

L.T. P. & G. TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1949

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The news has been giving intimations that a big meeting of the Red Cominform is going on in Prague, capital of Czechoslovakia. Which today was emphasized by the appearance of - Eisler.

The whole thing has a peculiar look. Eisler, as a bail jumper from the United States, was released by an English judge, as we know - and he stayed on in London until today. He was scheduled to address a London Communist rally - today. But, instead, he did a sudden vanishing act - almost as surprising as the way he ducked out of the United States as a stowaway. This morning he was taken into a closed limousine, and driven swiftly to a London airport. There he boarded a plane - his name not on the passenger list, his ticket and baggage anonymous. In the space of a few hours, he was being greeted with much ceremony in Prague - the Red dictatorship receiving him as a distinguished personage. Eisler's reply to the greeting was interesting.

He said he was, in his words - "Delighted to be on free soil." That - in a totalitarian dictatorship behind the Iron Curtain!

The reason for Eisler's presence in Prague is being kept a dark secret, but the guessing is easy - he's attending a meeting of the Red Cominform.

Later in the day he gave a news interview in which he boasted about the way he was able to get out of the United States and fool the American authorities. He said he was worried about only one thing - his wife.

In New York, she was taken into custody for questioning, after Eisler skipped. Today he accused the United States Government of holding his wife as - "a hostage." "Just like the Nazis," he said. Or, he might have added, "Just like the Soviets."

FOLLOW EISLER

All this is accompanied by word in Washington that ~~all~~ efforts to extradite Eisler are being dropped.

So says ~~the~~ Attorney General Clark, whom the Red bail jumper <sup>today described</sup> ~~declared~~ as "America's biggest fool." Well,

I suppose the Attorney General would be a fool, if he thought about extraditing Eisler now. If we could not get him from England, where a judge turned him loose, what chance would we have to get him, now that he is in Red Czechoslovakia safe behind the Iron Curtain?

## BIG FOUR

In Paris today, a fast "No" was spoken -- at the meeting of the Foreign Ministers. The West said - No, we do not want to listen to the views of the puppet Red government of Eastern Germany, the Soviet Zone.

The proposal was made by Vishinsky, who delivered another long tirade against the West today - hurling new blasts against the liberal government that has been set up in Western Germany. In the course of this, he demanded that the Council of Foreign Ministers invite members of the Communist regime in Eastern Germany to come to Paris and appear before the meeting of the Big Four.

The Western refusal was given with a special emphasis by Secretary of State Dean Acheson, who told Vishinsky he did not believe that the Red regime the Soviets have set up represent<sup>s</sup> the people of Germany - "or even," said Acheson, "the people of the Soviet Zone of Germany."

Our Secretary of State said "No" all the more firmly, because one member of the <sup>at</sup> Communist government of Eastern Germany is - Eisler, the fugitive from a jail sentence in the United States.



## BERLIN STRIKE

In the Berlin strike there's to be a conference between Company and Union. What stands for the Company, in this case, is the Soviet-administered railroad - against which some sixteen thousand German workers, who live in the Western sector, are striking. The Union? That's the odd part of it. The Mayor of West Berlin asked the head of the Soviet-operated railroads to negotiate with the strike leaders. <sup>So</sup> ~~But~~ the Communist official says he'll hold a conference with the Communist Union - which, as a Red outfit, is against the strike.

It sounds like a weird version of collective bargaining. Called upon to deal with the strike leaders, you negotiate with the strike-breakers.

The latest - the Soviet-controlled railroad administration and the <sup>(Communist)</sup> ~~Communist~~ Union have issued an appeal to the strikers in the Western sector, to return to work tomorrow.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The break between the Red Government of Czechoslovakia and the Roman Catholic Church appears to be complete - this with the issuance of a letter from Archbishop Josef Beran to the priests under his jurisdiction. He tells them it seems hopeless to reopen negotiations with the Red regime - this because of the intention of the Communist Government to restrict all education of the young <sup>to</sup> ~~in~~ the <sup>doctrines</sup> ~~of~~ Marx, Lenin and Stalin. ~~Archbishop Beran, at the same time, pronounced automatic ex-communication on all priests who contribute articles to a publication put out by the Reds, a magazine called - "Catholic Clergy Gazette."~~ The Communists are trying for some kind of church tie, seeking to split off a part of the clergy - the "Catholic Clergy Gazette," being part of the manoeuvre. But the Archbishop intervenes - in what looks like a finish fight between the Church and the Red government.

## LIDICE

There is to be a State Department investigation of a foreign Communist charge concerning money collected to rebuild the martyred town of Lidice in Czechoslovakia. Memory goes back to the indignation and pity during wartime, when the Nazis wiped out Lidice with fire and murder -- in retaliation for the Nazi boss of ~~sabotaged~~ <sup>subjugated</sup> Czechoslovakia -- Heydrich the Hangman. In this country measures were taken to rebuild Lidice -- and now a Communist deputy and the Government at Prague declares that five million dollars was raised. But none of it ever reached the ruins of Lidice. (He claims that the Committee for the rebuilding of the martyred town, a Committee headed by the late President Roosevelt and then by President Truman, collected the funds. So, what happened to the cash?)

