

NIGHT SHOW
Monday, July 26, 1948

FRANCE

In Paris Socialist Premier Andre Marie has formally presented his Cabinet to President Auriol.

The new French Premier formed his government with considerable difficulty. He succeeded only by an odd political paradox. The French Socialist party have agreed to support the new Premier in the French General Assembly. But they say they will withdraw their support in the Cabinet itself. Early in the day it looked as if Marie would never be able to form a Cabinet. The Socialists objected to his choice of a French woman politician for his Health Minister. But the new Premier, who survived Buchenwald Concentration Camp, stuck to his guns. He even wore down the Socialist objection to his appointment of former Premier Paul Reynaud as Finance Minister. The opposition led by aging veteran Socialist

Leon Blum. Blum was outvoted in a second Socialist party caucus, after an earlier one had stalemated. The Socialists apparently anxious to have the opportunity to be the strongest party in France's new government. They even voted in favor of Paul Reynaud's appointment as Minister of Finance, although the former Premier is the party's most hated enemy.

France's new Foreign Minister is former Premier Robert Schuman; which insures France's continued support of the Three Power's present uncompromising attitude towards the Soviet blockade of Berlin. A late despatch from Paris says that every French party except the communists is represented in the new Cabinet. France's twelfth government since the liberation.

JUGOSLAVIA

Jugoslavia will go along with the Kremlin - at least, in the Soviet anti-imperialist policy. No ganging up with the imperialist powers by the Jugoslavian Reds. So, Vice-Premier Eduard Kardelk told the Yugoslav Nationalist Communist Party. Jugoslavia, said he, will support all forces working ~~for~~ for peace, national freedom and independence. Observers interpret this to mean that Jugoslavia will resume ~~the~~ support of the Greek guerillas, which Marshall Tito is believed to have stopped: thus getting himself into hot water with the Cominform. So things are pretty much the same as they were, in Jugoslavia - full cooperation with Russia, and aid for the Greek guerrillas.

But Tito, we hear, is ~~very~~ interested in opening up trade with the United States, the Red Marshall ready to do business with Uncle ~~Sam~~ Sam.

GROMYKO

Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Delegate to the United Nations, ~~is~~ on his way home, ~~he~~ arrived at Stockholm today, on ^{board} the Gripsholm. He wouldn't quit the ship, however, until ~~he~~ was given police protection. ^{Then} ~~and~~ when the Swedish gendarmes turned up to guard the Red diplomat, Gromyko dashed to his hotel without even pausing to say ^{aye, yes or} "no" to the newsmen.

PALESTINE

U.N. mediator Count Bernadotte arrived at his headquarters on the Island of Rhodes today, after an aerial tour of the warring capitals. He told newsmen one of the most pressing problems in the Holy Land is the fate of four hundred thousand refugee x Arabs. Some twenty thousand of them camping under the x olive trees around the little ^{town} ~~village~~ of Nazareth. The Count ^{has} asked the Jews to help these refugees, or let them go home. But the Israeli officials ^y ~~said~~ no to that; so ^{Bernadotte is} ~~he is~~ calling on the U.N. to send social experts to handle the problem.

In Tel Aviv, the Count conferred with Jewish cabinet members for three hours, with complete disagreement ^{ent} ~~th~~, we are told, except on one point -- the need for free Jewish immigration into Palestine. The main point of difference between the United Nations Mediator and the Israeli Government is the Arab suggestion for the demilitarization of the Holy City. The Jews claim that Jerusalem is Israeli occupied territory. Tel Aviv says it is about to appoint an

Israeli Governor, and that ^{he} ~~it~~ will control the Stern Gang and Irgun Zvai Leumi. Israeli foreign Minister Mosh² Shertok flatly rejected any Arab conditions for the demilitarization of Jerusalem. These conditions are said to include the return of Arab refugees to their homes in Israeli-occupied Palestine and the withdrawal of all Jewish men of military age from the city.

But Count Bernadotte is still optimistic. He believes he can succeed in preventing full scale fighting from ~~over~~ breaking out again. He is leaving ~~now~~ shortly for ~~the~~ Am^man, to talk to King Abdulla of Trans-Jordan^{JA}. Then he ^{is} ~~is~~ flying home to ~~the~~ Sweden for a vacation, before attending the U.N. General Assembly in Paris this fall. By which time, ~~z~~ he thinks the Jews and the Arabs will have had time to think things over. And be ready to discuss a permanent settlement.

