

SUB MOSCOW *L.P.-K. Wed. Jan. 6 - '54.*

Events moved rapidly in the Soviet agreement to hold preliminary atomic peace talks - in Washington. Secretary of State Dulles sent word along to the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow, Charles E. Bohlen, telling him to take the matter up with Moscow Foreign Minister Molotov. Bohlen sent a message to the Kremlin - and, today, was called to Molotov's office in the Russian Foreign Ministry. The talk was brief, only half an hour. Molotov saying - ~~xxx~~ okay - or however you express that in Russian diplomatic verbiage.

On the Soviet side, the Red Ambassador to Washington ~~Zarobian~~, will speak for the Kremlin - discussing with Secretary of State Dulles arrangements for the atomic parley. The precise date is not announced, our State Department merely saying that it will come - soon.

Apparently, Ambassador ~~Zarobian~~ will have his talks ~~one~~ with our Secretary of State - before the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Big Four in Berlin, January twenty-fifth. The understanding being that, at the Berlin

conference - Dulles and Molotov will begin a discussion of the main problems. The preliminary talks in Washington will be "procedural". That is, they are intended to lay out the procedure, the schedule, for the main atomic parley.

In Washington, tonight, officials of the State Department are cautious in what they say. But it ~~is~~ understood they are ~~not~~ optimistic, because of the swift action in this atomic business. Moscow responding favorably ~~to~~ and with little delay - to that memorable proposal made by President Eisenhower. The suggestion that the atomic powers should get together in a world scheme to take the emphasis off atomic weapons, and turn the mighty power of the atom ~~to~~ to the peaceful benefit of all the world.

FRANCE

In Paris, tonight, Premier Laniel got a vote of confidence. He wanted to resign - following his failure to be elected President of the Republic, but the new President, the successful candidate, asked him to remain in office, and Laniel agreed - if the National Assembly gave him a full endorsement. That was given tonight, by three hundred and nineteen to two hundred and forty nine.

So the Laniel cabinet stays in, together with Foreign Minister Bidault - who will go to the Berlin conference of the Big Four on January Twenty Fifth. Today's vote giving him - firm support.

ITALY

In Italy, there's a clamor by newspapers and the public - angry about the overthrow of premier Pella.

Politicians are being told to stop their "personal intrigues", and let the country have a stable government.

The annoyance is with factions in the christian Democratic party, to ^{wh}ich Premier Pella, himself, belongs. There were inter-party disputes, and that brought about his resignation.

The protest against factional ~~quarre~~ quarreling is the sharper, because the Christian Democratic Party is the principal bulwark against Communism. Disintegration of the Christian Democrats would only aid the Reds.

Today was a holiday in Italy, and attempts to solve the political crisis will begin tomorrow.

YUGOSLAVIA

Yugoslavia ~~report~~ reports an attack on a British transport plane - flying over Yugoslav territory. Saying that a jet plane, unidentified, invaded the Yugoslav sky, and made three passes at the airliner. Firing its guns - but without effect. The passenger plane flew into a ~~cloud~~ cloud-bank, and got away.

Nobody knows where the jet may have come from, but the ~~scene~~ scene of the attack was extreme northwestern ~~Yugoslavia~~ Yugoslavia, near the border of Communist Hungary. In London, the British Foreign office has ordered an investigation of the incident.

KOREA

In Korea today, General Maxwell Taylor, issued a grim warning. Telling South Koreans that his eighth Army will repel by force - any attempt to turn loose the anti-Communist prisoners held at Pan Mun Jom.

This is in reply to a statement by the South Korean ~~fr~~ Foreign Minister - that if the Indian guards don't stop "screening" - the prisoners, Syngman Rhee's government will take action to release them. To which General Maxwell Taylor ~~rem~~ retorts that his Eighth Army stands ready to use force to stop any such thing.

QUEEN

While Queen Elizabeth is in New Zealand, a storm is brewing for her - back in Britain. A big wind - blowing from Scotland. A caledonian protest - against Her Majesty's radio broadcast on Christmas. The St. Andrew society of Glasgow says - there'll be a formal complaint in the House of Commons.

