

P. J. P. &amp; G. Thursday, March 4, 1948.

An interesting race is ~~going~~ on in Congress. a race to decide whether Hawaii or Alaska is to be our forty-ninth state. The Congressmen already have approved a bill granting statehood to the ex-kingdom of Liliialookawani, the one-time Sandwich Islands; but the Senate has not acted upon it.

Today a sub-committee of the House unanimously recommended another measure to admit Alaska as the forty-ninth state. But, if Hawaii comes under the wire first, the title of that Alaska bill will have to be changed; and, the Hawaii bill may be passed soon.

The act to admit Alaska must be approved by the full Committee on Public Lands before it can be taken up on the floor of the House.

## BENELUX

Perhaps the most far reaching event of the week is the conference that opened at Brussels today, the conference between representatives of Britain, France and the Benelux, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. It is a hush-hush affair, no reporters admitted, doors locked and guarded, ~~and all that sort of thing.~~ The aim is to draft the terms of a long term agreement, offensive and defensive, military, cultural and economic. The agreement between those five Western countries will, it is hoped, be the foundation of the Western Union, the new international order to be composed of the sixteen Western ~~and~~ countries which will take part in the Marshall Plan.

Officially, there is nothing about the military aspect of the agreement between those five original countries.

Officially, it is economic, social and cultural. But behind closed doors there will be military clauses in it, clauses to provide that if any one country is attacked, the others will come to the rescue, and that over a period of fifty years.

Newspapermen report ~~that there is~~ an atmosphere of

extreme urgency <sup>surrounding</sup> ~~around~~ this meeting in Brussels. Then, too, it opens on the first anniversary of the Dunkirk Treaty, the treaty between <sup>Britain</sup> ~~John Bull~~ and France against German aggression. Ernest Bevin and French Foreign Minister Bidault have exchanged letters, saying <sup>that that</sup> ~~it~~ was a treaty of great and lasting importance, and ~~all that sort of thing~~.

At Paris, the Quai d'Orsay announced <sup>today</sup> that Bidault would soon be on his way to Italy to meet the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs and arrange preliminaries for the negotiation of a French-Italian customs union. <sup>TP</sup> At the same time, a movement began in the Scandinavian countries for a Nordic customs union and closer relations between Scandinavia and the Western European countries.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The Communist Ministry of Czechoslovakia today rescinded its ban on certain foreign newspapers and magazines. A spokesman in Prague, for the Minister of Information, said they were suspended merely as a ~~temporary~~ <sup>temporary</sup> measure, but now are on sale again at all government bookstores. The announcement also was made that forbidden magazines were delivered to private addresses even while the public prohibition was on.

<sup>Q</sup>  
~~Another~~ dispatch from the Czechoslovak capital brings reports of the capture of persons trying to escape into the American zone, in Germany. Frontier guards nabbed one National Socialist member of Parliament as he was trying to cross the border. Also a nineteen year old girl, daughter of the former Health Minister. That former Minister, and his wife -- they were members of the Catholic Peoples' Party -- are already in prison.

PALESTINE

~~Arabs today killed seventeen Jews, soldiers of Haganah, whom they had captured and were holding as prisoners.~~

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A Haganah patrol, consisting of twenty-three soldiers, <sup>today</sup> went out from its base near one of the British airfields outside Jerusalem to check up on some intelligence reports, reports that a strong force of Arab invaders from Iraq were concentrated in the neighborhood <sup>of the Holy city.</sup> After advancing for two hours, the Jews found themselves in a trap. A hundred Arabs cut off their retreat and captured seventeen out of the twenty-three. Six <sup>Jews</sup> ~~XXXX~~ escaped.

~~British forces were approaching to interfere and prevent bloodshed. But when the Arabs saw the British, they ~~kill~~ killed the Jewish prisoners they had just taken.~~

WEDEMEYER

A general officer, formerly subordinate to Secretary of State Marshall, took issue with his chief, publicly today, on the subject of what to do about Communists. (Lieutenant General Albert C. Wedemeyer, now Chief Strategist for our Army. The same Al Wedemeyer who commanded our forces in China during the war. The General President Truman commissioned last year to make a detailed report on China -- what should be done to help Chiang Kai-shek.

His report, when he came home, was suppressed. Even Congressmen were not allowed to see it. But today General Wedemeyer appeared as a witness before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House, and flatly told the Congressmen that dire consequences will follow if we do not help the Chinese Nationalist government.)

He told them, however, that dollars alone will not do it; dollars alone, said Wedemeyer, will not stop the spread of Communism anywhere in the world. In his opinion Communism cannot be stopped without bloodshed. Said he: "If we do not take appropriate steps to stop

this Communist conflagration, we are going to pay in blood, and we must calculate the cost in blood."

