

IMMIGRATION

L.T.P. & G. Wed, May 21 - '52.

The Senate, this afternoon, defeated a substitute for the McCarran Immigration Bill. The Nevada Senator is the sponsor of a measure that would revise our present immigration laws -- with more rigorous restrictions. This is opposed by a liberal group, which wants to ease immigration restrictions, and remove racial angles. So they proposed a measure incorporating their own ideas, but it was beaten in the Senate - fifty-one to twenty-seven. Which now leaves the McCarran bill for the Senate to pass upon.

POLITICS

Broadcasting from the Pacific Coast, I've had occasion to note the tangle of democratic politics here in California. Which tangle has now been taken to Washington -- to the White House today. We heard, yesterday, how James Roosevelt, son of the late F.D.R., had come out for -- Kefauver. James Roosevelt, rated as a Democratic political power in California -- hurling a blast against a slate of delegates backing State Attorney General Edmund Brown as a favorite son. Today, favorite son Brown was at the White House, conferring with President Truman.

Sounds like an interesting interview -- since the Democratic confusion here in California was caused by the Truman withdrawal from the Presidential race. From a Truman slate of delegates they had to switch to somebody else; whereupon all they could think of was State Attorney General Brown, the only Democrat holding

a state office.

Upon emerging from the White House today the California favorite son announced -- Presidential endorsement. Brown quotes H.S.T. as declaring: "I hope that your slate of delegates is elected."

Which might sound like -- White House opposition to Kefauver. But Brown denies there is any "stop-Kefauver" movement. He says:- "We want to go to the convention and look over all the candidates -- and have a free hand."

So -- would that apply to Candidate Kefauver too? The California Attorney General says -- yes. Brown today stating: "Actually, the President spoke in high terms of Kefauver and the Senator is very high on our list of people who would be considered by our delegation. They fight Kefauver, but that might favor Kefauver -- which sounds a bit subtle, if not complicated.

But, it is all part of the important business of the California delegation to the important business of the California delegation to the Democratic National Convention. California having a whopping total of sixty-eight votes.

RIDGWAY

General Matthew Ridgway testified, today, before the Armed Services Committee of the Senate, (Leaving his command in Tokyo, the General is proceeding to his new job in Paris, -- where he succeeds General Eisenhower as Commander for the North Atlantic Treaty organization. He has been reporting to the White House and the Pentagon -- today, to the Senate Committee.) It was a secret hearing, ^{but} ~~although~~ we are given some hint of what Ridgway had to say. Nothing unexpected -- nothing more than you'd guess.

He gave the Senators his opinion about the truce talks at Pan Mun Jom. And, when it was all over, Senator Stiles Bridges of New Hampshire told the news men; "He certainly was not optimistic as to the results." Which only reflects what the news has indicated every day -- not optimistic.

The General promised the Committee to tell all he knew about the prison camp disorders on ~~the~~ Koje Island. ^{Among other things he said} ~~he said~~ the Red fanatics have committed atrocities against other prisoners. Senator Bridges

^{that}
adds [^] Ridgway also confirmed the fact that Communist flags were hoisted by the Communists following their seizure of General Dodd as a hostage.

All of which is accompanied by a statement from ~~which~~ Committee Chairman Senator Russell of Georgia, who exonerated General Ridgway of responsibility for the travesty at the prison camp. Which the Senator calls "a national humiliation."

COMMUNISM

(The current hearings on Communism are bringing out interesting angles -- with prominent writers questioned concerning their connection with the Reds. Various authors and playwrights testifying, ⁱⁿ Washington, that they once were Communists, but ^{have} ~~had~~ broken with the party.)^P Today -- Lillian Hellman, who has written a whole series of dramatic successes ^{for} ~~xxx~~ Broadway and Hollywood. She stated she was not a Communist now, not a member of the party for the past couple of years. But ^{she} ~~--~~ refused to answer about the time before that. Refused -- on the grounds of self incrimination. Which, has a peculiar kind of logic -- considering an exchange of letters ~~ix~~ between the witness and the Congressional committee.

