

KOREA

L.S. - R.S.

Monday, February 16, 1947.

wins

Soviet Russia has achieved a victory in eastern Asia without firing a shot. (Northern Korea today was proclaimed, by radio, ~~as~~ ^{At the same time} an independent republic. It was publicly announced that this new ^{Asiatic state} ~~political unit~~ has a strong army, equipped with Russian arms, ~~ammunition and other war material~~, commanded and trained by Soviet officers. It calls itself, "the army of all Korea." ^π The capital of this so-called republic is at Pyongyang, headquarters of the Russian army of occupation. ^π The national flag will be white with a red horizontal stripe. ^π The country ^{to be} ~~is~~ ^{governed by} peoples' committees, committees set up in the Soviet zone as long ago as August, Nineteen Forty-Five. ^π All national resources, all foreign trade, under government ownership or control.

~~The authorities in the American zone predicted that~~

~~the next step would be the establishment of a so-called~~

What is more,

~~independent government.~~ (The spokesman for the new government announced that they ~~would~~ ^{will} soon extend their control to the rest of Korea, ^{with} ~~and~~ ^{now} Seoul, in the American zone, ^{as} ~~would be~~ the national capital ^{once more.})

All of which of course

~~This maneuver~~ is an international affront to the United Nations. The world organization sent a committee of representatives of nine nations to Korea to conduct elections in both southern and northern Korea for the formation of a national government. Those elections were to have been held in March, ~~But~~ the committee was refused admission to the Soviet zone.

PALESTINE

~~The international embarrassment over Palestine hit a new climax~~ This evening ~~when~~ the Palestinian Committee of the United Nations published a report appealing to the Security Council for an international army. That army ^{to} ~~should~~ be ready to move into the Holy Land by the Fifteenth of May, ~~and~~ thus ^{to} avert the failure of the program for partitioning Palestine,-- which would be catastrophic.

It is expected that the ^{Security} Council will begin discussing this report ^{at once} ~~quite soon~~, and that ^{the} debate will ~~almost certainly~~ decide once and for all whether the United Nations is going to be an effective instrument for world peace, or ^{only} ~~scholar~~ ^{another} ~~the same facility as the~~ League of Nations. ~~Incidentally,~~

Secretary-General Trygve Lie announced today that the next meeting of the General Assembly of the U.N. will be at Paris.

^{is} ~~that~~ ^{as a} ~~the~~ is largely ^{the} result of the devaluation of the Franc,

which will save the organization and most of its members ~~quite~~

^{a great deal} ~~a lot~~ of money.

To get back to the Commission's report; it included

the declaration that force ~~was~~^{is} urgently and compellingly necessary. ^{That} If an international army is not organized to see that the partition program is carried out, it will be a dangerous and tragic precedent. ~~It should, moreover,~~^{And that it should} be a non-Palestinian force. ~~This should be done~~^{This should be done} the evacuation of the British forces, on the termination of the mandate, will be followed by uncontrolled, widespread strife and bloodshed.

The White House announced today that President Truman had^s sent personal appeals to the heads of state of the Middle Eastern nations, imploring them to exercise restraint in dealing with the Palestine situation in the interest of world peace.

From Palestine, the latest is that a Haganah force, guarding a small settlement on the Jordan River in eastern Palestine, defeated a ~~large~~ band of raiding Arabs, ~~and~~ killed^y thirty of them.

FALKLANDS

A British warship today steamed out from a South African naval base, destination the Falkland Islands. Her equipment included torpedoes and Antarctic clothing for the crew. This followed immediately the news that naval forces of Argentina and Chile, acting in cooperation, are operating in the waters around those islands which the British claim belong to ~~the~~ The Empire.

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Most of us, I suppose, remember the Falklands principally because of the battle that was fought nearby in the first year of the First World War; the one in which a British squadron under Admiral Sturdee avenged the destruction a few months earlier of the British West India squadron under Sir Christopher Craddock. ~~Sturdee~~

Sturdee sank the fleet of the Count von Spee, all except the cruiser Dresden. A victory remarkable because of the element of surprise. Von Spee went there expecting to find a weak British squadron. But the London Admiralty ^{had} ~~had~~ secretly sent two of its most

powerful battle cruisers to join Sturdee. Von Spee never had a chance, and the victory virtually cleared the high seas of German cruisers -- German raiders.

