

CYPRUS

L.T. - Deleo Mon. Feb. 16 - 59,

Full agreement in London - on the question of Cyprus.

So announced - by a spokesman of the British Foreign Office.

The island of Cyprus - to become an independent republic, with special rights for the Turkish minority.

Actually, the settlement will be formalized in a

Greek-Turkish-British conference. Now - to begin. But, in a practical sense, the agreement was made in the past few days.

By the Greek and Turkish Foreign Ministers - in conference with the British government. British officials - holding conferences of their own with Archbishop Makarios, leader of the Cypriot Greeks. Making sure - of his approval.

~~(Both the Archbishop and Dr. Facil Kutcek, leader of the Turkish minority on Cyprus, will participate in the formal conference - beginning tomorrow.)~~

So Britain gives up the island of Cyprus, which has been the source of so much trouble in the past four years. The British, however - to retain military bases on the island.

CUBA

Prime Minister Castro - that's the word in Cuba, tonight. The chief of the recent revolution - sworn in as head of the Cabinet. The ceremony - held at the presidential palace. The oath administered - by President Urrutia, whom Fidel Castro put in office.

Actually, the revolutionary chief has been running things, in effect, all along. Now - assuming formal office and responsibility.

Meanwhile, the Castro authorities are holding another trial of Major Sosa Blanco. The Batista henchman - who was sentenced to death in that spectacular trial before a crowd of thirty thousand, in the Havana sports palace. Which extravaganza, before a howling jeering mob - was a headline in the first days of the Castro regime.

So why is Major Sosa Blanco given a second trial? Because of worldwide unfavorable criticism - aroused by that previous trial, which was more like a circus. The present prosecution ~~is being~~ conducted in a normal courtroom.

CONFERENCE

The Western powers handed in their diplomatic notes - at Moscow, today. The communications from Britain, France, the United States, and West Germany - exactly as predicted for the past week or so. Soviet Russia - invited to ~~the~~ ^a conference of the Foreign Ministers. The West recommending - that representatives of East and West Germany shall sit in. But only - as advisers. This - as a compromise with Russia's demand that Communist East Germany participate as ^{full} ~~a~~ member of the conference.

The place- Geneva or Vienna. The time - late April or early May.

The joint notes make the usual insistence - that the Western powers will not withdraw from Berlin. Nor will they consider the Soviet scheme for making Berlin a "free city."

This news draws new attention - to the sickbed of John Foster Dulles. Who, obviously - will not be able to attend a conference abroad. Under treatment, as he is - for cancer.

The doctors express the hope that the Secretary of

State may be able to return to duty. Part time duty, perhaps -
by the date suggested for the conference. But it seems unlikely
that he'd be able to make a trans-Atlantic journey.

Today, the U.S. Senate, which has often been a severe
critic of Secretary Dulles - opened its session with a silent
prayer for his quick and complete recovery.

PLANE

The Soviets continue their insistence - that they can't solve the puzzle in the case of the U.S. Air Force transport plane. Destroyed - in Soviet Armenia, last September. Seventeen airmen - aboard. Six bodies - returned. The fate of the remaining eleven - a mystery.

Today, the Moscow news agency, Tass, declared - that the Russian authorities investigated the crash, and gave to American officials - all the information they could procure. They don't know any more, according to Tass.

At the same time, the Red news agency continues the propaganda blast - that the tape recording is a fake. The tape recorded evidence - that the unarmed American transport was shot down by Soviet fighter planes.

JEWISH MIGRATION

Reports are - that the Soviets will permit Russian Jews to emigrate to Israel. But - only on a small scale.

The word comes from Jewish sources in Vienna. A spokesman stating: "We do not expect a mass migration of Russian Jews to Israel." The limit - a few hundred. Out of some three million Jews - now living in the Soviet Union.

This intimation follows - a release of Jewish emigrants ~~immigrants~~ from Communist Romania. Some fifteen thousand - having entered Israel in the past few months.

In Cairo, the statement - that the Arab states are considering an international appeal, ~~To~~ stop - the Jewish exodus to Israel. Moslem representations - to be made to Khrushchev. Also - to President Eisenhower. Because the migrations to Israel are financed, in part - by funds from the United States.

A Cairo newspaper calls the situation - "a grave threat" to the Arab states. Because of a build-up - of the population of Israel.

HISS

A report of a matrimonial break-up - bringing memories of old headlines. Alger Hiss - now separated from his wife Priscilla.

She was beside him - during his trial and conviction - in connection with espionage. He served - four years and eight months in prison. During which time - Mrs. Hiss worked in a bookstore, and later in an art gallery. Visiting him - frequently in prison. Alger Hiss, himself - now an executive in a company manufacturing women's combs.

Now the report/^{is}- that, after twenty-nine years of marriage, Hiss and his wife have separated. No reason - given.

ITALY

Italy has a new Premier, tonight. Antonio Segni, assuming office - after a political crisis that lasted for three weeks. The new Cabinet - formed entirely of members of the moderate Christian Democratic Party. They lack an outright majority in the Italian parliament, but have the support - of small Right Wing factions.

VATICAN

Pope John the Twenty-Third brings up a question - which we, ourselves, may have thought of, when watching motion pictures of a papal procession - in which the Pontiff is carried in the chair of state, called, officially - the Gestatorial Chair.

Word from Rome, today - that Pope John does not like that portable throne. Which, in medieval ritual - enables the public to see him better. He feels - the Gestatorial Chair is too pompous. Also - that it swings and sways too much. Which is a thing - that we may have noticed, sometimes, with a misgiving - that a Pontiff might be thrown out. You wouldn't say dumped out in referring to the Pope, hardly.

The authorities at the Vatican are doing something about it. The idea being - to have the bearers of the portable throne coordinate their steps better. So as to minimize - the swing and sway. I could give them some suggestions - having been carried that way for twenty days.

A jog trot to the right song.

Of course, some ultra-modernist may suggest - a motorized vehicle for the papal processions. But the tradition of old - would never stand for that.

TRAVEL

In Washington today, the members of the Commerce Department of the House, received cards of membership - in one of those organizations with an alphabetic name.

Sometimes those alphabetic names can go too far, and this one does. With - a whole string of letters. SFE and PPWLRTEP - which stands for: - the "Society for the Encouragement and Preservation of People who Like to Ride on Trains, Especially Pullmans."

However, it's a praiseworthy organization. Founded - for the purpose of keeping the passenger trains rolling on the railroads. For the benefit of what the organization calls - "people who want to see America. Not - just fly over it." Believe I'd like to join. And s-l-u-t-m.