

# Gag on Free Press Big Question at Food Meet; Stymies Small Nations

By JAMES MARLOW and GEORGE ZIELKE  
HOT SPRINGS, Va., May 20 (AP)—Some of the newspapermen here to write about the international food conference say there's another angle to the argument over what many of them contend is a United States government restriction on freedom of the press in limiting their activities.

They raise the question whether freedom of speech by the delegates themselves might not be hampered to some degree.

**Gag Rule**  
For instance: Suppose a delegate of, say, a small country represented at the conference fought unsuccessfully against a decision reached by the larger countries in a committee meeting. How would he make public the position of his nation or what it thought of the decision?

Would the delegate, even if he knew how to approach the newsman, wish to be in the position of complaining at this conference which is supposed to be friendly and cooperative? Or would he, if approached directly by a newsman asking for his opinion, feel more free to state his case since he was being asked his views and not volunteering them?

The main thing back of the press struggle against restrictions imposed here is the thought that these limitations might be used as a precedent for even stronger or complete restrictions at future conferences among the nations—particularly peace conferences.

Here are the restrictions: Newsmen can't go into the hotel where the conference is being held—armed soldiers are under orders to keep them out—to talk with individual delegates staying there. And all are staying there.

Newsman can call any delegate by telephone and ask him to step down to the press room, on the rim of the hotel grounds, for an interview. A delegate can, if he has time or desire, comply.

**Where's the Press Room?**  
But newsman argue that this arrangement has strong disadvantages—and that it prevents spontaneous conversation with delegates and makes less likely any chance of questioning them; if stopped in the lobby or visited in their rooms, delegates might feel readier to talk.

So far as is known, none of the delegates has been informed where the press room is.

Judge Marvin Jones, chairman of the United States delegation and chairman of the con-

## DAVIES PREPARES TO VISIT MOLOTOV

MOSCOW, May 20 (AP)—Joseph E. Davies, looking fit and fresh, arose early today in preparation for a busy day which includes a late afternoon visit to the Kremlin, where he will see Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov and personally hand over the letter from President Roosevelt to Premier Stalin.

Before going to the Kremlin Davies went on a sight-seeing tour of the soviet capital, which he has not seen since he left his post as ambassador to Moscow five years ago.

His arrival in Moscow was noted prominently in the Russian press this morning, but there was no speculation about his mission.

## MANPOWER SHORTAGE

ATLANTA, (AP)—Lieutenant Charlotte Tonis expected to take a soldier's job when she joined the WAACs but, says she, "I never expected to substitute for a bride's daddy."

A WAAC sergeant in Lieut. Tonis' company at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., married a corporal in the army and the lady-who-took-a-man's-job gave the bride away.

## "Gone With Wind" Movie Set Damaged

CULVER CITY, May 20 (AP)—Sets used in filming "Gone With Wind" were damaged to the extent of \$3000 or \$4000 during a fire yesterday on the RKO-Pathe lot. Four fire companies, one from Los Angeles, controlled the blaze, of undetermined origin.

## UNDIGNIFIED, TOO!

DOWNNEY, Calif. (AP)—Forty cars of a freight train passed over him.

Then Glen Robertson, 19, got up and shook his fist at the receding caboose.

Robertson said a companion pushed him and he fell from the depot platform in the path of the train. He flattened himself between the rails, and suffered only a scratched leg.

## Best Woman



"If a woman can be a soldier, she can be a best man too." That's how Lieut. Bailey M. Barrett of Cincinnati felt when he asked his sister Shirley, right, a lieutenant in the WAAC, to be "best man" at his New York wedding. The bride, left, is the former Lois Moore.

## Farmers Help Army Train by Allowing Use of Terrain

CAMP WHITE, Ore., May 20 "In the training of tough fighting men—our job at Camp White—too much credit cannot be given to the farmers and ranchers of the Rogue River valley," Brigadier General Amos said today.

