CONFERENCE C.I.-P+G. Tuesday, June 14, 1949.

In Paris this afternoon, a rumor spread with the speed of lighning - or faster. Along the Boulevards went a report - and they say that news or gossip can speed along the Parisian Boulevard faster than anything in the world . The Rumor said - Soviets in a walkout, Vishinsky and his entire delegation seceding from the Conference of the Big Four.

The Foreign Ministers have been confabulating in the deepest of secrecy - members of the American delegation, for example, warned sternly by their chiefs to say nothing, no a hint. So, for the newsmen and bystanders outside, all was mystery and guessing - when out of the Conference Chamber stalked Vishinsky, followed by his large Delegation. A walkout - and the rumor went flying, according to the old principle of secrecy breeding rumors.

Actually, here's what happened:- The Foreign Ministers, having failed on larger issues, are now talking about a mere matter of getting up some sort of

commerical arrangement between the Western and the Soviet zones. The Western Foreign Ministers presented their suggestion, and this afternoon Vishinsky countered by handing them a Soviet proposal for a renewal of trade. The Western diplomats wanted a chance to examine the proposition, and the Russians merely said -- very well, you stay right here and examine it, and we'll go for a walk. So out they went -- and, physically, there was a walkout. But how would you expect them to leave the Conference room, on bicycles?

In fact, the Soviet secession from the conference took the form of a Comrade Vishinsky going for a ride ~~on~~ in the Bois De Boulogne. Ah, memories of Paris -- a ride ~~of~~ in the Bois De Boulogne in June. Tourists grow lyrical about it, and even Vishinsky succumbed to the charm -- while the western Foreign Ministers were trying to figure out his latest proposal. Such was the Soviet walkout today.

FOLLOW CONFERENCE

Vishinsky tonight is a target for a bombardment by Russians in the United States -- this because of a statement he made at the conference of the Foreign Ministers yesterday. The Soviet Foreigh Minister indulged in a quotation from the Bible. Which was odd - the Reds being so violently against Christianity. But Vishinsky said he was quoting sacred scripture as follows "you should not try to catch fleas, lest a camel slip through your fingers". Sounds odd - few, if any of us ever having heard of such a line in the Bible.

But Vishinsky said it was from the scriptures as translated by Saint Vladimir - who he said, introduced Christianity into Russia in the year Nine-Hundred-and-Eighty-Eight A D, so maybe the Russian Bible was different. But now comes the blast from a Russian expert in the library of Congress. He declares that, to begin with, the alleged quotation about fleas and the camel does not occur in any Russian Bible. Secondly, that Saint

Vladimir did not translate the scriptures into Russian. Quite the contrary, Saint Vladimir could neither read nor write -- let alone translate. Vladimir was a Russian Prince of the Ninth Century who was converted to Christianity. But he was a barbaric Slavic warrior, entirely illiterate - though he did become a Christian.

According to Russian scholars in this country, Vishinsky was playing some form of grotesque joke -- Communist mockery in pretending to quote from the Russian Bible.

BERLIN STRIKE

The Berlin strike vote - and a strange twist. It had been expected that the German Railroad men considering a back-to-work proposal, would vote - yes. The financial terms were fair enough - so what happened?

The settlement had been sponsored by Western authorities - including our own American Commander General Howley. The Soviet railway people, represented by a Red Gneral, had agreed okay on money matters, and also on the most important point of all - no Red reprisals against the workers. These live in the Western sector - safe and secure from the way the Soviets know how to treat strikers. So what would happen, if they went back to work on the Soviet Administered Railroad - and took their trains into the Red Zone? Something to worry about. But the Russian General gave a pledge on that - guaranteeing no reprisals.

Then, just before the workers went to vote, a blast appeared in a Soviet-controlled newspaper in Eastern Berlin, stating that the Russians had not guaranteed anything. The no-retaliation pledge denied,

the promise made by the Red General rejected. So that was the news which blasted the railroad workers as they were about to vote. You can guess the result. Twenty thousand to two thousand to continue the walkout.

