

The Holy City of Jerusalem was plunged into darkness tonight, the whole city an inky black. ~~The~~ Electric power cut off, and all the lights went out.

Just what happened is not clear, ~~as~~ yet, but the British authorities were seized by immediate fear - apprehending an all-out attack by the Jewish Underground. They ordered the gates of Jerusalem ~~to be~~ closed, everything on the alert - on guard against an assault in the darkness.

The mysterious blackout in Jerusalem tonight followed a sombre declaration by the Jewish Underground, a broadcast from the secret radio station of Irgun Zvai Leumi. The announcement was that the Underground Organization was setting up what it called - "Military Courts," to try all Britons captured by the Irgun bands. Prisoners condemned by the Underground courts will be executed by hanging or by firing squads, said the secret radio - which listed a series of charges on which ~~British~~ prisoners would be tried. Charges like "Association with the British Army," "Illegal entry

into Palestine," "illegal possession of arms." ^{all} this
~~was~~ in bitter mockery of the accusations brought in
British courts against captured terrorists. - ^{And which} ~~and~~ would
apply to virtually all the British in Palestine.

In the same broadcast, Irgun Zvai Leumi
disclosed that the blowing up of the Egypt-Palestine
Express yesterday was the doing of its ~~own~~ members.

CONFERENCE

(The epitaph of the Moscow Conference can be written with virtual certainty tonight: - complete failure. News dispatches from ~~Moscow~~ the Soviet capital stated today that the American delegation had abandoned the hope of an Austrian treaty.

Hope of a German treaty has been given up for some days now - and those two peace pacts were what the Foreign Ministers met to negotiate in the first place.)

The failure of the Austrian Treaty was, ~~later in the day,~~ ^{today} admitted by Secretary of State Marshall, who told his fellow foreign ministers that, unless there was some last minute break in the Austrian deadlock, the question should be referred to the United Nations ^{-- to U.N.} ~~the~~ ^{general} assembly in September. ~~It remains to be seen how the Soviets will take the suggestion of letting the U.N. decide on peace terms with Austria.~~

~~The Moscow conference is about to adjourn, the word being that a couple of final sessions will be dedicated to a clean-up of odds and ends - the major~~

issues having come to naught. ^R The completeness of the failure is emphasized by the Moscow bulletin tonight, which lists both failures and successes. The failures are obvious; - the inability to frame either a German or an Austrian peace treaty. The successes are equally vivid:- They are listed as two:- an agreement to liquidate Prussia as a political unit and abolish Prussian militarism forever. And, - a resolution to complete the denazification of Germany, although ^{was} this ^{agreed upon} ~~agreement~~ ^{was} only in principle.

So that's what comes out of the much heralded Moscow conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Big Four; - they think Prussian militarism should be abolished and Germany should be denazified, although they are not precise about that either. It hardly seems ^{to} have been [^] worth the carfare, or rather the plane fare, to Moscow, ^{for} all those big time diplomats, ^{and} correspondents.

WALLACE

In Paris today, Henry Wallace expanded on his latest inspiration - fifteen billion American bucks for Soviet Russia. Having come up with that moonstruck vision in an interview on the French radio, Henry soared to even loftier financial heights at a meeting today with a group of members of the French Chamber of Deputies. His idea on handing fifteen billion dollars to the Soviets is only part of the scheme he has dreamed up for a sort of worldwide new deal - in which the Soviets would get by far the largest hunk of cash. To the French Legislators, our former Vice-President proposed a global reconstruction fund of fifty billion dollars, to be distributed as a kind of W.P.A. throughout the world.

Who would put up the fifty billion? Now, don't have any illusions! - **J**ust picture your Uncle Sam digging down deeper than he ever dug before. Obviously, the greater part of the fifty billion for a global new deal would come out of the United States Treasury - the nightmare going on with screams from John Q. Taxpayer.

So now, having made clear who would give the most, let's go on to that other beautiful question - who would get the most? Henry is perfectly clear about that. He concedes that, of the fifty billion, Great Britain should get some three-and-a-half billion - let's not make it too much or it wouldn't leave enough for the Soviets.

Henry proposes that Stalin should be handed nearly one-third of the total for all the world - fifteen billion dollars. In other words, while we Americans do the lion's share of giving, the Soviets would do the lion's share of the getting.

Henry Wallace argues that the stupendous hand-out would enable the Soviets to refrain from exacting those huge reparations they demand from current production in Germany. Henry notes that, if the Germans have to give to the Soviets nearly all they produce they'll have virtually nothing left to live on themselves - turning Germany into a sink of starvation and misery, bad for all the world. So we can avert

that by paying German reparations to the Soviets out of our own pocket. Of course, Stalin is demanding only ten billions in reparations, but let's split the difference and make it fifteen billion.

