

L.T.P.G. Mon. Jan. 12-53.

The Eisenhower administration went into session today - almost as if this were January Twentieth. The General's headquarters, at the Commodore Hotel, has been called a sort of New York White House, for the time being - and it was a good deal like that today. The President-elect held a full session of his Cabinet-to-be, together with others, who are to be top White House figures. They began a two-day session, in which policies and questions of administration are to be thrashed out. So that there'll be understandings in advance - before they take over the federal government in Washington.

This followed an earlier meeting today, in which the President-elect came to an all-over agreement with Republican leadership in Congress -- on the subject of patronage. Headed by Senator Taft of Ohio, Congressional chieftains of the G.O.P. had a conference with the General for an hour-and-a-half, and came away announcing - that all had been settled.

(There had been a good deal of argument on the subject of patronage - with complaints because the President-elect had

not consulted Congress in the naming of Cabinet members and other high officials. Right now, most of the top jobs have been filled, but there are still hundreds of lesser jobs to be passed around - like those of the many postmasters of the nation. Republican hopefuls are in a scramble for these - all a serious matter for the ^{Congressional} Republicans ~~in Congress~~. So now, today's agreement - that all future Eisenhower appointments will be cleared with G.O.P. members of Congress.

After this had been decided, the General went off to another room - to begin ~~what~~ what amounts to the Eisenhower administration, going into operation in advance.

STEVENSON

This was inauguration day, in Illinois. Many states are installing new governors, but Illinois takes the spotlight. All because of the personal drama that surrounded Adlai Stevenson, when he ran for president.

He said over and over again that what he really wanted was - another term as Governor of Illinois. He had begun reforms in the state administration, which ^{he} needed another term to complete. But he was drafted by the Democratic National Convention, and submitted to the call. With what result - everybody knows. Giving up the governorship, he failed to win the presidency. Still worse, Illinois went against him and his party - and he is now succeeded by a Republican. William G. Stratton - who was inaugurated today.

But Adlai Stevenson takes it with his customary good humor. He gave a reception at the Executive Mansion, for his G.O.P. successor and other newly elected state officials. Then he escorted Stratton to the armory - for the inauguration ^l before a crowd of cheering Republicans.

Well, Adlai Stevenson, running for president, hoped
for his ^{own} inauguration in the White House. But he smiled and made
good-humored remarks today - as he attended something very
different - the inauguration of a Republican as Governor of
Illinois.

OIL

The government prosecution of the great oil companies was - off again, and on again, today. Amid - a storm of argument. The White House ordered the Department of Justice to drop criminal proceedings on charges of monopoly, cartel arrangements with foreign oil concerns. But - on condition, strings attached. These the Companies angrily reject.

Attorney General McGranery called in ~~attorneys~~ attorneys for the oil firms, and told them - the President was acting on grounds of national security. The proceedings ~~before~~ before a grand jury would be dropped - because international testimony brought forward might be bad in the present world situation. ^R So, instead of a criminal prosecution, the whole thing could turn into a civil suit - under which amicable arrangements might be made. The Companies - to drop the cartel practices about which the Government complains. This - on condition that the Companies hand over the records of their international dealings.

The lawyers replied with an indignant rejection.

They call the conditions - outrageous, and say the Attorney-
General handed them an ultimatum - take it or leave it. So
they're - leaving it.

The latest is a statement from the Department of
Justice, that the rejection of the presidential offer means -
the Government will have to go ahead with the criminal case.

PLANE

In the mountains of Utah, searchers have found the plane that crashed on Wednesday - with ~~a passenger~~ ^{men} ~~list of soldiers~~ homeward bound from Korea. The Civil Air Patrol spotted the wreckage, and two medical men of the Army were dropped by parachute. They report - no survivors. The transport, with forty aboard, having hit a crag in the wild country near the border of Utah and Idaho. Fragments of the plane - scattered far and wide, at an altitude of between eight thousand and nine thousand feet.

