

LEAD

LT-PA B Thursday, Nov. 24, 1949

Usually there isn't much news on Thanksgiving Day, but tonite there are a couple of important headlines. One, of obvious high significance from Germany; more excitement in Panama, and a bulletin of strage, exotic drama, with plenty of meaning for the modern world, but something that's almost - out of this world.

The news from Germany tells of an agreement of major proportions between the Western allies and the West German Government at Bonn. There are two principal features. The Western Powers agree to stop the dismantling of industrial factories, those great German plants. The Germans, on their part, pledge themselves not to rebuild an Army of any kind, agreeing in the most positive way to stay demilitarized.

The factory port of it means that the Germans will retain eighteen of their great steel, synthetic oil, and rubber plants - of Krupp, Thy^lmen and I.G. Farben. There were to have been dismantled, their equipment sent to allied countries - a thing against which the West -

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German Government has been protesting bitterly. Now that's all off - dismantling stopped at once.

The German pledge to stay demilitarized is a special concession to France - which all along has been afraid of the revival of German war power. We all remember at once how, after the First World War, Germany was disarmed - but it didn't take. The disarmament clauses of the Versailles Treaty were violated. This time, however, the Allied Powers retain control, supervising things, keeping an eye on what goes on.

There are other clauses in the new agreement - whereby Western Germany agrees to international control of the Ruhr, that potent industrial area. The Germans are given a place on the various agencies for the organization of Western Europe - the government at Bonn being treated as an equal.

But what will Soviet Russia do? There is immediate speculation - and one guess is that the Soviets might respond with some kind of move to withdraw their Army from the Soviet zone. This - in an effort to bolster up their own prestige in Germany.

FOLLOW LEAD

~~Here's is a late bulletin~~ From France ~~comes~~

five million workers going out tonight on a demonstration-
~~strike~~ strike of one day. They are demanding an all
around increase of wages -- the one day general strike
to enforce it.

FRANCE

A general strike began tonight in France -- a walkout for one day. This is a demonstration to back up an all around increase of wages. In Paris, the evening began with a shut down of telephone service, then the subway stopped running, and taxicabs disappeared from the streets -- all in preparation for a general tie-up tomorrow.

PANAMA

Panama has three Presidents tonight - bringing the bedeviled state of politics down there to a new height of complication.

Today the Pan^{an}amanian Supreme Court was called upon to decide between the two Presidents, each claiming office. One - President Chanis, who was ousted by the national police, the Army. He was declared reinstated in office by the National Assembly. The other, Roberto Chiari, whom the Army installed as President. This afternoon the Supreme Court gave its decision - in favor of Chanis.

Whereupon the Army responded by naming a third President, and installing him in the Presidential palace. Arnulfo Arias, an ex-President who was ~~xxxx~~ head of the government nine years ago -- then tossed out by a revolution.

He ran again last year, and was defeated by a narrow margin. Tonight the Army announces that he really won that election - and Panama has three Presidents.

MOVIES

Here's a light ^{story}, for
~~a moment~~ before we go on to the next big story.

The British lion, once the very picture of pride and majesty, now submits to the final blow - a blow to his pride of speech. Actually, the British lion never roared, except with the broadsides of battleships, but was accustomed to utter his defiance in the most aristocratic tones Oxford accent, preferably. But now we hear how Englishmen and English women are having to learn how to talk English - and learn it from Americans.

(This occurs in the British world of movies, where the downfall of the great empire of film built by producer J. Arthur Rank is attributed, in part, to the fact that British cinema stars talked a brand of English that American movie fans couldn't understand. This is the newest London version of the film troubles over there.)

British movies, to make a go of it, have to sell in America. They turned out a couple of masterpieces like Hamlet and Red Shoes, which were hailed as works of art in the U.S.A. But most of the ^{ir} productions have failed to bring in the revenue from America.

Today's dispatch from London tells how J.

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Arthur Rank spent three million dollars on a feature starring the Cockney comic, Sid Field - and the film was expected to earn a lot of dollars in the U.S.A. But what happened was indicated when a preview was held in New York, and people in the audience were asked to give their opinion on - "reaction cards." After it was over, one card came back with the following reaction: "Why didn't you advertise that this was for lip readers?" The Cockney dialect of Sid Field was, no doubt, screamingly funny - but the Americans didn't understand what he was talking about. Not surprising, if you heard Cockney in London.

