  
rather surprisingly frank declarations that I have  
referred to.

MOSCOW

Moscow witnessed the publication of a book today, an immediate sell-out -- a volume by an American woman who quit a job with the United States Embassy, and went over to the Reds. ~~She~~ She is Annabella Bucar formerly of Clairton, Pennsylvania who married a Russian singer. Her book is called "The Truth about American diplomats" and charges that virtually everybody connected with the United States Embassy *in* *Moscow* has been a spy.

She declares that the American Embassy indulges ~~in~~ <sup>s</sup> in what the Moscow dispatch calls "large scale speculation, smuggling of goods and foreign currency from abroad - and reaped huge profits from the sale of old clothing, food and currency.

She makes these charges even against our American Ambassador, General Bedell Smith.

Her book uses the following words: "Ambassador Smith was not without sin regarding these dirty speculation affairs".

She says that General Smith sold old clothing,

gold coin and watches. While this American woman was having a book published today, another one was being ~~xx~~ tossed ignominiously out of Soviet Russia. Anna Louise Strong, ~~xxx~~ who not so long ago was one of the most ardent pro-Soviet propagandists.

She wrote endless books and articles about the wonders of the Red Utopia - then, a couple of weeks ago, was arrested by the Soviet secret police and charged with sabotage and ~~xxx~~ espionage.

American officials in Moscow demanded to be allowed to ~~xx~~ see her - she being an American citizen. But it was no go, and today a brief notice announced that Anna Louise Strong, once famous as a Soviet ~~xxxxxx~~ propagandist, has been deported - tossed out of Russia.

## GERMANY

In Germany, American military officials today disclosed that they have failed to solve the secret of - the mysterious missiles. The whole affair has been kept under cover for a long time - strange projectiles dropping into the American zone of occupation. There have been four, the first landing in Nineteen Forty-Six. The last, about three weeks ago.

They have all hit in the same area, almost at the same point, just east of Schweinfurt- Bavaria --about thirty-five miles from the Soviet zone. The last to fall was seen by a German policeman as it came streaking through the air - early morning. He said it travelled from northeast to southwest, coming from Russian occupied territory. It had a flaming tail twenty feet long, and made a hole in the ground seven feet wide and ten inches deep.

What puzzles the American officers is the fact that these four mystery missiles, falling during a period of two-and-a-half years all hit in so nearly

the same place - in so small an area. If they were aimed at this particular point, it would indicate ~~to~~ an almost uncanny accuracy for jet missiles or rockets. That is what they were - probably. But the American officers admit they really don't know much about them - ~~all~~<sup>al</sup> though they have been studying the fragments of the mystery missiles

FRANCE

In France the Communist party is on record, with a statement made today by Thorez, Secretary-General of the Reds. He stated that if war should break out and the Soviet Army occupied France, the French people would cooperate with the invaders. That is, the Communists would.

## CHINA

In China, the chance for an agreement with Communists looked better today, as a nationalist peace mission prepared to leave for Peiping to confer with Red leader Mao Tze Tung.

The significant thing is that the Communist Chieftain has agreed to receive representatives of the Nationalist regime and negotiate for a settlement. On both sides, nationalists and Red, the belief is expressed that the China Civil War will soon end in some sort of compromise.



MCNUTT

Paul McNutt, one time contender for the presidential nomination, and more recently our Governor, and the <sup>n</sup>Ambassador, in the Philippines, has arrived in Idaho. In his opinion the average American citizen <sup>long</sup> at last is aware of the danger of Communism.

Speaking at a meeting of the Sun Valley Post of the American Legion, he said that if the people of this country had accepted the American Legion program, after World War One, we might not be faced with today's problems concerning Communism. He recalled that the Legion had warned us, but as a people we paid little attention.

Many of those who were listening to him, fought in World War Two with the famous Tenth Mountain Division, which General Mark Clark <sup>praised</sup> ~~could~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>as</sup> his top division in Italy. Paul McNutt is on his way to the Philippines. The last time he was there it was as our first Ambassador to the new Philippine Republic. This time he returns as chairman of the

Board of the Philippine-American life Insurance  
Company.

Another remark he made, which may surprise  
many Americans, was: That Manila was smashed up by  
the war more than either Berlin or Tokyo.

