

HENRIK SIENKIEWICZ:

Z ognjem in mečem

Trupe so se zbrale pred nadškofovo palačo — sprva niso hoteli verjeti. Vojaki so trdili, če je knez odšel, je nedvomno odšel na čelu kakega velikega odreda, da bi si ogledal okolic. Pokazalo se je (so pravili), da so pribežniki trosili neresnična poročila, napovedujoča vsak hip Hmielnickega in Tatarje, ker od 26. septembra je že minulo deset dni, a sovražnika ni bilo še videti. Knez se je hotel gotovo osebno prepričati o nevarnosti in se gotovo povrne, ko poizve, koliko je verjeti tem novicam. Sicer pa je ostavil nekoliko regimentov in vse to gotovo za obrano. Tako je bilo tudi v resnici. Vse je bilo natanko razporejeno, mesta so bila odkazana, topovi nastavljeni na nasipih. Zvečer je prišel ritmojster Čihocki na čelu petdestih dragoncev. Radovedneži so ga takoj obstopili, toda on se ni hotel razgovoriti z množico — in se je napotil naravnost h generalu Arčiševskemu; abo sta pozvala Grozvajerja in po posvetovanju so odšli v posvetovalnico. Tam je Čihocki naznanil prestrašenim svetovalcem, da je knez odšel in se ne povrne več.

V prvem hipu so vsem omanile roke in nekatera drzna usta so izgovorila besedo: "Izdajca!" Toda takoj je vstal Arčiševki, stari vojskovodja, ki se je proslavil z velikimi čini v holandski službi, in začel govoriti vojakom in svetovalcem na ta način:

"Slišal sem kletvo besedo, ki je, dal Bog, ne bi bil izgovoril nihče, ker ga niti obup ne more opravičiti. Knez je odšel in se ne vrne — tako je! Toda kako pravico imate, da zahtevate od vojskovodje, na čegar rame nih sloni rešitev cele domovine, da bi branil edino vaše mesto? Kaj bi se zgodilo, če bi sovražnik tu obkrožil ostanek poljskih sil?

Tu ni živeža, ni orožja za tako veliko vojsko — torej to vam povem in mojemu prepričanju lahko verjamete, da čim večja sila bi bila tu zaprta, tem krajša bi bila obramba, ker bi nas glad prej premagal nego sovražnik. Več je Hmielnickemu z knežev o sebo kakor za vaše mesto; ko torej izve, da ga ni tu, da zbira nove vojske in da bi utegnil vam priti na pomoč, tem laže vam bo popustil in se tem laže pogodil z vami. Danes godrnjate, jaz pa vam povem, da je knez s tem, da je zapustil to mesto in da grozi Hmielnickemu zunaj, rešil vas in vaše otroke.

Držite se, branite se, zadržujte tega sovražnika nekaj časa, in lahko rešite mesto in si pridobite večno zaslugo za domovi, ker knez bo med tem časom zbral sile, oskrbel druge trdnjave, probudil omtrevlo Poljsko in se pospešil vam priti na pomoč. Izbral je edino pot rešitve, zakaj ako bi tu, istradan od gladi, padel z vojsko vred, tedaj ne bi nihče več zadrževal sovražnika, ki bi šel na Krakov, na Varšavo in zalil vso domovino, ne da bi naletel kje na kak odpor. Zatorej mesto godrnjanja hitite na nasipe braniti sebe, svoje otroke, mesto in Poljsko!"

"Na nasipe! Na nasipe!" je ponovilo nekoliko drznejših glasov. Grozvajer, energičen in drzen človek, se je odzval:

"Gospodje, tolaži me vaša odločnost in vedite, da knez ni odšel, ne pomislivši na obrambo. Vsak ve, kaj ima delati — in zgodilo se je, kar se je moralo storiti. Obrambo imam v ro-

kah jaz in se bom branil do smrti."

Nada je na navo stopila v žalostna srca. — Ko je Čihocki to videl, se je oglašil:

"Njegova knežja milost vam pošilja tudi naznanilo, da je sovražnik blizu. Poročnik Skrzetuski je s krilom zadel na dvatisoč broječi tatarski oddelek in ga strl. Ujetniki govore, da gre grozna sila za njimi!"

Ta vest je zbudila veliko o-splust; nastal je trenutek molčanja; vsa srca so začela hitreje utripati.

"Na na sipe!" je rekel Grozvajer.

"Na nasipe! Na nasipe!" so ponovili navzoči oficirji in meščani.

