

MOLOTOV

L.I. - P. & G. Friday, March 4, 1949.

Spokane.

At this moment the news wires of the world are buzzing with speculation about the removal of ~~the~~ Molotov from the post of Foreign Minister of Soviet Russia. ~~Every sort~~ Every sort of comment is being expressed in endless numbers of words, especially by any newsman who has been in Moscow recently.

But the fact is that the conclusions to be drawn from the ousting of Molotov are pretty much the same as any of us can arrive at by a minute or two of simple thinking. That is, the Iron Curtain being what it is, we don't know anything beyond the bare statement that Moscow makes, and can only apply the most ~~the~~ ordinary common sense.

Hitherto, Soviet Russia has acted in a way common enough in human affairs. ~~axfaw~~ If you and your policies make good, your ~~face~~ face is high. If you and your policies fail, out you go - a thing not unknown in average American affairs. Only -- the Soviet ~~s~~ have a way of ^(applying) ~~aplikamank~~ it in a plain obvious way.

In all of this we are thinking particularly of the ~~an~~ dramatic case of Litvinov -- Molotov's predecessor ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ as Soviet Foreign Minister. Litvinov back in the days before World War Two, pursued a policy of cooperation with the western powers -- against Nazi Germany. Then, Litvinov was tossed out. At the time, everybody tried to guess the meaning. Then the meaning became startling obvious. The firing of Litvinov was followed by the Hitler-Stalin pact, which led to the second World War. When Litvinov went out, his ~~pan~~ policies of cooperating with the liberal countries also went out -- and Molotov negotiated the treaty between the Soviets and the Nazis.

So now Molotov goes out, and the question is -- can we apply the same reasoning? Under Molotov, Soviet Foreign policy has scored a series of recent failures. The Berlin blockade, attempting to drive out the western powers, has been defeated by the Berlin air lift. Under the regime of Molotov, a Soviet

satellite has rebelled, Tito of Jugoslavia -- creating a rift among the Soviet puppets. The North Atlantic Alliance has forged ahead, in the work of creating an armed alliance of the West against Soviet Russia. Only today we have news that Norway has rejected a Soviet offer of an alliance, and has joined the talks in the negotiation of a western power treaty against the Soviets.

So these may be scored as failures of ~~xxx~~ Molotov and his foreign policies -- just as Litvinov, ten years ago failed in his policies of cooperation with the liberal nations of the West.

Hence,
So, tonight, it might ^{be} logical to assume that the dismissal of Molotov may mean a big change in Soviet Foreign Policy. But in what direction? That is the puzzling paradox of it all. Molotov represented a policy of angry hostility toward the West. But ~~he~~ is being succeeded by Vishinsky, who ~~is~~ in all his public work has been just as much opposed to the free nations. Molotov displayed a

stubborn, nasty bitterness. Vishinsky, in his many appearances at the United Nations, and in other diplomatic conferences, has been noisy, savage, and envenomed in his enmity toward the West. As between the two, there seems not much to choose. If the firing of Molotov and the promotion of Vishinsky has any meaning in this respect, we don't know what. It might be a milder Soviet attitude in the cold war, or it might signify an even more belligerent line of action by Moscow.

All this is the product of the most ~~xxx~~ ordinary reasoning by any of us -- and it leads us nowhere. But, it's about as good as anything you will find ~~ix~~ in the crystal gazing speculations of the experts tonight.

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Perhaps the real meaning is in another direction altogether, not international politics, but Soviet internal politics. Molotov has been named as a likely successor to Stalin. So maybe his demotion is a sign that he has lost out in the internal

affairs of the politburo. The Moscow word has been that Molotov's rival as a possible successor has been Malenkov -- the pudgy, youngish Bolshevik who is supposed to be very close to Stalin. So perhaps the removal of Molotov as foreign Minister may represent a victory for Malenkov - with Vishinsky as a sort of stalking ~~hxx~~ horse.

Or perhaps the whole thing is utterly the reverse. ^{IP} This one point is to be noted, that Molotov out as ~~the~~ Foreign Minister, must go to a lower post, which can only mean a thorough going defeat -- in any lower post. If he were taken out as Foreign Minister to be promoted, there is only one step higher - Prime Minister, which post is now occupied by Stalin. So it is not surprising that with everybody guessing everything all around the world, there is a surmise in London that ^{(Molotov} ~~Molotov~~ might possibly be slated for the job of Premier - taking Stalin's place. This, on the ~~xxxxxx~~ assumption that Stalin, advancing in years, may be ready to retire

from the ~~Rxi~~ Premiership and assume the eminence of the grand old man of the Soviets. There have been rumors that Stalin might do just that.

