

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Republican leaders in Congress have decided on the kind of income tax cut they want:-- a slash of thirty percent in the case of incomes less than a thousand dollars a year; a cut of twenty percent for taxes on incomes of between a thousand and three thousand dollars a year.

According to this the thirty percent reduction would benefit, for example, a married man with two dependents, who has a gross income of Three-thousand three hundred dollars a year. That is, about sixty dollars a week. His net income for taxation, figures at less than a thousand a year. So the sixty dollar a week man would get a thirty-percent income tax cut.

CONGRESS

Congress heard testimony today from Acting Secretary of State Acheson on the subject of President Truman's new foreign Policy. The Acting Secretary of State appeared before the Foreign Affairs committee of the House to give information about the meanings of President Truman's ^{request} ~~request~~ for Four Hundred Million dollars to help ~~CONGRESS~~ Greece and Turkey against communism.

The Acting Secretary was immediately ~~nd~~ asked -- did he think that this American intervention against communism in the Near East would mean war with Soviet Russia?-- He replied:-- "no." He gave his opinion that there was, in his words -- "no possibility" ^{to} that the new foreign policy would result in war. On the contrary, he said that our stand against Red expansion in the Near East would ^{serve} ~~serve~~ the cause of peace.

Another question being asked is this:

What about American soldiers? Acting Secretary Acheson replied today that the Truman plan did not contemplate the employment of American troops in Greece. He said that the military aspect meant simply that money would be provided for the Greek and Turkish armies -- to enable them to suppress attempts to swing their countries to communist dictatorship.

GREEK GUERRILLAS

In Greece a government offensive is being launched against bands of Red guerrillas, who are known to be accompanied by members of an inquiry commission of the United Nations. ~~Greek troops are driving ~~us~~ against the Reds, in spite of the presence of the U N representatives.~~ ^{TP} The claim in Athens is that the Communist guerrillas are taking advantage of the presence of the U N people ^{— that} ~~which has been~~ keeping them ~~imm~~ immune from ~~attack~~ ^{TP all} attack. This follows a rumpus that has broken up the inquiry, for the time being at least. ^{TP} The U N delegation, ~~making an investigation along the stormy border of Greece and Communist Yugoslavia and Bulgaria,~~ made an appointment to question a prominent leader of the Greek Reds. The place ~~of the appointment~~ was in a remote haunt in the mountains, a place so wild that the U N delegates had to get to it on mule back. They waited for the chieftain of the Reds, but in vain -- he failed to show up. They waited for

two days, after which those of the delegates who represented the western democracies, the American, British, French and so on, decided they'd had enough.

So the U.N. Commission split up.

The totalitarian representatives waited, until finally they met the Red guerilla chief, and they've been ~~in~~ with the Communist partisan bands ever since. Which has brought about the situation as of today, -- the U N representatives, Soviet and Polish, acting as a kind of shield for the Communist bands.

But now the Greek government has had enough and has ordered its military forces to attack the Red guerillas in the mountains -- U N delegates or no U N delegates.

MOSCOW

The proceedings at the Moscow conference were desultory today, a lot of representations and proposals -- without anything of headline importance. Secretary of State Marshall announces that he will ask his colleagues of the Big Four to invite delegates of the Austrian government to come to Moscow to be consulted. Naturally, they will be there on the subject of a peace treaty with Austria -- the negotiations concerning which our Secretary of State wants to speed up. The matter of a peace arrangement with Germany is something else -- something more difficult. In fact the latest tonight is that American Secretary of State Marshall and British Foreign Secretary Bevin hold no hope that it will be possible to write a German peace treaty during the present conference.

Members of the American delegation at Moscow are said to believe that the absolute maximum Germany can pay is three billion dollars -- as reparations. The Soviet figure is twenty billion, they to get one half,

ten billion. The Americans ridicule the notion that the Germans can pay anything like that much.

Those of us who remember ~~at~~ the reparations business after World War One will wonder about these astronomical figures. World War one reparations were expressed in huge figures too. But the total amount that Germany really paid was -- zero -- I believe. Or didn't Germany actually come out ahead -- the money they borrowed from the Allies exceeding the amounts they paid for reparations.

