

ATOMIC ^{P. 7} ^{R. 8} Mar. 1 1950 Wednesday. 15

In the Senate - a new proposal for a dramatic move to try for agreement with Soviet Russia. This emanates from Senator Brien McMahon of Connecticut, chairman of the Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, who some little while ago, suggested a giant American program for global relief - as an inducement to the Soviets to come to terms.

Today, he called for - a special meeting of the United Nations in Moscow. He wants the U.N. to call a special peace meeting to be held in Moscow, and challenges the Soviets to agree with this - and go into a discussion of ways to avert the world peril of the hydrogen bomb.

(This new idea is likely to receive a cool reception at the White House, where President Truman has repeatedly stated that we are always ready to negotiate with Moscow for an end of the cold war - but that we will not go into any spectacular moves.)

FOLLOW ATOMIC

The latest - word from the U.N. at Lake Success that the idea of a meeting of the General Assembly at Moscow has been under discussion for some time. Behind the scenes, officials of the world organization have been discussing a long list of ideas for bringing the cold war to an end. One of these - a special peace meeting of the General Assembly at the Soviet capital.

TELEPHONE

The governor of New Jersey has seized the facilities of the New Jersey Bell Telephone Company - to prevent a strike. A walkout has been called and the seizure today is designed to delay it - a token act under the New Jersey law. It means, actually, ~~enforce~~ compulsory arbitration - which may set a pattern for an eventual settlement of the nationwide labor dispute.

AIRPLANE STRIKE

With all the strike trouble, there was a walkout today ^{by one of} the nation's airlines - maintenance workers of American airlines going out on strike. Plane service was tied up from sixty per cent to eighty per cent. Which adds another hitch to the transportation system of the country -- already crippled more or less by the coal strike.

SPI

The courtroom proceedings in London today presented a drama, vivid and profound - a drama of morals and the Communist mind.

Dr. Klaus Fuchs, pleading guilty, said in thick Germanic accents: "I do not want to hurt my friends. I have had a fair trial." His formal statement referred again to what he calls -controlled schizophrenia. That is, a double personality - which, on one side, could be the Soviet spy, and on the other could have happy relations with the British scientists, among whom he worked - those friends.

That was the moral conflict, and today ~~Klaus~~ Fuchs developed it by saying that, when he found he was under suspicion, he thought of escaping, but knew it would harm his brother scientists. He put it in these words: "I would leave suspicion against people I had loved, who were my friends."

He explained that, when he first came to England, his associations were with left wingers, more or less in accord with his own ideas - Communism.

Among these Reds and pinks, he was at home - and everything was okay. But then, rising as an atomic physicist, he was thrown among people of a very ~~diff~~ different kind - British scientists and their circle. This was especially the case at Harwell, the British atomic research center, where he made friends among people not Communists at all.

Today, in his formal statement to the court, he made the following statement, one of the strangest I've ever seen. "Since coming to Harwell," said he, "I have met English people of all kinds - and I have come to see in many of them a deep rooted firmness which enables them to live a decent way of life. I do not know," he goes on - "I do not know where this springs from, and I do not think they do. But it is there."

How's that for a weird picture of the Red mentality - the surprise at finding that normal British scientists were decent fellows. The puzzlement of it - not understanding how anybody, who

is not a Communist, can be aⁿ honorable human being. He still can't figure it out, though he has come to realize that, it is true. Nor does he think they can understand it - how they can be square, worthwhile people, though not Communists.

Another point in the drama of morals and the Communist mind was raised by the judge - Lord Goddard, ~~the~~ lord chief justice of England, as he passed a stern sentence of fourteen years in prison. The judge noted that ~~Klaus~~^{Klaus} Fuchs was a refugee from the Nazis, who was given hospitality in England. "You took advantage," declared Lord Goddard, "of the right of asylum, which this country has hitherto extended to political refugees." Which referred back to the ancient principle of liberal democracies receiving and protecting exiles oppressed for political reasons. Britain has always granted that kind of political asylum.