Before a man is ready for battle he must be skilled in action over every kind of terrain, the commanding general explained. Within a short distance of this camp can be found almost every kind of topography, and the pa-

triotic cooperation of the property owners of this area has made this land available for the training of our soldiers.

## GOOD RESPONSE FOR OFFICER CALL

Major S. Dorman of the Officer Procurement Service from Portland, who was in Klamath Falls Wednesday morning to accept applications from men qualified in particular vocations for commission in the army, said that he received a splendid response.

"Several high grade men applied for the jobs," Dorman said, "and it was apparent that they genuinely wanted to be of service."

In this as in previous experiences with this city, we have found Klamath Falls to be above average in its patriotic attitude," Dorman added.

With the major was Lieutenant Johanna Vreeland of the army nurse recruiting service.

## Mickey Rooney's Wife Gets Divorce

LOS ANGELES, May 20 (AP)—Attractive Ava Gardner Rooney obtained an interlocutory divorce decree today from Mickey

Rooney, the young film star whose box office magnitude belies his small stature. Mickey, 22, wasn't in court when Miss Gardner, formerly of Wilson, N. C., appeared in Superior Judge Thurmond Clarke's court and asserted the actor just wouldn't stay home nights, and that he had told her repeatedly that he considered their marriage a mistake. She charged him with mental cruelty.



## From where I sit ...

by Joe Marsh

Pete Swanson fancies himself as an armchair strategist. Sometimes he gets so tangled up, I just can't resist tryin' to straighten him out.

For instance, the other day he was waxing indignant about our soldiers being allowed to buy beer right in camp. Said that was just coddling the troops and would ruin discipline.

I told him the actual facts had already been established by a study the Government made. Their report said chaplains and

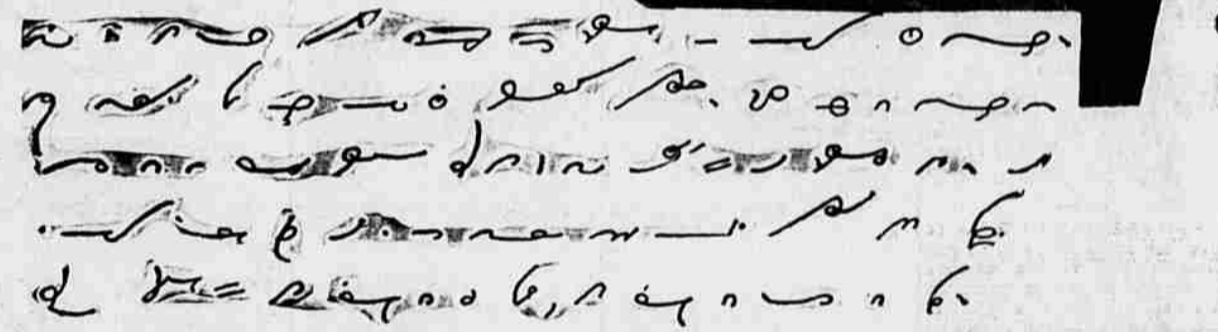
the military police agree that instead of ruining discipline, beer sold in Army camps provides our soldiers with a mild form of relaxation without impairing their efficiency.

Well, Pete allowed that the chaplains and military police are a pretty good authority on what's right for soldiers. I've noticed lately he's been confining his remarks to the broader phases of strategy.

Joe Marsh

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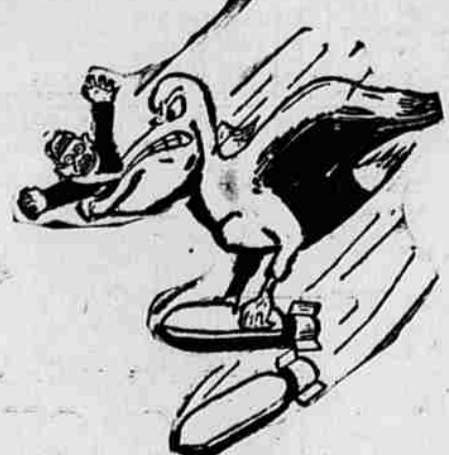
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