In vtem se je vzdignil zunaj za okni velik trušč. Slišal se je krik tisočerih glasov, ki so se zllili v en nerazumljiv šum, podoban šumu morskih valov — naenkrat so se s truščem odprle duri dvorane, nekoliko meščanov je planilo noter in, preden so imeli zborovalci čas vprašati, kaj se je zgodilo, so se razlegli kriki:

"Nebo žari! Nebo žari!"

"In beseda je meso postala!" je rekel Grozvajer, "na nasipe!"

Zbornica se je izpraznila — V kratkem je grom topov stresel mestno obzidje, naznajoč prebivalcem mesta, predmestij in okoliških vasic, da se bliža sovražnik.

Na vzhodu se je nebo rdečilo, dokler je moglo seči oko — rekel bi: ognjeno morje se bliža mestu.

Knez je v tem krenil v Zamost, strl spotoma oddelek, ki je o njem Čihocki omenil me-

ščanom, in se potem poprijel, da popravi to mogočno naravno trdnjavo, katero je v kratkem času tako utrdil, da je postala nedobljiva.

Skrzetuski z gospodom Longinom in delom prapora je ostal v trdnjavi pri gospodu Veiterju, valeskem starosti, knez pa je odšel v Varšavo, da bi od seje dobil novih sredstev za zbiranje novih vojsk in da bi se udeležil volitev, zakaj če bi bil izbran za kralja kraljevič Karol, bi se ojačila vojna stranka — knez bi dobil vrhovno poveljstvo vseh državnih sil in, moralo bi priti s Hmielnickim do odločilne bitke na življenje in smrt. Kraljevič Kazimir, darsi slaven hrabrosti in bojeviti gospod, je veljal po pravici za pristaša politike kanclerja Osolinskega, torej politike pogajanj s Kozaki in popuščenja. Oba brata nista štedila z obljubami in sta se trudila, pridobiti si privržencev — zato ni nihče mogel vedeti, kako poteko volitve, ker sta bila oba enako močna.

Privrženci kanclerjevi so se bali, da bi Višnioviecki s svojo vedno bolj rastočo slavo in priljubljenostjo, ki jo je imel pri viteštvu in šlahi, ne pridobil volitev na Karolovo stran, knez pa je baš radi teh vzrokov hrepenel osebno podpirati svojega kandidata. Radi tega je z veliko naglostjo hitel v Varšavo, ker je bil že gotov, da Zamost dolgo vzdrži vso silo Hmielnickega in krimsko.

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mošlo smatrati, da je Lvov rešen, ker se Hmielnicki ni mogel na noben način dolgo baviti z obleganjem tega mesta, ker je imel pred seboj močnejši Zamost, ki mu je zapiral pot do srca Poljske. Te misli so krepile kneževe namere in mu vtilivale tolažbo v srce, katero je bilo zmučeno po tolikih porazih. Trdna nada je stopila vanj, da je tudi v slučaju Kazimirjeve izvolitve — vojna neizogibna in da mora strašni upornitviti v morju krvi. Nadejal se je, da postavi Poljska še enkrat mogočno armado — saj bi tudi pogodbe bile le toliko časa mogoče, kalikor časa bi jih podpirala mogočna armada.

Zaziban v te misli, je jezdit

knez pod zaslombo nekoliko praporov, imajoč pri sebi Zaglobo in gospoda Volodijovsketi z obleganjem tega mesta, ker je imel pred seboj močnejši Zamost, ki mu je zapiral pot do srca Poljske. Te misli so krepile kneževe namere in mu vtilivale tolažbo v srce, katero je bilo zmučeno po tolikih porazih. Trdna nada je stopila vanj, da je tudi v slučaju Kazimirjeve izvolitve — vojna neizogibna in da mora strašni upornitviti v morju krvi. Nadejal se je, da postavi Poljska še enkrat mogočno armado — saj bi tudi pogodbe bile le toliko časa mogoče, kalikor časa bi jih podpirala mogočna armada.

