

K. J. - Y. & S. Wednesday, April 28, 1948.

SUBSTITUTE LEAD PALESTINE.

The United Nations had their first success in the Palestine dilemma today, when Arab and Jewish representatives at the U.N. agreed on a truce for Jerusalem. That is, they agreed to recommend a truce to the top Arab and Jewish Command in Palestine. ^P That left the question -- will the two factions over in the Holy Land agree? ^{IP} The answer on the Arab side would seem to be yes. Because earlier in the day, the Arab League proposed a truce for Jerusalem. That powerful Moslem organization sent a note ~~to the foreign embassy aids in the Holy City~~ proposing that both sides agree to stop all fighting in the ^{old} ~~Holy~~ City of Jerusalem, inside the ancient walls -- and the truce could be extended to places outside, such as the Mount of Olives. ^P There seems to be little reason why the Jewish Zionists do not fall in line with this, and thereby bring about a cessation of battle that would save Jerusalem and the Holy Places from destruction. The U.N. had been talking of truce and armistice for days, as a last resort -- and

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now they have secured a ^{limited} noted success.

An armistice is badly needed, because Jerusalem is rapidly falling into chaos. The British are withdrawing gradually, their forces dwindling, and all semblance of order is breaking down -- looting and robbery increasing to such an extent that today bands of street urchins were seen with typewriters and other equipment stolen from unguarded offices.

But, as for a truce to include all Palestine, that seems to be more remote than ever. ~~In Palestine~~ Both Jewish and Arab leaders are quoted as believing that disintegration has gone too far to permit the fighting to be called off. Both sides say they doubt if they can control their own extremists.

Today American Secretary of State Marshall told a news conference that he has received assurances that the Arab states have not yet invaded Palestine. He ^{said} ~~that~~ they had given him ^{their} word on that point -- but the Arab guarantee ^{was} ~~is~~ only temporary, and an invasion ^{might} ~~may~~ be

launched when the situation changed. ^PThis statement by Secretary of State Marshall was followed shortly afterwards by a bulletin from Jerusalem stating that Arab armies will invade within ten days. That word was attributed to an official spokesman of the Government of Transjordan. ^PThis, in turn, complicated an earlier declaration by Great Britain, a British explanation concerning troops of the Arab Legion ^{that are} ~~were~~ now in Palestine. The Arab Legion is a crack military force of King Abdullah of Transjordan, and some of its units ~~have been~~ ^{were} loaned to the British for police work in Palestine under British command. They are to leave Palestine when the British leave -- that was the announcement made by Great Britain today. ^P But now comes the statement by a spokesman for King Abdullah -- that Arab armies will invade within ten days. Abdullah could only invade with his Arab Legion -- units of which the British say they are going to send back to Transjordan. It all seems a little complicated.

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(In the battle of Jaffa, British tanks were in action today against the Jewish forces of Irgun Svai Leumi -- and rocket-firing planes of the Royal Airforce were hurling their missiles against units of Irgun.

In this way the British are carrying out their promise to intervene if the Zionists' attacks/on the Arab city

were continued.) [Today, the attacks ^{were} ~~were~~ not only continued, but redoubled -- the forces of Irgun being joined by the official Jewish militia Haganah. This was a surprise, since Haganah had announced its disapproval of the extremist assault on Jaffa. But a change occurred, at a conference between Irgun and Haganah -- which now has resulted in both factions joining for the capture of Jaffa

Today, in bitter street fighting, Irgun assailed the Arab defenders from one side, while Haganah drove against them from the other. The Moslems were pressed back, and there was panic among the Arab civilians, sixty thousand people -- who swarmed to the waterfront and boarded boats, trying to get away. This duplicated the scenes when

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Jewish forces captured Haifa -- a mass flight of Moslems
by sea, - a ^{Mediterranean} Dunkirk.

This was the situation when the British went into action today, to stop the drive against the Arabs, and at last reports British tanks were shooting it out with the fighting forces of Irgun Zvai Leumi and Haganah, and planes of the R. A F were firing streams of rockets.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Red Czechoslovakia is going to have a free and democratic election. This was announced today by the Communist Minister of the Interior. ^{All of which} ~~This~~ may sound like a surprise -- in the light of the Red seizure of Czechoslovakia, turning the country into a Communist dictatorship and a Soviet puppet behind the Iron Curtain. However, the voters are to go to the polls on May 30th; and now the Communist Minister of the Interior declares that the election will be, in his words, "completely free and democratic."

