

GUBITCHEV C.I. ~~RA~~ Fri. Mar. 10 1950.

Today in Washington, Secretary of State Dean Acheson called in Soviet Ambassador Alexander Panyushkin, and said "Do you want Gubitchev?" Which left the question up to the Red Ambassador - whether or not the Soviet engineer, convicted of espionage, shall serve fifteen years in prison, or go back to Russia.

The case is taking a peculiar turn - with Gubitchev's lawyer declaring that his client does not seem to care. It's immaterial with him, whether he goes to jail or goes to Russia. But apparently the decision is not up to Gubitchev - it's up to Moscow to decide, whether to take him or leave him.

There's no indication of what answer Ambassador Panyushkin gave to the Secretary of State today. All the news dispatch says is the following: "Panyushkin was tight lipped when he emerged from the brief conference."

In Congress, meanwhile, there are angry protests, especially from the Republican side, saying -

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it's another surrender to the Soviets. There's
mention of "appeasement" - because the State Department
asked the federal judge to suspend the prison
sentence so that Gubitchev could be deported, if the
Soviets want him.

MOSCOW

In Moscow tonight Molotov made a declaration of policy - or was it propoganda? Speaking in anticipation of Soviet elections to be held next Sunday, Stalin's chief Foreign policy advisor stated that, as long as capitalism exists, there will be a danger of war. But - that Russia is vitally interested in a long lasting peace. He blasted with new verbal attacks against the West, but played the theme of peace - which he said Soviet Russia needs for internal development.

BERLIN

There was rioting in Berlin today - at a Red rally addressed by Gerhardt Eisler, the bail-jumper from the United States. The fighting was mostly between teen aged youths - non-Communist versus Communist.

Eisler is ^wnot minister of propaganda in the Soviet zone, and today had a delicate task to perform, announcing the cancellation of the much heralded march of Communist youth. Scheduled for the end of May, the Red rally was to have included a push into the western sectors of Berlin; and there were plenty of rumors that it all meant - a Communist attempt to take over the entire city. The message was met with an attitude of firmness - and now the march into the western sector has been called off. The Communist youth will confine their rally to the Soviet part of Berlin.

CLERGYMAN

Over in England, fate takes an ironic turn - in the story of the clergyman who married the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. At long last, he had a break of good fortune - or so he thought. But no.

More than a dozen years ago, the Reverend Robert A. Jardine won headlines - as a minor figure in the huge drama of His Majesty Edward the Eighth, who abdicated his throne to marry the woman he loved. The question was - who would perform the marriage? The Church of England forbade any of its clergymen to officiate - because the bride was a divorced woman. *on the surface at any rate* Which had been the major factor in the abdication, itself.

But the Reverend Jardine spoke up - an obscure and aging vicar in a small English town. He said he would marry the famous couple, even in defiance of his own church superiors. Which he did - and it gave him a sentimental place in that headline affair of sentiment.

To take advantage of this, he came to the

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United States to go on a lecture tour. For his first appearance a hall was hired seating forty-five-hundred - but only seventy people showed up. Next he rented a small abandoned theatre, and tried to turn it into a church - but got no congregation. Then, later he was named pastor of a small church in Los Angeles - and promptly changed the name of the church. He called it - Windsor Cathedral, in memory of that Windsor wedding. But once again - it didn't work. The Reverend Jardine blamed it all on influences working against him, because he had performed the fateful marriage. Then finally, last fall, his luck seemed to change. He said he had been made the bishop-prelate of the South African Episcopal Church. So he went to England to make preparations for the assumption of his new ecclesiastical dignity. But fate stepped in - the news today telling of the death, at seventy-two, of the clergyman who presided at the most famous romantic marriage of the century.

This news was broken today to the Duke and

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Duchess of Windsor, who are in New York. They expressed their deep regret for the death of the Reverend Jardine, and said: "We will always remember with gratitude his Christian act in coming forward to marry us."

COLLAPSE

There were wholesale narrow escapes at St. Paul today - when a huge section of building wall fell across one of the busiest of city streets.

The town fathers condemned a department store sixty-seven years old, saying it was unsafe, and preparations were begun to tear the place down - on Monday. Workmen were on the job today, when they saw - the store-front was collapsing. A section of brick wall eighteen inches thick, fifty feet wide and thirty-eight feet high - falling right out across one of the main business streets of St. Paul. They shouted a warning to passersby - putting all their lung power into the yell.

Which was lucky, for there were a lot of people passing along the street or driving by in automobiles. *all of them* ~~They~~ were just able to scurry out of the way - when down came the tall massive brick wall, filling the street with a thundering deluge of timbers, mortar and bricks, which piled up six feet high.

RACING

At Miami today, a twenty-six year old law student said in court that he knew nothing about the continental press - which organization, they say, delivers racing information to bookmakers all over the country. But why should the law student know anything about it? Because he is the sole owner of that horse race information service.

Continental press is being investigated by Florida authorities, who are interested in one curious fact. The racing service, at its New York headquarters, gets word of the results at Florida tracks - although last year the state outlawed the use of the telegraph lines for "gambling purposes." So how is continental able to flash the Florida results - what horse won what race?

The law student on the witness stand today was Edward McBride. His father the late Mickey McBride, owned the horse race information service in partnership with James Ragan - who was killed in Nineteen Forty-Six, a victim of gangster guns,

apparently. So young McBride came into ownership by inheritance - also by purchase from the estate of the murdered Ragan. Today he testified that he knew nothing about all of this - which were matters handled by his father and by his uncle, the uncle is Tom Kelly, right now the general manager of the service in Chicago. The sole owner of continental declares: "All my confidence reposes in Uncle Tom Kelly."

