

GERMANY

P.I. - P+G

Monday, August 9, 1948.

(In Moscow the representatives of the western powers today spent three more hours at the Kremlin, with Molotov.) When they came out, our ~~ambax~~ Ambassador said he had nothing to say, but that he was very tired. From the British and French diplomats, no comment.

Meanwhile, the latest from London: The British Foreign Office refers to a ~~in~~ "wave of pessimism" sweeping over western diplomatic quarters today. Which sounds as though the Russians are the ones who are being touch.

According to the London spokesman, the most that can be hoped for from the current Moscow negotiations is a compromise to prevent the German situation from getting worse - that is worse immediately.

~~It all seems to add up to a picture of a prolonged diplomatic war for the control of the entire continent of Europe -- with Germany as the battleground. The western powers, trying to rebuild a United Germany and thereby have an ally against~~

SOVIET TEACHERS

The affair of the two Soviet teachers is in the news again tonight; with the Soviet Ambassador in Washington delivering a formal note of protest to our State Department. ~~Soviet~~ Ambassador Panyushkin had a thirty minute interview with Undersecretary of State Lovett late this afternoon, during which he demanded that Michael Samarin, one of the missing ■ teachers be delivered to the Russian Consul General in New York.

Samarin is reported to have turned himself over to the F B I with an offer to give evidence to the House Committee on Un-American activities which has issued a subpoena to him and his wife. In fact, they are expected to give evidence tomorrow morning.

After his visit to the State Department the Soviet Ambassador told newsmen that he had accused the United States of trying to terrorize Russian citizens in this country. He asserted that Samarin is being held by the F B I, and that he had demanded that the Soviet Consul General in New York

be permitted to see him. Further, he charged, the Tolstoy Foundation - which sheltered the ~~gm~~ teachers - with "systematically terrorizing Soviet citizens over here to stop them going home." An American plot, he said, and a direct violation of a pact made between the late President Roosevelt and Soviet Foreign Minister Litvinoff, in ~~Nix~~ Nineteen Thirty three. The basis of the ^{then} ~~xxx~~ fairly friendly American relations with the Soviet.

What was the State Department reply?

A rejection of the Soviet ~~pm~~ protest on every count. Undersecretary of State Lovett told the Russian Ambassador that his accusations were based entirely on garbled press reports. As such, said he, they were unacceptable to Washington. But, he said, the State Department is looking into the case; and he ~~xxx~~ assured the Soviet Ambassador that if any American is found guilty of criminal action proper steps will be taken.

Meanwhile in New York Soviet Consul General Lomakin called on the Police Department and asked ~~the~~

the New York gendarmes to find Samarin, the missing Russian mathematics teacher, and his family. The Soviet Consul General reported them to the detective bureau as missing persons. Samarin, his wife, their eleven^v year old daughter and their year-old twins, Katrina and Vladimir. The Police Department replied that it would work on the case.

And what about Mrs. Kosenkina, the other rebellious Soviet teacher? The Soviet Consul General in New York announced over the weekend that he had succeeded in rescuing her from a band of White Russians who, he ~~says~~ claims, kidnapped her. Further, he says he asked the New York police to come to his assistance, on Saturday when he visited the Tolstoy Foundation at Valley Cottage, New York - a farm managed by Countess Alexandra Tolstoy, daughter of the celebrated Russian author of "War and Peace." The Soviet Consul General states that the New York Police didn't arrive ~~in~~ in time -- not until after he had "rescued" his comrade, Mrs.

Kosenkina. He told newsmen, tonight, that Mrs. Kosenkina is leaving for Russia on the next boat. "Why not?" he says, "she likes Russia."

As for Michael Samarin, the Soviet official promised that he'll not give evidence before any American congressional committee. "That is out of the question" he explained. "He is a Soviet citizen!"

But Acting Chairman Congressman Mundt, of the House-Un-American activities committee says that he knows where Samarin and his family are. He describes them as being safe under heavy guard. And he asserts that they will testify before his committee -- if it can be ~~done~~ done without provoking an international incident, was the way he put it.

