

V J DAY

C.I. - Sunoco and P+G. Monday, Sept. 2, 1946

A year ago tonight the nation was celebrating V J Day - victory over Japan. A year ago tonight the Battleship Missouri rode at anchor in Tokyo Bay.

Today, in Boston Harbor, the "surrender deck" of the "Big Mo" was again the scene of somber ceremonies, ceremonies marking the first anniversary of the end of the Pacific War.

Admiral Nimitz was there - in fact standing at the exact spot where a year ago he played his role in the Japanese surrender. But with a new crew, of ~~ixix~~ twelve hundred officers and men, at attention. There were the traditional salutes in honor of those who lost their lives in the Pacific war. Serving as Admiral Nimitz special guard of honor today were Congressional Medal of Honor Men from every state in the Union. Some, so disabled they had to be assisted aboard ship.

Of course General MacArthur could not be there because his job in dealing with Japan has gone on and on.

There is a bronze plate on the deck of the

X

Missouri. It reads: "Over this spot on September second, Nineteen Forty-five an instrument of formal surrender of Japan was signed, thus bringing to an end the Second World War." In place of General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz stood there today on that plate. r (In Moscow ~~also~~ they remembered V J Day today. Stalin, in a message to the Soviet Army, related how, just a year ago the Russian people and their armed forces won a tremendous victory over imperialistic Japan.

Stalin's order fm covered just about everything including congratulations to his Army Generals for their victory in their one month fight against the Japs. And he decreed that a twenty-gun salute be fired in all the principal cities of the U S S R in ~~hix~~ honor of the occasion.

But, there was one significant omission in the Stalin order-of-the-day. The Russian dictator neglected to mention that Britain and the United States fought many battles against the Nipponese and won all

of the campaigns in the Pacific War right down to the end, while the Russians remained neutral and came in only at the finish. He never said a word about

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GREECE

The King of Greece will return ~~to~~ home and reascend the throne within ten days. That's the word from Athens. ~~As you no doubt have heard,~~ The Monarchists swept the election, and were doing a lot of celebrating today.

Early today, the word from Athens was that out of a total of a million, two hundred thousand votes cast, King George had received nine-hundred-and-eighty-three-thousand. Against the monarchy, only about two-hundred-and-forty-thousand --- a monarchist majority of seven-hundred-and-forty-three thousand. And that meant a landslide.

~~But later today another set of figures was issued, These indicate ^{ing} that the King ^{led} won by only half the number of votes previously marked down for him. Even that's a handsome enough majority.~~

~~Both sets of figures were issued by the Athens Ministry of the Interior, with no explanation. ~~as~~ ~~for~~. Anyhow the King ~~was~~ won, and it was a sweeping victory.~~

British and American observers in Athens

are saying that, according to all indications so far, the election was fair.

~~And~~ Here's something later. A third and ~~final~~ final tabulation from the Athens ministry gives the King slightly more than one million votes, with all but a few districts ~~for~~ heard from. His opponents have polled ^{some} three-hundred-and-seventy-five thousand votes.

PEACE CONFERENCE

Italy is ^{learning} the hard way—that whoever danced with Hitler must pay the piper.

At the Paris Peace Conference today Great Britain and her colonies handed Italy an eleven billion dollar reparations bill, more than the combined claims of all other allied nations.

Other demands for reparations from Italy include six billion dollars from Greece and more than a billion dollars from ~~Y~~ Jugoslavia. All told the claims add up to the staggering sum of twenty billion dollars.

~~It~~ Not that Great Britain or Greece or Jugoslavia or the rest entertain any serious hopes that the impoverished Italians can pay such a fantastic figure. They just want to get their claims on record.

And Italy received another blow today at the Peace Conference. Secretary of State Byrnes is reported to have told an Italian economic delegation that he is opposed to ~~any~~ any American loan to Italy until the reparations claim has been adjusted. ^{See.} Byrnes does ^{not} not

want to see ^{an American} ~~such~~ loan used to pay off Italy's war debts to ~~any other~~ others.

