

Mon. June 5-1958

Today's Supreme Court decision ^{in the} ~~xxx~~ Tidelands

dispute -- has a dramatic and historic angle in the case of Texas. Louisiana was also involved in the suit to decide who owns the offshore lands - which, along the gulf coast are rich in oil. But the Louisiana case was identical with that of California, which the Supreme Court decided three years ago - ruling that the federal government owns the tidelands and the oil. Louisiana ~~is~~ was admitted to the union under pretty much the same terms as California -- but, it was different with Texas.

The Texans pointed to the fact that their state was an independent republic, and came into the union by virtue of a treaty - a pact between sovereign countries. And, Texas, in the treaty that provided for annexation, did not surrender to the federal government rights to its underwater coastal area.

The Supreme Court disregarded that argument. But, in the case of Texas, it was a split

decision, four to two - with three justices not voting. While in the Louisiana affair, the decision was unanimous.

Today's ruling will undoubtedly ^{now} incite new moves in Congress - to pass a law granting the ownership of the Tidelands to the states. But President Truman has indicated that he will veto any such bill.

SUB SUPREME COURT

There is immediate bitter reaction in the south against the decision by the Supreme Court - forbidding the segregation of negroes in railroad dining cars and state universities. Three decisions were handed down today - but the court did not say that segregation, in itself, is unconstitutional. The verdicts concerned individual issues. The court decided that railroad dining cars, under the interstate commerce law, must serve all passengers, no matter what color. Also that the law school of the University of Texas and of the University of Oklahoma must admit negro students - on the ground that facilities provided for them right now are inferior.

The southern reaction is highlighted by Governor Herman Talmadge of Georgia - who ~~defies the Supreme Court~~. He states: "as long as I am governor, negroes will not be admitted to white schools."

ARMAMENT

The White House agrees to reconsider President Truman's request for authority to arm any nation menaced by Soviet Russia. This, under the proposal to put up one billion, two hundred and twenty-two million dollars, as a second installment of money to help the free nations defend themselves.

Today, Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, Republican Foreign Policy Chief in the Senate, made a sharp objection. He argued that the White House plan would give the President a "blank check", to bring the whole world into the armament program, without Congress having anything to say about it. This protest from Vandenberg brought a quick reply - the White House reconsidering the matter.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

We don't know what those Red trials are coming to, what's happening to those famous confessions. In Czechoslovakia, thirteen defendants, before a Communist court, have pleaded guilty - but there was something startling about one confession today.

A university professor was questioned ^{concerning} ~~about~~ something he once wrote about Communists. "Never," he had said, "Never before have the dregs of society risen to power."

He was asked - had he written that?

"Yes," he confessed.

He was asked - did he still believe it?

"Yes," He confessed.

The latest is that the prosecution is going to call thirty more witnesses - because, in the words of the prosecutor: "We are not satisfied with the confessions of the defendants."

I should think not - when one of them ~~has~~ confesses that Communists are the dregs of society!

SUB JAPANESE ELECTION

Tonight the word from Tokyo is -- that

General Douglas MacArthur has ordered the Japanese government to ban the central committee of the Communist Party from public life. That Red committee has twenty-four members, and several of them are legislators in the Tokyo Parliament. So they will now be expelled - following the MacArthur command banning the top Communist leaders from all public office.

Earlier today Premier Yoshida forbade all Red demonstrations in the Tokyo section - and the assumption is that the way is being prepared to outlaw the Communist party.

This follows the weekend election for seats in the House of Councillors - the Japanese Senate -- the Yoshida Pro-American government gaining a substantial victory. The Communists won only three seats.

BELGIAN ELECTION

Tonight in Belgium, the case of King Leopold still stands undecided - this in spite of the weekend election victory won by the Social Christian Party. *The majority is too small to be decisive.* That's the Catholic faction, strongly in favor of bringing the exiled king back to the throne. They gained an outright majority in both houses of the Belgian Parliament - but the margin is small.

In the lower house, the Social-Christian Party took one-hundred-and-eight out of two-hundred-and-twelve seats - a majority of four over all other parties combined. (~~In the Senate, a majority of - two. These margins are not considered large enough to form a stable all-Catholic Government, and a coalition is likely.~~) Today the leader of the Christian Social Party indicated that there would be a lot of political wrangling - on the subject of calling the king back.

~~All of which is the more likely, because the Catholics did not win an outright majority of the popular vote. They polled, two million, three hundred and fifty-five thousand - while the other parties,~~

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three of them, got about a hundred and fifty thousand more than that.)

The principal issue, in the Parliamentary election, was the question of the king. But, equally important, is what happened to the Communists. They were snowed under - a stunning defeat. In Nineteen Forty-Six, they held twenty-three seats in the Belgian Parliament. Last year that sank to twelve, cut nearly in half. In the weekend election, the Communist remnant was cut cleanly in half - twelve dropping to six.

