

CHURCHILL

L.T. - Dec. Fri. Mar. 25 - '55

Will the aged Winston Churchill announce his retirement tomorrow? This time it's the London Times ~~that~~ asks ^{ing} the question. All because tomorrow the Prime Minister is scheduled to speak in his own constituency, at Woodford, the one he represents in Parliament. The Times points out that Sir Winston usually takes such opportunities to talk rather freely about himself. So ~~The London~~ ^{of London} Times goes out on a limb and predicts that he may announce his retirement -- tomorrow.

For that matter Churchill could do it on Monday in the Commons. On Monday he will ask Parliament to erect a memorial to Lloyd George. After which Churchill will deliver a major speech-dealing with world events. Will he then announce his retirement? We'll have to wait and see.

In any case, rumors that he is about to ~~be~~ step down continue, with the added report that Eden will take his place, by Budget Day, April Nineteenth. We hear the Labor Party has even alerted

its members of a possible early general election - following the Churchill retirement.

France accuses Russia of trying to deceive the West about disarmament. At the Conference in London, French representative, ~~Robert~~ ^{Robert} Schuman, called the Soviet idea "an unacceptable joker". According to the French spokesman, the West is proposing that America, China and Russia all accept a limitation of troops, a ceiling of not more than a million and a half men each. France and Britain, to have smaller armies. But the Soviets reject that proposal and suggest a flat one-third cut in all armed forces. If the Soviet idea were accepted - then, ^{the French} ~~say~~ ^{choice does,} Russia would have three and a half million men under arms - with America limited to about one-third that number.

DISARMAMENT

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NORTH KOREA

Two Communist Chinese armies are being removed from North Korea. So stated in a Peiping radio broadcast. Six divisions of what it calls "the Chinese Peoples' Volunteers" to be pulled out of North Korea before the end of April.

Experts on the Far East think this probably means that the two armies will be sent to the so-called "invasion coast" - the strip of the mainland facing Formosa.

Also, that the Communists have built up the North Korean army to the point where it is strong enough to handle any problem likely to come up in Korea, right now.

PIRATES

A dispatch from Hong Kong mentions that old peril of the China coast pirates operating just outside Hongkong. An American Navy Transport in those waters encountered two pirate junks. The pirates closed in on the transport, trying to head it off. But they left in a hurry when the transport radioed for help, which soon appeared.

center of the city - where French tanks and armored cars are now patrolling the streets.

Saigon once again a beleaguered city.

SAIGON

The French in Indo China have rushed tanks, armored cars and troops into Saigon, in an attempt to prevent the outbreak of a revolt. It all has to do with the three religious sects that have been threatening to overthrow Prime Minister Diem. These have their own forces in the suburbs of Saigon, and the French have rushed their own troops to the center of the city - where French tanks and armored cars are now patrolling the streets.

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seventeen year old man be considered a true political refugee. And that apparently the Americans have arrested Valery Lysikov - and are preventing him from returning home.

The story the refugee told was that he fled because he wanted "to breathe freely". And that he would not return, no matter how many protests the Russians sent. The latest is that we will not force him to go back against his own will. For says

Dr. Grant.

REFUGEE

The Soviet High Commissioner in Berlin today demanded the return of the seventeen year old boy, the son of a Russian air force officer, who slipped across the border, and asked for political asylum.

First the Soviet Military Commandant asked for young Valery Lysikov's return. To this our Berlin Commandant, General George Honnen, said "no". Now Soviet Commissioner Puschkin has sent a note to our Commissioner, Dr. Conant.

The note says that obviously no one seventeen year old can be considered a true political refugee. And that apparently the Americans have arrested Valery Lysikov - and are preventing him from returning home.

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ISRAEL

Israel accuses a band of Egyptians - of the latest border atrocity. Four men, sneaking up on a Jewish wedding party. An eyewitness says they hurled grenades, and fired some shots. One killed, eighteen injured.

An Israeli Army spokesman says that the tracks of the men have been followed - and that they lead to the Gaza Strip, which is administered by Egypt.

The Israeli protest has been filed with the United Nations - which already has under consideration an Egyptian protest against an Israeli attack on Egyptian forces in the Gaza Strip, when thirty-eight Egyptians were reported killed.

ATOMIC

More atomic fireworks at Yucca Flat^s.

This time they touched one off thirty thousand feet above the desert. The Atomic Energy Commission gives no details. But observers say it was a guided missile, with an atomic warhead, the kind that one day may be fired from a bomber - if necessary.

But today's explosion did not have the familiar fire ball of the atomic blast. Merely a puff of smoke, and a wink of light. Not at all spectacular. Although the A E C describes the test as "of primary interest to the defense Department,"

TAXES

Two Eisenhower victories in Congress today - the Senate voting to continue business and excise taxes, as the President had requested, and Democrats in the House dropping their move to cut taxes. However, the Democrats say the issue has only been postponed - and will come up again in Nineteen Fifty-Six - an election year.

