

EISENHOWER

L.T.-K. Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1954. (Aspen)

President Eisenhower states that, if employment does not pick up next month, he will consider taking - emergency measures. The government will go into action to make sure that this country does not skid into a depression.

The President told a news conference today that march will be the critical month - in the matter of increasing unemployment. He said his economic advisors have told him that there should be an improvement in March. Employment figures should begin to rise next month. If they do not, ~~the~~ he will not hesitate to use any powers at the disposal of the federal government - to check an economic slump.

What measures could he use? Well, the President mentions - raising personal income tax ~~an~~ exemptions. - If the exemptions were increased, lots of people would have more money at their disposal. Which would tend to check a business decline. At any rate, that's the theory.

## ATOMIC

President Eisenhower's atomic message features two angles. Give our allies more information about military and peaceful uses of atomic energy. And - permit private industry to exploit the power of the atom for economic development.

In a special message to Congress, the President said that ~~private~~ private industry should be permitted to own and operate atomic plants, should be allowed to procure atomic materials from the government, and should obtain patents.

So he asked Congress to amend the atomic Energy law so that these ~~is~~ goals might be attained - more atomic information ~~for~~ for our allies abroad, and a release of the atom for use in private industry at home.

Meanwhile, we have the first official statement on the great hydrogen bomb test, in Nineteen Fifty-two. Congressman Sterling Cole of New York is a member of the Congressional Atomic Energy Committee. And has data on <sup>†</sup>that hydrogen explosion in the Far

on Pacific. He states: "It completely obliterated the test island." Which confirms unofficial reports that we have had. An island - wiped out by the blast of the hydrogen bomb. Congressman Cole declares that a city would have been similarly destroyed - buildings and other structures obliterated in a circle, six miles across.

The Nineteen Hundred <sup>4</sup>Fifty-two hydrogen bomb, says the Congressman, was a mere forerunner of what he calls: "An entire family of hydrogen weapons." These - of even greater destructive power.

## BERLIN CONFERENCE

Molotov today, produced an eleventh hour surprise. The Berlin Conference ~~is~~ to end Thursday, tomorrow - with nothing accomplished thus far. And, today, Soviet Foreign Minister got up and proposed a new scheme for Germany.

He suggested that East-West German committees be set up; joint committees - on which Communist East Germany would be represented, along with Democratic West Germany. One committee - to deal with transportation, economic affairs and frontier questions. Another - to regulate cultural, scientific and sports relations. These East-West groups - to work for cooperation between the divided sections of the country.

Molotov called, furthermore, for an agreement on the strength of the police forces in East and West Germany - and the types of armament they are permitted to have. The Big Four, Great Britain, France, United States, and Soviet Russia - to decide on the matter of police.

The joint committee idea would seem, obviously, to be some sort of Russian show business - to give an impression of a move toward the reunification of Germany. The regulation of police forces seems aimed at West German rearmament - planned as part of a west European Army. In the eastern zone, the alleged ~~police~~ police are actually - Communist military forces.

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There still seems to be some hope that the Berlin conference may bring about a last minute agreement on the Far East. That subject was ~~not~~ discussed again at a secret meeting today, and there will be another session, behind closed doors, tomorrow.

Thus far, both sides have agreed on what would amount to a Big Five conference - Red China to be included. But we say that such a meeting ~~must~~ must be limited to discussions on Korea and Indo China. Molotov concedes that it should be a conference on Korean and Indo-Chinese problems, but insists that other

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questions should be allowed to come up. The Soviets want Red China to be admitted as a full partner in what could be a global discussion. That's the state of affairs - in which some formula might still be found.

## INDO CHINA

The news from Indo China tells of some of the wildest fighting, to date - in the war out there. It was no great battle, but a local encounter at a strong point, Dien Bien Phu - where a French Union garrison has been holding out against encircling Reds. They stormed a series of ridges held by the Communists, and gave the enemy a savage drubbing.

This assault was preceded by an artillery bombardment and a blazing attack from the air. U.S. built planes - hurling a rain of bombs and flaming gasoline jelly. Then the French Union soldiers went at the Reds - with the bayonette.

The assailants were of three kinds - negro troops - from Senegal in West Africa. Moroccans - from the Sahara. And the Foreign Legion - consisting mostly of Germans. All hardened professional soldiers, who gave the Communists an example of old fashioned warfare, with the bayonette.

FOLLOW INDO CHINA

Indo China reports a savage Red atrocity - a whole town wiped out with a massacre of fourteen hundred inhabitants. Forty miles from HAN HONG a community, called Phan Thyong, was entirely christian. This provoked hatred of the Reds. Communist guerrillas sneaked in, disguised as peasants, opened fire with machine guns. They murdered everybody they found, and burned the town..



## KOREA STASSEN

Over in Korea today, Harold Stassen admitted - that the war-torn country needs a better electrical power system.

