

CHURCHILL

LT. P. G. M. M. T. an. 28-1-2

Winston Churchill, back in London today from his American trip, rushed straight to the Foreign Office with Anthony Eden for top-level conferences on the Egyptian crisis. However, no action is expected from London. The official view from Ten Downing street has a familiar ring. The announcement states that Churchill will 'wait and see.' Which refers ~~to~~ of course to the change of government in Cairo.

The big question seems to be whether or not the new premier, Aly Maher Pasha, will succeed in restoring order and ^{then} reopen negotiations about the canal.

ADD EGYPT

In Paris, a spokesman for the Egyptian Delegation to the United Nations said today that he expected the United States to make the next move toward settlement of the Anglo Egyptian dispute.

EGYPT

In Cairo, Premier Aly Maher Pasha received an overwhelming vote of confidence for his new cabinet in Cairo today. Maher Pasha, an independent, received the support of all four parties. These include the powerful WAFD led by a former Premier Nahas Pasha, the Sadists, the liberals, and the Nationalists.

In his first speech to the Chamber of Deputies, the new Egyptian Premier promised to carry on Egypt's campaign against the British. "I assure you", he told Parliament "that Egypt's Nationalist aspirations were not born in Nineteen Fifty-two, but in Nineteen Nineteen, when Egypt united in demanding them." He added the hope that Egyptian aspirations ~~will~~ would be realized.

Maher Pasha also told Parliament that he intended to continue martial law for two months. Should the situation return to normal before that, he said, he would abandon the military control, if need be in a week.

Meanwhile, an Egyptian spokesman disclosed

that Ahmed Hussein, leader of the Extreme Socialist Party, may have instigated Saturday's rioting. That the Communists were waiting for just such a moment, to touch off a revolution, and overthrow King Farouk. Many believe that Moscow was responsible.

Today, re-reading Burton Holmes' superb lecture on Egypt that he delivered long years ago, I came across the following - speaking of Lord Cromer, great British pro-consul in Egypt: He gave them two things they needed most, water and justice. "He transformed a nation of slaves into a nation of free men."

And now, the modern Egyptians, entirely forgetting their historic debt, repay the British with this orgy of arson.

A pall of smoke still hangs low over Cairo tonight, fed by the smoldering embers of Saturday's fire that swept away forty buildings - the heart of the largest city in Africa. Today's news says that (more than one hundred and fifty fires were set by the frenzied crowd) that swept down the famous avenue, Sharia Kemal Pasha. That mob that howled for revenge against the British, and then proceeded to take it out on French and Americans too. (Night clubs, theaters and bars - the haunt of foreigners - were the first to go up in smoke; then the orgy spread to foreign business houses, banks and automobile companies - all put to the torch in Cairo's night of terror.)

Perhaps the greatest gap left amid the ruins are the charred bricks and rubble of a hotel renowned in Shanghai, in Kansas City everywhere - Shepheard's.) Kings, Empresses, Archdukes, Sultans, and all world travelers have stayed there. It first gained world fame as the headquarters of Napoleon during his Egyptian campaign. Then in Eighteen Fifty-One,

it was taken over by a British hotel man from Cathorpe in England - one Samuel Shepheard, whose ~~sixth~~ statue until yesterday stood in the tropical palm courtyard at that most famous of all hostelries.

Time and again I've sat on the open terrace at Shepheard's overlooking the Sharia Kemal Pasha, and facing the municipal opera house where Verdi's Aida was first performed. Below that wide terrace, where all the world gathered, streamed the colorful traffic of Cairo. Camels, taxis-with-the world's wildest drivers, and a constant procession of clamoring Dragonmen to guide you on a Camel ride to the Pyramids - most of them named Moses. It seemed that this great hotel like the Sphinx, would go on forever - crowds and angry mobs having passed it by so often before. But now in one final Wagnerian night of flame it has gone - one more link with such men as Chinese Gordon, Livingstone, and Stanley, Kitchener, Teddy Roosevelt-Allenby - T. E. Lawrence and even Napoleon. No more will its exotic Oriental lobby and the ornate "Tong-Bar"

be a meeting place for monarchs, explorers, soldiers, oriental concubines, world-travellers, movie stars, newspapermen, archaeologists and all the rest.

Though not so old as the ~~Py~~ramids, by quite a few years it was one of the world's landmarks, better known than the Savoy in London, the Excelsior in Rome, the Crillon in Paris, the Imperial in Tokyo, the Taj in Bombay, the Copa in Rio, Raffles in Singapore; yes, maybe ~~XXXXX~~ even more widely known than the Waldorf. Shepheard's! A symbol of the West in the land of the Pharaohs, of ~~the~~ Cleopatra and The Nile swept away forever in Cairo's "Night of Terror."

KOREA TRUCE

Following today's truce talks at Pan Mun Jom, Admiral Libby announced that the meeting was "one of the mildest on record." These sentiments, he goes on to explain were because 'nobody called anybody anything.' However, the Communists did get in one crack at the allies, stating that we were using war prisoners for "blackmail."

This mild expletive is not however, taken as an insult apparently, in those vitriolic talks.

~~(Meanwhile negotiators have made a fresh start on their campaign to break the deadlock. Sub-committees beginning work today on the two new blue-prints put forward by General Ridgway.)~~

At the meetings Admiral Libby also handed the Communists another complete list of their one-hundred-and-thirty-two-thousand-and-eighty prisoners. The first list had been prepared in English and rejected by the Reds, who asked for one written in Chinese and North Korean characters. So this has now been done. Which makes one wonder with astonishment if not dismay

just where the Army finds enough clerks to write out a list of one-hundred-and-thirty-two thousand and eighty-odd names, ranks and units -- in a flowing Chinese ideographic hand.

