

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Southern Democrats won a big victory in the Rules Committee of the Senate today. The victory means: no end to Senatorial Filibustering. Any one member of the Upper Chamber can hold up legislation just so long as his lungs hold out, his lungs and the patience of two-thirds of his colleagues. He doesn't even have to stick to the subject of the matter ~~he~~ is discussing. He can talk about trout fishing, if he knows anything about it, or even if he doesn't. He can talk about the Russian ballet, why skiers all should support the National Ski Patrol; or he can talk about how wonderful women are. And then if he runs out of words, he can take us the Congressional Record and read from it. And - if any of his colleagues don't like it, they can take a nap, go home, walk out and have a chocolate malted or something. Only a two-thirds majority of Senators can cut him off.

The Republicans offered a new bill amending the

Senate Rules to enable a simple majority vote to choke off any filibuster. There was a tough fight over it in the Rules Committee, ~~xxxx~~ and, the Republicans lost out, by just one vote. Anyhow if the measure had come to the floor of the Senate, the Southerners were prepared to filibuster themselves to death to kill it. Congress will not comply with the request President Truman made yesterday to carry over rent controls for another year. He'll be lucky if they are extended for nine months. For the bill which the Banking Committee of the Senate is now considering probably will bring an end to rent ceilings by the first of March, Nineteen-Forty-Eight.

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RENTS

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TRUMAN.

So serious is the international situation that President Truman today cancelled an engagement. He had agreed to make a speech at Cleveland, Mississippi, May eight, ^{The word is that he has} ~~but he~~ called it off because of the pressure of business, international events and domestic affairs. The inside story is that it was principally because of foreign affairs.

(So what is the news from Moscow?
 That ~~in Moscow~~, the Council of Foreign Ministers agreed; and that is news. ~~However, there is~~ ^{with} a string to it. They agreed in principle that it is desirable to set up provisional governments throughout Germany with the utmost dispatch.) They also concurred in the suggestion of British Foreign Secretary Bevin that, to have a provisional government in Germany, there must be economic unity.

R Bevin also wanted a provisional constitution ^{for Germany}, even before the setting up of a provisional government. But, Secretary ^{of State} Marshall demurred to that.

TP And they also agreed to set a special committee which will have the job of drafting a directive, whatever that means. ^{Presumably} ~~to my account~~ it means ~~it is in this case a diplomatic term for a program.~~

TP The Big Four disagreed on ^{all other} ~~other~~ points. Uncle Sam, for instance, would have a provisional ^{Ger.} government to consist of the Presidents of various German states. Molotov would have it include the leaders of political parties, trade unions, and anti-Nazi organizations which now ^{adays} has come to mean pro-Communist outfits.

TP While the debate was at its height, it was interrupted by a series of loud explosions. Molotov arose to apologize for the noise, and he explained that the authorities were blowing up the ice on the river.

Outside of the conference, Secretary Marshall announced that by June first the armed forces of Uncle Sam in China will be down to six thousand. At the same time he took occasion to point out that the United States Government has been offered no information about the seven hundred thousand Japanese prisoners the Russians rounded up in Manchuria.

GREECE

While the late King George of Greece lay ^{in state} at the royal palace in

Athens, King Paul, the First, began his reign over the ^{land of} Hellenes.

Pericles and Socrates,

The remains of the late monarch will be carried with pomp and

ceremony to Athens Cathedral tomorrow, ^{there} to lie in state before the

burial on Sunday.

Admiral Rodionoff, Soviet Ambassador to ^{Greece,} ~~the Hellenes,~~ has asked

for his passport. The story is that he will not wait for the

funeral, but will leave on Friday. No reason was given for ~~this~~

departure, but the gossip is that he has been called to the Kremlin

to discuss the effects of American help to Greece and Turkey.

TP The inside talk in Washington is that President Truman does not
at all care for Senator Vandenberg's suggestion to cut the United
Nations in on our program of help to the Greeks and Turks.

Nevertheless, the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate *has*
unanimously approved the Vandenberg suggestion. The Committee also
approved an amendment by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, which
would compel the President to obtain the okay of the Senate on
the men he appoints to administer the Greek and Turkish programs.

A detailed report, published today at Logan, Utah, approves the

Truman proposal. It was written by Dr. Franklin S. Harris, president of the Utah State Agricultural College. ^{who} He visited Greece last year as chairman of an investigating committee of ^{the} United Nations. ^{TP} This report recommends a loan of a hundred millions to Greece through the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development. ^{TP} Although Dr. Harris is head of an agricultural college, he has been familiar with Middle Eastern affairs for a long while. The people of Greece are in great distress and should be helped, he said. The war destroyed their railroads and their roads, their homes, factories and farms. ^{TP} He considers the Hellenes a substantial people. However, in their present distress he believes they could be swept away by the promises of extreme elements, meaning Communists. Such a loan, he considers, would be plain good business, because it would put Greece back on its feet and make it a good customer once more. ^{TP} Harris saw much evidence of Communistic penetration ^{there.} ~~into the~~ ^{Former Pres.} country of the Hellenes. And he agrees heartily with Herbert Hoover, that a word from Stalin could stop the disorders in Greece ^{in a} ~~in~~ minute.