In case anybody is in danger of swooning out of sheer surprise, the remainder of the news dispatch will revive him. The story from Prague states that, in the coming election, there will be only one slate of candidates. The voters will be presented with one list - for which to cast their ballots. There will be no opposition candidates whatever. Moreover, a whole lot of people will not be permitted to vote -- disfranchised because of opposition to, the Communist dictatorship.

So that's the scheme of the Czechoslovak election which the Communist Minister of the Interior today described as -- "completely free and democratic."

ANTI-COMMUNIST

A bill to crack down on the American Communist Party and its fellow traveling allies was okayed in Washington today by the Committee on Un-American Activities. There has been a lot of talk about outlawing the faction of the Reds - on the ground that it is not a political party at all, but a foreign conspiracy. The Committee held long hearings - and, in the end, decided against the motion to outlaw. Instead, they are bringing in a Communist-control~~ing~~^{ing} bill. ^π But, its terms are such that the Reds might prefer to be outlawed.

^π The bill, as presented by the Committee to Congress, stigmatizes the [^]American Communist Party as a segment of an international conspiracy. The Reds are required to cut all ties with ~~Moscow~~ Moscow. If the Communist Party leaders continue their connection with Soviet Russia, they may be liable to a ten thousand dollar fine and a year in jail - for criminal conspiracy.

The bill would compel the Communist Party to register every year with the Department of Justice, and give a full

list of all its members. That proviso is meant to be a deadly blow against the secrecy of the ~~Communist Party~~ *Reds and their* ~~which has a~~ strategy of concealing the identities of members - Reds under false colors. But now the Communist Party would be compelled to make public its membership. Moreover, Communist Front organizations would also have to register and present their lists of membership.

There are a series of other anti-Red provisos, including one that would forbid *tax deductions for* contributors of money to ~~deduct from their income tax donations~~ to Communist causes.

If that should go through, backers of the Reds would no longer be able to support Communism and charge it off on their income tax. ^R The bill okayed by the Committee today is named - "The Subversive Control Act of Nineteen Forty-Eight." It would permit the Communist Party to exist legally, but it sure would be a handicap to Red activities. The idea is to attack the Reds, not as a political party, but as a foreign conspiracy.

The bill now goes to the floor of the House, where a battle of words will promptly break out. A group of Congressmen has banded to oppose the Communist control measure. They accuse the Committee of trying - "to legislate Fascism", as they call it. The ⁷² group consists of eight Democrats, ^{plus} ~~and~~ Congressman ² Marcantonio and Isaacson of New York - stalwarts of the Henry Wallace third party.

RAILROADS. The deadline for a railroad strike is a bit complicated tonight -- two of the railroad brotherhoods naming May eleventh. But, there are three railroad brotherhoods, ^{and} the other one is undecided. Today, the Firemen and Switchmen announced that they would stage a walkout on May eleventh. Whereupon the brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers announced -- "we have not made up our minds".

The reason for the lack of unanimity would seem to be that the Engineers decided to delay its decision until the government has had a chance to try mediation. ^a~~The~~ Federal Mediator intervened today, and both the unions and the railroads have agreed to resume negotiations tomorrow.

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OLEO-MARGARINE. Today's congressional decision on oleo margarine promises to effect only twenty-six of the states of the Union -- because twenty-two of the states have their own oleo margarine laws. ^{TP} ~~Today's~~ ^{The} vote in the House of Representatives, removing the tax from colored margarine, still has to run the gauntlet of the Senate. But, in any case, the whole matter is complicated by state laws -- ^{and} ~~which~~ in twenty-two ^{of them there is} ~~states impose~~ a ban on oleo margarine colored like butter. ^{TP} So, even if the bill becomes a national law -- the housewife will still have to reckon with local state regulations.

