

NIGHT SHOW
Thursday, July 29, 1948.

OLYMPICS

In London today King George the Sixth, wearing the full dress uniform of a British Admiral, opened the *modern* fourteenth Olympiad -- the Olympic Games. An impressive ceremony. Garnished with all the pomp and circumstance *that* *carry out so well.* ~~which the British enact so efficiently.~~ According to the news wire ^{an} infinitely more memorable spectacle than the regimented display that Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Legions put on for the last Olympiad twelve years ago.

There were eighty thousand spectators in the grandstands, the huge stadium was decorated with the flags of all the nations participating. The opening ceremony a brilliant pageant. As the band played the March of the Gladiators the six thousand competitors marched in procession to form in orderly ranks facing the Royal Box *decorated* ^{massive} ~~embellished~~ with a golden crown.

OLYMPICS - 2

Lord Burghley, the famous Olympic runner of ~~yester-~~
other years
~~day,~~ invited His Majesty the King formally to open the Games.
His Majesty spoke, then the trumpeters of the Royal House-
hold Cavalry sounded a fanfare, and the Olympic flag was
hauled up
~~broken~~ into the brilliant sunshine. Simultaneously from
the arena arose seven thousand pigeons just as they did
in the day of ancient Greece, to signal the beginning of
the Games. *P* The boom of a twenty-one gun salute heralded a
dramatic scene, as into the arena ran a lone athlete
carrying the Olympic Torch high in his hand. This Torch
was lighted by the rays of the sun at Olympia in Greece,
and borne across Europe to Wembley by relays of runners.
John Mark the runner -- the last man to carry the torch,
made a fast circle of the track, and dipped the Torch
into a bowl on the peristyle, to kindle the sacred flame
that
~~which~~ will burn until August fourteenth when the Games end.

And what a social event it was. Something for

OLYMPICS - 3

the American athletes to remember. British society in formal wear, long dresses, top hats and swallow tails. As important an affair in the London season as Royal Ascot, and the Newmarket Race Meeting. Belted Earls and their Countesses; Peers and their Peeresses assembled at Wembley in the broiling sun.--the hottest day in England for eighty years, to watch the cream of the world's athletic youth.

And good luck to our own fine team in those great Games. May they have all the luck their skill deserves!

FILIBUSTER

(That filibuster is on in the Senate.) An oratorical verbal marathon, which like ~~the poets~~ ^{TENNYSON'S} ~~but~~ babbling brook threatens to go on forever. As long as the special ~~session~~ session lasts, that is. For the Dixicrats -- those rebellious Southern senators - are in fine fettle and good voice.

(Acting G O P floor leader, Kenneth Wherry of Nebraska started the ball rolling by designating the anti-poll tax bill, one of the prime reasons for the special session.) So, he said, "in a most hopeful spirit," he asked the Senate to ~~not~~ approve."

(Whereupon Senator John Stennis of Mississippi stood up, demanded recognition, and obtained it. He talked for two hours.) Senator William Jenner of Indiana, a surprise ally for the southerners, ~~then~~ succeeded him with a lengthy discourse on ~~what~~ what he termed the Administration's discouragement of meat ~~production~~ production. (Other speakers followed -- so on and so on.)

Washington today provided another sensation -- a revealing peep into the differences between Marriner Eccles of the Federal Reserve Board, and ^{Secretary of the} ~~Treasury Secretary~~ John W. Snyder. Eccles was testifying before the Senate Banking Committee, on the President's new ~~special session~~ anti-inflation program.

The proceedings were routine until Chairman Tobey asked what the law would describe as a leading question.

"Where should the American people place the responsibility for not getting the credit controls asked for last fall?"

inquired Tobey of Eccles in a ~~mut~~ quiet voice.

P Eccles told how at the request of the White House, a plan had been drafted for credit control and curbs on bank lending powers. The President, he said, was to have included this plan in his message to the special session last November.

There was a tense silence - an expectant hush, ~~as a~~ ~~fiction writer might say~~. Into it Marriner Eccles dropped

his bombshell . "To our great surprise," said he in level tones, "when the message came forth, the statement was deleted." Another pause, after which Marriner Eccles said coldly: "We found out that the deletion was due to the Treasury. With due respect to Mr. Snyder," he said with a hint of quiet irony, "I do not wish to imply that Congress would have approved the control plan even if the Treasury had endorsed it." Adding ~~coldly~~ that the plan had what he called "formidable opposition from the Banking Fraternity."