BRITISH PROTEST

~~These are days of protest. Somebody is always making a protest against Soviet Russia, or, it's the other way around - Moscow handing out complaints. Today,~~
The British ^{today} ~~government~~ handed a ^{protest} ~~remonstrance~~ to Stalin's foreign office; ^{the} ~~and this set a precedent. It was the first time that~~ London has taken official notice of something printed in a Russian newspaper. The Soviet press, anything it says, is the voice of the Kremlin.

The British protest is against an article in Pravda, on the subject of ^{those} ~~a party of~~ Soviet women ^{who} ~~were~~ on their way to Australia. They were supposed to attend a women's conference in the Land Down Under; but they never got there -- in fact they only got as far as London.

Pravda calls it a capitalist conspiracy; says the British and Australian Governments stopped the visit of the Soviet women, refused them transportation because they were afraid the Red ladies would, in the words of Pravda, refute all the things said against the Soviet Union in the Australian Press". The British

government, charges that this Pravda stuff is really from the Soviet Foreign Office. And London pictures the whole thing as a comedy of errors.

~~It was on~~ ^{on} August Fifth, ~~that~~ the Soviet Embassy in London made a sudden urgent request for air transportation to Australia for the six Russian women. But August Fifth is one of those days in England - a bank holiday. ~~The August Bank Holiday, is celebrated for no particular reason so far as I know. Anyhow~~ The English don't like to be disturbed on a bank holiday. ^{Nevertheless} ~~however,~~ the London Foreign Office got busy - and communicated with Australia to procure the necessary priorities, ~~for the six Russian women.~~

But, Australia replied that the conference, which those Soviet ladies wanted to attend had already begun, was scheduled for only six days, and there would be no time for the Red dames to get there for it.

This is a miraculous era of air transport all right, but Australia is a long distance from Moscow, and you still can't just get there with the speed of light.

London says the blundering was done in Moscow. The Red Ladies were late for the party, and that's all there's to it. But the Stalin Press calls it all a capitalist plot! To which London protests.

1st of us.

Back in the days of the aesthetic movement, the Russian poets and artists of Montmartre in Paris, and Greenwich Village in New York, went typical with their idiosyncrasy for art's sake. And, at the time that they had left their native States, they were not only called "bohemians" but "artists" saying that as Americans with a "go" for art at all. It was not to sleep at the opera, and they had to have their own art galleries. Now, however, it would seem to be altogether different, and the modern American artist is all for art's sake. Shows of art are held in

There have all this... the usual place, Soviet Russia. For it was estimated in 1928 that the Soviet Union had 100,000 artists, and that in the

...of artists today the new trend Moscow expressed in

SOVIET PURGE

Well, at last, we know what's wrong with this country. The trouble with the U S A is that we are utterly and completely devoted to the principle of art for art's sake. Which will come as a surprise to a lot of us.

Back in the days of the aesthetic movement, the Bohemian poets and artists ^{of} ~~to~~ Montmarte in Paris, and Greenwich Village in New York, went lyrical with that slogan - art for art's sake. And, at the same time, they had lofty scorn for these United States, saying that we Americans didn't go in for art at all. We went to sleep at the opera, and our wives had to drag us to art galleries. Now, however, it would seem to be altogether different, and the mortal American sin is - art for art's sake. ~~Shades of old long haired~~ ^{the} ~~poets.~~

Where does all this nonsense come from? *Oh yes.*
The usual place, Soviet Russia. *From the courtroom*
where they are having that purge
~~the court of the purge they are having~~ over in the
land of Stalin. Today the news from Moscow emphasized the

cultural side of the purge, Soviet art and artists taking the rap. They are accused of not being ardent enough in the true gospel of Stalin, not Red enough.)