(NOTE: Bevin's title is Foreign Secretary, not Foreign Minister)

BRITAIN FOLLOW CONFERENCE.

Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin is going to face another hard fight within his own party when he returns from Moscow to London. The Left Wing of the insurgents in the British Labor Party are becoming more and more confident that they can force a modification of the Atlee government's foreign policy. ^P The results of yesterday's vote on the Conscription Bill gave the British Left Wingers a lot of hope. They believe it showed that most of the Labor members of Parliament do not really approve the Bevin policy and ~~are just~~ ^{— that they are} sustaining the government out of party loyalty. ^{TP} Seventy-three Laborites bolted on the Conscription Bill and a hundred others declined to vote. The Conscription Bill would not have been passed but for the help from the opposition, ^{— the Conservatives who} ~~which~~ approved the drafting of eighteen year old lads for the next two years.

^{TP} Tonight London newspapers are already picking the successor to Bevin in the Foreign Office. One of ~~them~~ ^{papers} prophesied ~~it would~~ ^{it will} be Sir. Stafford Cripps, now President of the Board of Trade, who has long been friendly to Russia and ^{is} ~~in~~ favor of closer relations between Britain and the Soviet Union. The other entries are Hugh

BRITAIN FOLLOW CONFERENCE-2.

Dalton, now Chancellor of the Exchequer, who has opposed Bevin's Russian program, and Herbert Morrison, Lord President of the Council, who has also been at loggerheads with Bevin.

PALESTINE

That disaster to the transport steamer full of Jewish refugees in Cyprus waters yesterday was caused by men of the Jewish underground. In the Haganah Army ^{there are} ~~is a number of~~ expert swimmers ^{who} ~~are~~ particularly skilled in underwater work. They call them frogmen. A number of these frogmen mingled with the Jewish refugees, and when the transport reached Famagusta in Cyprus, they dived overboard and attached explosives to the hull of the vessel.

At Lake Success today, the British Government dumped the Zionist baby in the lap of the United Nations. Sir. Alexander Cadogan, chief of the British delegation, also asked a special meeting of the U. N. General Assembly to solve that ^{seemingly} ~~insoluble~~ problem.) Sir. Alexander promised, in the name of his government, that the Assembly would receive a full account of British stewardship during its mandate over the Holy Land for the past twenty-five years. ^{of the U.N.,} Only the Assembly ¹ said the British delegate, can determine the future government of Palestine. ^{So,} If twenty-eight nations approve the British request, a special session will probably be held the second week in May. This ² special meeting ^{to} ~~will only~~ pave the way for consideration of the Palestine ^{problem} ~~issue~~ at the regular

meeting in September.

As the British see it, there are four alternatives:-First, complete independence, which means control by the Arabs who are of course in the majority; second, independence with equal control by Arabs and Jews; third, partition into separate Arab and Jewish states; fourth, trusteeship under the United Nations, with Great Britain once more holding the bag.

President Truman has asked Henry F. Grady, of San Francisco, Assistant Secretary of State from 1939 to 1941, to be the first United States Ambassador to India, it was revealed tonight.

The United States and India agreed to exchange ambassadors last Oct and raise their respective missions in Delhi and Washington to the rank of embassies. Asaf Ali, the first Indian Ambassador, has been in the United States for some weeks now. Announcement of Henry F. Grady's appointment is to be made as soon as the Indian Government has approved.

Mr. Grady resigned as assistant Secretary of State in 1941 to become President of the American President Lines.

His last official mission took him to London last year to confer with British officials on the Anglo-American Commission's recommendations on Palestine.

In 1941, he was appointed President Roosevelt's personal representative to make an economic survey of far eastern countries supplying strategic defense materials to the United States.

NEW LEAD PACIFIC (DROP EARLY STORY)

(Uncle Sam is going to keep permanent possession of the islands he conquered from the Japanese in the Pacific. That's the word just in from Lake Success, Long Island, where the Security Council of the ^{U. N.} ~~United Nations~~ is holding a night meeting. The Council has approved, ^{U. S.} ~~unanimously~~, America's request for permanent control.) As soon as the ^{U. S.} ~~Senate~~ approves the plan will go into effect.

