

CHINA

B.I. - P+S Friday, April 1, 1949.

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In China, Nanking, a savage riot. A demonstration by students was assailed with maddened fury -- student sympathizers with the Chinese Reds, ^{were} ~~who are~~ marching and shouting Communist slogans. So who were the assailants? They were fugitives from Red prison camps, and Chinese soldiers who had recently escaped from the Communists. They were so enraged by the student ~~infirmary~~ leftists that they stormed the demonstration of six thousand -- -- ninety red students injured!

This, as ~~the~~ a peace delegation from the Nationalist government arrived at Peking for peace talks with the Communists. The delegation pessimistic, the Reds demanding unconditional surrender.

TREATY

There is prompt ^{re-}action to the Soviet protest against the North Atlantic treaty. A spokesman for the State Department gave a sharp denial today to the ^{Moscow} ~~Soviet~~ charge that the pact is an aggression against Soviet Russia. ^{TP} An official answer will be sent to Moscow soon, and will say pretty much the same thing that the State Department ~~sa~~ said today -- that the Atlantic Pact is not any aggression against the Soviets, and ^{should be no cause} ~~gives no reason~~ for alarm in any country that does not, itself, have aggressive intentions.

The Soviet protest was ^{eased} ~~relaxed~~ last night a couple of hours after Winston Churchill's address in Boston. It may have been deliberately timed that way -- to compete with what ~~Rex~~ Britain's war-time Prime Minister had to say -- his barbed attacks against the despotism of Soviet Russia, -- culminating ~~at~~ with a Churchillian climax, the vivid statement of the idea that the only ~~think~~ thing which keeps the Soviets from taking over in

western Europe is the United States armed with the atomic bomb.

The Moscow protest charges that the Atlantic Security pact violates various treaties and agreements, including the charter of the United Nations. ~~It~~ One Red argument is that the countries of ~~Western~~ Europe ^d ~~banding~~ together ^{and arming} ~~as they~~ under the Pact, have no need to do this, except for purposes of aggression against the Soviets. Saying that is, that they have no reason to be thinking about their own defense, ^{Which} might lead one to ask: -- with Soviet power pushing in Eastern Europe, how can they help from thinking of ~~their own~~ defense?

BULGARIA

Reports that all is not well in Red Bulgaria -- a split and a feud in the Communist government there. We hear that ~~the~~ Bulgarian Vice Premier Kostov has been expelled from the politboro of the Bulgarian Communist party and placed under arrest. Also - that one hundred prominent Communist leaders have been ~~ix~~ seized on charges of espionage. They are accused of spying for -- imperialist ~~powers. Meaning, of course, the liberal countries of~~ the West. ^{TR} This news emanates from Yugoslavia, the former Soviet Satellite which is now in revolt - and may therefore be taken with the proverbial grain of salt. ~~Red~~ Marshall Tito's Yugoslavia having little love for Bulgaria, a faithful Satellite. However, word of trouble in the Red Bulgarian government has been ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ ^(filtering) through in other ways -- diplomatic sources in London saying ~~that~~ they have been getting word of an upheaval - Vice Premier Kostov in disgrace.

Kostov was the big boss of the Bulgarian Communist party until Dimitrov arrived at the end of the war -- Dimitrov, a Stalin favorite, sent ~~by~~ ^{by} ~~xxxx~~ Moscow, to run Bulgaria. Since then Dimitrov has been the Premier with Kostov riding high as the Number Two man. But now, ~~xxx~~ some sort of political explosion seems to have happened in that country behind the "iron curtain".

FOREIGN AID

Senator Vandenberg this afternoon asked the Senate to reject the Marshall Plan cut advocated by his fellow Republican leader, Senator Taft. The Taft proposal is to slash funds for the European Relief program by ten per cent -- a total cut of Five hundred and forty-three million dollars.

This Senator Vandenberg argues would not be in the interest of national security for this country.

The Michigan Senator spoke of what he called - "the relentless and often hysterical opposition" by Moscow to the Marshall Plan. Which makes it all the more necessary for this country to go through with its commitments for European recovery.

Tonight the Senate defeated an amendment offered by Republican Senator Wherry of Nebraska - for a fifteen per cent cut. The vote was decisive -- sixty-eight to fourteen.

TREASON

Another treason trial began in Washington today. Facing the court - Herbert John Burgman, who at one time was a clerk in the United States Embassy in Berlin. He is charged with making propaganda broadcasts for the Nazis during the war.

R A native of Minnesota, he was a soldier in that previous war, ~~serving~~ *serving* overseas. ~~He~~ *He* was with the American occupation forces, that earlier time, and remained in Germany -- getting a job at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, working as a clerk. When the Second World War came on, he still stayed and ~~became~~ became a manager of a Nazi radio station -- ~~was and~~ *was and* a propaganda broadcaster under the name of "Joe Scanlon". So the prosecution charges.

The war ending, there was a curious turn of events - when Burgman got a job with the American military government in occupied Germany - ~~working~~ *working* a minor position. He worked at this, until he was exposed -- charged with aiding the enemy in war-time. *R* He's the twenty-fifth American to be

TREASON * 2

indicted for treason in the ~~the~~ Second World War, and faces a possible penalty of death. However, no capital sentences have been imposed in any of the convictions - terms of imprisonment merely.

While one of the twenty-five indicted for treason has been sent to the lunatic asylum -- the poet Ezra Pound, who gave war-time broadcasts in Fascist Italy -- and only recently was awarded a top ranking poetry award for his latest book of verses.

