

LONDON L.T.-P.G. Thurs. Jan. 31 - '52,

Here's news just in from London. (Winston Churchill, tonight, won a vote of confidence in the House of Commons - an okay for the new super-austerity program.)


This was the first big test for the new Conservative government. The Labor Party introduced a resolution of "no ~~for~~ confidence," with a scathing attack on the Conservative "super-austerity". Which calls for a more spartan regime than ever, and would make charges for Nationalist Medical Service-hitherto free. Labor tonight called that "unfair, mean."

Churchill has a slender majority in the Commons, only fourteen. But he had the support of the Liberal minority, and won the vote of confidence by three-hundred-and-nine to two-hundred-and-seventy-eight. Majority - thirty-one.

ARGENTINA

(Argentina began, today, what the Argentinos must have thought - could never happen. Meatless days - in the South American Republic renowned for the production of beef.)

Argentinos have a record of eating more meat per capita than any other people in the world - and of shipping huge exports from the cattle ranching plains of the Pampas. (But today was meatless Thursday in the country ^{— that is} outside the district of Buenos Aires - and tomorrow will be meatless Friday for the Buenos Aires area. The Argentinos are nearly all Catholics, but they don't seem to be so strict about observing fish day. Anyway, the whole country will have one meatless day per week.)



(The Peron government explains that this is to bring about a more balanced diet, by promoting the consumption of fish and vegetables. Neutral observers note, however, that cattle-producing-Argentina has, actually, a meat shortage.) Caused - by an increase of population, greater consumption. Also - because of recent droughts. Not enough meat to fill contracts for export.

In Paris, ~~today~~, a vicious diatribe was hurled.

In the social committee of the U N., Moscow delegate Pavlov ^{today} threatened - the sentence of death for western newsmen whose behavior displeases the Reds behind the Iron Curtain. The Communist was answering a charge made yesterday - that newspaper ^{man} William Oatis of the Associated Press is imprisoned in Red Czechoslovakia on "trumped up" charges of espionage. Pavlov declared that Oatis was caught - "Red handed."

Then the Red shouted this brutal menace:

"If you start sending spies" he yelled, "you must remember that each and every one of these spies will get what they deserve - and many of them will envy those whose fate is only a prison sentence." Which certainly sounded like a threat of death - or worse.

Pavlov turned his fury on the American delegate who made the charge yesterday - Dr. Channing Tobias a negro minister. Usually, the Commies try to make a play on American racial problems - for propaganda. But today ^{the Red} raged at Dr. Tobias, and accused

him of - "behaving like people in the Chicago stockyards"

Later the American delegate said: "I would be ready to identify myself with the stockyard workers of Chicago - I regard them as honorable, hard working people."

KOREA-TRUCE

(In the truce talks at Pan Mun Jom, the U N delegation today brought forward - item five.) Which may produce the hottest argument of all.

(Item five is a sort of catch-all affair, covering what is called - "recommendations to the governments concerned on both sides.") It was put into the agenda, to begin with, as a way of including everything the negotiators could not agree upon.

For example, the Reds wanted to include the question of - the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea. So now, they're likely to bring that up again. We know, of course, that a withdrawal of all foreign troops, including Americans, would leave South Korea at the mercy of the powerful North Korean Army, an army organized by Red China, with Soviet help. So you see the ~~xxxx~~ likelihood of another burst of disagreement.

(Item five comes up, as they continue to by-pass the two points of deadlock, Red airfield construction and prisoner exchange.)

ATOMIC

Here's an answer to a question anyone might ask - have the Soviets any idea about the American stockpile of atomic bombs? How many? Senator Brien McMahon, Chairman of the Congressional atomic Energy Committee, says they should be able to guess- within fifteen percent.

The statement is printed in the "bulletin on atomic science" with Senator McMahon explaining that enough American atomic news has been published for Moscow to estimate our supply of atomic weapons ^{and guess} about eighty-five percent right.

(To which he added that, if we spend the money, we can make enough to assail, what the Senator called "anything you wanted to hit, whether troops in the field, river crossings or strategic targets."

So, maybe if the Soviets can guess eighty-five percent right - it might give them something to ~~think~~ think about.)

HOLOHAN

The State Department has authorized the government of Italy to go into the American courts and seek the extradition of two wartime American soldiers - whom Italy wants to try for the murder of Major William Holohan. This is the melodramatic affair, which created a sensation months ago.