Meanwhile at Valley cottage Countess Tolstoy admitted the ~~presence~~ presence of an underground freedom chain. Russians who do not wish to go back to their homeland -- passed ^{ing} them from one person to another. No one in the chain knowing where the next person will send the refugees.

The Countess said she thought ~~that~~ that Mrs. Kosenkina was terrorized by the Soviet ~~in~~ officials who came for her. But she said she didn't rule out the possibility that the Soviet school teacher, who allowed herself to be "rescued" by the Soviet Consul, might have been placed at her farm as a stool pigeon; sent there to trace the links in the anti-Soviet freedom chain.

ESPIONAGE

^{one}
The highlight of the Congressional spy inquiry today was testimony of the ~~mystery~~ mystery witness, -- or rather it was expected to be -- the man whose story was supposed to break the whole Soviet spy case "wide open". The mystery witness turned^A out to be Alexander Koral, a fifty-one year old New Yorker.

Koral almost didn't testify ^{at} ~~after~~ all. When he appeared before the committee early in the day, he said he was waiting for his lawyer, who had taken a wrong plane, from New York for somewhere. Around two o'clock the missing lawyer turned up, with an explanation ^{that} he had accidentally gotten aboard a plane ^{headed the other way - headed} ~~bound~~ for that cradle of American liberty, Boston.

~~The witness, a slight, nervous looking man, who told the committee he was born in England. When asked if he was a Communist ^{he} declined to answer.~~

~~Committee Counsel Stripling called on Elizabeth Bentley, the committee's star anti-Communist witness, to ~~stay~~ stand -- so that Koral could identify her.~~

The witness merely looked her over ~~and~~ and said nothing.

When one of the Congressional Committee members announced that the witness already had ~~as~~ signed a statement confessing membership in a wartime Russian spy gang, Koral refused to confirm or deny ~~that~~ ^{it}.

Then it came out that three of the House Committeemen, and a special investigator, had questioned Koral, secretly, in New York, over the weekend.

After a half hour ^{of} trying to get him to talk, the committee gave up. Whereupon the Committee's special investigator, Louis Russel, read into the record a statement outlining Koral's alleged work as a courier for Soviet spies. The statement told of Koral being approached in Nineteen Thirty-Nine by a man named Frank, who gave him contacts with various revolutionaries and soldiers of fortune. Meanwhile, the government is ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~process~~ ^{process} of ~~investigating~~ ^{investigating} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~case~~ ^{case} of Elizabeth Bentley, a Commerce Department employee, whom Elizabeth Bentley has accused of supplying information to Russia.

INVASION

Costa Rica. The Republic of Panama threatened with invasion. A news dispatch reported today that the Panamanian Government is considering conscripting an army -- for defense. Panama has no army, p- only a police force -- some two thousand gendarmes.

Why all the excitement down there along the Canal? who is threatening to do the invading? A defeated Presidential Candidate -- Arnulfo Aria. Aria claims he won the election last May, but that he was foxed out of it. When that happened he issued a proclamation that he would be back on October first -- back to claim the Presidency. And then off he went to Costa Rica.

The Panamanian Government says it has found out that Aria right now is raising an Army and an Air Force, for an invasion, getting together a band of revolutionaires and soldiers of fortune.

Meanwhile, the government in Panama City, has sent envoys to Nicaragua, in the hope of making an alliance with that country. All of which would scare

Costa Rica, the threat of a two-front war.

So, the Panamanian Government is considering full scale mobilization. In the meantime, arresting all who are known to be sympathizers with the defeated Presidential candidate.

All of which sounds like there may be stormy days ahead in Central America -- with ~~more~~ more tales of high adventure from soldiers of fortune who fight for the banana republics.

OLYMPICS

At Henly-on-Thames, England, today, the Californian crew won the Olympic eight oar rowing championship -- by one and a half lengths. Thus scoring the sixth straight Olympic victory by American oarsmen since Nineteen Twenty; and adding to our total of gold medals, which stands at twenty-nine for this Olympia.

Independent Issue voted to have prohibition and say a week - Tuesday. Why that particular day? Because Tuesday is dedicated to Mars, the Roman god. Mars was a warrior and a conqueror, and he was the patron of the Roman army.

