

L.T. - SUNOCO - FRIDAY, FEB. 15, 1946

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

President Truman doesn't expect or intend the row kicked up by Harold Ickes to prevent Ed Pauley from becoming Under-Secretary of the Navy. So he told newspapermen today. He said he is confident the Senate will confirm the nomination. Speaking of Pauley, the President said the work he did on German and Japanese reparations, was one of the best jobs he knew of. And he added that the first suggestion for the nomination of Pauley came from Navy Secretary Forrestal. He said further that Forrestal had told him the late President Roosevelt had planned to nominate Pauley for Under-Secretary.

Of course the newspapermen today bombarded the President with questions about Ickes. Asked him whether he thought the retiring Secretary had impugned his, Mr. Truman's, integrity. To that the President replied promptly that he didn't think Ickes would dare do that!

PRICES

The moment the steel strike is settled, O.P.A. will allow an average price raise of five dollars a ton. So ~~says~~ President Truman. ~~himself.~~ ^{And he} added that he had been expecting ~~that~~ trouble to be settled for two weeks, and he didn't know why it was being held up. He had hoped to announce that it was all over yesterday, before issuing his new wage-price formula. ^{TP} It is believed ~~that~~ the hitch in the negotiations is over ~~making~~ ^{making the} the wage increase, eighteen-and-a-half cents an hour, retroactive to January First.

Reporters asked Mr. Truman what he called his new wage-price policy. He ^{replied: it's} ~~said it is~~ to hold the line; but, he admit^{ted} there 'is a bulge in the line.

~~Then~~ he added this appeal to the public: "If you all cooperate with me, there will be no break-through."

For once he allowed ^{ing} ~~ed~~ his exact words to be quoted.

^{Then} he went on to indicate that the new policy

will relax price controls to permit limited increases in wages. He said he had not consulted either ~~Mr.~~ Green, ~~President~~ of the A.F. of L. or ~~Philip~~ Murray of the C.I.O. about his new policy. But he was confident they would cooperate, because it would be in their interests. However, the President spoke too soon, because Green already stated that the new policy was unsatisfactory to his organization, and unacceptable. ~~He~~ said it strikes a body blow at free collective bargaining.

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~~And~~ From Detroit comes word that General Motors and the Auto Workers Union are on the verge of a settlement of their dispute. There was a conference this afternoon, and the Federal Labor Mediator ~~says~~ ~~he~~ is ~~very~~ hopeful.

PEARL HARBOR

A naval officer today told the Pearl Harbor Committee that President Roosevelt had read the first part of the final Japanese peace message on the night of December Sixth, Nineteen Forty-One. Commander Lester R. Schultz, then attached to Naval Communications, carried the text of the first thirteen parts of that fourteen part message to the White House in his sealed pouch. He was ushered into the President's private study where Mr. Roosevelt and Harry Hopkins were talking. The President read the papers, said Commander Schultz, which took him about ten minutes. Then he handed them to Hopkins and, as Hopkins handed them back, the President said, in substance, "This means war." To that Hopkins agreed.

Schultz then sat by while Mr. Roosevelt and his principal confidant discussed what the Japanese might do. But neither of them mentioned Pearl Harbor.

Apparently these first thirteen parts of the Japanese message which Commander Schultz carried to the White House, were only a restatement of ~~the~~ Japanese ~~government's~~ policies. It was the fourteenth part, intercepted early the next morning, which revealed that Tokyo was going to ~~strike~~ break off the peace negotiations. That was the part which the two Jap envoys delivered to Secretary Hull at one o'clock December Seventh, half an hour before the attack on Hawaii.

The Naval Commander also told the Committee, Harry Hopkins had remarked that since war is going to come, it is too bad we ~~could not~~ ^{can't} strike the first blow and prevent any surprise. President Roosevelt nodded, but said that would be impossible, since we are a peaceful democracy. ~~Then he added:~~ ^{And, added F. D. R.:} "We have a good record, ~~and~~ ^{and} cannot make the first overt move. We will

have to wait until it comes."