In the case of Klaus Fuchs, here is the record, as produced in court today:- The anti-Nazi

fugitive escaped from Germany, went to France, and then to Britain - where he was not only given political asylum, but also was enabled to continue his studies through Assistance from "The Society For The Protection of Science and Learning." Thanks to that help, he took a degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Bristol University, was given a scholarship to Edinburgh University, where he became a Doctor of Science, and then was granted a scholarship by the Carnegie Research Foundation.

That was how he rose to the high position of third ranking atomic scientist in Great Britain - which certainly was political asylum with all the trimmings. But, the Communist kind of gratitude was to enlist as a Soviet spy.

All of which certainly does make a drama of morals and the Communist mind.

FINLAND

Red Russia brings a formal charge against Finland -- declaring that the northern Republic has evaded a Moscow demand for a return of three hundred war criminals. The argument has been on for some time, Finland replying that the individuals mentioned by the Soviets are not now in Finland. To which the Soviets now give answer in a form of a diplomatic note, charging the Finns with "evasion" - also - that Finland is protecting the war criminals who are, in fact, Russians wanted by the Soviets for desertion.

JAPAN

In Tokyo - an American charge that the head of the Japanese Communist Party has asked the Soviets not to repatriate Japanese prisoners-of-war until they have become converted to Communism.

The Americans and Japanese alike have been demanding that the Soviets give an accounting of hundreds of thousands of Japanese prisoners-of-war - who are still missing. Some thousands have been returned - indoctrinated with Communism. So now the charge is made that the head of the Japanese Communist Party, Tokuda, has urged Moscow to repatriate only Communists.

The charge is immediately denied by the Japanese Communist Party, which calls it - Imperialist p ropaganda.

CHINA

Last evening we heard that Chinese acting President Li Tsung-Jen would refuse to resign to make place for the Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek - and that was certainly borne out today.

President Li issued a statement - that Chiang Kai-Shek is trying to become a "dictator." He says he will never resign, and he sends a message to Formosa, denouncing bitterly the new move. But this might seem to be more or less academic, Chiang Kai-Shek having already returned himself to power - or whatever power is left to the Chinese Nationalists.

COAL

This afternoon in Washington, Federal Judge Keech took the case against the miners union - under advisement. It is expected that he will hand down his decision tomorrow - whether or not to find the union guilty of contempt of court.

The chief witness today was the secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, John Owens, who testified that John L. Lewis acted in complete good faith - when, in accordance with the Federal Court injunction, he ordered the strikers back to work. (~~the~~ witness described the letters and telegrams that Lewis sent, calling off the strike. He insisted they were completely in earnest, and that the miners are now acting - "individually." That is, defying a genuine union order.)

Secretary-treasurer Owens testified, moreover, that the union is not paying strike benefits to the miners, or doing anything to support^t them financially while they~~are~~ are on strike - because the walkout was not authorized.

As against this, the government lawyers claimed that the union could get the miners back, if it really wanted to. And that John L. Lewis issued nothing more than "token" orders. Which line of argument was illustrated by a question asked by a government attorney:- "Were you disappointed when the men did not go back?" he demanded of the union secretary-treasurer.)

↳ The judge answered that by saying - the country was disappointed. Which certainly was the truth.

SUBSTITUTE MINE ACCIDENT

From Pottsville, Pennsylvania - news of rescue, after the cave-in of a mine. Two coal diggers were saved from the ~~late~~ fate of being buried alive, and then rescue parties launched a drive to bring out - Pete. They tunneled through rock and debris, and those rescuers were mighty happy that they were able to reach their two comrades who were trapped. But the ~~task~~ task still remained of saving - Pete.

He's a mine mule. A member of a vanishing race. Time was when most of the hauling in the coal pits was done by toilers with the long ears, but mechanized methods are in vogue these days, and in the southern sections of Pennsylvania's anthracite fields, there are only about twenty mine mules left.

