

C.T. - P. & S.

Pres. Jan. 25th 1949, Denver

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

I'm in Denver tonight and the dominating theme in the news continues to be the snow, the cold, and the problem of saving the livestock of half a dozen western states. Resources of the Federal Government, and of the States concerned are being thrown into the fight to save millions of cattle and sheep.

Some of the busiest people today were the Governors of the States that are involved. So I can think of no better way to get a clear picture of this than to ask one of the Governors, get him to talk for a few moments about one of the big stories of the year, the most desperate situation of its kind that has ever faced this nation.

Governor Lee Knous is beside me. Governor, what's the latest on it here in Colorado?

GOV. K.: Air Force planes did a big job today, Mr. Thomas. Up to noon they had dropped eighty-two ~~lb~~ and a half tons of hay to the stricken herds. This afternoon they did still better - eighty-five tons. You might be interested to know that the pilots of these planes were guided by ranchers. And, they did a great job of precision bombing. According to the reports coming to me, all of this hay was dropped in the middle of or alongside the herds.

L.T.: Governor, what parts of Colorado have been hit the hardest? I know that you originally came from Ouray, down in the southwest corner, down where my Dad and I used to have a ranch.

GOV. K.: The ranch country where you used to be was not hit by this calamity. The storms swept across the top of Colorado. With us Moffatt County and Rio Blanco County were hit hardest -- the region around the towns of Craig and Meeker. Many Colorado sheep caught by the storm over the line in Utah. Many of our Colorado sheep have their winter range

in Utah.....This wonderful air lift is working in several directions. Planes from here at Denver are flying to the relief of the stricken herds to the East of us, in Nebraska and Wyoming. The herds on the Western Slope are getting their relief from planes flying out of Salt Lake and California.

L.T. There used to be a lot of game in Colorado, Governor. How have the deer and the antelope been affected by all the snow?

Gov. K.: We are trying to take care of wild game as well as cattle and sheep -- elk as well as deer and antelope. The antelope are giving us our toughest problem. They are refusing to eat^{and}/of the food dropped by the planes.

L.T. How's that?

Gov. K.: I can't explain it, but plans are in the works now to drive the antelope to places where ~~land~~ they can get their own food -- paw through the snow and get it, in the way that antelope feed.

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L.T. What seems to be the general opinion of ranchers about the hay lift? I've been hearing ~~ya~~ that some doubted that it was worth while.

GOV. K.: That's not true. Ranchers far and wide were quoted today on that subject. And so far as I know they all now agree that the haylift is a tremendous help. Of course, we are trying to get side roads and trails open, everywhere, -- using bull-dozers for the trails, -- with everybody doing just about everything possible to off-set one of the worst disasters from blizzard and cold and snow the West has ever known.

GOOD WILL

Governor Knous and a few hundred more of us are taking part in a dinner tonight, the Thirty-First anniversary of an organization called Good Will Industries. The purpose of it all is to help handicapped persons. Some of my old friends, Former Governor Ralph Carr, and young Frank Ricketson, son of one of this country's top motion picture executives, lured me to the dinner.

And as I've been sitting here I have learned a lot that I didn't know before. Good Will Industries is a national movement. It has two main purposes: To train handicapped people so they can take over jobs in industry; and, to provide special employment for them in special Good Will work departments. It's all non-profit of course.

Here in Denver this marvelous work has been going on for Thirty-one years and over five thousand persons have been rehabilitated, and given a new lease on life. It's a marvelous work and I ~~am~~ congratulate all who are helping with it, the

young Mayor of Denver, Quigg Newton, Governor
Knous and all these young business men of Denver
sitting around us.

BEVIN

In London today British Foreign Secretary Bevin spoke of the Truman proposal to help the backward nations of this earth -- that global "fair deal" suggested ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ the Inauguration ^Q ~~address~~ address. Bevin accepts with enthusiasm, and appeals to all nations to ^{pool} ~~unite~~ their resources for a kind of world assistance mentioned by President Truman.

