

C.T. - P.G. Tuesday, Jan. 20, 1948.

MACKENZIE KING

In Ottawa, Canada, seventy-three year old Prime Minister Mackenzie King has sprung a political sensation. He is resigning from the head of the Canadian Liberal Party -- as he put it, ~~That's how he puts it.~~ ^{The Dominion Prime Minister added} King says, however, that he will continue ~~in office~~ ^{in office} as Canada's chief executive if his party and the voters agree. ^{TP} Elected by popular vote, Mackenzie King has ~~held the premiership~~ ^{been Canadian prime minister} since nineteen-thirty-five, and previously from nineteen-twenty-one to nineteen-thirty

^{TP} In announcing his resignation as ~~their leader~~ ^{Party} Canada's Liberal leader ~~told his party that Communism, as he saw one he spoke of Communism as~~ ^{he said he must} a new and terrible menace, which should be kept in check by a ^{United Nations} international armed force. ^{TP} ~~And~~ he called for a special parliamentary committee to launch an investigation of profiteering and the rising cost of living in the Dominion. ~~His paramount~~ ^{Referring to his} reasons for resigning as leader of the ^{Liberal} party, ~~he emphasized, he was~~ ^{he said he must} ~~be relieved~~ ^{be relieved} of the ~~burden~~ ^{burden} of work, ~~and~~ ^{ed} allow ~~him~~ ^{him} to devote more time to ~~the~~ affairs of state.

GERMANY

(They had their clash in Berlin today - the Soviets hurling a blast and a bombardment against the British-American unification of western Germany. This had been anticipated at the next scheduled meeting of the Allied Control Council, which meeting was held today. The proceedings began with American Commander, General Lucius Clay, giving an outline of the new agreement by which the British-American zones had been merged for economic and ^{administrative} ~~political~~ unity.

Whereupon the Moscow representative, General Sokolovsky, got up and launched a bitter attack, declaring that the bizonal business was a violation of the Potsdam Agreement. The Russian General read from a prepared statement, apparently fixed up for him by the big chiefs at the Kremlin in Moscow. The statement climaxed with these words: "The Soviet command insists on the disbanding of the bizonal organization." ~~cried Sokolovsky.~~

This drew a prompt rejection from American General Clay, who declared that the merging of the British and American

zones does not constitute a violation of the Potsdam Agreement.

All this was the usual sort of clash between east and west, but it never got around to the biggest argument of all - ^{the} Soviet intimations that the western powers will be forced out of Berlin. That subject was never mentioned; ~~the understanding being that~~ ^{having} the Soviets ~~had~~ already backed down. The ousting of the west from Berlin was proclaimed in an article written by a Russian officer for a German newspaper, and we hear that four days ago the British Deputy Commander-in-Chief, General Brownjohn, addressed an inquiry to the Soviet Deputy Commander-in-Chief. He said he wanted to know - did the Soviets intend to back up the threat of ^{an} ouster? ^{IP} An answer was required in three days, and was received yesterday - No, the statement of menace in the article by the Russian officer had not been inspired by the Soviet Government. So that was that - a clean-cut victory for the western powers on the subject of whether or not ^{the Soviets would try to eject them} ~~they were to be ejected~~ from Berlin.

DULLES

The statements made yesterday by Elder Statesman Bernard Baruch were supported today by John Foster Dulles, the Republican authority on foreign policy. Like Baruch, he called for the Marshall Plan to include an economic and political line-up of the free nations of western Europe. He warned that if the present relief program does not go through, there is grave danger of the Soviets taking over all of Europe - in which case this country would have to invest billions in national defense, enough to dwarf ^{the} funds for the Marshall Plan.

add Palestine

In Jerusalem itself ~~there was~~ another clash,
~~Arabs, Jews and British firing on each other. A~~
~~confused battle~~ In the old city area, ^{— inside the walls,} ~~near the Arab~~
~~quarter, a tightly packed labyrinth of alleys and~~
~~courtyards.~~ Soldiers and police were evacuating the
bedridden inmates of a Jewish old people's home ^{when}
~~suddenly some arabs machine gunned two Jewish police~~ ^{opened up on them.}
~~in the escort.~~ The Jews retaliated by throwing a bomb
at the Arabs, ^{and} the bomb wounded two British soldiers.
Their companions opened fire, wounding some of the Jews,
~~and making arrests.~~ More gunfire from the Arabs, a
fusilade from the Jews, ^{then} another rally by the British,
~~and the skirmish was over.~~ Casualties on all three
sides.

~~But the old people were evacuated without injury,~~
According to the news report, Jewish and Arab helpers
carried ~~these~~ ^{the} bedridden old folk safely through the
Arab quarter - Moslem and Jew uniting to save the
aged Jews.

UN to follow PALESTINE

At Lake Success the U.N. Palestine Commission is reported to have reached an important decision. All five member nations of the commission agree that an international army will have to be sent to the Holy Land to maintain order when the British pull out this summer.

