

C.I. - P. & G. Monday, August 23, 1948

MOSCOW

( In Moscow tonight the envoys of the western powers talked with Premier Stalin and Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov for four hours and forty-five minutes in the Kremlin. ) The longest conference yet, -- on the four-power effort to agree on the problem of occupied Germany.

No word yet as to what transpired. All we know is that Premier Stalin entertained the visiting diplomats with tea and cakes. And, according to United States Ambassador Bedell-Smith, there will have to be more meetings. Indicating that some differences of opinion still have to be ironed out.

Opinion in Washington is that Stalin himself may have offered new last-minute proposals, the Soviet's number one man making changes in the agreement, which, we are told, needed only his O.K.

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Washington is surprised that there must be another Kremlin meeting. Our State Department kept a late watch tonight waiting for news from Moscow, believing that today's conference at the Kremlin, would wind up the Four-Power talks, the last of the series.

The State Department we hear, was all set to give the U.S. version to the world, if the Four Powers agreed to release a joint announcement -- of an agreement. In the case of failure, and the Moscow radio began sending out a Soviet version, we had our version ready for immediate release.

Tonight's Kremlin meeting which started at nine PM broke up at quarter to two, Moscow time. The news report says that French Ambassador Chataigneau and the British Envoy Roberts looked glum and disappointed when they came out of the Kremlin.

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Roberts, we are told, had arranged to leave Moscow for London tomorrow, the British representative said to have been confident that this Kremlin meeting was the final one.

None of the envoys would talk to the press, until finally Ambassador Bedell-Smith told the reporters there would be more meetings. He added -- "I am never optimistic -- I hope for the best, and expect the worst". Whereupon he and his colleagues immediately went to work in the American Embassy, compiling reports, which were sent in code to their respective governments.

Which leaves us where we came in, as it were. Still a blackout on news, with the score at the Kremlin meetings standing at six, and more to follow, as the whole world waits for the news -- Moscow and the western powers in agreement, or otherwise.

## CHURCH

In Amsterdam today, representatives of a hundred-and-fifty churches -- churchmen from all over the world, voted unanimously to establish a World Council of Churches. Or what is described as a "spiritual United Nations." ~~Church~~ Church organizations of forty-two nations to establish international religious cooperation - an interchange of spiritual ideas, to improve the spiritual health of the world.

The resolution, which was presented by the President of the Protestant Federation of France, comes as a result of ten years effort by the non-Catholic Communion of the world - the Protestant churches. The only absentee today was the Russian Orthodox Church, this in spite of its previous close ties with the British Anglican church which is among the staunch supporters of the Council.

The church of Rome was represented only by observers.

The General Secretary said today that the Council represents a "Stage on the road between the time

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of the complete isolation of the churches of the world and the future when there will be one undivided church," - which he said is the aim of the religious leaders.

He also added that the door of the Council is left open to the Roman Catholic, and the Orthodox Churches.

LOMAKIN

Is Soviet Consul General Lomakin going back to Moscow? ~~or does he contemplate staying elsewhere~~

When he quits his job at the request of President Truman?

*a further*

A air of mystery was added to the Lomakin affair today.

Reporters outside the Russian Consulate in New York saw a moving van pull up. Into it were loaded five large crates <sup>one</sup> and six oil paintings, <sup>one</sup> said to be the Soviet Consul General's private property. But, these crates were not going to Moscow. A consulate official said they were being put in storage. So newsmen wondered why the Consul's belongings - if they were the Consul's belongings -- were not being forwarded to Soviet Russia.

Lomakin himself refused to give any information. He told the Press, that he was very angry about their irresponsible reports on his activities. Saying that he had spent an athletic week-end with his family and friends, playing, swimming, tennis and volley ball - and fishing.

Later, there was another surprise. The Swedish-American shipping Line revealed that Consul

General Lomakin ~~has~~ had booked passage to Sweden on a ship leaving next Saturday. And that he had made the reservation some time ago - long before Lomakin became involved in the incident of the two Russian School teachers.

Meanwhile in Moscow, the Russian Press has no comment to make on Lomakin's recall, the whole affair seemingly officially forgotten, overshadowed by the four-power conference at the Kremlin.

