

CONFERENCE

L.T. - Deleo. Monday, March 28, 1955.

In Washington, London and Paris, the word is - that moves are on to arrange a top level conference with Soviet Russia. In London, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, today, stated: "We are in consultation with our Allies, as to the methods by which we can now go ahead." Eden indicated - that the process may be gradual. From bottom - to top. First arrangements - at the routine diplomatic level. Preparing - for a conference of the Foreign Ministers. Which, in turn, would prepare - for the big show. The Western heads of state - meeting with Soviet Premier Bulganin.

Washington, London and Paris are taking due note of Bulganin's declaration over the weekend - that Soviet Russia looks with favor on the proposals for a conference advanced by President Eisenhower. Which was - quite a reversal of previous Moscow propaganda. The Soviets declaring - that the treaty for West German rearmament would make East-West negotiations impossible. Well, the final ratification of the treaty came over the weekend. The French Senate - voting an okay. Nevertheless, Moscow seems in a mood for a big time palaver.

SENATE - FOREIGN POLICY

The Senate had a row over the Far Eastern question today. With Democratic Leader, Lyndon Johnson, of Texas, charging - that some Republican leaders in the Senate are "talking war" with President Eisenhower. Insisting - that the United States must fight, if the Chinese Reds attack those off-shore islands, Quemoy and Matsu. Senator Johnson declared: "We don't want a war party to emerge in this country - and we don't want an appeasement party either."

Senate Republican Leader Knowland of California retorted angrily: "I know of no war party in the United States." And added: "The people desire, not peace at any price - but peace with honor."

Democratic Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana said - he was worried by reports that the United States might be in a Far Eastern war in less than a month. U.S. military officials have been quoted as declaring - that the Reds are likely to attack the off-shore islands the middle of April. We might feel it necessary to defend such places as Quemoy ~~and~~ and Matsu - and the battle would be on.

EISENHOWER

The bitterest attack on President Eisenhower was made today. The bitterest, thus far, by any prominent political figure. Democratic Senator Neely of West Virginia spoke at the Auto Workers Convention in Cleveland - and lashed at the President in savage terms. Calling him - incompetent and a repudiator of campaign promises.

The raging character of the assault is indicated by things that Neely had to say about the President's religion.

"Eisenhower never joined a church until after he became President," shouted the West Virginia Democrat. "Since then, his attendance at church has been well publicized. Away with hypocrisy!" he roared.

The wrathful criticism was taken to the White House for comment, and Presidential Secretary Jim Hagerty said:

"I don't think anybody in the United States believes it."

All who know the Eisenhower family story know that our present President comes from an exceedingly devout family - but of a sect whose places of worship are not numerous.

SCELBA

Italian Premier Scelba was a guest at the White House, today. He had a long talk with President Eisenhower - on the part Italy is playing in West European defense. After which, Premier Scelba and his wife were ~~gms~~ guests of honor at a luncheon given by President and Mrs. Eisenhower.

FRANCE - STRIKE

A general strike of shopkeepers in France, today - fizzled out. An anti-tax demonstration - ordered by Pierre Poujade, who has been a headache for the French government.

In France, the small shopkeepers have long been discontented - about the ways of the tax collector. Poujade, owner of a small store, started a campaign. Urging - the shopkeepers to refuse to pay taxes. The movement caught on, and it seemed as if it might sweep the whole country. ~~The~~
~~government of Premier Edgar Faure - faced with an~~
~~awkward situation.~~ Poujade addressing mass meetings, and breathing fire.

For a climax, he called a strike of the little business men. They - to close their shops all over France, for one day. Monday - March Twenty-Eighth. So what happened?

Today's report is that the strike was effective only in the city of Bordeaux - where about eighty per cent of the shops were closed. Elsewhere - mighty few shut their doors.

Poujade, himself, took a humble tone today - addressing a mass meeting at the city of Grenoble. Last week, he was

defying the police to arrest him. Today, he declared - he never urged anyone to refuse to pay taxes.

All of which - made a favorable day for the French government. With indications - that the danger of a tax revolt by the shopkeepers was dying down.

BANK

The biggest merger in the history of banking was okayed by stockholders today. ~~with~~ The Chase National Bank of New York ^{and} the Bank of Manhattan - planning to join forces. And become - "The Chase Manhattan Bank." ~~with total assets of more than seven billion five hundred million dollars.~~ Which would make it - the second largest bank in the United States. California's Bank of America - the largest.

Today, the stockholders of the Chase bank voted - six million to twenty-one thousand shares, in favor of the merger. Bank of the Manhattan stockholders two million to fourteen thousand.

SUPREME COURT

A new Justice took his place on the Supreme Court today - John Marshall Harlan of New York, a grandson of a Supreme Court Justice, half a century ago.

After taking the oath, John Marshall Harlan sat with his new colleagues - as they handed down the decisions of the day. Several of these - concerning labor union technicalities.

PRISON

Another prison revolt. This one - in Nebraska.

Nine convicts - holding two guards as hostages. Demanding - a redress of "grievances."

The trouble began, yesterday morning - with twelve convicts in this outbreak. Three, however, gave up. The remaining ~~nine~~ nine - still holding out, at last reports.

Governor Victor Anderson of Nebraska has taken personal charge of the situation. Saying - there'll be no deal with the rebels, until the guards are turned loose, unharmed.