TRANSMITTER

A new radio wonder for Uncle Sam. The Navy reports the use of a tiny transmitter, which sends stratospheric data back to this planet from a height of more than seventy-one miles. The transmitter has worked successfully attached to the Navy's sounding rocket AEROBEE which travels at a speed of two thousand eight hundred and thirty miles an hour.

As a result of using this new transmitter, we know a lot more now about cosmic rays, sunlight and the magnetic fields above the stratosphere. Information we couldn't get any other way at present.

REVENGE

Some of you may remember the Shelton Gang. *A gang that* ~~a bunch of hoodlums who~~ terrorized southern Illinois during prohibition. They are remembered principally because they used World War I methods in their war against their rivals, the Birger Gang. Tanks, armored cars, an airplane, hand-grenades and machine guns. Forty people were killed in battle between the two gangs, ~~xxx~~ and scores wounded.

Charles Birger, the leader of the rival gang, was hanged, and two of the Shelton brothers went to prison, to come out to lead, what they described, ~~in~~ quiet lives as ordinary citizens.

Those "quiet lives may have been a little uneasy at times; ~~in~~ ~~many~~ as you can imagine, the Shelton Brothers having made so many enemies. So many people remembering their relatives shot down in those brutal killings, which were every day occurrences. But, the Shelton Brothers liked to think the past was all forgotten. *And* They kept out of the news, ~~in~~ except to reiterate ~~the fact~~ that they ~~xxxx~~ were living quietly,

like other folks - law-abiding, and all that.

~~It was~~ Last October there was an incident which may have shaken their belief that "all was long forgotten." Carl Shelton, the leader of the powerful Shelton Gang, was killed by a burst of machine gun fire on his farm at Fairfield, Illinois. ^{And} His killers were never arrested.

Today there was another killing, which may have been a sequel to the first. At Peoria, Illinois, Bernard Shelton, Carl's younger brother, was standing contentedly outside his prosperous taverⁿ. A car drove up. There were shots. ^{Shelton} And Bernard ~~Shelton~~ fell dead. The killers making a clean getaway.

It all fits into a pattern, -- with ~~no~~ ^{doubt} ~~perhaps~~ a common motive for the two killings -- revenge.

Bernard Shelton, ~~as was told,~~ being the fourth member of the Shelton gang to die in ^{this manner} ~~such~~ since Nineteen Forty Three. ^{Their Past had caught up} with all four.

SHAW

England was celebrating a birthday today, the birthday of the greatest living Irishman. That paradox alone would please George Bernard Shaw, the Irishman who has become a national institution in England. He was ninety-two today - an event hailed with columns of type in the British newspapers.

I note in the dispatch from London that Shaw is having a birthday dinner tonight, and one guest is featured. Some great light of literature? Not at all. G.B.S. would be paradoxical about that, too. His birthday guest is -- our old friend, Gene Tunney, former heavyweight champion of the world.

Well, the friendship of the literary master and the ~~priz~~ prize fighter has been one of the curiosities of our time. I have the story from Gene Tunney, who tells me that it all goes back to the time when he was heavyweight champion, and Hollywood ~~x~~ had the usual ~~idea~~ idea of getting up a million dollar movie, starring the champ.

Tunney was called into conference with

Hollywood big shots, and they thought, for their superduper prize fight extravaganza, ~~they wanted to~~ ^{how about drama-} ^{tizing} a novel by George Bernard Shaw? In his early days Shaw had published a story about a prize fighter[†], a story called -- "Cashel Byron's Profession." So what could be better? But Gene Tunney said -- no. He had read "Cashel Byron's Profession," and told movie men it would not do for a film -- lots of brilliant prose, but no action. He said, moreover, that the story was rather shallow, the characters over-sentimental, the prize-fighter-hero a soap box orator and a bore.

A prize-fighter criticising the literature of George Bernard Shaw -- that was news. The more so -- as the heavyweight champion was being headlined and ridiculed as the great Shakespearian.

In London, reporters went to Shaw and told him what Tunney had said. They hoped to get a thundering blast - Shaw skinning alive the prize fighter who dared attack a book by Shaw.

But G.B.S., as usual, was different.

When told of Tunney's criticism of "Cashel Byron's Profession," he replied surprisingly: "Did Tunney actually say those things? If he did, the young man was quite right. I should like to meet him."