Invited to Washington
When ~~called upon~~ to testify, she wrote back -- that she would gladly. ^[answer questions] ~~xx~~ She would ~~explain~~ about herself and Communism -- but only if she were not required to say anything about other people. She wouldn't talk about former associates -- that was ~~the~~ condition.

Committee Chairman Congressman Wood of Georgia replied that the condition could not be accepted, because the Committee could not, as the chairman put it -- "be placed in the position of trading with a witness".

As a result, Lillian Hellman, ^{today} refused to answer questions ~~about herself on grounds of self-incrimination.~~ ~~nightmare~~ Although -- she had written to the committee that she would be willing to tell about herself, if she were not required to talk about others. Not afraid to incriminate herself at all -- just not wanting to incriminate others.

Sounds like a twister for the lawyers. Or, maybe, for one of Lillian Hellman's own ingenious plots.

A Hollywood screen writer, Isabel Lennart, gives an account with a curious angle -- telling why she ^{joined the party.} ~~joined the party.~~ She says that, when she first went to Hollywood in Nineteen Thirty-Eight, the ^{Communists} ~~Reds~~ were what she calls -- "the only kind and friendly"

people she met. ^{Perhaps you think that} Doesn't sound so good for the kindness and friendliness of people in Movieland?

~~could be~~ ^{made} But then, ~~of course~~, the Commies ~~would make~~ themselves agreeable -- trying to win recruits. ^{Could be,}

The writer said she broke with the party in Nineteen Forty-five, because of the "Duclos" letter. Which was, of course, the famous message from abroad -- ordering the overthrow of Communist Leader Earl Browder. The Red bosses in Europe -- changing the American party line from war-time cooperation to the ^{hostility} ~~antagonism~~ of the cold war. The witness says that, shortly afterward, she married a former U.S. Army officer -- "strongly anti-Communist". Which, I suppose, confirmed the change of her political opinions.

Interesting sidelights on the question of -- how Communists get that way, and how they stop being that way.

BRAZIL

(From Brazil we hear that the trouble has ended between ^{the} two expeditions that went to the scene of the airline crash in the Brazilian wilderness.) The Government at Rio is taking everybody out by air, and one of those arriving today was the correspondent of a Brazilian newspaper -- who went in with (the "unofficial" expedition, ~~This~~, it now appears, had some aspects of a newspaper stunt, ~~for a flashing of bulletins about the crash.~~ ^{It} An arrangement had been made to take the "unofficial" party out by helicopter -- but their flying machine went on the blink. Whereupon, ^{the} ~~an~~ "official" expedition arrived by helicopter on the scene -- headed by Scott Magness, of the American Civil Aeronautics Authority, ~~and a Major of the Brazilian Air Force.~~ ^{At which point} The stranded "unofficial" party asked for help.) -- The Brazilian newspaperman stated today, that an agreement was made to take the marooned adventurers out by helicopter. But, he adds: (It was heard that the American helicopter would take out only the North Americans.)

~~and the Brazilian Air Force Major.~~ Whereupon, the
Brazilians of the "unofficial" party announced: ~~xxxx~~
"North Americans will be evacuated only after the last
Brazilian leaves." *The American official held*
hostage. ~~So they seized the American~~
~~official and Brazilian Air Force Major -- and held~~
~~them as an assurance that everybody would be taken~~
~~out.~~

So The government at Rio sent in soldiers,
and they restored peace and order) -- with an under-
standing between the two expeditions.

(All this is accompanied by a denial of
rumors: One -- that the airliner had been sabotaged
by Communists. This is discounted, after an
examination of the ~~an~~ wreckage. Another report
mentioned -- diamonds. Saying that the plane/was
carrying an illegal consignment of diamonds, a
treasure. This is denied! -- nothing to it!)

LONDON

London was the scene of a crime today -- reminiscent of gangster doings in this country. Masked bandits held up a post office truck, and got away with some two-hundred-and-eighty thousand dollars worth of loot. But there the similarity ends.

The robbers, in automobiles, forced the Post Office truck off Oxford Street, and attacked a three-man crew -- with fists and pieces of pipe, dragging them off the truck, which the robbers then drove away. No guns were seen in this London hold-up, not a single pistol. Neither the hold-up-men nor the crew of the truck seem to have been armed with anything more than the pieces of ~~the~~ pipe the robbers used -- in addition to their fists.