Along with Molotov's removal, we have the dismissal of Mikoyan, Minister of Foreign Trade -- replaced by his Deputy. This is also completely enigmatic -- as is, in fact, the whole shakeup in Moscow. What we do know is that it is a shake-up -- the biggest in Moscow since the beginning of the Second World War.

Congress is going to start promptly on an anti-communist law to control the activities of the American reds -- this after the statement by the top American Communist leaders, pledging support to Soviet ^UR^Assia in any war with the United States. Yesterday President Truman called those red big-shots -- "Traitors". Today ^{came the Congressional} ~~the Un-American Activities Committee~~ ~~in the House of Representatives announced that legis-~~ ~~lation would be drawn up immediately~~ ^{moved} for a crack-down on the communists and the protection of this nation from red sabatoge.

Henry Wallace also adds his voice ~~to the~~ ~~chorus~~ -- saying that he, in his own words -- "Is not in accord" with the pro-soviet proclamations. He says he thinks that Communist leadership was "unwise" in declaring for the enemy in case of an American-Soviet war.

Well, wise or unwise, the American reds were merely dancing to their masters' tune. The French and

and the Italian communists proclaimed war allegiance to Moscow and ^{the} a repetition by the American reds was, obviously, part of a world-wide communist pattern -- Moscow, for some purpose or other, ordering ^{its cohorts} ~~the reds~~ to declare against their own country, in case of war.

Manila -- the communist party of the Phillipines today ^{proclaimed} ~~declared~~ itself ^{for} Soviet Russia in any war.

Copenhagen -- ^{also} ~~the~~ dispatch reads ^{as} follows,

"Danish communist leader, ~~the~~ Aksel Larsen today pledged Danish communists to support Soviet Russia in case of war."

In Bulgaria today the Red prosecutor demanded death for the four leading pastors among the fifteen Protestant Churchmen on trial. In ^a the long, thundering diatribe, the prosecutor hurling ^{ed} violent ^{abuse} ~~rebutals~~ at the United States, and called for death penalties -- hanging, if he has his way. ^R The four defendants, whom he singled out for this doom, are the Bulgarian representative of the Congregational Evangelical Church, the Supreme Supervisor of the Methodists, the Secretary of the Baptist Union Board, and the Chief of the Pentacostal church.

For the others, prison sentences. -- Such is the demand of the prosecutor in that wierd trial of the Protestant pastors on charges of treason, black-marketing and espionage -- the trial characterized by weeping confessions.

Norway has joined the negotiations for a North Atlantic defense pact. The Norse Ambassador to Washington, Morgenstierne, conferred this afternoon with Secretary Dean Acheson and the envoys of the other nations drafting a treaty. Meanwhile, a delegation is leaving Norway to carry on the talks.

Today's session was secret, but we hear the matter discussed was a question of bringing other countries into the Atlantic union. There were seven to begin with, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, Canada, and the United States. Norway makes it eight -- and they are now talking about including Italy. Also, possibly -- Denmark, Portugal and Iceland.

Today's entrance of Norway followed a rejection of a Soviet suggestion of a Norway-Russian treaty, a non-aggression pact. Last night we heard that Norway had sent a formal reply ~~to the~~ to the Moscow proposal, the rumor was that the Norse had said -- "no". This is amply confirmed today in an

official announcement. Norway sending a firm refusal to Moscow; ~~and~~ this ~~was~~ OK'd by a secret session of *the* Norwegian parliament yesterday. The vote was overwhelming -- one-hundred-eighteen to eleven, the minority of eleven being Communists. ^{TR} At the same time the Norwegian parliament, likewise, voted to join the North Atlantic talks -- which decision was put promptly into effect, when the Norwegian Ambassador in Washington entered those Western-power-discussions today.

In Japan there is talk of a scheme that would mean the largest migration in the history of the human race. The proposal -- to transfer half of the Japanese population to the ^{huge} Island of New Guinea, where there is so much empty land -- great dark New Guinea, sparsely ~~populated~~ populated by tribes of fuzzy-wuzzies. One-half of the population of Japan would come to some forty million -- by all odds the largest migration ever attempted.

The word from Tokyo is that there is talk about this among Japanese leaders, who suggest some large migration to solve Japan's number one problem -- overpopulation. ^R But the Japanese ~~advocates of sending the masses of their people into New Guinea~~ are not talking about the matter in public. It is private conversation strictly, so far as they are concerned.

The public part of it comes from ^{a famous} ~~an~~ American ^{missionary} ~~Evangelist~~, Doctor ^{ε.} Stanley Jones. ^{He it is who} ~~He~~ is protagonizing the idea in vigorous fashion, and states that a plan for

Japanese immigration to New Guinea was favored by the late Franklin D. Roosevelt. This, in the course of ~~many~~ efforts for peace that Dr. ^{Stanley} Jones was making during the days before Pearl Harbor.