AMBASSADOR

Our new Ambassador to Western Germany is not according to precedent. We ~~are not accustomed to~~ ^{rather seldom} name distinguished

~~scholars or scientists as envoys to foreign nations.~~ ^{— sometimes, but not so often.} ~~and~~

Of course the poor Jas Rus Lancel was Ambassador to the Court of St. James. And Walter Hines Page & Theo Nelson Page
w, Dr. James B. Conant, President of Harvard, ~~is~~ of long time fame

in the world of learning. He was a key scientist in the development of the atomic bomb. And he now becomes U.S. High Commissioner to Western Germany - to become Ambassador when Peace Treaty formalities have been concluded.

Today, Harvard accepted his resignation as University president, * and named him - President Emeritus.

EGYPT

Negotiations between Great Britain and Egypt came to a curious crisis today. Not for the lack of an agreement, but for the conclusion of one - entirely unexpected. Unexpected, that is - by the British.

Representatives of the two governments had been conferring on those two troublesome topics - Suez and the Sudan. Diplomatic talks long and intricate. But, at length, there was considerable progress in the matter of the Sudan. So much so, that London drew up a tentative draft for a settlement - this to be presented by the British Ambassador in Cairo, Sir Ralph Stevenson.

But now - a surprise. London informed that, Egypt and the Sudan have made an agreement between themselves. At Khartoum, capital city of the Sudan, Egyptian envoys, negotiating with representatives of Sudanese political factions - concluded a separate pact.

A sort of double-play -- not unknown in the world of

diplomacy in the past. You and I get busy, trying to decide what to do about a third party. But, meanwhile, I talk with that same third party, and make a separate agreement - with him.

Reminds us of the days when Britain and France were negotiating with Stalin for a mutual defense against Hitler - while Stalin, all the time, was making an alliance with Hitler.

In this present case, the British knew that talks were going on at Khartoum, but they never dreamed that there would be a separate agreement. Which agreement does not jibe with terms the British were insisting on in their negotiations.

They demanded safeguards for the southern part of the Sudan - tropical wilderness inhabited by warlike tribes. The area borders on Ethiopia, the Belgian Congo, and the British colonies of Uganda and Kenya - where the British have their problems with native peoples. As in Kenya - where the Mau Mau terrorists have been raising havoc.

London wanted precautions for control of the southern Sudan - during a period of transition. But now, that

separate agreement between Egypt and the Sudan makes no provision for safeguarding the border.

London is nonplused by it all. The more so, because it involves the business of getting Egypt into a Near Eastern defense pact.

(To add to the confusion, there's another of those "incidents." Cairo charges that British officials in Khartoum tried to delay the return home of Egyptian envoys - taking their agreement back to Cairo. They tried to prevent their plane from taking off. The British reply that the Egyptian plane violated flying regulations, and the pilot was held for questioning.)

This British-Egyptian political drama concludes, today, with a headline on that other subject of dispute - the Suez Canal. In Cairo, Premier Mohammed Naguib, ~~Egypt's~~ Egyptian Strong Man, repeated in stronger terms than ever - Egypt's determination to oust the British from the Suez Canal Zone. ~~Today, he presided over a commemoration of the~~

anniversary of a savage clash between British and Egyptians
along the Suez Canal last year - and let go with some fancy
Egyptian oratory, crying out: "None of us will continue to live
on this earth if occupation forces remain in our fatherland."
Which must sound even more impressive in resonant Arabic.)

VATICAN

In Rome, the ceremony of the creation of new Cardinals began today. To last - for four days, culminating in spectacular style with ancient ceremonies of investiture at the Vatican.

~~(The first day was comparatively simply - as simple as medieval tradition is likely to be. Pope Pius the Twelfth attended by a train of ecclesiastics and papal guards, held - a consistory. A meeting, a conference with the College of Cardinals.)~~

~~Cardinals were appointed.~~

The appointment of the new Cardinals, who were not present, ~~was~~ was proclaimed by the

Pontiff, who asked for the approval of the assembled Sacred College. Which was granted - in sonorous Latin.