Pozdravila sta se po dolgi odsotnosti. Kneginja, darsi je imela železno srce, se je vrgla s takim jokom v objem svojega moža, da se še več ur ni mogla potolažiti, kajti, ah, koliko je

bilo takih trenutkov, ko se ni več nadejala, da ga še kdaj v-zre. Medtem pa je Bog dal, da se je vračal slavnejši kakor kdajkoli prej, obdan s tako slavo, kakršna še ni ozarila nikogar iz njegovega rodu, največji vojskovodja, edina nada vse Poljske. Kneginja, ki se mu je sedaj pa sedaj odtrgala od njegovih prsi, je pogledala skozi solze na ta obraz, shujšan, zarčnel, na to visoko čelo, katero so skrbi in trudi razorali z globokimi brazdami, na oči, zardele od prečutih noči, in se iznova zalivala s solzami, a vse njene dvorjanke so sočutno jokale z njo.

Polagoma so se potolažili in odšli v obširno mestno župni-

jo in tam so se začela izpraševanja o prijateljih, dvorjanih in vitejih, ki so bili kakor sorodniki in ki je z njimi zrasel spomin na Lubnija. Najprvo je torej knez pomiril kneginji skrb za gospoda Skrzetuskega in ji raztolmačil, da je le radi tega ostla v Zamostu, ker se ni hotel z mukami, kakršne mu je bil Bog poslal, pogrezati v prestolični šum in rajši leči srčne rane v strogi vojni službi in v delu

(Dalje prihodnjič)

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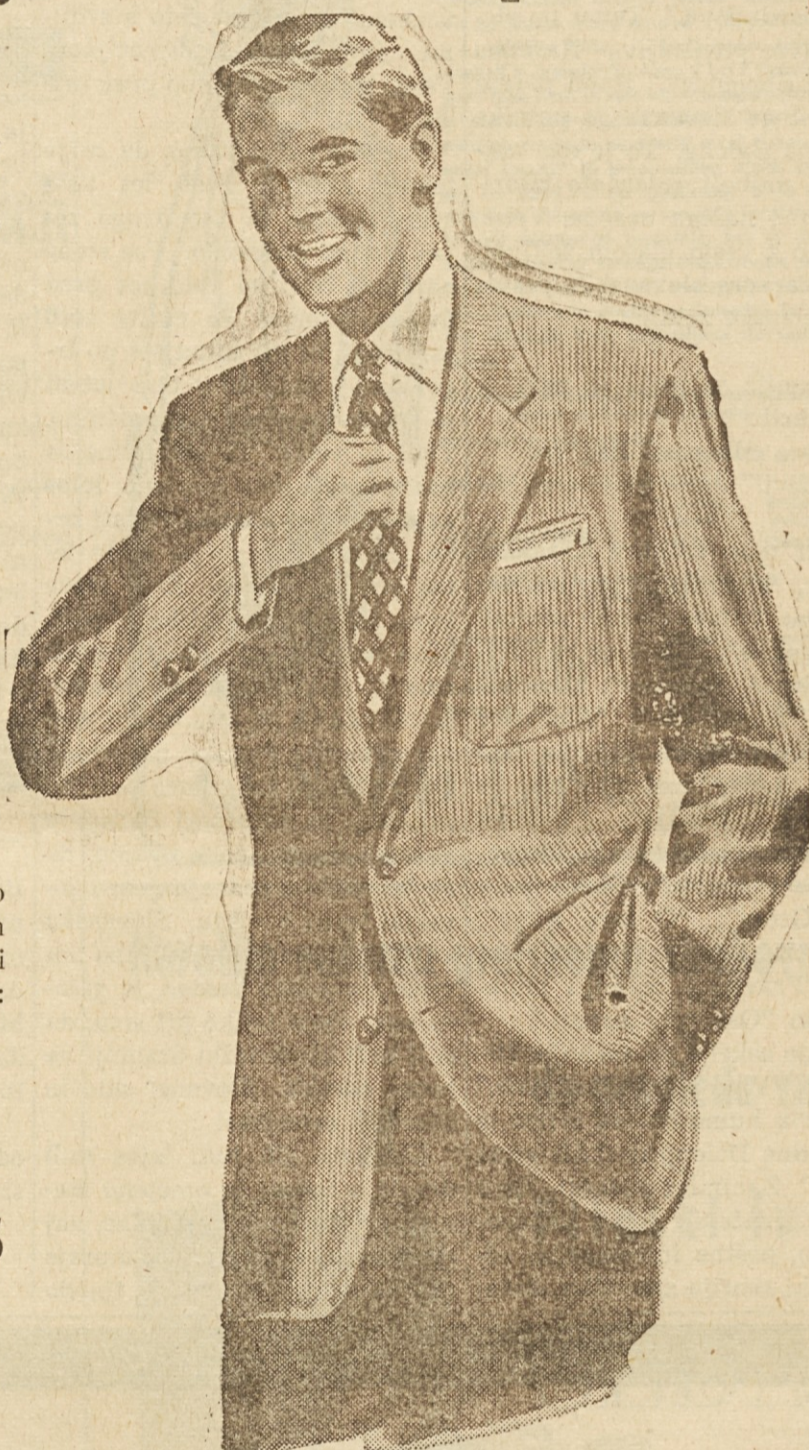
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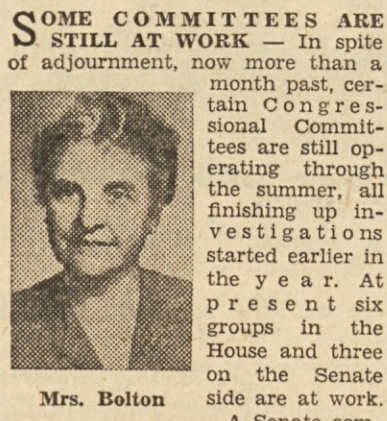
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Trgovina je odprta vsak ponedeljek, torek, četrtek in petek do 8. ure zvečer



