

L.J. - P. & S. Wednesday, Oct. 22, 1947.

HOLLYWOOD

It was ladies' day today at the investigation of Hollywood Communism. That is, Robert Taylor, the handsome lover of the screen, appeared as a witness. The galleries were jammed with women, who paid little or no attention to the other witnesses and the testimony they gave. The girls were there to hear and see Robert Taylor.

However, other witnesses did give some striking testimony - so let's give a moment's attention to them - and keep the ladies waiting.

Movie Executive James K. McGuinness testified today that Communists have been infiltrating filmland since the early Nineteen Thirties, particularly in the writing end. He added, however, that during the past six months the menace has decreased - the film companies taking more and more effective measures to keep Communist propaganda out of motion pictures.

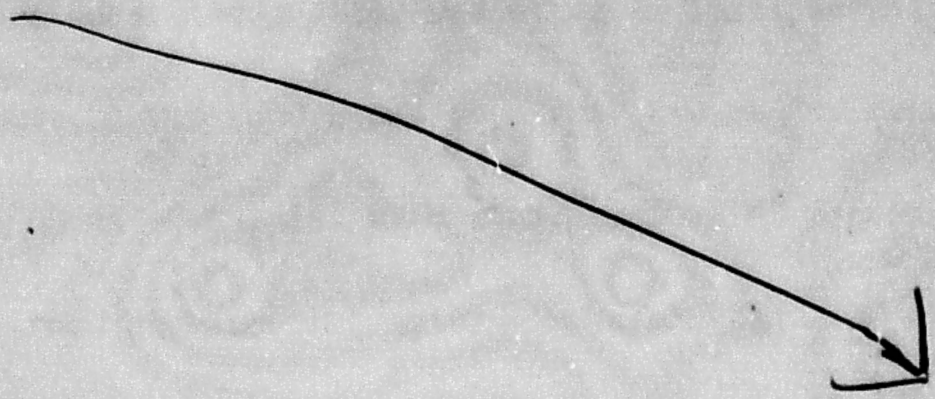
Howard Rushmore, a former film critic for the Communist Daily Worker -- he must have changed his opinion about the beauties of the Party line. He declared that Movie Actors Charlie Chaplin and Edward G. Robinson were, what he called, "sacred cows of the Red press."

Prominent Playwright Murray Riskind told the Committee that the Communists have complete control over the Screen Writers Guild.

Meanwhile, there's a vigorous protest concerning the testimony given yesterday about a Hollywood Anti-Nazi League, a nest of Reds. That Movieland outfit, which no longer exists, has been confused with the nationwide Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, with headquarters in New York, which never had anything to do with the Anti-Nazi League out in Hollywood.

No matter how important the other witnesses were today, they were not Robert Taylor, so the crowd of women gave them scant attention, and only went into ecstasies when the film lover appeared. Whereupon they whooped it up with cheers and shrieks, a screaming ovation.

Robert Taylor today was in no sentimental mood. The war-time naval officer spoke with a grim vigor that he seldom uses in a love scene. He said the Communist Party in America should be outlawed and its members, in the words of Robert Taylor, "sent to Russia or to some other unpleasant place."



~~to Russia or to some other unpleasant place.~~

He declared that he would never work in any ^(capacity) ~~capacity~~ with a Hollywood Communist, even if it meant the end of his career as a movie actor. "I would fire the last one of them, if I were in a position to do so," said he, and he added that he would see

~~that they never got on a payroll again.~~ ^R Film studios are

doing their best to get rid of the Reds, and might be helped

by some sort of legislation - said Robert Taylor. ^{He went on to tell how} ~~he said that~~

scripts had been submitted to him, which he considers Communist propaganda - and he named names.