TP For example, the official Communist newspaper, Pravda, hurls ^a denunciation against the Soviet theatre, saying that plays are being produced, especially foreign plays which fail to whoop up the ideology of communism. And Pravda aims its violent thunders against the Bourgeois ~~heresy~~ heresy of - art for art's sake. (The Soviet idea is that the purpose of art is not to present beauty, charm, laughter, deep emotion, amusing ~~entertainment~~ entertainment, the author's view of life. It should be - propaganda, communist propaganda. In other words, art for Stalin's sake.)

In any cannonade of denunciation, it's always a good idea to present a horrible example; and this Moscow idea ^{is that} - the horrible example ^{is} being the United States. ^R The reprehensible picture of art in this country is painted by one of the Soviet writers who recently was over here. He concentrates on the

American theatre, and says American plays are without purpose, and ignore what he calls -"crying problems".

Instead of making propoganda, they entertain the public, and that, in the Soviet eyes is a mortal sin -

art for art's sake. The news dispatch from Moscow ends with this terrifying indictment "In America, art for art's sake, reigns supreme". Which will be news to a lot of Americans. As for the long-haired Greenwich Village set and the Montmarte crowd in Patee - won't they be amazed?

INDIA

The new interim government of India took office today -- and this may be a thing for history to mark down as important. The new regime is headed by Hindus -- the Moslem Party refusing to have anything to do with it.

So today, seven Hindu members took office -- and, at the Viceroy's house in New Delhi,

they

swore allegiance to the British Crown. They were headed by Jawaharlal Nehru, President of the Indian Congress

Party. ^π The Interim Regime is to run the fabulous land

of Hindustan until a formal constitution is adopted which may be a cardinal event in the progress toward

an independent India, but it occurred on a day of

ominous portent -- more rioting, more bloodshed. The

new regime was greeted by violent outbreaks in Bombay,

with mobs of Moslems demonstrating against the ~~the~~

interim government of Hindus. ^{In recent} ~~A~~ savage street rioting

here has been a toll of with ^{more} ~~seventy lives were lost,~~ two-hundred-and-twenty ~~people~~

seriously injured.

Other great cities of India were quiet today, although there was tension and menace. Along

PALESTINE

An appeal has been made to London and Washington - to stop the British search for weapons and munitions in Palestine. The Jewish agency lodges an official protest against the way British troops in the Holy Land have been conducting a methodical hunt for armament, and have ~~in~~ seized quantities of guns and explosives. The Jewish agency is afraid that the search, if it continues, will deprive the Jewish underground army of all its means of waging war.

~~The British, of course, are motivated by the fact that the underground war has been waged against themselves -- the Jewish Agency fears that, if the search for arms continues, the Zionists of Palestine may be left without means to defend themselves -- this with reference to the ^{supposedly} masses of surrounding hostile Arabs.~~

In Jerusalem, the belief is expressed that, instead of allowing itself to be disarmed, the principal underground Jewish Army, Hagana, may resort to open warfare to protect its hidden weapons and munitions.

ADD PALESTINE

The latest tells of a ~~wild~~ fight aboard a ship crowded with illegal immigrants. This vessel, named the four freedoms, was trying to run the British blockade and land a thousand Jewish refugees. A British destroyer intercepted the craft and sent a boarding party to take charge.

The British sailors met with frantic resistance, and there was a wild melee all over the deck of the immigrant ship.

Some of the Jewish refugees jumped overboard and tried to swim ashore. At last reports the vessel was on its way to harbor- the illegal immigrants to be deported for internment in Cyprus.

IMMIGRATION

There is opposition in Washington to President Truman's proposal to change the immigration law - so that displaced persons, including Jewish refugees, can be admitted to this country. The opposition is voiced by ^{Senator} ~~Congressman~~ Russell of ~~Georgia~~ Georgia, Chairman of the Senate Immigration Committee -- the Senate group that would pass on any bill to lift immigration quotas. ^{Sen.} ~~Congressman~~ Russell declares that the Truman proposal would establish, what he calls - a dangerous precedent". He says he hopes the scheme will not be pushed.

