

LEAD - ISRAEL

C.I. - P. & G. Dec. 20 '49. Tues.

There's an amazing turn of events in Israel. Today, the official newspaper of the Jewish state gave a warning that the Communists of Israel are preparing a campaign against the decision to make Jerusalem the capital.

The declaration is that the Israeli Reds are about to start an agitation to prove that, in the words of the government newspaper - "The people of Jerusalem do not support the plan to make Jerusalem the capital." The Jewish Reds over there are backing the decision of the United Nations - to internationalize the Holy City, under U.N. control.

All so serious, that the ^{Israeli} Communists ^{in Palestine} ~~are~~ _{are} threatened with ^{the} charge of - treason.

Shortly after this warning appeared, the Communist Party of Israel issued a resolution demanding that the Government of Israel assist in carrying out the U.N. decision to make Jerusalem an international city.

The attitude of the Communists of Israel

goes in a straight line to Moscow. We recall that early this month, the United Nations' decision to internationalize Jerusalem was backed by the Soviets. We noted at the time that it was a curious line-up, which put the resolution across - a majority consisting of the Soviets, Arab states, and Latin-America. The United States and Great Britain were strongly opposed, and sustained a severe defeat - they supporting the views of Israel.

The response of the Jewish State ^{to that} was prompt - a proclamation that Jerusalem was its capital. To emphasize which, the cabinet of Prime Minister Ben-Gurion moved immediately to Jerusalem, and set up headquarters there.

The Israeli were amazed by the attitude of Soviet Russia, supporting internationalization, and opposing Israel. In addition to which they now have the added fact that the Communists of Israel are backing the Soviet-sponsored U. N. decision, and are opposing Israel. When the vote was taken in the Jewish

LEAD - ISRAEL.....3

Parliament to make Jerusalem the capital, it was unanimous, except for two votes - cast by Communists, in opposition. And now, today, the whole thing develops into Communist agitation, and a government warning of - treason.

The best guess in Israel is that the Soviets, backed by the Jewish Communists, are following the policy of promoting trouble in Palestine, Russia trying to get a foothold in that vital area.

STALIN

Soviet Russia begins the celebration of the seventieth birthday of Stalin with a spectacular gesture. On the eve of the birthday, the Moscow radio announces the establishment of - "A Stalin Peace Prize." This amounts to a hundred thousand rubles, nominally twenty thousand dollars, which will be awarded each year to the individual who has made the greatest contribution to world peace - or what the Soviets consider a contribution to world peace. This looks, of course, like Red competition ^{to} ~~against~~ the Noble Peace Prize - which is capitalistic, in the Moscow view. Moreover, a Stalin Peace Prize is right along the line of Soviet propaganda - denouncing the Western Powers, headed by the United States, as war mongers.

JAPAN

A late story from Tokyo ~~xxxx~~ tells of an uproar in the allied council -- when the Soviet delegation headed by a general, walked out. They did this when General ~~Max~~ MacArthur's representative read a protest stating that thousands of Japanese prisoners of war are being used as slave laborers in Siberia. The chief Soviet delegate went into a diatribe charging that American-Imperialists were cooperating with Japanese Fascists and ^{(preparing/}~~preparing~~ for a new war. The whole Red delegation walked out.

CONGRESS

In Washington - a call for a Congressional investigation to look into what a Congressman calls - "Payroll padding and kickback practices." ^d Republican representative of North Dakota announces that he will sponsor a resolution to make an inquiry into abuses of the system whereby Senators and Congressmen have clerical help at government expense. Sometimes, they have fake employees on the Federal payroll.

This follows the conviction of Congressman Parnel Thomas, convicted and sentenced to jail for putting on his payroll relatives who did no work, and handed their salaries to him - the kickback. Congressman Burdick, in demanding an inquiry, says he believes most members are honest about their payrolls - although they may have relatives on them, relatives who do real work. But there are some cases of actual fraud - and the Congressman says that may make people believe that members of Congress are generally dishonest.

"They've come to think we're all crooks,"

says the North Dakota legislator - calling for an inquiry.