During the heyday of Britain's empire, her title to the Falkland Islands was questioned, though the South American countries did nothing about it. Now that the Empire is passing through troubled days, Argentina and Chile actually have invaded those dependencies off the southern tip of South America.

Shortly after this present warship weighed anchor at Simonstown, South Africa, a question was asked about it in the House of Commons. Whereupon a Minister of State announced that Argentina and Chile not only have naval forces in British waters, but have landed parties and propose to set up a military command in British territory. The British government offered to put the issue up to the International Court at The Hague, said they would accept that court's decision. But Argentina and Chile both refused. A spokesman for

the London government now declares that the British can only regard that refusal as evidence that Argentina and Chile have no confidence in their ability to dispute the legal title of the British.

What happens when this British cruiser arrives in Falkland Island waters will be interesting to watch.

GREECE

More money for the Greeks -- and, more money for the Turks. Those three hundred millions in cash and supplies we sent to Athens won't be enough, says Mr. Truman. In his report to Congress, the President explains that there has been an ever-increasing pressure over there, by Communists; meaning, of course, by Bulgaria, Albania, and principally Jugoslavia, with Soviet Russia in the background. He adds that if this guerrilla menace increases, it will have to be met with greater resources than are at present available.

The Reds, says Mr. Truman, are recruiting most of their forces by drafting, against their will, the peasants of northern Greece. When the Reds destroy towns and villages, as a matter of strategy, the inhabitants have to take refuge in the already overcrowded towns where they become public charges and consume the supplies we've sent to Greece. More than four hundred and twenty thousand Greeks in the North have become refugees in this fashion. So, Uncle Sam must put up more money.

All of which was predicted when we first appropriated the three hundred millions for Greece and a hundred million for Turkey.

The expense of equipping the Greek Army and Navy, we hear, has been greater than at first estimated. Also, more of Uncle Sam's soldiers and sailors are being sent to Greece.

As for the Turks -- what we are doing for them has been done in a more orderly manner, with careful planning.

The President doesn't mention any figures, but others estimate that at least two hundred million more will be needed, for both.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Social security in the U.S.A. will be expanded if Congress passes the bill introduced today by Representative Robert Kean of New Jersey. At present, many workers, including farm hands, are not covered. But the new measure will put them in.

Another new feature of the bill will be to increase minimum benefits for unemployment or old-age pension. It also will enable a man who has retired, to earn up to thirty dollars a month without forfeiting his old-age pension. At present he must not earn more than fourteen dollars and ninety-nine cents a month.

All this will take money. How is it to be paid for? A tax of one per cent on the first four-thousand-two hundred dollars every year from every man's salary or wages. At present it's only one per cent on the first three thousand. In other words, it will cost people who earn that much forty-two dollars a year instead of thirty dollars. Says Congressman Kean, that will mean no extra cost to anyone.

RUSSIAN MUSIC

Last week we heard about the rap over the knuckles that the three foremost Russian composers received from the Central Committee of the Communist Party, which accused them of writing music that was undemocratic, full of formalistic distortions; in short, horrid bourgeois music. Those three composers are Aram Khatchaturian, Sergei Prokofieff and Dmitri Shostakovich.

So what happens today? The Soviet Embassy, in its monthly information bulletin just out, declares that the music of Aram Khatchaturian is distinguished by clarity of thought, richness of color, and fine range of melody. It praises his originality, melodic gifts, virtuosity of technique, inventiveness of harmony and richness of orchestration. Then it goes on to point out that Aram Khatchaturian has been awarded the Stalin Prize on three separate occasions.

This bulletin is dated February Eleventh, the same day that the Central Committee of the Communist Party at Moscow published its blast against Khatchaturian and his two colleagues.