TR Specifically, the Council has authorized the United States to go ahead and fortify the islands. We may also close them off from foreign observers at any time. The islands, once mandated to the Japanese are scattered over 800,000 square miles of the Pacific. They include the Carolines, the Marshalls and the Marianas. ^{Although} The Council's decision was unanimous, but before the final vote ~~came~~, both the British and the Russians made attempts to modify the plan. This was squelched by the American Delegate Warren Austin who warned that if any radical changes in the proposal were made, we would drop the whole request. We had already informed the Council that we would keep the islands whether the U. N. liked it or not.

BOMBER

The Army today took another step toward maintaining the supremacy in air it attained during the war. From San Diego's Lindbergh Field this afternoon the new, four-engined, jet-propelled bomber, the XB-46 took off with a roar that could be heard a mile away. Thirty minutes later the giant plane glided to an easy landing at the Army airbase in March, California. The two test pilots and their two crewmen called the flight routine.

The XB-46 is 106 feet long, with a wingspan of 133 feet. It stands twenty-eight feet high with its tricycle landing gear extended. For the last two years it has been under secret construction at the San Diego plant of the Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation. Four turbojet engines mounted in two nacelles beneath the wings are reported to speed the huge bomber through the air at more than five hundred miles an hour.

TELEPHONE

Here's the latest on the possibility of a nationwide telephone strike. It seems to be set for six o'clock Monday morning. Hope of stalling off this paralysis of communications all but vanished today. Both the president of the Union and the Federal Conciliator told reporters that the negotiations so far have gotten nowhere.

The Union chief says the telephone companies have made no offers whatsoever. He adds that the Republican leaders ought to conduct a full dress investigation into what he terms "the monopolistic labor policies of the Bell System." And he went on to say that such an investigation would show that the A.T.&T. maintains a fiction that each of the telephone companies throughout the states is a unit in itself, free to make its own decision. And that it's all nothing but a fiction - because A. T. & T. really runs the shows. That even the wording of the statements put out by the different companies in rejecting union proposals has been uniform.

The Labor Committee of the House today voted to report a bill, which would give the President authority

to break the strike by court injunction. The vote was sixteen to three.

However, even the Chairman of the Committee said there is hardly a ghost of a prospect of having the bill passed before the end of the week -- in time to stop the strike -- the bill that would leave it up to Mr. Truman's discretion whether to act or not.

POLITICS

Democrats in the House of Representatives today were jubilant over that victory in Chicago, the landslide ^{that} which made Democrat Martin H. Kennelly the successor to Mayor Kelly. ^{The Chicago election} ~~They~~ furnished a cue for Texas Sam Rayburn, former Speaker, now minority leader, ~~on this~~ occasion to poke fun at the Republicans. ^{He} He told them the chief trouble with them was, ^{that} they ^{had been making} ^{TP} made too many promises. With the light shining on his bald head and a broad smile on his face, he said to his Republican colleagues: "Against the backwash of a great war, you could have won the elections last fall without making any of the promises you did." ^{TP} And he continued: "You could have carried on reasonably and gone to the taxpayers later and taken great credit for saving the one billion or even two billions dollars which is all you will be able to save." ^{TP} But," added the former speaker, "you insisted on promising them six billions."

Grimacing more widely than ever, the former Speaker jibed at the Republicans that the taxpayers were sure to ask them next year, what about that other four billions?

The Republicans, it is reported, took the Rayburn remarks with grim faces.

PRESIDENTS

(Five of the States have now ratified the constitutional amendment to limit Presidents to two terms.) That is, two elected terms, with a maximum of ten years in the White House. Which of course, takes care of any future Vice-President who may succeed to the presidency through the death of a President. Thereafter, he may be elected, and then re-elected, and that's all.

(The fifth state to ratify the amendment being New Hampshire.) Maine, Michigan, Iowa and Kansas already have approved thirty-one more will have to ratify before this becomes part of our Constitution.

FACE

One momentous topic of the day is the question of the cash value of a woman's face. The pulchritude experts of the nation -- that being the two-dollar word for the folks who run beauty parlors -- have been conducting a research to determine how much any female countenance will depreciate in a year. The idea is to have that depreciation declared a legitimate deduction from the family income tax. Now there's a noble idea!

The answer, according to the experts, is, eighty-five dollars. So, they are going to send a resolution to congress asking the lawmakers to treat a woman's face on the same basis as a piece of factory machinery. Men's faces, you will notice, don't count.

Also New York fashion experts have an idea for women, maybe for those whose faces could do with a counter-distraction. If there is reasonably warm weather next Sunday, the big feature of the Easter parade along Park Avenue will be pastel legs. That is, after mother has finished dying the Easter eggs, she will use what is left over for the terrain below the knee.

If this threat is fulfilled, what a weird display there'll be along Park Avenue. The colors recommended for this adornment are lavender, yellow, purple; and pink, green and blue, colors to match the frock.

Well Nelson in my absence I'll appoint you our special reporter to review the Easter parade this year and when I get back to New York, tell me what you beheld.