Herald and News

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Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — Are you a sespag?

Would you like to be a sespag? Oh, come on, now. Be a sespag. Please.

You'll really stand out from the crowd, once you're a sespag. What is a sespag? Well — don't laugh — a sespag is a member of the Society for the Extension of Sympathy to People Afflicted with Gout.

Civilization has needed an organization of this kind for a long time. Every other disease in the medical textbooks has its true blue friends today — from halitosis to hernia, from acidosis to acute alcoholism.

But gout? Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Nobody takes gout seriously today except those who suffer from it. Madness and measles are respectable. But gout? "Oh, no, not really—gout? Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!"

COMRADES

It is high time we had a national gout week so the buddies of this ailment can band together and get more public understanding. I feel this way because I have just spent five days flat on my back with a throbbing foot propped on a pillow.

When I returned to work, leaning with quiet drama on a new $5 cane, I naturally expected to be rewarded with a little milk of human kindness. When an office pal asked what was wrong with my foot I mumbled bravely:

"Oh nothing much. The doctor calls it rheumatoid arthritis."

"That's just a fancy word for gout," he said. "So you got the gout, eh? Ha, ha, ha. Boy, you must have been doing some high living. Ha ha, ha."

So he passed the word along, and the office became a den of laughing hyenas—"Ha ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! He's got the gout. Wish I could afford it."

Well, there you are. Tell somebody you got the gout, and right away he jumps to the conclusion you've been swimming in port wine and pork roasts.

That is the trouble. People don't understand there are two kinds of gout—rich man's gout and poor man's gout. Rich man's gout is the old-fashioned kind caused by luxurious living and enjoyed (I should use such a word!) by British lords and 19th century American industrial tycoons.

This kind of gout is dying out. Poor man's gout is best described by the Encyclopedia Britannica as follows:

"Gout may also affect persons who observe the strictest temperance in living, and whose only excesses are in the direction of overwork, either physical or intellectual."

Naturally, you understand that what I had was the poor man's gout. Gout also hits plumbers and painters, as a result of lead poisoning.

PUZZLE

What puzzles me is why it struck me. Too much temperance? Overwork? Or could it have been the aftermath of chewing too many lead pencils in grammer school?

Gout strikes chiefly in the big toe, the heel, and instep, or the thumb. I'm a heel and instep man myself. Personally, I have never met a thumb gout sufferer. It's probably a tough occupational problem with hitchhikers.

Many people don't realize how gout feels. It feels as if an invisible madman were trying to stuff a white hot anvil into your foot. You have an urgent desire to bite to death anybody that comes within three yards of you. If anybody in the same room even breathes heavily, you can feel it. A fly landing on your foot is like a knife thrust.

Never laugh at a man with the gout, podner, unless you want to make a lifelong enemy. But pat him on the back—gently, gently—and tell him you understand. He won't believe you, but he'll remember, and if ever you have to borrow money—well, you won't have to go to any bank to get it.

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

NO SURVIVORS—Wreckage of a non-scheduled airliner is shown where it plowed into the Puente hills yesterday, near Los Angeles, and burned killing 29 passengers and a crew of three. The C-46 was flying from New York to Los Angeles and crashed about 25 miles from the plane's destination.

(NEA Telephoto)

THERE'LL BE NO TRAINS TODAY—Railroad station at McPaul, Ia., was inundated when the Missouri River ripped a 150-foot channel through the the nearby Plum Creek levee.

Korean Girls Risk Death to Oppose Reds

By GEORGE A. MCARTHUR

SEOUL Korea (AP) — The silence of the night over Communist North Korea is broken by the voices of two shy, pigtailed Korean girls.

Their voices are boomed from a loudspeaker carried by a slowly circling twin-engined C-47, one of the Allies' psychological warfare planes.

The girls, one 19 and the other 21, are members of the team that daily delivers leaflets, broadcasts and a weekly newspaper to the Reds.

Tracers and anti-aircraft bursts are common sights in the "pay war" aircraft.

Both girls have been in planes that were badly hit.

Each has flown more than 50 missions. Neither has any idea of quitting. They say they want to do 400 missions.

American "pay war" pilots are rotated after 75 missions while a fighter pilot must do 100 missions to go home.

The two girls, whose names must be kept secret, volunteered for their jobs.

"We think we should for our country," one answered bashfully.

Their broadcasts are only a small part of the psychological warfare campaign that showers millions of propaganda leaflets on the Reds, scatters broadcasts over strategic spots and each week delivers a million and a half tiny newspapers behind Red lines.

The girls alternate on the broadcasts with two Korean men. All have been classified as war criminals by the Reds.