In Washington, Sen. J. William Fulbright announced a three hundred million dollar loss for the British Defense Program. This will be the first first economic help to Britain since the end of Marshall Plan aid last year. Fulbright, Sen. Fulbright, director of Mutual Security, said that without this new assistance Britain would have to reduce her defense program "by more than twice as much". As he put it "in light of the fact that the British are now producing more military equipment than all other NATO countries combined. It is particularly important that such a reduction in the defense program should not have to be made".

LOAN

In Washington tonight, W. Averell Harriman announced a three hundred million dollar loan for the British Defense Program. This will be the first economic help to Britain since the end of Marshall Plan aid last year.) ~~Explaining the loan,~~

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In the U. N. Political Committee today, the United States warned the Soviets that a Chinese Communist invasion of Indo-China, Thailand or Burma would require "the most urgent and earnest consideration in the U.N.!" The U.S. warning was backed by Britain and France. Russia promptly counter-charged that the United States was planning to order Chinese Nationalist troops, who fled from China to Burma, to reattack the Chinese Communists.

TAFT

Here's political news from Concord, New Hampshire. Senator Taft will be entered in the New Hampshire Primary, after all. The first test against General Eisenhower. This just announced by a spokesman for the New Hampshire "Taft for President committee." He stated that the petition has been completed and will be filed with the Secretary of State in Concord tomorrow -- one day before the deadline!

Later today word that Stassen will also
be entered in the New Hampshire primary -- making it a
three-cornered republican race.

FLOODS

More than eight thousand people are homeless tonight following the surprise winter floods on the Ohio and Wabash Rivers. These have burst their banks in 5 states - Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky.

Flood damage already runs into the millions.

The United States Weather Bureau now predicts a sixty-two foot flood crest for Cincinnati, ^{with} river front areas under water on Thursday.

In the world of aviation, they're trying to figure out what happened to an airliner early today - when the big passenger plane, with twenty-three persons aboard, plunged suddenly, and took a nose-dive for more than two thousand feet. Luckily, they were flying ^{up} at six thousand ~~feet~~ - and, at four thousand, ~~feet~~, the pilot got the plane out of the dive, back under control, and ^{merely} went flying on.

It was one wild experience with the passengers, many of whom were asleep ~~in their bunks~~ - early in the morning. When the airliner took the nose-dive, they were tossed around in wild confusion, head over heels - the baggage piling along on top of them. A few suffered minor injuries, in the helter skelter tossing about.

There's a supposition that something might have gone wrong with the mechanism of the plane. But that seems impossible. Because, after the plunge, the air-liner acted normally, and flew on for a routine landing a Cleveland.

Another guess is more likely - some freak of

the atmosphere, some phenomenal twist of air currents. The weather was good, no sign of any disturbance. But the plane had just flown over Pittsburgh, and was leaving the space above that City - when down she went. Which reminds us of a fact of meteorology - that a great city, with all the heated buildings, warms up the air a lot. The warm air ascends, and sets up rising currents. These might be so strong that a plane, flying suddenly out of a rising current, might drop - the way that airliner did.

TYPHOON

The Fiji Islands - hit by a typhoon, the most violent that Fiji has ever known. Those Melanesian Islands in the South Sea are in the zone of the tropical tempest - a Pacific Ocean version of the Atlantic Hurricane. They've been blasted often, but never by anything like the typhoon today.

In the capital City of Suva, the wind blew at a hundred and forty miles an hour - with a deluge of rain lashing like a whip. It blew the roofs off most of the houses, and even flattened a building constructed of concrete. In the harbor, the docks disappeared - blown and washed away. Ships? Why, fleets of anchored vessels were simply dragged across the water and hurled onto the beach.

The Royal New Zealand Air Force has a base in the Fiji Islands, and it was wrecked. But the planes had all flown away. There was plenty of typhoon warning in advance, and the New Zealand airmen knew exactly what to do - take off at once, and fly out of reach of the tropical ^{demon} winds with its hundred and forty miles an hour winds.

BASEBALL

The news wires tell us about the baseball training season, soon to begin - and passes along legends of the stars of the past. None more legended, by the way, than the great Dizzy Dean - whose exploits in baseball were ^{only} equalled by his prodigies of grammar.

Harman Nichols of the United Press, had the distinction of ghosting newspaper articles for ole Diz. So he tells how he tried to imitate the Dizzy Dean style of syntax, bearing down heavily on the delightful word - 'aint. Which promptly drew complaints from school teachers and other grammarians.

Nichols mentioned this to the mighty pitcher, and quotes him as replying in the following words: "Let them school teachers learn the kids English--and I'll learn the folks baseball," said ole Diz. "And don't ^{— called him Pickles, instead of Nichols —} fergit, Mr. Pickles, a lot of folks who aint using 'the word aint- aint eatin."

Which sounds persuasive. But just the same,

I aint gonna say aint.

(Foreign Secretary Anthony
 Eden) announced in the House of Commons today that
 Britain expects to sign a new treaty with Egypt, that
 will the guarantee that such a pact could provide
 complete freedom for the Suez Canal, and to the
 full Egyptian aspirations.*) Britain will
 however, insist on its full rights under the 1956
 Suez Canal Treaty, until the Egyptians halt all other
 British operations, both in Cairo and the Canal Zone.
 The Foreign Secretary blamed the former Government of
 Egypt for the territorial attacks, and
 stressed that the new Premier, Sir Gamal
 Abd el Nasser, had this to restore peace.
 Eden also pointed out that Britain will