

U.S. Steel signed up tonight -- after a delay throughout the day because of minor differences. These were ironed out, but there was a formal ceremony of putting signatures to the contract with the union. It was only yesterday that the greatest of steel companies resumed negotiations, offering a pension and insurance plan which was virtually accepted at once by the union leaders. Fast action - final agreement tonight.

<sup>dt</sup>  
~~The steelmen~~ follows the Bethlehem formula, U.S. Steel accepting the same sort of deal the union made with ~~the Bethlehem Company.~~ Pensions of <sup>a</sup>~~one~~ hundred ~~dollars~~ a month for steel workers of twenty-five years service, upon reaching their sixty-fifth year. The company pays for that, while the employee contributes one half the cost of insurance benefits, protection against death, illness, accident.

Only a few steel companies are still affected

by the strike, and it is announced that ~~the~~ Inland  
steel will sign - "shortly". <sup>R</sup> Assuming that the ~~exit~~  
small remaining fraction of the industry goes into the  
agreement, ~~it~~ means that five hundred and fourteen  
thousand steel workers will be covered by this welfare  
program -- a large application ~~is~~ of the idea of  
security provided by arrangements between companies  
and unions.

COAL

John L. Lewis indulged in literature again today - in stating his attitude toward conferences with the coal companies and the federal mediator. Yesterday he flouted an invitation to a conference - so what now? Today John L. Lewis said: "Barkis is willin'".

That harks back to Dickens' novel "David Copperfield" in which the coachman Barkis states his attitude toward matrimony with Peggotty, the housemaid. Saying: "Barkis is willin'." To which he adds afterward: "When a man says he's willin' it's as much as to say that a man's waitin' for an answer."

So John L. Lewis, as Barkis is waitin' for an answer from federal mediator Cyrus Ching as Peggotty.

## KRUG

In the resignation of Secretary of the Interior Krug, the usual amenities appeared today - belatedly, the Secretary having resigned yesterday without President Truman even knowing anything about it. But now we have his letter of resignation, and the President's reply, accepting. The communications are cordial in tone, the usual thing when a cabinet member resigns - but they give no indication of why Secretary Krug quit his job so abruptly and with such a terse announcement yesterday.

The new Secretary of the Interior is Oscar Chapman, hitherto Under-Secretary. ~~He is~~ *He is* a veteran New Dealer, who was one of the moving spirits in the Truman election campaign of last year - that surprise victory.

## ARMISTICE DAY

Armistice Day was celebrated in proper style, with addresses by dignitaries, from the President all the way down the line. ~~But~~ <sup>however</sup> The focus of attention was on a mere Navy captain, and the speech he made. But then his name is Crommelin, and today he was allowed to make his first public utterance - since the uproar over unification which he did so much to cause.

He spoke at Montgomery, Alabama, and down there in the cotton country the name of Crommelin is famous.

The Captain is one of five brothers who became Naval officers, all distinguished, two giving their lives in the Second World War.

What he had to say was expressed in generalities - but there was a hint of defense of his protest against the situation of the Navy under unification. He said it is a patriotic duty of Americans to keep informed about the Armed Forces, and added that there is no place in our Democracy for - "Yes-men". Well, the Captain is no Yes-Man, having shown his ability to say a loud and emphatic - "No".

## AMERICAN PILOTS

We have a denial of the story of American pilots in China going over to the Reds - a denial in part. <sup>That is,</sup> Only some of them are going over. The story was given out yesterday by E. M. Allison, Vice President of the China National Aviation Corporation - but today a number of the airline flyers in Hong Kong declared that it was false. They explained that is was <sup>all</sup> an attempt to persuade them to accompany the airline, in its desertion to the Communist side, but <sup>that</sup> most of them refuse - only a few going over to the Reds.

## ATOMIC

An American reply is given to the Soviet atomic eloquence of yesterday - when Vishinsky painted a fancy, if not ~~fantastic~~ <sup>fanciful</sup> word picture of how the Russians are using the might of the atom for peace-time purposes. He gave a list of benevolent exploits, headed by the - leveling of mountains.