## GERMANY

The Russians in Berlin apparently were in a better mood today. At any rate they released Thomas Headen, the U.S. Military Government official whom they snatched away from his weeping wife, in Potsdamer Platz, over the weekend. Headen, held by the Russians for eighteen hours, says he was treated well, and asked no embarrassing questions. The Soviet K~~2~~ Intelligence officials, he said seemed to be interested principally in why he was taking pictures of the Soviet section of the city. Evidently that was why they nabbed him. He says he inadvertantly stepped over the line dividing the American and Soviet zones.

At the same time, today, the Russians released two Americans, one British subject and five Germans. The Britisher, a Sergeant-Pilot who had landed in the Soviet zone when his jet fighter developed engine trouble. He says he was treated with extreme courtesy.

The British today returned the compliment by releasing a prominent Red police official they had picked up.

place, — Platz —  
Potsdamer, ~~K2K2~~, where the Reds have

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picked up a number of our people, is the Times Square of Berlin. And it's where the zones come together. Today we are told how quiet and peaceful it is, with American, British and Soviet military police patrolling their boundaries in keeps, and even stopping sometimes for a friendly chat.

This atmosphere of peace and good cheer between the four powers in Berlin was only interrupted once today. That was when Russian soldiers saw a German photographer set up his camera in Potsdamer Platz. Although he had his camera in the American zone, the Russians rushed across the boundary line, grabbed the camera, and dragged the German back to their side of Potsdamer Platz, carrying him off in a jeep. And nothing more has been heard of him.

## PALESTINE

Count Bernadotte still has hope of settling the trouble in the Holy Land - and making it permanent. From Stockholm ~~we~~ where the Count is attend<sup>ing</sup> a Red Cross meeting, we hear that he is preparing new plans - to present to the U N General Assembly when it meets in Paris. As a part of this we hear that Bernadotte will call on the United Nations formally to recognize the State of Israel.

Meanwhile, in Tel Aviv, the Israeli Government charges that new preparations for war are being made in Trans-Jordan. That at Amman the Arab Legion and the Iraqi Army have been placed under a single Command, following the resignation of Fawzi El Kawkji. That Arab soldier of fortune who commanded the Arab peoples Army, made up of volunteers from all the Arab states, was removed from his command, we hear, because he failed to make good his boast that he would conquer Palestine in a matter of days.

## **KOREA**

Lieutenant General John Hodge, our military commander in Korea, is coming home. The Army announces General Hodge's withdrawal, following official American recognition of the new Korean government. Until that government came into being and was recognized by us, General Hodge was both commander of the U S troops in southern Korea and our top administrative official there. The troops are to stay on -- under the command of Major General John B. Coulter, who has been General Hodge's Deputy.

President Truman has sent a letter to General Hodge, hailing him as having led the liberation of Korea, and complimenting him on what the President terms "his soldierly and statesmanlike manner."

## INTER-SERVICE

Henceforth the Air Force will have greater control over strategic warfare. So announced Defense Secretary Forrestal, after a conference of the joint chiefs of staff at the war college. The conference held at Newport, Rhode Island, was called to iron out inter-service rivalries - rivalries that are said to have reached white heat.

The storm, we hear, centered round that plan for <sup>a</sup>Navy sixty-five thousand ton carrier; whether more of them should be built, to be used for strategic ~~bombing~~ bombing. Navy experts were reported to favor the sixty-five thousand ton carrier as the best weapon for strategic warfare, that, until we can produce bombers big enough to carry atom bombs from our country to any other part of the globe, ~~the~~ and return safely, we must use these giant carriers. But the latest is that the Air Force will decide on that, whether to use giant carriers or not.

## MYSTERY

Detectives at Emporia, Kansas are trying to decide whether a death, which at first seemed to be suicide, is not really just a case of assassination by request. A sixty year old financier having paid someone to shoot him. At first it seemed as if the financier had taken his own life just so his wife might have the sixty thousand dollars in insurance that he carried. And then they've found that his books are muddled. Funds missing from the bank. Also the gun was missing. How to explain that.

Well, today a truck driver, ~~was~~ told a weird story. The banker, said he, had offered him a thousand dollars if he'd handle the job so it would appear as if he had taken his own life. And he told how they rehearsed it with an ~~antenna~~ automatic. But, the financier wasn't satisfied with the rehearsal, so exchanged a twenty-five calibre pistol for one of thirty-two calibre, to make sure a single shot would do it.

