

SUN OIL - April 25, 1946

W.W. Chaplin  
substituting for  
LOWELL THOMAS

The Big Four Foreign Ministers Conference, sponsored and attended by Secretary of State Byrnes, met in Paris for the first time today. They met in deep secrecy and under heavy guard, these foreign affairs leaders of Britain, Russia, France and America, and got down to business. It had been supposed that they would follow the customary calendar of such conferences, arrange procedural matters and then adjourn until another day. But no, this turned out to be a real short sleeve work session, and it lasted three full hours. Shortly after adjournment, dispatches from Paris announced that unanimous agreement had been reached to grant France's request to be allowed to sit in on discussions of all peace treaties. That's the treaties with the five satellite nations which

danced to Hitler's war drums. That was a big concession by Russia which, until today, had wanted to keep France out of all the treaty discussions and keep us out of the one regarding Finland. But today Russia said: "All Right, we are agreeable to letting France sit right through, but only vote on Italy, and America can attend all peace sessions, too, but not vote on Finland." And that's the way it stands now, with definite progress achieved on the session's opening day.

Another major issue to be fought out at the conference is the future nationality of the Adriatic Port of Trieste. Yugoslavia wants to have Trieste, a very important thing to have, too, for a country with such a rugged coast, such ragged harbors. Yugoslavia wants it, and Russia says that's the way it ought to be, she ought to have it. But the Americans and the British, they seem to feel that Trieste ought to be retained by Italy, perhaps under some international

guardianship. Nothing has yet been heard from Austria to which Trieste belonged until it was carved away and handed to Italy by the Allies after the First World War. Up to that time Trieste had been Austria's greatest port.

While the Big Four Foreign Ministers pave the way in Paris for peace treaties with our lesser former enemies, the United Nations Security Council continued its deliberations here in New York concerning safeguards for the future peace of all people. It was the longest session they've had so far, and they just adjourned ten minutes ago, until tomorrow. The subject today was France, Spain, Spain's invitation to the United Nations to send an investigating committee there to see for itself whether or not Spain, as now governed, is a threat to world peace. The session was marked by clarification of power, stands on that question. After Australia's representative Colonel Hodgson modified a proposal to accept the Spanish invitation, Edward



Stettinius threw this country's support to the plan. In supporting the Australian proposal, also backed by Britain, but opposed by Poland, Russia and others, Stettinius said that our State Department had first-hand information from our own sources in that country about Spain which disagrees with charges made by Poland's Dr. Lange. He said that the Lange charges did not prove, no matter what we think of Franco, that Spain is a threat to peace, and what we want is proof. Russia's Gromyko was quick to get his answer into that. He said that the Council's course smacks of the non-intervention policy of prewar days when German, Japanese, and Italian aggression were in the making. "It's the same old story," Gromyko said, "insufficient evidence." Today's proceedings in the converted Hunter College gymnasium were presided over by the new Council President, Hassan Afifi Pasha of Egypt. Like most foreigners of public importance, Mr. Afifi is Dr. Afifi, but in his case this is no empty honorary designation, the permanent Egyptian delegate to the



Security Council and its current one-month President is a Doctor of Medicine and has high rating as a physician in his home town of Cairo. Equally unusual in a statesman, he is one of his country's leading industrialists, the head of big business interests which he now manages, of course, by remote control.

Because the Iranian question is no longer before the Council, at least until the May Sixth deadline for departure of Russian troops, Iran's representative, Hussein Ala, was for the first time sent from the section reserved for distinguished visitors, where he has been a center of interest. But, the spectators still had something to look at beside the council table and the official delegates. One of today's distinguished visitors was Hollywood's Carol Landis, in a smart French hat.

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In Cleveland, two railroad brotherhoods

representing three hundred thousand men, they announced: "We have voted unanimously to strike May Eighteenth unless satisfactory settlement is reached in the meantime. These unions, the Brotherhoods of Railroad Trainmen and of Locomotive Engineers, said that their chairmen had rejected recommendations of President Truman's fact-finding board which were not consistent with their demands. Those demands relate to wages and working rules. So, after that May Eighteenth deadline, if no agreement has been reached by that time, the only way to keep the railroads running will be Government seizure.

