

L.T. COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1967

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

At the Vatican in Rome -- an historic achievement today in the Ecumenical movement; tentative agreement at last -- on a common Bible for Catholics and Protestants.

Final success -- following months of negotiation; between Vatican scholars -- and an Ad Hoc Committee of the United Bible Societies. With Cardinal Bea of the Holy Sea hailing the agreement -- as "one of the most important developments in contemporary Christian history; a direct challenge to "decades -- even generations of suspicion -- and, in some cases, hostility."

What's more -- said he -- the agreement may well "hasten the day -- when we can triumphantly proclaim to a skeptical world -- that there, is, indeed, one faith, one gospel, one Lord of all."

POPE FOLLOW VATICAN

On another front - a special appeal today from Pope Paul -- to the leaders of Red China. The Pontiff urging the Chinese -- "to reason over peace" with him.

12
The Pope's remarks after an epiphany mass - dedicated to two milestones in China's Catholic history. An obvious plea for peace talks in Viet Nam - but also a plea for religious freedom in China itself, where Catholics are now enduring their worst persecution -- since the Communist take-over in Nineteen Forty-Nine.

PHILIPPINES

The toll in that Philippine bus disaster -- now set at more than eighty dead; in addition to some sixty injured -- thirty of them in critical condition. Making it the worst highway tragedy ever.

As you doubtless know by now -- the accident occurred during a fifty-seven bus pilgrimage -- to a Catholic shrine in Cavite Province. The brakes on one of the homemade vehicles -- failing suddenly on a mountain grade. Whereupon it plunged wildly down the zig-zag road -- until it crashed into a second bus; sending both vehicles sailing over the edge -- of a hundred and fifty foot precipice.

Ironically, the same type of homemade bus -- a "rolling coffin" as it is commonly called -- has been the focal point of a Philippine Safety controversy in recent weeks. A controversy that began -- when the brakes failed on a similar vehicle; sending it crashing through the iron gates -- of the Philippine Presidential Palace, the Malakan.

JERUSALEM

Renewed fighting today -- in the Middle East. Syrian tanks and troops allegedly firing on Israeli farmers - near the Sea of Galilee. Israeli Premier Levi Eshkol immediately warning Damascus - that the government of Israel "will not tolerate incursions and wanton murder"- as he put it.

Eshkol adding that Syria - "is not immune to treatment in kind." An implied threat - of possible ~~ix~~ Israeli retaliatory action; such as the raid against Jordan - that caused so much trouble a few weeks ago.

FLAT ROCK

The venerable Carl Sandburg -- most honored of contemporary American poets -- eighty-nine years old today. Signal for a flood of congratulatory messages -- from all over the world.

Sandburg himself commemorating the occasion -- with a quiet stroll around his mountain estate at Flat Rock, North Carolina; leaving public statements -- to his lovely wife -- who took the opportunity to predict that Carl will be around for at least ten years ~~more~~ ^{more.}

Mrs. Sandburg saying her husband is fully convinced -- that he will not die except at an age divisible by eleven. That means -- "we're safe now till ninety-nine," said she.

When I was a young reporter in Chicago -- before World War I -- I occasionally covered news stories with Carl Sandburg -- he for the Chicago Daily News; ² I for The Chicago Journal. But he was a veteran with a by-line,

FLAT ROCK--2

while I was a young reporter. So I doubt that Carl remembers. This was before he became famous, but we all had a high regard for him. I hope your wife's prediction is right, Carl!

Liu reportedly telling his students - that a good Communist is "opportunistic," about all else. He must "tailor his words to the circumstances - come back with the wind - and show no principles whatsoever" - said the Red leader. Adding that the good Communist - always ends up "on the winning side."

So said Liu Shao-Chi - twenty-five years ago. Explaining the principles he was ~~was~~ ^{is} apparently pursuing today - as President of Red China.

HONG KONG

In the midst of continuing political strife in Red China - a history lesson today from Hong Kong; explaining - in part - perhaps -- the perplexing nature of the Communist Chinese.

The story telling of a series of lectures twenty-five years ago -- by Liu Shao-Chi - the man who is now nominally President of Red China. Subject -- "How to be a good Communist."

Liu reportedly telling his students - that a good Communist is "opportunistic," above all else. He must "tailor his words to the circumstances - ~~tack~~ tack with the wind - and show no principles whatsoever" -- said the Red leader. Adding that the good Communist -- always ends up "on the winning side."

So said Liu Shao-Chi -- twenty-five years ago. Explaining the principles he ~~is still~~ apparently ^{is still upholding} ~~parading~~ today - as President of Red China.

WASHINGTON

A panel of seventeen prominent Americans -
appointed today by President Johnson; to advise the government
-- on auto safety requirements.

Dr. Thomas Malone of Travelers Insurance -
named Chairman of the committee ^{with} its first job ~~is~~ to assist
new auto safety chief William Haddon ~~in~~ ~~fixing~~ finalizing
a set of federal auto safety standards. A number of which
take effect - the end of this month.

AKRON FOLLOW WASHINGTON

A related item -- from Akron, Ohio. B. F. Goodrich reporting development of a new tire -- that can run hundreds of miles at relatively high speeds -- even when flat.

The tire tubeless. The secret -- says Goodrich -- in special construction. When the tire loses air pressure -- its sidewalls fold in like an accordion providing a tight flexible band of rubber almost as good as a new tire -- that is for a couple of hundred miles.

CHICAGO

The final curtain today -- for Jack Ruby -- who was laid to rest in a Chicago cemetery -- beside the graves of his immigrant parents.

The man who killed presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald -- mourned at the end as a "misguided kind of patriot."

Rabbi David Graubart -- who delivered the eulogy -- saying: "Let us understand and be sympathetic -- to pray for the repose of his soul."

CHARLOTTE

From Charlotte, North Carolina -- the story today of a lawsuit that had the town all a-twitter.

Plaintiff in the case -- an established scenic railroad at nearby Boone, North Carolina; that has operated for years -- under the name of the "Tweetsie Railroad." Defendant -- the newly formed "Tootsie Railroad", planning to begin operation next spring -- at neighboring Lake Lure.

The "Tweetsie" group -- charging the names were too much alike; "Tweetsie" accusing the "Tootsie" Group -- of trying to cash in on "Tweetsie's" fame. After lengthy deliberation -- the judge agreed. I'm sure there are a lot of silly comments we could make about this. Any inspiration, Warren?

HARTFORD

A final note -- from Hartford, Connecticut. The Aetna Life and Casualty Company -- reporting its annual list of strange claims of Nineteen Sixty-Six.

For instance -- a two car auto accident in St. Louis where the opposing drivers were Mrs. Sunshine and Miss Raines. Another auto claim -- from Iowa, where a young man parked his convertible in a pasture -- only to discover when he returned -- that a cow had eaten his top -- a cow that must have had some goat in her ancestry.

Then there's the case of an airline passenger -- who was washing up in the lavatory when his plane suddenly hit an air pocket and his foot got caught -- in a certain receptacle. Also, a one-legged man -- who tried to hi-jack an armored car -- from his motorized wheel-chair.

The prize of the year goes to an imaginative, valuable, articulate motorist from St. Louis, who when asked to describe his accident in writing -- he put down in big red letters -- B O O M -- Boom!