The shadow of the Iron Curtain appeared. Pope Pius expressed his regret, because two of the new princes of the Church could not be in Rome - to receive the Red Hat.

One, the Primate of Poland. Last week we heard of arrangements with the Red government of Poland

to permit newly named Cardinal Wyszynski to make the journey to Rome. But these, apparently, failed.

The other - Cardinal Stepinac of Yugoslavia. The Tito regime in Yugoslavia, Communist though anti-Stalinist, has broken relations with the Vatican. Protesting - against the elevation of the Archbishop, who was kept for years in a Communist prison. Now - exiled to a village. The Pontiff indicated that the Tito government might have permitted the Archbishop to go to Rome. But the fear was that, if he did, he would not be allowed to return to Yugoslavia. Where he insists on retaining his post as Archbishop.

(The Consistory, today, concluded with a dispatch of messages to new Cardinals, as they waited in Rome. One, an American prelate - Archbishop McIntyre of San Francisco. ~~(He was at the North American College, where the message was received to Monsignor Thomas Ryan, member of the staff of the Papal Secretary of State. He passed the notification along to Bishop Martin O'Connor, Rector of the North American College -~~

{ | ~~who read it to Cardinal McIntyre.~~ }

The twenty-four new Cardinals represent thirteen different countries - including India. So now, there are in the Sacred College prelates representing twenty-seven nations - including China. More different countries than ever before - the College of Cardinals more international, right now, than ever before in its history. Which represents a development that has been going on for nine hundred years.

The College of Cardinals began in the Eleventh Century - as part of the reforms instituted by Gregory the Seventh, often called the greatest of the Popes. Before that time, the Pope, the bishop of Rome, had been chosen by the Diocese of Rome, in local elections. But, in the turbulence of the Middle Ages, local elections had become a scandal - of violence and intrigue by factions of the city. So a change was made, and an elector was named for each local church in Rome - he to cast a ballot. These were the first

Cardinals, papal electors.

To this was added the custom of naming high ecclesiastics in other countries as electors. ~~(They were appointed to positions in the Roman churches, so that they could represent them. In that way, a city election became an election representing all of Western Christendom. To this day, every Cardinal is attached, nominally, to a local church in Rome.)~~

As the centuries went by, the international aspect increased - coming to a new climax today. The Cardinals, technically, are members of the city clergy in Rome - but they come from twenty-seven different nations.

REPUBLICAN ELEPHANT

In Washington, the Republicans have solved a large problem - elephantine, in fact. What to do about "Miss Burma", a huge pachyderm, which is to play a prominent part in the Inauguration. What would a G.O.P. parade be like - without the Republican elephant?

The problem was, what to do with "Miss Burma" in the interim? The elephant comes from Greenville, Ohio - borrowed from the Mills Brothers Circus, which has winter quarters in Greenville. And the word that the gargantuan mascot would have to be housed in a place with steady warm temperature. Not too far from the beginning of the parade either! - so that "Miss Burma" would not have to walk too great a distance, before joining the procession. All of which puzzled the managers of the Inauguration. They had no suitable home for "Miss Burma."

The G.O.P., returning to power, will face plenty of difficult questions - and this was a first installment. So how did they solve it? The answer is - humiliating. They had to appeal to a Democrat. The Commissioner

for the District of Columbia, Joseph Donohue, is a Democratic appointee - but he displayed a fine bi-partisan spirit.

He offered - a paint shop belonging to the Fire Department on Capitol Hill. So that's where ^{Miss Burma from Greenville,} the Republican elephant, will be

housed - in a Fire Department paint shop ~~is~~ provided by a Democrat. Shocking! ^{Nelson -} She should be in a

lean-to built of teak, alongside a pagoda with bells tinkling in the breeze, - and the air filled with the scent of Frangipani blossoms!