

LD Am. & P. S. Wed, Oct 23, 1946

At eighteen minutes past four this afternoon, Foreign Minister Spaak of Belgium, opened the session at the old World's Fair Grounds, ^{- out at} Flushing, Long Island. And immediately thereafter President Truman arose to speak - welcoming the delegates from ^{the} fifty-one nations.

The salient theme of the presidential address was -- the peril of war and the talk about war. He told the Assembly of the U N that the fear of war has spread all over the world, and that fear must be quieted. It is unwarranted and unjustified -- said the President.

Whereupon he told the delegates of the United Nations that it was imperative to make immediate peace treaties with former enemy countries - a necessary measure, if the fear of war is to be downed.

Before the meeting, the delegates of the U N rode in procession through lower Broadway to ^{the} City Hall - ^{the} ~~that~~ route ^{that} ~~which~~ has been the scene of so many ticker tape celebrations. A few months ago ~~the~~ General Eisenhower received a hero's ovation as he passed through the canyons of lower Manhattan. Today, the

delegates of the fifty-one nations made the trip -
Molotov among them. But the ticker tape celebration
was a good deal less than wild and frenzied. In fact,
there was ~~not~~ little if any celebration - a minimum
of ticker tape and applause. When it was over, Belgian
Foreign Minister Spaak remarked sadly: "The reception
was not as enthusiastic as we wished for".



But that was in the afternoon. Tonight, President Truman and his wife received more than five hundred United Nations delegates and their wives at the Starlight Roof of the Waldorf-Astoria -- honored guest was Molotov.

Mr. Truman greeted the Russian Foreign Minister in a friendly manner, but we wouldn't call either of them over-exuberant. Said Mr. Truman: "It's a pleasure". Said Molotov: "Delighted to see you".

Throughout the evening, however, the Russian maintained good spirits. As he walked down the reception line, a reporter asked him "are you optimistic?"

Molotov answered the query with the question: "Why shouldn't I be optimistic?" He did not respond further, did not mention what reasons he had, if any, for his new-found optimism.

So the United Nations Assembly met for the first time at Flushing Meadows today, with everybody happy.

~~Everybody, that is, except the newspapermen. While delegates met for peace, reporters waged a private war~~

FOLLOW U N

In London, British Prime Minister Attlee told Parliament today ^{that} the veto power was being mis-used in the proceedings of the United Nations. He said that the veto had been agreed to in the first place only on the assumption ~~that~~ it would be exercised in rare cases, but ^{that} actually it has been employed to block proceedings in minor matters. Well, we all know the Soviet habit of vetoing. Attlee called for a restriction of what he called "further mis-use of the veto power".

In Parliament today, former Prime Minister Winston Churchill raised the question of the massing of Soviet power in the satellite countries of eastern Europe. He indicated his belief that Moscow had two hundred divisions concentrated there behind the iron curtain ~~with a blind secrecy~~ ^{ready for} to prevent when and ~~if~~ ^{the} the Kremlin would order ~~the~~ ² vast military force ~~into action.~~ ^{ready for the Kremlin to order into action.}

Churchill noted that it was easier in pre-war

days to tell what Hitler would do than to make a guess at Soviet intentions ~~in~~ nowadays. He said you could get an idea of Hitler's plans ~~in~~ by reading "Mein Kampf". Now it's different. "We are," said Churchill, "in the presence of a collective mind whose strings of action we cannot define". That collective mind Churchill described as the thirteen or fourteen men in the Kremlin -- an all powerful group that exercises absolute control over Soviet Russia and its puppet satellites.

From ^{which we would} ~~this end we~~ judge that Churchill doesn't think ~~that~~ Stalin is in one-man complete control any more, ^{that} the autocratic committee in the Kremlin ~~runs~~ **now** runs things.

SOVIET OPINION

Moscow continues to display a lively interest in the American Political Campaigning. ~~It rather sounds like Moscow electioneering -- as if the Soviets were taking the stump.~~

A previous blast excited plenty of interest over here -- Moscow declaring in favor of what it called -- "Progressive candidates" in the American election. ~~And this today was repeated in the~~
The Communist Newspaper Izvestia, ^{today} which gave high praise to the political action committee of the C.I.O.

