

FOREIGN MINISTERS

L.I. - Sannoco, Friday, June 21, 1946

In Paris, the Foreign Ministers ran into another deadlock today, on that ~~expected~~ ^{ticklish} subject - Trieste. They brought the topic up, and each stated his view. American secretary of State Byrnes, supported by Britain and France, thought that the great port of Trieste should remain Italian. Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov said - no, Trieste should go to Jugoslavia. These respective views were exactly the same as they were at the time of the previous conference in London, which scored a flat failure. Today the deadlock on Trieste was repeated all over again.

There's one expression of hope from Paris - and this, in itself, is a clue to the quality of hope they have over there. Secretary Byrnes is giving a big banquet for Molotov, and the supposition is that the festive spirit at the blow-out may soften the spirit of opposition. In other words, international diplomacy would seem to have got to the point where it is grasping at a banquet, for a last straw.

JAPAN

The United States proposes a four power control of Japan for twenty-five years. This is along the line of the similar idea presented by Secretary of State Byrnes for Germany - a four power treaty for a twenty-five year control of Hitler's one-time Reich. Soviet Russia turned down that suggestion of alliance, and it remains to be seen what Moscow will ~~do~~ do about the duplicate proposal - for Japan. If accepted, it would displace the present all-American rule headed by General MacArthur.

PALESTINE

The news from Palestine takes a turn today that may be exceedingly important. We are told that a summary demand has been made for the immediate release of the five British Officers held as hostages. These are the five seized by a band of the Jewish Underground at Tel Aviv. Another officer, abducted in Jerusalem, escaped. He contrived to jump from a window of a building where he was being kept captive, and got away.

Now who is it that demands the release of the other five, ordering this in a most peremptory way? No, it's not the British. It's the official underground Jewish Army Hagana.

It now develops that the kidnappings were carried out by an extremist outfit that, some while ago, split off from the official Hagana -- embarking on a course of terror and violence contrary to the more moderate policy of the larger group. This conflict of policy has come to a head now with the seizure of hostages by the Extremists, and Hagana is determined to do something about it -- something drastic, according

to the ultimatum reported today.

Hagana is said to have given the Extremist Band a time limit for releasing the officer hostages -- a deadline. If they are not turned loose, Hagana will, in the words of today's dispatch -- "Resort to the necessary measures." That is, the underground Jewish Army will take action to rescue the hostages.

Presumably, Hagana, with its secret organization is in a position to do something more effective than the military forces of the British.

Today's word is that the British are optimistic. They believe the kidnapers will release their captives rather than get into a fight with Hagana -- which might mean a civil war in the Jewish Underground.

There's further word that the extremist band, in kidnapping the five officers, planned also to abduct the British Commander in Palestine, ~~Lieutenant~~ Lieutenant General Sir Evalyn Barker. They plotted to seize him, but somehow that failed.

One focus in the tidings from Palestine tonight is a desolate area, as forbidding a stretch of land as you'll find on this earth -- the shore of the Dead Sea. There the ground is bitter with alkaline deposits that give the Dead Sea its ominous name. It's an area of potash beds, and there's a potash industry, conducted by Zionists. There the British today were conducting a search for abductors and hostages, and for extremists who blew up the ~~last~~ bridges last Sunday. Patrol parties scouted across the vast desolation of the potash fields, searching the dwellings of the potash workers. ^{In so doing} They seized quantities of arms and ammunition -- and made arrests, ^{on the shore of the Dead Sea -- where the waters of the Jordan flow into it.}

INDIA

Word from India is that the State of Kashmir has agreed to turn loose Pandit[†] Jawaharlal Nehru. They'll ^{even} put an airplane at the Pandit's disposal -- so ~~that~~ he can fly back to Delhi. All of which promises to ease the sudden crisis that followed the arrest of Nehru.

The whole affair was one of the most inept things that could have happened -- this flare-up, as negotiations on the British plan for the independence of India were approaching a decisive stage. ^{Jawaharlal} Nehru, for years, has been a top figure of Indian Nationalism along with ^{Mohandas Karamchand} Gandhi. ^{And Nehru} ~~and~~ is scheduled soon to become President of the Nationalist Congress. He was, decidedly, nobody to be locked up right now.