Major Holohan, of the office of Strategic Services, was parachuted into northern Italy, on a Cloak and Dagger mission. He was to direct the delivery, by air, of American arms to Italian partisans fighting the Germans - and see that non-Communist guerrillas got their share. He was murdered, and ^{the} crime charged to his two American soldier companions, Lieutenant Icardi of Pittsburgh and Sergeant Lodolce of Rochester - in collaboration with Communists. The Reds, thereafter, got the American armament and munitions.

The story comes from the Italian police, who got confessions from two Italian wartime partisans. They're being held for trial, and Italy wants to

prosecute the two former soldiers of the U S Army for the murder of the American Major.

That led to a lot of investigation of treaties, and today the answer was given. The Italian government can go into the American federal courts and ask for extradition. Icardi and Lodolce claim they are innocent - though Lodolce made a confession, which he now repudiates. Both will fight extradition - and all will depend upon the amount of evidence the Italian government presents against them.

In any case, the strange mystery of the disappearance of Major Holohan will be paraded before the American court.

COMMUNIST

In Pittsburgh today, a Communist leader got an unexpected jolt - and it made him scream. The Red, Steve Nelson, was convicted on eleven counts under the Pennsylvania sedition law. There were twelve counts, but he was found innocent on one.

Such was the verdict the jury brought in, but the Communist leader was not satisfied. Acting as his own lawyer, he demanded that the members of the jury stand up in court and repeat their individual votes - polling the jury. That was done - but in a way Steve Nelson never guessed. The jury, upon being polled - found him guilty on all twelve counts!

That infuriated the Communist, who yelled he was a "victim of mass hysteria." So mad at the jury, that officers of the court had to restrain him.

The Judge admitted - it was not according to Hoyle, and ruled out the change in the verdict. The judge ordered the original decision to stand - guilty on eleven counts.

TRUMAN-ELECTION

(President Truman says he will withdraw his name from the New Hampshire Primary. It was entered unofficially, and without his consent. The Primary closed yesterday)- and, just before the zero hour, a lumber man at Manchester filed the name of Harry Truman.

(Ten days are left for a withdrawal)- and the President says he will avail himself of the privilege. Which will leave Senator Kefauver of Tennessee, unopposed on the Democratic side in New Hampshire. But, the President hastens to explain, this does not mean he, himself, will not seek the Democratic nomination for President. He still won't say what he intends to do.

All this transpired at a White House news conference today, with some illuminating talk about Primaries. They are not important, says the President; ~~that is~~ that is so far as he is concerned. If he wants the nomination he doesn't have to go into the Primaries. *Then he adds: -* They won't mean a thing, ~~he says~~ when the Democratic National Convention meets in July.

He was asked about the two term limitation, which is now in the Constitution of the United States - although President Truman himself is exempted - specifically. Today he said he doesn't think a President should have a third term. But that, he explained, does not apply to him - because it wouldn't be a third term. He doesn't count his time in the White House, when he completed the fourth term for Franklin D. Roosevelt. *As we know* That, actually, was four years [^] minus only three or four months. But it doesn't count, declares the President - in refusing to say whether or not he intends to run for what he would call a second term.

TRUMAN-MCCARTHY

Today brought an exchange of epithets between President Truman and Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin. The President denouncing the Senator as - "a pathological character assassin."

This follows a McCarthy charge of Communism against Philleo Nash, White House adviser on minority matters. He declared that Nash joined the Communist party in the early Nineteen Forties, and that his home in Toronto was used as a rendezvous by members of the Canadian spy ring. He intimated further, that the loyalty files on Nash have disappeared. Nash denies the charge as a "contemptible lie." Which, today, was echoed by the President - in a blast against McCarthy.

The Wisconsin Senator replies promptly, saying the Truman tone today was about the same when charges of Communism were made against Alger Hiss -- since then convicted in connection with Red espionage.

WIVES

At Mesa, Arizona, the Judge has ordered the appearance of six wives of an ex-communicated Mormon. They are called to answer the charge that they have been living in multiple matrimony with George Merlin Dutson - who, we are told, has been maintaining a whole series of households.

All of which goes back to the old history of plural marriage, back to the days of Brigham Young. Some still claim that polygamy is the proper Mormon way. They've been ex-communicated by the Church of the Latter Day Saints, which in Eighteen Ninety abolished ~~xxx~~ plural marriage. But they won't give in, and of these George Merlin Dutson is named as a prime example.