PENNSYLVANIA

(Today's returns in the Pennsylvania primary give another exhibition of strength for Stassen, together with a large vote for Dewey.) The Pennsylvania primary, held yesterday, was little noticed, because the delegates to the Republican Convention were unpledged - ~~were~~ committed to no candidate. The voters, in casting their ballots, could only show their preference for one candidate or another. So there's nothing binding about it, nothing definite in terms of delegates,-

But, the expression of preference is there. [#] Former Governor Stassen comes first, with nearly seventy-seven thousand votes; Dewey second, with nearly sixty-seven thousand.) Pennsylvania has a favorite son, Senator Martin, and he got ~~forty-three~~ forty-three thousand, five hundred. Then down the line come General MacArthur, Senator Vandenberg, Senator Taft, and others.

The result is hailed by Governor Dewey, who expresses astonishment at the number of votes he got in Pennsylvania - where he made no attempt to organize ^{or} a campaign.
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SULLIVAN

The Vice-Chairman of the Democratic National Committee handed in his resignation today - Gael Sullivan. In a letter to National Chairman McGrath, he explained that he is quitting to take the post of Executive Vice-President of the Theatre Owners of America. He says the theatre offer is so attractive ~~that~~ he can't turn it down - the rumor being that it will pay him fifty thousand ~~dollars~~ a year.

This Gael Sullivan resignation has^d been rumored - together with talk that the ~~ilk~~ National Vice-Chairman was not so enthusiastic about the nomination of President Truman on the Democratic ticket this year.

CHURCH

In Boston, they are holding a general conference of the Methodist Church - beginning today. The ~~principal~~ ^{Episcopal} address to the conference was made by Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of New York, who featured an eloquent plea for a union of all churches. He called for the Protestant sects to join forces and work for a consolidation with the Eastern Orthodox Church ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{Greek, Bulgarian, Russian, and so on.} ¹ If that goal were attained, the Christians of the world would belong to two great churches.

But that, said Bishop Oxnam, would not be the final goal. "Then," said he, "the leadership of that day may be Christian enough and creative enough to kneel before a common altar and beg the forgiveness of Christ for disunity - and, sharing the bread and wine of holy communion, may rise in His spirit to form the Holy Catholic Church to which all Christians may belong."

The general conference of the Methodist Church consists of sixty-two bishops and seven hundred and fifty-eight delegates from all over the world. - ~~whose~~ ^{Their} deliberations ^{began} today ~~began~~ on a theme of Christian unity.


BRENEMEN

The news all day has been telling the dramatic story of Tom Breneman - "Breakfast-in-Hollywood." This morning, in *Hollywood,* there was a fantasy of funny hats, ladies in the wildest headgear they could find. They were lined up at the restaurant that Tom Breneman ran - largely for the purpose of his radio show. The crazy-hat-scene this morning was as usual, because Tom's turn of comedy was to interview women at ~~Breakfast-in-Hollywood,~~ and get his laughs by putting ~~on~~ their hats *on the head!* So, they liked to come in the weirdest of bonnets - to get a laugh when Tom put ¹them on.

Some six hundred were gathered for the restaurant opening this morning, seven A.M - a fantasy of hats and a ~~B~~abel of chatter and giggling.

Then, out stepped the restaurant manager, and ~~he~~ announced: "Tom is dead."

The chatter and the giggling stopped - and turned into weeping. It was told how, as he was getting ready to go to his restaurant ~~for Breakfast-in-Hollywood, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~~~



forty-six-year-old Tom Breneman slumped with a heart attack.

So there was no Breakfast-in-Hollywood this morning - and the parade of comic hats dispersed with tears and sobs.

And now back to you, Nelson.

RAILROADS

Early 4/28/48 l.c.

A date has been set for a railroad strike -- May Eleventh. This would mean a walkout of a hundred and fifty thousand engineers, firemen and switchmen -- and would paralyze railroad traffic. However, the Government is making efforts in urgent haste to do a job of mediation, a federal representative conducting emergency talks for a settlement.

The latest: - One of the 3 RR Brotherhoods is still undecided. Two have set the strike date. But the 3rd says: "We have not yet made up our minds."

NEW YORK BUSES FOLLOW RAILROADS

In New York, Mayor O'Dwyer has averted a bus and trolley strike - for the time being at least. The deadline for the walkout was midnight tonight, but today the Mayor arranged a postponement - negotiations to be resumed between the union and the companies tomorrow.

Also

The House of Rep. has just this minute passed the bill that will allow oleomargarine to be sold colored like butter. That is, the bill would repeal the tax on butter-colored margarine.
