

~~IRAN~~ L.T.P.+G. Wed. Aug. 27 '52.

There were conferences in Teheran today - British and American envoys in talks with Premier Mossadegh. In Teheran officials call this - " a final attempt to end the Iranian oil ~~is~~ difficulty."

(We hear that the Shah, Mohammed Reza Pahlevi, ^{Massadegh} has recommended to ~~the~~ Premier [^] - that he had better take it easy with the British, and try to come to a settlement.

The Iranian financial crisis being what it is, virtual bankruptcy -- because of the loss of revenue from those anglo-Iranian oilfields, ^{now} nationalized.)

London gives a report of what went on ^{today.} ~~in the~~

~~British-American-Iranian news conference today.~~ The British envoy stating that his government ^{was} ~~is~~ [^] ready to renew negotiations - if a satisfactory basis for a settlement is agreed upon at once.

The London comment is that all this was precipitated by the visit of the American oil man, W. Alton Jones, Chairman of the Cities Service Company. He's ~~in~~ in Iran, looking over the oil situation, amid reports that his American company might possibly take over the business. His visit has made the British uneasy. They're not at all enthusiastic about Mr. Jones - and, so they're acting. That's the interpretation in both London and Teheran.

PAKISTAN

A late news dispatch tells of an economic agreement between Soviet Russia and Pakistan. Officials at Karachi say that a deal will be closed "very shortly". It is a barter arrangement for an exchange of merchandise. The word is that Pakistan, to begin with, will want three hundred thousand tons of Russian wheat to overcome a serious food shortage.

MOSLEMS

News from far off Arabia states that the U.S. Air Force today completed a task as odd as any ever performed by American military planes. The transport of Moslem pilgrims bound for Mecca.

This year - a jam of Pilgrims. The U.S. Air Force - willing to oblige. Flying Turkish and Syrian and North Arabian pilgrims, for the most part. Two thousand thus far - and another contingent of eight hundred took off today. American military planes - picking them up at Beirut, in the Lebanon, and flying them to the port of Jidda, on the Red Sea, - the historic port to Mecca. That's as near as Western airplanes are permitted to holy and forbidden Mecca - that is forbidden to unbelievers.

From Jidda, many of the pilgrims first proceed inland on a long desert journey to Medina - second holiest place of Islam - to the tomb of the Prophet. Then, the great procession to Mecca. That unusual trek of a vast multitude begins this coming Saturday, when they carry the holy carpet which they will put over the Kaaba,

the square mosque in Mecca. Then they all will pay their devotions at the holy stone, imbedded in one corner of the Kaaba, and each, returning home, will be looked up to as a Haja, - a holy man - one who has made the sacred pilgrimage to Mecca.

RED PROPAGANDA

Here's the latest, and its a startling headline. The United States is about to grab Denmark. That Scandinavian Kingdom - the next victim of American imperialism. So stated by the Moscow magazine Red Star, which is published by the Soviet Army.

The verbiage is as follows: "Numerous facts show that the U S imperialists intend to implement, in the near future, their occupation of Danish territory." And the Moscow magazine adds: "Danish ruling circles show their readiness to satisfy U.S. imperialist aspirations in Denmark."

To which the echo might respond -- "why Denmark?" Its a beautiful country, with wonderful dairy farms - milk, butter and cheese. But what we'd do with Denmark, I don't know. Maybe stage performances of Hamlet, at Elsinore Castle. Historic haunt of Shakespeare's melancholy Dane.

Of course the key to this story is the way the Danes are working with Uncle Sam in Danish Greenland.

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KOREA-TRUCE

The truce talks went into session again today - in Korea. The meeting was just another example of meaningless futility. The negotiations have been in abeyance for five weeks - a long recess.