Then the truck driver's nerve failed him. He says he told the banker he couldn't do it. At which the man who wanted to end it all asked the driver to take him to Wichita, Kansas. There, he says they met two other men, with whom the financier drove off after paying him a hundred dollars, and asking him to say nothing.

Tonight the police search for the two men in the black car is on. Meanwhile they are holding the truck driver.

## SILVER

A State Trooper at Goshen, New York, saw a boy leading a white Arab steed, limping along the highway. The Trooper took one look at the horse and cried, "Hey ho Silver". But the white <sup>Arab charger didn't</sup> ~~steed~~ ~~didn't~~ ~~respond~~ with ~~any~~ toss of ~~his~~ flowing mane and ~~the~~ thunder of ~~his~~ hoofs. Silver look<sup>ed</sup> forlorn and miserable. <sup>And</sup> No wonder. -- ~~He~~ had split a hoof and his shoes were worn razor thin.

How did the State Trooper know that the white Arab steed at Goshen, New York, was the original Silver? That fiery movie steed which once belonged to Lee Powell the first Lone Ranger. Because there was an eight state <sup>REPORTED</sup> alarm out for Silver, the famous horse, ~~missing~~ from a New York riding academy. "Where are you going with that horse?" the Trooper asked Joe Rosario, the eighteen-year old Lone Ranger of New York City. "I am going west", replied John, "I love this horse".

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But John had <sup>kidnapped</sup> ~~stolen~~ Silver from the New York

Riding Academy where he worked. So, tonight Silver is  
back in Manhattan getting the best veterinary treatment

for his sore feet; while John is in the <sup>jug</sup> ~~hospital~~ --

where <sup>even a</sup> ~~the~~ Lone Rangers <sup>is likely to go - if he</sup> ~~who~~ break the law, ~~go eventually.~~

## DRAFT

President Truman's announcement that married men will be exempt from the draft is causing quite a marriage boom. Reports from all over the country tell of marriage bureaus swamped - many of the bridegrooms in their teens.

All of which poses a question that Mr. Truman will have to answer: when does a man qualify as a bona fide husband within the meaning of the service regulations?

In other words, if Joe Doakes turns up to register on August thirtieth and says he was married on August twenty-ninth, is he a bona fide husband? And, if he's a bridegroom of a month, will he still qualify from deferment?

A Selective Service spokesman pointed out today that the White House Executive order does not say how long a person has to be a husband or a father to be entitled to deferment. But, he also said that Mr. Truman's Executive order "could be subject to addition or amendment."

So at the moment the selective service officials are not saying whether a man who married just before the draft he call, will get the same treatment as one who was married say last June. All of which may be a warning to eager bridegrooms.

At any rate there's a marriage boom on at the moment, Nelson. What do think about that?

CANTERBURY

( Dr. Hewlett Johnson, the Anglican Red Dean of England's Canterbury Cathedral, has been refused permission to lecture in this country by our State Department.) The Socialist prelate was coming to America to lecture under the auspices of the National Council of Soviet-American friendship. One of the organizations considered subversive by the Attorney General. The State Department says that it has nothing against Dr. Hewlett <sup>Johnson</sup> personally, but it regards his visit under the auspices of this particular organization, as "not in our national interest."

## CONFERENCE

In Moscow tonight, as the bells of the Kremlin chimed the hour of nine o'clock, Moscow time, the envoys of the three western powers drove to the Kremlin. They were met at the entrance of the Kremlin by Molotov, who promptly ushered them in to the presence of the Number One Man of Russia. The latest is that the meeting is still on - and it is well past one thirty in the morning Moscow time.

Earlier today, the three met for a ninety minute discussion, after which Ambassador Bedell Smith told the reporters that he was sorry to be so uncooperative in the matter of news. He added that any announcement on what transpired, any news of an agreement, would be issued simultaneously in Washington, London and Paris.

The Moscow news dispatch reports that the western envoys have appeared more cheerful during the past few days. But London foreign office spokesman remarked that "only a Stalin miracle can prevent failure. It is entirely up to Stalin." said

he. Which observers take to mean ~~that~~ that the western powers have refused to compromise on the matter of Berlin.

But it is generally believed our side has agreed to a four power conference, which is said to be the Kremlin's ~~paramount~~ paramount demand,