It turned out that Shaw was not proud of the book in question, regarding it as an ~~early~~ early immature work. His statement that he would like to meet the heavyweight champion resulted in an exchange of letters -- after which Tunney, on a trip to London, called on Shaw, and they became fast friends.

So that's why tonight the guest at the birthday dinner is the former champ - Gene listening to quips of wit and wisdom ^{from} ~~of~~ ninety-two year old sage.

BOXING

Here's some boxing news. In London tonight, Freddy Mills defeated Gus Lesnevich of New Jersey for the world light heavyweight championship. Mills not even considered a British white hope. A surprise result.

How Nelson any surprise from you?

NEW LEAD

L.J.-P.G. July 27, 1948

NIGHT SHOW
Tuesday, July 27,
1948.

(Given by John Keenan,
R.I. in California.)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY.

The Republican leaders in Congress tonight denounced President Truman's call for a special session. / They term it a political manuevre, and they promise to limit the special session to a short period. / In their thousand-word declaration policy the G.O.P. leaders state that President Truman's recommendations will be carefully examined to determine whether they concern matters ~~which~~ ^{that} can be dealt with promptly on an emergency basis. / Routine bills will not be considered, neither will the Senate act on nominations. /

As for those high prices which the President featured in his message to Congress, the Republicans put the blame squarely on the Democratic administration; and they assert their willingness to take the case to the people -- in the November election. /

The G.O.P. statement goes on to brand price, wage and ration controls as police state methods which would only "make the situation worse". / There is also a reference to parliamentary procedure. / The anti-poll tax bill ~~is~~ ^{will be} brought up in the Senate early this week. / That is tantamount to an invitation to a filibuster by the Southern Democrats, calculated to widen the split in the Democratic party over President Truman's civil rights program. / The cold kiss of death to the special session. /

The G.O.P. leaders made their statement after consulting with Governor Thomas Dewey at his home in New York by telephone. / The word is that the Republican Presidential candidate feels that Congress should stay in Washington and give ample consideration to President Truman's anti-inflation message. That two weeks will be enough for this, is the general opinion among the Republicans.

And how do the Democrats feel about being recalled to Washington? / There is division in their ranks. / The northern wing of the party is ~~staunchly~~ ^{strongly} supporting the presidential demands down the line -- inflation controls, restrictions on credit, a housing program, civil rights; and a whole string of legislative items

The Southern Democrats are hostile. Being anti-Truman on the racial rights issue, they're outspoken in declaring that the special session is a political manœuvre by the White House.

One interesting ^{attitude} ~~demeanor~~ is found in the ranks of labor. / The unions declare themselves heartily in favor of the Truman anti-inflation measures - except for one point. / Both the A.F. of L. and C.I.O. are prompt to endorse price-fixing - ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ the point on which labor differs being wage restrictions. / The C.I.O. went on record this afternoon as being against any attempt to put a ceiling on wages. /

Well, it's all ~~an~~ part of the economic dilemma. / As the President points out, wages are at an all-time high, and so are farm earnings, / but so also are prices. / The clever thing would be to put the income of people ^u way up and prices ^a way down. / For example, the government would gain universal applause if it ~~■~~ were to fix things so that the farmers would get paid the highest prices for food, while the consumers

paid the lowest of prices for that same food. / Really, it's all
very simple. / You sell something to me, and get ten dollars for
it, while I pay only five dollars. If the President and
Congress could arrange something like that - all would be well,
and everybody would win the election.

CONGRESS - ETIQUETTE

I am pleased to report that in the drama of President and Congress today, all suitable etiquette was observed. / After all the shouting between the chief executive and the lawmakers, you might have expected an uproar, or at least a few impolite remarks or sounds - after the way the President called the present Senate and the House of Representatives the second worst Congress on record. / And after the way the legislators roared back, and resented those ~~harsh~~ harsh remarks. /

/ But today - all was the book of etiquette. / ~~But~~
But not much else. (With perfect good manners the joint session rose when the President entered. / Mr. Truman, in his address, refrained from his more blistering style of recent oratory, and didn't call the lawmakers any names to their faces. For twenty minutes he lectured them with what one Washington dispatch describes as - "the manner of a mildly exasperated school teacher.") Congress listened dutifully. The loyal Democrats - the Northern Democrats - applauded at the right and Southern Democrats moments. Republicans listened with a chilly silence. They

all rose when the President left, all according to the
presidential-congressional book of etiquette. ^{It} ~~There~~ ^{the} was a kind
of politeness with which some people can insult you by
saying - "I beg your pardon."