The reply today was made by Assistant Secretary of State Hickerson - at a meeting of the political committee of the United Nations. The Assistant Secretary said he didn't know how true the Vishinsky oratory about peace-time atomic exploits might be, but pointed out that the question <sup>at</sup> issue was - a system to outlaw the atomic bomb. The general American belief is that the Vishinsky prose-poem was "hot air", a lot of palaver about peace-time uses of atomic energy in Soviet Russia to take attention off the warlike aspect. Today Assistant Secretary of State Hickerson put the matter tersely, saying - if the Soviets can level mountains with atomic energy, they can also level cities.

## BIG THREE

The conference of the Big Three in Paris leaves us with a blank in news - mighty little idea of what resulted from the discussions of Secretary of State Acheson, British Foreign Secretary Bevin, and French Foreign Minister Schuman. The decisions they arrived at are being kept a secret - so much so that Secretary Acheson today stated that the world may not learn about those decisions for weeks or months.

Today the Secretary was at Frankfurt conferring with American High Commissioner, John J. McCloy - discussing problems of Germany.



## IRON CURTAIN

Here are three dispatches, which give the feeling of - adding up. One is from Red Bulgaria, and tells of war preparations along the Albanian frontier - Tito, the revolting puppet, all set to invade Albania, the faithful puppet. ~~These hostile doings are said to date back to a year ago - Red Bulgaria declaring that Tito is acting in conjunction with Royalist forces in Greece.~~

The second dispatch shows Moscow accusing Greece of border violations along the Albanian frontier. Greek forces are said to have crossed into Albania, apparently trying provoke hostilities.

Dispatch number three is from Vienna, and pictures the mobilization of a Stalinist army along the border of Romania and Yugoslavia. Romanians and east German Communists threatening Yugoslavia with a formidable array of armament, rocket bases, machine guns, automatic mortars, anti-aircraft units.

These three dispatches today are probably nothing more than the usual scarey reports from along the fringe of the Iron Curtain, but they do sound as if they might add up.

## GOERING

A German newspaper today printed an explanation of an unexplained mystery - the suicide of Goering. Headlines were blazoned around the world, when that Nazi number two man cheated the gallows by committing suicide with a capsule of cyanide, an hour or so before he was to be hanged - along with the other Nazi war criminals.

Today's version is that Goering, Hitler's chief collaborator, in spite of precautions against possible suicide procured the capsule of cyanide through a clever trick by a German newspaperman. During the Nuremberg trial, Goering each day occupied the same seat in the prisoner's dock and during an off hour, this German reporter, who had access to the courtroom went to Goering's usual place. Pretending to fumble with a sheaf of papers, he was able to secretly sneak the capsule of cyanide under the chair, and fasten it with a piece of chewing gum. After which Goering, secretly informed of this, had little difficulty in reaching under the chair, taking the capsule and hiding it.

BOY

(It looks as if an American judge will have to play the part of Solomon, in the latest version of that age-old problem - two women each claiming a child is her own. This time the riddle appears in a drama most modern, the Nazi horror, the Second World War, and the sweep of Soviet tyranny.)

Last week a U. S. army transport was on the high seas, with Twelve Hundred displaced persons aboard - on their way to new homes in America. Two of the D.P.'s were an Estonian woman and a Nine Year old boy, listed as Mrs. Sepp and her son. Then came an emotional scene, when another woman aboard saw the boy, and said: "his name is my son."

Her name, Mrs. Mordka Klain - a native of Poland. *The Polish woman* told how in Nineteen Forty-Three, in the City of Vilna, the Nazis took away her Three Year old boy Abraham. She says they "sold" the child to an Estonian couple. Six years went by, and now, *aboard an American ship bound for the new world,* she recognized the Nine Year old as her own, listed as the son of the Estonian woman. *the boy*

All this was vigorously denied by Mrs. Sepp, who declared the boy was hers.

The dispute was taken to the captain of the ship, who was a good navigator but ~~hardly enough of a~~ <sup>with no intention to</sup> ~~play~~ <sup>the role of a</sup> Solomon. He said he'd put the question ~~up~~ to the immigration authorities in New York. - And today they said it would ~~probably~~ have to be settled in court.

( Ordinarily, a woman in the position of Mrs. Sepp would have little trouble in proving that she was the child's mother, but Estonia is behind the Iron Curtain - sealed off from the rest of the world. ) So it looks as if the American judge, before whom the case is brought, will have to be a modern Solomon indeed.