Our foreign economic administrator held a news conference at Seoul, and told the reporters that reconstruction in South Korea is - "off to a good start, on a sound basis." He denied Korean complaints that the U.S. government is not putting up the money fast enough. But, in the middle of all this, Stassen had to concede - that reconstruction in the realm of electrical power sure was needed.

As he was reading his prepared statements - the lights went out. The news conference - plunged into darkness. Whereupon, Stassen had to read by the illumination of a cigarette lighter - held near the page.

All of which was graphic evidence - that they can use better electricity in South Korea.

## COLONEL

In Washington, a court of inquiry was told today - that Colonel Frank Schwable, of the Marines, was "entirely justified" in confessing germ warfare. The Colonel has stated that he broke under "tortures" in a Red prison camp. His conduct is being investigated, and - today, his attorney declared that that Colonel Schwable actually used sound judgment. Which might imply that his germ warfare "confession" was so absurd, it meant nothing.

At the court of inquiry today, it was also questioned - whether or not Colonel Schwable, who was chief of staff of ~~the~~ <sup>a</sup>marine air wing in Korea, had any right to make a flight behind enemy lines. Thereby incurring the danger of being captured.

## JAMES ROOSEVELT

The James Roosevelt alimony case ended at Pasadena, California today - with charge and counter-charge. The wife contending - that James Roosevelt was a play-boy, able to buy a five thousand dollar diamond for a lady friend. James Roosevelt's attorney insisted that he is financially too poor to pay anything like the money his wife demands.

Superior court Judge Kaufman has taken the case under advisement, and says he will try to fix a reasonable amount of alimony, based on James Roosevelt's ability to pay.

## MOVIES

A war is on in the world of movies - with a blast of angry statements today. The trouble derives from a television show - Ed Sullivan presenting a sketch of the history of M G M. The star - Dore Schary, production head of M G M.

David O. Selznick, chief of Selznick International studios - complains that, in giving M G M history, there was no mention of Louis B. Mayer. Well, M G M stands for Metro Goldwyn Mayer, and Louis B. Mayer was a founder of the great film company. Head of the studio from Nineteen Twenty-four to Nineteen Fifty-One.

From Louis B. Mayer, comment is as follows: "My record speaks for itself. It cannot be wiped out. Too many people know."

Selznick is indignant, also, because there was no mention of Irving Thalberg, hailed for years as the M G M genius of movies.

But what irks him, particularly, is the case of "Gone With The Wind." He denounces what he calls

- the disgraceful and inexcusable attempt on the part of Dore Schary to present "Gone With the Wind" as an M G M production, and to claim, by implication, that it was produced by the present team at the studio."

Selznick says that his firm filmed that famous motion picture, and M G M was concerned only with distribution.

In this he is backed by Louis B. Mayer, who states that M G M had nothing to do with the production of "Gone With The Wind". Although Mayer, himself, helped to finance it.

In answer to all of this Dore Schary, whose argument is upheld by Ed Sullivan, issues a statement - denying that he slighted Selznick, Mayer, Thalberg. "My friends" he declares, need no assurance of my integrity."

Selznick says he has instructed his lawyers to take legal action. Demanding a correction - and damages.

**The storm in the movies - noisier than the  
storms they film.**

## BALD HEAD

In London there's a dentist -- trying to solve a mystery. The mystery - of what happened to his own head. He used to be completely bald. But now, all of a sudden, he has grown a luxuriant crop of hair.

He thinks the secret is worth a million - because of the number of bald-headed men in the world. But he can't figure what did it - he tried so many remedies for baldness.

Doctor Eugene Plant, now sixty-seven years old, has pulled teeth in London for years - and, until recently, his patients laughed at his bald head, as bare as an egg. He tried everything, from alleged scientific remedies to those old household secrets.

Today, he told how he rubbed his scalp with the juice of raw onions. So, maybe the onion juice did it. But he also used - decaying turnips, smearing his bald pate with a foul-smelling paste. Doctor Plant favored plant remedies - even eating grass, and whoever heard of a bald headed cow?

He also tried an extract from - ship's

tar. A sailor told him about that one, I suppose. He tried vinegar, saying today: "I rubbed so much vinegar into my head that I went around smelling like a salad dressing."

Then, suddenly, something worked. A rich growth of sandy colored hair sprouted on the noggin of that London dentist. He was amazed, delighted - and puzzled. What did it - the onion juice, the decaying turnips or what? He can't figure.



## EISENHOWER

President Eisenhower seems to be having trouble getting a rest at Palm Springs, California. His doctor ordered him to take a few days off, and get some relaxation. Golf is his favorite sport, but how do you get rest and relaxation in a mob scene?

Golfer Ike, today, had Ben Hogan for a partner - and Ben Hogan, himself, is a gallery attraction. The crowds were headed by news photographers and reporters, and the President finally had to beg off wearily. Refusing to pose for more pictures.

"I am going to have to sit down pretty soon - have to save my strength," he said.

He should come to Aspen, Colorado, and take up skiing. That's one sure way to get away from it all! Now - let's hear from Mike Fitzmaurice in far off New York.