NEWS WIRE

Here at Sun Valley, working with dispatches coming through Boise, I have been interested to note the treatment given to foreign news on this inter-mountain wire. Much less of it than on the eastern wire I use in New York - not nearly so many with datelines abroad - London, Paris, Moscow, Berlin and other foreign capitals. <sup>π</sup> So I put in a query to the United Press newsmen at Boise - Bill Hatch, Bureau Manager, and Sandor Klein, veteran Washington correspondent for the United Press who is working out here for a while. They tell me that the west is much less interested in foreign dispatches and prefers American items and local news. <sup>R</sup> It is the job of Bureau Managers like Bill Hatch to figure out the kind of story that's wanted on a regional wire - and Sandor Klein, the Washington correspondent says he is amazed at how different the news preferences in the West are from those in the East, how much less they care for those reams of foreign news that are the standard in New York or Washington. He finds it

a refreshing contrast. And so do I. <sup>TR</sup> They tell me ~~that~~ the people out here <sup>do</sup> talk a lot about the menace of Soviet Russia; and, the trial of Cardinal Mindszenty was much discussed and given large headlines. (

The same thing is likely to be true of the trial of the Protestant pastors in Bulgaria.

The labor government in Britain, the political situation in France and Italy? - little or no interest at all. The North Atlantic Security pact? - people don't know <sup>much</sup> about it. The United Nations? little interest. Palestine? - the news was played up while the war was on, but now is hardly noticed. <sup>TR</sup> As for the Far East - <sup>ah yes,</sup> the Pacific Coast is interested in that! <sup>much</sup> more <sup>so</sup> than in Europe.

What about the King and Queen, the royal family? The wedding and baby of Princess Elizabeth were given ample notice, but that was all. ~~The general run of news about royalty in England is an~~ ~~of little concern to the people of Idaho, Utah and~~ ~~Montana.~~

~~For example - the supposed-to-be romantic headlines about Princess Margaret Rose and her rivalry with Sharman Douglas, daughter of the American Ambassador, were virtually ignored - although they were played up in the East.~~

In General, I get the impression that, on this regional intermountain wire, foreign news is <sup>only</sup> carried and emphasized when it is really ~~imprtx~~ important - but not those routine stories from Europe which get so much newspaper space and radio time in the East!  
*Stories that some would call "filler."*

— o —  
Well here's a late foreign item — full of adventure and plenty of excitement.

ARABIA

There is word of a new war in Arabia, this one in the southernmost part of the desert, down toward the British protectorate of Aden. ~~It is~~ something to match the fantastic ferocities of *the days of* the Arabian nights. Today two thousand camel-riding tribesmen recaptured the Fortress of Hillin. They were lead by the young Shiek Mohammed <sup>Ben</sup> ~~Ben~~ Saleh - the last remaining member of his family.

The strange war of the Desert started a month ago, when a party of Nomad Arabs came to the Fortress of Hillin, and asked, by the grace of Allah, to receive hospitality. The old Shiek Sultan Saleh Ben Omar, granted the true welcome recommended in the pages of the Koran. <sup>P</sup> He wined and dined them. So what happened? The sheik and his followers after entertaining the guests slept the sleep of the Just - as ~~MacBeth~~ Duncan did before the entrance of MacBeth. But these perfidious visitors acted as did MacBeth, and killed the Sultan and all his family - in their sleep - murdered <sup>them</sup> in their beds. *And then the,* bandits seized ~~the~~ fortress in the desert.

But there was onemember of the Sheik's family who was away at the time, ~~Thus~~ his life was spared - the young Sheik ~~Mohammed~~ Mohammed Ben Saleh. He mustered forces for revenge, and today swept down on the fortress of Billin.

Where were the murderers of his family, the news dispatch states that they had fled, taking with them ten cows and three hundred sheep. But, with the blessing of Allah, the young Sheik Mohammed Ben Saleh is pursuing them - in one of those blood feuds familiar in the ~~re~~ desert - as in days of the Arabian nights.

## WASHINGTON

This being Washington's birthday, an appropriate ceremony was held along the Rappahanock River of Virginia -- where the Father of our Country is said to have hurled that silver dollar across the Broad River. Today seven husky young fellows emulated George Washington, by pitching silver dollars.

The winner, Charles Harding, hurled the coin for three hundred and seventy feet. The marvel is, not that he did as well as the George Washington record, but that he broke the record established by Walter Johnson - the fabulous speed-ball pitcher who, in Nineteen thirty-six, threw a silver dollar for three hundred and seventeen feet across the Rappahanock.

As for the Father of his Country, one story is that he threw a stone, not a dollar. That was in Seventeen Twenty-five. At that time there were no United States dollars - no United States in fact. So another version is that Washington pitched - a Spanish coin.