The broadcasts by the girls serve a double purpose. Their voices travel farther over the loudspeaker than a man's and "pay war" figures a girlish voice sending propaganda messages will do more harm to Red morale than a male broadcast. The actual effect of the broadcasts and leaflet drops is a secret but the fliers are happy with their jobs.

To see at first hand what the "pay pilots" were up against, AP photographer Fred Waters and I went on a leaflet drop today with Lt. Bill Sweidel of Colfax, Wash., N. J., and Co-Pilot Lt. Judge Brady of San Antonio, Tex.

The mission was on five target areas on the front. Five long sweeping passes would be necessary to get the leaflets where Red soldiers—and anti aircraft weapons—were known to be.

The navigator, Capt. Joseph Polowe Jr., of Batavia, N. Y., figured it would take the slow C-47 20 minutes to cover the actual target areas. Altogether, it would be about 45 minutes over Red lines.

The Communists sent word when the plane swept over the front—small white shellbursts appeared below.

Polowe pointed out the first target and Sweidel nosed down.

Two Koreans—whose names also must be kept secret—stood calmly at the opened plane door waiting word to start hurling the leaflet packages at the Reds. The Communists recently told their troops the leaflets were contaminated with germs but the Korean boys throwing them wore no antiseptic masks.

Over the first target and the remaining four, the two Koreans calmly pulled fuses to detonate the packages at 1,000 feet and hurled them out at regular intervals. The plane crew didn't even mention the white bursts marking the sky. They were more interested in an air strike on a nearby hill.

Sweidel lazily banked the flight-worn C-47 over the last target area.

Finally, flight engineer Staff Sgt. James Hollywood of Brooklyn, N. Y., messaged the base that the mission was completed and the plane headed back to the lines—just as the navigator had said 45 minutes over Red lines.

"We got a little small arms up there but it didn't amount to much" Sweidel said. "They don't shoot at us much when the fighters are around."

"You'll have to talk to the girls when we get back," he added. They sleep all the way to the target and all the way back. They don't ever get scared. Damn nice kids."

Chinese Hints Stir Markets

HONG KONG (AP) — Recent hints dropped by the Chinese Communists that they are willing to do business with the West has the commerce marts of Hong Kong buzzing.

Traders, mostly Chinese, are telling each other they never did believe in attempting to put off trade with China.

Foreigners are less outspoken, but many make no secret of their hopes for early resumption of trade with the Communist neighbor.

However, the U.S. embargo on Chinese trade, imposed after the outbreak of the Korean war in June, 1950, still stands. There still is a whopping list of commodities which cannot be exported from the U.S. to Red China, or to Hong Kong either. Britain also has limited its trade with the Communists, but not as sharply as America.

During the height of the Moscow sponsored International Economic Conference, eight days ago, Red propaganda broadcasts eased off on the germ warfare charges temporarily while Peiping started on a new tack—a "trade offensive" aimed at the West, including the United States.

Whether the Chinese move is a stratagem to bring new disagreements between Britain and America or a genuine offer to trade, it aroused sharp interest here.

Acheson Asks Red Evidence

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Dean Acheson called on Russia Saturday for "tangible evidence" that the Soviets really want the free, unified Germany they have been talking about.

He interpreted the whole Kremlin campaign as merely part of a continuing scheme to extend Soviet power throughout Germany and keep that country out of the Western defense line against Red expansion.

At the same time Acheson warned the world that recent Soviet proposals for increased trade with Western nations are in reality an effort "to sow dissension (among the Allies) and to secure strategic materials to build their warmaking potential."

In a speech to a luncheon meeting of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, the secretary of state flatly declared that American and Allied security controls over trade with the Communist countries "will continue to be necessary as long as the broad course of Soviet policy is directed toward the maintenance of a huge military machine."

River-Damming Action Awaits OK of Congress

By JOHN KAMPS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The score in Congress thus far this year on multi-million dollar river damming programs is two down, and a third strikeout seems more than possible.

A bill to authorize the 800-million dollar Central Arizona project in the Lower Colorado River has been stuck in the House Interior Committee nearly a year. There's no sign it will be dusted off for final action soon, and there's doubt that the commitee would approve it.

The House interior reclamation and irrigation subcommittee began hearings late last month on a bill to authorize the 357-million dollar Hells Canyon Dam on the Snake River in Idaho and has set no resumption date. Strong opposition and comments of committee members suggest the subcommittee will vote against the bill.

COLORADO

Next up is the billion dollar Upper Colorado River storage project and participating projects proposed in a bill introduced last week by Sens. Watkins and Bennett, Utah Republicans.

The bill would authorize, but appropriate no construction money for, five or six big government power dams and 16 irrigation projects in Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico.

Economy-minded members of Congress have been opposing expensive water projects at a time when mobilization is causing record deficit spending by the government and high taxes.