For one thing, Her Majesty described herself as - Queen of England. Instead of - the United Kingdom. Which would seem to imply - that Scotland is part of England. And - the Scots are English. Shades of Robert Bruce and ^{the} Black Douglas. Rather than be considered English, the Scots will fight the battle of Bannockburn all over again.

Then there was the sovereign's mention of the first Elizabeth, the ~~is~~ "Virgin Queen", whom she referred to ~~as~~ as her "forebear." That really was a slip. The word "forbear" means "ancestor" - and how could the virgin Queen be the ancestor of anybody? Actually, Her Majesty is a

descendant of the unfortunate Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, whom Elizabeth had beheaded. Her royal pedigree - derived from the Stuarts of Scotland.

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Meanwhile, the Queen was having a tempestuous time in New Zealand. At a sheep station, along a remote coast of the southern island - a place with a most unroyal name. Called - Poverty Bay. A reception was being held, when a violent windstorm blew. The Queen, holding onto her hat. A police officer, near her, lost his headgear - which went flying in the breeze. A lady, about to be presented to Her Majesty, got a speck of windblown sand in her eye. Her husband - frantically removing it, so that the wife could shake hands with the Sovereign.

Stormy weather - at Poverty Bay.

CONGRESS

The opening of the new session of Congress ~~was~~ was devoted, mostly, to formalities. The legislators marking time, until President Eisenhower presents his message on the State of the Union ~~and~~ tomorrow. Which means, of course, that Eisenhower program - prepared carefully and debated so much.

In the House, there were ^{the usual} amenities - with a sharp reminder of how closely Congress is divided between Republicans and Democrats. Today was the seventy-second birthday of Democratic leader, Congressman Sam Rayburn of Texas. He's one of the favorite figures in Congress, and ~~the~~ Republican leader, Congressman Halleck of Indiana, led the congratulations, ^{and} ~~in these~~ ^{he} remarked with a smile, that he might have to get along with Sam Rayburn. Which echoes the fact that the White House will have to get along with the Democrats in Congress. Will have to depend on Democratic support. Nobody knows this better than President Eisenhower, who conferred with ~~several~~ Democratic leaders on the program he'll present tomorrow.

KINSEY

A congressional committee is checking on the Kinsey report - the way it was financed. The story is that money came from tax-exempt foundations, including the Rockefeller Foundation. ^{The} committee doesn't intimate that there's anything Communist about the Kinsey report; - but ~~it~~ ^{is} investigating the financial affairs of those foundations, which were exempt from taxation. ^{That is} Should something like the Kinsey report get money tax-free?

Not much explanation is given of the arrest of four men- charged with the attempt to kill Walter Reuther back in Nineteen Forty-Eight. The President of the C I O, then chief of the Auto Workers Union, was badly wounded by a shotgun ~~ix~~ blast fired through a window of his kitchen. The reason for the murder plot was not evident then - and, today, the Detroit authorities were still reticent about the motive, the reason why.

The four men arrested are Sam Perrone, a son-in-law of Carl Renda, a Canadian named Clarence Jacobs, and a man named Peter Lombardo. A description of them combines criminal ~~xxx~~ records with devious activities in the labor world.

One report has been that the attempted murder of Walter Reuther was because he fought a gambling syndicate, which was trying to run a betting racket in automobile plants. Other intimations have to do with labor relations ~~xx~~ of an obscure sort, accompanied by violence.

We'll have to wait for a full account of the alleged murder plot. But Presecutor Gerald O'Brien says: "I'm convinced the shooting of Walter Reuther has been solved."

Governor Dewey's message to the New York legislature today presented a philosophy of political morality. He called for a tough code of ethics to be observed by public officials, and said:

"This ~~xxxx~~ problem of ethical standards is not the single issue of bribery and corruption, on which there is no difference of opinion. It involves a whole range of borderline behavior, questions of propriety, and the question of conflict of interests."