Bevin was speaking before the Foreign Press Association in London -- and, actually, he was duplicating a thing he did just a year ago; *one* year to the day. ~~At~~ that time, before the Foreign Press Association, he jumped at a suggestion made in an address by American Secretary of State George Marshall, speaking at Harvard. ^R Secretary Marshall *had* said he thought it would be a good idea if American economic aid ~~had~~ were given to the free nations of Europe -- to bolster them against Communism. *The* ~~Marshall's~~ prompt acceptance by the British Foreign Secretary transformed that ^{mere} ~~hint~~ hint into the Marshall Plan, which ^{became} ~~was~~ a dominating factor in world affairs.

So now Bevin does the same thing all over again, this time in the case of the Truman Inaugural address. *Which* ~~So~~ suggest^s that there might be a similar development -- the Truman idea of aid to undeveloped countries turning into a global version of the Marshall Plan.

SOVIETS

Moscow announces a new Red lineup -- of the Soviets and the puppet countries. This -- in answer to the alliance of western democracies that is forming -- a north ^{Atlantic} ~~Atlantic~~ security system. Moscow calls the new Red Union -- "an economic council for mutual aid"; -- the purpose being to set up a Communist counter-part of the North Atlantic Alliance.

In the ^{list of Red} ~~international~~ members, as given by the Moscow radio, there is one conspicuous omission -- Yugoslavia. Marshall Tito, in revolt against the Soviets and the Cominform, is left out. Left in his ambiguous position of being neither behind the Iron Curtain or in front of it.

SUBSTITUTE ISRAEL

Early returns from the election in Israel. The figures show a big lead for the Labor Party of Provisional Premier Ben Gurion. ~~Called~~ the Mapai Party, the Ben Gurion faction represents the cause of the West, in the Jewish State -- as against the Communists of Israel.

The early returns were from outlying farms which immediately piled up large majorities for the Ben Gurion candidates to the national assembly of Israel. The Communists were far behind and tonight it seems fairly certain that the first election in Israel will show a triumph for the west as against the Reds.

CHINA

The Chinese Communists announce that they are willing to negotiate peace-- on the basis of the eight conditions ^{they} ~~that~~ have laid down. This comes in answer to an appeal made by the Nationalist government -- which named a five man peace delegation to talk terms with the Reds. The Communist answer is -- yes, on their own conditions. They are willing to enter a coalition government, provided that the Kuomintang is excluded, the old Nationalist party which, headed by Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek, has been ruling China for years.

The Communists conditions would mean, of course, Red control of the government.-- They insist on the punishment of what they call - war criminals. One of these ^{being} ~~is~~ Chiang Kai Shek -- who has fled in the direction of Formosa.

Communist forces, meanwhile, are just across the river from Nanking, the Nationalist capital -- advance Red parties being a mere five miles from the Yangtze. Today's news pictures a mass flight from Nanking, vast throngs trying to get away.

SOLDIERS

RETAKE

From Japan, news of an outbreak in which four American soldiers were shot and one stabbed. They were injured in a wild riot. -- which might sound like ^a Japanese attack on American occupation forces. But, it wasn't that at all -- quite ~~fm~~ different.

It happened on Hokkaido the northernmost island of Japan, a bleak chilly sort of place. ^{There} ~~and~~ the G I's have a Club, and in it were assembled ~~xxx~~ members of the ~~Sixteenth~~ ^{Seventh} Airborne Division -- also the Eleventh Airborne. ~~I suppose things were full on that desolate island of Hokkaido, and to break the monotony the G I's got into a discussion.~~ They ^{new} debated the question -- which was the tougher, the Seventh or the Eleventh ~~Airborne Division~~. The G I's of the Seventh gave graphic details, telling how tough they were -- and the same for the soldiers of the Eleventh. They not only said it, but insisted they could prove it, and you can guess what kind of proof it was -- ^{WHAM!} ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

The fight seems to be one of the ~~xxx~~ liveliest

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in the history of the United States Army. ~~The Seventh Airborne Division and the Eleventh simply wrecked the place -- proving which one was the toughest.~~

The Military Police came hurrying to break up the battle, but ~~they~~^{at} only made things worse. The G I's of the Seventh and Eleventh, ~~started~~^{started} ~~mixing~~ to show the M P's how tough they ~~were~~. Swinging chairs and hurling beer bottles, ~~they~~ drove the M P's into a corner and then the gun ~~fighting~~^{firing} started. The M P's having to shoot their way out.

Lucky nobody was killed, only wounded, when the G I's of the Seventh and Eleventh Airborne set out to prove which was the tougher -- Seven come Eleven.