Today, the truce ~~xxxx~~ teams gathered in the tents at Pan Mun Jon, had a thirty-five minute session, of mutual ~~xxx~~ recrimination. Our negotiators charging that the Reds were fomenting trouble in the prison camps of South Korea. (~~This - referring to recent outbreaks. The charge is the more plausible, because the Communists employed the thirty-five minutes for noisy propaganda -- charging mistreatment of prisoners.~~)

Major General William K. Harrison ended the ~~xx~~ useless talk by saying: "I propose that we recess for another week."

The chief Red negotiator, Lieutenant General Nam Il, didn't even bother to say anything. He merely nodded - and that was that - another recess.

best to cut

It is disclosed in Tokyo that, in the Korean war, we have lost fifteen hundred and seventy-two airplanes, while destroying six hundred and forty-four Communist planes - with more than fifteen hundred probably destroyed or damaged.

A large proportion of our losses were "operational" That is, the result of accidents. For example, the Navy lost eight hundred and nineteen planes - of which four hundred and twelve cracked up in such mishaps as bad landings on carrier decks.

The Reds don't report their losses at all, so we have no way of knowing how many of their planes fell victim to accidents.

GUILD

(A Senate Committee hurls a series of charges, on the score of Communist control - against the radio writers Guild.) The statement is that the governing council of the Guild is "dominated" by Reds and Red sympathizers.

All this - in a report issued by the McCarran Committee, a sub-committee of which took volumes of testimony for a year. Writers are named. Two alleged leaders of the Red faction were questioned about Communism, but refused to answer on grounds of self incrimination, says the committee.

The report states: "Although a large majority of the membership of the radio writers guild is anti-Communist, the council of the guild is controlled by the pro-Communist faction."

~~Leaders of the anti-Communist group are quoted as telling the Senate investigators that Reds and Red~~

STEVENSON-SPEECH

(Governor Stevenson's address to the American Legion had its turn of courage and boldness.) The Legion is the most powerful, ardent voice of American patriotism and the Democratic nominee dwelled mostly on that subject -- patriotism. ^{by} ~~he~~ ^{way} praised it, he qualified, but warned against excesses. He didn't mention Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin, but he made plenty of reference to what is being called - McCarthyism.

The candidate's opinions were given with subtle phraseology, carefully defined, rather intellectual. General Eisenhower addressed the American Legion as a soldier to soldiers. ~~The~~ Governor Stevenson talked rather like a political philosopher - to soldiers.

He was received with a huge ovation, and proceeded to praise what he called -- "a patriotism that puts country ahead of self, patriotism which is not short frenzied outbursts of emotion, but tranquil and

steady dedication of a lifetime."

But he warned: "to strike freedom of the mind with the ~~fix~~ fist of patriotism is an old and ugly subtlety." ^{like} ~~and~~ said: "Too often, sinister threats to the bill of rights, to freedom of the mind, are concealed, under the patriotic cloak of anti-communism."

He excoriated the attacks on the wartime chief of Staff, General Marshall. "To me" declared Stevenson, "this is the type of patriotism which is, in Dr. Johnson's phrase -- 'the last refuge of scoundrels.'"

The quotation from the famous Dr. Samuel Johnson, of eighteenth century fame, was not the only one -- although Stevenson did not label the other. He didn't mention Shakespeare, although he concluded with a Shakespearean quotation.

Crying out the cause of ~~king~~ liberty, he said: "We can pluck this flower, safety, from this

nettle, danger." Which was a deft reversal of the line in Henry the Fourth. Which reads: "Out of this nettle, danger, we pluck this flower, safety."

(All -- a bit like a political philosopher to soldiers. But the American Legion gave the candidate an ovation.)

STEVENSON-DIVORCE

(Today brought the first official mention of the Stevenson divorce - from the Republican side. Mrs. Charles P. Howard is a member of the Eisenhower staff on political strategy.) And she got around to the topic of divorce by praising General Ike's family life. *- to hear Cecil.*

At a news conference, she said the General's "experience with marriage" will affect the women's vote. "I think" she declared, "that women, by and large - might feel that one of the biggest issues is the security of the family. The fact that Eisenhower has such a happy family, will be an asset," she added.

