

CONGRESS

C.I.-F.H. Friday, Jan. 20, 1950,

In Congress today, the administration won a big victory - when a vote was taken on an attempt to seize power by Republicans and Southern Democrats.

Earlier this week in the Rules Committee of the House, a coalition of Dixieland and G.O.P. voted to restore to the committee the power to hold back bills - keep them on the shelf.

Today Republican Congressman Leo Allen of Illinois admitted frankly that the idea was to bottle up the White House domestic program.

So you can see the peril to the fair deal, Civil Rights, and all. The administration put forth all its effort to beat the move, and it went to a vote on the floor of the House this afternoon. The result - a major victory for the White House, by a majority of ~~two-hundred-and-eighty~~ *thirty six* to one-hundred-and-eighty-three. Sixty-four Republicans joined the administration side, while eighty-five Southern Democrats were in the coalition with Republicans.

KOREA

Administration leaders, today, rallied from the shock they got on the subject of Korea yesterday - when a coalition of Democrats and Republicans in Congress voted down the bill for sixty million dollars of American aid. The State Department ^{now} hopes the House of Representatives will change its mind; - ~~and~~ think of the possibility of Southern Korea falling into Communist control.

In far off Seoul, capital of Korea, the shock was even greater. Today Korean President Syngman Rhee said: "I can hardly believe this is final."

The White House defeat was dealt by a combination of ^{Democrat} economy advocates, and Republicans who are dissatisfied with the Truman Far Eastern policy in general. ~~and~~ Strong administration efforts ^{now} will be made to persuade Congress to okay the bill to aid Korea.

MOSCOW

Here are two dispatches from Moscow tonight, and the immediate surmise is -- that they add up.

One is that the Premier and Foreign Minister of Red China, Chou-en-Lai, has arrived in the Soviet capital. There - joining the Communist President of China, Mao-Tze-Tung who has been in Moscow for nearly five weeks, trying to come to an agreement with the Soviets.

London, as we heard the/other night, takes this long time to mean that negotiations have run into a snag -- Mao-Tze-Tung not yielding so submissively. So now he is joined by his Premier and Foreign Minister, Chu-En-Lai -- which can only heighten the belief that all is not going too ~~xx~~ smoothly between the Soviets and the Chinese Communists.

The second bit of ~~xxxx~~ news from Moscow tonight is a blast ~~xx~~ by Foreign Minister Vishinsky, who hurls a cannonade against American Secretary of State Acheson. He assails the statement ~~xxx~~ that

Acheson made the other day, when the Secretary declared that Russia has grabbed four northern provinces of China, including Manchuria -- and that the Chinese people will be angered by this robbery of their territory. Vishinsky calls the Acheson statement -- "slanderous."

He says the Soviets have not seized these four northern ~~px~~ provinces -- and adds that Manchuria, Inner Mongolia and Sinkiang remain an ~~ixx~~ integral part of China. He also denies that the Soviets have annexed outer Mongolia -- ~~xxx~~ though that huge land is now a Soviet Republic. Which sounds about the same as ~~an~~ annexation.

The understanding is that Red President Mao-Tze-Tung, now joined by Premier and Foreign Minister Chou-En-Lai, has been discussing those provinces-- Manchuria especially.

And in London, British diplomatic officials are quoted as saying tonight: "It confirms our suspicions that Russo-Chinese negotiations are not going as smoothly as the Soviets hoped."

JAPANESE COMMUNISTS

The Communist Party of Japan has reversed itself. Today the Japanese Reds withdrew their defiance of Moscow, and confessed their error. Which certainly was a right-about face - and face can be a delicate thing in the Orient.

Early this month, Moscow issued a blast against the number two Japanese ^{Communist} Nosaka. Calling him - "A servant of the imperialist occupiers;" Because of a policy of moderation advocated by Nosaka. But the Communist leadership in Japan ~~stood forth bravely~~, defying^{ed} Moscow and defending^{ed} Nosaka. More than that - one important Communist leader defended the Soviet view, and was expelled from the Japanese Communist Party. It looked like a violent outbreak of Titoism in the Far East.

It may be that the rebellious Communists of Japan thought they might get some support from Red China. Because the recantation today follows a declaration by the Chinese Communists earlier this week - denouncing the Japanese Reds, and calling upon

them to get back on the party line.