Eccles read to the Committee the presidential letter notifying him of his demotion, in which Mr. Truman said he had disagreement no ~~disagreement~~ with Eccles's monetary policy. But that, said Marriner Eccles, was shortly after his credit control plan had been ripped out of the presidential program by the Treasury.

Eccles further said that the Truman administration had now come around to the Federal Reserve Board's credit control plan. But, he said, it's too late now to prevent

some degree of depression. "We are certainly going to have a bust," he affirmed. "As to when, I cannot say." His voice sounded sad, as he went on: "You've got to stop a thing before it has happened - you can only moderate it now." Further, said he, he was emphasizing the Federal Reserve's continuous stand in favor of credit controls, because he did not want ~~that~~ the Board to be "the goat when the bust comes" as he put it.

LONDON

In London today, Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin stood up in the House of Commons to tell the British parliamentarians that he is looking into Britain's present policy of rapid demobilization - in view of the Berlin crisis. Bevin said he is determined to take any measures to meet the new situation. He has always realized, said he, that the situation in Berlin might be difficult because of Soviet policy. But, he says, Britain's calculations on the strength of her armed forces did not assume that the policy of "out wartime allies would lead to a situation which might involve the use of force". Which is tantamount, say the London papers, to the admission that the Russian policy in Berlin could lead to war.

MOSCOW

Beedl

└ Walter Bedell Smith, our Ambassador to Russia, and
Frank Roberts, private secretary of Britain's Foreign
Minister Ernest Bevin, arrived in Moscow today - to deliver
to the Kremlin the Western powers' reply to the Soviet on the
Berlin blockade. /

└ In Moscow, the American and British representatives
will be joined by the French Ambassador. / All three of them
will deliver an oral communication to Soviet Foreign Minister
Molotov. / Then they will hand him an "aide memoire," an informal
note outlining the points they have made verbally. / This
procedure to be adopted instead of a formal protest note,
which had ~~formerly~~ been discussed. /

└ The next move is then up to the Kremlin. /

VICE-PRESIDENT

L Congress was offered a pair of bills today, one from a Democrat, the other from a Republican. / Both of them sound as if they might have been inspired by a society "to be kind to vice-presidents." /

L These companion bills, sponsored by Congressman Noble Gregory of Kentucky and Bertrand Gearhart of California, call attention to the fact that the nation's number two official has nowhere to live in Washington. / They paint a pathetic picture of the vice-president ~~toting~~ ^{wandering} wearily around Washington, ~~hunt~~ hunting for living quarters in hotels and apartments. /

L What's to be done about that? The Republican and the Democratic Congressmen have a solution all pat. / What Washington needs, they say, is a Little White House for the Vice-President. / So they're asking Congress to pass their bills to okay the expenditure of two million, five hundred thousand dollars for a vice-presidential residence. / And while this Little White House is being built, they suggest that the Vice-President

should live in Blair House. That's the government's guest
mansion near the White House. /

↳ To go deeper into the story, it is interesting to
~~also~~ observe that Congressman Gregory represents the home
district of Senator Alben Barkley, the Democratic vice-
presidential nominee. / And Congressman Gearhart? / Now he's
from California. / Yes, you've guessed it. / He's a life-long
friend of Governor Earl Warren, Tom Dewey's vice-presidential
running mate. /

↳ It sounds like a case of "heads I win, tails you
lose" - with the Vice-President the certain winner, ^{if}
Congress is willing. /

STASSEN

{ Harold Stassen ^{is} to be President of the University of Pennsylvania, and thus follow the lead of General Eisenhower in taking a prominent position in education. The former Minnesota Governor was appointed at a special meeting of the University's Board of Trustees today in Philadelphia.

{ In making the announcement, the Board hails Harold Stassen's "inspirational appeal to the youth of America, his broad vision and fresh concepts." /

{ Stassen has telegraphed his acceptance, subject, he says, to the fulfillment of his speaking schedule on behalf of Governor Thomas E. Dewey. / He adds that he hopes to begin his duties at the opening of the University year in September. }

{ Well, as ^{was noted} ~~we saw~~ at the Republican Convention in the City of Brotherly Love, Harold Stassen is a man of undeniable popularity among the younger generation. / His supporters were most of them young and extremely enthusiastic. / A tribute to his influence with youth. ^{and one reason} ~~which is~~ why the University of

Pennsylvania has appointed him to a position which it describes as "a difficult but rewarding task."

WIVES

From Tokyo comes a report of husbands in panic - big business men quailing before a problem they never had to face before. A dilemma far more harrowing than the fluctuation of the Yen; or the difficulty of getting export permits to earn Honorable American Dollar.