~~General Wedemeyer went on to say that the American people should not be taken in by the claim that the Chinese Commies are not Reds of the Russian type. It is a false claim. The Chinese Communists, he says, are ideologically in no way different than the Russians. Their aim is to help the sweep of Communism all over the world, with no halfway measures.~~

Then he went on to tell the Congressmen that the Chinese Communists have grown much stronger, militarily, in the last two years. That two years ago, two hundred million dollars from us would have saved the Chinese government. Today, he says he wouldn't even recommend spending five hundred million on the job, unless there is military aid to protect that five hundred million. That if we in America really intend to put a stop to ~~g~~ the Communist movement, we can't do it by economic aid alone.

AIR POWER.

In London, British Minister for Air, Arthur Henderson <sup>today</sup> announced that ~~the supplying of the latest model jet planes to the squadrons of Britain's fighter commands is virtually finished.~~ The Royal Air Force <sup>now</sup> ~~is~~ equipped with the most up-to-date <sup>jet</sup> fighter planes in the world. Britain setting the lead ~~to other powers making the announcement perhaps for listening ears in the East.~~

~~Henderson also spoke of Britain having jet propelled bombers "of exceptional performance in eight."~~

"Push button warfare" he said is not a reality yet, but Britain is pushing ahead with research on un-named airborne weapons - having brought her air defenses up to date by an all-jet-fighter-force which the Air Minister describes as "the best in the world."



## CONDON

Dr. ~~Edward~~ Condon, the scientist, today appealed to Congress to put an end to the throwing of mud at eminent scientists; by irresponsible persons, was the way he put it. All this in further reply to the Un-American Activities Committee of the House.

The Bureau of Standards head addressed his appeal to Senator Hickenlooper of Iowa, Chairman of the Committee on Atomic Energy. Dr. Condon pointed out that it's already difficult enough for the Federal government to obtain the services of the scientists needed so badly by Uncle Sam. The low scale of salaries alone is a big obstacle; also the endless nuisance in having to cope with government rules and red ~~by~~ tape. Said he;— add to that these threats of purges, spy ring exposures, publicity attacks, and sudden dismissal, without hearings, -- obviously scientists of major ability will become more and more reluctant to serve their government. Therefore, says Dr. Condon, the whole scientific life of the nation is involved when men of intelligence are being constantly

harrassed and harried by irresponsible attacks on  
their character.

L.T 1.

Night Show:  
March 4. 1948

ADD CONDON.

Late news from Washington; - (Secretary of  
Commerce Averell Harriman has refused to turn over to  
the House Un-american Committee his department's file  
on the loyalty investigation of <sup>Dr. of the Bur. of Standards</sup> Condon, Harriman told  
<sup>Cong. Parnell</sup> ~~Rep.~~ Thomas, the Committee Chairman, that he plans to  
have the twenty-man Loyalty Review Board study the  
charges against the scientist. Further, says Harriman,  
<sup>the</sup> Attorney General ~~Tom~~ Clark has advised him that it is  
legal, and in keeping with established precedent, for  
an Administration agency to refuse information to  
Congress - if it sees fit.

<sup>Parnell</sup> Chairman Thomas immediately charged that <sup>member</sup> ~~Cabinet~~  
Harriman's action was what he described as "definite  
proof there is something they " - meaning the Department  
of Commerce - "don't want Congress and the American  
people to see." He says he is resolved to have a  
showdown, and will summon Condon, Harriman, and  
Attorney General ~~Tom~~ Clark before his committee.

MICHAEL

King Michael of Romania says today it is not correct to refer to him as the former King or Ex-King. He still is King of that country, although for the time being it is impossible for him to reign. <sup>He says</sup> His abdication is null and void because it was obtained by duress. <sup>That</sup> He signed it with guns <sup>King Michael tells how</sup> almost literally pointed at his head. The Reds threw a cordon of heavily armed troops around the royal palace at Bucharest. Then two members of the Red Cabinet forced their way into him, bringing the complete text of an act of abdication, which they presented to him with <sup>the</sup> an ultimatum, <sup>that</sup> Unless he signed it, there would be bloodshed. <sup>Adding</sup> ~~and they said to him,~~ that blood would be upon his head if he did not comply. <sup>explains</sup> So, ~~says~~ Michael today, "I don't consider myself bound in any way by this act imposed upon me." He added that <sup>present Red</sup> the regime over there is utterly unrepresentative of the will of the Romanian people and was installed by a foreign country and is being maintained by a foreign country.

~~The King issued this statement in London, where he is now in exile.~~

Michael issued that statement in London, just before taking the Southampton express to go aboard the Queen Elizabeth on his way to New York. Evidently the exiled King did not escape from Bucharest <sup>altogether</sup> penniless. He was installed in the most luxurious cabin on the great English liner and accompanied by his mother, the Dowager Queen Helen, a private secretary, two aides, the Queen's lady-in-waiting, and twenty pieces of baggage. He saw reporters in his cabin de luxe and said his marriage to Princess Anne would take place in Denmark pretty soon, but he couldn't say exactly when. He left the Princess in Paris, and anybody can guess what she is doing there.

