

MINE

The drama in the Moosehill Mine, Nova Scotia, is now apparently a matter of minutes. Three hundred men are digging frantically trying to reach Dr. Robertson of Toronto and Alfred Scadding, imprisoned a hundred and forty feet underground. Two left out of three. Though the rescue party has been able to lower liquid food to the entombed men the two have been growing weaker hour after hour. Their rescuers have been able to talk to them over a tiny microphone dropped on a thin wire. But the last word from the two survivors of that desperate party was a message: "In the name of God hurry."

The tension of their appalling plight has spread all over the continent. Five days ago when I first had occasion to describe their predicament it seemed desperate enough. Since then it has been growing worse by hours and one of the original three has succumbed.

According to last reports the rescuing party had only twenty feet to go. But that meant twenty feet of boring through rock with the danger of a cave-in always imminent.

Dr. Robertson and Mr. Scadding have been fed not only liquid soup, but coffee and brandy. Nevertheless, their peril is amply expressed in those words from the entombed Doctor:-

"For God's sake hurry."

But, you can't hurry much drilling down through rock.

MUNITIONS

For two years a special committee of the United States Senate has been investigating the munitions industry. The outcome of that two years' probe is a sensational suggestion;— "that Uncle Sam seize all the corporations making munitions of war and operate them for the benefit of the country." That's the recommendation that the majority of the Committee will make to the Senate.

However, it's not a large majority. The vote was four to three. The three minority members protest vehemently. They say that such nationalization would encourage armament rather than discourage it.

The report contains some ~~pretty serious~~^{strong} charges against the people who make guns, warships and shells. The report declares that those big firms have been corrupting in foreign countries, have been intriguing against all movements towards disarmament, have been scaring other nations into joining in a race for increasing armaments. On some of these points the majority and minority members of the Committee are in perfect agreement. Both the Democrats and the Republicans agree that, as they put it,

"there is a threat to the peace and progress of other nations in the success of the munitions makers and of their agents in ~~corrupting~~ ^{convincing} officials."

PUBLISHERS

There was a strange scene today at the opening of the annual convention of the Associated Press, the United Press, and the American newspaper publishers association.

Invited to talk to the publishers at the luncheon was Henry L. Mencken, the old Baltimore baiter of boobs. There isn't a writer in the country who has said more unkind things about newspaper publishers. Frank B. Noyes of Washington, President of the Associated Press, said he still bore the scars from some of the vitriol thrown at him from Mencken's typewriter.

Today Mencken once more made unmerciful fun of the publishers, after which they gave him a cheer that rang the gilded rafters of the Waldorf.

The other writer who addressed the publishers was Sir Wilmott Lewis, American correspondent of the London Times, the old thunderer.

He told them that he felt like a lion in a den of Daniels; and defined the obligation of a newspaper as a job of "confronting the afflicted, and afflicting the comfortable."

TIBETAN FOLLOW PUBLISHERS

Maybe those publishers would be as astonished as I was to learn that one of the most influential newspapers in the world today is also one of the youngest. What makes it more remarkable, is that it's published in the Tibetan language. It is, the TIBETAN GAZETTE. This is not exactly its name, but it's the closest we can get to it. It was established only twelve years ago by the Panchen Lama. He founded it in Nineteen Twenty-Four, while he was in exile at Pailingingiao. That name in English means "the temple of a hundred miracles."

The power and influence of the Panchen Lama's newspaper comes into the news today, because it quite recently changed the course of events in the news. It helped to stop the Japanese advance into Inner Mongolia and western Manchuria. I've heard a lot about these matters from Captain John Noel, the traveler and lecturer.

~~Here's the story as I learned it.~~ In Nineteen Thirty-Two, the Panchen Lama moved the offices of his TIBETAN GAZETTE to Nanking. That placed it right on the doorstep of the government of Central China, the government controlled by Marshal Chiang-Kai-Chek. ~~Several times I've had occasion to mention that Marshal Chiang was using every device of modern ~~politic~~ Asiatic politics to win the support of the Tibetan government. The statesmanly reasons for that are obvious.~~ There are five hundred million Buddhists in Tibet, China and Japan. Those Buddhists, whether they are Tibetan, Chinese or Japanese, look upon the Panchen Lama as the reincarnation of the Buddha. The Panchen Lama's paper, therefore, became the official organ of the Buddha himself. So when its editorial offices were taken to Nanking, ~~the removal~~ ^{that} had a ^{pro-chinese} ~~strong~~ effect upon Buddhists not only in China but ^{also} in Japan.