## BOBSLED

At Lake Placid, New York, America won the four man bobsled championship today. Our number one team, driven by Stanely Benham, made record-breaking time on the treacherous run - which twelve days ago took the life of Belgium Bobsledder Max Hoben, and only yesterday nearly killed the French racer Henri Adams. Today the word comes that the injured bobsledder with a fractured skull, has a good chance to pull through. His team-mate was also injured, but not so badly. <sup>It</sup> The championship events had been postponed for ~~some~~ two weeks because of warm weather. The ways of the elements are curious - the west enduring ordeals of blizzard and cold, while ~~some~~ along the Atlantic Coast during the same period, it was so warm that winter sports were almost ruined. - Not enough snow for ~~such like~~ bobsledding and skiing. *in the East, The West buried under so much snow that many communities are still trapped.*

## GORGEOUS GEORGE

In New York's Madison Square Garden tonight Gorgeous George is having the social high spot of his perfumed career. Gorgeous George is, of course, the wrestler who, in the game of groan and grunt, wears the gaudiest of robes in the ring, uses seductive makeup, has his blonde hair marcelled and is scented with rare perfumes. - Altogether too beautiful, if not ladylike. <sup>¶</sup> Madison Square Garden has not had a wrestling show for twelve years. Time was when the half Nelson and the toe-hold were a big-time feature there; but, wrestling became such a hypodrome that it ~~passed~~ <sup>passed</sup> ~~repped~~ out in a chorus of mockery. <sup>¶</sup> Boxing Commissioner Colonel Eddie Eagan has a standing rule for bidding wrestling matches to be billed as - contests. They can be represented only as - exhibitions. But now the game of the ponderous ~~pa~~ pachydrums has come back, strictly as theatricals; - so crooked that it is honest, everything admittedly staged.

Madison Square Garden is having a wrestling show once again - and the exquisite feature ~~■~~ in the

carnival of groan and grunt is Gorgeous George.

Today he was all set for a social triumph. He has brought his favorite hairdresser from Hollywood to make sure that his marcel is just right.

He has a new, enchanting kind of perfume, with which to spray the ring before he enters. His valet does that. ~~George~~ Gorgeous George is always attended by a valet.

For a climax he has a new dressing gown - a ~~ga~~ dazzling creation. Made of twenty-six yards of slipper satin and covered with brocaded lace, with a border of roses and forget-me-nots.

*Who is this  
la dee dah rough neck?*

Actually, he is George Wagner, born in Nebraska and raised in Houston, Texas. Back in Nineteen forty, he was just another wrestler, getting tossed around in the ring for peanuts. Then he had an idea, an inspiration. Instead of the ordinary bedraggled bathrobe a wrestler or boxer wears, he got himself something fancy, with plenty of color - thinking it would attract attention. The first time it didn't work - the promoter of the show refusing

to let George appear in any such gaudy thing.

I suppose he was afraid the crowd would kill him. But George was undeterred and the next time he played a trick. He had a friend hand him the fancy robe as he was on his way to the ring, and he slipped into it in spite/ of the promoter. The crowd howled, and success was immediate.

From then on he piled it on, adding marcelled hair, lipstick, rouge and perfume - and, became gorgeous George. Today he owns ~~two~~ two turkey ranches in California and Oregon, and has a comfortable fortune to maintain his wife and two daughters.

Well, you can imagine the howl that will greet that Gorgeous turkey farmer in Madison Square Garden tonight, when he appears like a vision of beauty in that dressing gown with twenty-six yards of slipper satin covered with brocaded lace and bordered with roses and forget-me-nots.

*And that brings me to you, Nelson!*

## EYES

Now let us have an eyeful ~~of~~<sup>of</sup> this bit of news; - it's full of eyes. Today in Los Angeles the National Institute of Hypnotism announced a selection of people - with the most hypnotic eyes. So who are they?

One - Senator Margaret Chase of Maine, the lady Senator. Her hypnotic eyes have what is called - "compassionate understanding." Singer Rise Stevens - "spiritual radiance." Then comes Movie Actress Jane Greer. What do the hypnotist<sup>s</sup> detect in her eyes? "moldering promise," they say. Which may be a modern version of what used to be called good ~~for~~<sup>for</sup>-gooseys.

Movie actor Douglas Kirk,<sup>^</sup> his glims have - "sudden thunder." After which the professors of hypnotism go onto world affairs and pick Stalin's peepers for - "sinister brutality."<sup>P</sup> Well, they couldn't pass up President Truman. So what kind of orbs has he? "Laughing eyes!" - I should think so! - after the November election. ~~Yes~~, a lot about eyes, - not including black eyes!

And now, Bright Eyes!  
meaning you Nelson a few sparkling  
from you.