The Senate did rebuff the President on the question of a pay raise for postal and Civil Service workers, voting overwhelmingly for a ten percent raise for a million and a half workers.

PERESS

The Senate investigation sub-committee ended its two week hearings on the Peress case today. Its recommendation is that the Justice Department investigate conflicting statements by General Zwicker and two McCarthy aids. And what about the sixty-four dollar question? Who was responsible for the Peress promotion? Senator Mundt of South Dakota says that the villain was "Army Red Tape".

NEW TESTAMENT

Today the President had a look at the oldest copy of the New Testament. Known as the "Yonan Codex," because it belongs to Malek Yonan, of Washington, who says the volume is sixteen hundred years old - and has been in his family for fifty generations. Written in Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus. The pages, made of doeskin.

One of the most valuable volumes in the world -- insured for a million and a half, just for its ride from a bank ~~xxxxxx~~ vault to the White House, and then on to the Library of Congress. Henceforth there is where it will remain.

President Eisenhower seemed particularly impressed with the firmness of the writing, and with the brilliance of the marginal notations, in red ink.



The owner explained how this priceless copy of the New Testament got to America. He said it ~~was~~ had been kept in his family church, in a town of Northwest Persia until the Turks attacked the town in Nineteen Eighteen. When his family fled they took this precious volume along, and his son brought it to the United States in Nineteen Eighteen.

Now, to the Library of Congress, where ~~xxxx~~ scholars no doubt will use it for centuries to come.

DUKE

From Buckingham Palace we hear that reports about the Duke of Edinburgh getting arrested for dangerous driving-during his visit to the South of France, are not true. But the Duke was stopped by a French Gendarme. Why? Merely that the Gendarme got excited and misunderstood a signal from a police car driving behind the Duke.

The Buckingham Palace statement adds that "at the end of the visit to France, the French police complimented the Duke on his driving."

Lately there has been a change of policy on the part of the Royal family. Always no comment on reports about the Royal Family, until there was a rumor that Princess Margaret would not shake hands with everybody she was introduced to, during her tour of the West Indies. The Palace corrected that. Said she would!

Then came word about the ex-valet who wrote a book about the Duke. Not sensational, but a statement came to the effect that former servants

who make money out of experiences at Buckingham Palace are guilty of a breach of trust.

Now, the third, to let everyone know that the Duke was not arrested for speeding. All a mistake.

on the water front - the damage, estimated at a million dollars. And the ice is driving slowly toward the bridge. Army engineers say it's useless to dynamite this ice jam, because of its density. They believe that only a thaw, accompanied by favorable winds, ^{can} break up ~~the jam~~. The Weather Bureau is hopeful ~~about~~ ^{that} ~~prediction~~ ^{that} a slow thaw during the next few days.

NIAGARA FALLS

That ice jam in the Niagara River is threatening the bridge that connects the United States and Canada. The massive jam has already smashed homes and piers on the waterfront—the damage, estimated at a million dollars. And the ice is driving slowly toward the bridge. Army engineers say it's useless to dynamite this ~~ice~~ jam, because of its density. They believe that only a thaw, accompanied by favorable winds, ^{can} ~~would~~ break ^{it} up, ~~the~~ jam. The Weather Bureau ~~is~~ hopeful ~~about that~~ ^{by} ~~predicting~~ a slow thaw during the next few days.

POLICE

In Chicago, there's an irate citizen who constantly calls up the police and gives them a piece of his mind - in ~~ew~~ words that fairly burn the telephone lines. During the past year, he has made some two thousand calls. The desk sergeants say all he ever does is blaze away at them, with purple language.

At long last they located him - at a gin mill. In fact they caught ^{him} in a phone booth in the middle of another blistering tirade, giving another desk sergeant a royal going over.

Just allergic to cops. That was his explanation. And still mad at them after giving vent to his ire in two thousand phone calls in which he used every expletive he had ever heard, plus some new ones that he himself had coined. Each time he called he'd reel 'em off like a machine gun - until he ran out of unprintable language. Then, he'd hang up. What are they going to do with him? The story doesn't say.

SQUIRRELS

Press Secretary Hagerty says three squirrels have been captured at the White House, and set free, two in Rock Creek Park and the third in Virginia.

Why? They were tearing up the President's putting green. Senator Neuberger of Oregon says someone ought to be sent to jail for trapping the squirrels. He doesn't mean President Eisenhower. But ^{the} Senator says there's an old law that forbids the trapping of squirrels - and that calls for a five dollar fine or thirty days in the workhouse, for each violation.

The President said he knew nothing about all this until he read ^{of} it in the newspapers. At any rate the Oregon Senator thinks that the guilty party should be arrested, for trapping squirrels at the White House. *Squirrels in our Nation's*

12 *Capital, Hugh.* It has come to that - in Washington!