ALASKA

The Senate today was asked to send an investigator to Alaska -- this in a noisy controversy over a third term appointment for Alaska Governor Ernest Gruening. ^Q ~~The~~ Senate Committee has been hearing violent charges against Gruening. Attacks on his conduct as Governor of our great northern territory. He is accused of not having the interest of Alaska at heart, and building a political machine for himself, using political reprisals against people who oppose him.

The liveliest of the testimony came from Charley Jones, seventy-four year old miner of Nome. "He's a slick piece of goods", declared the old sour dough. "Brother [#] he knows his stuff! -- I'll tell you that! I can't tell you where, or if he's done wrong, But, as far as his ideas being the peoples -- it ain't so." *says Miner Charley Jones from Nome.*

On the other side, an array of witnesses from Alaska are testifying in Gruening's favor. The contradiction being such that the suggestion is

ALASKA - 2

made - send ~~an~~ a Senate investigator to look into matters on the Alaskan scene.

EMPLOYMENT

figures for unemployment - and a surprise. The Labor Department in Washington gives a report for March, and it shows that the number of jobless declined sharply while the number of ~~the~~ people employed rose correspondingly. The figure for the decline of unemployment in March was Fifty-four thousand leaving the total number of jobless in this country at about three ~~and~~ million. ^P The decline is not anything enormous, the significant point being that the opposite was expected. The Labor Department had forecast that unemployment would increase during March -- in accordance with recent trends, the boom ~~is~~ receding. ^{But} ~~and~~ now it is the other way round - which the experts of the Labor Department consider a sign that the trend toward unemployment has been checked.

SAN FRANCISCO STRIKE

The Pan American strike of radio operators produced a curious incident in San Francisco today. The radio men are striking to compel the airline to put operators aboard the new Pan American strato-cruisers. Of course, you may ask - how can a trans-oceanic airplane get along without a radio man in the crew? The answer is that the new strato-cruisers are equipped with radio telephone, worked by the pilot -- the company claims that to put a radio operator aboard is needless, feather-bedding.

Today many of the Pan American planes were tied up . They needing radio operators - who are on strike. But, the strato-cruiser service was begun - with that radio telephone equipment. This in spite of the strike. In San Francisco the first big strato-cruiser went winging across the Pacific. But the take-off was delayed for more than an hour.

R Strike pickets were on the job, members of the C I O, but they were orderly, and made no attempt to molest the San Francisco beginning of the strato-

cruiser service. Yet, a mere few words by one picket was enough to cause the delay.

Sixty-three passengers and nine men of the crew were walking to the plane, when one picket took a look at one passenger and called out -- "say Jack..." The passenger was Jack Shelly, President of the California branch of the American Federation of Labor -- a top ranking union leader.

So the picket said: "Say, Jack, you know there is a strike going on, don't you?"

"Yes, I know boys" replied the A F of L leader - "and you know I ~~can't~~^{won't} go unless it is okay with you fellows."

Whereupon he waited for the permission of the C I O strike leader, ~~and it was an hour before he could be reached by telephone. Jack refusing to go through the picket line,~~ the plane waiting ~~for~~^{too} ~~long~~. Then, at length, permission was received and ~~he~~ the union leader ~~went~~ went aboard and the first strato-liner on the Pacific run took off and flew out over the ocean.

NEW YORK STRIKE

New York is having a taxi strike which makes it tough for a lot of people trying to get around in the big town. However, a number of independent cabs are running -- the strike hitting large company operations. So the independents are providing some relief, and are doing no end of business.

Police figures show that today ^{only} nine hundred and twenty-three cabs were rolling in New York . Normal figure -- nine thousand.

MINERS

The coal miners are out again - but that's ^{is} because this is April ~~the~~ First. No, not April Fool. The coal miners, according to custom, are celebrating the Anniversary of the eight hour day in the coal pits. This all goes back ~~to~~ Fifty One years, when the union was able to limit the working day to eight hours. The union president, ^{then} was John Mitchell, famous for a two-fold career -- an Irish revolutionary abroad, and a labor leader over here. So among the miners, April ~~the~~ first is hailed as -- John Mitchell Day.

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The occasion was further celebrated by the launching of a John L. Lewis campaign for-- a six hour day. This is high on the schedule of the mine workers union, and today the demand was voiced in formal fashion -- short of work time - six hour day.

MONEY

A legal problem develops in the case of a New York banker who has disappeared - nearly a million dollars in cash and securities vanishing with him. Richard H. Crow was Assistant Manager of a branch of the National City Bank, a suave dignified financier of forty-one, and around him weaves the story of embezzlement -- told with a special angle. ^{TR} Defaulting to the tune of Eight-hundred-and-eighty-three thousand dollars, he has sent more than ~~seventy~~ ^{seventy}-six thousand ~~dollars~~ to friends, and relatives and business people to whom he owed money. He mailed five, ten and twenty dollar bills. At the home of his parents, he left envelopes with nearly Fifteen Thousand dollars in cash -- together with messages asking the forgiveness of

^{TR} his family, for what he had done, his embezzlement. The latest, he has mailed another Twenty Thousand Dollars to a relative in Chicago.

All this cash, ~~seventy six thousand~~ ~~dollars worth~~, has been impounded by the F B I.

The question is -- what will be done with the money?

Return it to the bank? That's the legal puzzle.

Lawyers today stated that the people to whom the fugitive sent the cash, may be entitled to keep it - unless it can be proved that ~~the~~ ^{those particular} five-ten - and twenty dollar bills were actually taken from the National City Bank. The ~~case~~ ^{twist} lies in the possibility that those bundles of bills may have been acquired honestly, by the fugitive -- not physically part of the loot. A neat question for lawyers to wrangle over.

And now Ken, something from you that no one can dispute