

April 15, 1947

First -- a Bombshell -- or rather the Bobmshell. It's steaking down the home stretch -- over upper New York state at this moment -- its oxygen gone, its heater out of commission, but still pretty certain to break the Howard Hughes round-the-world flight record.

The plane radioed as it passed over Minneapolis: "Heaters out! Oxygen gone! So we've dropped down and are flying low and slow. All we need to know now is that it's clear all the way in to New York."

Milton Reynolds, sponsor of the flight, and navigator, sent the message. When he said "low and slow," he was speaking comparatively. The BOMBSHELL flew over Minneapolis at an altitude of eleven thousand feet, doing three-hundred-and-forty-five miles an hour. At its present rate the plane is expected to reach New York's LaGuardia Field, from which it took off Saturday, in about an hour.-- setting a new mark for global flights -- around the planet in approximately seventy-nine hours.

NEW LEAD TELEPHONE (Substitute all early material.)

Negotiations in the nationwide telephone strike have collapsed. Both sides, company and union, rejecting Labor Secretary Schwellenbach's formula for settlement. Here's the situation at the moment: Labor and management apparently ~~irreconcilable~~^{irreconcilable, Sec.}, Schwellenbach angry and pessimistic, and the public evidently in for another stretch of impeded telephone service.

It was ~~Schwellenbach~~^{the Sec. of Labor} who announced the failure of his plan to produce an early back-to-work agreement between the company and three-hundred-and-thirty-five thousand ~~employees~~^{employees} of the Bell ~~Telephone~~ System. ~~Schwellenbach's~~^{His} proposal called for arbitration of most of the union's demands including its bid for a twelve-dollar-a-week pay rise. **THIS SATISFIED NEITHER SIDE**

And now negotiations are back where they started on April ~~SEVENTH~~ when operators, maintenance men, and plant workers across the country struck for higher pay and national union recognition.

It was on that last point -- national union recognition -- that today's negotiations fell down, the company saying that it could not accept any plan which would lay strike issues open to national arbitration and the union saying that ^{Sec.} Schwellenbach's proposal would mean arbitration on a ~~REGIONAL BASIS~~ something absolutely unacceptable. The Union President, Joseph Beirne, announces: "We were already offered local arbitration prior to striking and have steadfastly refused to have our disputes settled on such a basis."


The company, on the other hand, says it would be impossible for any single arbitration board, such as ^{the} ~~Sec. of Labor~~ Schwellenbach proposes, to hear all the cases and all the issues involved.

^{Sec.} Schwellenbach received notice of the union's and the company's refusal one on top of the other. He called an immediate press conference at which, obviously angry and flustered, he told reporters that

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"neither of the parties to the dispute has shown any recognition of the public responsibility they have."

Both sides, union and management, did qualify their rejections, thus supposedly leaving the door open for another try by Government ~~conciliation~~ conciliation experts. However, no member of ^{the Sec. of Labor's} ~~Schwellenbach's~~ staff, and certainly not ^{the Sec.} ~~Schwellenbach~~ himself, holds out any hope for an immediate settlement of the phone dispute. It's even uncertain when union and management representatives will resume negotiations.



VIOLENCE

(Follow TELEPHONE.)

~~From~~ From Denver tonight comes news of violence in the telephone strike - the first violence in the nationwide walkout.irate townspeople in one Colorado community and also in the little Utah town of Saint George ~~have~~ attacked the strikers; so say reports from Denver.

At Saint George, an angry group of citizens grabbed a firehose and turned it on ^{the "Voice with a Smile"} ~~telephone~~ girls parading in front of the Telephone Company, sweeping them off the sidewalks,

At Lamar, Colorado, another group of ~~irate~~ citizens ~~surged downtown to~~ confront ^{ed} the picket lines. Angry words were spoken, then the townspeople rushed forward ~~pushing~~ ^{PUNCHING} and ripping signs and posters from the strikers' hands.

The Chief of the local union in Saint George now says the girls swept off the sidewalk by the firehose remained undaunted. They returned to their posts, reforming their lines and ^{went on} parading ^{(— dripping as} ~~still drenching wet~~ they picketed.

