

# ADVENTUROUS AMERICANS

By Elmo Scott Watson

## Great Lakes Raider

**D**URING the Civil war David H. Ross, an 18-year-old cadet in the Georgia guards, was captured and sent to a Union prison camp on Lake Erie. He escaped and made his way to Canada, reporting to Capt. John Yeates Beall, a Confederate agent.

Ross joined Beall in a plan to take possession of the Philo Parsons, a lake steamer, and with it capture the Michigan, a Union warship, use that to attack Ft. Johnson at Sandusky and release 1,000 Confederates there.

On the morning of September 19, 1864, the Philo Parsons stopped at Sandwich, Ont., to take on a party of 20 men. At Malden, a few miles farther, 20 more came aboard. After several more stops, the crew and the other passengers found themselves looking into the muzzles of pistols.

The captain relinquished command and Beall took over with Ross as first mate. And then the S. S. Island Queen with 170 Federal soldiers aboard, pulled alongside. No one knows why the soldiers permitted it, but after firing a few shots, Beall and Ross leaped aboard with a handful of men and captured the crew which was too astonished to resist.

They sailed on with their 170 Union soldiers in tow, but the S. S. Michigan commander was ready for them. Seeing the ship coming toward them, the Philo Parsons turned about and fled, docking in the Detroit river where the raiders fled to safety.

Ross, the 18-year-old cadet, who had been first mate on the wild voyage, managed to get to Wilmington, N. C., where he was made a captain in the secret service. General Grant, during his second presidential administration, issued a pardon relieving Ross of the charges of piracy.

## Rebel Against Rebellion

**A**T THE outbreak of the Civil war a band of about 100 citizens of Jones county, Mississippi, refused to identify themselves with the Confederacy. Under the leadership of one Newt Knight, they took refuge in Leaf River swamp where they defied all efforts to make them fight under the Stars and Bars.

By 1864 they had complete control of the county and out of that fact grew the story that this "rebellion within a rebellion" resulted in forming a "Republic of Jones" with Knight as its head. Mississippians declare, however, that there is no official record of any such "republic" ever having been launched and they refer to these "seceders from secession" as the "Newt Knight band of deserters."

When the war was over and Confederate army veterans returned, they induced the legislature to change the name of the county from "Jones" to "Davis," because they said the conduct of Knight had made its name "a badge of ignominy and a term of reproach."

Knight always denied that he was a deserter but tried to get a pension from the federal government. He was unsuccessful because the records at Washington failed to show his name enrolled in the Union army. However, there was some compensation for him in the fact that until his death in 1923, he was widely known as the "founder of the Republic of Jones."

## 20 Thrill-Packed Years

**W**HEN Lewis Littlepage of Fredericksburg, Va., went to Spain as an attaché to the American embassy, he was only 18 but already famous as a poet. Next he served in the Spanish and French armies and became a friend of Lafayette.

Made a chevalier of France, he returned to America to fight in the Revolution but was thwarted in that ambition. In 1786 he accompanied the young Polish patriot, Kosciusko, to Warsaw where King Stanislaus made him a baron at the age of 24! He was sent to make a treaty with Empress Catherine of Russia, who became very fond of him.