The decision was reached behind closed doors, as the Commission ~~went~~^{went} on to concentrate on the problem as to how the necessary troops are to be obtained. Who's going to supply them, and pay them? We may hear more about that tomorrow, when the U.N. Palestine Commission will pass on a formal resolution that will open the way for the Security Council to try and mobilize United Nation's troops to send to the Holy Land. A security army created to meet the desperate emergency in Palestine.

GANDHI

(In India, Gandhi was bombed today, a small home-made grenade bursting as he presided at a prayer meeting in his garden. The Mahatma was unscathed, though nine of his followers were injured.

The bomb-thrower is described as a Hindu refugee from Pakistan, a member of a group of Hindus and Sikhs embittered by the murder of their co-religionists. They ^{were} ~~are~~ opposed to Gandhi's dramatic ordeal of fasting, his appeal of penance for concessions on both sides, ~~Hindustan and Pakistan, to restore~~ ~~peace.~~ They ^{are} ~~are~~ hostile to the concessions that have been made ^{as a} ~~and the~~ result of Gandhi's fast.) They have been staging demonstrations against Gandhi - ^{whom} ~~and~~ the vast majority of Hindus, and even many Moslems, have been hailing. Hence the young Hindu fanatic today, who bombed Gandhi's prayer meeting.

^{the bomb-thrower}
Apparently ~~he~~ was disturbed by a woman who saw him

light a fuse outside ~~of~~ Gandhi's garden wall. She screamed, ^{whereupon he} ~~and he~~ tossed the bomb hastily - so that it landed on top of the wall, ^{and} ~~where it~~ exploded. The wall was damaged, and

fragments flew, striking some of Gandhi's followers - as the Mahatma, calling upon his disciples to remain calm, continued his prayer meeting.

Over on this side of the world, there was Hindu and Moslem agreement at the United Nations. Representatives of India and Pakistan agreed to the U.S. plan to send a mediation commission to Kashmir - in an effort to put an end to the civil war raging in that province of northern India.

PAULEY

Washington gives us Edwin Pauley's own story of ~~the~~ speculation. The Senate Committee investigating charges of gambling in food, makes public a letter from Pauley, himself, in ~~the~~ which the Assistant to the Secretary for the Army states that, trading in commodities during the period after the war, he made a profit of a million. He tells of investments in a great assortment of foodstuffs, betting that the price would go up - and it did. He repeats that he had no inside information, no tips from within government circles. He simply guessed right, figured that food prices were bound to go up - and gambled on his judgment.

In his letter to the Senate Committee, Pauley refers back to the famous old-time case of Barney Baruch. Now an elder statesman, Baruch cleaned up in Wall Street at the end of World War One. With rumors of peace afloat, he sold short - on the assumption that the end of war would cause prices to fall. For this Baruch was investigated, there having been intimations that he operated on inside government information

about the approaching end of the war - "leaks" from the White House. But, says Pauley in his letter, it was established that Baruch was, in Pauley's words - "simply out-thinking others in the market."

Pauley applies that same sort of thing to himself - he made a million in commodity speculation, because his judgment was right. To which he adds: "It is a story of profit honestly and honorably made, legally, ethically and in the American tradition." Well, speculation is indeed in the American *- and in all commercial tradition -* tradition - though tradition and ethics have a way of changing.

Which would certainly be indicated by President Truman's own denunciation of food gamblers in the present crisis of the rise of prices.

Republican Committee members admitted today that Harold Stassen, candidate for the G.O.P. nomination, *in advance* was given some facts *from* the Pauley letter. Stassen, of course, has been making the charges about speculation in foods.

The Senate Committee has again turned down Major General Laurence Kuter - named by the President as Chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board. This follows a personal appeal from President Truman, who asked the Committee to reverse its previous rejection.

The point at issue lies in the fact that the President, in appointing General Kuter, specified that he would stay on in the Air Force, keep his position and pay - while serving as civilian head of the C.A.B. That was what the Senate Committee objected to in the first place, and what it still turns down. There is no objection to General Kuter personally. On the contrary, the Senators express high esteem for the officer who made a reputation as a strategist of the Army Air Forces in war. The refusal is on two counts: First, they don't like the idea of so many Army officers being appointed to civilian posts. Secondly, they ^{are} ~~are~~ _^ against continuing ^{the} ~~the~~ _^ military pay of an officer while he draws a civilian salary, on the ground that this evades ~~the~~ ^s limitation placed on salaries.

General Kuter has announced that he will not give up his military post to take the Chairmanship of the Civil Aviation Board - he's not going to leave the Air Force. So today's rejection by the Senate Committee, its second rejection, means that President Truman will have to look around again for a Chief of Civil Aviation.