Most Tibetans, of course, are quite illiterate. But they take their opinions, and act upon what the Lamas say. The Lamas, who form a third of the population, ~~of Tibet,~~ are highly educated. Hence, the influence of the Panchen Lama's newspaper. Its circulation is around seven hundred thousand, but it is read by

51

~~three million people~~, people of tremendous weight and importance.

The TIBETAN GAZETTE is published in a concrete building as modern as any paper in America. It is printed in the latest word on up-to-date presses. In its pages the Lamas read about everything that is going on all over the world. To be sure, the news is interpreted according to the ideas of the Panchen Lama. Nevertheless, he tells those three million readers everything about radio, television, aviation, all the fields of modern transport and communication. ^{In this way} ~~Through its means~~ the people in remotest villages of the Himalayas learn the Panchen Lama's version of what is going on in Ethiopia, in Geneva, in Washington, D.C. So that's why even Japanese warlords have to pay attention to that unique journal.

LEAD

The most portentous reports come today from Geneva. There the spokesmen of Mussolini, of Haile Selassie and John Bull spoke words of menace. Baron Aloisi threw down the gauntlet, Captain Anthony Eden picked it up. That's it in a nut shell.

The Italian representative began in a mood of defense. He protested against his country's being put in the light of a ruthless aggressor. "It is Italy who is really enforcing the Covenant of the League of Nations," he proclaimed. To that he added:- "We are bringing to the downtrodden Ethiopians the benefits of civilization. The plow follows the sword," said he. "We have abolished slavery; - in East Africa - we've built over three thousand miles of roads; we have put up fifty hospitals and schools all over the occupied territory. Ethiopians are now fighting side by side with our troops: And that," he added, "ought to prove Italy's good-will."

Then the Duce's Ambassador followed with a ringing declaration: "Not one sign of armistice will there be," he shouted, "until every foot of Ethiopia is under Italian occupation." Mussolini demands everything.

And that drew a growl from the British Lion, the most ominous growl that has yet been heard in all this controversy. "If the League of Nations will not intervene in Africa," spoke Captain Anthony Eden, "His Majesty's government may find themselves compelled to act independently of the League."

To be sure, the English Foreign Secretary went on to talk in terms of sanctions. He also intimated that other members of the League would act in concert with Great Britain but independent of the League itself. Nevertheless it definitely sounded like a threat of war. So the League of Nations then made a final supreme appeal to Italy.

As though in direct answer, came an announcement from Rome, a general mobilization of all Fascist organizations in Italy. We all remember that soon after the Duce sent his men to Africa, he summoned what he called "a test mobilization" of all his Black Shirts. The moment Addis Ababa falls, there will be another monster mustering of the Fascist militia. It will be described as a demonstration, really a demonstration of force and defiance.

LEAD - 3

The capture of Addis Ababa seems possible almost any day now. The Ethiopians are evacuating the capital and are blowing up all roads and bridges. Rome has word that Marshal Badoglio's divisions have captured Ankober, a town eighty miles northeast of Addis Ababa.

PALESTINE

Nineteen years ago Field Marshal Allenby, and Colonel Lawrence too, made a triumphant entry into Jerusalem. All the civilized world cheered!

"The problem of the Holy Land is settled!" said Jew and Christian alike! From London in that far off year came the words: "His Majesty's government view with favor the establishment ~~an~~ in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and will use their best endeavors to achieve this object." But - today we are hearing about the fourth bloody riot since Allenby took Palestine.

The story is far from being ended with today's casualty list. So far fourteen have died, ten Jews and four Arabs; fifty-four more wounded; thirty-nine Jews, fifteen Arabs. And tonight rioting still breaks out, from time to time. In both Jaffa and Tel Aviv the next door all-Jewish town Jewish stores are being looted and burned. But even that doesn't tell it all. The worst of it is that all this adds to the menace of the East African mess.

PALESTINE

Nineteen years ago Field Marshal Allenby, and Colonel Lawrence too, made a triumphant entry into Jerusalem. All the civilized world cheered!

"The problem of the Holy Land is settled!" said Jew and Christian alike! From London in that far off year came the words: "His Majesty's government view with favor the establishment ~~an~~ in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and will use their best endeavors to achieve this object." But - today we are hearing about the fourth bloody riot since Allenby took Palestine.