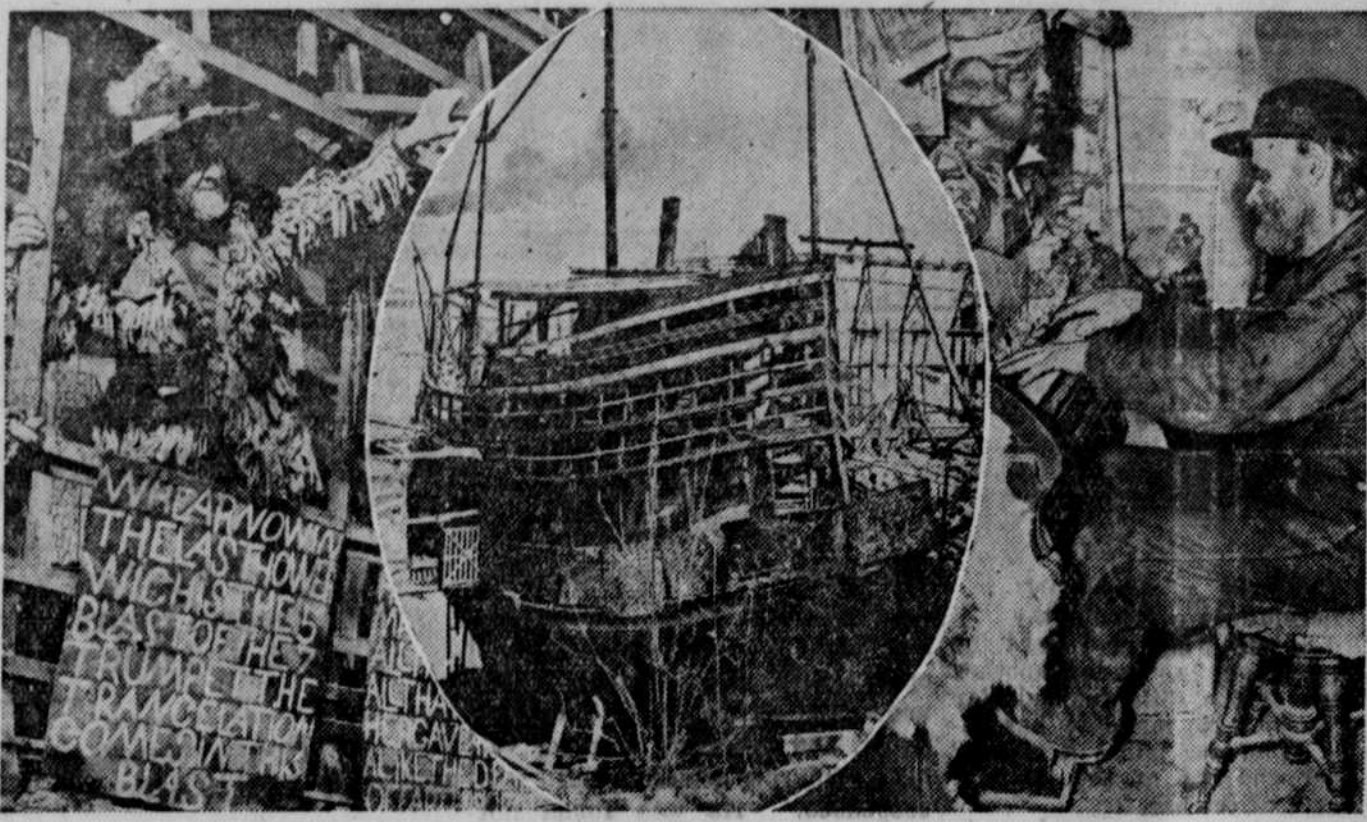
When the war between Russia and Turkey started, she commissioned him a major-general in her army and he later served under the admiral of her fleet, John Paul Jones. He remained at the Russian court until 1791, then returned to Warsaw where he was made a major-general in the Polish army.

When the Polish rebellion against Russia failed, Kosciusko and Littlepage went to Paris to try to rescue their friend, Lafayette, imprisoned during the Reign of Terror. They failed and Kosciusko returned to Warsaw to try again to win freedom for Poland. Littlepage joined him and was wounded in the battle in which Kosciusko fell.

Littlepage then returned to America and retired to his home in Fredericksburg where he was later visited by his old friend, Lafayette. He was only 38 when he died in 1801 but into that short span of years he had packed a whole lifetime of danger and thrills.