One high point of the film actor's testimony concerned the wartime picture called "Song of Russia." The Congressional Committee thinks that this movie was excessively pro-Soviet, and one witness today described it as - "intellectual Lend-Lease." The report has been that Robert Taylor appeared in the " Song of Russia" as a star, because of pressure brought to bear from government quarters in Washington. He stated today that he regarded " Song of Russia" as a Communist

propaganda and ~~he~~ tried to get out of playing in it - but ~~he~~ was persuaded - persuaded by the film company and by Lowell Mellett, who was an aide to the late President Roosevelt and was Film Director for the Office of War Information. Robert Taylor denied that he had been forced to take the part. He was merely persuaded. ~~"If I ever have given the impression that I was forced to make the picture," said he, "I would say I was not forced."~~

Every line of his anti-Communist assault was greeted by a tumult of feminine applause - cheers of Eeeee and Ooooo. One woman in a red hat got yelling "Hurray for Robert Taylor!" so loud and long, that a policeman had to make her sit down and be quiet. When the film lover left, the guards held the ladies back to keep them from mobbing him in the congressional hearing room - and they streamed out of the door after him. They caught him - and when last seen Robert Taylor was in the middle of a milling crowd of women autograph hunters. And he had a slightly disheveled look.

CHOLERA

The government of Egypt seems about to declare martial law. For what reason? A threat of revolt - or some international peril? No, it's more ominous than that. The enemy is - Cholera. The outbreak of the plague in Egypt is growing worse, the number of victims each day ~~was~~ now counts in the hundreds. The areas hardest hit are two provinces in the Delta of the Nile, where the scenes of horror remind one of the story history tells about the great plagues of the Middle Ages - the Black Death.

But what can martial law do against cholera? The answer lies in the reluctance of the Egyptian peasants with their primitive way of life to cooperate with modern measures for the suppression of the deadly epidemic. Also, the corruption of officials, who take bribes to permit the violation of medical regulations. ~~The peasants of the Delta~~ hide bodies of the victims, and that spreads the plague. The police and local authorities, even doctors, ~~may~~ if they are paid, permit people to travel out of quarantined areas, and

~~profiteers are hiking prices of necessities in the stricken~~
areas. So the answer meditated is martial law, giving the
national health authorities military power to enforce medical
regulations. Virtually - a dictatorship of doctors to stamp out
the plague.

From Cairo we have the report of a grizz^{ly} incident
to illustrate how backward the Egyptian peasants are in the
face of the raging cholera - ^{the} modern Black Death. In a cafe,
Haji Noslem^s were sitting around drinking coffee, munching food
and smoking pipes - when a man alone at a table went into
sudden convulsions, writhed and died - the plague strikes that
quickly. Others at cafe tables not far away watched him
passively. I suppose it was the old Mohammedan feeling of
Kismet, fate - what is written is written. They continued with
their coffee, sandwiches and pipes - and all the while the
flies were buzzing, the flies that carry the plague, The deadly
germ of cholera transmitted by insects.

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Just then an Egyptian health official happened in, and shouted to them: "Get out or you'll get the plague. Don't you see," he cried, "it was cholera."

One man at a table spoke up and said - "Yes, but we're too far from him to catch it." And all the while the flies were buzzing.

NORTH POLE

At Fairbanks, Alaska, today, a giant B-29 landed, and its crew of fourteen received the greeting ^{due to} of airmen who have done something special. They had just returned from the North Pole. - ~~But~~, that wasn't anything special. (Since last March, North Pole flights from Alaska have been made one after another, ^{on} a routine schedule) This has only recently been disclosed. The first was made on March Seventeenth, St. Patrick's Day, and ever since North Pole flying has been the usual thing - weather service, regular meteorological observation extended to the northern tip of this earth.

The special ^{point} ~~thing~~ about the B-29 flight today was - that it was the longest. Hitherto, ^{the} a series of weather flights have been made from Point Barrow, northernmost Alaska; but, this one was from central Alaska - Fairbanks to the North Pole and back. So congratulations were in order - rather mild congratulations, North Pole flying having become such a commonplace to the men of the Weather Service B-29s.