~~The news dispatch relates that, in the welcome to Henry in France, the French Communists are foremost - and no wonder! I suppose the Reds, in their eagerness to destroy American capitalism, can't imagine any more agreeable way of doing this than by acceptable global hand-outs until capitalistic America goes broke.~~

~~In the process of these day dreams in Paris, Henry got around to one point of good sense today. He still seems to retain some political shrewdness. Discussing the American political situation, the former Vice-President remarked that the Republicans won the November elections by taking a position against Communism, and ^{that} now it's the Democrats ~~now~~ who are leading the anti-Communist drive - implying that whoever takes the strongest position against Communists may~~

LABOR

The Labor Department ~~announces its new~~ ^{has invited the}

~~action in the telephone strike - an invitation to the~~
companies and ^{the} union to meet tomorrow for new negotiations.

~~It is hoped that the renewal of collective bargaining~~
~~will produce a settlement though it ~~is~~ admitted that~~
~~no new basis for negotiations has arisen. ~~We hear that~~~~

^{we hear} the federal conciliators plan to suggest a new basis.-

They'll ask the telephone companies to make a definite offer of a wage increase. Their idea is that the ~~strike~~ strike could be ended, if the companies will agree to a fifteen per cent pay boost, ~~such as has been granted in other industries.~~

The principle of a fifteen per cent raise was accepted today by the Auto Workers Union, in the case of General Motors; - though there is still a hitch. General Motors offered that amount in the following form:-
- a pay raise of eleven-and-half-cents an hour, plus ~~the~~ three-and-a-half cents an hour in holiday pay. Union President Walter Reuther, however, demands a flat increase of fifteen per cent. Reuther was negotiating with company ^{ials} this afternoon.

PRICES

The ~~the~~ Newburyport plan to fight inflation, cutting retail prices by ten percent, seems to ^{be} contagious - all the way from Sherman Oaks, California, to Spring Valley, New York, *it's catching on.*

Two other Massachusetts communities, Leominster and Amesbury, are all set to follow suit, tomorrow. And the Mayor of Boston is calling on businessmen there to make the city of the bean and the cod the first large metropolis to join the ~~fx~~ campaign.

Newburyport merchants report that business has picked up between ten and sixty percent, with out-of-town customers flocking in, to take advantage of the price reductions.

Says the Newburyport mayor: " This is no mark-down sale. It's a refund to the customers. Our retailers are simply trying to bring into balance an economic machine that is seriously out of adjustment. "

GARSSON

In Washington, the opening of the trial of former Congressman May and the Garsson Brothers discloses the kind of evidence the prosecution will present in an effort ~~to~~ prove corruption. The charge is that, during the war, the seventy-eight million dollar munitions empire of the Garssons paid fifty-three thousand dollars to Congressman May, then Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives. ~~We recall how, when the scandal broke, much mention was made of a Kentucky Lumber Company to which the Garssons made payments of money - a Company headed by Congressman May. And this Company is now featured in the trial that began today.~~

The prosecution contention is that the Cumberland Lumber Company of Prestonburg, Kentucky, was formed for the sole purpose of covering up cash the Garssons gave to the Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee. ~~The Company was formed ostensibly to furnish lumber to the munitions empire. But really, claims the prosecution, the money paid to the Company~~

was in return for services that Congressman May rendered to the Garssons, special favors in the business of war contracts - and ^{that} no lumber was ever delivered.

Today the chief prosecutor told the jury that, on the books of ^{the} Garsson Companies, invoices amounting to thirty-eight thousand dollars were entered as advances to the Lumber Company in Kentucky. But ^{that} these bookkeeping entries were not made, actually, until after the Federal Investigation of the Garssons had begun. Invoices were made out in the name of the ~~Eng~~ Cumberland Lumber Company in Kentucky, but the F.B.I. found the typewriter on which these invoices had been written - a typewriter in Chicago.

~~In other words.~~ The prosecution declares ~~that~~ that, after the investigation had begun, a lot of bookkeeping was fixed up to bolster the claim that the Garssons had paid money to Congressman May as a matter of lumber business. *But that no lumber was ever delivered.*

ADD GARSSON

Late this afternoon, the defense of former Congressman May began its own statement, with declarations that the one-time chairman of the Military ~~Aff~~ Affairs Committee had never taken money from the Garssons, nor had he given them any help in business of war contracts.

DRAFT DODGER

(Sentence was pronounced today on Serge Rubinstein, international financier who was convicted last night of draft dodging. A judge in New York imposed on the millionaire a prison term of two-and-a-half years and a fifty thousand dollar fine.)

This has been the headline case of draft evasion brought on by World War Two. ~~Serge~~ Rubinstein, born in Russia, came to this country as a refugee, and ran a small stake into millions, through wall street operations and international finance. His holdings are estimated at more than five million dollars. During the war, he was classified as One-A, and three times was able to have that classification altered. Head of several companies, his plea was - essential war work.

