

GERMAN ELECTIONS L.T.-K LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1953.

There was rejoicing in Washington today - at the State Department, and at the Embassy of West Germany. The landslide victory for Chancellor Adenauer, in the West German election, turned out to be an overwhelming endorsement of the pro-American policy -- and of the plan for West German re-armament within the framework of the European army of NATO.

The State Department sees it, likewise, as vindication of Secretary of State Dulles - who came out with a cheer for Adenauer just before ~~the~~ the election. The Dulles declaration was assailed ~~agrit~~ angrily by the German Social Democrats, as - American intervention - and criticized here in this country too.

The victory in the voting yesterday, was a stunning triumph. The Chancellor's party, the Christian Democrats taking more than forty-five percent of the total. Four years ago they had won ~~thirty~~ thirty-one percent.

Together with two other parties in alliance with the Christian Democrats, the Chancellor swept nearly fifty-eight percent of the vote. Nearly sixteen million out of twenty-seven and a half million. The Social Democrat opposition polled about eight million - less than twenty-nine percent.

Overwhelming defeats were suffered by the Communists and the pro-nazi party. Neither one wins a single seat in the West German parliament.

Adenauer now has three hundred six out of four hundred eighty-seven parliamentary seats. Social Democrats - one hundred fifty. The remainder - divided among minor parties.

PRISONERS

Another phase of the prisoner-of-war proceedings- began today. The allies - transporting to the neutral zone captives who refuse to return to the Reds. Nearly fifteen thousand Chinese, nearly eight thousand North Koreans. All that were left - after Syngman Rhee turned loose tens of thousands of prisoners. In the neutral zone, they are ^{now} being placed in camps and guarded by troops of India - and Communist representatives will have a chance to talk with them and persuade them to go back, if possible.

Similarly, under the same provision in the armistice, the Reds will take to the neutral zone - prisoners who refuse to return to our side. Some four hundred, ~~as~~ we hear, most of them ~~South~~ South Koreans. A few Americans.

The truce provides that allied representatives will have a chance to talk to them - trying to ~~DETERMINE~~ persuade them to return home. As for the Americans who refuse repatriation, I don't see why we should be

so eager to bring them back to this country. Let them stay in the realm of the Reds, if they want to.

The prisoner exchange has been completed, and a final headline tells of U.S. flyers who confessed - germ warfare. ^{to do it - forced} Forced - by torture and the threat of death.

A Marine Corps Colonel, with a record of shooting down MIGS, tells how he was kept in a ~~cotter~~ cage outside a Korean house. ^{He was} Told - he would stay there until he made a germ warfare confession.

Winter came on - with freezing weather. "I was cold" he relates, "my hands were frozen." He says he would have welcomed a firing squad, but ^{he} knew there was no chance of that. ^{He knew - as he said -} "They were going to leave me there all winter," ^{and he adds: -} ~~he says, "and~~ I knew I'd never make it through the winter." So he signed a confession full of fantastic lies concocted by the Reds.

Here's how he felt about it, when he was ^{- returned to his own people: -} exchanged: "I expected to be met by a military policeman who would arrest me as a ~~xx~~ traitor."

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But his countrymen did no such thing:- All that happened was that now he is merely presented as an example of how the Communists worked their germ warfare propaganda - to what fantastic extremes they went.

IRAN

The Iranian story, with its twists of sudden drama, is confused tonight. One report is that the trial of Mossadegh has been postponed. But another account is that the former Premier is being tried - now, in secret.

Meanwhile, ~~is~~ our government has granted forty-five million dollars in economic aid to the Shah, following the overthrow of Mossadegh; the ~~the~~ sweeping Premier who nationalized the Anglo-Iranian oil fields; the seizure of which, brought ~~xxxx~~ Iran to bankruptcy and chaos. Prompt American support for Shah Mohammed Pahlevi. By the way, press reports usually call the Shah, Reza Pahlevi. That was his father. ~~The~~ present young ruler is Mohammed Pahlevi.

So let's have a look at that monarch through the eyes of the American who knows him better than any other citizen of our country. He is Max Weston Thornburg, oil engineer, economist, and authority on the Middle East. In fact he has his own island in the Persian Gulf - next door to the Shah. Tell us

about your friend, the Shah of Persia who seems rather more secure on his throne than in some time.

MAX: First, Lowell, don't think of any oriental potentate, or traditional despot, in the style of the Moslem East. You must imagine the very reverse of the tyrannical sultan or nabob, that so many think of. In this case picture a young man, tall, athletic, with strong features, olive complexion - flashing dark eyes. Who would fit in any smart gathering - at London, Paris, New York/ The man who today sits on the Peacock throne went to school in Switzerland, and received a completely western education. He even speaks ~~xx~~ excellent English.

L.T.: Not the play-boy type, I hope; not like Farouk, the roistering King, who was tossed out of Egypt?

MAX: Not in the least. The present Persian monarch absorbed the other side of western culture - especially the liberal political ideas of the West.