(Referring to Governor Stevenson, she gave the ~~pinin~~ opinion: "I think people would like him better if he had a wife.")

A reporter spoke up and said: "In other words, you think scandal on either side would hurt?"

"Oh", Mrs. Howard replied "I wouldn't say divorce is a scandal."

The newsmen took all this as reflecting the campaign line the Republicans will take toward the Stevenson divorce -- playing up the family life of the Eisenhowers, Ike and Mamie.

MISSISSIPPI FOLLOW STEVENSON DIVORCE

There is mocking comment in Mississippi -- following the surprise defeat of Congressman Rankin. That veteran legislator, so much abused on grounds of being anti-liberal, lost out in yesterday's election. The contest came about because one congressional seat was abolished, and either Congressman Rankin or Congressman Abernathy had to step out. So Abernathy ran against Rankin - and won.

The comment from friends of Rankin is that he lost -- because "northern journalists failed to attack him." Rankin has been a long time target for columnists - but, this election, they forgot to assail him. So he was defeated. At least that's the satirical reflection in Mississippi.

TEXAS POLITICS

(Governor Shivers of Texas has just announced that he will not vote for the Democratic nominee.)
He says he prefers Governor Stevenson to President Truman but won't vote for him. (In Texas, the Republicans have nominated the entire local democratic slate of candidates -- with General Eisenhower at the top. Presumably the Governor of Texas means he'll vote for General Ike.)

RENT

The new rent stabilizer is James McInnes

Henderson, hitherto General Counsel of the Economic Stabilization Agency. He succeeds Tighe Woods, who becomes Price Controller. Henderson is a lawyer from Texas - now the boss of the Federal Control of rent.

CHESS

The post-Olympic chess tournament at Helsinki continues to run its astonishing course. Today, that American scrub team, which was expected to end up nowhere, was in first place - taking the lead. The Soviets, considered all-powerful world beaters, were in fourth place. However, the Moscow team can be expected to do better than that - before the tournament is over.

The sensation continues to be Robert Byrne, recently out of Yale. Having won his game against the Russians, he proceeded to score successive wins against Yugoslavia and West Germany. Both - among the strongest. Few people play chess, but this affair at Helsinki is an international oddity.

ROMANCE

From over in England, a tale of romance - Twentieth Century style, a love story -- in the Communist party. The surprise and the crisis - all emanating from the party organization.

Mary Johnson, twenty-three years old, is the daughter of a clergyman at a town with a wonderful British name - Radcliffe-on-the-Wreak. The Reverend John Oldham Johnson is the Vicar of the local church - but his daughter became a Communist. An ardent member of the party - busy worker in Red activities.

At party headquarters in London, she met Tony Mathews, a Canadian Communist. He, too, was prominent in Stalinist affairs. The two fell in love, and became engaged - romance among Reds.

The surprise and crisis broke - in the London Daily Worker. Which ~~is~~ printed an official notice -

Tony Mathews expelled from the party. He had been exposed. The Canadian Red was, in ~~the~~ reality, a Scotland Yard agent - reporting on the doings of the British Communists.

He was blasted and excoriated, and orders were passed along to Mary Johnson. The Vicar's daughter was told to break off the engagement, and have no more to do with Tony Mathews - love turning to hate. All of which was according to Communist practice - the party exercising a veto in romantic affairs of its members.

So how does it all end? Well, the Daily Worker now prints ~~from~~ another announcement. This one - expelling Mary Johnson from the party. A notice - printed on the first page, with a picture of the young ~~the~~ woman. So that party members would recognize her

as one cast into outer darkness. She really gets the Marxian heave-ho.

Today, the Vicar's daughter declared that she is not turning against her former friends - is not becoming an anti-Communist. But the further announcement is - the marriage will be performed by her father, the Reverend John Oldham Johnson, in his church at Radcliffe-on-the-Wreak. *Oh-the-Wreak, Nelson.*