

MECCA

L.I. - P. & G.

Fri. Sept. 14 - 31.

Here's a dateline we seldom see. News from Mecca. A dispatch from the Forbidden Holy City of Islam.

Its weather news - a heat wave in Mecca. That city of west Central Arabia, near the Red Sea, is normally one of the hottest places on earth. Today's dispatch calls the heat - "abnormal." And this is the ~~xxx~~ pilgrim season, with ^{scores of thousands of} pious Moslems flocking from all over the Mohammedan world to observe the feast of Qarban Bairam in Mecca. Cairo hears that two ~~xxxxxx~~ hundred pilgrims have perished - from sunstroke in the past two days ^{alone}.

Most Moslems come from countries where the people are familiar with hot weather; so the temperatures must be ~~xxxxxxx~~ torrid indeed, as pictured in this - news from Mecca.

TIBET

(The Chinese Communist radio announces that Red occupation troops have entered Lhasa, the capital of Tibet. This, so the Communists say was part of the agreement between the government of the Dalai Lama and Red China. But "agreement" would seem to be too ~~xxx~~ mild a word. It was Tibetan surrender, forced by bayonets.)

FOREIGN MINISTERS

The Foreign Ministers of the Big Three report an agreement for a "peace contract" with western Germany. That's what its called - "peace contract". Not treaty. But it would seem to mean much the same thing. This occurs less than a week after the San Francisco signing of the peace ~~xxx~~ treaty with Japan.

Meeting in Washington, British Foreign Secretary Morrison, French Foreign Minister Schuman and American Secretary of State Acheson announced the terms today. (West Germany to become an independent nation, ^{to} ~~which will~~ establish diplomatic ties with other countries, and run its own foreign trade. But allied occupation troops will remain, and the Big Three will supervise any negotiations with Soviet Russia for any unification of West and East Germany.)

Full partnership in the western alliance against the Soviets is assured - with the West Germans providing their share of soldiers for the international army of General Eisenhower. They'll recruit their own troops, but these will be rated as "European soldiers"

not a German military force. West Germany will produce armament, but not atomic weapons - that is forbidden.

(Today in Washington, the Foreign Ministers ordered the Allied High Commissioners in Germany to present the "peace contract" at once to the western German government. Approval ~~is~~ is considered certain.)

All of which represents another diplomatic setback for Soviet Russia - after the recent Red failure to block the Japanese peace treaty at San Francisco.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

We hear the Red government of Czechoslovakia has registered a formal protest against the aerial "quarantine". The western powers have banned all Czech planes from flying over West Germany - putting an end to Red airline operations in western Europe. Today France cancelled all future flights by French planes into Czechoslovakia. The British did the same thing last May, and American planes have kept out of the Soviet satellite country for the past year.

So now all flying connections are severed, an aerial quarantine - as a protest against the Red imprisonment of Associated Press Correspondent William Oatis - and other citizens of the western powers.

HIROHITO

The way things have ~~changed~~ changed with respect to Japan is shown by a bulletin from Tokyo. General Matthew Ridgeway will call on the Emperor Hirohito at the Imperial Palace, next Tuesday. This is the first time, since the beginning of the occupation that a Supreme Commander has paid a visit to the Mikado. Previously, Hirohito called on General Douglas MacArthur. But now, after the San Francisco treaty, Japan is a ^sovereign nation once again - and things are different.

KOREA

In Korea today, the Allied Forces hammered their way forward all along the fighting line. The gains ~~XXXX~~ were small but steady - in face of bitter enemy resistance.

East front action featured Banzai charges by North Koreans who surged forward in masses against newly won positions held by the Marines. Today's news dispatch says "the Leathernecks mowed down the ~~XXX~~ screaming Reds with point blank fire."

On the western front, the day was featured by an ominous appearance of Red armor. Six enemy tanks were spotted - and assailed immediately by artillery and planes. Field gunners hit and damaged a tank with shell fire. The planes came swooping down with bombs and flaming jellied gasoline, blasting one tank and leaving the other a mass of raging fire.

Meanwhile, the Reds continue to build up their Air Force north of the Yalu River, the Manchurian sanctuary. Today, Major General Frank Everest, commander of the Fifth Air Force, declared the enemy has massed

more than eleven hundred aircraft, mostly jet fighters. His own fifth Air Force can't attack them - not in that Manchurian sanctuary. But he says he assumes that, if that Red Air Force goes into action against the U N army, his own bombers will be allowed to blast the bases north of the Yalu.

Here's a surprise in the news, and the one who creates the astonishment is - Clement Attlee, Prime Minister of Great Britain. Today, the head of the Labor Government gave a warning to Iran. Same old subject - Iranian oil. He said the Iranians risk economic ruin - with their present oil policy.

All this in the usual Attlee Way. The head of the Labor Government is no ball of fire as an orator -- much in contrast to his great rival, Winston Churchill. But Attlee, today, went into a surprise paragraph - with nimble wisecracks and puns. ~~Astonishing~~ ~~he got off~~ some verbal fireworks worthy of Churchill himself.

"Oil" he quipped, "is highly inflammable. There have been occasions" he added, "when oil questions have raised Great heat. The problem of Iranian oil", he continued, "might be described as a burning question." Hear! hear!