Commander Schultz said he ~~hadn't~~ hadn't heard or could not remember having heard anything having been said at the White House about sending any warnings to our outposts in the Pacific. His only job there was to unlock the sealed pouch and give the papers to the President. However, he did remember that Mr. Roosevelt tried to telephone Admiral Stark, Chief of Naval Operations. He learned that Stark was at the theatre. So he decided to call him later, since he did ⁿot want to cause any public alarm by having him paged in the theatre. Admiral Stark himself long since told the Committee that he could not remember where he was on the night of December Sixth, Nineteen Forty-One.

The name of ^{Governor} ~~Thomas E.~~ Dewey ~~of New York~~

cropped up again today. The Committee renewed its

wonder how Dewey had acquired the knowledge of the top secret that we had broken down the Japanese code.

Colonel Otis ~~N~~ Sad^tler, who was Chief of Army Communications Intelligence in Nineteen Forty-One, told the Committee that Lieutenant General Hugh Drum knew about that "winds intercept" code message which meant war against Great Britain or the United States. Sad^tler has told the Committee that ^{it} was received two days before Pearl Harbor. In Nineteen Forty-two, General Drum was in command of the Army's Eastern Defenses. One night in Nineteen Forty-Two, when Sad^tler was saying good-bye, Drum asked him to tell him the circumstances of Pearl Harbor. Then General Drum retired in Nineteen Forty-Four, to become Commander of the New York State Guard.

When Sad^tler said this, the chief counsel to the Committee said: "Be careful Mr. Witness, you

are making a very serious charge." To which Colonel Sattler replied that he had made notes of his conversation with General Drum, who himself had suggested, "you better remember this."

ATOMIC

A committee of Senators heard today that the reports of the effect of the atomic bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki were exaggerated. Major Alexander de Seversky said he went to both the Japanese cities, found many buildings still standing, and large areas literally undamaged. Of course, he added that what he said applied to the type of ~~the~~ bomb used last year, not to atomic bombs as they might be developed. Then he added that it would take a great many atomic bombs of the existing kind to wipe out New York or Chicago, because ~~so many of the~~ ^{of all the} buildings there are of steel ^{and} ~~or~~ reinforced concrete. ~~He~~ ^{admitted} ~~to~~ Washington ~~the story~~ would be ^a different ~~story.~~ ^{story.}

Seversky offered the prophecy that if the Navy in its forthcoming tests used the same type of bomb ^{that} ~~was~~ ^{was} dropped on the Japanese cities, ~~the~~ big warships would not suffer much damage. Atomic bomb development, he believes, is still in the firecracker stage.

Senator Hart of Connecticut, ^{the} a former admiral, suggested that Seversky was attempting to correct over-statements about the bomb with some of his own. Seversky countered ~~it~~ with a remark that great harm has been done by over-exaggeration as to what happened at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and he added that the propagation of such thought is dangerous to our national security.

The demand for the removal of British and French troops from Syria and ^{the} Lebanon offered ~~a fine~~ ^{another} opportunity to ^{the slashing} Soviet Vice Commissar ~~Vishinsky~~ ^{Vishinsky} ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ London today. ~~He~~ ^{He} seized upon it for all it was worth, supported the Syrian-Lebanese demand, and left nothing unsaid about the British and French.

Earlier in the day, ^{Delegate} ~~our own~~ Edward Stettinius also supported Syria and Lebanon, but ^{the} ~~is a more~~ ^{not by ~~any~~} ~~friendly fashion~~ ^{lashing out at the British and French.} He ~~pleaded with the British and~~ ^{He simply urged the British and} French to remove their soldiers. As he told the Council, the general policy of the United States is to support and encourage the rapid withdrawal of foreign troops from any state, if that state desired it.

It looked for a moment as if the Stettinius approach to the question might be successful, ~~He wanted~~ ~~the~~ withdrawal to come about as the result of peaceful and direct negotiations between the countries concerned.

Whereupon

~~That was where~~ Vishinsky ~~stepped in~~ ~~How can Syria~~

took the floor demanding

could the ~~and~~ and Syria
and Lebanon negotiate while ~~they are~~ under armed threat

from the countries with which they are negotiating?

The French Foreign Minister ~~Bidault~~ defended his country's action, and said the British and French troops had spared the Levantine nations the horrors of war for five years, why then should they suddenly become a menace to peace and security? ~~he asked.~~

Vishinsky retorted with a criticism of the French, *and* ~~he~~ also attacked an agreement made between the British and French last September that they would withdraw their troops when the U.N.O. had established a security ~~set up~~ for the Middle East. Vishinsky ~~described~~ described that as illegal and a violation of the sovereignty of the Levant States.