TRASON

In Washington today, Herbert John Burgman, convicted ^{of} treason, was sentenced to from six to twenty years in prison. He is the former clerk in the American Embassy in Berlin, who went over to the Nazis and gave wartime broadcasts of Hitler propaganda, aimed at American soldiers.

CONFESSION

There's no limit to the dramatic implications of a story that comes from Kansas City today. You can just take the main facts, and let your imagination run riot. The main theme is an old one, a man coming forward to confess a murder of long ago, impelled by conscience, having been haunted for many years by "the brand of Cain."

He is Paul Ernest Lovey of Las Vegas, Nevada. Profession, a horse shoer - the old trade of the blacksmith still surviving in horse-riding parts of the West. He is now fifty-four years old, and last week he went to the Las Vegas police and told them that, thirty-six years ago, in Kansas City, he killed a policeman. He said he murdered the officer in a shooting affray - got away, and fled, never caught. He went West, and lived a normal quiet life thereafter - making a livelihood by shoeing horses. But all that time his conscience troubled him, the burden of murder, the guilt of blood, the brand of Cain. So now, ~~he~~ ^{unable to} stand it any longer, ~~and~~ ^{he} wanted ^{to} to take the

CONFESSION....2

punishment the law decreed^s.

The case was referred to the police in Kansas City, and today Paul Ernest Lovey heard the surprising facts. He never committed murder at all. He did shoot patrolman John Merritt, and apparently did kill him - but that was only in appearance. The policeman survived, got well - and is alive today to prove it.

When the Nevada horse shoer learned this, he gaped in amazement and said: "It sure is a great relief." He had gone all those years with murder on his conscience, when there had been no brand of Cain at all.

But his relief is even greater than that. He now learns that arrests were made for what he did - and two innocent parties were convicted for the shooting of the policeman. Two young fellows had the bad luck to be suspected, and the circumstances were such as to prove their guilt. So, if Paul Ernest Lovey had actually killed policeman John Merritt, as he thought he did, two innocent men would have paid the

CONFESSION....8

penalty for murder. Very likely, they would have paid with their lives - and what a weight for his conscience that would have been. But, as it happened, the two innocent parties were merely convicted of assault, and received light sentences - no particular tragedy.

~~Tonight the Nevada blacksmith is in a jail cell at Kansas City, awaiting the decree of justice - which he insists upon. Having come forward to plead guilty of murder, he finds that the only charge he can bring against himself is - assault with intent to kill. He is doing that.~~

DUCHESS

Here's an example of how history not only repeats itself, but also reverses itself. Instead of a king giving up a throne for the woman he loves - it's a case of a woman who wants to give up the man she loves, so that he can win a throne and become a king. She is the Duchess of Segovia, wife of the eldest son of the late Alfonso the Twelfth. She is a commoner, not of royal blood, and believes that this might prevent her husband from becoming the sovereign of Spain.

The story has other turns of strangeness. King Alfonso was expelled by a revolution, but his family, the Bourbon dynasty, never gave up its claim to the crown of Spain. Alfonso's oldest son, Don Jaime (pronounced Ny-May), ~~was a deaf-mute and~~ *— could neither hear nor speak — and* because of that impediment, he renounced his own pretension to the throne. His brother Don Juan took his place as the royal heir.

Right now Spain, under the dictatorship of General Franco, is prepared to restore the crown

DUCHESS....2

some time or other - with Don Juan as the official candidate. But an odd thing has happened. Don Jaime is said to have overcome his affliction, and is a deaf mute no longer, so, for that reason, he is thinking about reasserting his claim - and wants to become king.

Six months ago, Don Jaime married a Viennese opera singer, Charlotte Tidemann, a blonde beauty - and she is said to have played a leading part in helping him to conquer his impediment. So she figures largely in this new development - his ambition to regain his claim to the Spanish crown. But now - she is an impediment.

Today the duchess told it all to a news conference in Paris, an international gathering. She spoke in tones of tense emotion - and in five languages, Spanish, French, English, Italian and German. She said: "I must be ready to get out of his way. After all, " she cried, "I'm not a princess. I have no royal blood. I am a commoner." The blonde

singer of Vienna, who became a duchess, explained it all in one grand emotional phrase: "Love," she uttered in thrilling tones, "must be ready to make the greatest sacrifices." Well, it sure must, and often does.