The reaction was quick and violent -- demonstrations, with strikes and riots all across India. The mobs of Hindus seemed to blame the British for the arrest of Nehru -- when, in fact, Kashmir is almost ^{a fully} ~~self~~ independent country, ^{except the} ~~though~~ ^{under} British ^{on} sovereignty. ^{foreign matters,}

Kashmir, famed in age-long legend, for its wonder and beauty, ^{- Pale Hands Beside the Shalimar, and all that} is under the autocratic rule of its own native potentate -- Hari Singh who made headlines of notoriety some years ago. He was the victim of a notorious badger game in London, and ^{as "Mr. A." was} ~~was~~ blackmailed to the tune of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Well, ^{Mr. A. is} ~~now he's~~ the Sovereign of the beautiful ~~the~~ vale of Kashmir, ^{- and it was his men who} ~~the authorities of which have~~ arrested the Nationalist Leader. Nehru is a native of Kashmir, but not in so much favor there. Hari Singh's government banned him ~~in~~ from its borders and locked him up when he tried to enter.

There's ~~a no small~~ irony, ^{in the news that} ~~that the crisis of~~ ~~violence in~~ India has flared, right in the middle of the independent negotiations, ^{all} because of something done by the Regime of the potentate Hari Singh.

However, with the promise to release Nehru, things may quiet down. (He is expected, upon flying from Kashmir, to take a leading part in the discussions between the Hindu Nationalists, the Indian Mohammedans, and the British -- for the formation of a government to run things

while the problem of a constitution for India is being worked out.

The proposal presented a Japanese propaganda film, intended to be a means of the Japanese Government to prepare the public mind for the Tokyo war. The film was shown in the United States and in other countries. It was a very successful one. The film was shown in the United States and in other countries. It was a very successful one. The film was shown in the United States and in other countries. It was a very successful one.

The International Court, which is the highest court in the world, has decided that the Japanese Government is responsible for the war. The International Court, which is the highest court in the world, has decided that the Japanese Government is responsible for the war. The International Court, which is the highest court in the world, has decided that the Japanese Government is responsible for the war. The International Court, which is the highest court in the world, has decided that the Japanese Government is responsible for the war.

JAP WAR TRIAL

At the Tokyo trial of Tojo, the doings were sad and painful today -- they had an atrocious motion picture show. You know how bad a bad movie can be, and this one was the worst ever.

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The prosecution presented a Japanese propaganda film, intended to be damning evidence of the way the Tokyo war lords prepared the public mind for war. A screen was put up in court, and on it the ~~movies~~ flickered -- how they flickered: The film was scratched, faded and jumpy -- hardly visible. And it was twelve ~~reels~~ reels long; ~~the propaganda had been dull to begin with, and now~~ it was agonizing -- for twelve reels.

The International Court, staring at the spasms on the screen, groaned -- and Sir William Webb, President of the Tribunal, proclaimed; "This show is a dismal failure, and not worth continuing." If Sir William had been acquainted with the language of Hollywood, he would have said it was -- "A Flopperoo." --
or a "Turkey!"

Whereupon the trial of Tojo and the other war makers proceeded -- minus movies. The moral being,

I suppose, that a feature film shouldn't be too bad --
even at a war trial.

NUREMBERG

At the big war trial in Germany, ^{at} Nuremberg, there was a new line of dark melodrama in the testimony today -- poison gas melodrama. The evidence was given by Albert Speer, who was munitions minister to Hitler. ^{Speer} ~~He~~ stated ^{that} the Nazi Fuehrer wanted to use poison gas in the war, was desperately eager ^{to use it. And} German chemists had devised new kinds, two new types of lethal vapor which had devastating effects -- ~~and~~ against which there was no protection. These Hitler was frantically determined to use, and three factories were producing the new gases at full speed.

But the Fuehrer couldn't persuade his army chiefs to use gas against the Allied Armies, even though the new lethal vapors were so deadly, and no defense against them was possible. Today the one-time Nazi Minister of Munitions explained that the German military leaders thought the idea insane -- because of the air superiority of the Allies. "It would have been a catastrophe for German cities in no time," said he. In other words, Hitler's two new gases might have

been effective on the battlefield, but Germany itself would have been destroyed by a counter-gas attack from the air.

The Nazi Fuehrer was so insane about his gases, that the munitions minister determined to kill him -- with gas. So he says -- telling how he planned to make an end to Hitler by pumping lethal vapors into the ventilators of the Berlin Chancellery where Hitler had his headquarters. But he found upon investigation, that this couldn't be done. Which saved Der Fuehrer from being gassed with his own pet gases.