TELESCOPE

Salt Lake City has declared war on astronomy -- a special kind of star gazing. The police are banning the sale of telescopes -- astronomical equipment of a peculiar sort. These telescopes are used for observations of Venus, and reveal more than you can see with the naked eye. But it isn't the eye that's disrobed. It's a lady, a picture at the other end of the telescope -- who is seen through the lense.^R The dispatch from Salt Lake says that the Mormon Church objects to this kind of astronomy. The idea being that observations of Venus should be limited to the Evening Star. In other words, go to Mount Palomar, where they have that two hundred inch lense. There ~~xanxak~~ you'll see stars.

LEG

From Comanche County, Oklahoma, the gruesome details -- a man cutting off his own leg. He did it out of chagrin and anger, when he was put in jail on a charge of embezzlement. He was so mad in fact that he ripped his leg to slivers with safety razor blades, cutting it completely off. P S -- it was a wooden leg. So the gruesome details turn out to be -- splinters.

And now some pleasant details, Ken Niles!

AMENDMENT

Idaho today rejected the Constitutional amendment to limit Presidents to two terms. And Idaho is the first State to say a "no". The two term amendment has been ratified by a number of States -- though not nearly enough for the three-fourth² majority necessary to amend the Constitution. Other states have delayed -- and now the first rejection.

The vote, in the Idaho Senate today was a strictly party line affair -- twenty-four to twenty. The completely partisan character of the vote was expressed plainly by one state Senator who declared: "We are Democrats, and we are opposed to the bill".

I'm in Denver tonight, and the dominating theme of the news ~~here~~ out here in the west continues to be -- the snow and the cold, and the increasing threat to the great livestock herds. ^R Today, ranchers were hailing the work of the "haylift" yesterday. There are skeptics, like Governor Val Peterson of Idaho, who has been saying that the "haylift" cannot accomplish anything really important. ^{and that the} ~~the~~ only way to save the millions of cattle and sheep is to break open the snow-blocked roads. ^R However, ranchers in the stricken area today were ^{declaring} ~~saying~~ that the Air Force had scored a hundred percent success yesterday, in flying fodder to the marooned livestock, "bombing the herds" with bales of hay and concentrated feed. And they say that the only hope of ^{saving} ~~several~~ millions of cattle and sheep is to increase the "haylift" and send out ^{many} ~~more~~ planes.

This opinion of the ranchers was fortified by new mishaps of the weather today. Bitter cold continued, threatening the livestock with freezing as well as starvation. And violent winds blew,

through the mountains. Roads to the threatened herds had been broken open, but now are closed again, when the gale blew snowdrifts, and piled them up across the road, choking lines of communication, all over again, which brought new calls from the ranchers, saying that the "haylift" is the only hope of immediate relief.

SNOW - FLAME THROWERS

One snow-bound outfit is ~~in~~ an Army Ordnance Depot in Utah -- and the local ranchers are saying -- why don't they get out their Army equipment and open the roads with -- flame throwers. At the Ordnance center they have no end of flame throwers -- and those long blazing streams would certainly melt ^{some} ~~the~~ snow.

However, the commander, Major Wendell Lucas, tells the ranchers -- "that it won't work!" The Major used flame throwers against the Japanese in the island warfare of the Pacific -- and he knows.

Today he said: "Those babies would really melt the snow, when the flames hit. But, they can only fire short bursts or they'll burn up. In between bursts, he explains the melting snow would freeze. So then we would have all ice -- not just part snow and part ice."

Meaning - the ranchers will have to get along without those Army flame throwers.

SNOW - DUCKS

At Lund, Nevada, Rancher Lafe Carter is able to get to his own snow-bound livestock, and bring feed to them, which would seem to answer the problem of the big snow. But not at all. He is merely in a new kind of predicament. No sooner does he spread feed concentrates on the snow than this is gobbled up by swarms of wild ducks which come swooping in. ^R It's costing Lafe ~~Forty~~ ^{Forty} dollars a day and all he does is ~~to~~ provide ~~ban~~ banquets for the wild ducks -- thousands of them. Today Lafe said: "They even chase the cattle ~~away~~ ^{off!}, and the darn fools let the ducks get away with it."

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LT from
Colorado
Springs.
Jan. 26,
1949.