So what's the twister? The Western authorities, with General Howley in the lead, immediately denounced the whole thing as a Red trick. They think the Russian General was sincere in making the agreement, but believe he was countermanded either by Moscow or by Vishinsky's delegation at the Four Power Conference in Paris. So, the Red newspaper blast was issued - to cause the strikers to vote "no." This theory presumes that Moscow really wants the walk-out to continue - because, by tying up the railroads, it's virtual effect is to continue that old Berlin blockade.

No blame is placed on the strikers for rejecting the settlement, General Howley himself praising them for what he calls - "their good sense."

ALBANIA

There are savage goings on in the Balkans, the Reds having a ferocious purge, and today blood curdling threats are uttered - following the execution of a high ranking General who was the number two Communist of Satellite Albania.

His name? I don't know how to pronounce it. Spelled -- X-O-X-E. So how do you pronounce X in Albanian - which is one of the most obscure languages in the world? Spoken by a small group of mountaineers in the Balkans, the Albanian tongue is believed to have descended from the ancient Illyrians - a mysterious people. So how do you pronounce X-O-X-E.?

In any case, this General was the number two man in the Communist Government established when Albania became a Soviet puppet. Then he fell from Stalin's grace, was condemned. Executed yesterday.

Today we are told why - Titoism. The number two Communist of Albania in sympathy with the Red Regime of Jugoslav Marshal Tito, the puppet who rebelled. Nationalism - the reluctance of satellite Reds to obey Stalin. Which leads to a menacing declaration

today, the Albanian radio threatening Tito and his followers with that same fate which befell the executed General.

The Tito people reply in the same ominous tone. Today, the official newspaper of the Jugoslav Communist Party printed an article by a minister in the Tito Cabinet - who said the former number two Communist of Albania had been murdered, because he gave some thought to his own country. To which Tito's Cabinet Minister adds - "The execution should be "A frightening warning." A warning, that is, to other Communist leaders in the Satellite countries, who are under the menace of a purge - Stalin style.

Which grim news is echoed in Red Bulgaria, where another top Communist is now sinking down the purge line - former Vice-Premier Kostov, who until recently was a member of the Bulgarian Politburo. Some little while ago, we heard how Kostov had been tossed out of high office, and how he is expelled from the Bulgarian Communist Party.

FRANCE

Tomorrow will be a day of paralysis in France -- a million government employees having begun a strike at midnight tonight, Paris time. A twenty-four hour work stoppage, intended to be a demonstration ~~of~~ to enforce demands made by the civil service employees.

OPPENHEIMER

In the news headline the subject of Communism, let us ~~know~~ note that Dr. Frank Oppenheimer is a brother of Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, the latter of whom was so prominent in the development of the Atomic Bomb. So, if we had a report tonight of Dr. Robert Oppenheimer being a Communist - it would be a sensation. But the story i about his brother Frank, who also worked on the development of the Atomic Bomb, but in a lesser capacity.

Today, appearing before the Committee on Un-American Activities, the brother stated that for several years, beginning in Nineteen Thirty-seven, he was a member of the Communist party - and so was his wife. He explained that he joined, in his own words -"seeking an answer to the problems of unemployment and want in the wealthiest and most productive country in the World" but he found out that Communism was not the answer, and so he dropped out of the Red Party. He declared that, at no time, was he ever disloyal to the United States. Two years ago, a Washington

newspaper, the Times-Herald, charged that Dr. Frank Oppenheimer had belonged to the Communist Party- under an assumed name. At that time the physicist declared: "I never was and never have been a member of the Communist Party." He said the newspaper charge was - "Completely crazy." Today, after he admitted the fact, he was aked - why had he denied it two years ago? He refused to make any comment.

Recently, he has been a Professor of Physics at the University of Minnesota. Today his resignation was accepted, at the University of Minnesota.