The Upper Colorado project faces another obstacle, the withholding from Congress of Secretary of Interior Oscar L. Chapman's report, favoring the project.

Chapman said Friday, replying to reporters' questions, that he didn't want to send the report to Congress until it appears that the project will have "at least a chance" of passage.

SWITCH

Another factor which might delay consideration of the Upper Colorado bill is President Truman's recent proposal to put some of the Army Engineers' work under the Interior Department's supervision.

The Senate Interior Committee, which has the bill, may not want to act until the President's proposal is disposed of.

The bill would authorize Reclamation Bureau engineers to harness the wild Upper Colorado and its tributaries, including the Green, Gunnison, San Juan, Duchesne, Yampa and Whie Rivers—also wild.

Their drainage covers 110,000 square miles, an area larger than New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania combined.

Porposed are power dams costing an estimated 715 million dollars and irrigation projects costing 290 million.

Four Killed By Race Car

DAYTON, O. (AP) — A racing car spun crazily out of control into the Dayton Speedway grandstand Sunday.

When it came to rest, four persons were dead—including the driver, Gordon Reid, 29, of Burbank, Calif.—and at least 50 spectators were hurt.

It was one of the worst accidents on American tracks since 1929, when four persons were killed and 20 hurt at Winchester, Ind.

The crash lopped off Reid's head. It also decapitated Mrs. Ruby Ellen Shaffer, 43, of Springfield. The other victims were Robert Thatcher, 22, a track guard, and Gene Lawson, 19, of Dayton.

Some among the 14,000 attending the opening AAA sprint car program at the Speedway had narrow escapes.

Reid had planned to drive the car in the 500 mile speed classic at Indianapolis May 30. He had been driving since the end of World War II, mostly in midget and "hot rod" competition.

The accident happened during the first trial heat. Reid's racer went out of control near the tpo of a bank for a turn. It spun through a retaining wall, shot through a standing-room crowd, ploughed into a paint barrel, and hit the grandstand.

Track officials said they did not think Reid's car had mechanical trouble, but they gave no immediate explanation for the crash.

The races resumed 90 minutes later. Joey James of Van Nuys, Calif., won.

Girl Scout Dies In Falls Plunge

OROVILLE, Calif. (AP) — A 15-year-old Girl Scout, playing near the head of one of America's highest waterfalls, slipped into the river and was swept to death over 640 foot Sutter Falls Sunday.

She was Beverly Fricke, member of a Sacramento Girl Scout troop weekending with adults on a tributary of the Feather River.

Files Show British Had Veto Power Over A-Bomb

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Britain held veto power over American use of the atomic bomb for several years during and after World War II, but lost in the ending of the atomic partnership of the United States, Britain and Canada.

In proposing to create a new partnership a few years ago, President Truman told Congressional leaders in secrecy that he wanted to share all U. S. atomic weapon secrets with Britain and Canada. Republican leaders strongly objected.

This information bearing on a major phase of American atomic policy development has been brought to light with the release of "The Private Papers of Sen. Vandenberg," a volume of personal and official records from the files of the late Republican foreign affairs leader in the Senate.

The 599-page book, edited by the senator's son and long-time assistant, Arthur H. Vandenberg Jr., covers the whole range of American foreign policy from Pearl Harbor to the time of the senator's death one year ago.

The perspective is that of a man who first went through a personal revolution from "isolationism" to "internationalism" and then, beginning about the time of the San Francisco U. N. conference, played a vital role in the shaping of many great decisions.

Although he was a Republican — or because he was a Republican devoted to bipartisan support of foreign policy — Vandenberg advised the Truman administration on foreign affairs repeatedly and even shared in some of its secrets at election campaign time.

In 1948, a critical period for the President at home and abroad, Vandenberg and Sen. Connally (D-Tex.), were summoned secretly to the White House one evening to learn that President Truman was greatly disturbed about the Russian blockade of Berlin and was thinking about telephoning directly to Premier Stalin "to see what he could do with him."

ANXIOUS

Vandenberg noted in his diary that the President appeared" anxious to do something" for peace and also seemed to be aware that his election campaign (which at the time most people thought was a lost cause) "sadly needed a shot in the arm."

It was not until later that Vandenberg learned, from the newspapers, that Truman had contemplated sending Chief Justice Fred Vinson on a peace mission to Moscow an had given up the idea when Gen. Marshall, then secretary of state, opposed it.

The idea of a telephone call, which actually never came off as far as the record shows, then was judged by Vandenberg to have been a substitute for the discarded Vinson mission.

Sabres Claim Seven MIGs

SEOUL Korea (AP) — U.S. Sabre jet pilots Monday shot down seven and damaged six Communist MIG jets, the Fifth Air Force announced.

The Air Force said the Russian-made jets were bagged in three separate aerial duels involving 100 Red planes.