— munitions Minister Speer —
The witness adds that he also wanted to kill three Hitler advisers, ^{who} ~~the~~ were always urging a gas warfare. They were propaganda Minister Goebbels, The Nazi Labor Leader, Robert Ley, and Hitler's Deputy, Martin Bormann. But he never got a chance to give them the gas either.

Today's testimony got around to a subject less melodramatic, but more important -- the atomic bomb. The Former Minister of Munitions said that Germany was, in his words, "A year or two away from

splitting the atom." Why? Because of the flight of German Atomic Experts. Said he, "a number of key figures in German physics left the country before the war," escaping the Nazi typranny -- and that caused a delay in German atomic research.

If they hadn't gone, Hitler might have had the atomic bomb. The reason they went was -- Hitler. Which might seem to have a bearing on the nightmare notion of a modern tyrant developing the latest in modern science. Maybe he never can have the tops of modern science because he is a tyrant. Maybe the height of science requires freedom.

FIGHT

The uproar about the prizefight went into new tangles today -- a conflict of statements in the Department of Justice. The first announcement was from Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, who said he was going to investigate professional boxing -- and Mike Jacobs, who promoted the Louis-Conn affair.

The Assistant Attorney General based his idea on the Anti-Trust Law, saying that there would be an inquiry to find out whether or not Jacobs, pugilistic chief of New York's Madison Square Garden, is running a prizefight monopoly.

That and baseball too -- the Assistant Attorney General stating that the big leagues should be investigated on an anti-trust suspicion of a baseball monopoly.

The contradiction of all of this followed promptly -- a spokesman for the boss of the Department of Justice, Attorney General Clark, stating there will be no investigation, either of prizefighting or baseball -- no grounds for an inquiry which might seem

to indicate something of a conflict in the department --
^{almost} more of a conflict, ~~perhaps~~ than was observable in
the Louis-Conn ~~alleged~~ fight.

There's no lack of fight, however, in
Congressman O'Toole. -- ~~Maybe~~ he's the Irishman who
should have been in the ring instead of that less
belligerent hibernian, Billy Conn. Yesterday, Congressman
O'Toole squared off in the Legislative Halls, and
swung haymakers at the Louis-Conn battle, ^{which was} ~~with its~~ lack
^{of} haymakers -- except for that brief moment in the
eighth round. Today ^{O'Toole} he did it all over again, and had
it put in Congressional Record.

He called the Mike Jacobs offering -- "The
greatest fraud perpetrated on the American people since
the Mississippi Bubble." Of course, that famous bubble,
while tagged with the name of Mississippi, was
perpetrated at the expense of the French people, not
the American -- but, then, maybe the Congressman was
just getting his english twisted a bit. Anyway, he
violently assailed Mike Jacobs, far more violently
than Billy Conn assailed Joe Louis.

ADD FIGHT

Joe Louis today was queried on one of the astonishing features last Wednesday night -- when he touched gloves with Conn at the beginning of the eighth round. It's prizefight custom for boxers to touch gloves at the end of the last round -- and that one was scheduled for fifteen rounds. But Louis touched gloves with Conn at the beginning of the eighth -- and then knocked him out. It was the last round all right. Which reminded a lot of people of the fact that Joe had predicted he'd knock Billy out in the eighth. The question comes up again because of the motion pictures, which show distinctly that astonishing gesture -- the touching of gloves. Louis said he didn't remember doing it, but added: "If it's in the movies, it must be so."

And Louis said that he might change his mind about not fighting again this year. He had previously declared that he wouldn't go into the ring again until next year, but Mike Jacobs remarked that he might stage another heavyweight championship affair

in September. Today Joe said yes, maybe. And he explained that his future fights were, in his words, "Up to Mike Jacobs."

Cleveland, and it is so good to have him back. But that isn't the only reason for his becoming a baseball player. Today he explained: "I'm thrilled to be in a way that I've never been before." He said, "It will give me something to talk about on the radio."

Yes, Bob, when a speaker is in front of a microphone, it is often useful to have something to say.

And now here's Hugh who always has something to say.

BOB HOPE

Bob Hope is becoming a baseball magnate.--

Today ^{he} confirming the report that he is one of a group that's buying the Cleveland Indians. Bob Hope is from Cleveland, and is an ardent home town fan. But that isn't the only reason for his becoming a baseball magnate. Today he explained: " I'm thrilled to be in on buying a club in my home town. "Besides," He added, "It will give me something to talk about on the radio."

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