Izvestia rejoices in the primary defeat of what it calls ~~these~~ "Reactionary Leaders" like Senator Wheeler of Montana and Shipstead of Minnesota. And the ^{great} Communist newspaper ^{in Moscow} gives its backing to a list of Senators, whose political fate will be decided Tuesday after next. The candidates ^{applauded by Moscow} are Senators Kilgore of West Virginia, Guffy of Pennsylvania, Tunnell of Delaware, and O'Mahoney of Wyoming. I wonder how much those lawmakers will enjoy the Soviet benediction -- do we see them ducking?

Also, the Moscow radio chimed in today with a few benedictions of its own -- bestowing its approval on Henry Wallace, Senator Pepper of Florida, and Elliott Roosevelt. The Soviet mouthpiece bestows applause as follows: "The utterances of Wallace, Pepper, and the son of the great President Roosevelt in America, go to show that the Soviet Union's deep and unvarying love of peace finds widespread recognition and response the world over."

Over here the Moscow announcements on the American election ~~campaign~~ drew a *quite response* ~~couple of~~ ~~curious~~ ~~responses today~~ ~~curious because of a rather unexpected~~ ~~contradiction.~~ One is from the Political Action Committee of the C.I.O., which rejects the Soviet okay. Director Jack Crowell states: "The C.I.O. P.A.C. regards as completely unwarranted, and thoroughly disavows any foreign influence or interference in our domestic election contests."

~~On the other hand, the Democratic State~~
~~Chairman in New York defends the Soviet declarations in~~

INDIA

Veteran Gurkha troops are on the scene of India's bloody Hindu-Moslem riots which have terrorized southeast Bengal for the last week. And tonight, the Gurkhas are reported to have captured the Moslem ring-leader of the uprisings.

Actually, the riots ended before the appearance of Gurkhas on the scene -- or, rather were ended by the drenching Monsoon rains. Tonight, British authorities are taking the toll of deaths and, estimates vary -- from two-hundred and fifty to five-thousand, dead. With thousands of Hindus fleeing to various cities of Bengal to escape Moslem wrath.

BOULDER DAM

Today, in the ~~mountains of the~~ ^{South-} West, they ~~are~~ ^{were} celebrating the taming of ~~as wild and cantankerous a~~ ^{the wildest river} ~~river as you'll find in all~~ the world.

Boulder Dam is ten years old, and in that space of time it has become evident how completely that the vast engineering project has subjugated the ~~stubborn~~ and unruly ~~recalcitrance of the~~ Colorado River.

In the history of this continent, the benefit of rivers has played a large part, navigable rivers' priceless for travel -- the Mississippi, with its historic steamboats, the Hudson, the St. Lawrence. But the Colorado was ~~the~~ thoroughly useless for navigation. To make your way down that stream by boat became known as a classic of perilous adventure.

Moreover, the Colorado was given to wild floods. Getting its water from the great winter snows of the Rockies, ^{the} quick melting of these had a way of sending a swirling deluge down the stream. ^{As we know nearly all} ~~Nearby~~ arid lands ~~could~~ be turned into the greenest of gardens and orchards -- with

water. Well, the Colorado river had the water for irrigation; but it was wild and treacherous, a river of moods famous for its uncontrollable floods.

So, the demand was born, and it swelled to a chorus -- tame the Colorado. Seven states were involved, and, the Republic of Mexico. There was endless planning and palavering, until finally the task of taming the Colorado was begun in the Administration of President Herbert Hoover. And the dam as we all know was called the Hoover Dam -- until Franklin D. Roosevelt came along and changed the name.

It took time to demonstrate fully the value of the taming of the river, that most obstereperous of streams. Today an official statement declares: "The Colorado River now is a useful and reliable friend of the people of the South west. Floods cannot pass the dam, which saves the flood waters, and used them."

Those formerly destructive flood waters now provide water for irrigation, water supply for cities and water power for the production fo electricity.

So no wonder they have been celebrating out at Boulder Dam. Members of the Administration in Washington, Int. Sec. Drug, Governors of States through which the Colorado flows, Senators, Congressmen, dignitaries by the score -- all gathered to hail the taming of the river which had seemed the most untamable of all, the mighty Colorado.

SETON

One of America's most famous naturalists, Ernest Thompson Seton, is dead in Santa Fe, New Mexico, ~~tonight~~ at the age of eighty-six.

