

# Mystery Developing Regarding Arsenic Poisoning of Envoy Clare Boothe Luce

Washington—(U.P.)—Something very much resembling the mystery of the month seemed to be developing today in the story of the blonde Clare Boothe Luce and the arsenical Borghian roses in her boudoir.

Mrs. Luce, U.S. ambassador to Italy, is suffering from arsenic poisoning. And the question arises: How did she get it?

According to Time Magazine, of which Mrs. Luce's husband is editor in chief, the ambassador has been getting slow doses of arsenic-containing paint dust and particles from the bedroom ceiling of her 17th century villa near Rome.

**Get Into Food, Coffee**  
The "fallout" came from the Borghian white roses which adorn the ceiling of the room. It not only drifted into the air but got into Mrs. Luce's food and morning coffee, the magazine reported.

This, said Time, explains the recurring illness which Mrs. Luce has been suffering. Time credited agents of the Central Intelligence Agency with discovering the source of the poisonous particles.

But questions have been raised about the accuracy of CIA's detective work, although no one was suggesting a definite poison attempt or foreign intrigue.

Italian newspapers in Rome asked if the CIA had given a

complete explanation to back up its report. These newspapers devoted thousands of words to the story in dispatches from New York and Rome. They were splashed across the front pages with black headlines, photographs and questions.

But if Tempo of Rome reported that one of the two toy poodles that Mrs. Luce had brought to Italy apparently was a victim of the poison.

**Deductions Questioned**  
"To tell the truth, the one who got caught in this was a small beast—a little white dog who apparently was a victim of poison," Il Tempo said.

Even though Il Tempo gave credence to the CIA report, other newspapers questioned the agency's deductions.

"The American public is awaiting some explanations how a situation discovered and remedied 17 months ago has continued to affect Mrs. Luce's health at least two months after she returned to America," the newspaper Gazzetta del Popolo of Turin said.

The right wing Il Giornale di Milan said it was another chapter of the "perils faced by American women in Italy, especially in Rome."

Joseph F. Battley, president of the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association, said he would "question that someone could formulate, deliberately

or accidentally, a paint with an arsenic compound of sufficient strength . . . to cause illness of the type which Mrs. Luce suffered."

**Paint Forms Tough Film**  
"Paint forms a tough, hard film that has no pigment fall-out," he said. "A good example is the murals, hundreds of years old, on ceilings all over Italy. Today's modern paints are specially formulated to withstand numerous scrubbing and washing."

Battley said arsenic trioxide "has been used extensively in Italy for agricultural sprays. It is conceivable it could be used against house insects or rodents, but it is inconceivable that it was used intentionally in a paint film."

In Italy, Ansa, the semi-official Italian news agency, quoted Rome scientists as saying the use of arsenic compounds in paints was "generally abandoned" at least 30 years ago after experts warned it might be dangerous.

The scientists went on to explain, however, that when arsenic compounds are used in paint, a poisonous hydrogen-arsenic gas develops very slowly under the influence of air and moisture and through the action of moulds.

A National Institute of Health toxicologist pointed out also that old paint from a previous century containing an arsenic compound might have flocked off with new coats on the roses and dropped down on Mrs. Luce. Or, he said, arsenic might have been added to a paint, made from a milk derivative, to ward off insects.

**No Others Poisoned**  
But if there were an arsenic compound in the paint, the ques-

tion arose as to why other persons in the ambassador's residence were not poisoned. Rome reports said Mrs. Luce was the only one living in the villa who was affected.

A State Department spokesman said the situation which led to Mrs. Luce's case "has been corrected." The roses have been covered with heavy tarpaper re-done in a different type of paint. "Let me emphasize," the State Department spokesman said, "this was purely an accident and there is absolutely no implication that it was otherwise."

Francis Scofield, chief of technology for the paint association, said "Arsenic of lead (the compound in the Luce residence) paint has never been used in the paints in this country." He doubted if it was used in Mrs. Luce's villa.

But if it was, he said, "it was added deliberately either to kill some one or to kill flies."

## State Agricultural Prospects Improving

Portland—(U.P.)—Agricultural prospects in Oregon for the year appear to be on the upswing, the Oregon Crop Reporting service said today.

The reporting service said prospects for dryland crops continue favorable throughout the state, after frequent showers during the first three weeks of June gave crops a new lease on life.

Production of the main field crops harvested will be about 12 per cent larger than last year and about 14 per cent above average, the report said.

Prospects for fruit crops are still over a month ago but improved over the year's production will be about 19 per cent below a year ago and 17 per cent below average.

Forecast is for a 23,479,000 bushel wheat harvest, larger than last year but 12 per cent below the 1945-54 average. A record large acreage of barley and yield is predicted.

## CP Flower Show Set For Thursday

"Summer Symphony," the tenth annual flower show of the Central Point garden club will be held Thursday in the Crater High school cafeteria, North Pacific highway from 2 to 9 p.m.

The show is competitive, so entries will be received from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. on Thursday. Any entries entered after that time will be exhibited in the non-competitive division.

The exhibit will be planned around four divisions: horticulture, arrangement, junior, and education.