## NOBEL PRIZE

A step without precedent was taken in Sweden today - in connection with the Nobel Prize. The Swedish Academy of Literature, which hitherto has made the awards for poetry and prose, announces that next year the decision will be made by previous winners of the Nobel Prize for literature.

(This follows criticism because the literary honor was not granted this year - nobody considered good enough to win. And the Swedish Academy has been denounced as conservative, old fashioned. So in Nineteen Fifty the winners of previous years will take a vote and make the decision.)

(In the argument, there is much talk that the prize this year should have been awarded to Benedetto Croce, the aged and famous Italian philosopher. ~~Churchill~~ Churchill, ~~was also mentioned~~ for his recently published memoirs of the Second World War. Today, a couple of the previous prize winners were consulted. Thomas Mann, Nineteen Twenty-Nine, ~~said that~~ said that philosopher Croce should have had it. The French writer

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Andre Gide, who won in Nineteen Forty-Seven, declared:

"There should be no doubt about awarding Croce the prize."

So it would seem likely that next year the

Nobel Prize for literature will go to Benedetto Croce,

but ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Italian philosopher, <sup>who is now</sup> ~~born in Eighteen Sixty-Six~~

~~is~~ Eighty-Three Years old.)

## MONSTER

From Europe - a couple of sea monster stories.

One - from the River Rhine, where boatmen and fishermen

reported a behemoth swimming up the ~~river~~ <sup>Rhine, the</sup> Rhine, ~~the sound of the~~ <sup>machte ruhig sein</sup> famous for the Lorelei! They say

the monster blew huge bubbles and spouted water into the

air. Old-time sailors think it must have been a young

whale that strayed into the river. But, of course, it

might have been the Lorelei - although ~~she didn't blow~~ <sup>I don't believe she</sup>

<sup>w</sup> ~~big~~ bubbles, ~~and spout water~~. She just combed ~~out~~ her golden

hair.

The other account comes from the Port of Deal

in England, where today a monster was sighted half a

mile off shore. That is, they saw it spouting a stream

of water ~~was~~ shooting up - Twenty Feet high. (She

~~dispatch says that old-time whalers looked for their harpoons - because the critter seemed to be the biggest whale they ever heard of, a super-whale - an overgrown Moby Dick.)~~

An investigation disclosed the secret. The

spouting was from a sunken vessel, the submerged hulk of

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an American Liberty Ship ~~that~~ <sup>Two. Today a</sup> foundered half a mile off shore during ~~the Second World War~~ <sup>Today there was a</sup> freak of tide and current ~~which~~ ran in such tricky fashion as to cause the sunken ship to spout water ~~Twenty~~ <sup>an</sup> Feet in the air. Like ~~a super whale, an~~ overgrown Moby Dick.



## TEACHER

At Sharon, Pennsylvania, they've ended the affair of - the girl who was spanked. The school board today lifted the probation imposed on teacher Walter McDonald - because he paddled pretty Seventeen Year old Betty Ann Colapietro. The trouble began because Betty Ann was jumping up and down in the classroom. Teacher McDonald told her to sit down, ~~and~~ be quiet. But Betty Ann kept on jumping and frolicking. Whereupon the teacher took her out into a corridor, and administered the spanking. It is not stated what he used for a paddle - the flat of his hand, or maybe a ruler.

But it was vigorous, according to an official of the humane society, Russell Path. He says he inspected the area that was spanked - ~~but~~ the news dispatch adds hastily <sup>with</sup> ~~that~~ Betty Ann ~~was~~ wearing a bathing suit. In any case, <sup>Humane Officer</sup> Russell Path found bruises and welts - during ~~the~~ bathing suit inspection.

All of which created an uproar in Sharon, and the school board inflicted punishment on teacher Walter McDonald. ~~Which~~ <sup>which</sup> ~~that~~ only increased the uproar - because

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the other teachers of the school rallied to his defense. Today one teacher said: "If he hadn't paddled her, one of the rest of us would have before the year was out."

So today, faced with a revolt of the teachers, the school board backed down - in the case of the girl who was spanked.

And here's Nelson who is one person who wouldn't spank a girl.