The confession and contrition today were of the usual abject sort. A resolution saying - Moscow is right, and we were wrong. They beat their breasts, and promise not to fall into error again.

But what about Nosaka, who was bawled out by Moscow in the first place. He, too, confesses and repents - saying he was all wrong. (But Nosaka makes a curious addition to his recantation. He explains that he had already changed his mind, before Moscow hit him with a ton of bricks. The trouble was - that he had neglected to make a public announcement of his reversal of opinion. Which certainly sounds like the old Oriental business of saving face.)

In Tokyo, American opinion tonight is expressing the belief that the Communist Party, which has been losing members in Japan, will lose a lot more. Because their back-down and humiliating surrender today will cause them to lose no end of face. Over here somebody may have - a red face. In the Orient he has no face at all!


BULGARIA

The U. S. Government sends a wrathful ultimatum to Bulgaria - the Red Government of which country has ordered the expulsion of the American minister, Donald Heath. Our State Department tells the Bulgarian Communists that, if they carry this out - the United States will break off diplomatic relations. The Communists over there charge American minister Heath with espionage - the accusation made at the time they tried and executed their own former number two Communist, Kostov.

The reverberations of that Red trial are still going on - the government today announcing a purge. One member of the Bulgarian politburo - tossed out, accused of not having been vigilant enough in the affair of Kostov. Six members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party - ousted; also not vigilant enough. Looming everywhere - the crime of Titoism.

BERLIN

In Berlin, Western Power officials are getting ready to run the airlift again - if necessary. The Soviets are slowing down transportation - following the American seizure of a building assigned to the Soviets as communication headquarters. Some six hundred empty offices - taken over for American use. The slow-down is called - retaliation. And it might result in another Berlin blockade - with another airlift.



BERLIN

Later news -- the Russians have turned back a number of trucks bound ~~for~~ from Berlin to western Germany, stopping traffic in a big way. All in line with the menace of a new tie-up.

BATTLESHIP MISSOURI

Tonight the battleship Missouri is still on the mud bank - after a culminating attempt this afternoon to pull the giant off. Twenty-one powerful tugs, at high tide, strained for two hours - but couldn't budge "big Mo." The battleship went aground near Norfolk, Hampden Roads, on Tuesday, and will have to stay there at least until February Second - the Navy putting off all further attempts until then. High tide today was not high enough, and will be lower the next few days. The peak of high tide will hit again on February Second - and then they'll try again to release the warship on which the surrender of Japan was signed.

AGA KHAN

Today's arrests in France of Bandits in the robbery of the Aga Khan pictures typical dark melodrama of the underworld, and features - dishonor among thieves Detectives of the surete have caught five members of the gang that stole three-quarters of a million dollars' worth of jewels. But there's one thief not arrested - for a very good reason. Murdered by his pals - the mob wiping him out.

France has its underworld - a lot older than any criminal tradition over here, in Chicago or New York. The Parisian gangster is - the apache. Which name derives from the Apache Indians of our own Southwest, and goes back to the time when the old Louisiana Territory was a French possession. But the toughest of criminals in France are the Corsicans - from an island famous for brigands of old. ~~de~~ They are Corsicans ~~in the~~ thriller of crime.

Last summer the Aga Khan and his wife were driving from their sumptuous villa near Cannes, intending to visit that famous couple - Prince Aly, son

of the Aga Khan, and American movie actress Rita Hayworth, who had been married recently. The Aga Khan took with him a casket full of magnificent jewels. *TP They were held up. The robbers* *making their getaway* drove to a house, where they buried the casket of jewels in the garden. Ironically - this place was in the neighborhood of the Aga Khan's own villa. Then came the inevitable difficulty - how to dispose of the jewelry, the hottest kind of loot. The treasure consisted of forty pieces of the jeweler's art, with great gleaming gems, easy to recognize - and red hot.

A week after the robbery, the bandits dug up the ^splunder, and turned it over to two other characters of the underworld, to dispose of - acting as fences. Tonight the police are hunting for these two - who still have in their possession the jewels of the Aga Khan.