BLIND

A wartime story, full of pathos, drama and courage, is revealed today in an award made by the National Junior Chamber of Commerce. Each year that organization selects the ten outstanding young men, and this year one of the ten is blind - born without sight, never a glimpse of day in his twenty-eight years. ^R Yet he's a radio engineer - who, though unable to see, made himself skillful in the delicate work of wireless equipment. So what did he do during the war - to distinguish himself? ^T Well, Lavon Peterson of Omaha, Nebraska, taught classes of Army and Marine Corps radio men, instructing them how to handle and repair radio sets in total darkness. That was important in the war, when it might be necessary to fix radio equipment at night, where ⁿ any mere flicker of light might have brought bullets and hand-grenades. Imagine the jungle, inky black, with the Japs around - and the radio must be repaired. How to do that kind of work with a mere feel of fingers - in total darkness? ^R Well, Lavon Peterson knew much about that, about radio, about darkness - he having made himself

a radio expert in lifelong darkness.

He invented a device for the operation of radio under combat conditions at night, a radio that operated ^{by the} ~~with~~ sense^s of touch and hearing, instead of eyesight. It had a dial marked with characters in Braille, and a buzzer to indicate electrical contact. This helped a lot, when radio men had to work under conditions of blindness.

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Since the war, Peterson has established a school at Omaha for teaching radio work to the sightless - and now is hailed as one of the Ten Outstanding Men of Nineteen Forty-seven.

RECLUSE

Philadelphia has a hermit story - with a mystery.

In an old house, a mansion of former days, a recluse was found

dead in exactly the surroundings the story calls for - a

fashionable residence of the Gay 'Nineties, never wired for

electricity; ^{it has,} gaslights with magnificent chandeliers; ornate

Victorian furniture, chinaware, antiques, and all covered with

^{the} half a century.
dust of ~~many years~~

The recluse, an aged man named Harold

Shields, had lived alone for long years, seldom seen by

neighbors, shunning human society. Apparently he was poor and

penniless - and you may suspect that the mystery consists of the

discovery of hidden wealth in the faded mansion. But not at

all - something else.

The recluse kept a record in an old ledger, a sort of account of what he did. The police examined this, and, stared

when they saw the last entry ⁱⁿ ~~on~~ the ledger. The notation stated ^S

that the recluse ~~had~~ made a loan to somebody - a loan of

two-hundred-and-forty-three thousand dollars. To whom? That's

a puzzle. The name is given in the scribbled notation - a name

scrawled in such illegible handwriting that it cannot be deciphered. The figures are clear, two hundred and forty-three thousand dollars loaned to some individual whose identity is concealed in writing so scratchy and shaky that it cannot be read.

Was the entry made by the recluse in the ledger some sort of hallucination? Or did he actually lend somebody nearly ²~~three~~-quarters of a million dollars? That's the mystery.

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MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi is threatening to secede - which may sound like Eighteen Sixty, instead of Nineteen Forty-^{eight.}~~Seven.~~ But this time Mississippi threatens to secede, not from the United States, but from the Democratic Party. So we are informed in a dispatch from Jackson, where Governor Fielding Wright was inaugurated today for a second term.

The Governor, in his inaugural address, accused President Truman and other chiefs of the Democratic Party of seeking to disrupt the Southern way of life. - ^{That being} ~~which was~~ in reference to the matter of race relations. The Governor intimated that, if the Democratic Party keeps on like this, Mississippi will secede. Similar threats have been made in other Southern states, ^{Arkansas,} South Carolina; mutterings that might indicate a Latter Day Rebellion. However, a political soothsayer may remark - yes, the South did secede from the Union. ^(seceded from) But ^{well,} the Democratic Party; - that's something else again, eh, Nelson, don't you think?

GIRLS. The Australian Government is having trouble with its girls, some hundred and seventy five Australian women employed by the US Far East Air Force in Tokyo, Guam, and the Marianas. The girls are fighting mad with Arthur Caldwell, Australian Immigration Minister who has ordered them to come home immediately. And, the Aussie Cabinet Minister has told Uncle Sam the same thing. Australia wants her women in Australia -- to which request the Air Force has acquiesced - all Australian girls to be let go.

But "We won't go!" cry the girls in unison, adding some choice words in good American slang - with an Australian accent of course. These Australian beauties declare they like working for Uncle Sam, they like the money they earn - and, maybe they like some of the young men of Uncle Sam's Air Force with whom they are working.

But Minister Caldwell is adamant. Australia is desperately short of women. That is the reason the dominion down under wants those hundred and seventy five gals back home. Women are so scarce in Australia

that every girl has an average choice of seven men when it comes to getting a husband. Before the war, whenever a ship arrived in Sidney from England, Australian bachelors would assemble at the dockside to look 'em over as prospective for brides. Some of them riding on horseback for as long as three months, and bringing bags of gold and wads of bills as proof of their security. Many an Australian wife and mother today, arrived in Australia to take a job, only to be swept off her feet by some worthy wife-hungry "digger" out on a wife hunt. And it seems things haven't changed. They are probably worse, seeing that our G.I.'s brought back quite a number of Australian war brides.

"But we are staying here", say those Australian girls in Tokyo, and the war of words continues, Minister Calwell trying to alleviate the women shortage in Australia, and getting called an "Old goat" and a "meany" for his patriotic pains.