This and That from Washington

By Congressman Frances P. Bolton



Mrs. Bolton

SOME COMMITTEES ARE STILL AT WORK — In spite of adjournment, now more than a month past, certain Congressional Committees are still operating through the summer, all finishing up investigations started earlier in the year. At present six groups in the House and three on the Senate side are at work.

A Senate committee on Government operations is examining the subsidy of the United States. Lines. This involves the new "United States" which is making such extraordinary speed records across the Atlantic. The Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee is still looking into the steel strike and the Wage Stabilization Board, while the McCarran Committee is winding up its inquiry into the Institute of Pacific Relations.

On the House side, one special committee is conducting an investigation and study of "offensive or immoral" magazines and comic books; another is investigating TV and radio programs and a third has been appointed to inquire into the activities of foundations which have been granted tax-exempt status. A special Campaign Expenditures Investigating Committee is preparing for the big season ahead, while the well-known investigations of the Justice Department and the Internal Revenue Bureau have not by any means come to an end.

SENATE PREPAREDNESS SUBCOMMITTEE — Important to the taxpayers is the information now released to the effect that a savings of approximately \$49 million has been accomplished as a result of the investigations of the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee into the manpower situation of the Armed Services. The 26th report of the Committee disclosed there were enough men performing "chair corps" jobs in certain indoctrination and training centers to make up three or five combat divisions. This disclosure brought action. As a result, the Army has eliminated 2,892 jobs at 18 installations and the Air Force 6,317 jobs at 8 installations. Significant as this saving may be, it is but a beginning and does not meet the limits of what can be achieved through conservation of manpower.

CONGRESS CONDUCTS FOREIGN AID CHECK-UP — Agents of the General Accounting Office, reporting directly to the Congress, are now in Europe examining the work of the Mutual Security Agency for signs of waste, improper diversion of funds, or inefficiency. These agents face a peculiarly difficult task for although our own people use American accounting methods they are dealing with a dozen different countries with different accounting methods in as many languages. I emphasize this, as my own inspection trips abroad for the Congress gave me a keen firsthand recognition of the difficulties.

This particular Congressional action should not only enforce greater efficiency in the expenditure of our tax moneys abroad but should win for us a greater respect from the countries to whom our money goes.

Early Slovenian Political Organizations

The original Slavic political organization has been based on the so-called "zupa," the alliance of the people living in one community. The head of this organization has been called "zupan" who had the judicial power in his community. Since this organization proved not to be successful during wars, the Slavs organized small states with a military commander or duke (vojvoda, knez) at their head. Originally he had the power during war-time only, but it happened that he remained in power also in peace. Such early political organizations had been organized in Carinthia, (dukes: Valuk, Borut, Gorazd, Hotimir, etc.) in the Sava valley, (dukes: Vojnomir, Ljudevit), and later in the Pannonian plainland, (dukes Pribina and Koce).

The changing relationship toward the Avars caused the unification of the Slavs who saw a common danger in the savage Mongol tribe. About the year 623 king Samo organized the Slavs from the river Elbe in present Germany to the Adriatic Sea. The united Slavs defeated the Avars and organized one political structure which included large parts of present Yugoslavia, Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland with its center in Bohemia. The Slovenian duke Valuk in Carinthia, the first known by name as Slovenian duke, had been Samo's ally and reigned under his supremacy.

