

# Daughter Of Mine

By R. Louise Emery

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XXI

Della sat down and folded her hands in her lap. "You and your damned Communist ideas," she said. Everything but the case was in Della's hands. Cecily was in the room around her. "You're sorry," she said, beginning to cry. "I'm not," Della said. "I'm not sorry. I'm just shocked over her answer. Cecily choked over her answer. The effort was forgiveness. The room blurred for Mrs. Robert. Her hand on my elbow was firm. "I'll better get home," he said. I wanted to scream and beat my head against the wall, but I felt I must do my duty. No one said anything to us as we left. It was anti-climax to find Val waiting for us at home. We had to give him a key just for such a thing. He rose to go to his room and he was not at all the man I had pictured him. He did not look harassed and defeated; he was buoyant and confident. "Well, if it isn't our ninety-day wonder that didn't win," Robert said. "Sit down, boy, and let me wash you over your head. What happened?" "You were right, Val. I'm not Air Force material. A month before exams that old woman began nagging at me. I couldn't study for the thing. It was so insistent. So I just quit studying and went back to work on it. You can't do that and pass exams, I know." "Good," Robert commented. "Val gestured sheepishly toward the door. "I thought I might see a light in Cecily's house—she keeps late hours—" "Oh—" For the first time in his life Robert had to turn to me for help in a situation beyond him. "Cecily," I said bitterly, "has announced her engagement to Steve." "The light died in Val's eyes. "She promised—" Val began in a thin breath, and then he stopped. "We couldn't both have her," he said. "Well, I guess I'll go on my own." "I'll walk with you," Robert said. I knew that he would not do whatever he felt was necessary about the evening. I was afraid to trust my voice. I went quickly to my room with my crying goodnight and sat there in the dark, crying silently, wanting Corinna and yet feeling a barrier between us that I dared not try to assail. Presently the doorbell rang. Robert finding himself a key, I thought. But Cecily appeared at my door. "Cecily wants to see me." I turned up my heart banging. "Tell her to come in now, Cecily!" She came, a fur coat thrown over her dinner dress. The room was in merciful darkness except

## PEPPER WILLING TO SEEK TRUMAN'S PLACE IF WANTED

BY JOHN L. STEELE

Washington, Aug. 14—(UP)—The deep split between conservative and liberal Democrats was spotlighted today with a challenge to President Truman's party leadership from left-wing Sen. Claude Pepper, D. Fla.—who is willing to accept the presidential nomination himself.

Most political observers felt that Pepper's challenge presented no serious hurdle to Mr. Truman's re-nomination in 1948, which generally is considered to be as certain as anything in politics.

However, it appeared likely to put a further strain on the uneasy coalition between Democratic southern conservatives and the more liberal followers of such men as Pepper and Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace. And any break-up of this coalition would hurt Mr. Truman's chances for re-nomination. Pepper, however, said he would support Mr. Truman if the president should be re-nominated.

In a press conference called to discuss foreign issues, a barrage of questions from reporters prompted Pepper to fire his 1948 presidential shots and bid for left-wing support.

### Truman's Failure

Cautiously referring to what he considered to be repeated administration failure to cope with labor and foreign policy problems, Pepper urged that his party move further toward the left and declared that he would not "run away" from either a presidential or vice-presidential nomination.

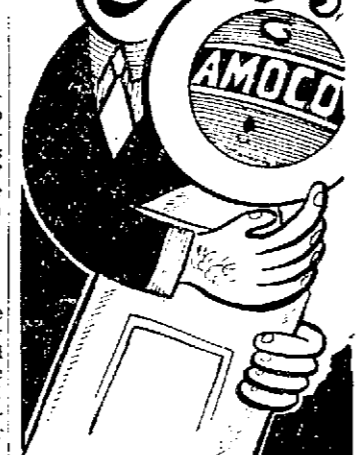
Responding to reporters' questions, Pepper declared that while he would not actively seek a place on the national ticket, neither would he dodge an opportunity to make the race. Furthermore, he asserted that Wallace would be an acceptable running mate "if the lightning should strike."

Asked bluntly if he would rather see Wallace in the White House than Mr. Truman, Pepper candidly replied: "Yes, I would rather have Wallace."

Regarding labor, Pepper declared that Mr. Truman's policy had fallen short in adjusting work-management relations to post-war problems. Congress, too, came

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in for criticism as the Florida senator expressed regret that Mr. Truman's 21-point domestic legislative program had not been enacted.