For some reason it was only made public today. It's a fair guess that the man who wrote the eulogy in the Soviet Embassy bulletin and his editor will soon receive a little billet doux from Moscow -- maybe a return ticket, calling them back to the Steppes.

SABOTAGE. 1

At Long Beach, California, a navy landing craft, recently converted into a cargo vessel for the Saudi Arabian Government, was found to have been sabotaged. Just before the ship in company with another purchased vessel, was about to sail, American engineers found that sand and other abrasives had been put in the engines. A deliberate attempt to sabotage ~~the~~ ^{BOTH} vessels, All eight of the engines tampered with; - so much sand in the main gear box ^{ES} that the shafts would ~~not~~ rotate.

~~The Coast Guard and the Long Beach Police are working on the case, checking who had access to the ships over the week-end immediately after they were turned over to the General Steam Ship Company, agent for the Arab purchasers.~~ No clues at present, just the evidence that the saboteurs did a thorough job which will entail a complete overhaul before the ships can leave port.

PRICES

More news from the commodity markets:

The break in prices is over; or seems to be. Grains actually went up on the larger exchanges -- also livestock, butter, cotton, cocoa, coffee, hides.

On the other hand, Chicago reports that the cost of food at neighborhood stores went down. But to housewives who have the job of buying food, all this news of a drop in retail prices may sound ironic, because they have seen little ^(evidence) ~~XXXXXXXX~~ of it.

RENTS

The federal statute controlling rents throughout the United States is not unconstitutional, definitely not. That is the position of the ^{U.S.} Supreme Court, ^{- in an opinion} written by Associate Justice William O. Douglas. ^{All of which} ~~that~~ ^{upsets} a ruling made by a lower court at Cleveland last November, in which the judge said Congress had no more authority to regulate rents after President Truman declares ^d hostilities at an end, ~~which was~~ on December Thirty-First, Nineteen Forty-Six.

Justice Douglas declares that the housing shortage, created in large measure by the war, still exists. And even after hostilities have ended, Congress may lawfully act to control forces which the war set in ^{motion. That} ~~moment~~ any other attitude ^{have a} would ~~be~~ paralyzing ^{effect on the country.}

~~While his ruling backed up the government, the Justice took the occasion to utter a warning, in these words: "If the war power can be used in days of peace to heal all the wounds which war inflicts on our society, it may not only swallow up all other powers of Congress, but may also largely obliterate~~

ADD RENTS

The ink was hardly dry on that decision before the Banking Committee of the Senate reported a bill to extend rent controls until April Thirtieth, Nineteen Forty-Nine, approved it unanimously. ^{Both} ~~that augurs a quick passage by both~~ Houses of Congress, *probably will pass it in a hurry.*

GOLD STANDARD Eighty-three year old prospector Frank. E. Gimlet, only resident of Arbor-Villa, Colorado, is stopping over in New York tonight. Franks is on his way to Washington where he's going to talk horse-sense to the Senate Banking Committee. Putting into words all the horse sense he's picked up in seventy years of Indian fighting, riding the ranges, and searching for gold ^{in them thar hills,} Frank says he's made a million, by and large, but he's lost it all prospecting for more.

"Trouble with this country?" says Frank "Why it's inflation. And the way to get rid of inflation? ~~is to~~ ~~to~~ back to the gold standard." What this country needs, ^{the Rocky Mt. prospector,} says ~~is~~, is some real solid gold and silver coins in circulation. ^{And, he adds, we must} ~~then we have to~~ put the women back on the pedestal of constancy, modesty, mystery, fidelity, -- and, alluredness - that's Frank's word for it. ^{TP} ~~But~~ ~~don't get the idea Frank is plugging the new look.~~ ~~"No Sir" he says. "Who can look at the imperfections of~~

GOLD STANDARD 2

~~these short gowned women, and think they are saintly?~~

~~And that's where old Frank shakes his head. He knows,~~

he says, ^{he:} ~~that~~ "You can't separate women and gold and government. Not with ~~"the wimmin"~~ controlling

~~eighty per cent of our wealth. No pardner, you jest~~
~~can't just do it. so you have to get back on the~~
~~gold standard and improve the standard of the wimmin.~~
80% of the nation's wealth,
Not with wimmin' controllin'

~~There arn't~~
~~Frank doesn't see many women back in~~ ^{that Colorado}
~~burg where old Frank lives. He~~
~~Ville. He~~ and a few thousand gophers - are the

sole residents of the old ghost town, that ^{once} had a popul-
ation of three thousand, ^{odd} seventy years ago.