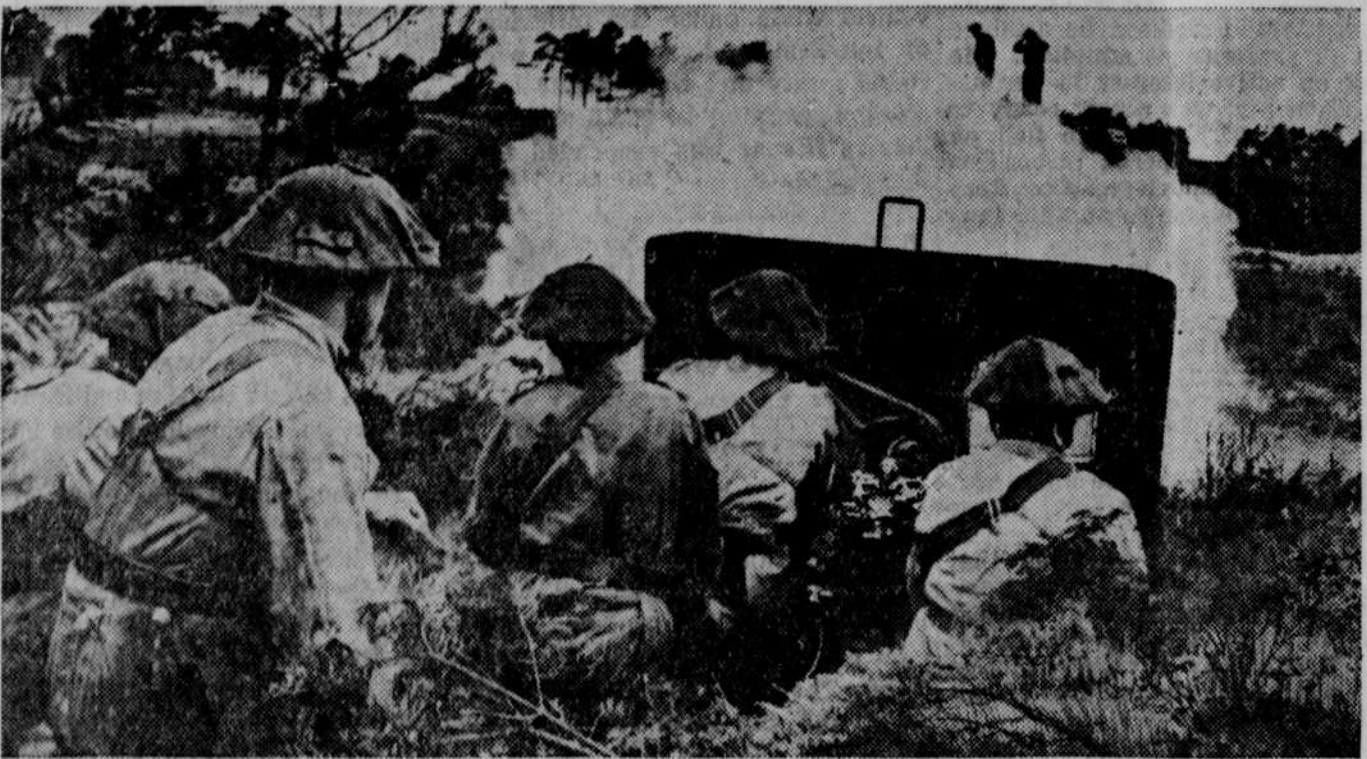
© Western Newspaper Union.

## Another Deluge? It Won't Bother Ark Owner



One of the famous landmarks at Olympia, Washington's state capital, is the craft known as "Noah's Ark No. 2," which serves as the home of William Greenwood, who built it. Greenwood is convinced that the end of the world is coming, and is prepared for a second deluge. At the left, Greenwood in one of his many "suits," looking like a combination of Buffalo Bill and Bojangles of Harlem. Right: The ark owner dreams up a few hot licks on a rather dilapidated organ in his homemade boat. It is only one of the "19 musics," as he calls them, that he can play.

## British Army Shows Strength in Mimic Warfare



An anti-tank gun crew in action during recent exercises of the tank division at Aldershot, England, which were witnessed by many high-ranking army commanders. The exercises were part of mimic warfare games held recently to gauge army strength and to demonstrate preparedness. Other branches of the army demonstrated their might before British dignitaries.

## Mailman May Ask Bird-Housing Project



Tony Plummer, Newport-Balboa, Calif., mailman, peruses his postal guide for the answer to a very baffling question. In a mailbox on his route a mother linnet is rearing four babies. Postal regulations specify that rural carriers must, during the winter, carry ample provisions to feed birds on their routes. But the rules say nothing about housing. Tony has been forced to ring the doorbell and deliver the mail in person, but is thinking of applying for a federal housing project for the youngsters.

## Darkhorse Captures First Duck Derby



These Arcadia, Calif., ducks, under the supervision of their attractive trainers, were part of a large field of entries at the first annual duck race at Santa Anita racetrack recently. Members of this feathered quartet were heavy favorites when they waddled to the post, but none of them finished in the money.

## HERO HONORED



The Distinguished service medal was presented recently to Lieut. Arthur F. Anders, right, hero of the bombing of the U. S. gunboat Panay on the Yangtze river in China last year. The award was made by Vice Admiral John W. Greenslade, commander of U. S. battleships.