This Red accusation has enough propaganda value for the State Department to make an official inquiry -- "to see if there is any truth in it", says



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the Department.

In New York, the whole thing has been explained by Dr Papanek, former Czechoslovakian delegate to the United Nations who resigned as a protest against the Red regime. He denies that any five million dollars was raised for the rebuilding of Lidice. He says that in New York between four and five thousand dollars was collected, <sup>and the</sup> ~~the memorial~~ committee formed plans to put up a memorial at Lidice. But this was rejected by the Red government at Prague. Dr Papanek says that the funds, ~~of~~ four or five thousand dollars, will be used to help anti-Communist refugees.



COPLAN

In the espionage trial of Judy Coplan, evidence today named a one-time employee of former Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes as a "contact" with the Soviet Embassy in Washington. The evidence was dramatic -- the Judge today permitting the contents of Judy Coplan's purse to be put on the record. The purse-- in which, according to testimony, she carried secret Government information as she went to meet the alleged Soviet Agent Gubitchev.

Among the memoranda in her purse were reports from the FBI -- to which she, as an employee of the Department of Justice, had access. One of these memoranda gave an FBI report which stated that Ruth Gruber, Secretary of Harold Ickes when he was head of the Commerce Department, had been a "contact" with a member of the Soviet Embassy, named Garanin.

The record shows that Ruth Gruber left her Government job one day before Ickes quit as Secretary

of the Interior. The newsmen tried to <sup>locate</sup>~~contact~~ her today, but could not find her. They looked up ~~Secretary~~ Ickes, who promptly said: "If there is anything wrong or subversive about that woman, I'm a hotentat."

Among other papers in Judy Coplan's purse were notes on possible candidates for the Soviet spy service-- various Government employees named as, what the notes called -- "potential recruits." One of these memoranda concerning an employee of the Army Signal Corps, set forth the following opinion in typical Communist verbiage. "I would," said the note, "characterize Steve as a pro-Communist -- albeit a bit of a wish<sup>2</sup>~~er~~-washer<sup>2</sup> idealist, and politically naive."

The B-36 investigation was ordered formally today - the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives directing an inquiry of wide scope. There'll be an airing of charges that the super-bomber is mixed up with political angles - Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson having been a director of the Consolidated Vultee, Company, which makes the B-36. Moreover, the investigation will go into the larger strategic aspects of the quarrel between the Air Force and the Navy. The flying generals insisting that the B-36 is virtually invulnerable. The admirals calling it - a sitting duck.

Today Committee Chairman Carl Vinson of Georgia stated: "This will be no whitewash investigation."



BOLIVIA

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More fighting in Bolivia -- and another American mining official held hostage by strikers. (This follows the atrocity at the Catavi tin mine, high in the Andes -- where, over the weekend, two American engineers and four Bolivian mine officials were murdered, after being held as hostages, and others were brutally beaten.)

*At this time*  
~~Near the scene of that outrage are the Huanuni tin mines, -- and there, too, strike violence broke out -- the revolting miners seizing the American superintendent as a hostage, Howard Keller. At last reports a battle was on between two thousand strikers and a force of soldiers -- the miners using rifles and throwing dynamite. At the moment the fate of the hostage is not known, -- American mining superintendent Howard Keller.~~

Meanwhile, refugees from the Catavi mine area have been brought out -- and they include hostages who survived the murderous outrage. They say the strikers



tried to kill them all -- with dynamite, after murdering the two Americans and four Bolivians. They touched off a charge, but the dynamite failed to detonate properly, and blew out the side of the building in which the hostages were held - but failed to kill any of them.

The news wire today brings an account that summarizes in the following words: "Five hundred sweating, grimy workers came out of the Twentieth Century Tin Mine Saturday. They were told that their idol Senator Juan L<sup>v</sup>cheche had been arrested as a revolutionary plotter - whereupon they went berserk; back to their Indian savagery."

That, briefly explains what happened in that tin mine world of the High Andes, a world of outside engineers and of native Indians. →

FOLLOW BOLIVIA

Later news from Bolivia states that nine other foreign mine officials are believed to be held as hostages -- in addition to the American superintendent.

## DUST

Word from California of dust storms in the southern part of the San Joaquin Valley ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> five a week darkening the sky with clouds of dust. San Joaquin Valley around Bakersfield is the center of the California cotton crop, ~~and this is~~ <sup>now</sup> in danger of becoming another dust bowl, as the wind whips off the top soil. Damage to crops, and danger to human beings -- a prevalence of respiratory maladies, dust-pneumonia, and what the doctors call "the Bakersfield lung". With attacks of hay fever and sinus infections.

One woman, ~~called~~ Mrs. Henry Raub, returned to her home in Bakersfield after an absence, and found her house so loaded with dust that, cleaning it up, she collected fifty-seven quart jars of fine silt.

What is the reason? ~~for this parable of dust?~~  
Experts list overgrazing, new land put in cultivation, incorrect farming. They are trying to do something about it, ~~put into effect~~ methods of averting dust storms.