The public is invited to attend the show.

## Safeway Reports Net Earnings of \$1.41 Share

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Safeway Stores Inc. report net earnings per common share of \$1.41 for the 12 weeks ended June 16.

This is a 96 per cent increase over the 72 cents reported for the similar period last year.

Net income for the first 24 weeks totaled \$9,925,271 or \$2.51 a share. This compares to \$5,533,500 or \$1.29 a share for the similar period last year.

The Georgia Democrat, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said after a closed door meeting with a top State Department official that the department "hasn't any very good documentation" of hearsay and second hand reports that some of the missing airmen are in Red prisons.

However, George said, the department hopes its protest note to Russia and the resulting publicity may lead to disclosure of more firm information.



MISS O-I-H-O — Serima Kifer, Ohio's representative to the Miss Universe contest at Long Beach, Calif., stands on platform, unaware that her state banner is upside down. The error was discovered after official photographs had been taken.

## X-Ray Clinic Open At Sacred Heart

The Jackson County Public Health association x-ray clinic at the Sacred Heart hospital will be open to the public Thursday afternoon, according to Dr. A. Erin Merkel, public health physician.

Clinic hours are from 2 to 5 p.m. on Thursday and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month.

Public health officials of Jackson County have urged a yearly x-ray to detect tuberculosis in its early stages. Chest x-rays will also reveal early lung cancer, heart conditions and other chest diseases, officials said.

The federal government spent \$307,000,000 in the United States because of tuberculosis between July 1, 1951, and June 30, 1952, Dr. Robert J. Anderson, of the United States Public Health service, announced. State and local governments expended \$259,000,000 and non-governmental agencies \$55,000,000, he said.

## Jaycees Here Open Membership Drive

Invitations to join the Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce's Booster membership have been mailed to professional men of Medford, Jaycee officials reported today.

Membership entitles the member to two tickets to the distinguished service award banquet which honors the outstanding young man of the community each year, officials said.

Funds from the drive will be used for civic and community activities of the Medford Jaycees. Robert Boyer is chairman of the drive.

Montreal is known as the second largest French-speaking city in the world.

Replacing Bad Tubes Cures Most T.V. Trouble  
**Tube Testing Free**  
Steve's Music Co.  
3608 So. Pacific Highway  
Open Until 10 P.M.

## Heat, Smoke Damage Results from Fire

Fire at the Rogue Valley Country club last night extended through vent ducts to the walls, attic and roof above the kitchen and caused extensive heat and smoke damage to the kitchen and an adjacent store-room, city firemen reported.

They said the blaze started from a broiler in the kitchen. Two pumper trucks were dispatched to the country club when the alarm was received about 11:30 p.m.

Montana is three times as large in total area as New York. It is equal to the combined areas of the United Kingdom plus all of the Netherlands and Belgium as well.

## Baby Napping on Floor Killed in Freak Mishap

New Orleans—(U.P.)—A baby left on the floor for a nap was hedged about with pillows for safety but nevertheless was killed by a freak accident.

Police said the child, 13-month old Carolyn Treadway, of Dallas, Tex., inched over the pil-

lows just far enough to touch a radiator and flood lamp at the same time and was electrocuted, police said the lamp apparently was defective.

The parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Treadway Jr. were visiting in the home of friends in New Orleans.

**For Canning NOW!**

TREE RIPE—LOCAL

**Cherries and Apricots**

**OK MARKET**

1202 North Riverside

OPEN EVERY NIGHT 'TIL MIDNIGHT

## A Nichol's Worth of . . . Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS  
United Press Feature Writer

Washington—(U.P.)—What's new in Washington:

During the last fiscal year, the American Red Cross spent \$31,300,000 for relief in disasters. That's a new high in the history of the RC. There were hurricanes, floods that followed, fires, the building of homes for homeless, and fixing roofs and damaged cellars. Not to mention feeding the destitute and buying po-caris for babies and helping small businessmen get back on their feet. Worst previous year was 1936-37 when the Ohio and Mississippi valleys were done under by flood waters. The drag on the Red Cross kitty that fiscal year was more than \$23,000,000.

The Police Association News here has a cartoon in its current issue showing two unhappy cops aboard a spavined swagback horse. The caption underneath says: "I told you the captain would do this if you put another dent in the new squad car."

Washington drivers have been warned they had better not leave their keys in their vehicles or walk away with the doors unlocked. Auto thefts were up 26 per cent the last fiscal year.

There seems to be a shortage of paper on Capitol Hill sometimes. A House Judiciary subcommittee's anti-trust hearing was brought to a fast halt the other day. A gal, who had been hitting at her stenographic machine for three hours stopped and said: "I'm sorry Mr. Chairman, but I'm out of paper." Chairman Emanuel Celler, the New York Democrat, pulled up a little shocked and then said maybe it was time for a recess. Rep. Hugh Scott, Republican of Pennsylvania, couldn't hold his tongue. Said he: "I never knew anybody in Washington ever to run out of paper."