He has disappeared, is reported to have gone up into Wyoming - where they say he has a couple of extra wives. So now they are summoning the six women in Arizona, all of whom answer to the name of Dutson.

The case is being pressed by Mormon Bishop

Wendell Davis, who says: "Plural marriages are against federal law, as well as against Church law."

of New Jersey - she had a talk with the President at the White House today.

So, the President did not tell him in so many words. The Congressman drew his conclusion from the following Truman remark.

"I'll never run away from anything, or quit anything," declared the President.

Well, if he went quit anything, that would include the White House. Which is the logic, as deduced by the Congressman.

From Minnesota, word that the Presidential Primary is likely to be called off. Search - only one candidate. On the Republican side, Harold Stassen has entered with a full slate of delegates. Neither

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POLITICS

Here's the latest in the guessing game - will Truman run again? Yes, replies Congressman Dieminski of New Jersey - who had a talk with the President at the White House today.

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From Minnesota, word that the Presidential Primary is likely to be called off. Reason - only one candidate. On the Republican side, Harold Stassen has entered with a full slate of delegates. Neither Senator Taft nor the backers of General Eisenhower show

any indication of competing in Stassen's home State.
So it looks like no contest.

On the Democratic side, nobody has entered
at all - making it no contest, even more so. So why
have an election?

Today, the statement was made that, if things
remain as they are, Minnesota will save about two
hundred thousand dollars - by calling off the primary.
Stassen winning the G.O.P. delegates.

KENTUCKY

In Kentucky, a wholesale raid on slot machines, Today the F B I seized more than twenty-six hundred of the one-armed bandits all over the state. Twenty-three persons under arrest. So a lot of people are saving their money, the word being that, probably, not a single slot machine is operating in Kentucky tonight.

Argentina sends the... They have garrisons down there, and these are making the experiments. We hear of plants flown by plane - species that flourish in cold climates, including types from the lofty snowbound peaks.

This is the summer season below the Equator, and the planting is being done now. Beginning with Greenland, just off the south polar shore. Will the plants grow and flourish? Can vegetation be introduced into Antarctica? INK

ANTARCTICA

On the south polar continent - an interesting experiment. Fascinating, in fact. An attempt to grow vegetation in the frozen Antarctic land - where for untold ages there has never been a tree or a plant, or a blade of grass.

a report on

Argentina sends ~~the report - Argentine claims~~

~~territory~~ Antarctica. They have garrisons down there, and these are making the experiments. We hear of plants flown by plane - species that flourish in cold climates, including types from the lofty snowbound Andes.

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The question is fascinating, if only for a

reminder given by geology - that the south polar continent, millions of years ago, was warm enough to support a dense vegetation. As is indicated by the presence of - coal deposits. Well, it might surprise Antarctic explorers, like Admiral Byrd and Sir Hubert Wilkins, *and Com. Finn Ronne -* to think of anything green growing on the south polar continent.

DELAWARE RIVER

Camden, New Jersey, is alarmed - by a project to deepen the Delaware River. Which has been recommended by Army engineers - to improve water transportation for a new great steel plant. Camden is afraid it may ruin the water supply of the city, with its population of one hundred and twenty-five thousand.

Today the Mayor explained that Camden gets drinking water, not from the Delaware, but from an underground stream that flows beneath it - a river under the river. Artesian wells tap the subterranean water - and, if the Army Engineers start cutting into the rock, the water of the Delaware might seep into the river still further down. A deepening of the channel, moreover, might draw sea water up from the ocean - and salt the Camden water supply.

All an example of how a big industrial project may have unexpected ramifications.

PRINCESS

In London today, Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip started off on their trip to Australia and New Zealand. Their first stop will be as - a wedding present. When they were married, more than three years ago, the gifts they got made a long list. One item - a lodge in Kenya. They've never seen it - a royal bungalow in an African valley.

The royal tourists are flying straight to their wedding present in Africa - the lodge in the valley of Thesagana, where they'll spend a week in the shadow of Mount Kenya, with its eternal cap of snow.

Then they'll go down to Mombasa, on the African East Coast, and take ship for Australia - via Ceylon and the Cocos Islands. A right royal jaunt for anyone, Nelson, to Africa, Ceylon, the Cocos and the Antipodes!