

LT-P+G Thurs. Nov. 13-52.

Substitute IKE-STALIN

General Eisenhower has no plans for a personal meeting with Stalin. This is stated by Ike's Press Secretary, James Hagerty. A rumor to the contrary appeared in a Paris newspaper - which declared that the President-elect intended to hold top-level discussions with the Russian dictator. But Jim Hagerty replies to the rumor with the words, "I know of no such plans."

EISENHOWER

Next Tuesday, General Eisenhower will fly directly from Augusta, Georgia, to Washington for his meeting with President Truman. The President-elect had thought about visiting his New York headquarters first. But he feels now that he can maintain contact with his advisers easier if he stays in his vacation hideaway. Spokesmen for General Ike say that he wants to be thoroughly briefed by his representatives at the Washington discussions, before he goes in person to see President Truman.

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In the meantime, the national capital is preparing a whole of a reception for the President-elect. ^{according to} That is, ^{the} Chairman of the Inaugural Committee, the ceremonies for Ike will rival those when President Truman returned to Washington in Nineteen Forty-Eight -- the return from that victorious campaign.

FELLER

A high U.N. official has committed suicide.

Abraham Feller jumped from his apartment window, and fell twelve stories to his death. Feller had been with the U.N. since it was founded. He was an American legal expert, and a personal adviser to U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie. ~~He was~~ In bad health, ^{had} two weeks ago he ~~suffered~~ a nervous breakdown.

One report says that Feller had been called to testify before the Senate Committee, which is investigating Communist activity among Americans in the U.N.

Substitute IRAN

Senator

~~Gov.~~ Lodge has arrived in Washington to represent General Eisenhower in discussions on national defense ^{and} foreign policy. Lodge told reporters that he will be ready to meet officials in the State and Defense Departments tomorrow. He added: that he may have a secret written report ready when the President-elect arrives in the Capital on Tuesday. Lodge refused to comment when asked about the possibility of his joining Eisenhower's Cabinet.

Substitute KOREAN WAR

In Korea, fierce fighting is raging along the crest of Sniper Ridge. The South Koreans are struggling to retake the position. A United Press dispatch describes the ROK forces as running, walking, and crawling up the hill. They reached the top, and attacked the Chinese defenders at close quarters. Savage hand-to-hand fighting is going on, and the outcome of the battle is still in doubt.

Some South Korean soldiers claim that the Reds have been using "gas shells" in the recent fighting. But American officers say there is no official confirmation of this. They point out that the fumes from phosphorus shells, which are used by the Reds, are often mistaken for gas. One of our chemical officers, Colonel Harrison Markham, says that the Koreans may have smelled picric acid, which is caused by the detonation of old gunpowder.

NEPAL

Chinese Communist troops have entered the independent state of Nepal - that remote and rugged land northeast of India, in the Himalayas. A representative of the Nepal Congress charges that the Reds have been moving in from Tibet. He claims that they are cutting timber in Nepal, felling trees on the slopes of the Himalayas, to get building material for barracks and supply sheds in Tibet.

(If this report is true, it indicates that the Chinese "liberation" of Tibet is following the familiar Communist pattern. The construction of barracks and

supply depots can mean only one thing ^{— that} the Chinese ^{Reds} ~~are~~ ^{plan} ~~in Tibet~~ to stay in Tibet — if they can.

INDO-CHINA

The Communist rebels in French Indo-China are getting military supplies from Russia and China. This was revealed when the French forces captured a Red supply dump. They found an arsenal of weapons, machine-guns, bazookas, modern field-guns, Also thousands of rounds of artillery and mortar shells.

French experts say that most of the weapons came from Russia, China and Czechoslovakia. Some discoveries in the supply dump are so important that the French authorities refuse to reveal them. A special guard has been assigned to the dump, because of the fear that the Reds will try to sneak back and destroy it.

(In the Union of South Africa - more trouble between Premier Malan and the Supreme Court. The Court declares that Malan's policy of "white supremacy" is illegal.) Last May, the Premier introduced a law giving Parliament the right to veto decisions of the Supreme Court. Since his party dominates the Parliament, Malan thought that he could ignore the Supreme Court. But now the Court ^{says} ~~judge~~ that Malan's law is unconstitutional. (Which means that Malan will have to ignore the ruling of the court, and go ahead with his "white supremacy" legislation, ~~or~~ ~~else~~ he will have to hold a national election to decide the problem.) He is expected to rely on an election, early next year, when he will call the people of South Africa to endorse his ~~reactionary~~ policies.

CORONATION

The Coronation of Queen Elizabeth the Second may be televised in its entirety. This is the inference of a story in the London Evening News. Originally the Joint Coronation Committee had ruled that the television cameras must stop just inside the door of Westminster Abbey. T.V. fans would then have to wait for a newsreel to show them the most important part of the ceremony.

This decision caused many protests from the British public, who want to see the actual crowning of their new monarch. As a result, says the London Evening News, the Joint Coronation Committee has decided to recommend televising the whole thing. All that is needed now is the approval of the Full Coronation Commission.