The "Quantic Marine Sentry" would like us to know at this late date that the ricksha used in the Orient today was invented by one Jonathan Goble, a U.S. Marine who stopped by in Japan with Admiral Perry in 1854.

On the political scene it is interesting to note that down in Texas, running for state treasurer are Warren G. Harding and Jesse James. Mr. James is the incumbent.

The Minnesota Auto club, ac-



WEARING inevitable dark glasses. Greta Garbo boards plane in New York bound for Paris and her native country, Sweden. (International)

According to the American Automobile association here, is campaigning to change the rules so that motorists in Paulding county can pay their license fees with animal skins instead of money. Things like coon skins and the hides from deodorized skunks.

John C. Matcalf was having supper in a crowded restaurant in Nuremberg, Germany, not long ago. There were empty seats at Johnny's table and three American soldiers asked if they might sit down, only the GI's put it this way: "Okeh we sit mit you." Mistached Matcalf said, "Sure, glad to have you." One of the soldiers said, "you speak pretty good English." "Well," replied Matcalf, "I hope so. I live in Silver Spring, Md., and lecture all over the United States." The talker picked up the check and spent a wonderful evening with new-found friends.

The labor movement is going in for lovely ladies. Miss Organized Labor's lovely figure is pictured prominently on the front page of the AFL-CIO paper here. She is Joyce Elder, from Mississippi. Perfect measurements, too.

## California Pilot Escapes Jet Crash

Cedar City, Utah—(U.P.)—A 26-year-old California pilot escaped injury Tuesday when he bailed out of his F84F jet fighter just before it crashed and burned in the Cedar Breaks National Monument park east of Cedar City.

1st Lt. Carl F. Richards, Pasadena, attached to the 366th Fighter-Bomber Group at England Air Force Base, Alexandria, La., landed about 20 miles south of where the plane crashed, and was picked up by a passing motorist.

Richards was taken to a Cedar City hospital for a checkup, but attendants said he was not hurt.

The plane disintegrated when it clipped the top of a tree, exploded and smashed into the ground.

About 4,100 trains are operated each day to and from Chicago.

## Johnson Praises Legislative Record

Washington—(U.P.)—Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas patrolled all Senate members on the back today for what he said was a fine legislative record.

Johnson said that in its first session last year and its second session through July 16 this year the Senate passed more bills and acted on more presidential nominations than any Senate of the preceding four congresses.

And, he added, the Senate achieved its record "in a much shorter period of time."

Congress was driving to adjourn next week. The Senate today debated a bill for the government to displace a private power company now building a dam in Hells Canyon. The House was scheduled to continue debate on civil rights.

Johnson said the present Senate has passed 2,607 measures compared with 1,703 by the Senate of the 83rd Congress, 2,144 of the 82nd, 1,857 of the 81st, and 1,889 of the 80th.

## Evidence Lacking On Captive Fliers

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Walter F. George said today the State Department does not have "enough evidence to indicate firmly" that Russia actually is holding long missing U.S. airmen as prisoners.

The Georgia Democrat, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said after a closed door meeting with a top State Department official that the department "hasn't any very good documentation" of hearsay and second hand reports that some of the missing airmen are in Red prisons.

However, George said, the department hopes its protest note to Russia and the resulting publicity may lead to disclosure of more firm information.



Get

**NESBITT'S**

at Your Favorite

**GROCER**

Drink

**Nesbitt's**

CALIFORNIA ORANGE

MADE FROM Real ORANGES

**This is the Shoe Sale you have been Waiting for!**

**Buster Brown SHOE STORE**

Will Be Closed All Day Tomorrow, THURSDAY, JULY 19, in Preparation for Their—

**Big Shoe Clearance SALE OF ALL SHOE SALES**

Starts Tomorrow at 9 a.m.

**NOW! BARBECUE! ROAST!**

with self-basting Rotary Roaster...

Admiral Double Oven 40" Model 4EH15 — Rotary Roaster, "Elevator" Broiler Rack, Automatic Timer Clock. **\$389.95**

...right inside new "Dial Any Heat"

**Admiral** ELECTRIC RANGES

Admiral's Rotary Roaster makes meats tender beyond belief, juicier than you ever knew! Bastes as it roasts as it turns automatically... keeps natural juices rolling over the meat. King-Size!... holds a "company-size" ham, big roast, or fowl. Slides easily in and out of the oven for storage. This is one of many features that make

1956 Admiral Electric Ranges best for better cooking. See them today!

You can own an Admiral Electric Range for as little as — **\$230\*** A WEEK

\*Your old range may more than cover down payment.

Look to **Admiral** for Better Cooking!

"Dial Any Heat"—unlimited heat settings.

"Flex-O-Grill" plugs in to appliance outlet.

"Elevator" Broiler Rack—easier to use!

"Even Oven Heat" for perfect results.

Admiral 30" Deluxe Model 6132—Giant-size oven, yet fits smallest kitchens. **\$199.95**

Admiral 40" Deluxe Model 4EH12—Deep Well Cooker, many other features! **\$359.95**

**COUEY'S APPLIANCE STORE**

225 E. 6th St. Medford Phone 3-5433