NEW LEAD FOR "BOMB" to REPLACE FIRST PAGE.

L. T. 3

TP

~~You will remember how~~ last night I told  
of the discovery in New York City of crude plans to  
bomb the city's communication centers - maps and  
instructions <sup>labelled</sup> ~~grouped under the general heading of~~  
"Plan Vodka." These plans revealed that the conspirators  
plotted for no fewer than a hundred and fifty explosions  
at such places at ~~the~~ Grand Central Terminal and  
~~the~~ Pennsylvania Station, the General Post Office, ~~and~~  
~~at the~~ <sup>and</sup> Ferry Terminals. The plans were found ~~late~~  
~~in the afternoon~~, in an envelope <sup>that somehow -- we don't</sup> ~~which came into the~~  
<sup>know how, got into the</sup> hands of an alert postal official, ~~who informed the~~  
~~police.~~

The New York Police Department, under the direction  
of Commissioner Wallander immediately went into action -  
~~bomb squads alerted, emergency apparatus standing by.~~

A formidable force of Father Knickerbocker's Finest was promptly mobilized and detailed to cover every spot mentioned in those notes. ~~Scores of detectives and uniformed, police covered mid-town New York, opened lockers, searched baggage in express rooms at the stations, even stopped people carrying packages and questioned them. Nothing happened, but police have been on the alert all day today. A moment ago~~

TP I talked to Commissioner Wallander, <sup>this evening</sup> and he told me that he and his top officers have come to the conclusion that it was all the work of a crank -- no actual danger to our largest city and its people. However, Commissioner Wallander pointed out that the police cannot afford to take any chances, ~~at such times.~~ Therefore they go to the bottom of any problem like this, to make sure ~~that~~ no actual peril exists, ~~no matter how much it costs in time or even in apparently unnecessary work.~~

## HATS

~~Some time ago I promised myself and inferentially my listeners, that there would be no more stories about women's hats on this program, but here's one that really is different.~~

Al Colby of San Mateo, California, a hardware dealer, tried an experiment. He took some pieces of stove pipe, door handles, toilet brushes, mops, flower pots, sponges, clothespin baskets, jelly molds, sink stoppers and dish rags. Out of these he fashioned what he thought would be recognized as caricatures of women's headgear. He put them in his window just as a gag, and what happened? Women came from miles around to say "Oh" and "Ah", and <sup>even</sup> tried to buy <sup>them.</sup> ~~these caricatures.~~ <sup>Imploring</sup> ~~They~~ <sup>him</sup> ~~implored Al Colby~~ to sell them, until finally he grew tired of saying, "I can't sell them lady, they're supposed to be funny." And he added, "It seems like when it comes to <sup>a</sup> hat, women don't know a joke when they see one."



## STORMY

On the campus of the University of Louisiana, they had more fun today than they have had since the exciting days of Huey Long. The story begins some two weeks ago, when a student magazine called "Pell Mell" undertook to boost its circulation with a lot of pictures of a New Orleans strip-teaser, popularly known by the appropriate name of "Stormy." The staff of the magazine brought Stormy to Baton Rouge where, dressed in all her clothes, she sold five thousand autographed copies for them.

The faculty of the University took a dim view of all of this and the dean suppressed the magazine. The ~~the~~ editor thereupon undertook to run for president of the student body, as part of a campaign against the dean. The strip-teaser thought this would be fun, so today she arrived at Baton Rouge with a car, a band, and everything except many clothes. The candidate had withdrawn, but Stormy decided to give a demonstration anyway. In the middle of the campus the band struck up, Stormy began to wriggle and disrobe. Off came her

sun glasses, then her blouse, then her skirt, revealing a short, very very short, bathing suit.

Stormy was all set to take that off too, when a flying wedge of under-graduates grabbed her. They took her, wriggling and struggling, though not very hard, and dunked her very thoroughly in the lake.

Then the campus police got on the job, and rushed her to a sub-station. Pretty soon that flimsy building was surrounded by a mob shouting, "We want Stormy." <sup>At</sup> ~~To~~ that, the cops sent for a squad car and, with the help of a couple of two hundred pound football tackles, they threw Stormy into the car and rushed her to the airport, stopping long enough at a store to buy her a dress, a pair of stockings and shoes.

While she was being dunked, the University men let all the air out of the tires of Stormy's truck, bust the instruments of the band, including the piano, overturned the truck, one of whose wheels was later found a quarter of a mile away.

It is understood the authorities of the University of Louisiana will take no action against either Stormy or against the under-graduates who dunked her.

Well - Nelson - now for your Ivory message.