The world-famous naturalist, lecturer, writer and illustrator will be mourned by young and old alike. Seton was one of the earliest sponsors of the Boy Scouts, one of the founders of the Woodcraft Indians and long-time chief of the woodcraft League of America. A number of his books on animal life opened a new world to entire generations of young Americans.

Seton's greatest claim to fame was his book "Wild Animals I have Known". It earned him the close friendship of President Theodore Roosevelt and was the inspiration for some of Rudyard Kipling's later works.

O.P.A.

Today was the day for the wholesale fall of price controls. The O.P.A. has taken restrictions off restaurants and from nearly every type of food and beverage -- except sugar and rice.

Until today, twenty to twenty-five per cent of all foodstuffs in the nation were under ceilings. Tonight, less than three per cent are restricted by price controls. When the controls were taken from meat, we heard that the freeing of a lot of other items would soon follow -- and that happened today.

LANDLORDS

Last night, two groups of landlords in Seattle, made the headlines by threatening a strike, by refusing to rent any more apartments until O P A rent controls are abolished. Now the hotel and apartment house owners Association in Denver, announces that it will follow suit, already decided ~~ix~~ on a policy of no-further-rentals. Louisville, Kentucky owners have wire of Seattle: - "Stick to your guns. We'll join you."

Five hundred members of Portland, Oregon, property owners union say the same. And the same story comes from Tacoma, Spokane and Olympia. It seems to be spreading.

Right now there is an estimated shortage of ten million housing units. It takes a year to put a new apartment on the market. If more are taken off the market, what next?

The final warning comes from Blatimore tonight where officials of the National Apartment Owners ~~IX~~ Association say they expect their members at a

LANDLORDS 2

national convention next month to begin a country-wide strike against rent controls.

ADD CRYPT

Here's a late dispatch stating that the

Peruvians are inviting historical and cultural institutions
of all countries to send Representatives to examine ^{that}
find in the secret crypt at Cuzco.

CRYPT

Down in the Republic of Peru, they've made a discovery that brings dramatic reminiscence of days of glory, valor, treachery, intrigue, and bloody revenge, -- the days of the Spanish Conquistadores.

In the ancient city of Cuzco, one time ~~apex~~ capital of the Golden Incas, searchers have found three tombs with bodies that have been missing for four hundred years. They've found Gonzalo Pizarro, half brother of the great conqueror Pizarro, Diego Almagro the Elder, who was Pizarro's partner -- and Diego Almagro the younger, his father's avenger. All three died violent deaths in events that followed Pizarro's conquest of the magnificent empire of the Incas.

Almagro the Elder played a virtually equal role with Conqueror Pizarro in the seizure of Peru and its gold. The two fell out afterward. Almagro revolted and was defeated, and Pizarro had him beheaded. Whereupon the Younger Almagro played a leading part in the conspiracy that led to the assassination of the Great Conquistador. Later ~~that~~^{the} ~~av~~^gening son paid the penalty

for that -- he was beheaded.

Pizarro's half brother Gonzalo presided over one of the ~~most wonderful~~ ^{great} adventures ~~recorded in~~ ^{of} history. He led a party of Spaniards across the Andes. One of his officers, Orellana, discovered the Amazon, ~~River~~. He not only discovered the Amazon -- but, not able to get back across the mountains, made his way down that river in a boat -- all the way from Andes to the Atlantic Ocean.

Gonzalo Pizarro was able to get back across the mountains. ~~He~~ ^{Then, he} representing the cause of his assassinated brother, ^{he} tried to seize power in Peru, but was defeated and beheaded.

It is believed that the bodies of the Elder and Younger Almagro and of Diego Pizarro were hidden to keep them from their enemies -- hidden in a secret crypt in the ~~xxxx~~ cathedral of Cuzco. Now they've been found.

^A ~~The~~ United Press ^{representative} ~~Correspondent~~, in Peru, cabling the story, states: "This correspondent was one

of the first persons to enter the crypt, under the altar of the Immaculate Conception -- and saw the remains of the Elder Almagro in an elaborate coffin on the right side of the crypt. Next to it was Pizarro's headless body, while that of the Younger Almagro was to the left. The bodies the correspondent writes, "were still garbed in the regal robes in which they were interned" -- regal robes and ~~for~~ fabulous memories of the Spanish Conquistadores of old.

