

C. I. - P. & H. Monday, May 16, 1949.

REORGANIZATION

The Senate today voted to give President Truman sweeping powers to reorganize the Government. The Senate Reorganization Bill ~~was~~ passed by a voice vote.

This is the bill based on the recommendations of the Hoover Commission -- to give Mr. Truman full authority to unsharl half a century of accumulated red tape.

The State Department, so we hear today, has already acted; merging its own Washington staff with that of the Foreign Service, to save expense and eliminate inter-department inefficiency.

FOREIGN AID

Foreign Aid Director Paul ~~E.~~ Hoffman told Congress today that most of the Marshall Plan nations had reached their post-war production rate - at the end of last year. With steel production and electric power, at post-war peaks. And with some nations' exports thirteen per cent above what they were in Nineteen Thirty-Eight.

In his third quarterly report to Congress, Hoffman spoke of Turkey and Portugal, as lagging behind. They need economic development more than recovery aid, he said. ~~And~~ Also, that France and Italy have special problems:- ~~These problems~~ Communist opposition, inflation and unemployment. But the over-all picture is one of progress in Europe -- the success of the Marshall Plan.

CONGRESS

Here's some not-so-good news for Senators and Congressmen. According to House Speaker, Sam Rayburn, Congress may have to remain in session three or four months, instead of quitting as usual ^{on} July Thirty-First. To talk about an extra session, said Speaker Rayburn, would be nonsensical, because the present session, he thinks, will run ^{for} on another three or four months. This because there is so much work still to be done on the Administration program.

Among the unfinished business, ^{possible} ~~are the first~~ repealer of the Taft-Hartley Law, the Senate-approved Housing Bill, and federal aid to education -- and a lot more. So it looks as if the lawmakers are going to have a busy summer.

UNITED NATIONS

At Flushing tonight that resolution to ease diplomatic restrictions on Franco-Spain lost out -- in the United Nations General Assembly -- short of the necessary two-thirds ~~majority~~ by four votes. The United States, Great Britain, ~~and~~ France and thirteen other nations abstaining.

Previous to the ballot the Polish delegate accused America of planning a secret military alliance with Spain. ~~and he~~ ^{he} also claimed that Great Britain was selling armored trucks and surplus jet fighters to ~~the~~ Franco. ~~Regime~~. To which British Minister of State, Hector MacNeil gave a categoric ~~refusal~~ ^{denial. MacNeil} ~~he~~ went on to reveal that a Spanish agency in London had approved a credit of three-hundred-and-sixty thousand dollars in pounds sterling. This to buy airplane engines in Poland -- for use in the German type war planes now used by the Spanish Air Force. These counter charges apparently had ^{little or} no effect on the voting. ~~either way~~ and Franco-Spain is still out in the cold -- diplomatically.

CLAY

President Truman asked the Senate today to allow General Lucius Clay to retire from the service with the rank of full General. Our retiring Military Governor in Germany has been wearing the four stars of a full General under a temporary appointment; his permanent rank only a MajorGeneral. As a reward for his important victory in the Cold War, allowed to retire as a permanent four-star General.

In Washington today they were making arrangements to welcome General Clay. He will be met at the airport by Defense Secretary Louis Johnson, and a host of Government officials. Detachments of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines will be on hand. The famous Marine Band, of course. Then a reception at the White House.

~~Meanwhile, in Germany, the two men who now share Clay's job -- Lieutenant General Clarence Haebner,~~

COMMUNIST

Gerhart Eisler, the Communist spy chief, has been moved to Brixton Jail, London. He'll get a hearing next Tuesday. This morning he appeared at London's famous Bow Street Police Court, in the Drury Lane Covent Garden district. There Eisler's attorney questioned the Scotland Yard detective, who recounted to the court how he hauled Eisler off the Polish ship BATTERY. Did the police use force, asked the attorney? Only enough to get him off, replied the man from Scotland Yard.

The attorney then said he would prove that Eisler is a bona fide political refugee. And as such, outside any extradition treaty between the United States and Great Britain. Whereupon he asked for bail. The London ex magistrate, no doubt remembering how this Red spy ducked bail over here said -- No. So Eisler is now in Brixton cooler -- Britain's Number One jail -- where celebrities often go.

When this arch Communist espionage chief next comes up for hearing -- to decide whether he comes back here or not -- we hear he'll produce witnesses from America.

--p--

Meanwhile, in Washington, the State Department confirms the rumor that the United States did threaten to seize the Polish ship BATORY -- if her master refused to surrender Eisler to the British authorities. The warning to the ship's Captain came from the U.S. Embassy in London.

MADRID

From Madrid, an announcement that the new session of the Cortes, the Spanish Parliament, will be opened on Wednesday, with -- customary brilliance. According to the news dispatch, the use of the words "customary brilliance" is a tip-off to the press that General ^{issimo} Francisco Franco will address the opening of the Cortes. The Generalissimo's appearance at public functions is never announced openly in advance, ^{— just} in case, ~~of trouble~~. But the Madrid reporters know that when the Cortes is to be opened with "customary brilliance", that refers to the eloquence of the Generalissimo.

PALACE

Nearly twenty years ago, in Paris, a French Count built a palace of pink marble for his bride, the American heiress Anna Gould -- now Duchess of Tallyrand.

Kahstelahu

The Count, Boni de Castellane - he was one of the great spenders of the Victorian era - modelled his bridal mansion after the Trianon Palace of the French kings at Versailles. He equipped it with an emerald green swimming pool at one end of the dining room; bathroom fittings of gold and silver - and every luxury. But after eight years, his bride divorced the Count and the great palace of pink marble became ~~what you might call~~ a white - or rather a pink - elephant -- ~~too large for anyone to live in~~ - its upkeep ~~is~~ tremendous.

