pan the morning after a night of heavy eating.

It's Gremlins.

Gremlins are little people about a foot high, garishly costumed, with long noses. They live in nooks but are allergic to crannies, and they excel at stirring up trouble.

The R.A.F. boys discovered Gremlins when they set out to run down numerous mysterious annoyances on flights. A pilot would be heading for a perfect landing, only to have the runway disappear right out from beneath him. And then pop up 100 yards or so to one side. A flier would carefully put a map on his map-case and the map would disappear before he got aloft. A landing-gear tire that worked perfectly on the takeoff would go flat during the flight, causing the pilot to nose over and bend his propeller when he landed.

ONLY POSSIBLE ANSWER

No agency known to science could possibly be responsible for such variegated difficulties. The only possible answer was Gremlins.

It must have been a Gremlin, riding merrily on the wing, which slid down the landing-beam and snatched the runway right out from under the perfect landing.

Only a Gremlin could take a map during flight and then restore it to its case when the pilot stepped onto the ground. Mid-air flat tires obviously could be caused only by a Gremlin equipped with spurs on its elbows.

Curticulatus Prangiferus, Gremlin, which has a sharp nose, for causing inexplicable rips in wing fabrics; and long teeth, for gnawing fuel lines.

"Habitat: Obscure," says the circular, "but a large colony is known to exist between Whitechurch and Newbury, probably in a rubbish dump. . . ."

There is a water Gremlin, which specializes in disabling carburetors, and a puff Gremlin, with a big stomach, that sucks the air out from under a plane just as the gunner has perfect aim, making it bounce and spoil his shot.

American fliers, too, are discovering what has been responsible all along for their inexplicable mishaps of flight, as well as for numerous familiar civilian difficulties, like the slipper under the bed.

WRONG ENVELOPES?

They have learned, for instance, that it is the postoffice Gremlin, which lurks around mail boxes and hops on your shoulder right after you have deposited two letters and murmurs "maybe you got them in the wrong envelopes. . . ."

Gremlins usually wear tight blue pants, red jackets, and green derbies. They weave their clothes out of pocket-fuzz, and live mainly off the stuffing out of the spunky olives which are served in Martini cocktails. They live in little houses made of paper-clips, which explains why paper-clips, never known to wear out in use, must constantly be replenished.

Check Your Liquor Supply, Says U.S.; New Tax Effective Nov. 1

James H. Maloney, district supervisor of the alcohol tax unit, today warned liquor dealers to take an inventory of stocks on hand as of November 1 when a $2 per gallon Federal tax increase on distilled spirits goes into effect.

Maloney issued a statement to clarify the position of the producer, importer, wholesaler and retailer in relation to the new taxes on distilled spirits, beer and wine.

He called attention to the Federal floor tax affecting all tax-paid stocks of these products in the hands of all basic permit holders and special occupational taxpayers, including rectifiers, wholesalers, liquor dealers and retail liquor dealers.

The amount of the "floor" tax is the difference between the present tax rate and the new tax rate.

Alcohol tax unit inspectors will give information on the floor tax this week-end at their offices in Reno, Phoenix, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Francisco and Santa Rosa.

Following are present and new tax rates and the floor tax:

Beverage	Present Rate	New Floor
Distilled spirits (gin, whiskey, brandy, etc.), per proof gallon	$4.00	$6.00 $2.00
Beer, per barrel of 31 gallons	6.00	7.00 1.00
Table wines (up to 14 P.C.), per gal.	.08	.10 .02
Dessert wines (14 P.C. to 21 P.C.), per gal.	.30	.40 .10
Industrial wine (21 P.C. to 24 P.C.), per gal.	.65	1.00 .35
Sparkling wines, per half pt.	.07	.10 .03
Carbonated wines, per half pt.	.03½	.05 .01½
Wine cordials, etc., per half pt.	.03½	.05 .01½

The Federal floor tax does not apply to any of the products still in bond, Maloney said.

Pittsburg, Cal., Man Captures First Jap Flag in Guadalcanal

NEW YORK, Oct. 29.—(U.P.)—Smoke-begrimed and flecked with blood, the first Japanese battle flag captured on Guadalcanal Island was received yesterday at United Press headquarters in New York from Robert C. Miller, United Press war correspondent.

Miller, who landed with the first Marines to reach Guadalcanal and remained with American forces of occupation for six weeks, requested that the flag be used in connection with a campaign to raise funds for the war effort.

(Miller's father, Herman Miller is a resident of Pittsburg, Calif.)

In his accompanying letter Miller explained that he personally took the fallen banner from a slain Japanese officer during the battle of Tenaru River on August 21. He obtained permission to send it to New York from Marine intelligence officers.

"The battle of Tenaru River," Miller said, "was the first desperate land attempt to drive American forces from Guadalcanal. During that action I saw more than 800 Japanese soldiers annihilated. Other units defeated in the same action included Japanese Marines."

The flag carries numerous inscriptions in bold Japanese characters. Largest of these, running parallel to the staff, reads:

"Presented to Tanak Rejoji, Our Comrade."

Rejoji, presumably of about a colonel's rank, apparently was given the flag by classmates from his military school. The note of presentation is signed, "Japanese Progressive School for Young Men."

A number of Chinese inscriptions are taken to indicate that the flag had been carried in some phase of the China campaign.

A number of exhortations to deeds of valor appear on the flag over the signatures of Japanese and civil officers. Typical messages read:

"Bravery and Patriotism," "Fight to the Finish," "Heads Up," "Cherry Tree for Flower, Man for Warrior."

1000 KEY SYSTEM EMPLOYEES GIVEN HOURLY INCREASE

Approximately 1000 operating employees of the Key System have been awarded a permanent 10-cent-an-hour increase, bring their basic wage to 92½ cents an hour.