### Foed Of Left And Right

Asked if he would support Mr. Truman for re-nomination, Pepper replied that he would await convention time and "see what the situation is then." Pepper declared that the Democratic leadership must strengthen "the liberal element within the party."

This brought into the open a long-standing feud between the left wing and right wing.

A strong southern bloc led by Sen. Harry F. Byrd, D. Va., has castigated CIO-PAC efforts to "purge" the party of conservative elements.

On the other hand, the "pro-labor" wing has broken sharply with Mr. Truman over his recommendations for fact-finding in labor disputes and drafting of workers striking vital industries, and his handling of the CIO strikes in the steel and automobile industries. This left-wing element admittedly would find readily acceptable a Pepper-Wallace, or Wallace-Pepper ticket.

Wallace has confided to friends that he is exerting his efforts in a nation-wide speaking campaign to strengthen liberal elements within the party, and has professed little expectation that the spotlight again may turn to him for national office.

Pepper made clear that he would

make "no conscious or organized effort" to gain the nomination for himself, but almost in the same breath admitted that he would push a campaign in congress to place his party more strongly behind a liberal domestic program. He added that if the nominating convention were to be held this summer he would expect Mr. Truman's "overwhelming" re-nomination, and in that event would back him for a second term.

## HITLER STOOGES AND FOUR ASSISTANTS EXECUTED BY FRENCH

Strasbourg, Aug. 14—(UP)—Robert Wagner, former Nazi Gauleiter of Alsace, and three of his assistants were executed by a French firing squad today for war crimes.

The four men were executed in the courtyard of Fort Ney near Strasbourg at 5 a.m. They were given death sentences by a French military tribunal last May.

Wagner shouted in German "Long live greater Germany! Long live Adolf Hitler! Long live National Socialism!" just before he died.

The four men were bound to execution stakes and refused to

have their eyes bandaged. They all protested their innocence.

Wagner's three assistants, named Buch, Schuppel and Gaebecke, attended religious services by a Protestant military chaplain before they were marched to the stake. The gauleiter refused to do so. Then they were given a drink of cognac and fruit cigarettes.

Wagner said at the stake, "We have not been judged by men qualified to judge our mission. Down with French vengeance. Long live German Alsace!"

The gauleiter was one of Hitler's most fervent supporters.

### PVT. SIKORA PASSES PARACHUTIST TESTS

Pvt. Leonard J. Sikora, son of John Sikora of 5 Market street, Dunkirk, is now a parachutist in the U. S. Army. His father has received his son's certificate from Sendai, Japan. It reads as follows:

"This is to certify that Leonard J. Sikora, Pvt. 12113278, 138th Parachute Infantry, 11th Airborne Division, has satisfactorily completed the prescribed course in parachute ground training and has made the required number of parachute jumps from a plane in flight.

He is, therefore, rated from this date 8 July 1946 as a qualified parachutist. Harold Floy, CWO, U.S.A., by command of Major General Swing, assistant adjutant general."

## SWEDEN DECLARES WAR ON ROCKETS; THREE FLIERS KILLED

Stockholm, Aug. 14—(UP)—Sweden declared an open season on unidentified rockets today as three airmen were reported killed in a head-on crash with one of the missiles.

Government authorities prepared a nationwide "rocket-hunting" program and alerted all military units, air bases and radar stations to be on the lookout for the cigar-shaped "ghost bombs."

The newspaper Aftonbladet quoted "investigators" as reporting that three fliers were killed yesterday when their military reconnaissance plane crashed into a rocket near Vaggeryd, in southern Sweden. The dispatch said radio contact with the plane was broken just before the crash and that the front of the ship was "completely crushed" by the impact.

Witnesses have reported seeing the rockets change their course in mid-air and one informed source said it was known that they were radio-controlled.

One reliable source said the Swedish defense staff had learned

that some of the rockets cruised in a wide semi-circle over southern Sweden. He said it was believed the missiles possibly proceeded over northern Finland, towards the Russian Kola peninsula.

Earlier reports said most of the bombs went from south to north, but one "witness" reported sighting an opposite flight.

Investigators have indicated that the rockets destroy themselves after falling. No fragments have been found, despite the large number of missiles reportedly seen in flight.

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