CONFERENCE

Good. Eve. Everybody: -

About Secretary of State Marshall has had his conference with Stalin, ^{the} General went to the Kremlin to see the Soviet dictator at ten P.M. ^{- today - Moscow time,} Stalin has peculiar working hours, operating largely in the dead of night. The favorite time for him to hold an important conference is midnight. His date with General Marshall today was a little earlier, ten P.M. - so maybe Stalin conceded a little to the normal habits of the American Secretary of State, who is an early-to-bed and early-to-rise man. We don't know what was said between the two, but the newsmen at Moscow are not at a loss for a strong surmise.

The meeting between Marshall and Stalin had been long awaited. The other two Foreign Ministers of the Western democracies, Bevin of Britain and Bidault of France, have long since had their talk with the Soviet Premier. But our Secretary of State delayed,

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and the surmise was that he would not go to see Stalin until the conference of the Big Four had come to a crucial crisis, a climax of deadlock - in which General Marshall would appeal to Stalin for a solution. ^{At any rate he} ~~he~~ went to the Kremlin tonight, and this was immediately after the stormiest argument the Ministers of the Big Four have had thus far. ^{For} ~~It was~~ the height of an angry stalemate ~~came~~ this afternoon.

The trouble ^{arose} ~~came~~ when Molotov submitted a counter-proposal to the American suggestion of an ~~military~~ alliance to prevent a revival of German militarism. All along America has been offering to the Soviets this kind of Big Four alliance, and now ⁽our Secretary of State made the offer all over again. He asked - was Soviet Russia prepared to consider the four power pact? ^{TR} To this Molotov today replied by presenting the Soviet version of an alliance. What was it like? Well, Molotov wanted a pact

RETAKE

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against the revival of German militarism to contain clauses on all sorts of other subjects - those ~~are~~ ^{very} subjects on which the conference has been deadlocked week after week.) Molotov put into his alliance the Soviet view of just about everything the Western democracies have been opposing. (For example, the astounding reparations that Moscow demands from conquered Germany,) the kind of government the new Germany is to have - and so on down the line: In other words, Molotov used the treaty of alliance as a vehicle for reviving the entire series of Soviet claims, to which the Western democracies have refused to agree, revived the whole series of disputes ~~which have~~ already ~~arrived~~ at a stalemate.

To this General Marshall replied with an immediate and blunt rejection. Supported by Bevin and of Britain and Bidault of France, he pointed out the

obvious fact that the treaty of four power alliance for the simple purpose of keeping down German militarism was no place to include all sorts of extraneous argument, things that belonged somewhere else and had no place in a simple pact against the revival of militarism.


The Secretary of State told Molotov that he was making the alliance impossible. He spoke to Molotov in the following downright and ominous words: "If agreement is imperilled by the introduction of controversial points," said he, "there is little or no chance of success. That," added General Marshall, "is a very serious stand for any government to take."

Molotov insisted on keeping all the points of dispute in the question of a treaty of alliance, and that ~~point~~ produced the stormy climax of angry deadlock.

Whereupon General Marshall went to see Stalin,

and the newsmen in Moscow have no doubt ^{about} ~~the~~ what he
said to the Soviet Dictator. ~~among other things.~~

They are certain that Marshall appealed to Stalin to
intervene, and overrule Molotov, in the hope of getting
somewhere ^{with} ~~in~~ the four power alliance. Hoping - that the
conference of the Foreign Ministers will accomplish
at least that much.



ADD CONFERENCE

American newspapermen covering the Big Four conference were surprised today when Secretary of State Marshall ordered his Assistants not to tell the correspondents how long he had talked with Stalin.

Michael McDermott, State Department Public Relations Officer, was permitted to tell the press only that the Secretary of State had gone to the Kremlin at Ten P.M. and had returned at Eleven:Forty-Five.

Correspondents who had waited two hours for the usual lesser details of such conferences protested. McDermott replied:- "I can say nothing about when the appointment was made, how long General Marshall was there, or what subjects were discussed."

Suspicion of the press is often part of a military man's training. When General Marshall was Chief of Staff, he often clamped down on news stories for reasons of security. Whether it is wise to invoke such secrecy over diplomatic proceedings will be up to our Secretary of State and the future to say.

WALLACE

A resolution to rebuke Henry Wallace was put before Congress today. Democratic Representative Rivers of South Carolina proposed that the House go on record as accusing Wallace of having done, what the resolution calls - "a grave disservice to the welfare of the United States."