## FLAYS INTOLERANCE



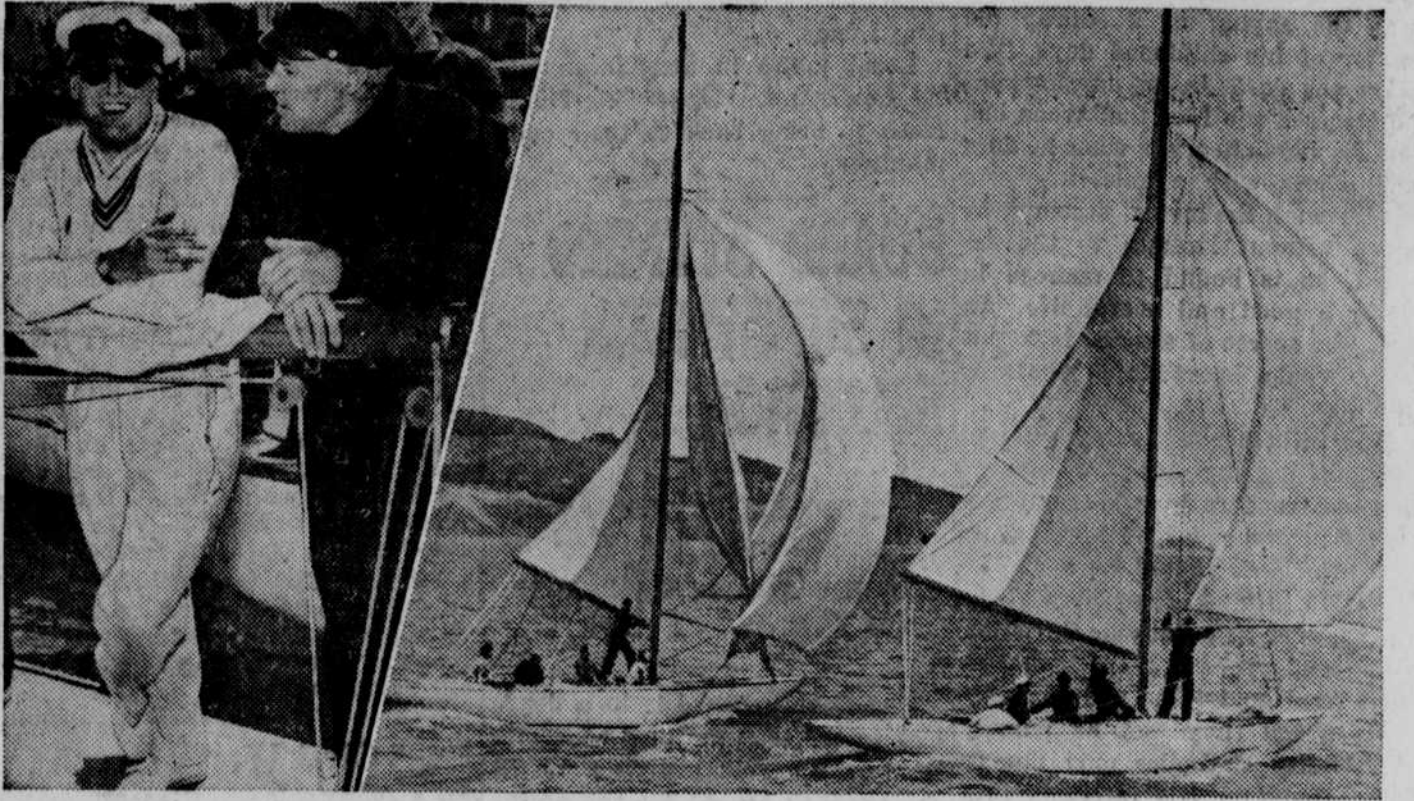
Chairman John D. M. Hamilton, of the Republican national committee, pictured as he appeared recently before the house committee on un-American activities where he denounced religious and racial intolerance. He denied knowledge of operations of alleged sponsors of an anti-racial propaganda campaign in this country.

## Youth Gets Close-Up View of England's Rulers



An admirer of the royal couple made sure his little son would get a view of King George and Queen Elizabeth as they drove through the streets of Ottawa in an open carriage. He broke through the ever-present guard and lifted the lad carriage-high so he might better see the empire's rulers. Thousands of wildly cheering citizens acclaimed the king and queen wherever they visited. This is the first time England's monarchs have visited either Canada or the United States.

