

# FUSION BILL SOURS NAVY; ARMY HAPPY

Plan to Merge Armed Forces Pleases War Secretary But Admirals Preserve Icy and Eloquent Silence.

WASHINGTON, April 10 (U. P.).—Army-navy rivalry broke out again today over a bill to merge the armed forces under a single department of common defense.

The measure, written by a senate military affairs subcommittee, was hailed by Secretary of War Robert F. Patterson as a "comprehensive security program" that was "of vital importance to the country."

The generals were jubilant, recognizing the bill as a full-fledged army victory.

At the navy department, where a wedding with the army has always been bitterly opposed, the admirals indicated their opposition to the subcommittee's bill with icy but eloquent silence.

In winter-long public hearings, the navy fought the principal merger proposals so bitterly that President Truman finally had to put on a "gag" by announcing that merger was administration policy.

"Gag" Still Effective

The "gag" still was effective today, but the senate naval affairs committee was quick to reflect the navy's alarm.

The committee "invited" the military subcommittee to explain its proposal to place the army, navy and air force on an equal status under a single cabinet officer.

The subcommittee was expected to do the explaining tomorrow. After that, the naval committee will decide whether to take any action.

Committee Chairman David I. Walsh (D. Mass.) of the naval committee has threatened to hold his own hearings if the military committee's bill failed to satisfy the navy.

This would delay senate consideration of the measure for months.

Even without an additional inquiry, the outlook for the merger bill was so stormy that Chairman Elbert D. Thomas (D. Utah) of the military committee predicted it could not pass congress at this session.

At the public hearings, navy witnesses objected particularly to any proposal to eliminate the secretary of the navy from the cabinet. This the new bill would do.

New Secretary Supreme

Present duties of the secretaries of war and navy would be assumed by the new secretary of common defense. He would have under him—below cabinet rank—secretaries for the navy, army and air force.

These civilian jobs would guarantee civilian control over the military—a factor which the subcommittee considered fundamental to any reorganization.

The bill would create a chief of staff of common defense—an overall commander of the armed forces, subject only to the President and the civilian secretary of common defense.

This top commander could be appointed by the President from any branch of the armed forces, but navy witnesses constantly complained that it probably would be an army man.

Incorporate Navy Ideas

The bill, however, does incorporate some ideas heavily backed by the navy. These included:

ONE: A national resources board composed of heads of appropriate government agencies to plan conservation and efficient use of America's critical resources.

TWO: A council of common defense composed of the secretary of state, secretary of common defense and chairman of the resources board. This group would help coordinate the nation's foreign policies with the country's ability and willingness to use armed force.

THREE: Continuation of the joint chiefs of staff as an advisory group composed of the chief of staff of common defense, and the respective commanders of the land, sea and air forces.

FOUR: A central intelligence agency to co-ordinate the gathering and interchange of intelligence information among all military and civilian agencies.

## 11 New State Troopers Are Sworn In Here



Eleven new state troopers were sworn in today at the statehouse. They are (left to right): Charles A. Ferrell, Nelson E. Weinbrenner, Lexie W. Stalup, George W. Allen, Myrel D. Massey, William P. Booth, Wayne O. Tolbert, Samuel L. Burch, Paul D. Christian Jr., Stanley W. Guth and Vernis N. Purcell. Thomas C. Williams (right) delivered the oath.

### Lucky? Just Ask This Mr. Anderson

CHICAGO, April 10 (U. P.).—James Anderson, 29, was working on a 15th-floor scaffolding on the Dearborn hotel. He lost his grip and fell.

A rope hung down the side of the building, but Mr. Anderson's falling body was at least four feet away. His partner, Phil Walsch, 53, swung the rope toward the falling man.

By what Mr. Walsch called "a

million to one chance," the rope

looped about Mr. Anderson's body

as he hurtled past the eighth

floor.

Mr. Anderson slid down the

rope to the third floor. But there

he lost his grip and tumbled to

the ground.

Attendants at St. Luke's hos-

pital said today that Mr. Ander-

son's only injury was a wrenched

back.

### BATHROOM 'PEEPER' JUST A NOSY POOCH

READING, Pa. (U. P.).—Police investigated an apartment house uproar started when a woman reported there was a man outside her bathroom window.

Quick capture came for the peeping annoyance—a large dog who

climbed a fire escape, placed his

paws on the window sill and

pushed his face against the frosted

glass window.

## IDENTIFY GUN IN RAEHER KILLING

Ballistics Test Cited at Stephenson Trial.

A police criminologist identified a .38 caliber revolver today as the one used in the slaying last Sept. 12 of William Edward Raeber, East side grocer.

Describing technical ballistics tests that occasionally puzzled the criminal court jury, Lt. Howard Hunter of the police department declared there was no doubt in his mind the gun was the murder

weapon.

It was found in possession of Eddie Stephenson, 36-year-old former convict charged with first degree murder in the case at the time of his arrest two weeks after the grocer was slain in a daylight robbery.