~~So~~ It remained empty until World War Two, when

Stuelpnager,

General von ~~Stoopnager~~, the Nazi military governor of Paris, ~~not to be confused with American radio~~

took it over - and lived there. When he quit in a hurry -

mine
corp -
it closed again.

On May Twenty-Third, next, the pink palace will be open again - for the meeting of the Big Four Foreign

Ministers. Just five ~~rooms~~ of the huge rooms to be used.

This time
^

~~But~~ no gilded chairs, and Louis Quinze sofas. Just tables

and office furniture - everything strictly business.

CHINA

About fifteen hundred Americans are determined to stick it out in Shanghai. Come what may, when the Reds take over.

Today the U.S. Navy made another offer to evacuate anyone who wants to leave. This was by U.S. Consul General John Cabot, as the thunder of guns could be heard in downtown Shanghai. Following a night with the sky around Shanghai aglow with the vivid light of exploding shells.

Only twenty-four out of fifteen hundred Americans put their names down for evacuation. However, the Consul General thinks that when the guns get a little nearer, and when the Red troops are in sight of the city gates, a few more may change their minds. He says they'd better act now. Because the river may be cut off by a sudden and swift Communist maneuver.

A dispatch from a United Press correspondent

tells of American Navy L.S.T.'s making daily trips up and down the Whangpoo, to Shanghai, keeping in touch with our naval craft off shore. These L.S.T.'s will be kept running, a regular ferry service maintained, until the river is closed. Meanwhile any American who wants to can be taken to safety. But, they'd better hurry. Any minute now may be too late. Of course ~~xx~~ those who stick it out will get what protection our Consular Service can give them.

The U.P. reporter tells of watching a spectacular artillery duel between the Nationalists and Communists. With Chinese Nationalist destroyers and patrol boats blazing away, and planes sweeping down to strafe the Red troops. This around the famous Woosong forts ~~xxx~~ ^{that} are supposed to guard the sea route from Shanghai. The Reds ~~xxx~~ are attacking them, in the hope of cutting off the river.

As for the usually overcrowded Whangpoo, it's almost deserted. Along the shore, buildings ablaze for miles.

FORD

It looks as if the Government may intervene in the Ford strike. The latest from Washington, Federal Mediator Cyrus Ching says his men are standing by -- ready to step in.

Henry Ford III still hopes his company and the United Automobile Workers Union will settle their dispute without Federal help. Meanwhile both sides promise full cooperation if the Federal mediators enter the picture.

TRIP

A Russian-speaking Cleveland, Ohio, jeweler has just had an experience ^{that} which would make any reporter green with envy - if he spoke Russian. ~~HE~~ Israel Herman, flew from New York to Paris on a special plane with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and eleven other Russians.

He was put on the special plane with the Soviet diplomats, at the last minute, because the regular airliner was full.

And what did he overhear during that long flight across the ocean? Mostly conversation about food. The Russians had a picnic hamper, from a Park Avenue delicatessen. So they talked about the excellence of the chicken - and the succulence of the artichokes. Once, Gromyko - he was reading most of the time - leaned over and asked the Cleveland jeweler why he didn't take a drink. Herman replied that he didn't feel too well. At which Gromyko smiled, and went on reading a novel, while the other Russians continued chatting about food. Not a word on world affairs.

LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS

Lighthouse keepers henceforth will not be paid overtime, no matter how late they stay up keeping the lighthouse light lit. From now on lighthouse keepers will get bonuses. But not overtime pay.

This matter of overtime or not for lighthouse keepers apparently caused a House Committee a considerable headache. Because ^{nobody} ~~anybody~~ could figure out just when a lighthouse keeper works. He's just there, sometimes for weeks at a time, keeping his lonely vigil.

So our nation's lawmakers had to decide whether he deserved overtime pay or not, even if just putting pattering around. Finally the decision! - The lighthouse keeper ~~is~~ put in the same classification as the housewife -- no overtime. Only, as most housewives will tell you, she doesn't get a bonus, and the lonely lighthouse keeper does. In addition to his salary, his bonus will be, in some cases, as much as three thousand, seven hundred and fifty dollars a year.

RITA

Photographers at Cannes, in the south of France, made a mildly startling discovery today. A discovery which may be a shock to millions of film fans. Rita Hayworth no longer a blonde! The photographers were called to ^{Chateau} ~~the~~ Horizon ~~Spa~~ to photograph Rita and one of her wedding presents -- a gift from the bridegroom, a seventy-five thousand dollar gray convertible.

What shocked the photographers was that Rita Hayworth's golden red hair is red no more. It's almost black, so says a news dispatch.

The bride's hairdresser explains that the film star used to dye it red, but now is allowing it to return to its original hue. So the Queen of Hollywood gives up her golden crown to become a black-haired Princess of India.

RELIGION

The Anglican Church - the Church of England - is conducting a campaign against what the Archbishop of Canterbury calls, paganism - the worldliness of modern society.

In one thickly populated London parish, the Vicar found that his congregation at morning service was lamentably small. Hardly anyone to hear his sermon. So what did he do? After the service, he walked into the nearest saloon; and bought himself a quart of ale. Then he banged his tankard on the bar - for attention. "Now men," he said to his fellow drinkers, "I'm going to preach." And he did - with no interruptions.

And now Nelson - you may speak - with no interruptions.