

L.T. - P&G Wednesday, January 9, 1952.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY: From that open ocean, the Pacific, there comes a story of the peril of the sea. At San Francisco tonight, the coast guard received a message that the American freighter "Pennsylvania," battered by tremendous storm, was in sinking condition -- with a crew of forty-five. And they were abandoning ship. The forty-five sailors were talking to four lifeboats in the midst of the tempest -- while rescue vessels headed their way, six hundred and ninety-five miles off the coast of the State of Washington.

FLYING ENTERPRISE

The latest from the Flying Enterprise is - that the tug Turmoil will not attempt to take the derelict in tow again until morning.

All day, in heavy weather, they tried vainly to make a line fast. The breaking of the tow damaged the tackle, and Captain Carlsen had to cut it away with a hacksaw. Aided by the mate of the Turmoil, Kenneth Dancy, who was with him. It was a desperate kind of job, with heavy seas breaking over them. They hadn't any secure footing on the half-capsized hulk, and the impact of the waves knocked them down time and again.

All - a heartbreak. They were almost in sight of land, when the tow-line snapped. This occurred in one of the wickedest areas of water on this earth - off the southwestern tip of England, where there is a meeting of ^{the} currents of the gulf stream, the North Atlantic and the English Channel *from The North Sea.*

They call it "the graveyard of ships". There, years ago, the British battleship Sultan sank while

being towed. Two years ago the battleship Warspite went aground under similar circumstances - victims of the treacherous currents in the "graveyard of ships."

Today the Flying Enterprize was ^(listing) ~~xxxxxx~~ worse than ever - heeled over to eighty degrees. Last reports gave a dubious picture - arrangements being made to take off Captain ~~xxx~~ Carlsen and Mate Dancy. Which might become necessary at any time. It would be sad if the Flying Enterprise should founder, and plunge to the bottom - after all the heroic adventure, and so near the final goal. But all that depends upon the weather -- and they will try and take the derelict in tow once more. When dawn breaks over there in the "graveyard of ships."

KOREA-TRUCE

(In Korea the deadlock is complete. Perhaps -
final. Today the negotiators got nowhere, once again,
on the Subject of the construction of Red flying
fields in northern Korea.) Each side declares it will
not budge an inch, and the word is the ^{(flying field} ~~fixing field~~
The problem may be handed on to some higher level,
which might mean Washington and Moscow - send the
problem upstairs.

At the U N in Paris, the Moscow attempt to take
the truce negotiations to the Security Council was
turned down today. The Reds lost out in a series of
overwhelming votes in the political committee of the
General Assembly.

WILLIAMS

In baseball, Ted Williams is called into uniform. The star slugger of the Boston Red Sox reports to the Marine Corps for duty in ~~xxxx~~ May. Ted Williams is the highest paid ball player in the big leagues, now that Joe DiMaggio has retired. He is, at the same time, a Captain in the Marine Corps Reserve -- having been a leatherneck flyer in the second World War.

The Marines are calling up ~~the~~ replacements for service in Korea, and Ted Williams is one - the top-ranking hitter in baseball.

(The United States demands the immediate return of six-hundred-and-seventy-lend-lease ships from Soviet Russia.) And that's like a repetition of old, stale news. For years we've been trying to get back a huge fleet handed over to the Reds in wartime - mostly merchant craft and smaller warships, like frigates.

~~(It is all part of an eleven billion controversy-- the Soviets having received that much ~~xxxxxxxx~~ lend-lease from us. Other countries have settled their accounts, long since; -- but not Moscow. Forty-seven ships have been given back -- leaving six-hundred-and-seventy unaccounted for.~~

The argument flares to a new crisis today -- the State Department handing a strongly worded note to the Soviet Ambassador in Washington. The note says -- either return the vessels or have the whole question submitted to the world court.

All a graphic reminder of how we strengthened the Soviet Reds -- with enormous amounts of lend-lease.

SOVIET PRISONERS

(The United States makes a demand - that Soviet Russia tell what happened to nearly two million German and Japanese ~~at~~ prisoners of war still missing.)

A note from Washington has been handed to the Moscow Foreign Ministry - calling for the Soviets to send a representative to a meeting of the U N Commission on prisoners of war. A representative who would be called upon to account for the missing two million.

TRUMAN

tonight
~~The~~ News dispatches [^] note that the Presidential report on the State of the Nation amounts to a program for the Democratic campaign -- this Presidential year. So what's in it? or, rather -- what's out of it? The omissions are interesting.

Addressing Congress today, the President went down the line for his Fair Deal -- with a notable exception. He did not bring up the racial issue, did not demand a fair employment practices law.

The last time, in nineteen forty-eight, the controversy over Civil Rights broke things wide open at the Democratic National Convention, and led to the secession of the Dixiecrats. So today's omission might signify -- a White House desire to keep the bitterly disputed question out of the political campaign. It was not injected into the Presidential message. Ejected -- would seem to be the word.

And There's another interesting omission, last year, in his regular message to Congress, the President spoke in high praise of General Eisenhower - on the job of

building a defense force for Western Europe. General Ike won ~~the~~ Presidential acclaim -- a year ago. But this time circumstances are -- so different. General Ike -- in the race for the Republican nomination. He might be the antagonist the Democrats will face in the November election -- so why build up a possible opponent.

The President himself made only one reference to the political extravaganza -- calling on all parties to wage their battle in a way that won't injure American Foreign Policy. "Let us," in the Presidential words -- "conduct our political fights in a manner that does not harm the National interest."

~~We have a Truman warning that the danger of another World War is -- still very real. The President calls for greater military production, more foreign aid, and a continuance of high taxes, with stricter controls of wages and prices.~~

~~It was a vigorous Truman speech, and got a nod of approval from British Prime Minister Winston Churchill -- himself a champion speech maker. Churchill attended the~~

The boom for General Ike was boosted today by a number one - Democrat. (Senator Paul Douglas of Illinois called for the nomination of Eisenhower by the Democrats - same old idea! The General has, of course, declared for the G O P - but the Senator wants him to have the Democratic nomination. Have both parties name Eisenhower.) The Democratic Senator said that, if the General runs for President on the Republican ticket, he will be elected. Barring what the Senator ~~xxxx~~ called -- "a miracle".

~~Douglas, who is at Harvard to give lectures, says he has no idea if President Truman intends to run again. But he makes one surmise. If the G O P nominates Senator Taft of Ohio, Douglas declares: "Wild horses couldn't stop Mr. Truman from running."~~

~~The logic would seem to be that, while the Democratic President is against all Republicans, he is most of all against Mr. Republican.~~

FOLLOW EISENHOWER-DOUGLAS

The latest, a statement from Senator Taft, that he will enter the Illinois Primary. Which ~~will~~ will make it a three-cornered fight between Taft, Stassen and Eisenhower.

They agree that American atomic bombs based on Britain will not ~~have any effect~~ except by "joint decision". Britain to have a vote over any action based on British flying fields.

Wendell Willkie and Churchill have not asked for notice of a top-level conference with Stalin - a thing advocated originally by Churchill. The President and the Prime Minister agree that the time is not right.

They announced "We do not believe that war is an inevitable inevitability." In the contrary, they plan ways of easing the tension between East and West.

Churchill now goes to Canada - to return to Washington later for an appearance before Congress.

CHURCHILL

(The President and the Prime Minister have completed their four-day talk - the result of which is summarized by a communique from the White House this afternoon.

They agree that American atomic bombers based on Britain will not make any attack except by "joint decision". Britain to have a veto over any action based on British flying fields.

Messrs Truman and Churchill have put aside any notion of a top-level conference with Stalin - a thing advocated previously by Churchill.) The President and the Prime Minister agree that the time is not right.

They announce: "We do not believe that war is ~~inevitable~~ inevitable." *quite* To the contrary, they plan ways of easing the tension between East and West.

Churchill now goes to Canada - to return to Washington later for an appearance before Congress.

EXPLOSION

In Alabama -- an explosion has brought Governor Gordon Persons to the scene, while Governor Herman Talmadge of Georgia has begun an investigation of his own. The F.B.I. is on the job -- all indicating the big-time ramifications of the blast at Phoenix City, Alabama.

There the home of an anti-gambling crusader, Hugh Bentley, was blown up -- demolished. Bentley, himself, was away at the time, but his wife and two sons and a nephew were in the house when it erupted like a volcano. As if by a miracle, none of them seems to have been injured severely. The anti-gambling crusader arrived shortly afterward, found his home in ruins, and saw his sixteen-year-old son sitting in the front yard -- where he had landed after having been blown out of his bed.

The headline of importance ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ all this lies in the fact that the town of Phoenix City is near the Alabama-Georgia border, ^{and nearby,} ~~and~~ over on the Georgia side is Fort Benning; The Army's number one training center for infantry - the biggest. Fort Benning - with tens of

thousands of soldiers.

You'll always find somebody willing to relieve a soldier of his money, and Phoenix City has been a wide-open town -- with emphasis on gambling. Clubs for poker, blackjack, dice -- and slot machines all over the place. Called - Little Reno. (~~Under the new Federal Tax on gambling, two hundred and thirty-eight of the fifty-dollar stamps were purchased in Alabama, and all but fifteen went to Phoenix City.~~)

Day and night the G.I.'s poured in from Fort Benning. Phoenix City - a replica of the rootin' - tootin' gambling towns of the old West, (with soldiers instead of cowboys and miners.

But forces of morality rose in that "Little Reno." Reformers in alliance with local clergymen - the crusade led by Hugh Bentley. Result - a recent crack-down, which put a lot of gambling joints out of business, and threatened to turn "Little Reno" into a model community, where the G.I.'s from Fort Benning might flock to go to church.

The gambling element, made angry threats. Hugh Bentley ^{was} warned -- to lay off! Recently gamblers were said to have issued an ultimatum: "The slot machines are coming back to Phoenix City and Hugh Bentley won't be alive!" Said they; ~~which is not any real menace~~ ^{And today the} Bentley home ~~today~~ ^{was} blown into wreckage.

All of which concerns both Alabama and Georgia, Fort Benning and the Army. So no wonder two Governors take action -- not to mention the F.B.I. Plenty of trouble - at "Little Reno".

WIFE

That Enoch Arden case in Atlanta is being resolved -- by a suit for annulment. Mrs. Agnes Sasser is appealing to the courts for dissolution of her second marriage, as the way out -- after now receiving a letter from her first husband, a prisoner of war in Korea.

Sergeant Walter Dixon was listed as killed in action, and his wife remarried -- espousing another soldier. Then she was astounded to see her first husband's name on the list of prisoners held by the Reds. Still, she could not be sure -- until that agreement in Korea, whereby prisoners were allowed to write to their families. So Sergeant Dixon wrote to his wife -- never knowing apparently, that she was remarried. She got the letter, and now seeks an annulment of her second marriage -- her second husband leaving it entirely to her to do whatever she might think best.

Here's news about a number one enemy of Nelson Case. I don't know that Nelson has ever met the lady, but he will regard her as a mortal foe - after what she said today. Samia Gamal, the Egyptian dancer, who has arrived in New York with her husband, the Texas playboy, Shepherd King, who is now a Mohammedan, named Abdullah.

Today she gave her impression of American women, and said -- "they bathe too often!" ^{then she} And ^{cried:} "they use too much soap." The belle of the Nile says that she takes - two baths a week. The rest of the time she rinses with olive oil.

She has been around to the strip-tease joints - to see how American honky-tonk dancers practice her own art. They, too, come in for criticism. She says the routines are too jerky and angular. "The body dance" she declares, "should be like pulling taffy - "all ^{silk} and no bumps."

So that's the way its done - taffy and silk.

But not so many baths, not so much soap. Apparently ~~there~~ there is such a thing as being too clean, ^{according} to Samia Gamal, wife of Abdullah from Texas, Nelson.