In another film the dialogue was Etonian - featuring those accents affected at Eton, most famous of all aristocratic schools for boys. In a town of the American middlewest, a movie exhibitor listened to the dialect of lordly youngsters, and groaned: "I can't understand what they're saying. Don't they talk English in England?"

So now they say they are going to do something about it!
~~So now the British, with chagrin and~~

PANCHEN LAMA

One of the important stories of the year came out of Central Asia today, ~~came~~ in a United Press wire by way of Hongkong. It's a story full of drama, intrigue, international politics, and religion. The story is vitally important to the peoples of Central Asia, and it might even turn out to be of equal importance to the four hundred million inhabitants of the Peninsula ~~of India~~ ^{to China, Burma, and Siam, and Indo-China.} That in turn would make it of vital importance to the whole world. The journey that my son and I made recently to Tibet provided us with information that will throw ~~a good deal of~~ ^{some} light on this news dispatch -- making it possible ~~for me~~ to interpret it in a way that would have been impossible ^{had we not gone to Tibet} otherwise.

First, ~~here is~~ the news; from Hongkong: - The dispatch says that the Chinese Communist radio -- in China ^{announces} that the Red forces have captured the Panchen Lama. The communist radio then broadcast a proclamation, ~~supposedly written~~ ^{supposed} by the Panchen Lama, -- ~~as supposed to be~~ -- a proclamation calling for the Chinese Reds to sweep down on Tibet. "Liberate Tibet," is the way they put it.

This news will come as a shock in ^{Lhasa,} ~~Lhasa,~~ that most remote and secluded of cities. I can just see the lay-nobles of Tibet, and the high Lamas, as they gathered today ^{to try,} to talk this over and decide what to do. I can see the holy men in their red robes, and the lay officials, ^{today} in their bright yellow hats, riding ^{hurriedly} ~~to~~ the Potala, on their way to Norbu Lingka, the Dalai Lama's summer palace. For it looks as though the thing they told us they feared most is about to happen, ~~it~~ an invasion by the Red army; ~~coming~~ ^{coming} from the North, ~~those~~ Chinese reds who have captured the Panchen Lama, ^{and who may have tortured the Panchen Lama to make} ~~stop~~ The two top figures of the Buddhist world are the Dalai Lama whose capital city is Lhasa, and the Panchen Lama who ~~is supposed to live in the second~~ ^{quarters is supposed to be in the second} ~~largest~~ largest Tibetan city -- Shigatse.

Several hundred years ago, ~~xxxx~~ the then reigning Dalai Lama created the title of Panchen Lama. ^{A new top post for another top monk.} The idea being that the Panchen Lama would devote himself entirely to spiritual matters, and preside over the great monastery of Tashi Lumpo at Shigatse. ^{All temporal affairs to stay in the hands of the Dalai Lama.}

This is the Panchen Lama's quarters.

The Panchen Lama by the way - of Tashilumpo,
 He is sometimes called the Tashi Lama, ~~the idea for~~

He always to rank second to the Dalai Lama. But in
 later years there have been periods of
 rivalry between them. The Panchen Lama also is supposed to be one

of the reincarnations of the Buddha, coming down through
 the ages, ~~successively~~ ^{the} reincarnation of Buddha, ~~called~~
~~called~~ Amitabha, the Buddha of Boundless Light.

All this ~~is~~ may sound a little complicated.

At any rate, the sixth Panchen, or Tashi, Lama died
 twelve years ago. Since then he has had no successor.

(The way they decide who is to be the next Dalai Lama
 or the next Panchen Lama is complicated. ~~First of all,~~
~~is~~ supposed to be someone ~~who is~~ born during the
 same hour, if possible at the same minute, that the
 Panchen Lama dies. ~~He being reincarnated in~~ ^{His spirit going into} the body
 of a baby born at the same minute.) ~~xxxx~~ ^B Early this year,

the Chinese and Mongolian Buddhists announced that they
 had found the reincarnation of the late Panchen Lama.

Shortly before we started for Tibet, word came from
 Inner China that they had actually proclaimed a certain

eleven year old boy to be the Panchen Lama. ~~at a great~~
^{This in a}

ceremony at the big Buddhist monastery at Kun Bum, near Lake Koko Nor, in a part of Central Asia where no man knows just what is the boundary between China and Tibet. When Lowell Jr and I got to ~~Lan~~ Lhasa we found the Tibetan heads of Buddhism somewhat wrought up about this. They considered it pure insult for the Chinese, and Mongolians, on their own to claim to have found the incarnation of the late Panchen Lama and brazenly go ahead and install him. After all, his capital is the second city of Tibet, Shigatsi; with Buddhists considering him almost as important as the Dalai Lama. In Tibet they knew this was all a political manoeuvre.