Ancient legends tell the story of the great god Mars, the warrior, who for fourteen years the Roman army was the faithful companion of the great god Mars, one of the favorites in the Roman Pantheon. So Mars and the soldier is worshipped along with the great god, and his name will be honored further by having Tuesday a day of sports activities.

I have a large picture of Hercules in my attic - one I brought home from my travels. It is so startlingly different from the one I saw in the picture.

MONKEY GOD

Here's a bit of information for any of you world travelers who may happen hereafter to be in the city of New Delhi, Capital of India - on a Tuesday. You'll find the bars closed. - ~~xxx~~ You won't be able to get a drink.

Today, the legislature of newly independent India voted to have prohibition one day a week - Tuesday. Why that particular day? Because Tuesday is dedicated to Hanuman, the monkey god. Hindu mythology has a curious lot of twists, and one of the ~~xx~~ strangest is the Simian Divinity.

Ancient Legend from the Holy Books, the Vedas, tells how for fourteen years the monkey named Hanuman was the faithful companion of the great God Rama, one of the favorites in the Indian Pantheon. So Hanuman the monkey is worshipped along with the Lord Rama, and hereafter will be honored further by having Tuesday a day of ~~xxxx~~ prohibition.

I have a huge picture of Hanuman in my attic -- one I brought from India years ago. It's so startling my wife want let me hang it in the parlor.

POLITICS

According to Senator Taft Mr. Truman now has all the powers he needs to fight high prices. The Republican Party policy leader, told newsmen today that the Administration's further control over credit and installment buying which was given him last week by the Republican Congress provides ~~the~~ the President with ample power to check inflation.

Senator Taft charged Mr. Truman with failing to cooperate with Congress, even though the Republicans had sacrificed many of their own views in order to present a United-foreign-policy-front to the world." The attitude of the President toward Congress" continued the Ohio Senator, "is a sad contrast to the cooperation which he has received - from the Republicans - in the whole field of foreign policy".

As for additional price controls which Mr. Truman asked for and didn't get, Taft says they just will not work in peace time. Neither said he, will rationing or wage controls help us solve any problems. Instead they would cut down production.

"Prine control, if ever clamped down on us in peace time, would mean the end of economic freedom in the United States." Those were his words. The trouble between the Congress and the White House, said the G O P leader, ~~xxx~~ stems from "a fundamental difference in government philosophy." Which, he went on, can only be settled "by a vote of the people - at the November election."

ADD POLITICS

Democratic Chairman Howard McGrath countered Senator Taft's blast by issuing a statement in which he accused ~~the~~ Senator Taft of making political capital of the charge that the Democratic party is trying to avoid a repetition of the breadlines, apple peddlars and bank ~~fix~~ failures that were the fruits of what McGrath termed ~~Republican~~ "Republican normalcy."

The word in Washington tonight is ~~the~~ that Mr. Truman is working on a ~~new~~ final double-barrelled blast at the G O P Congress, for giving him only a small ~~portion~~ of the sweeping anti-inflation powers he demanded of the special session.

MEAT

A consumer conference in session at Cincinnati, today called on housewives to start a meat strike. No buying of meat! This in protest against high prices. So tonight the orders are going out, broadcast by housewife members of the conference, by telephone. Each conference member is telephoning ten other women. Then each of the ten are to pass the word on, and so on and so on. Buy no meat!

You can see where in a day or two every one with a telephone could be reached - from coast to coast. And in a few days the price of meat surely would take a nose dive.

The strike we hear is scheduled to continue for ten days. And how about the husbands? Will they go for ten days without steaks and chops? Or will they start a counter telephone campaign. Ten husbands phoning ten others and saying: "How about eating downtown at Joe's Diner tonight?" And the ten others telephoning ten more and so on!

TRUMAN

Mr. Truman told a group of high school girls in Washington today that there is a very good probability that a woman will one day be President of the United States.

"If you prepare yourself properly," the lightning may strike you," said Mr. Truman. And he added: "I never thought it would strike me, but, here I am!"
~~an~~

FF And now Nelson here you are!