~~(In the Senate, there's more of a view that action on Wallace should be taken with the advice and approval of President Truman. There is plenty of angry comment among Senators about the way the former Vice-President is campaigning in Britain against the foreign policy of his own country - the bill to aid Greece and Turkey against Communism being certain to pass.)~~ However, there is a good deal of senatorial opinion that nothing official should be done about Wallace, on the basis of an old adage - "give Henry enough rope and he'll hang himself." *Or hasn't he already.*

Republican Congressman Eaton, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House, today stated: "I would not choose a foreign country as a place of criticism for my country." But he added that the Wallace denunciation of the American policy of checking Communism "will have no effect - or a reverse effect." It ^{won't} ~~couldn't~~ hinder the enactment of the anti-Communist program by Congress! - It ~~would~~ help.

~~From the White House, we have the first presidential statement on the Wallace blasts against his own country's policy, — a statement pointing out that the former Vice President is talking merely as a private citizen. Presidential Secretary Ross was asked today whether or not our government would inform the British about the exact status of Henry Wallace. To which he replied: "It is an ~~this the Presidential Secretary replied:~~ "It is an ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ obvious fact, is it not, that Mr.~~

~~Wallace is speaking as a private citizen.~~

A member of the President's Cabinet spoke some scathing words about Wallace this afternoon -- Attorney General Clark. He accused Henry of lying, and put it in these words: "One who tells the people of Europe that the United States is committed to a ruthless imperialism, and war with the Soviet Union - tells a lie. It is a most cruel falsehood," the Attorney General went on, "because it reveals an utter lack of appreciation and understanding of the American way of life."

FIGHT

There was a wild scene on a great airliner today -- a plane with fifty-two passengers that took off from Los Angeles. High in the sky a fight broke out between two men, a fight with a knife ~~in~~ that had the passengers in a panic. ^R The high altitude battle between the two had some of the aspects of drunken comedy -- though a brawl with a knife, and a terrified scramble of passengers, is not comic in an airliner. ^R They were a pair of ex-Navy buddies, one-time shipmates -- who were all palsy-walsy, slapping each other on the back and laughing in uproarious good-fellowship, as they boarded the plane.

~~The two one-time buddies of the fleet were so noisy in their amicable uproar that the other passengers~~
^R *As the plane flew it was*
~~kept looking at them and~~ noticed that they were passing from one to the other a bottle of whiskey that they had sneaked aboard. The stewardess told the pilot, and both went to the two former sailors and ordered them to give up the whiskey, which they did,

mEEKly and mildly.

That seemed to quite them down and settle everything -- but suddenly they got into an argument with each other, and started to fight. One assailed the other with a dinner knife, and slashed his nose -- while the other passengers tried to get out of the way, fix frightened by the disturbance as the plane flew high over Nevada. ~~The~~ brawl was ended by a police sergeant from Los Angeles who was taking a flight on his day off. With the practiced skill of a cop he intervened and soon had the two buddies as quiet as if they were sitting in a patrol wagon. When the plane landed at Lqs Vegas they were locked up for making a disturbance in a public conveyance.

And now Nelson - you've been sitting here very quietly.

1/4

ELIZABETH

Taken from Apr. 15th 62.

They got the Queen Elizabeth off the sand bank today - and it was unexpected. At high tide, a fleet of tugs tried to budge the eighty-five thousand ton liner from the Brambles Shoal off the south coast of England. But the giant ship wouldn't move an inch, not while the tide was high - which should have been the most favorable time. ^{They} ~~The attempts~~ were about to ~~be given~~ up today, with the tide running out, but, ^{and} ~~there was even~~ more try - ^{heave ho -} and suddenly, [^] to the surprise of everybody, the majestic bulk of the Queen Elizabeth slid off the sand bank and out into deep water.

FOLLOW WALLACE

Meanwhile, President Truman asked Congress today for still another enactment in the American conflict with Red aggression. He asked the legislators to give the administration the authority to embargo shipment of American armament to countries that are would-be aggressors. This is a follow-up to the Truman policy of aiding Greece and Turkey in a military way against Communism. Well, it wasn't so long ago that we were giving Lend-Lease war material to the very countries that we are now likely to embargo -- now pass a law to keep them from getting American armament.

TELEPHONE STRIKE

The telephone strike is in the balance tonight.