ARMY TRAINING

Something new in education - schooling given by the Army. Washington says that some training camps give courses in gambling to the G I's -- to keep them from becoming victims of card sharks. Not standard army training, just local innovations at some camps. Because of card sharks lurking in the neighborhood - cheating green rookies at poker or blackjack.

One of these gambling professors in lecturing the G I's, told them it was ridiculous ever to play with dice - even with your own mother.

AUTOS

Automobile Manufacturers are permitted to raise prices - so announced in Washington this afternoon. The Office of Price Stabilization has okayed increases ^{on a} ~~of~~ whole series of cars - retail price-increases ranging from fifty-five to four hundred dollars. However, dealers cannot hike the figures for the public -- unless and until the Manufacturers raise their factory prices. [↑] One supposition is that some companies may hold off - may not put the increase into effect immediately.

FLOOD

News from Alice, Texas - still raining.

That's the town, a hundred and twenty miles north of the Mexican border, where a cloudburst let loose a deluge; fourteen inches of rain. Today the town of Alice was flooded, two thousand people washed out of their homes, water six feet deep in some places, motor boats navigating what used to be streets. Every railroad bridge for miles washed out; highways blocked. A state of emergency proclaimed - and, today, it was still raining.)

But, it was only a drizzle, fortunately, and the flood waters of San Diego creek are now receding. In spite of the overwhelming cloudburst, no lives were lost, nobody ~~xxx~~ injured.

HURRICANE

Mexico is having a hurricane, and the news angle has a strange twist. The big blow struck Mexican "Devil's Island," raising havoc with a penal colony of desperadoes. The place is off the West Coast, out in the Pacific, a small archipelago called Las Tres Marias. There, twenty thousand of Mexico's toughest criminals are confined.

The ~~xxx~~ tempest is called a "baby hurricane", not large; but, violent! Reports are that numbers of buildings were blown away by the wind, or washed out by the deluge of rain. Urgent calls for help have been received, and the Mexican government has ordered warships to evacuate convicts, guards and soldiers if necessary. The hurricane raising the devil on ^{the} Mexican Devil's Island.

FRANCHOT TONE

Tonight movie actor Franchot Tone is in a Hollywood hospital, suffering from a brain concussion, a broken nose, and a fractured cheek. This afternoon, there was an operation to reconstruct the nose and the left cheek bone. That's how violent things were in Hollywood's latest brawl between movie stars.

Franchot Tone was slugged by actor Tom Neal, who has powerful muscles. That fact is indicated by the result of the fight. It was also - the cause of the trouble to begin with, an affair of romance.

The fracas was about movie actress Barbara Payton, who after getting a divorce was free to remarry only yesterday. Her first choice for remarriage had been Franchot Tone - but then she changed her mind. That was when she saw actor Tom Neal at the seashore in a bathing suit. She told friends that - the minute she saw ~~the~~ his muscles, she knew he was the man for her. "I knew we had to get married" she is quoted as saying. So they became engaged, and the wedding was set for tomorrow.

But yesterday there was a change of heart. Neal says: "She gave me the brush off. Yesterday she spent the whole day with Franchot Tone." Muscles or no muscles, she was going back to her previous choice.

Whereupon the disappointed suitor went to the lady's house, and was waiting for the couple when they arrived. The dialogue that ensued is given by Neal as ~~it~~ follows:

"Tone said - we'll have to settle this. Let's go out on the lawn." I said it was silly for us to fight, that I was younger than he, and used to be an amateur."

But says Neal, Tone took a roundhouse swing at him:

"What could I do?" He asked. "I ducked the punch, and then I hit him hard. I knocked him about ten feet." That was followed by several more punches, that knocked Tone out cold.

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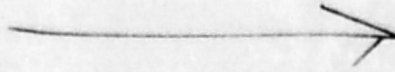
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muscles on the beach, but not the way he used them in
her front yard.



FOLLOW FRANCHOT TONE

Barbara herself did not emerge unscathed from the battle. It seems that she was screaming at the two brawlers on the sideline, but somehow - got in the way of a punch. Today she had a black eye. The latest -- Franchot Tone was still ~~xxx~~ unconscious in the hospital.

CARNIVAL

Here's one for anybody's collection of odd incidents - a three-way collision between a railroad train a merry-go-round, and an automobile. All - in a silly scene worthy of a foolish comedy.

On a highway near Cincinnati, a carnival show was moving along - with the amusement devices towed in trailers. Going up a hill, two trailers broke loose, and went rolling back - speeding down the slope. In one was a miniature train belonging to the carnival; in the other - a carousel, a merry-go-round.

Which excited boundless astonishment in Walton Thomas of Cincinnati - because in his car he was driving up the st hill, when he saw the train and the merry-go-round coming straight down at him. All he could do was throw his auto in reverse, and start backing, hoping to go faster.

That was the silly scene - the train and the merry-go-round chasing the back-pedalling automobile down the hill.

They won - the train crashing into the auto.

The merry-go-round crashing into the train - for ^{just about} ~~as~~

^{Nelson,} as lively a spill, tangle and mix-up, as was ever seen

on a highway. Everybody ⁱⁿ a wild merry-go-round.

14