## Crown Prince Olav Close Second in Yacht Race



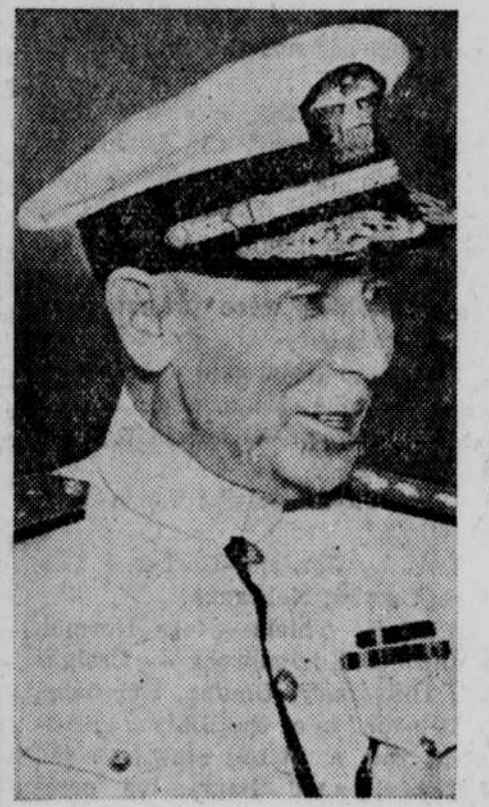
Completely democratic, Crown Prince Olav of Norway, left, chats with Captain Stanley Barrows following a 10 1/2-mile yacht race in San Francisco bay. Prince Olav, in a borrowed boat and over a strange course, skippered his boat to second place behind Captain Barrows. Right: A close race throughout, the prince was slightly in the lead when this picture was taken.

## Puzzle: Find Your Congressman



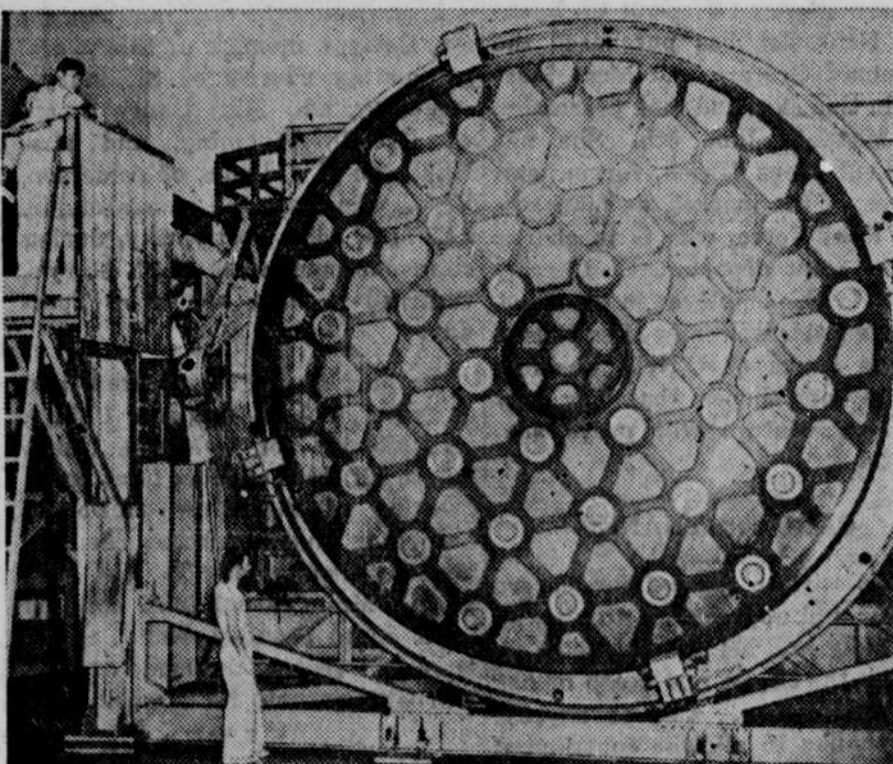
Members of congress are typical New York World's fair-goers if this picture of more than 100 representatives and their families is evidence. They held a "special session" in a fair stadium to goggle at the daredevil demonstrations of Jimmie Lynch and his automobile death-dodgers. The camera wielding congressman at the left is not reporting for the Congressional Record.

## RESCUE CHIEF



Admiral C. W. Cole, commandant of the Portsmouth, N. H., navy yard, ordered the submarine Sculpin to try to make the first contact with the submerged Squalus when it went down with 62 men off White Island on the New Hampshire coast. The Sculpin discovered a red smoke distress signal on the water's surface.

## First Close-Up Picture of Giant Mirror



For the first time since work started on the 200-inch mirror for the giant Mount Palomar telescope, a photographer gained admission to the lens room at the California Institute of Technology and obtained this striking "close-up" of the huge mirror. Center of the mirror shows a 40 1/2-inch hole through the glass, plugged temporarily for polishing convenience, through which the gathered light may be reflected from an auxiliary mirror to the Cassegrain focus beneath the 200-inch mirror.

## CONSUMER'S VIEWPOINT



The laywoman's point of view was expressed to the national economic committee in Washington recently by Mrs. Alice S. Beleser, Chicago housewife, who testified regarding kinds of advertising which would best suit the interests of consumers.