HITLER

From Germany we have the statement that Hitler ordered the destruction of Paris, the utter obliteration of that legended capital of France. This -- at the time when the American drive was about to capture Paris. The German Commander to whom the order is said to have been given is General Dietz Von Choltitz, who right now is writing a history of the last days of Nazi domination in Paris. Various German Generals are compiling phases of war history, these to be turned over to the American Army, for our own archives.

Von Choltitz states that Hitler's order arrived at his headquarters on August eighteenth, Nineteen Forty-four, one day before the final battle for the French capital began. "It instructed me, says the German General to burn the entire city, and every bridge was to have been blown up".

Why
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I was then order not obeyed? Why is it that Paris still stands? Von Choltitz explains in the following words: "Soldiers to not

indiscriminately burn cities. Such action would not have been humanitarian." (To which he adds: "I have been accused of being sentimental. ~~That~~ That, "he goes on, "is remarkable. Did you ever hear of any General -- particularly a German General, being sentimental? I was just being decent", says he.)

That, for what it is worth, is today's declaration about the ^{alleged Hitler order --} ~~alleged Hitler order --~~ burn Paris.

CHINA

From nationalist China the prediction is that the Communist power in China can be eliminated in three months. The statement is made by General Chen Cheng, Army Commander in Chief for Chiang Kai Shek. Following the capture of the Communist capital, the city of Yen-an, the forces fighting the Reds are sweeping on rapidly, so we are told, with the forecast that the Chinese Red armies can be destroyed in three months.

MOUNTBATTEN

The great grandson of Queen Victoria, is on his way for a final attempt to retain what Queen Victoria fondly considered the brightest jewel of her crown -- India, the golden land of Hindustan.

It was in the great British days around one hundred years ago that Disraeli, the Prime Minister with a flare for romance, took the great sub-continent from the East India Company and put it under the sovereignty of the Crown, making Queen Victoria -- Empress of India. Today that Queen's great grandson, Lord Louis Mountbatten, left London to become Viceroy of India and put into effect the decree of independence which the labor government has created. If need be, he'll be the Viceroy who will turn over to the Indians the complete sovereignty of an independent India -- the removal of the brightest jewel from the British crown", as Winston Churchill cried angrily a few weeks ago.

But London still has hope that the Indian people may choose, of their own free will, to remain

in the British empire, as a dominion. They think that perhaps Lord Louis Mountbatten may be able

to ~~be~~ persuade them to stay in -- ~~XXXXXX~~ Queen Victoria's *just*

Grandson representing the last chance of retaining legended

Hindustan, the glowing jewel that ~~was~~ Disraeli

set in Queen Victoria's crown.

FISHING

Being here at Seattle, on Puget Sound, I went fishing this morning, starting out at five a.m. We didn't catch any fish, and we didn't see that fleet either.

As for the fish, I was taken out on the Sound by three of the mighty fishermen of these parts: Al Smiley, of Proctor and Gamble, and Loren Stone and Bill Tucker of CBS -- I mean KIRO.

But the salmon just weren't biting and we trolled in vain. The nearest thing to a salmon we caught was something that a fish hook picked up from the bottom of the Sound. They said it was a star fish. It was about the color of a salmon, but it looked like an old hot water bottle to me.

As for the Fleet, the trouble was -- the weather. Arriving on the Pacific Coast, on Monday, the beautiful season of spring was aglow with sunshine. But this morning, at five a.m. a dense fog had settled down on Seattle. And out on Puget Sound you couldn't see more than a few yards ahead -- in the blinding mist.

FISHING --- - 2

If the air had been clear as the proverbial crystal, I'd have had a good look at the great spectacle of the fleet at Bremerton -- but all I could see was fog. So, no fish, no fleet.

However, I've had word from Naval officers about that array of warships at Bremerton, a laid-up fleet. A mighty concentration of sea power is being kept there at Bremerton, inactive and waiting -- battleship West Virginia, the historic carrier Yorktown, half a dozen other carriers, a large squadron of cruisers.