Stephenson, through his attorneys, M. Wilson Beane and Henry Wilson, has admitted the weapon never left his possession from the

## Russia and Hungary Sign New Pact on Oil, Bauxite

LONDON, April 10 (U. P.).—A dispatch from Budapest disclosed today, coincident with Hungarian Premier Ferenc Nagy's visit to Moscow, that Russia and Hungary have signed a bauxite and oil agreement.

The new Soviet-Hungarian agreement was part of a Russian program to revise, and in some cases ease, its reparations arrangements with the defeated Balkan countries preliminary to the Big Four foreign ministers conference in Paris on April 25.

Details of the oil agreement, involving American oil wells in Hungary, were not reported. It was signed in Budapest Monday night.

Father Stephen Balogh, under-secretary to the prime minister, told the United Press, "the agreement does not hurt United States interests as regards exploitation of oil plants that are American property."

Mr. Balogh said that American rights would be respected in the future. He said that the Hungarian government would take 15 per cent of the oil products to use as reparations payments for one year, but the American firms would be able to dispose of the rest of the products.

Immediate clarification was lacking as to whether the American concerns could operate their own wells, or whether the wells would be operated by the Russians.

## OPA DISPUTES TRANSIT PLEA

Statement on Trolley Firm's Income Challenged.

OPA today attacked one of the main pillars of the Indianapolis Railways, Inc., petition for increased fares by challenging the company's contention that it faces future revenue losses because of decreasing post-war passenger loads.

Cross-examination of company witnesses opened yesterday before the public service commission on the company's emergency plea that fares be hiked in order to purchase new equipment.

Whether Indianapolis trolley and bus riders will continue to get four tokens for a quarter or be cut to three tokens for a quarter, depends upon the outcome of this hearing.

Trolley Official Questioned

Today, OPA's senior public utility attorney, Julius I. Rudolph Jr., of Washington, D. C., questioned company secretary-treasurer, L. T. Hixson.

The OPA utilities expert challenged the firm's figures, anticipating a sharp decrease in passengers during the next three years.

On cross-examination by Mr. Rudolph, Mr. Hixson indicated that an interstate commerce commission survey, on which the company has based its contention of decreased passengers, was not conclusive.

The company witness admitted that his own contention that methods used in making the I. C. C. survey had proved satisfactory in the past, was a matter of hearsay.

The company is basing its entire contention that the number of passengers will decrease in the next three years on this survey.

Other Angles Studied

Mr. Rudolph was able to show that when token rates are increased, the number of passengers who buy tokens drops. He contended that any increase in token rates would result in a shifting of token buyers to cash fares and that this would give the firm more of an increase than would be apparent in a simple increase in token rates.

The OPA attorney asked the witness bluntly whether he thought an emergency actually exists for a rate increase.

"I do," Mr. Hixson replied quickly. "Despite the fact that the company was doing pretty well on the basis of its 1945 operating statement?" the attorney asked.

Mr. Hixson explained that part of the increased revenue in 1945 was the result of the three-months' trial increase the company was granted.

### Local Briefs

Mrs. Maude Moudy, retired principal of School 75, reported to police today the theft of two diamond rings from her apartment at 2144 College ave., valued at more than \$2000.

The Victory club will sponsor a card party at the Food Craft shop at 1 p. m. tomorrow. Mrs. Milton Benner is chairman.

Returned servicemen and women will be honored at a dinner at 6:30 tonight in the Edwin Ray Methodist church. E. O. Sneath, active layman in Indiana Methodism, will give the address. The dinner is sponsored by the congregation and the woman's society of Christian service.

## New LIQUID 'LIPSTICK'

CAN'T BREATHE  
WON'T RUB OFF!  
GIVES EXCITING COLOR



Liquid Liptone

Now comes a sweetly fragrant liquid utterly devoid of oil or grease, to deck your lips with the first truly smear-less, and the only truly lasting color they have ever had. It's simply marvelous. Apply before dinner and you'll discover at dawn that your lips have lost none of the rich redness and bewitching luster this heavenly liquid instantly gives them.

Toiletries—Street Floor

L. S. AYRES & CO.

### Van Raalte Gloves

1.00 and 1.50

Lovely gloves in short and

long lengths to lend a grace

note to your every costume! Of

"Amersuede", a rayon fabric.

Gloves, Street Floor

### Blouses by Ann Phillips

3.00 and 5.00

Their soft, feminine charm really

works wonders for your Spring suits!

Pastel colors in rayon crepe—3.00

Black rayon sheer—5.00

Neckwear, Street Floor



### Rayon Faille Handbags

Each 3.00\*

Very Pretty Accessories for

Spring...and each a very pretty

value at 3.00\*!

\*plus 20% tax

Handbags, Street Floor



### "Spring Showers" Earrings

1.00\* and 2.00\*

We've caught a shower of "raindrops"

together to make the most clever

earrings you'll see this Spring!

Aluminum—1.00\*. Simulated pearls—2.00\*

\*plus 20% tax

Costume Jewelry, Street Floor

L. S. Ayres & Co.

STORE HOURS DAILY, 9:45 to 5:15