DIZZY DEAN

In Washington, they're going to hold a National Celebrities Golf Tournament, an annual affair - and one of the golfers will be Dizzy Dean. Ole Diz has accepted the invitation, although it pays no money, not even expenses - and the one-time great man of the St. Louis Cards is not rich by any means.

All this is today set forth by United Press Washington Correspondent Harman Nichols, who at one time was a ghost writer for Diz - when the mighty pitcher was the apparent author of articles telling us of how he mowed the batters down. ~~So now Harman Nichols tells us how Dizzy Dean accepted the invitation to appear in a charity golf tournament and pay his own expenses.~~

He ~~It~~ begins with a picture of a barefoot boy, down in Dixieland, who picked cotton and distinguished himself by killing a rabbit with a rock at twenty-five paces - ~~a revelation~~ of the arm that was to win fame in the major leagues. ~~He~~  
The boy cotton-picker ~~talked hill-billy then, and he still talks it - and today~~



Harman Nichols gives us what presumably is the correct version of an episode of great renown. That was the day when Ole Diz and his brother Paul pitched a double-header for the St. Louis Cardinals, and Diz began with a three-hitter - after which brother Paul pitched a no-hitter in the second game. So Diz went to Paul and said reproachfully: "Why didn't you tell me you wuz gonna pitch a no-hitter. <sup>So we coulda</sup> ~~or we'd~~ made it unanermus."

Well, after his arm went bad, Dizzy Dean became a radio announcer. - ~~with that same brand of Uncle Sam's English.~~ On the air, he described ball games with such diction and grammar that the school teachers of St. Louis screamed. Like the time when he proclaimed in tones of majesty: "The runners went back to their respectable bases."

Ole Diz had one favorite peculiarity, the tense of a verb, hëll-billy style. Diz would announce: "He slud into third." That made the school ~~xxx~~ teachers collapse. But Diz merely asked: "What do they want me to say -- he slidded into third?" That ain't right, he slud into third."

Sad to say, Ole Diz lost his radio contract, which has not helped his finances at all. But he's a good golfer - and that brought him the invitation to play in the Celebrities Tournament, charity for the kids. Ole Diz could use a fee, but he's paying his own expenses. On the telephone he told Harman Nichols - he'd be glad to do it for the kids. And he explained; "I wuz a derlinquent myself once."

~~Well, I would like to see Ole Diz in the Golf Tournament, but still more I'd like to hear him broadcast a ball game once again, telling how the runners went back to their respectable bases. And - how he slud into third.~~

Y.W.C.A.

In Ottawa, Canada, tonight, there was a neat bit of logic -- but the logic lost out. It happened at the national convention of the Young Women's Christian Association where the question at issue was a resolution permitting men to become members of the YWCA. That may sound like a paradox, but a lady from Winnipeg pointed out that the YWCA was founded as she said, "in the interests of women. And," she contended, "the chief interest of women is men."

However, the logic lost out -- the convention stubbornly maintaining that men are not women and therefore have no place in the YWCA.



## VICE-CONSUL

A dispatch from Hamburg tells how the American Vice-Consul there, while out boating, was blown by stormy winds - and forced to land in Soviet territory. He was seized, and questioned by a Russian officer - who was deeply and darkly suspicious. The Soviet officer had ominous doubts, and these focused on one question. <sup>was that?</sup> What ~~question?~~ Well, it's all another example of the Soviet mind and the Western mind - that contrast which is of world importance today.

The American Vice-Consul is John Perry of Athens, Georgia, and he went out sailing with three young ladies - from New Jersey, Kansas, and Texas, respectively. They put out in a small boat from a Baltic port in the British Zone - sailing, sailing o'er the ocean blue.

But the weather grew rough, with a choppy sea running. The Vice-Consul had to take down the sail, and ~~he~~ started rowing - the girls bailing out the water that dashed over the sides of the boat.

There was a shore nearby, but that was the Soviet



Zone. And, to make matters worse, the Vice-Consul had no identification papers with him. So he kept hauling at the oars, while the girls worked the bailing bucket. But the weather grew worse, and they couldn't go on - they simply had to pull in to that nearby shore.

So they did. They scrambled out of the boat - and were promptly picked up and taken to the local Soviet headquarters. ~~So~~ there that question was asked, deep, dark and suspicious.

The Red commander was a Major, and he gazed at the Vice-Consul and the three girls. "Da, da, so you were out sailing? You're a vice-consul, and you were out for a pleasuretrip?"

That, replied the Vice-Consul, was exactly the case. But you couldn't fool that Soviet Major. "Da, da," he smiled skeptically. "You go sailing with three girls. You want me to believe that? The way to go sailing is - with one girl."

Today American Vice-Consul John Perry of Athens,

Georgia, stated: "I tried to convince him that we Americans *do* prefer being alone with one girl. But this case was different - because we all wanted to sail."

Da, da - the <sup>u</sup>Russians know better than that. But finally the matter was straightened out, and the Vice-Consul was permitted to return to Hamburg - with the three young ladies. Tonight he knows better. The next time he falls into the hands of the Soviets, it will be with <sup>only</sup> one girl. ~~at a time~~  
So the Rushies will understand. Do you understand, Nelson?