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And here's another kind of railroad news -- tragic news. Two westbound Burlington Streamliners collided at a crossing in Naperville, Illinois, this afternoon. Latest reports say that at least thirty-seven people were killed, another seventy-five or more taken to a hospital at least thirty-seven people were

killed another seventy-five or more taken to a hospital at Aurora. The trains were The Advance, bound for Lincoln, Nebraska and the Exposition Flyer headed for San Francisco. Naperville is a town of about five thousand population and the crash came at a grade crossing in the business center of town. The two passenger trains, each with about Two Hundred and Fifty people aboard, left Chicago together. The Advance stopped or started to stop though no stop was scheduled. At an estimated sixty miles an hour, the big Diesel engine of the Exposition drove right into the observation car of the Advance. The cars were telescoped, lifted right off the tracks, and flung down on their sides. The people of Naperville turned out in force to help and aid came quickly from outside, but for many it was too late. The last word said that although no exact figures are yet possible, the list of dead may rise to fifty or even more. Right now long lines of stretcher bearers are carrying the injured from the



smashed trains, taking them to a warehouse turned into a front-line hospital, first aid there, then off to real hospitals. Details will be coming in all night.

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In Washington, with the flags of the Capitol at half staff, Harlan Fiske Stone, the twelfth Chief Justice of the United States, was buried this afternoon. President Truman broke an ocean vacation to attend the funeral services in National Episcopal Cathedral. The great edifice was packed with men in high place and the unknown who came by thousands to pay equally sincere respects. When the new Hampshire Liberal's body was, an hour later, lowered into the grave in a corner of Rock Creek Cemetery, only a handful of life-long friends stood in the rain with the widow and two sons to watch, to say a last silent farewell as the minister intoned the final words of the burial rites, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord for they rest from their labors."

There's mounting tension in London tonight over an exhumed German bomb ticking warningly at the bottom of a thirty foot shaft in the drained duck pond close to Buckingham Palace. But, the general - excitement is not shared by England's Dowager Queen Mary who has lived through all the blitzes and is not to be flurried by one bomb of any size. The seventy-eight year old mother of the King refused today to move from Marlborough House, her home, even though it faces right on the bomb site, she merely moved to the other side of the house and she ordered the windows looking out on the bomb to be opened to minimize glass damage and to save the chance of damage to the house. The bomb was dropped five years ago, a dud, but it began ticking when bomb disposal men unearthed it. If it hasn't gone off by itself, tomorrow, it will be cautiously exploded where it lies.

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There's a new kind of point system in our Army

of Occupation in Germany. This isn't to decide how you can get out, but how you can be made to behave while you're still in. General Joseph McNarney, who succeeded General Eisenhower in Germany, has launched a stiff Five Point Program to check what he described as a recent serious decline in discipline, nurtured by Communist elements. These are the McNarney points:

- (1) More training. That of course is based on the thought in the old proverb. "Satan oft finds tasks for idle hands to do."
- (2) An 11:00 P.M. curfew.
- (3) More rigid control of firearms.
- (4) Swift punishment for offenses against civilians.
- And (5) more intensive control of disease.

That sounds like a good program, certainly one that can do our boys no harm and it just may have the unexpected result of showing that they haven't been always to blame after all. I've watched parades in Paris where at least half the French soldiers were wearing G.I. uniforms. I've seen the D.P.'s of a dozen countries, the displaced people,



living in camps and tramping the avenues and autobahns of Europe in dough-boy olive drab. And I've been served in overseas Army messes by soldiers whom I took for Americans until they turned around and I saw the little white letters "P.W.," prisoner of war, painted on the seat of their pants. Crime committed by men in American uniform is no positive proof of crime committed by Americans. General McNarney's curfew is a good test to find out who the majority of the unruly really are.

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By virtue a jury's action here in New York, the escutcheon of a national pastime shines as bright as ever tonight, Manager Leo Durocher of the Brooklyn Dodgers who is known as Lippy because of his frequent boisterous arguments with umpires and almost anyone else around. Durocher was on trial charged with felonious assaults on John Christian, a baseball fan who admittedly is pretty "lippy" himself and who had

bellowed baseball game abuse to which the Manager took offense. The Dodgers are commonly referred to as the "bums" by their reporters, and supporters but that's all between friends and they've learned to love it, but Christian bellowed from the stands that Durocher was a crook, and crook is in a far lower category of calumny than bum. In the ensuing interview between Durocher and Christian, the latter said that his jaw was broken by a blow. Durocher said that Christian just fell down and broke his jaw himself. The jury said that Durocher is right, if Durocher had been convicted, he would have been banned from baseball for life, as a felon. As it is, he is free now to return to the club which has won all three games played during the trial -- one of those games, a no hit, no run affair. And the judge says the verdict is a fair and just one on the basis of the evidence. I am glad the Manager has been vindicated and that no discredit has been placed on the

great American game of baseball. And now, this is  
W.W. Chaplin speaking for Lowell Thomas and saying so  
long until tomorrow.

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