The day's biggest fight produced America's 11th jet ace. — Capt. Robert J. Love, San Bernardino, Calif. He shot down two MIGs in a battle involving 2 Sabres and 50 MIGs, the Air Force said.

Three other MIGs were shot down—three were damaged and one of the Reds new fast type 15 jets was hit in this scrap. It raged 30 minutes from 40,000 feet down to tree top level.

Fighting on the 155-mile ground front was spradic and generally light.

The heaviest action Sunday was east of Kumsong on the central front. A U.N. patrol battled hand-to-hand with a strongly entrenched Communist company for 10 minutes. Allied troops used their fists and rifle butts against the Reds.

The Allied raiders then withdrew and fought the Reds for four hours with rifles.

Carrier-based U.S. Navy planes cut Communist rail lines in 139 places along the 165-mile coastal stretch between Wonsan and Songjin.

The U.S. Battleship Iowa sealed off four rail tunnels near Songjin with her 16-inch guns.

TRUMAN CRUISES

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Truman was cruising down the Potomac River in the Yacht Williamsburg Saturday.

Infection Stops Ike's Trip

Headquarters Allied Powers (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower has called off his projected trip to Scandinavia because of a throat infection, a SHAPE spokesman said Saturday.

His brief announcement said the Supreme Allied Commander is running a temperature but his condition is not serious.

Eisenhower was scheduled to leave for Oslo Sunday then continue to Copenhagen Tuesday. He was to wind up his farewell tour of the Northern countries with a stopover in The Hague.

Queen Plans For Birthday

LONDON (AP)— Elizabeth II celebrates her first birthday as Queen Monday and will keep a 10-year-old promise most folks thought she'd forgotten.

This birthday — Elizabeth's 26th —will be private and quiet like those of her beloved father, King George VI. But its high point will be something papa would have liked—keeping her promise to inspect the grenadier guards.

Long before death struck the quick blow that swept Elizabeth to the throne she once confided:

"If ever I am Queen the grenadiers will be the first of my soldiers I shall inspect."

She was just 16.

The battle-tough officers smiled deferentially at the somewhat weedy little miss, then forgot about it.

But Elizabeth didn't forget.

She'll hold her first troop inspection as sovereign at Windsor Monday. And it will be the grenadiers, as promised.

Sunday will be Elizabeth's private birthday, spent at Windsor. Her official birthday will be celebrated June 5.

Station Won't Be Shifted

WASHINGTON (AP) — The unused Bandon, Ore., Coast Guard Station won't be moved to Willapa Bay after all, Rep. Ellsworth (R-Ore) said Saturday.

Vice Admiral Merlin O'Neill, Coast Guard commandant, advised him that the station will be kept in a boarded up status "in orer to fulfill potential mobilization requirements of the Coast Guard."

"Such a course will also permit reactivation of the unit for life-saving purposes should a compelling requirement for reactivation of the station be determined within the next few years," he quoted the admiral.

Ellsworth recently protested plans to move the Bandon building to Willapa Bay in Washington on grounds that population growth in the area makes eventual reactivation of the Oregon unit "almost a certainty."

"Tomove the building away and then build another one would be a waste of money," the congressman declared.

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You can rent a lovely new spinet piano from the Louis R. Mann Piano Company, 120 N. 7th, at a low monthly rate. After a reasonable time you can, if you wish, change from rent to purchase agreement. The rent already paid is all credited to your purchase account and no other down payment is necessary. The monthly payments can be little higher than rent. Or, if you prefer, you can continue to rent.

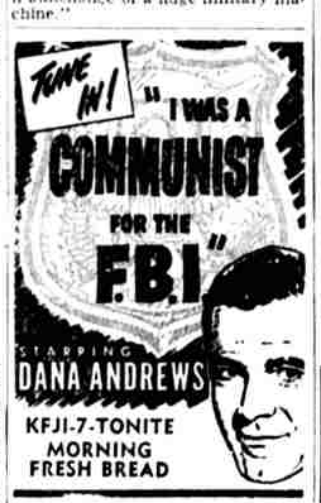
News Strike Peace Sought

SEATTLE (AP) — Harold R. Coon, federal conciliator called into the seven-day Tacoma News-Tribune pressmen's union strike, said Saturday he plans exploratory work before attempting to arrange a joint meeting of the union and the newspaper management.

The business agent of the striking AFL-union, Joe LaMontagne, announced Friday the union had asked the aid of the federal mediation and conciliation service.

The pressmen struck last Saturday, asking $3.10 an hour. The company offered $2.95, compared with the scale of $2.857. The city has been without a home - published newspaper.

KFJI-8:30 p.m.
★ HOLLYWOOD PLAYHOUSE ★



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