The story is far from being ended with today's casualty list. So far fourteen have died, ten Jews and four Arabs; fifty-four more wounded; thirty-nine Jews, fifteen Arabs. And tonight rioting still breaks out, from time to time. In both Jaffa and Tel Aviv the next door all-Jewish town Jewish stores are being looted and burned. But even that doesn't tell it all. The worst of it is that all this adds to the menace of the East African mess.

The trouble that broke out in Tel Aviv is a small blaze so far. But any mistake in handling it may lead to a huge bonfire, a conflagration spreading to Egypt, Syria, Transjordanian, Iraq, and Arabia - and even India.

The news of the Tel Aviv rioting is a shock. It comes at a time when we had been learning from various sources that the latest Jewish migration into Palestine was proving itself a success. The Jewish population had grown from fifty thousand to more than three hundred and fifty thousand. Squalid towns being built up into rich, modern, clean cities -- like Tel Aviv, Richon le Zion, and the new Jerusalem outside the Wall.

One effect of the success of the Jewish communities in Palestine has been to arouse the envy of the Palestinians who are called Arabs. They really are descendants of many races and amies -- and speak Arabic. The High Commissioner of the country recently proposed a new organization. Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchaupe proposed that the Holy Land should be administered by a legislative council. Each radical group was

to be represented according to its numbers. The legislative council was to consist of fourteen Arabs, seven Jews and seven British.

On one point the Arabs and Jews were agreed: they objected to Sir Arthur's proposal. But they objected on different grounds. Said the Jews: "We should have more members on that council." Said the Arabs: "You shouldn't have any at all and neither should the English. What we want for Palestine is an Arab government."

So far as you can sum it up in a nutshell, the Palestinian Moslem point of view is that there shouldn't be any Jews in Palestine at all. And now that ~~xxxxxx~~ apparently is the origin of those present riots that contain the germ of trouble from Syria to the Indian Ocean, from Jaffa to the Persian Gulf.

POLAND

There's a curious combination of politics to the situation in Poland today. First of all, we've been hearing that ^{Reichs} Fuehrer Hitler has won the country of the land of Kosciusko as an ally. That story came from refugees in Paris. The essence of it is that Hitler didn't make his coup in the Rhineland until he was assured of support from Warsaw.

That's the background of the situation. In the foreground we have those riots at Lwow, sixteen people killed. The aftermath of that is a twenty-four hour general strike called by the trades unions of ~~Lwow~~ ^{L-voov,} Lwow, a popular manufacturing city that we used to hear about during the World War as Lemberg. For a while there was danger that the unions would call a general strike throughout all Poland. But they decided to confine it to Lwow as a protest.

But that isn't all of the Polish crisis. The latest rumor indicates the possibility of a cabinet downfall. The Prime Minister, ^{Mar-jan-ko-scial-kowski} ~~Mar-jan-ko-scial-kowski~~, had been scheduled for a visit to Budapest. So observers tell us it is significant that he has cancelled his plans. He says he has laryngitis. But others say he has political trouble.

28

If you come from Massachusetts, April Nineteenth is as important in the calendar as July Fourth. ~~This was~~ Patriots' Day, the anniversary of Paul Revere's famous ride. Also the celebration of the day when once "the embattled farmers stood and fired the shot heard 'round the world." As April Nineteenth fell on a Sunday this year they had the big doings today. One of the events was the first double-header of the base-ball season between the Boston Red Sox and the Washington Senators. Also the Fortieth Annual Marathon from Hopkinton to Boston. The man who won it is a full-blooded Narragansett Indian, Ellison Brown, ^{he} ran those twenty-six miles in two hours, thirty-three minutes and forty seconds. That's only a minute behind the record. ~~The man who came in second was William McMahon of Worcester, Massachusetts, while Mel Porter of New York took third place.~~

58 1/2

But Massachusetts still hasn't settled the big argument about Patriots' Day. That's the ^{wrangle} ~~argument~~ between Lexington and Concord. The people of Concord claim that the famous shot celebrated in song by Emerson was fired in their

city. Others claim it was on Lexington Green. There was a debate on this vexed issue in the United States Congress a few days ago. Congressman Sol Bloom of New York has undertaken to find the answer and settle it once for all. Whichever way he settles it he'll merely provoke some more argument. Which ends the argument here -- and,

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.