And now that modern Conquistadore, Nelson Case.

New York State Dem.

the American election. Chairman Fitzpatrick says Moscow should not be denied the right to comment on affairs in Foreign Countries -- a right that is accorded to American newspaper writers and radio commentators.

Chairman Fitzpatrick says that Hitler and the Nazis cherished the hope that the late President Roosevelt be defeated by Candidates Wilkie and Dewey. However, we seem to recall that the Nazis, whatever their opinion was, were careful not to make statements in favor of candidates in American elections -- knowing that it would do those candidates more harm than good. Something the Soviets nowadays don't seem to understand.

Anyway, its a ~~xx~~ curious contradiction -- when the political action committee of the C.I.O. rejects Moscow interference in our election, and the New York Democratic Chairman defends what the Soviets have to say about candidates over here.

BULGARIA

The state Department says that a Soviet General has stopped the publication in Bulgaria of the American appeal for free elections in that country. There was an agreement by the Big Four that Bulgarian elections should be democratic, but everything over there points to the straight totalitarian variety. Hence our government has requested Bulgaria to let its voters choose freely - but those voters are not hearing anything about the American plea which is being suppressed.

This is by order of a Soviet General who has acted without the consultation of British and American officials. He has forbidden the Bulgarian newspapers to print the American message. And today a spokesman of the State Department in Washington said that this latest Soviet move was in violation of assurances that freedom of the press would be maintained in Bulgaria.

BRITISH DESTROYERS

A new bit of international difficulty flared today when two British destroyers struck mines off the coast of Albania. Off hand, you'd think it might have been a case of ships hitting explosives left over from the war -- mines being a common postwar *danger*.

But this appears not to have been the case.

The mines, according to all evidence, must have been laid since the end of the war. The destroyers were steaming through the channel between the ~~xxx~~ island of Corfu and the coast of Albania, and that channel has been repeatedly swept for mines since the war ended. Ships have passed through time and again for months past. Moreover the British learned all about the mine fields the Germans laid in those waters during the war, ~~xxxx~~ having gained the information since the surrender of Nazi Germany.

Consequently it was indicated in the London Parliament today that the explosive must have been placed rather recently -- and from Greece there's word to indicate that Albania, a puppet of Soviet Russia, has been

BRITISH DESTROYERS - 2

laying mines off its coast. The Albanians are said to be putting through a program of fortification directed by Soviet and Yugoslav Officers. All of which might indicate that the British destroyers were blown up by Albanian mines.

A British task force was steaming through the channel -- and, significantly, this was a sector in which British cruisers were fired on by Albanian coastal guns some weeks ago. The Task Force was in the middle of the channel when suddenly there was a violent explosion. The Destroyer ~~Sumarez~~^{Sumarez} had hit a mine, was badly damaged, and burst into flames. To the rescue went the Destroyer Volage, and there was a second explosion -- the Volage striking a mine which blew off ~~the~~ bow. ~~of the destroyer.~~ Nevertheless, the two warships, though heavily damaged, were able to get to a ~~gr~~ Greek port. The loss of life was tragic. Thirty-eight men of the British Royal Navy were killed or are missing -- and forty-five ~~are~~ injured.

Probably it will turn out to be true that

Soviet Puppet Albania laid the mines in the channel between Corfu and the Mainland. If so, what redress will the British have for the blowing up of their destroyers and the killing of so many of their sailors? Tonight the London Admiralty declines to comment, save to point out that when a country lays a mine field, it is customary to give a warning to ships -- so that they'll steer clear of the area of peril. One thing is certain -- the blowing up of the destroyers is not likely to add any sweetness to the already sour relations between the Western Democracies and the totalitarian sphere of the Soviets.

Another story of mines -- a highly explosive story -- comes from the Dutch East Indies. A whole string of mines blew up off the coast of Celebes -- a series of blasts so violent as to devastate the nearby coast, fifty houses destroyed or damaged, thirty-four persons killed.

The mines had been laid by the Japs during the war and were being swept by the Dutch. A mine-sweeping

ship accidentally exploded one mine, and this set off an entire field -- a series of seventeen explosive blasts hurling destruction far and wide.