~~How should you like to go on one of these routine~~

~~North Pole flights? Well, the best we can do about that is to~~
~~relay an eye-witness description from~~ ⁷⁷ ~~One of the navigators,~~
~~aboard the B-29 on the flight today.~~ Lieutenant Donald Sheer
of Los Angeles, ~~He~~ says there were clouds on the way to the
coast of the Arctic Ocean. "But," he adds, "from there to the
Pole it was beautiful. The sun had disappeared over the edge of
the ice," he relates, "and it reminded you of a Robert Service
poem. We flew at ten thousand feet all the way."

But what was it like at the North Pole? Here's ^{the} a
description given by Lieutenant Sheer: "At the Pole," says he,
"there was a deep red glow over half the horizon. The sky was
mostly clear and we could easily see the broken ice." How did
the ~~pink~~ polar ice look from ten thousand feet? The Lieutenant
says it looked broken, seamed with cracks. "It was like a
huge, ^{white} zigsaw puzzle," says he.

BANDITS

In Conrad, Montana, police are searching for a mother and two sons who have taken to the road on a career of crime, fleeing from justices into the mountains. A four-state alarm is out for the three who organized a series of robberies from a mountain cabin, stealing several thousand dollars and plenty of rifles and ammunition.

Originally there were four, one of whom the police have slain - a third son of the grey-haired woman reported to be the brains of the gang. But the others got away to the hills, escaping under a fusillade of police bullets, leaving the third brother to die by the road side. They were trailed to a lonely cabin at Bear Creek Dude Ranch near Glacier National Park, but again they got away -- but it was close. The mother and two sons fleeing in a Nineteen Forty-Seven Sedan they stole in Minnesota early this month, the car repainted to conceal its identity. Behind them in the lonely cabin, the family of gangsters left quite a lot of loot, from various robberies, abandoned in their haste.

And tonight, the police are in hot pursuit of the grey-haired woman and her two sons.

BABE RUTH

At Danvers, Massachusetts, today, a twelve year old boy had a place of honor - he was Babe Ruth. Frank Haggerty is a school-team ball player, and you can imagine how solemn he was with pride - playing his part as a representative of the mighty old Sultan of Swat. The occasion was - a funeral. They were taking to his final rest - Brother Gilbert, who discovered Babe Ruth, and launched the career that was to become the number one epic of American sport.

Some years ago we had Brother Gilbert on this program, and had him tell us the story of how he discovered the Babe. The clergyman, speaking into a studio microphone, explained how, at the time, he had a travel^{ing} job, going around to various institutions of ^{the} Christian Brothers. He was a lifelong baseball fan, and a close friend of Jack Dunn, famous old Manager of the Baltimore Orioles. In fact, the clergyman did a bit of volunteer scouting for the Oriole Manager, tipping him off to ball players ~~whom he~~ he happened to see in school, sand lot, and minor league games.

Brother Gilbert related that, visiting the Christian Brothers School at Baltimore, he watched the ball game and saw a lad, an orphan, ^{who} ~~that~~ looked like the greatest kid ball player he had ever seen. The other boys were disappointed when this prodigy hit a home-run inside the park - ~~it should have been~~ ^{-- for him it generally} ~~was out of the lot,~~ over the fence. So Brother Gilbert sent the tip to Manager Jack Dunn, and promptly the orphan ^u ~~fondling~~ boy was called for a try-out with the Orioles. The rest is history, the history of Babe Ruth. In the fabulous career of the greatest of home-run hitters, Brother Gilbert remained a good friend and wise counsellor to the Babe. - So, now they were holding his funeral, and the Babe, ^{ill,} ~~couldn't~~ attend.