VATICAN

At St. Peter's in Rome, today, Pope Pius the Twelfth consecrated an altar in the grotto they've been excavating below the world's greatest cathedral. This is eighteen feet below the level of the floor of St. Peter's - an altar that belonged to the ancient Basilica, above which the present structure was built. That former church went back to the time of Constantine the Great, who made Christianity the religion of the Roman Empire - more than sixteen hundred years ago.

The altar is said to have been built above the place where the apostle St. Peter was buried - after his martyrdom in the days of Nero. Such is the ancient tradition, which relates that the final resting place of the chief of the apostles was in an old pagan cemetery. This, too, has been found in the present excavation - pagan tombs of the early Roman Empire, discovered below the level of the altar consecrated by Pope Pius the Twelfth today.

The subterranean grotto where the altar stands will be thrown open to the pilgrims of Holy

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Year, and the Vatican is expected to invite scholars and archeologists from all over the world. The purpose - a study of evidence to support the ancient tradition that the altar marks the burial place of **St. Peter..**

~~News~~ - Some news from the world of trees, tidings from the realm of great forests. I've ~~just~~ ^{trought} been hearing how the Seccond World War created new havoc in the woodlands of this earth - with new ills of deforestation. For example, Great Britain had to sacrifice over a million acres of trees to meet the needs of war - and, day after day, modern technology creates new uses for the products of the forest. Making it more and more urgent to replace the loss by planting new trees.

~~Containing~~ ^{Containing} No I

This I have from ^{author} authority on the subject - Richard St. Barbe-Baker, whose latest book is called "Green Glory - The Forests of the World." ^{St. Barbe-Baker flew from Europe for the} ~~and~~ him how, while flying over western China during the war, I was shocked by the bare bleak look of the mountains, which once were covered with woods - and now have not a thing that's green. In response to which he related an interesting story of how scenes in China, just like that, had something to do with our own reforestation program. - ~~pushed so vigorously by the~~

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Tell us about it Carter!

MINE

The news wire today brought a headline with that old ominous ring - fire in a mine, men trapped in a deep shaft. This came from one of the most rugged, isolated parts of the country - Copper Canyon, Nevada, deep in the desolate mountains. So help was hurried immediately, rescue crews rushed by plane - but they came too late. All was over, when they got there.

Fourteen miners were digging copper ore in a shaft seven hundred feet below the surface - when fire broke out at the top. Timbers were burning, and the flames were eating their way down into the shaft. Telephone communication with the trapped miners was cut off, when the wires burned out. The fear was that the ventilating system had sucked smoke down into the depths of the shaft - and the men there would be overcome.

But the mine superintendent, Robert Raring, made his way down into another shaft, old, disused - an abandoned shaft good for nothing, save possible escape. But it was good for that. The superintendent,

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~~The superintendent~~, descending, opened the way out -
and, one by one, up climbed the fourteen trapped
miners, emerging into daylight. All are okay, not
affected by smoke - and that was why the rush of
rescue was too late - help arriving - when help was
needed no longer.

VOLCANO

RETAKE

In Hawaii, the volcanic spectacle continues with Mauna Loa showing no signs of letting up. The great rivers of molten rock that poured down into the ocean are turning solid, as they cool off. But that has only caused new floods of lava to burst forth and roll down the mountainside - with another stream flowing on to the coast. That has been a stupendous feature - liquid fire pouring into the ocean, a boiling cataclysm, with immense geysers of steam spouting high into the air.

Thus far ~~on the lavas has wiped out~~ ~~dozen houses have been destroyed~~

~~the slopes of Mauna Loa, and two small settlements~~
two villages
~~wiped out~~ on the beach. Homeless refugees are being

~~evacuated~~ But, on the whole, this newest explosion of subterranean forces has ~~not been deadly~~ *been more* ~~merely~~ *than deadly,* spectacular with giant fireworks that ~~will probably~~ *may* continue for days.

MESSAGE

(Edgar Allan Poe wrote a famous tale - a manuscript found in a bottle. But that master of the fantastic never invented an ending as appropriate as the one we have tonight - in another story of a manuscript found in a bottle.)

Today, at Booth Bay Harbor, Maine, Commander Donald MacMillan, the famous Arctic explorer, received a letter from Scotland - telling how John McIntyre, in the Town of Howmore, picked up a floating bottle, and found in it a message - from the MacMillan Arctic expedition last year. The bottle had been dropped into the Polar Sea at a point in the Hudson Strait, between Labrador and Baffinland - and had drifted ~~with~~ the ocean currents for nine months, finally reaching the west coast of Scotland.

In the letter, Donald MacMillan has received from John McIntyre of Howmore, Scotland - you might expect some hearty words of congratulation, some appreciation for exploits of Arctic adventure. But the ~~Scots~~ ~~are still Scots,~~ and the letter says:

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"I hope you will put a hundred pounds in your next bottle."

So now the band will play - "The Bonnie Blue Bells of Scotland." Accompanied - by a rustle of banknotes, one hundred pounds, *Nelson.*

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