COAL

In the world of coal, the northern operators have appointed a single spokesman to deal with John L. Lewis. This was announced tonight. The single spokesman is Harry Moses - long time head of the mining properties of the United States Steel Corporation. However, it is denied that he is to be a "coal czar". That Russian name of times gone by is applied to all sorts of things -- "czar of this" and "czar of that". The modern Moses of the coal mines is merely to be the voice of industry in dealing with the formidable union chief - as an offset to the John L. Lewis policy of "Divide and rule," the old Roman formula.

F D R

A new congressman was sworn in today, and the news importance is in the name - Franklin D. Roosevelt Junior. There was a comic moment, when it was found that the Congressional clerk had him listed as a Republican. Just one of those accidental slips - and it was quickly rectified.

Later F.D R. Jr. went to the White House for a chat with President Truman. He was asked whether he felt at home there. He laughed and said that during all those years when his father was President, Franklin D. Jr was in the White House only as he reckoned it, "three weeks, two days and some minutes". The rest of the time he was at school.

MECHANICAL BRAIN

Over in Britain, they're bothered about a peculiar sort of worry - will a mechanical brain turn out to be superior to a human brain? The thought machine in question is at the University of Manchester, where the scientists have devised a mathematical genius of wheels and wires, push buttons and electrical current. A mechanical brain, which now enters into competition with the human brain. All so serious, that the London "Times", most venerable of newspapers, expresses misgiving today.

The Manchester thought-machine is being put to work on a mathematical problem, historic in difficulty and of giant labor.

Called "Mersenne's numbers", three hundred years ago, the French mathematician Mersenne made an announcement about prime numbers. That is, of course, numbers that cannot be divided by other numbers. For example, the crap game Seven and Eleven are prime, but Mersenne dealt with giant magnitudes - numbers consisting each of as many as Seventy-Seven figures. He named some of these enormous quantities as being -

prime numbers.

But was he right? How could you tell? The only way was to figure it out - by ordinary arithmetic. This involved Tens of Thousands of calculations, and the method was a version of ordinary long division. Just to think of it, is enough to drive a school boy crazy - working out innemerable problems of division with numbers containing Seventy-Seven figures.

Mathematicians worked at it, for 300 years, right down to the present day, and completed the job only recently. But now the wheels and wires, we are told, are capable to doing in a matter of weeks, what it took human mathematicians Three Centuries to accomplish. So now they are putting the thought machine to work - making its own test of Mersenne's numbers. Suppose the gadget shows up with a different result! Suppose the wheels and wires should indicate that all those mathematicians were wrong - and Mersenne was wrong? Which are we to believe - the mechanical brain or the human brain?

That is what worries the London Times - and a worrisome puzzle it is. The human brain invents the mathematical brain, which says the human brain is wrong. So maybe something else will have to be invented to tell which is right. Something neither human nor mechanical, presumably. Which is enough to make a fellow's brains feel like a bunch of wheels and wires.

MARRIAGE

Hollywood, the land of romance, reports an engagement to marry for science. Hugh Tandy Gardner and Priscilla Tomlinson are students in Biology, and they got into an argument about heredity, the inheritance of blue eyes and brown eyes, whether the blue or the brown predominates in children. In modern Science, all is experiment. So Hugh said to Priscilla: "Let's get married and find out." To which Priscilla answered: "Okay."

Priscilla believes in the accepted theory - that eye-color follows the Mendelian Law. Brown eyes - dominant. Blue eyes - recessive. Which would mean that a brown-eyed parent and a blue-eyed parent, each of brown eyes and blue-eyed ancestry will have brown-eyed children. But these would transmit a mixed heredity, and might have blue-eyed children - the recessive blue appearing as a throwback.

It's all a bit complicated, and puzzled Hugh and Priscilla as they discussed it. He is blue eyed, while she is brown-eyed. So they decided to get

married and find out. Well, marriage being what it is, they may find out a few things more, don't you think, Nelson?