From the West the growing Frankish Empire represented the

greatest danger for the Slavs, but Samo succeeded in defeating the Frankish King Dagobert. However, after Samo's death this political unity of the Slavs did not survive and the Slovenians lived again under their own dukes.

In the first centuries after the settlement the Slovenians directed their attacks toward the Langobards and Friauls in present Northern Italy. These wars are described in Latin by a Langobardian historian Paulus Diaconus in the 8th century.

The Langobards had been the last masters of the Slovenian territory before the settlement of the Slavs. After their migration to Italy in 568 they built on the border of the North-Italian plainland a defense wall which had been many time over-run by the Slovenians. Many names of villages of Slovenian derivation near the river Tilm (Italian: Tagliamento) are proof of the Slovenian settlements further to the West. The Langobards had been defeated by Charlemagne and ceased to exist as a nation. At present only the name of the Italian province Lombardia reminds the once powerful nation which prevented the Slovenians to invade Italy.

For almost two centuries after the arrival in the new homeland our ancestors had believed in pagan gods and had been enemies of Christianity. Already the Irish missionary St. Columbanus planned in 612 to go to the Slovenians. St. Amandus, the apostle of Belgium,

came during the reign of king Samo to the Slovenians, but returned without success. The Christian religion found its way to the Slovenians in 743 when duke Borut had to make an alliance with the Bavarians against the Avars. As a reward for the military aid he had to recognize Bavarian supremacy. Beside, the duke had to send his son Gorazd and nephew as hostages to Bavaria. There, in a monastery on the island of Lake Chiensee (present South Germany) both young Slovenian noblemen accepted the Christian religion after the instruction given by the abbot Lupu. Gorazd became after his father's death the first Slovenian Christian duke. Duke Hotimir, Gorazd's successor, called Christian missionaries to the country. Among the missionaries there was also the Irish born bishop St. Modestus, who built the first three churches for the Slovenians. His seat has been in the capital of the Slovenian dukes at the present village Gospa Sveta in Carinthia in present Austria.

Hotimir's death in 769 caused perturbances and civil war by the insurrection of the pagan party which expelled all priests and destroyed churches. Three years later the Bavarian army under Tassilo II invaded the country and helped duke Volkun (or Valjun), Hotimir's son, to power.

The Southern part of Slovenia (present Slovenia) has been christianized by missionaries coming Aquileia (Oglej). St. Paulinus, the patriarch of Aquileia at the end of the 8th century has been called "apostle of the Slovenians." During the reign of Charlemagne it came to a dispute about the border between the patriarch of Aquileia and the archbishop of Salzburg. Charlemagne decided finally in 811 the river Drava as the border between the mission provinces. His decision proved to be a tragedy for the Northern Slovenians, since the northern territories came later under German dynasties which germanized the territory with German settlers and German institutions.

With the end of the Bavarian independence in 788 the Slovenians also have been included into the Frankish Empire of Charlemagne. Since the Slovenian dukes did not support the Bavarian revolt against the Franks, they remained in power. Under Charlemagne the Slovenian territory became a border territory important for military operations toward the East. To govern this important territory Charlemagne divided Slovenia into two marches (border territories). The territory between the rivers Danube and Drava received the name "Eastern March" (from that name is derived the name Austria), while the entire present Slovenian territory including Friaul in present Northern Italy formed the "March of Friaul" until it was divided by Charlemagne's successor Louis into four counties. These counties are the beginning of the territorial disunity of Slovenia which is known until the modern time (Carniola — Kranjska).

Slovenian dukes had to recognize foreign noblemen sent by the Frankish Emperors as governors of

the marches. In Carinthia the historians still mention Slovenian dukes Inko, Pribislav, Semik, Stojmir, and Etgar. In the Sava valley (Carniola) history knows for the existence of the duke Vojnomir, who helped the Franks to fight the Avars. In Pannonia (present Southwest Hungary, parts of present Slovenia and Austria) developed in the 9th century a semi-independent Slovenian political structure under the dukes Pribina and Koce. The latter is known in history as the great supporter of SS. Cyril and Method and for the understanding of a Slavic Christian culture.