The increase was incorporated in a War Labor Board order issued yesterday at Washington, D.C.

Both J. Paul St. Sure, attorney for the company, and A. E. Brown, president of A.F.L. Local 192 of the Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees, said they believed the increase would be retroactive to July 1.

Brown telegraphed to Washington for clarification of the order.

Early in the year the employees demanded an increase from 82½ cents an hour to $1.05. In March the WLB made an interim award upping the wage to 87½ cents expected shortly after next Tuesday's elections to receive a put-up from which legislation could be cut to fit the Nation's workers into the wartime production machine, were said to have been informed that no White House recommendation will be forthcoming for some time.

In the absence of such a recommendation, sponsors conceded privately it would be next to impossible to obtain action on a half dozen or more manpower bills pending before congressional committees.

LEGISLATION URGED

However, Senator Hill (D., Ala.), author of a bill that would give President Roosevelt broad authority to say where a man or woman should work, told reporters he would press for speedy action by the Senate Military Committee on his and several other measures.

"I think it is inevitable that we are going to have legislation which will mobilize all of our citizens for the war effort and which will direct them into the job they can do best," Hill said. "This can be done on a voluntary basis for the most part, but there must be machinery to enforce it upon those who won't make any sacrifices to win the war."

LABOR OPPOSES BILL

Opposition by labor leaders either to the "freezing" of workers in their jobs or Government action transferring them from one field to another was said to have contributed to the decision to delay consideration of compulsory measures of the sort urged publicly by Chairman Paul V. McNutt of the War Manpower Commission.

The commission's action in directing local selective service boards to defer workers on dairy, livestock and poultry farms as well as its admonition to the Army and Navy not to recruit such men, was expected to be supplemented by final adoption of an amendment to the 18-to-38 age draft bill which would direct deferment of all essential farm workers.

Farm Labor Deferment To Change Draft Quota

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—(AP)—Selective Service headquarters acknowledged today that the new occupational deferment directive for necessary men on essential dairy, livestock and poultry farms might, in time, reduce draft quotas in places where such men are concentrated.

A spokesman who desired to remain anonymous, said this likely would follow because National Selective Service, after receiving notice from the Army of the number of men to be furnished, apportions State quotas according to the number of 1-A men available in each State.

State directors, he added, apportion quotas for local boards on the same basis, although some leeway is allowed, as was shown when State pools were established so that no board would have to call heavily upon married men while other boards had a number of single men.

Water System Ok'd

STOCKTON, Oct. 29.—(U.P.)—The California Railroad Commission today authorized the Oak Park Court Water Company to construct a public utility water system at Oak Park Court subdivision near Stockton. The application had been protested by the California Water Service Company.

Big Game Bonfire to Blaze, But Not After 5:45 o'Clock

BERKELEY, Oct. 29.—University of California students will have their traditional bonfire before the Big Game this year, but the last ember must be out before 5:45 p.m. under dimout regulations.

Lieut. Gen. John L. De Witt, Fourth Western Command headquarters, gave permission for the Greek Theater fire with the restriction that no blaze light the sky as evening falls.

Inasmuch as students have held their Big Game rally in the afternoon in recent years as a precautionary measure against night rioting, the ruling will not affect student plans, except to provide a special committee to make certain the blaze is extinguished. This year's rally will be held Thursday, November 19. General de Witt reminded Rally Chairmen Robert Dreher and Margaret McMullin that the penalty for not having their fire out by 5:45 p.m. was a maximum of a year in jail, a fine of $1000 and eviction from the West Coast.

Kills Wife, Son, Hides Bodies, Keeps Working

GENESEO, Ill., Oct. 29.—(U.P.)—Lester Siefferman, 30, killed his wife and 10-year-old son and left their bodies lying in his basement for 10 days while he reported regularly to his job at a Moline, Ill., factory.

Sheriff Fred Swanson told a coroner's jury last night that Siefferman, a husky machine operator, had confessed beating and strangling his wife, Irene, 28, and his son, Eugene, 10, in a domestic quarrel October 18. The bodies were found yesterday by Mrs. Siefferman's father, Louis Denhardt.

WPB ORDER TO CUT 300,000 KILOWATTS IN SHASTA POWER

A total power output of 150,000 kilowatts, instead of the 450,000 originally contemplated, appeared today the maximum expectable from Shasta and Keswick dams until after the war, but construction work on the two units will be permitted in large measure to continue.

That was the interpretation placed by Regional War Production Board and reclamation bureau officials in San Francisco and in Sacramento on yesterday's WPB order from Washington revoking priority ratings granted Shasta, Keswick and five other power and irrigation projects in the West.

With regard to Shasta the priorities applied only to one generating unit with a 75,000 kilowatt capacity, which was to have come into production late in 1944.

It does not affect in any way the construction of the dam itself or on two other 75,000-kilowatt power units scheduled for completion by January, 1944.

A further two units of the same productive capacity were lost to Shasta for the duration some months ago when WPB diverted turbines and generators originally allocated to the Central Valley Dam to plants at Grand Coulee Dam in Washington which were to be completed sooner.

As for Keswick, a secondary project eight miles south of Shasta on the Sacramento River, it can expect no power development until the present critical shortage of materials is eliminated.

Keswick was to have had three 25,000-kilowatt generators in operation by Spring, 1944.

The WPB stop order applied to the entire $12,000,000 Keswick project now about two-thirds completed but it was here particularly that the regional officials noted an exception which they believe will permit work to continue to some extent.

The order specifically allows construction solely for the purpose of safety or health or to avoid undue damage or deterioration of materials.



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