The Truman suggestion was to admit what the President called - a fixed ~~in~~ number of refugees. It is known that his advisers on Palestine are suggesting the admission of fifty thousand each year. It would be up to Congress to change the immigration law to permit that - and now the Chairman of the Senate Immigration Committee speaks in opposition.

RACE

At Cleveland, it was a day of the speed of jet propulsion - as it was yesterday. In the air races six ~~jet~~ jet planes competed, flying a closed course, and the winner was Major Gus Lunquist of Chicago. He flew three hundred miles, around and around, at the rate of more than five-hundred-and-fifteen and eight-tenths miles per hour. His fastest lap was at more than five-hundred-and-forty-five and six-tenths miles per hour.

Yesterday, Lieutenant William Riley of San Francisco flew a straightaway mile at more than ~~xi~~ five-hundred-and-seventy-eight miles an hour. That was faster, of course, but it was straightaway, and today's mark is a record for a closed course.

The forty thousand dollar Thompson trophy for regular planes with propellers, was won by Tex Johnston, test pilot of Bell Aircraft.

RAFFLES

The most famous bird in the world is dead. Remember Raffles who was on the air with Fred Allen, and with many others too? He was a *Mina* bird from *Malaya, right out of the jungle,* He belonged to those two ~~men~~ well-known travellers, Mr. and Mrs. Carveth Wells. For years Raffles had been a familiar figure, in New York, Hollywood, and in many other cities.

He not only was highly paid for taking part in several motion pictures, but he was responsible for the sale of a million dollars worth of war bonds. ~~Exacts~~ He even won citations from the armed forces, and medals from the Red Cross, and wings, presented to him by both the R A F and the American Air Forces.

Raffles was a talking bird, with an amazing repertoire. He also whistled a variety of songs, *such as* "You're In The Army Now." I particularly remember a remark he made when he was introduced to former President Hoover. He said "hello beautiful".

~~Oh yes, and the American Army psychological warfare people used him on short wave broadcasts beamed~~

~~to Japan. Raffles on these programs specialized in~~
~~ridiculing Tojo.~~

If Raffles were still alive and if he were here ~~is~~ at this moment, and if we introduced him to my handsome colleague ~~Hugh Jones~~, I'm sure he would say: "And now ^{Nelson, what's on your mind} ~~let's hear from you~~ tonight."

GERMAN VOTING

Election returns from Germany. ~~The~~ Voting in Saxony. And the party backed by the Communists won a large majority -- although not as big as expected. Saxony is a part of the Soviet zone, and the Communists had hoped for one of those totalitarian elections - one party, unanimous.

In Soviet-occupied-Germany, the strongest party is that of the Social Democrats - the most powerful group in the days before Hitler. Moscow sponsored a scheme to combine the Social Democrats and with the German Communists - so the communists would have full control.

The Social Democrats took a vote on this, and turned down the merger. Whereupon the Red Army put a ban on the party. And leaders who opposed the merger began to disappear. Whereupon the merger came about. A shot-gun wedding between ~~the~~ Communists and ~~the~~ Social Democrats.

Late figures show a million-four-hundred thousand votes for the Reds; three-hundred and seventy

three thousand for the Liberal Democrats, and two hundred-and fifty-six thousand for the Christian Democratic Union.

The two minority parties did much better than had been anticipated, especially the Liberal Democrats, who hadn't been expected to roll up much of a vote. The explanation seems to be that many Social Democrats, resenting the compulsory ~~time~~ tie-up with the Communists, went over to the democratic liberal party.

crowded streets the black flag of the Moslem League was seen -- and, in contrast, the green, white and yellow banner of the Hindu Nationalist Party.

The quietest place in all India was the home of Gandhi. ~~Four~~ Four members of the new Interim Government visited the Mahatma, seeking counsel -- but not a word was spoken. Gandhi was observing one of those days of silence, which are part of his religious observance. ~~All he would do, by way of counsel, was to write a message of advice to the new Hindu Government that now rules over India.~~