And the Tibetans, this summer selected their own candidate for that high post. Another eleven year old boy of course, born at about the same moment the late Panchen Lama died. This boy, from the Tibetan Province of Kham, we found established in one of the ^{smaller} ~~smaller~~

monasteries of Lhasa. We spent an afternoon as ~~the~~ ^{his} guest. ^{we talked to} this lad and his monk advisors, including them in our still and motion pictures.

Just before leaving Lhasa I asked which of the two candidates ^{was likely to} ~~probably would~~ win out in the end, the eleven year old boy-monk we had met, or the eleven year old youngster at Kum Bum. The reply was that when the Chinese reds over-ran the region around Kum Bum monastery and Lake Koko Nor, the so-called Panchen Lama up there would flee. Otherwise, the Reds would cut off his head. In Lhasa they expected him to flee to Tibet. They even predicted that he would come to the Holy City and the names of the two candidates would be put in a golden bowl, before the great image of Buddha. The bowl would be whirled. One name would be lifted out with ~~sixteen~~ ^{ivory} chopsticks. The decision ~~to be~~ made that way.

Or, and they thought this the more likely, the two eleven year old boys would be brought before the Lhasa oracle, ^{The oracle is} a monk who goes into a trance, and

then tells how things should be. The oracle is an ascetic looking monk at Drepung monastery, near Lhasa. ~~We spent a part of one afternoon with him. With whom we had a talk.~~ He would make the decision. And the prediction was that his decision would be in favor of the boy from Kum Bum. That would mean the Buddhists of Mongolia ~~is~~ would be satisfied. Also the Buddhists of Tibet would say the decision was all right because it was made by their ^{Low Tibetan} oracle; and everybody would be satisfied.

~~isn't~~ ^{it's a} complex story. But, ^{things} ~~they~~ ^{they predicted,} ~~seem~~ ^{don't} seem to be working out ^{they way,} According to this ~~was~~ news dispatch today from Hongkong the Chinese R_eds did not behead the Kum Bum Panchen Lama. They captured him. They have issued a proclamation in ~~their~~ ^{his} name and are announcing that they are going to use him in a war ~~is~~ on Tibet.

Why is this important ~~is~~ to other nations, including ourselves? ~~is~~ If the Chinese Reds should sweep down on Tibet -- and use their large mechanized army ^{They} that ought to be easy -- within a matter of months,

they may be on the frontiers of India. For Tibet, geographically is India's number one neighbor. They have a joint frontier thirteen hundred miles long.

What the Chinese Reds, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ^(acting on) orders from the Kremlin in Moscow, ~~XXXXXX~~ are really aiming at is India, with its four hundred million people. If they can get control of all those Tibetan passes, their next move probably will be to send their propaganda ~~through the passes of~~ ^{through the passes of} the Himalayas to India, a country where ~~they~~ ^{they} already ~~have their~~ ^{have their} Communist ~~problem.~~ ^{problem.}

You can see then what that might lead to! -- control of nearly all Asia, and the cutting off of the western world from some of its most important sources of raw materials.

When Lowell Jr went to ^{Washington} to report to our State Department and to President Truman, while I was still ~~in~~ in the hospital, one of the first things the President asked ~~and~~ ^{also} our State Department heads ~~was:~~ ^{was:} What about the Panchen Lama? Today's news gives us the latest on it. Captured by the Chinese Reds, who

are now using him as a puppet -- threatening to
invade Tibet.

ENDING

To get back from Kun Bum, Lhasa and the intrigue of Central Asia, I hope this has been half as wonderful a Thanksgiving for all of you, as it has been for me. It seems that this year I have so many things to thank The Almighty for. I'm grateful to Go^d for enabling me to get home after what happened on that high Central Asian plateau. (I thank him for putting me in the hands of such a highly skilled surgeon and a lot of grand nurses and doctors. Eight fractures in a hip can be something of a problem.) But I am out of the hospital, home again, and grateful to Him who watches over us. Here's hoping it has been a glorious Thanksgiving for all of you who are listening, and to Nelson and all of my other associates here in the studio.