He said the public expects from its officials-

"standards far above the morals of the marketplace." *In fact*

Gov. Dewey

~~and~~ proposed - that the legislature establish a "committee on ethics."

The diplomatic recognition of one country by another can be an event of historic importance. But I don't think the capitals of the nations will get excited about - this Massachusetts - recognizing Texas.

And Today that recognition was accepted, Governor Shivers of Texas - mailing a letter to Governor Herter of Massachusetts, as follows: "I appreciate the benevolent spirit which moved the commonwealth of Massachusetts to extend recognition of the State of Texas."

It all goes back to American politics, more than a century ago - when Texas was admitted to the union. Some northern states objected - Massachusetts in particular. The reason - hostility to ~~slave~~ slavery. They didn't want the union to have another slave ~~xxx~~ state, as Texas would be. So, the Massachusetts legislature voted a resolution saying, keep Texas out. *And* The resolution was never cancelled. They just forgot about it, until now - with Governor

Herter taking it all back, and recognizing Texas as a part of the United States.

The lawyers had a meeting today, trying to straighten out the tangled affairs of Bobo and her estranged husband, Winthrop Rockefeller. This follows the new burst of headlines about the marital and financial affairs of the daughter of a Lithuanian miner and a grandson of the Great John D.

Winthrop Rockefeller's lawyers declare - that Bobo is trying to up the alimony to ten million. They say - nothing doing. She'll have to be content with a mere five million, five hundred thousand for herself and her small son.

Bobo, flaring with temperament, denies she was demanding ten million. Her friends indicate - she's a bit confused about the whole thing

Bobo is described as "the Cinderella bride." Which seems like an understatement. Cinderella had a golden coach, while Bobo seems to be dreaming of a whole house made of ~~xxx~~ solid gold, furniture and all.

SCOTTY

Tonight, Death Valley is in mourning. Its fabulous character lies dead in that incredible three million dollar ~~an~~ castle. Death Valley Scotty ending his fantastic career, at the age of eighty-one.

The whoppers he related about his "gold mine" were a legend. Actually, the "gold mine" was a retired ~~insurance~~ insurance millionaire, who financed Scotty's escapades. The millionaire, Albert Johnson, said: "He paid me back in laughs."

Well, the laughs must have been worth a lot - to justify that moorish castle in the desert. Where Death Valley Scotty lived - and told the tall stories that made him a legend of the West.

MEXICO

Mexico reports a battle, an attack on a town - and it certainly sounds like ~~the~~ times of old. The era of briganda and bandits.

In Southern Mexico, the State of Toluca, a gang of one hundred bandits came out of a mountain, and attacked ^a ~~the~~ town. ~~of Soquol~~. Their purpose? Loot of course. But what kind of loot? Money; jewelry; also - woman. The brigands, led by a chief named Sanchez, were on a raid - to ~~steal~~ steal women. Needing wives - in their mountain lair.

The citizens of the town put up a ~~hard~~ battle, and beat off the bandits. The government of the State of Toluca has ordered an entire brigade of the Mexican army to the scene - for a military campaign against a small army of outlaws.

It looks as if the Aga Khan might get less for his birthday this year, than usual. He has been ill, while visiting Egypt, and his doctors have put him ~~on~~ on a diet. A severe one. Consisting mostly of - stewed prunes and figs. So the Aga Khan may trim down his ample proportions. His weight being - ~~ks~~ over two hundred pounds.

The news has told again and again how the Aga Khan, on every birthday, is given his weight in precious metal. This year - to consist of platinum and gold.

He's the head of the Ismaili sect of Moslems, who are chiefly in Pakistan. In a solemn ceremony, they weight him - and measure out the ~~krassan~~ treasure, pound for pound. So you see what the diet of stewed prunes and figs could mean. Suppose he took off twenty or thirty pounds - well, how much would that come to in platinum and gold?

The ladies talk about reducing ^{Mike}! - well, that ^{is} would be about the most expensive ~~krassan~~ reducing in all the world!