What is this horrendous problem? It concerns Mrs. Honorable Back-room, as the Japanese husband refers to his wife. And she stays that way usually. Now the wives of the city's leading business men have formed a club - with a platform. If the husbands don't fall in line with their demands, say the ladies of Nippon, they may all get divorced. No wonder the husbands are worried. These wives of the Tokyo business men are demanding that their husbands be indoors by six P.M. every day. They must not drink more than half a pint of liquor outside their home, and they must address their wives with respect. No more clapping of hands and saying "Hi" to Mrs. Back-room. Any more of that, say the wives, and they'll go on strike. Well, Nelson, I hope the wives of the citizens here aren't planning any such organized move on American husbands!

TREASURE

From Darwin, Australia, a story of gold on the bottom of the sea. / How the touch of a diver's foot may lead to the solution of the mystery of an American destroyer ^{that} ~~which~~ vanished in a mighty explosion. / With three million, two hundred and thirty thousand dollars' worth of gold aboard.

The story begins on February Nineteenth, Nineteen Forty-Two - the early days of the Pacific war. / Tied up in Darwin harbor was the U.S. destroyer Peary. / Suddenly, a flight of Japanese bombers roared overhead and dropped a salvo of bombs. / When they had gone, the spectators on the shore were treated to a heroic spectacle. / They saw the Peary steaming out of harbor, her guns blazing. / She was on fire amidship, great billows of smoke pouring up from her decks. / Suddenly, she exploded and disappeared in a holocaust of flame and smoke. / Since when there has been no trace of her, of the ship or her eighty officers and crew. / Not a single survivor.

It was said at the time in Darwin that the Peary's commander, knowing his ship was in danger of exploding, sailed

out of harbor under full steam to prevent damage to other vessels. A heroic gesture.

Since the war, there have been rumors on the waterfront in Darwin that the U.S. Navy was offering a reward of three thousand, two hundred and thirty dollars for the return of the ship's bell. Then another rumor -- that the ship was loaded with gold. The assumption being that the U.S. Navy was not giving such a magnificent reward just for the return of the ship's bell.

But the Peary had completely vanished. Other wrecks were found and salvaged. Of the Peary, not a trace.

And then an Australian diver, working on the bottom of Darwin harbor, reported that he had bumped into a mystery hulk. That it had moved at his touch. To add to the suspense, he won't tell anyone the exact location of the wreck. Did his foot touch the Peary as it drifted by on one of those undersea currents? Will he be able to find it again and claim salvage money on more than three million dollars? He'll be a lucky diver if he does.

The voice of the common man was heard today in Berlin; and it was raised in loud protest against the Soviet blockade of the city. / The Berlin city government met today in the Soviet section, despite warnings of the Soviet administration that such a meeting was ~~not~~ equivalent to bloody provocation.

The meeting was uneventful at the start. The streets outside deserted, a squad of armed policemen patrolling listlessly outside the building.

Suddenly the doors opened, and out walked the thirty Communist assemblymen/ Behind them the sound of a rumpus, cheers and protests, and the hammering of the chairman's gavel. What had ~~happened~~ happened? A resolution had been put before the meeting, protesting the Soviet blockade of the city, demanding its removal and terming it, "a crime against humanity."

The Communists objected to the resolution, and when they were shouted down as they tried to introduce a

counter-resolution, they walked out. So the resolution went on the books of the Berlin City assembly; for the whole world to know that the little people of Berlin are ~~not~~ defying the wrath and the might of the Soviet Army.

So the resolution went on the books of the Berlin city assembly, the little people of Berlin defying the wrath and might of the Soviet Army.

One result of the split between the Berlin moderates and the Reds, is that the German capital now has two police forces. Berlin's police headquarters are in the Soviet zone. Last week the Berlin city administration fired the police chief - a Communist. But he refused to quit, staying on at the old police headquarters in the Soviet zone, with the police records. The new chief, appointed to succeed him, refuses to enter the Soviet zone. So he has opened a new police headquarters in the American section. But he has no records, and only half a staff, some of his

police reporting for duty to their old chief, the others coming to the new. And no one able to get the criminal records stored in the Soviet zone. Which may be an advantage to the Berlin underworld.

OLYMPIC

(In London today King George the Sixth, wearing the full dress uniform of a British Admiral, opened the Olympic games in brilliant sunshine with 6000 athletes on parade and 75,000 cheering spectators in the Wembley stadium stands.) I hope no blows will be struck except in the boxing ring. Good luck to our fine time in these great games.