~~The Soviet member is surely retaliating for the British attack on the presence of Russian troops in Iran.~~

The most effective statement in defense of Britain came, curiously enough, from the Lebanese delegate, Hamid Bey. Said he: "In the interest of truth, I must say that ^{the} British authorities in Syria and ^{the} Lebanon have always said, before the December agreement, that they would be ready to withdraw their troops whenever requested."

Then a British delegate announced that it was at the request of Syria and ^{the} Lebanon that the British government promised not to withdraw its troops until the French left. He added that the British wanted to get out as soon as possible and be free of all responsibilities, ^{— responsibilities growing} ~~which, said he, was a heritage of the~~ ~~war~~ ^{out of the war.}

EGYPT

Troubles in Egypt came to a head today with the resignation of the government. Fahmy Pasha, ~~had been~~ *stepping out.* Whereupon King in office less than a year, ~~King Farouk lost no time~~ *Farouk asked* Ismail Sidky Pasha, ~~who has already been~~ *a previous* Premier, to form ~~the next~~ *a* government. Sidky Pasha is the man who founded the Peoples' Party, the party that wants complete independence from the British ~~and~~ *plus* Egyptian sovereignty over the Sudan. In other words, this means that the anti-British agitations have had at least a measure of success.

ADD EGYPT

Sidky Pasha has the reputation of being the
~~most skillful man at finances~~ ^{ial wizard of} ~~in all~~ Egypt. He holds
a position as one of the two Egyptian members of the
Suez Canal Company. ~~He also belongs to the High~~
~~Economics Council.~~

Sidky recently criticized the outgoing Premier
for what he described as his excessively polite attitude
toward Britain.

CANADA

A scandal in Canada came to light late this afternoon; ~~straight~~ from Prime Minister ~~MacKenzie King~~ ^{we hear of it,} himself. "There have been disclosures," ~~he~~ ^{he,} said, "of secret and confidential information leaking to unauthorized persons, including some members of the staff of a foreign nation in Ottawa."

The Prime Minister would ~~not~~ say or even hint which Foreign Mission is involved. But he did announce that a Royal Commission, consisting of two justices of the Supreme Court, is investigating, and that some persons now employed in departments and agencies of the government will be detained for questioning. MacKenzie-King hinted broadly that criminal prosecutions will follow.

COURT MARTIAL

After a trial that lasted fifty-six days, a court-martial in London pronounced Provost Sergeant Judson Smith of Cumberland, Kentucky, guilty of cruelty to army prisoners.

~~That scandalous~~ ^{The} case recalls the affair of ~~the~~ ^{one} notorious ~~Lieutenant~~ ^{a lieutenant} Hard Boiled Smith, who was punished for similar offenses after the last war. The Smith in this case receives a sentence not quite so severe. He must do three years at hard labor, be dishonorably discharged, and forfeit all his pay and allowances.

^{TP} Judson Smith is the first of nine provost guards ^{and} two officers accused of cruelty. He ^{has been} ~~found~~ ^{found} guilty of felonious assault on two counts, ^{and} simple assault on two other counts. Another practice of his was to compel his prisoners to eat heavy meals, then ^{give them} ~~the~~ ^{the} castor oil ^{treatment.} ~~down them.~~ In all but one case, the court said, "Sergeant Smith acted either on specific orders from superior officers or in accordance with an establish policy laid down by his commanding officer.

CHINA

Washington

~~Uncle Sam's~~ government has asked the Chinese

government to investigate reports that the Russians have ~~had~~ been over-greedy in Manchuria. There had been stories that the Soviets have been removing all machinery and everything portable from factories in Manchuria, ~~and~~ *carting it off* taking them away to Russia, claiming ~~that they are~~ *it all as* war booty. In fact, the process has been so complete, so the reports run, that Manchurian industries have been literally stripped.

An official of the Chiang Kai-shek government made the statement that the Soviet policy in Manchuria has been completely opportunist. The Chinese government does not admit that Manchurian industries are legitimate war booty for the Russians.

*It's as cold as Siberia
outside, and now Hugh before
you start for frosty Westchester
let's hear from you -*