The important thing is -- naval reserves. The Navy is pressing its naval reserve program as one of the most important factors in the defense of this nation, and places its hope in the men who served at sea during World War Two -- and who acquired invaluable amounts of skill. The Navy is lining them up for the Naval reserve, and they are the ones for the job, if it should be necessary to put into action a huge laid-up fleet which represents a magnificent surplus of American sea power.

FOLLOWING FISHING

After the humble story of fishing in Puget Sound, I can't refrain from adding the story of the rich boat and the poor boat. While we were returning, after having caught not a salmon or even had a bite, up behind us came a magnificent yacht, a palacial ~~xxxxxxxx~~ craft. That was the rich man's boat. It was travelling about twice as fast as we were, rushed up along ~~ix~~ side, and cut in front of us. We in our small boat, the poor man's boat, were apprehensive. The rich man's boat was called the ~~of Port Washington Madison~~ Pelagic, and it might have seemed to be some wild menace of the ocean -- but it was deliberate. Some curious quirk of humor or malice. The rich man's boat, the Pelagic, cut across in front of us, and its wake nearly sank us, in the poor man's boat. The breakfast remnants ^{went} ~~were~~ flying across the cabin, and I thought we were on our way to the bottom of Puget Sound -- as the poor man's boat rocked and swayed. ^R It made me think that, even in the realm of boats, the rich should not be so unkind to the poor.

TELESCOPE

The latest from the universe, ~~is~~ the vastness of sidereal space is that (the two-hundred inch telescope at Mt. ~~Rxxxx~~ Palomar, California, will begin to peer into the depths of the cosmos by the end of this year.) This was announced tonight by the Rockefeller Foundation, which has financed that stupendous telescope, the completion of which was delayed by the war. With the Mt. Palomar telescope it will be possible to look into the starry spaces of the universe twice as far as ever before. ^R Raymond D. Fosdick, President of the Rockefeller Foundation put it in these words: This new telescope will project man's sight into the universe two times farther than it has ever gone before -- to a distance of more than a thousand million light-~~mi~~ years away.

Light travels at one-hundred-and-eighty-six-thousand miles a second. The distance that light will travel in twelve months is a light year. Multiply that by a thousand millions and you have the

distance of the remotest of the stars the Mt. Palomar telescope will be able to glimpse.

And now our star on the other side of the continent -- meaning back to you, Nelson.

JOHANNES

In Moscow much notice is being taken of the arrival of an American news correspondent. Not that newsmen are such a rarity at a conference of the Big Four -- although not as many were allowed to attend as wanted to go. ^R The Soviets, after promising full freedom of news, imposed severe restrictions on the number of correspondents they allowed to go to Moscow, keeping the number to a minimum. The reason given was -- the housing shortage in Moscow. There simply wasn't enough room, insisted the Stalin government, room to accommodate as many news men as the American press and radio thought adequate. ^R So the arrival of a new one is most notable -- especially as he had failed to get a place on the accredited list to begin with. He was, ~~xxxx~~ in fact, away down on the bottom of the list of the applicants as ~~xxxxxxx~~ rated by the State Department in Washington. ^R Moscow limited the number to thirty-six -- and his place on the list was fifty-two. Yet now he appears in Moscow, let in by

the Soviet government, with a Soviet visa. ^P Who is he? Why, our old friend Johannes Steel -- I know him ~~xxx~~ well. A member of our radio commentators ~~fraternity~~ ^{— Anna —} and Johannes is often under attack, accused of Red Sympathies, party-line propaganda. So you can imagine how the news men in Moscow regard the appearance of Johannes Steel who was so far down on the list yet who shows up.

Inquiries in the Soviet capital disclose that Johannes Steel does not have a ~~xxxx~~ Soviet visa for the conference. He just has a visa giving him general all-around admittance to Moscow. It certainly sounds peculiar, ~~xx~~ after all that Russian talk about the Moscow housing shortage, no room for any more than the severely limited number of news men. So how are they going to house Johannes Steel? Maybe he doesn't need a room. Maybe ~~xxxx~~ Johannes has to sleep in a Soviet haystack -- I wonder.

And so-long-until tomorrow.