Today's dispatch from Tokyo quotes him in the following words: "I was of the opinion that Japan's frantic expansion problem, which was labeled by the world as aggression, mainly resulted from its surplus population. I proposed to the late President Roosevelt that the United States should purchase New Guinea and give the ^{great} island to Japan -- so that Japan could find a vent ^{for} ~~from~~ surplus population".

Doctor Stanley Jones says he believed at the time that such a solution would calm the crisis in the Pacific. So what did the late President Roosevelt have to say. He gave his approval, according to the Evangelist -- who continues as follows:

"With the ~~unanimous~~ all-out consent of the late President I discussed the plan with Dutch and Australian

authorities for the purpose of buying up the island to avert the threat of war.^{TR} Then, on the day when I was at the point of making a speech on "Peace," I learned that my whole efforts and scheme had vanished ~~up~~ in Smoke". The smoke of Pearl Harbor, that is.

^{TR} So now, after the defeat of Japan, the ^{famed missionary is} ~~Evangelist is~~ protaganizing the idea all over again. One difficulty lies in the fact that New Guinea belongs to Australia and the Netherlands [^] divided between them. So they would have something to say about it.^{TR} In Tokyo Patrick Shaw, member of the Allied Council for Japan, spoke for Australia. He said he doubted that the late President Roosevelt ever advocated the migration of Japanese to New Guinea. As for the new revival of the project he declares that Australia is opposed, would never consent to the masses of people from Japan settling in that ~~huge~~ Island just to the North of Australia, ^{second largest island in the world -- almost a continent in size.}

There is one frightening aftermath to the great blizzards in the West -- the appearance of large numbers of Cougars, Mountain lions. ~~These have been~~ Driven out of their ^{craggy lairs} ~~mountain homes~~ by the great snows. They follow the herds of deer that have come to the lowlands to graze where the snows have melted.

TP Ordinarily, the Cougar is no great threat to human life, But these mountain lions are maddened by hunger, and may be driven to attack human beings. TP On the Olympic peninsula, that section of the State of Washington to the West of Puget Sound, there is good sport, hunting for Cougar. Dozens have been shot, and dozens more are expected to fall to the rifles of hunters ^W who like the thrilling ~~sport~~ of stalking the fierce, powerful cats.

From British Columbia, the news of a hunting party who trailed and killed a large mountain lion that attack^d a man in a logging camp. The Cougar stole into the camp -- driven by hunger, a mountain lion

out to become a man-eater. The huge cat leaped upon a logger named Reuben Hage, who was unarmed. He was badly bitten and clawed before his shouts brought rescue -- the mountain lion frightened off. Whereupon the hunting party took up the trail. They found the Cougar devouring a horse, which he had just killed -- and then a volly^a of shots made an end to the mountain lion that had tried to turn into a man-eater.

Indications in Congress are that the nomination of the ^{new} Secretary of Defense, Louis A. Johnson, will be confirmed promptly by the Senate. This was indicated today by the Chairman of the Armed Services Committee, Senator Tydings of Maryland.

~~From the side of the White House, the word is that the naming of Johnson is a move to ^{part of} ~~shake-up~~ ^{shake-up} the National Defense. President Truman is said to feel that the present unification of the armed forces needs a whole series of improvements. So, with Louis Johnson as the new Secretary, a set of ^{recommendations} ~~rules~~ will be sent to Congress for rewriting the Unification Act of ~~19~~ Nineteen Forty-seven.~~

On the more intimate side, the appointment of Johnson as defense chief is regarded as a payment of a political debt. This phase of the matter goes back to the days before the November election when President Truman was ^{thought to have} ~~regarded as having~~ little chance of going back to the White House. There was a critical

question of raising funds for the campaign, many democrats declaring that it would not be possible to procure contributions for what seemed to be a hopeless cause. The word has been insistant that Secretary Forrestal, who then was chief of defense, took a dim view of the Truman chances ^{and} did not ^{assert} ~~assert~~ himself. ^R But Louis Johnson, who had been an Assistant Secretary of War under Franklin D. Roosevelt, ~~was~~ ^{had} a different view. He went out and raised campaign funds, when others thought it could not be done.

^{TR} Johnson is a lawyer of Clarksburg, West Virginia, with a large banking and industrial interest ³ ~~which~~ ^{which} connections were valuable when he undertook to replenish the Truman campaign chest ^{-- as he} ~~and~~ ^{did.} ~~so.~~

At Peachland, North Carolina, National Guardsmen ^{were} mobilizing today, the State soldiers joining in a battle against a fire -- one of the strangest fires on record. A veritable mountain of sawdust ^{is} ~~was~~ burning, spouting flame and smoke like a volcano -- and threatening to destroy the town.