MINE

An explosion in Indiana's largest underground coal mine at Princeton. / A total of thirteen lives ^{lost}. Four miners injured. / Some ten or twenty more are still below ground entombed by fallen debris. / Late word is they have been contacted from the surface by telephone. / None of them apparently seriously injured, but they tell of a lot of smoke underground. /

The blast, which occurred in the area that had been sealed off on Saturday when the coal was exhausted, is the second major accident in the Princeton mine in nine months. / The cause of the explosion as yet unknown.

~~The mine superintendent describes "some sort of terrific pressure underground". One of the hazards of the miner's~~

job.

DRAFT

In the draft - the twenty-five year olds will be called first. This was announced today by Selective Service Director Hershey. He said that inductions/into the armed forces will begin with the highest age group, and then will go down the line, until the eighteen year olds are reached. The progress down the line is likely to be ~~fast~~ fast, because it is estimated that only a comparatively small number of men in the higher age groups will be put in uniform - so many to be deferred ~~because~~ because they're veterans, or have dependents, are physically unfit, or are needed in vital industries.

BERLIN

The next move in the Berlin crisis will be another protest to Moscow -- threatening action before the United Nations. / The Ambassadors of the three Western powers *will* ~~to~~ go to the Moscow Foreign Minister and have a talk with him -- in this newest attempt to bring about the raising of the Berlin blockade.

What will they say? / We hear the Ambassadors will tell Molotov that the starvation blockade is in violation of Paragraph three of the Charter of the United Nations. / That paragraph reads: "All members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means, in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered." / In other words, the threat to Molotov will be -- the Western Allies will bring the Berlin crisis before the U.N. under Paragraph Three.

This diplomatic manoeuvre will have the effect of making Moscow decide between two alternatives -- either

to face action before the United Nations, or have a four-power conference on the question of Germany. It has already been made clear that the only way for the Soviets to get such a conference, which they want -- is by lifting the Berlin blockade.

The news from the German capital, meanwhile, tells of huge Red military manoeuvres in Eastern Germany -- three hundred and fifty thousand soldiers, at least eight armored divisions of ponderous tanks, and squadrons of jet planes. / These jets are German-built - Messerschmitt One Hundred and Nines. and Focke-Wulf One Hundred and Nineties. Which sounds like Hitler's Luftwaffe' in World War Two. / Not surprising, since the Soviets took over all the Nazi air technicians they could find, including Hitler's experts on jet aviation. /

PLANE PIRACY

In China - a weird story in connection with a recent airplane crash. / A big flying boat, bound from Macao to Hong Kong, came to disaster - twenty-seven lives lost. / An inquiry has been going on, and the suspicion is - piracy. /

The police say that aboard the plane was a cargo of illicit gold. / Macao is a Portuguese possession in China, and long notorious as a center for all sorts of devious doings - adding plausibility to the story of black market gold being smuggled ^{from Macao} to British Hong Kong.

An investigation of the wreckage discloses several bullet holes in the cabin - also two pistols, ^{that} ~~which~~ had been fired. The theory is that pirates were aboard the airliner in disguise as passengers, and tried to force the crew to fly the plane to some pirate ^{hide-out} ~~lair~~ or other. / A fight broke out - and the plane crashed.

The pirates of China have been a theme of melodrama for centuries - usually operating along the coasts and rivers. In Hong Kong of late, there have been rumors of Chinese

buccaneers going modern, transferring their nefarious activities to the air, pirating treasure in planes. / And some people think there's no progress in China!

TREE

At the city of Colombo, on the exotic island of Ceylon, a tree is dying - and there's dismay in the land. It is a bo tree, said to be twenty-three hundred years old, and surrounded by legends of wonder. The bo tree in Ceylon is claimed to have been grown from a branch of the tree under which Buddha sat - in India. ^{ist} Buddha tradition tells how the Light of Asia sat under a bo tree, and taught his doctrine of eternal mercy - and the oblivion of Nirvana.

In Ceylon, millions of Buddhists ^{worship} ~~worshipped~~ the ancient foliage, descended from Buddha's own tree, and today priests and pilgrims went through mystic performances of ritual and prayer - ^{to} ~~the~~ save the sacred tree.