The unsuccessful revolt of Ljudevit, duke of the territory between the rivers Drava, Sava and Kolpa in present Croatia, brought an end to the Slovenian self-government under the Franks. His political activity has been called as the first co-operation of Slovenians, Croats, and Serbs and has been supported by the patriarch of Aquileia and the Byzantine Empire. At the beginning Ljudevit's fight for independence was successful, but the tenth Frankish army defeated him in 822. Since the Slovenian dukes supported his insurrection, they lost their power and the Franks sent German nobles to govern Slovenia. After this revolt only the Pannonian dukes Pribina and Koce saved their semi-independence for a short period. Since that time German nobles had been coming to Slovenia and became the rulers of the Slovenians.

It was in 1918 that the Slovenians regained their political independence from the Germans and at that time in cooperation with other South Slavic nations.

E. A. KOVACIC
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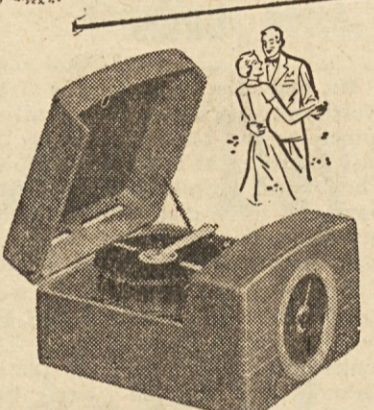
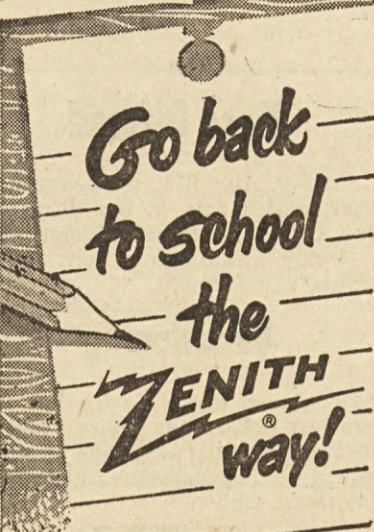
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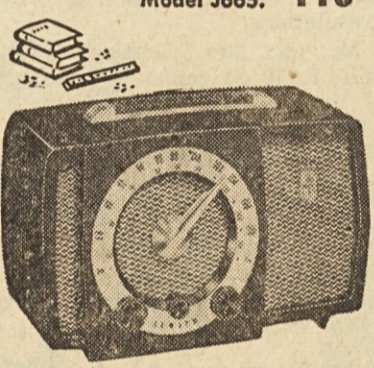
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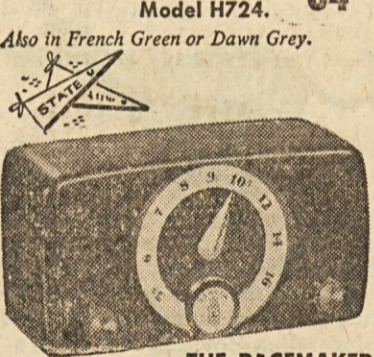
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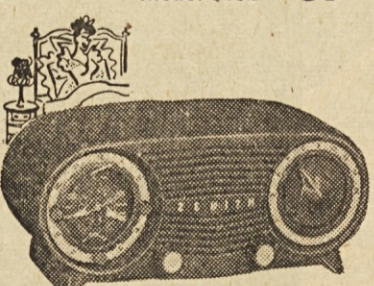
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and Reno hesitated—and were too late. The battle, one of America's most devastating, ended. Curly, an Indian scout, and Comanche, a horse, alone survived. On the field lay the bodies of Custer and his 276 troopers. Custer, son of a Hessian soldier who was captured during the Revolution, spent his boyhood in New Rumley, Ohio, near Cadiz. He worked on his father's farm, taught school at 16, and entered West Point at 18. A great cavalry officer, this immortal Ohioan fought through the Civil War. Then to the West. First to Texas to make a show of force against Maximilian, the Austrian sitting on the throne of Mexico. Next to Kansas to subdue Indians who were protecting their lands from incursions of settlers. Custer and his men guarded the surveyors and engineers laying out the Northern Pacific. From there to Montana in pursuit of Sitting Bull, and to his death at 37. At New Rumley is the Custer State Memorial, the foundation of the homestead where Custer was born on December 5, 1839, and a heroic statue to the memory of a heroic Ohioan.

General George Custer, the Boy General of the Civil War (he was a major-general at 25) was giving orders to his subordinates. Benteen was to approach from this direction; Major Reno from that. General Custer with 276 cavalry would attack from this point. Chief Sitting Bull and his Sioux warriors had been cornered. But nothing moved on schedule. Custer, blond hair flying, led his men into action. Nearly 5,000 Indians were ahead of him. Benteen

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