So, actually, up to this point the robbers had nothing in the way of cash-money to show for their crime. Which awkward circumstance could help to

account for what now proceeded to happen - the murder of one of the bandits, wiped out by the mob.

The Aga Khan's jewels were insured by Lloyds of London, which stood to take the loss - and Lloyds put their own investigators on the job. Which raises an interesting point - insurance people being willing, often, to pay rewards for the detection of thieves and the recovery of loot. So pretty soon a British insurance investigator for Lloyds was approached - one of the bandits offering to give himself up, and bring about the capture of others.

Called "Big Roger", he was the one who drove the car in the robbery.

A deal was made, and an appointment was arranged for Big Roger to meet detectives of the Paris surete. But he never showed up - and tonight the detectives of the surete are not looking for Big Roger. Not at all.

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and liquidated him." The French police declare that Big Roger was murdered along with his girl - a blonde moll of the ^{French} underworld. Dark dramatics in the robbery of the Aga Khan - the dishonor among thieves!

As an epilogue to this crime story, here's a dispatch from India. The Aga Khan is ^{now} in the City of Poona - for his seventy-fourth birthday, - hailed by the sect of Ismaili Moslems - of which he is the religious leader. More than five thousand of the Ismaili gathered for a solemn ritual - which in times past included a gift to the Aga Khan of his weight in gold. On his seventieth birthday he received his weight in diamonds. But this year, says the dispatch from Poona, that sort of thing was omitted. Although - a bit of gold and a few diamonds might help to take the place of the jewels the bandit gang stole in France, and are still missing.

BOSTON ROBBERY

In Boston's million and a half robbery
the police tonight arrested a guard, ~~an~~
employee of the Brink Company, the firm that was
held up. This guard disappeared shortly after
noon today. A statewide alarm was put out for
him and he was picked up tonight at Waltham twenty
miles from Boston. He is now being questioned.

TELEVISION

C.B.S. tells me of the latest in the story of the twenty-seven year old electrician over in New Jersey who made a color television receiving set out of some household junk and thirty cents' worth of colored cellophane. Today he was in a state of virtual collapse, plagued and besieged by telephone calls, visitors, newsmen. That much interest aroused by his surprising exploit.

MISSING BOY

In ^{my}~~our~~ home county of Dutchess, there was a scene of rejoicing at a pig pen today. That's where they found a seven year old boy, missing since yesterday. ~~near the town of~~ ^{In} Clove Valley, ^{Just over the} ~~hill~~ ^{hill from my home,} Davey Berry strayed away from his two brothers, and wandered off into the woods. The weather was near zero, and it didn't seem the lad could survive the night.

There was a big boyhunt - state police, neighbors, bloodhounds and airplanes. They searched all night, and all they found was - a clue. One of Davey's mittens was picked up in a cornfield, and today the searchers came to that pig pen. In it was - Davey. He told them he had spent the bitterly cold night in a shed, and nearly froze - but is okay tonight.

CROCODILE

Our story last night about the operation on Cleopatra, the crocodile, is not turning out so happily - although the surgery was highly successful, as surgery goes. ~~But complications have set in, as often happens in the case of operations. It seems they took too much junk out of the stomach of Cleopatra.~~

~~It happened at the Cincinnati Zoo, the first operation ever performed on a crocodile, and~~ Today's dispatch amplifies the list of rubbish that gave Cleopatra the tummy-ache. The doctor, cutting into her stomach, fished out six soda pop bottles, thirty nine stones, three marbles, two bullets, a whistle, and a toy elephant. Enough to give any crocodile the cramps.

Cleopatra was resting comfortably today - but up speaks the professor of paleontology at the University of Cincinnati - Dr. Kenneth Caster. ~~(He says the surgeon took out too much of the trash - a medico not knowing as much about crocodiles as a paleontologist)~~ He says the stones should have been left - not the bottles or the toy elephant, only the hunks of rock.

The paleontologist gives his diagnosis in the following words: "Cleopatra is a descendant of the prehistoric dinosaurs, and in this type of reptile a grinding action in the stomach, aided by rocks and pebbles, chews the food."

So now, at the zoo, they are thinking about treating Cleopatra to a ^{plate of special biscuits - rocks and} ~~banquet of boulders and~~ brickbats. Pass the biscuits, Nelson.