Peachland is a lumbering community, with two big sawmills. One of these, the Peachland Lumber Company, ^{is} right in the middle of things, not so far from the main street. ~~It has been running for twenty years, cutting timber and grinding out sawdust, all of the time this collecting in the huge pile.~~ ^{For} After twenty years the sawdust has piled up in a huge mound, three acres in area and one hundred feet high -- as tall as a ten story building.

The first sign of trouble was six weeks ago, when smoke started to pour from the mountain of sawdust. ~~Somehow that mound of powdered wood had caught fire.~~ Then, a week ago flames ^{burst} ~~poored~~ forth. -- and, ~~By~~ Monday of this week, the blaze was ~~out of control~~ like an

eruption. Vast clouds of acrid smoke, with ~~a~~ blasts of flames. -- ~~the~~ ^{The} people ^{of Peachland} ~~nearby~~ ~~were~~ driven from their homes by the choking smoke, while the blaze hurled showers of sparks that set fire to buildings. A feed mill and a cotton gin flamed and burned to the ground.

Peachland has no adequate way for fighting fire, lacking equipment -- and the necessary water supply is a stream half a mile away. All the people could do was to establish a patrol to watch for sparks and put out fires before they got a good start.

That was the volcanic situation, and it was estimated that, if the mountain of sawdust were left to burn, the fire would last for six years -- that length of time before the immense mass ^{would} ~~of sawdust~~ ~~be~~ ^{with} consumed, the whole town destroyed, the people driven out.

Hence, ~~the~~ the mobilization today, fire fighters with equipment joined by units of the National Guard of North Carolina. They are on the job of

putting out that strangest of fires -- which, tonight,
is like ~~a volcano~~ ^{an inferno} in the middle of a town, the flames
casting red baleful glare through the streets of
Peachland, while crowds come from afar to witness
the unearthly spectacle.

Today's news gives us the story of the sixty-year ^{old} woman and the one-legged killer. At Joplin, Missouri, the man with one leg, walking on crutches, entered a sporting goods store and asked to see some pistols. He looked several guns over, taking one that was fully loaded -- and ^{then} covered the clerk and four customers. Although he had only one leg and was on crutches, he was able to keep the gun pointed at them -- backing out through the door and into the street.

^R There he flagged and held up a ~~taxi~~ taxicab with a passenger. The passenger was sixty year-old Mrs. Hughes. At pistol point the gunman ordered the driver to go speeding to a house on the outskirts of Joplin, ~~but~~ you can imagine the feelings of Mrs. Hughes -- the more so as she had a heart condition, and had been going to the doctor.

On the way the gunman told her ~~that~~ what he intended to do. Today she quoted him as saying: "I am going to kill two people tonight and then myself. This

is my last day on earth". Mrs. Hughes says she tried to talk ~~hm~~ him out of his murderous plan, but the gunman wouldn't listen. He kept insisting on his murderous plan -- and, she with her heart condition!

When they arrived at the house he told the driver to step on the gas, and get away -- together with Mrs. Hughes. "There is going to be some shooting", he said, "and I wouldn't want you people to get hurt". The cab driver was only to^e willing to obey, and away he went -- with Mrs. Hughes. The cab was rolling when they heard shots and the scream of a woman. The uproar was a gun battle between the would-be killer and the police -- who were on the scene. The one-legged gunman was shot and killed.

Tonight Mrs. Hughes declares: "I am through going to the doctor. My heart must be pretty strong, or I wouldn't have lived through this".

MARSHALL

Tonight in New York retiring Secretary of State General George Marshall is being honored with a gift. The Over-Seas Press Club is holding its tenth anniversary dinner in honor of the Commander of the United States Armies in the Second World War.

So what kind of present are they giving to the famous Soldier? A sword with a gold hilt might seem appropriate. But not at all. The Over-Seas Press Club is giving to General Marshall -- a gold-plated typewriter. Maybe that's a hint for him to write his memoirs, his own personal story of his career as top United States Army Commander in the greatest of wars.

And Ken Niles -- the man with the gold plated voice.

END

Well, I am on my way now for a week-end automobile drive to Portland. And then next week, a series of one-night stands down through Oregon and California. Stopping at a lot of places, and trying to get ideas of the local scene along the Pacific coast. Stopping for a broadcast in one town, then on to another the next night. It will be lively going and I hope I can pick up some lively information -- on those one-night stands.

And now in 7-League Boots down the coast to Hollywood, and you, Ken Niles.