But what about her husband, the man who would be king? He refuses to accept the sacrifice. Being now able to speak, he said today: "I won't take it seriously."

I don't know how much chance he has of ever becoming king of Spain, and he may have in mind that old line about - "A bird in ^{the} a hand." ^{In this case an attraction} But anyway, it was a grand gesture today, worthy of a theatre in Vienna or a palace in Spain - the Dutchess announcing her intention to give up the man she loves, so that he may become a king.

black bird.

SUE GABLE

This year's medal for the championship in the art of a woman getting her man should certainly go to the bride who married Clark Gable today - thereby capturing the movie star regarded as Hollywood's best eligible prospect. Her matrimonial record, as of tonight, includes two top Hollywood stars and two titled English noblemen. Which is doing all right for the daughter of a London footman.

She was Sylvia Hawkes, whose father was employed at a stable and later became the proprietor of a London pub.. A shapely blonde, Sylvia became a clothes model and then a chorus girl in London's "Midnight Follies". She was a hit on the stage, and among her friends was the Prince of Wales, later to become King Edward the Eighth -- and then give up his throne for the woman he loved. In that kind of company, Sylvia met some first class marriage prospects, and picked a good one. The Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury were much opposed, but their son, young Lord Ashley fell in love with Sylvia, and soon she was

15

Lady Ashley.

Then, in Nineteen thirty-four, there was a sensation when Lord Ashley sued for divorce, naming Douglas Fairbanks, the old-time he-man star of the movies. Fairbanks, at the time was married to Mary Pickford -- but they were being divorced. So before long Sylvia annexed her first big time Hollywood star - marrying Douglas Fairbanks.

He died, and Sylvia turned to the British Nobility again -- wedding Baron Stanley. So now she was Lady Sylvia Stanley. All of which was followed by a divorce.

Clark Gable who is forty-eight, has himself been married three times previously the last time to the ill-fated Carole Lombard who perished in an airplane crash.

Today's wedding was a complete surprise in movieland. Clark Gable and Lady Sylvia Stanley had been friends for more than ten years, but nobody guessed, when they stole away to San Louis Obispo today, procured

a marriage license, then drove to a dude ranch at Solvang, California, for the wedding.

It seems to have been as much of a surprise to the couple themselves. After the ceremony today, Clark Gable explained, "I asked her yesterday if she'd marry me." His bride nodded in agreement: "I was completely swept off my feet, and said, 'yes', as fast as I could."

Nelson
So bring on the medal for the championship

in the art of a woman getting her man.

O'DWYER

And now, let's have a little philology, which is the science of words - although this is about marriage. But there seems to be a relation between the two. When you say - "They had a few words" it sounds like husband and wife. However, this is about the O'Dwyer wedding, and about the only words they had today, we hope, were the familiar "I do" of the marriage vow.

At Stuart, Florida, ^{while a rainbow} ~~the Reverend Timothy~~ ^{spanned the sky,} ~~Searcy performed the ancient rite uniting New York's~~ ^{married} Mayor O'Dwyer ~~and~~ the fashion stylist Sloan Simpson.

Everything went off without a hitch, except for the fact that they ^{were} hitched - and what caught my eye the most was the closing line of the United Press dispatch. "The couple", rhapsodized the U.P., "appeared calm and happy, as they plighted their troth."

Well, that's good old-fashioned English, but it always impresses me as a bit funny - when you plight your troth. So I undertook some philological research.

^{Meaning} ~~troth~~ I looked in the dictionary. The word

O'DWYER....2

"plight" is interesting - having two meanings. You get into a plight - which also sounds like marriage.

That aspect of the word comes from the Latin, "plicus" - a complication, a tangle, like a matrimonial tangle, which is one of the most severe. The other meaning of "pledge" - as when you take the pledge. "Troth" is much simpler - same Angle-Saxon root as truth. So, when you say "I do", you not only lose your freedom, but you also plight your troth.

Nelson, did you ever plight your troth?