Old London tradition -- where neither police nor criminals ordinarily carry fire arms.

KAISER FRAISER

From the world of industry, we have a statement ~~that~~ that the Kaiser-Fraiser Corporation is going to stay in the automobile business, ^{this} ~~which~~ follows a stormy meeting of stock-holders, ^{at} ~~which~~ the demand was made that the corporation get out of the auto industry, and concentrate on the production of aircraft. Kaiser-Fraiser lost money making motor cars last year, twelve million dollars in the red. But Edgar Kaiser ^{predicts} ~~predicted~~ that there will be a profit next year -- so the company will stick to autos.

SHIP

At Seattle, anxiety is expressed about a sailboat out on the Pacific -- more than a month overdue. A forty-eight foot catch, called -- "No Name." On April seventh, the "No Name" set sail from Honolulu, bound for Seattle -- with four people aboard, three Seattle residents and a sailor. ^{Since then} No word has been received from the craft, ~~ever since~~. However, a friend of the missing navigators expressed little worry saying that they are expert sailors, and had enough water ~~aboa~~ aboard for several months. Enough food -- for six months. Nevertheless, when a small sailing vessel is a month overdue on the Pacific -- there would seem to be reason for alarm.

COLLEGES

The spring-time lunacy at colleges is dying - down -- although there seem to have been more panty raids, last night. For one thing, the co-eds are reported losing interest, failing to cooperate with screams and giggles.

At Ohio State, when five hundred students broke into dormitories and sorority houses, the girls merely chanted in one long chorus -- "Act your age, act your age." Which was good advice.

At the University of Kansas, an invansion fell flat -- when members of the Delta Tau Fraternity got news of what was coming. The fraternity brothers mobilized to protect the sorority sisters -- and that put a stop to the hi-jinx. -

At the University of Missouri -- repentance day. Hundreds of students, who smashed things up in a wild raid on the dormitories of co-eds, have started a "forgive-us" campaign. Chipping in with cash to repair the damage -- and returning to the girls a big basket full of lingerie, all ~~new~~ freshly laundered.

There was one slight slip-up at the University of Georgia - where college authorities mobilized a formidable force to protect fifteen hundred "southern belles". ^{Then} Stationed on guard at the dormitories, the football squad. A powerful array of ~~men~~ huskies led by a giant gridiron star standing six foot five. John Huzvar who comes from Hershey, Pennsylvania, making him a -- Yankee.

Some of the "southern belles" apparently, didn't like the idea of Yankee protection. When a crowd of panty raiders arrived, signs of "welcome" were displayed in dormitory windows -- ^{-- whereupon the} ~~and~~ girls threw ^{out the windows,} articles of lingerie. Just -- Dixiecrats, those gals! Just rebels.

WEATHER

Here in the sunshine of southern California, I gazed with a sense of awe, today, at a news dispatch from Pittsburgh. It states that the metropolis of western Pennsylvania has had fourteen straight days of rain. An all-time record for consistent moisture. During this month of May, in Pittsburg, there have been only three days on which it did not rain. Ratio of nineteen to three in favor of Jupiter Pluvius. Maybe even the skies weeping over the way the Pittsburg Pirates have been playing ball this year. Looking out of my window, today, at the blue sky and bright sun, I could only think -- wouldn't it have been a fine idea to import seven of those fourteen consecutive days of Pittsburg rain to some of the dryer areas of the western desert. Pittsburgh would have liked it - and so would the desert.

And now across mountains and deserts - across a Continent, to you, Nelson.

DRUNK

In Jacksonville, Florida, an automobile driver states that he has been drunk all his life, but has never been intoxicated. So how do you explain that paradox? Give a guess. Well, it is the old play on words -- with an oddity of a name. The ~~man~~ motorist was arrested for driving while intoxicated, which he denies. But his name is Joseph Drunk. He has been drunk all his life -- hence the paradox.

And now here's N. C. who
has been sober all his life!