PAINTINGS

Three paintings by old masters have been stolen from a Catholic cathedral in Kentucky. The cathedral is Saint Joseph's at Bardstown, the first cathedral established west of the Appalachians. The paintings are by Rubens, Murillo, and Van Eyck. They were presented to the cathedral by King Louis Phillippe, who was driven from the throne of France in Eighteen Forty-Eight.

(Church authorities found the doors of the cathedral broken open. Ladders used by the thieves were still leaning against the walls. Only the paintings were taken, although the cathedral contains many other objects of great value. The paintings are estimated to be worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. But art experts say the thieves will be unable to sell them, because they are too well known.)

PIRATES

Here's a tale of piracy - something that doesn't figure in the news very often nowadays. A dispatch from Tangier, in Spanish Morocco, tells how a gang of masked men boarded a Dutch ship in the Mediterranean. They held up the crew with tommy-guns, and took control of the ship. ^{Then} They sailed to Corsica, where they landed the cargo - over two thousand cases of American cigarettes. ^{Finally} They abandoned the ship, after sailing it around the Mediterranean for twelve days.

Now police in Tangier have picked up six men, who are charged with belonging to the pirate crew. But those two thousand cases of American cigarettes have not been recovered.

RUSSIAN ~~REASONING~~ BUSINESS

The Russians have announced more than once that they want to trade with the West. Last year they staged, what they called, a "world's economic conference," ^{to which} They invited business men from the rest ^{urging them} of the world to buy and sell in the Soviet Union.

One British manufacturer, Harry Scott, accepted the offer, in order to test the sincerity of the Russians. He sent fifty thousand sample sheepskins to Moscow, so that prospective buyers could examine them.

Here is Harry Scott's description of how the Russians reacted: "I sent the samples, but, time passed, and I got no word from Moscow. So I wrote cancelling the deal. Then they wrote me, saying the samples were no good. Of course, they were ^{good,} because I promptly found buyers in Belgium and West Germany. Somehow I don't think that conference was anything but propaganda."

So British business man, Harry Scott, isn't interested anymore in trying to do business with the Russians.

FAROUK

A firm of Paris jewelers is suing Egypt's ex-King Farouk. The firm charges that Farouk bought, what is termed, "the smallest watch in the world." And that he has not yet paid for it.

According to a spokesman for the firm, the timepiece is worth over nine hundred dollars. He says it is made of gold, and has a movement weighing only one gram.

The deal was made before Farouk abdicated the Egyptian throne. Then, in the words of the Paris jewelers, "When Farouk abdicated, we wrote to Capri to ask for payment. But all we received was a reply telling us to get the money from the Egyptian Embassy in Paris. The Egyptian Embassy said it was Farouk's private affair."

Now the jewelers are treating Farouk as they would any private citizen in similar circumstances. They have opened legal proceedings against him, in an effort to make him pay up.

On November Fifth the French radio broadcast a recorded speech by General Eisenhower. It was announced as a special address from the American President-elect to the French people. And the French people were much gratified by it, since no other nation received such a compliment from Ike after his election.

But the extreme Left Wing was not at all gratified. One of its weekly newspapers charged that the speech was no special address meant specifically for France. ~~It~~ Said the paper, General Ike just repeated an old campaign speech, and pretended that it was a personal message of friendship intended for the French people alone.

This accusation caused a furor in France. The French are sticklers for politeness, and they wanted to be sure that Ike had really paid them a special compliment. The Paris Government became involved. It demanded a full explanation from ~~its~~ its New York office. And officials here reply, that Ike's words were intended "specifically and only for France!"

The officials admit that the phrasing was somewhat similar to a speech Eisenhower made in October - when he commemorated France's gift of the Statue of Liberty to the United States.

But, say the radio officials, "The message as broadcast to France was not the result of editing a previous broadcast speech, but was an original recording of the General's statement in his home in New York. The statement that it was an old campaign ~~speech~~ speech is simply not true. It was a special message for France."

UNKNOWN PRESIDENT

Here's a question for those quiz shows - if they want a twister to stop everybody. Who was the Twelfth President of the United States - the real one? No, not Zachary Taylor, listed as number twelve. The real one had a city in Kansas named after him, and one of the great American railroads bears his name. But - don't try to guess. Its the case of - the Unknown President.

This comes from Mrs. C.F. Wantz of York, Nebraska, who sends me a clipping from Capper's Weekly.

Well, when Zachary Taylor became President, March the Fourth was Inauguration Day. But it fell on Sunday that year. He respected the Sabbath, and was not inaugurated until the next day. So, it would seem that the country was left without a chief executive during those twenty-four hours.

But that's impossible - the Constitution providing ~~that~~ any president, leaving office, shall have an immediate successor. So who would that be - for the space of a day?

According to the Constitution in that particular instance, the President of the Senate. So, as a legal technicality, he became president. Making him number twelve.

The President of the Senate that year was David Rice Atchison of Missouri. The City of Atchison, Kansas, is named after him, and he is immortalized in the name of that famous railroad - the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe. And he was President for a day.

All of which is one of those technical twisters that come up, and it won't make any difference when General Eisenhower is inaugurated. He'll be listed as the thirty-fourth President - though, legally, he'll be the thirty-fifth.

But, in honor of that Unknown President for a Day, the band, Nelson, should strike up that excellent ditty - Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe.