

ACHESON C.J. - P. + G. - Wed. Dec. 14, 49

The United States has recognized the new government of Panama - in spite of the way President Arnulfo Arias got into power down there, with a fantastic series of ructions and military revolt. Also - in spite of the frowns of dark disapproval displayed by our government toward the unseemly political events in the neighborhood of the Canal Zone. But today Secretary of State Acheson explained that Arias is actually in power as president. That's the accomplished fact.

The secretary was asked by newsmen - would this same sort of reasoning apply to China? He replied - yes, in a way. But he explained that the weird political doings in Panama involved no element of foreign interference - referring to the charge before the U. N. that the Red conquest of China was instigated and aided by Soviet Russia. Acheson was extremely cautious in talking about any analogy between Panama and possible American recognition of the Chinese Communists.

TOKYO

Late news from Tokyo tells of a wild brawl when two American G I's invaded a diplomatic party, molested the ladies, were refused dances -- and went on a wild rampage. One -- with a razor. -- ^The diplomats, mostly from Scandinavian countries tried to quiet them -- but there was wild fighting all over the place. One foreign representative severely cut by a stroke of the razor. A protest is being made to General MacArthur.

VISHINSKY

Red Berlin gave a ^{big} ~~sp~~ welcome to Vishinsky today - the Soviet foreign minister a guest of the puppet government in eastern Germany. Vishinsky is on his way back to Moscow, after having attended the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York. Hitherto, on trips like this, he has stopped off in Berlin. But - only for an hour or so between planes. This time he is making it a formal visit-of-state - the first Russian of anything like his rank to honor the German Reds with his presence. The reason, according to suppositions in Berlin, is to bolster up the prestige of the satellite government in eastern Germany.

BULGARIA

In Red Bulgaria, the sentences were pronounced today. - the penalties imposed on Kostov, the one-time number two Communist who refused to confess. And on the other ten defendants - all of whom made copious confessions. There is one death sentence - and you can guess who gets it - Kostov. The others are sentenced to prison terms of from eight years to life. So in this case, it would seem - it pays to confess.

ITALY

In Italy a strike of one million government employees is about to begin. Called for seven a.m. Rome time -- which is about an hour from now. The civil servants are making various demands. Today a last minute attempt for a compromise failed. So tonight the unions called a strike -- which brings to a new crisis the epidemic of labor troubles ^{disturbing} in Italy.

FRANCE

The Government of France ran into a new crisis tonight -- when the Socialist party handed an ultimatum to Premier Bidault. The Socialists are threatening to withdraw ~~xi~~ their support of the Cabinet unless Bidault withdraws one feature of his present program -- this being a proviso for compulsory arbitration of strikes. Free collective bargaining has been restored between employees and labor unions -- but there must be arbitration of disputes. The Socialists are opposed to this -- and informed Bidault tonight that, unless they have their way about it, they will overthrow the Cabinet. This they can do -- because the Premier heads a coalition in which the votes of the Socialists are necessary.

MOVIES

Late news from filmland -- in
in England. The House is debating what to do
about the conspiracy of the ambitious program for
the production of British films -- the enterprise
headed by J. Arthur Rank. The statement tonight
is that the labor cabinet will not put up any
money unless there are firm assurances that the
cash -- will not be swallowed in further extravagances.
Such are the words of a prominent member of the
government, Harold Wilson, President of the Board of
Trade.

He said that the film conspiracy
was ~~xxxx~~ caused by waste, poor financial policy
and insistence of British producers on making
what he called "prestige films regardless of cost."

ISRAEL

The prime minister of Israel set up headquarters in Jerusalem today. Which was prompt action, following yesterday's defiance of the United Nations. The U.N. internationalizing the Holy City - Israel proclaiming Jerusalem as its capital.

Prime Minister Ben Gurion and his staff arrived, as truckloads of furniture and files moved in caravans along the road from Tel Aviv. There is a regular battle ^{going on in Jerusalem} for office and living space. In various buildings, six hundred rooms have been preempted, and there is no end of shuffling around - harum-scarum. Israel officials are saying that the confusion will last for weeks - until things finally settle down.

FOLLOW ISRAEL

A late dispatch states that ~~the~~
American Ambassador McDonald had a meeting with
Prime Minister Ben Gurion today. The announcement
issued in Jerusalem tonight merely says that they
"conversed". One ^(report) ~~source~~ is that the American
Envoy expressed disapproval of the Israeli defiance
of the United Nations.

INDONESIA

Spectacular ceremony tonight at Batavia, the capital city built by the Dutch in Java - ceremony marking the end of the Dutch rule. Chiefs of the Indonesian Republic, headed by President Sukarno, put their signatures on a document - the constitution of the new independent state. The signing was enacted beneath a battery of floodlights; and orations in Malay hailed the new freedom - whereby independent Indonesia becomes a voluntary member of a commonwealth headed by Queen Juliana of Holland. Bringing to an end the rule that little Holland maintained for three hundred years across the vast extent of the fabulous Indies.

JAPAN

Here's a strange story told in Tokyo - related by a Japanese lecturer who went to Brazil and gave addresses to Japanese immigrants there. Seishiro Kurita, of the Japanese Travel Bureau, told about the present state of Japan, the American occupation, the rule of General MacArthur.

The reception he got was something. He found that among the two-hundred-and-fifty-thousand Japanese-Brazilians, about forty per cent believe Japan won the war in the Pacific. Of ^{the} six Japanese language newspapers ^(in that remote part of Brazil) ^{so far} only one ^{has} told the truth about the defeat of Japan. Fourteen Japanese, who ^{had} expressed the opinion that America won, have been killed. So you can imagine the welcome given the Tokyo lecturer who tried to tell about the American occupation and MacArthur. ^{There was} Angry hostility - and what he had to say was considered - "heresy."

Well, I suppose its one way to be happy - for ^{the} Japanese ^{in Brazil} ^{to go} on the rest of ^{their days} ~~his life~~ thinking -- Japan won the war.

KELLEMS

A bitter accusation emanates from Chicago - that our victory in the Second World War was delayed because of masses of electrical equipment sent to Soviet Russia, equipment used to develop a Soviet atomic bomb.

The charge is made by Vivien Kellems, the woman industrialist who has hit the headlines previously by her opposition to withholding income tax from pay envelopes. Today she declared that thousands of American soldiers lost their lives - because the Soviets were given masses of electrical supplies that we needed badly. She quotes newspaper accounts to indicate that the Reds used the equipment to build four atomic plants - though she does not say that our government knew about that angle. But Vivien Kellems makes the bitter charge: "Truly, in all history," says she, "no nation has ever been betrayed by its leaders as was the United States of America."

BELL

It's inevitable that the news should be interpreting the resignation of Elliott Bell, ^{Pawling, N. Y.,} in the light of the political career of Governor ~~Tom~~ Dewey - the two having been so close in State Government and ^{during} the two Dewey campaigns for the presidency.

Elliott Bell was ^{usually referred to} ~~known~~ as the number one member of the famous Dewey team, and today he tells the governor that, in the future, he will always be ready to cooperate. So maybe the partnership has not really ended. But, the news interprets it all as a break-up of the Dewey team and a possible sign that the New York Governor has no intention of ever trying for the presidency again.

Elliott Bell goes into private business, the publishing business - becoming chairman of the executive committee of McGraw-Hill. He began life as a newspaperman, financial writer on the New York Herald Tribune - then became state superintendent of banks. ^Which identifies him particularly with economic - matters of business, industry. So how does he figure

in the world of publishing?

I called Elliott Bell today, and he gave me an angle to illustrate - there's a boom in American technical and industrial publications, magazines and books. Especially - an export boom. McGraw-Hill specializes in that field, and reports a big increase of foreign business - giving vivid indication of the interest that countries abroad are taking in American technical advancement. Trying to learn - that *so-called* know-how.

To illustrate, Elliott Bell read me a list of magazines published by the company in which he now takes an important position - and the titles cover just about everything you can imagine in the realm of applied science. The name of one magazine caught my ear. I'd never heard it before - "Neucleonics." But the meaning was obvious - a periodical devoted to nuclear physics. Which certainly sounds ^S~~s~~ like this atomic age.

SHIP - EXPLOSION

At Miami today, a coast guard plane landed eight survivors of a disaster at sea. On Monday a Dutch motor ship blew up out in the Atlantic. The vessel, a cargo ship named Doros, was turned swiftly into a mass of flame.

The eight survivors, out of a crew of twenty-four, got off in a lifeboat, and drifted until the next day - when they were picked up by an American oil tanker. Six other Dutch sailors were in another lifeboat, still missing - and a search is being made.

EXPLOSION

The latest would seem to indicate that the death list is much smaller than had been feared - in the explosion at Sioux City, Iowa. First reports were that at least thirty persons were killed in a blast that blew up the Sioux City packing plant and office building of Swift and Company. But the latest dispatch states that ~~no more than thirteen~~ ¹⁶ lives were lost - which is bad enough. The cause is believed to have been an accumulation of natural gas.

STUDENT

There is a good deal of wonder about a seventeen year old boy who, after three years in high school - skipped college, going straight into post-graduate work. Joseph Nelson set a record at the University of Chicago by passing the entrance examinations in such style that he jumped the regular four years of college study. The exams at Chicago are considered exceptionally tough - but they merely gave the seventeen year old a chance to show that high school had already given him the equivalent of a college education.

So what high school was it? Well, there were two. For a year and a half in New York, the Bronx. Then the family went to Rome - the father a national secretary for the Y.M.C.A. Which gave young ^{JSE} Nelson a year and a half over there. Today he said: "The high school in Rome had an awful lot to do with it. They went deeper into things."

Well, the high school on the banks of the Tiber would be what is called - a lyceum. And it is

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often said that a European lyceum, while technically the equivalent of an American high school, actually provides what would be ^{almost the equivalent of} a college education over here.

Which might explain a good deal in the case of the boy who, instead of skipping a grade, skipped college.

WATER

New York is preparing for "Bathless Friday", and the newsmen have been consulting various authorities on the subject. The author of the book of etiquette^t was interviewed today; Emily Post queried on the dainty question of how to be exquisite without a bath. No, she didn't throw up her hands in horror.

"I think", said she today, "that one can have a beautiful bath in very little water. Mind you", she went on, "I know the water shortage is serious - but anyone who is ingenious can cope with the matter.

There are countries where they carry that idea to an extreme -- one bath a year. But, that should only be tried in extreme high altitudes -- where it's cold and dry. Then it doesn't seem to matter much.

OSTRICH EGGS

At St. Augustine, Florida, today, Jim Casper made an offer to the news correspondents at Washington. He said he'd send^d them a shipment of - ostrich eggs. Jim Casper owns an ostrich farm, in Florida, and he offers^{them} enough to feed the entire National Press Club. Which wouldn't take many, because ostrich eggs weigh about three pounds each.

Jim's interest in the Washington correspondents⁵ would seem to be obvious - since they, right now, are trying to find out what happened to the consignment that Jim sent to President Truman. He shipped four eggs, each one six inches long, to the presidential vacation place at Key West. So the question is, did President Truman eat the ostrich eggs? If he did, it would be good Florida politics. If he didn't, he might lose votes down on the ostrich farm. So what's the answer?

~~The newsmen have been trying to find out.~~
But all ^{the newsmen have} ~~they've~~ been able to get is a statement from the presidential administrative assistant. He says

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that Jim Casper's ostrich eggs were "Very much enjoyed". Which certainly does sound like one of those diplomatic statements. "Very much enjoyed." Yes, but enjoyed how, and by whom? ~~Jim Casper, for one, would like to find out~~

~~We'd all like to find out, because~~ ^{TP} It would be a picture worth seeing. A three pound egg - President Truman sitting down to breakfast; the waiter puts in front of him a fried ostrich egg, about a yard wide.

Ostrich Farmer Casper sent me two of those ostrich eggs last week. One egg will feed ^{a family of} twelve ~~persons~~ for breakfast. But before we got his letter telling us that, my wife had arranged for me to have one of those ~~two~~ three-pound eggs for my breakfast.

~~When~~ ^{then} When it was too late, with the egg ^{overflowing} in the skillet,

^{then} we discovered ~~after it was cooked~~ that we should have invited the neighborhood to come in and join us.

^{TP} Remember the old American custom of throwing ripe eggs? It sure would be tough to get popped with an ostrich egg! Eh, Nelson?