Thus he was able to keep out of the Army. But, eventually charges were entered, charges that his claims of essential war work were fraudulent. He was put on trial with two officials of his companies. The latter were given suspended prison sentences, and fined ten thousand dollars each. The millionaire, ~~Serge~~

DRAFT DODGER - 2

Rubinstein, today was given two-and-a half years in
prison -- and a fifty thousand dollar fine.

DUEL

All Paris is agog tonight the Boulevards are in a state of ferment -- what a sensation! Paris is accustomed to shocks and surprises. But not of the sort that broke today -- a challenge to a duel. Oh yes, Paris has had many duels. Paris knows all about the Field of Honor. But this one is a challenge issued by a woman -- and Paris never heard of anything like that before. A woman wanting to fight a duel with a man!

It's an actress, a lady of the theatre, who has issued a challenge to mortal combat. Her antagonist - a man. But, exclaims Paris, it is customary for a woman and a man to meet on the field, not of honor, but of love.

However, it's a dramatic critic whom the actress wants to fight in a duel-to-the-death; and you know what things those critics write about players on the stage. This Parisian critic called the actress - a skeleton. No, no! a thousand times, no, no! She is no skeleton. The lady can prove it. But she prefers a duel.

It all happened because of a new play that

has opened in Paris. The star, Madame Lise Merville. The criticism was written by Roger Dornes, who wields a mischievous pen. The critic, in his review of the show, noted that the actress is supposed to portray, as he says, "A former music hall star, celebrated, adored, spoiled and ~~brantfin~~ beautiful." However, when the actress entered, what did he see? "A dressed skeleton!" he wrote, "whose gestures are those of a disjoined puppet, whose attitude is that of a broken automaton, and whose voice is off key."

So the actress issued her challenge to a duel. She sent two seconds - gentlemen. I suppose she figures it was unorthodox enough for a woman to fight a duel, without having female seconds. So now Paris wonders - will the critic accept the challenge? The question is no laughing matter.)

It is admitted on the Boulevards tonight that a duel ordinarily is rather less dangerous than opening a can of sardines. Three have been scheduled

in Paris since the end of the war, but only one has been fought - a duel in which there was a downpour of ~~fr~~ rain on the field of honor. The two duelists fired a couple of shots, and both went home with colds.

However, Paris points out that a woman may be different - the female of the species being more deadly than the male, especially a female who has been called a skeleton. Moreover, it is noted that women have not the proper skill with deadly weapons. They haven't that expertness with sword or pistol, which is necessary in a duel - necessary to make sure that nobody gets hurt. A skillful Parisian duelist can be trusted to use the deadly weapons with such finesse that there is no danger to life and limb. But a woman wouldn't have that artistic skill, and with a sword or pistol she might stab or shoot somebody.

All of which has the critic a bit worried, and I suppose he'll be careful hereafter about calling an actress a skeleton. ~~Try~~ *Try calling her an* elephant or a hippopotamus the

next time, my dear Alphonse.
mean, my dear

Nelson.

Now My dear Gaston - I

officials this afternoon.

And, The C.I.O. is going to talk things over with the A.F. of L. - ~~that~~ matter of a merger of the two great labor organizations. Today C.I.O. President Phil~~ip~~ Murray announced that he will meet with officials of the Federation - "In the near future." The A.F. of L. had given an invitation for a conference tomorrow. But Murray responds ^{that} he can't go into the matter at so early a date. However, the C.I.O. does accept the proposal for negotiations to end the split in American labor.

Britain ^{today} made an appeal to the U N - an appeal for help to ~~xxxx~~ prevent illegal Jewish immigration to Palestine. Then a few hours later mysteriously withdrew the appeal.

Britain's note was submitted to Secretary General Trygve Lie with a request that he relay it to all U N members. And then, they told him to forget it.

What the British wanted originally was a promise that, pending settlement of the Palestine problem, all U N members ~~would~~ withhold harbor facilities and other help to ships obviously intending to run Jewish immigrants through the British blockade.

The reason for withdrawing the request? We don't know for sure. But the report now is that Britain may take her proposal to each U N member individually. They already have made direct appeals to France, Italy, and Sweden, and Italy has agreed to do what she can. The others so far are non-committal.

U N PRESS

We hear from Lake Success tonight that some of the Big Five delegates are in favor of barring both press and public from the coming Security Council debate the problem of a world police force -- one of the most vital of all the questions to be threshed out by the United Nations.

Admirals and Generals of the Big Five who comprise the military staff committee, will meet tomorrow to complete a first report on a plan for policing the world.

This report must be in the hands of the Security Council by Wednesday. Then will follow the debate.

Pressure has been exerted on the Big Five to make the report public. But the latest is that everything will be kept secret -- for the time being.