He was asked - how the racing service operated. He said he didn't know. He was asked - did he know that one bookmaking outfit on the Pacific Coast pays the service five thousand dollars a week? No, he didn't know. Had he any idea how they got horse race information out of the state of Florida - when it was illegal to do so by telegraph? No - no knowledge at all.

To which the state attorney general exclaimed in exasperation: "You don't know whether the race results go by news wire, or by radio voice, whistle, or holler?"

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(No, responded the law student, who is the sole owner of the system said to do a fabulous nationwide business with illegal bookmakers - and he doesn't know anything about it.)

JESSE JAMES

In a Missouri courtroom today, there were endless reminiscences of ~~the~~ days of yore. At the Town of Union, J. Frank Dalton, who claims to be a hundred-and-two-years old, appeared before in proceedings intended to prove that he is - Jesse James. The story has been drifting around for some time - how the aged patriarch insists that it was not Jesse James who was shot in the back by Bob Ford, but another fellow altogether. So now he has gone to court about it - ^{to} ~~and~~ get his name changed back to Jesse Woodson James.

Today he was carried into court on a stretcher, and flourished an ancient colt forty-five - to prove his point. Which point is denied in ^{counter} ~~counter~~-proceedings -- by a son and daughter-in-law of the most famous of American bandits, Jesse and Stella James of Los Angeles. They are pressing a motion - to throw the case out of court.

The witnesses included a parade of ancients - who swore they were connected with the James gang of

old, and identified J. Frank Dalton as their leader back in the 'Eighties. Colonel James R. Davison, of Nashville, Tennessee, who says he is a-hundred-and-nine, declared ^{today} that he was there when the famous shooting occurred. He says he recognized the body on the floor as - Charlie Biglow, a no-good member of the gang. Further - that the mother of Jesse James said the man shot by Bob Ford was not her son, but later changed her story to mislead the law, and enable Jesse to get away.

Still another witness was John Tramwell of Guthrie, Oklahoma, a negro who today stated that he was a-hundred-and-eleven years old, and was a cook for the outlaw band - working for Jesse James.

Just to complete the picture, the magistrate, Circuit Judge Ranson Breuef, ^{a young man of} ~~who is~~ ^{who} eighty ~~years old,~~ prides himself on looking like Abraham Lincoln. So what more could you want by way of reminiscence, Abraham Lincoln and Jesse James?

FOLLOW JESSE JAMES

The latest - the Judge dismisses the case, saying that, if the petitioner is really Jesse James, he never changed his name by law, and so there is no need of changing it back. Also - if he is the famous outlaw, he was guilty of many murders and he had better, in the words of the Judge "retreat to his hideout and asks the forgiveness of the Lord."

PELICAN

From Florida comes one of those tales - nature in the raw. ^Fang and Claw, beak and talon. A story of a bird and a fish - in the business of nature's own creatures eating each other.

The bird - a pelican, The fish - a tropical swimmer called the cobia. And out on the ocean the bird swooped down and seized the fish. Well, you know about the pelican - whose beak can hold more than his belly can. But perhaps you don't know so much about the cobia - which has fins as sharp as razors.

The pelican swept the fish into the big beak with ease. But then, inside, the cobia went to work with those fins. ~~Which~~ Which slashed through the leatherlike pouch of the beak, ripped an opening, through which the cobia fell - back into the water. Injured fatally, floating belly up. The pelican was hurt so badly that he, too, came floundering down on the water, and soon died.

So there on the sea were the two, the bird and the fish, both victims of nature's old predatory way.

INDIAN PICTURE

In a Congressional committee room, a picture is being removed. Everybody admits it's a good work of art. But it's a painting of an Indian scalping a white man - and the committee handles legislation pertaining to Indians. So, often enough, they're visited by representatives of the red man - and a complaint is put in by Charley Grounds, spokesman for tribes, in Florida.

Yesterday Charley, of the Seminole Country, pointed to the scene of Indian scalping white man, and told Congressman Toby Morris of Oklahoma - that it was all wrong. In fact, it should be the other way around. "History tells us," declared the redskin representative "that it was a white man who started the practice of scalping." Which history, Charley?

But, anyway, the committee agrees at least to the extent of today ordering the picture to be taken down. Maybe they ought to get a new one - showing a white man scalping an Indian. Which would be another version of that old chestnut - man bites dog.

ROYALTY

At the ancient City of Perth, in Scotland, a kinsman of the royal family is on trial - the Earl of Strathmore, cousin of Queen Elizabeth. In the court proceedings, however, he is not on the record as the noble earl, but is marked down by his family name. Which is impressive enough - Timothy Patrick Bowes-Lyon of Glamis Castle. Remember Glamis Castle in MacBeth - scene of the murder of Duncan, where the dark deed was done, the blood of which Lady MacBeth tried vainly to wash from her hands? Yes, historic memories are evoked by this bit of news about the Earl of Strathmore of Glamis Castle.

What's the charge against his lordship.

That's where the anti-climax comes in. He's on trial for - drunken driving. Picked up on the road between Perth and Aberdeen, after having partaken, apparently, of a wee drap o' the stuff that comes out of the pot-stills of Bonnie Scotland. How is your Scotch-accent Nelson?

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