~~Anyway he's headed for Washington~~
~~and what is he going to tell the~~ ^{about} Senate Banking
Committee? ~~Why just plain horse sense,~~ Golden money

and constant women; and ~~all about~~ the good old days
when you could "get by" on ten bucks a month. Tonight

in New York, where he's ~~hitched up~~ in a swank hotel,

Frank has been telling ^{it to the} newsmen, ^{and bickin'} ~~his troubles.~~ First,

^{because} the New York cops ^{want} ~~wouldn't~~ let him tote his six shooter,

GOLD STANDARD 3.

~~and there isn't a spitoon in range. What ne gabeons?~~

~~What's the old town coming to? Frank is telling~~

~~them, wearing a~~ ^{In his} sheepskin coat, boots that are

thirty years old, ^{boots,} and a beard that ~~gives~~ ^{gives} ~~expression~~ ^{expression} the

"old look," ^{he's on his 9th trip to the} ~~This Arbor Villa beard that's making~~

~~it's~~ ^{Nations capital to tell em how to run the} ~~ninth trip to Washington to tell our Government~~

~~and~~ what to do about inflation.

BURGLAR

Nineteen-year-old Arthur Casper, formerly of Bishop, Texas, and formerly of Uncle Sam's Marines, still wearing his Texas cowpuncher boots, left his apartment in Chicago and went out to buy a newspaper. As he passed by a grocery store where he often buys food, he saw a pane of glass was missing. And he heard somebody walking around the dark store. So he called to the intruder to come out, and as he did so, he opened the blade of his knife.

The burglar who was in the store, rushed out the door, and jumped at the man from Texas, not suspecting that he was tackling a fellow who had learned hand-to-hand fighting with the Leathernecks. As the burglar rushed him, Casper jabbed with his knife, and the robber fell dead. He turned out to be a man who had been giving the Chicago police trouble for years. In his car they found the loot from several burglaries.

So what reward does the young Texan get for his successful encounter with a robber in Chicago? Why, he gets arrested. The police captain admits,

however, that it did take plenty of courage to stand up and fight under such circumstances.

As for the ex-Marine, the lad in the high-heeled cowboy boots, -- he remarked that down in Texas if you kill an outlaw, they cart him away and everybody says thanks. While up North you go to jail.

Meanwhile the Chicago police have modified the rigor of custody somewhat. They are ~~keeping~~^{putting} the young Texan up at a comfortable hotel -- instead of behind any bars.

P. S. They've let him go.

GOAT

Two youthful goats named Snitch and Snatch today became the subject of a debate in the British House of Commons. During question time, the period that gives members of Commons the enjoyable privilege of heckling His Majesty's Ministers -- a privilege denied to our own Congressmen -- the Minister of Works was called upon to explain why he had refused to allot building materials to one of King George's subjects living at Winchome Purley -- materials to erect a shelter for her nanny goats.

The Conservative member of the constituency asked the Labor Secretary: "Is the Minister aware that the goat has since had two kids, named Snitch and Snatch?"

The Minister was able to assure the Honorable member that he was aware of that fact. Then he went on to explain that if it had been just a matter of the goats, he would have let the lady have the materials. But, he added, "when it also included a home for Belinda, a one-eyed duck, as well as provision for

a garage --which," said he, "I think was the real reason for the application, then I think -----"

What the Right Honorable gentleman thought was lost in a roar of very British laughter.

And that's the story of Snitch and Snatch and the Mother of Parliaments.

And what story from you, Nelson?