

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
I suppose that like everybody else you've been reading about this Amerasia magazine business and I rather imagine that (also like everybody else) you've been wondering what the heck it's all about.

WELL, it's something like this: Amerasia was one of these slick-paper international politics sheets that those of us who don't wear striped pants seldom read. In the final months of the war it fell under the suspicion of our Office of Strategic Services, which was our top-flight espionage and counter-espionage outfit.

To make a long story short, the OSS boys raided the New York office of Amerasia and found there SOME 900 SECRET DOCUMENTS. THAT HAD BEEN FILCHED FROM THE FILES OF OUR STATE DEPARTMENT. Some of them were "top drawer" secrets, which is a sort of diplomatic term for super-duper hot stuff.

NOT only that. The OSS men were convinced by what they found that the burglary of the state department was an INSIDE JOB. That is, according to OSS, somebody in the state department had passed these secret documents out to Amerasia.

OSS yelled for the scalps of the guilty secret-peddlers, but got nowhere much. It was claimed that the OSS Hawks didn't have enough search warrants and therefore their raid wasn't kosher. Anyway, the affair was promptly hushed up. Six persons, including two state department employees and a naval intelligence lieutenant, were arrested. Two of them were given mild fines and the others turned loose.

Nothing further was heard of it until the McCarthy charges brought up by the more or less forgotten Amerasia incident.

PERSONALLY, I haven't much much use for this current

communist-baiting binge. I have the feeling that at least 90 per cent of it is politics. Still, you can't laugh off the fact that this Amerasia outfit DID have in its possession hundreds of our secret documents, which nobody outside our state department had any business to have.

REMEMBER that butler in the British embassy in Ankara who picked the ambassador's pocket while he was pressing his striped pants and found the key to the secret safe and out of this secret safe for months and months and months he filched secret documents and peddled them to the Germans? What the krauts thus learned about our inside war plans made it duck soup for them to checkmate us and the British in the tough years of 1943 and 1944.

THIS Amerasia business was on the same order. I have the feeling that we ought to get to the bottom of it. This fellow Lattimore seems to have the complete confidence of our state department, and so far it does look like he is an injured innocent. BUT ALSO IT LOOKED FO A LONG TIME LIKE ALGER HISS WAS AN INJURED INNOCENT. Hiss certainly had the state department's confidence. Even after he was convicted of perjury (he perjured himself by denying that he was a spy passing out secrets from our state department) Secretary Acheson went out of his way to give Hiss a hand.

So—
While I have the feeling that Senator McCarthy is one of these characters who shoots from the hip—

And while I feel strongly that when men's reputations are at stake shooting from the hip with character-blackening charges isn't the thing to do—

And while I have no patience with the obvious Republican determination to use these char-

Pre-School Clinic
Gold Hill June 19

Gold Hill, June 14—A pre-school clinic will be held Monday, June 19 at the Community Methodist church basement from 1 to 4 p.m. Parents who wish to take advantage of the opportunity to have children examined are welcome and the service is without charge. Dr. A. E. Merkel will be in charge and will be assisted by the Health nurse, Mae Kanciler.

Vaccination and immunization shots will be given if parents request.

Mrs. Melford Hood is chairman of the committee for the clinic, which is sponsored by the Health Unit. The chairman and her assistants, Mrs. Delos Walker and Mrs. Melvin Burnett, will register the children and

keep the records as the examinations are made.

Appointments may be made by phoning to Mrs. Melford Hood, 611, however, examinations will be made without appointments.

California accounted for approximately 75 per cent of the nation's output of mercury in 1947.

ges to their fullest possible extent to discredit the Democrats, whether the charges are true or not—

I still have the feeling that something is rotten in Denmark and that we ought to find out where the smell is coming from and who is responsible. If we're going to run the world—as we seem to have been elected to do—we can't have a state department that leaks military and diplomatic secrets like a sieve leaks water.

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New York, June 14—U.P.—A survey of the adult population by the Metropolitan Life Insurance company showed today that 19 million adults switched residence during the year ending April, 1949.

The lure of the far west and economic developments in various regions were the biggest reasons for the migrations. The statisticians found. The same incentives will keep people moving at a high level during the next few years they predicted.

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