He is actually determined to establish constitutional government in the land of Cyrus and Darius - a land that has only known dictators. His dreams for years ~~xxx~~ have been to put ~~xx~~ into effect a sweeping program of ~~xxxx~~ social and economic reforms. My job at one time was to help him on that.

L.T. That sounds rather advanced for a country inhabited by nomadic tribes like the mountain people of Azerbaijan, and the Bactiari.

MAX Actually less than one fifth of Iran's population are nomadic tribes. The rest are settled villagers and townspeople. Anyway, today, the chiefs of the principal tribes have European educations - and have western ideas - like the Shah. So they'll understand what he's doing. Besides, the Shah has been working away at his reform program since Nineteen Forty-six - except when it was broken off by the oil dispute - and Mossadegh. So nearly all the Persian people by now

know what he has been trying to do.

With any reasonable support from us he'll do it,
too.

L.T.: So life changes even in the Land of the
Medes and the Persians.

SUB SPEED RECORD

At Dayton, Ohio, today, the Thompson Trophy race was won by Brigadier General Stanley Holtner, flying a sabre jet. But he wasn't trying for any record. The Air Force announcing that General Holtner had set a new speed record five days ago - when he flew at more than six hundred and ninety miles an ~~xxx~~ hour.

At the same time, a dispatch from England states that a British flyer broke the speed record today - flying still faster. Squadron leader Neville Duke, in a Hawker Hunter jet, whizzing along at an average of seven hundred twenty-five miles an hour - flying a closed course at sea level. His exact speed still to be announced officially.

So we announce a record, and simultaneously, Britain does the same - claiming - still greater speed.

HURRICANE -

A badly battered ocean liner put into port at Hamilton, Bermuda, today - after a mis-adventure with the hurricane. Aboard the Queen of Bermuda, - on the usual weekend cruise, one man of the crew killed; hurled down a ventilator by the storm.

The liner tried to steer out of the way of the tropical howler. But the hurricane didn't follow the predicted course - and the Queen of Bermuda was only forty miles from the "eye" - that fearful center of a hurricane. The vessel buffeted by giant seas. The passengers had quite an experience. Said Mrs. Edna Girard of New York City, "Passengers were hurled like matchsticks against the side of the ship and buried by toppling furniture. A score of them injured. Virtually all of them violently seasick."

The hurricane swept on to the north, on up to Nantucket. Winds at sixty miles an hour - this morning.

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At last reports, the storm was moving into Canada's
Bay of Fundy - blowing itself out. -

ADD HURRICANE

There was an exciting rescue off Cape Cod when a Panamanian freighter was ~~is~~ driven aground by the hurricane winds. The crew taken off by the coast guard in a breeches ~~xxx~~ buoy operation. It looked like a tragedy of the sea but the Coast Guard did its usual efficient job.

CAVE RESCUE

From Kings County National Park in California, news of a rescue from a cave. Carroll Slemaker of Hollywood was exploring Boyden Cave, when he fell down an incline, with a shower of rocks following him. So there he lay with a broken leg, at the bottom of a hole in the huge cavern. A companion summoned rescue, but it was a tough job. State rangers worked for seven hours to pull Slemaker out - with the assistance of ropes and pulleys. He's recovering in a hospital tonight - after an agonizing ordeal.

QUEBEC

A dispatch from the Canadian Province of Quebec tells of a fearsome affair - robbery and attempted murder in the wilderness. Which recalls the killing of three Pennsylvania hunters, robbed and murdered in the Gaspé forest. ~~By~~ By a prospector, now awaiting trial.

In this latest, three Vermonters were in the Northern woods - with a ~~an~~ veteran forest guide. Two of them went out in a boat on a lake, while one remained behind to take a nap. While he was asleep, he was stabbed and wounded by the guide, who robbed him of three hundred dollars. The Vermonter was able to grapple with him, but the guide got away.

Later, the two companions came back and took the injured man to the boat on the lake and rowed away from the shore. They saw the guide was gunning for them. ~~■~~ Darkness had fallen, he was searching the lake with a powerful flashlight. A shotgun - pointed.

They spent the night in the boat, eluding the beams of the flashlight. In the morning the guide had vanished - the police now hunting for him.

TRUMAN

The American people celebrated labor day in the ~~the~~ usual style. And former President Truman commemorated labor ~~day~~ day in a way that ^{is} usual with him. He's still ~~against~~ ^{against} the Republicans.

Today in Detroit, he made his first full scale attack -- since the election in November. In an address he stated: "the majority of the people last fall voted for a change. That was their right. How sorry they are now."

He poured it on in that usual Harry Truman style and growled: "You can hear the farmer weep and wail and ask ~~for~~ forgiveness for voting as he did last fall".

The former President declared that the Eisenhower administration favors big business and ~~is~~ pictured this country as being in tears tonight because of what happened in the November election.

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Now Mike ^{you} tell us something to cheer us up.