2 When that word arrived at D_uvers, Massachusetts, twelve year old Frank Haggerty thought - it was a sad thing. But maybe he could do something about it. The New York World-Telegram tells how he wrote to the Babe in the hospital, offering to act as ^{his} ~~a~~ representative. And immediately - back came a telegram from Babe Ruth, taking him up on that,

and authorizing the schoolboy ball player to take the part of Babe Ruth at the funeral of Brother Gilbert.

So that happened today. ^{And} There wasn't a twelve year old in the country prouder or more solemn. He was Babe Ruth, though he is only four feet one - and I'm sure he's quite a hitter on the playground ball team.

FRANCE

The French Cabinet resigned today, the government of Premier Paul Ramadier. That's no great surprise -- considering the startling victory won by DeGaulle in the elections last weekend -- also the threat of a general strike by the Communists. ^{TR} The moderate non-Communist government of Ramadier found itself in one tough spot -- the moderate parties losing out all along the line -- with France dividing into extremes. On one side there's the right-wing nationalism of DeGaulle, winning the votes. On the other, the Communists, in control of the Labor unions, ~~They are~~ demanding a general wage increase of more than fifty percent, under the menace of a general strike. An election majority on one hand, a general strike on the other. So no wonder the moderate Cabinet in Paris toppled and fell.

We are told that, in a critical Cabinet meeting, the members of the M.R.P. offered their resignations. They belong to the moderate Catholic party, headed by Foreign Minister ~~Bidault~~ ^{Bidault}, and that party was nearly wiped out in the weekend right-wing surge

of votes for DeGaulle. So naturally enough, after their election ~~today~~ day defeat, they offered to resign.

Ramadier responded by calling for the resignation of the entire Cabinet -- so that occurred.

~~Word from Paris is that Ramadier will try to form another ministry; and on this side of the Atlantic it looks as if the Socialist Premier might seek to include representatives of the victorious party of DeGaulle.~~

ADD FRANCE (Kill last paragraph of early FRANCE story.)

In Paris

~~city~~ tonight Premier Ramadier formed ^{a new} ~~his~~

Ministry -- a streamlined cabinet of thirteen members to replace the old cabinet of twenty-eight. Of these thirteen members, seven are Ramadier Socialists; three popular Republicans; two left Republicans; and one Independent. No representation of the deGaulle organization in the new cabinet. This because the victory of the deGaulle supporters was in the municipal elections, not in the national, the deGaulle ^{therefore} Party having no Parliamentary strength.

IRAN
(The government of Iran rejects all Soviet demands for an oil concession. The turn-down is complete) - the Iranian Parliament voting almost unanimously today to give no petroleum concessions to any foreign power - especially the Soviets.

Last year, Iranian Premier Ghavam made a tentative agreement with Moscow, a deal to let the Soviets in on Iranian oil resources.

This was cancelled specifically today.

The Parliament at Teheran decides that the ancient land of Persia will do its own exploitation of petroleum, will embark on a program of ^{developing} ~~development~~ its oil resources - and will negotiate to get more profits from the oil concessions already granted to American and British interests.

VISHINSKY

Before the Assembly of the United Nations, Vishinsky added a couple of new names to his list of American war-mongers -- and he handed out a book plug, ^{too.} He hurled a bitter blast against American Defense Secretary Forrestal, also against former Secretary of State Byrnes -- and that was the book plug.

The crime of Jimmy Byrnes, according to the Soviet Foreign Minister, is his newly published ^{memoirs,} ~~book~~ SPEAKING FRANKLY. ^π Vishinsky says the memoirs of our former Secretary of State are filled with what Vishinsky called "various nonsenses, provocative rubbish, and slanderous inventions against the USSR." ^π I like the use of the plural in the word "nonsenses." We do have a great number of nonsenses in this world, with Vishinsky contributing more than his share. But it was a good book plug, and I'll bet -- if Vishinsky sent a bill to the publishers for doing a press agent job they'd ~~they'd~~ remit with a check. *Or am I indulging in nonsenses?*