The Company has just delivered its answer to the

Government's proposal for a settlement. ~~THEXNDENT~~

At the moment there is no information of what the

answer is. Shortly before the Company handed in its

reply, the Union did the same -- on its own part.

We don't know what the Union said.

The deadline set by the government for the replies was five o'clock. That was nearly two hours ago -- and things are still hanging in the proverbial balance.

YOUTH

^a
~~The~~ Congressional Committee issues an official
^
denunciation of a Red outfit engaged in spreading
Communism in American colleges. The organization is
called American Youth for Democracy, and is described
as a direct successor ~~to~~ the Young Communist League.
(In other words, that Red youth group took a new name
for a disguise while doing a job of Red propaganda
among college students.)

The House Committee on UnAmerican Activities
joins J. Edgar Hoover's FBI in stating: "The spectre
of Communism stalks our college campuses masked under
the cloak of the American Youth for Democracy."
(Its leaders are trained Communist propagandists, skilled
in the tactics of spreading Red doctrines among the
students -- this in an undercover way, and hides the
real purpose of serving the cause of Soviet Russia
against the United States.)

What do do about it? ^{The}
^ committee does not
give a recommendation that all colleges should outlaw

the A.Y.D. -- that question is left for the colleges themselves to determine. The committee recommends publicity, give the people the truth about the American Youth organization. "Its members on the ~~camp~~ campus," says the committee, "should be made publicly known and registered as such. Parents, fellow students and faculty members should be provided with these membership lists -- together with a candid explanation of the true nature of the organization and its affiliation with Soviet-dominated Communism in America."

BOMBSHELL

The BOMBSHELL is on its way to New York, streaking along. The around-the-world flight, sponsored by millionaire Milton Reynolds, is sure to set a record around the world -- unless there is something amiss.

The BOMBSHELL took off from ~~Edmonton~~ Edmonton, in Canadian Alberta, at shortly after five o'clock this afternoon, the last lap, of a long hop to New York.

CHIANG

In Shanghai today, there were thundering cheers for Chiang Kai-shek, an immense crowd acclaiming the Generalissimo driving through the streets in an automobile - only it wasn't the Generalissimo. There was somebody else in the car, and he got the cheers - by ^{public} mistake.

Which reminds us of other funny mix-ups, a wrong guy getting the grand reception. My ^{own son} ~~brother~~ ^{son} tells ~~me~~ how, last summer, he was in an Army plane that landed at Manila - ~~and~~ ^a lieutenant ~~among~~ ^{with two} colonels. It was at the time of the celebration of the independence of the Philippines, and General MacArthur was expected ⁱⁿ a similar plane at that same hour. So imagine the surprise of the colonels, not to mention the lieutenant, when they found themselves landing amid stately honors - their airplane mistaken for the MacArthur plane. You can also imagine the chagrin of the high officers giving the reception when they saw, not the mighty MacArthur, but ^{two} ~~two~~ colonels followed by a

lieutenant. All of which was embarrassing, not to say mortifying.

Today in Shanghai, however, the individual in ~~that~~ ^{the} automobile took cheers for Chiang Kai-shek without batting a Chinese eyelash, ~~and he looked so much like the Generalissimo that the crowd was aghast.~~ ^{But then he} was, in fact, a double - sent out for the sake of safety. Chiang was ~~in fact,~~ ^{and} arriving by plane, proceeding with little notice to a big military review. There was fear that Communists in Shanghai might make an attempt on his life. So a lieutenant colonel, who is a dead ringer for the Generalissimo, was sent in a formal parade of automobiles, to face the cheers, also the possible danger.

I wonder what a fellow thinks when he plays a double like that. Maybe, if he is conscientious, he feels he hasn't done a really good job unless he gets killed -

^{in the place} ~~instead~~ of the Generalissimo. ~~which reminds me of an~~

There was an old-time actor who used to play the part of Lincoln. He looked like Lincoln, and was so deep in the role that, even in ordinary life, he talked like Lincoln, acted like Lincoln, thought like Lincoln. One day the old-time wit of the stage, Wilton Lackaye, pointed out that Lincolnian thespian to somebody, told how completely he identified himself with Lincoln, and added -- "and he won't be satisfied until he gets assassinated."

And Nelson here won't be satisfied until he -- well you tell us Nelson.