Pete is one of the veterans, and he was trapped when the shaft caved in, with him was Robert Schoffstall, who was in danger of being crushed. But one of his comrades, Frank Bossack, was able to crawl through a small hole and ~~prop up~~ prop up

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timbers to hold up the rock. Frank was endangered, too. But the rescuers got both men out - and then Frank told what he saw.

In a hollow space - there was Pete.

"He pawed the ground every time I flashed my light on him," says Frank, "and he looked mighty unhappy."

Whereupon the other miners took a vow, saying they'd get Pete out of there, no matter how hard they had to dig. So they drove a shaft to rescue - one of the last of the mine mules.

Then came the news of how it all ended. Pete the mule kicked his way out. As the rescuers dug toward him, Pete went to work with his hind legs - kicking as only a mule can kick. He shattered the obstruction, crashing a hole big enough for him to emerge - and he received with enthusiasm ~~xx~~ by his pals, the miners.

TITLE

In London today, a problem of the British nobility was presented - showing that a title of baronet will go to either of two people who are living in the United States. It all depends upon the discovery of a marriage certificate, to decide whether Charles William Wolseley, a British merchant residing in Brooklyn, will become the baronet. Or - Noel Wolseley, a sixty-one year old clerk in New Hampshire. Both are cousins of the Reverend Sir William Augustus Wolseley who last December died in England at the age of eighty-four, leaving no heirs to his title.

London experts in affairs aristocratic say it's one of the most complicated problems of inheritance they've ever had to solve - going back all the way to the Eighteenth Century, to Captain William Augustus Wolseley, son of the first baronet. The noble captain retired from the army to become a clergyman, and died in Eighteen Hundred - leaving twenty-one children. So no wonder it's complicated. Then, in the Eighteen Forties, the baronet of that

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period is said to have contracted a secret marriage - and that's where the missing marriage certificate comes in. If there actually was a clandestine wedding, as proved by a certificate, the title will now revert to a branch of the family represented by the British merchant in Brooklyn. If no such proof can be found, the sixty-one year old clerk of New Hampshire will become the baronet.

To make matters more intricate - the missing marriage certificate would disclose that the noble title was inherited, more than one hundred years ago, by the wrong person, and should have gone to the son born of the secret marriage. Which would be the first time in British history that a title of nobility has been transmitted incorrectly - a whole line of baronets not entitled to the noble rank at all, just commoners, like you and me, Nelson.

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HUGH GIBSON

Here's a financial curiosity, which surprised the Securities and Exchange Commission - when the S.E.C. was asked to okay the sale of a new issue of stock. An international corporation - with a policy of ~~ac~~ acquiring the maximum number of the smallest stockholders in many countries. The purpose to produce a motion picture, and the ideal would be to have movie audiences consist largely of stockholders. No wonder the Securities and Exchange Commission was astonished; - but ~~it~~ went right ahead and said "okay."

The film - ~~The~~^A Life of the Saviour, to be called "The Divine Tragedy." The producer - a French aristocrat, Viscount de la Grandier, a veteran of the French Resistance during the war, to whom a vision came. He dreamed of presenting the gospel story to the modern world in the most modern way, by motion pictures. So he launched an international movement to finance it.

The American headquarters of the singular corporation

are in a New York apartment - home of an old radio friend of this program, former American Ambassador to Belgium, Hugh Gibson. So now Hugh tells me how to his apartment, in the Carlton House, came a gentleman, who said his name was Toohy, and asked for ~~some~~ information about the new film project. He was given some printed material - the hope being that he might buy a share of stock.

Then, a few days later, the Hugh Gibson apartment was astonished to receive a visit from a policeman in uniform. A closer look revealed - it was this same Mr. Toohy. Which did ^{seem} ~~look~~ peculiar;- the cops.

"I've been thinking this over," said Patrolman Toohy, "and I've been talking it over with the boys down at the station house. We decided we all want to go into it." Whereupon he fished out eight hundred dollars, raised by a whole string of New York policemen, each of whom was investing his bit in - The Divine Tragedy.

1/4 Nelson, what is your scenario this evening?