AUTOMOBILES

In Detroit, three police officers have been arrested for a singular sort of crime. Stealing, and trying to sell - automobile styles. Their scheme - to peddle secrets of new models designed by General Motors. Every automobile company keeps its future models a secret - and the information would be valuable to competitors.

Elmer Bolia and Richard De Claire were employed as guards at the G.M. Styling and Research Department. The bright idea was thought up by Thomas Robertson, a suburban policeman. He gave the other two a Candid Camera - with which they photographed automobile models, while making their rounds as guards.

The schemers thought they might ~~xx~~ sell the pictures to Ford and Chrysler - for a thousand dollars. They approached an automobile designer, and he jumped at the proposition - apparently. Actually, he paid them with marked money - after having informed the authorities.

General Motors declares that, if the secret information had been divulged, it might have cost the Company millions of dollars - for changing designs.

Follow AUTOMOBILES.

Now, there's a dilemma. How could General Motors prosecute, without having the pictures of the new models made public?

SPEED

A new speed record for a railroad train - was made in France today. One-hundred-and-ninety-eight-and-eight-tenths miles per hour. An electric locomotive, pulling three passenger cars - streaked along a straight line of track, south of Bordeaux, at nearly three-and-a-half miles a minute. The previous record, also set in France, was one-hundred-and-forty-five miles an hour.

Announcing the new record, the French railway system says - it has no intention of running trains at that speed. The purpose, today, was - to test strains and stresses in a new type of electric locomotive.

Premier Diem of southern Viet Nam staged a sudden coup, today. Seizing - police headquarters in the capital city of Saigon. Where - the local police ~~have been~~ ^{are} under control of the religious-political sects, which are opposing the Premier.

At dawn, today, American built tanks rolled up in front of the police ~~station~~ station - guns ready. There was no resistance. The rebel police, over-awed.

They left the building - taking refuge in neighboring houses. There, they barricaded themselves, and trained their weapons - on their former headquarters. They ~~was~~ were armed - with heavy mortars.

But then - nothing happened. The police were waiting for orders from the leaders of the religious-political sects. But the order to open fire never came.

The reason, we hear, is that the insurgent leadership is divided. The religious-political chieftains - unable to make up their minds. Whether or not - to begin open civil war.

PALESTINE

A dispatch from Jerusalem ^{tells of} ~~says - that~~ archeologists in Palestine ~~are~~ using a "guide book." More and more, they are being directed by a sort of "Baedeker", which tells of things long ages ago. So what's the book? The most familiar of all - the Bible.

The Old Testament, for example, tells of "Solomon's copper mines." Saying - they were in the region between the Dead Sea and the Gulf of Akaba. Using that as a clue for an investigation, they went looking for copper - and found it. Solomon's ancient mines - now being worked again.

Chapters Twelve and Thirteen of the Book of Genesis indicate - that, at the time of Abraham, the Negev Desert had a large, flourishing population. Which might sound like a mere legend, when you consider what a ^{barren} ~~blistering~~ wilderness the Negev section is today. But archeologists took a tip from Genesis - and, thus far, they've discovered the ruins of two-
hundred-and-twenty-five inhabited places! Flourishing towns -
in the days of Abraham and Lot - ^{in the days of Sodom}
^{and Gammorah.}

A renowned American archeologist, Dr. Nelson Glueck, ~~will~~ took note of the Fourteenth Chapter of Genesis - which tells how a number of kings rebelled against a sort of emperor back ~~in~~ in those days. A disastrous rebellion ~~XXXXX~~ - as is now shown. Professor Glueck has unearthed a whole string of cities, which were destroyed along about the year Two Thousand B.C. A civilization - wiped out. Which sounds like the great rebellion described in Genesis.

All of which indicated that ~~the~~ archeologists, in Palestine, do indeed follow that old pious advice - read your Bible. In fact Dr. Glueck, some twentyfive years ago uncovered King Solomon's Red Sea ~~port~~ port, the city of Ezian Geber. And because I had camped there with T. E. Lawrence in World War I - at that same spot - the eminent archaeologist brought me a group of relics from Solomon's city.

CANADA

There's a town in Canada which, today - began a second week of isolation. The town of Sainte Croix - in the St. Lawrence valley, thirty-five miles from Quebec. Surrounded - by a huge snows. Every line of travel - blocked. Sainte Croix might as well be on the Moon - that inaccessible, at present.

The town - snowed in early last week. Then, after days, it looked as if they'd be able to dig their way out. But then came the weekend blizzard - piling up snowdrifts, ten to fifteen feet high.

The only communication - by telephone. The line remains open, and a couple of young women operators - tell how things are going. Not so bad, thus far. Luckily, the local families were well stocked with provisions - when the first blizzard hit. But now, after being marooned for eight days, the ⁱⁿ food supplies are running low. *P* So, at Sainte Croix, they ^are praying - for snow plows, or a quick thaw. Anything - to break those prison walls of snow.

SHIP

Today, three more patients arrived at a Boston hospital. Taken - from a stricken ship. Which makes a total of thirty-seven sailors in that ~~Boston~~ hospital - following ^{an} ~~the~~ outbreak of an epidemic. The Coast Guard Cutter Bibb - navigating, on weather duty, between Labrador and Greenland, when the malady struck. Putting the cutter - completely out of commission. Patients - taken off and flown to Boston.

So what was the epidemic? It sounds ridiculous - mumps. The sailors got the mumps - up there in the Arctic North.

~~Well, the~~ ^{may not be} mumps ~~is not~~ serious for children, but they're no joke for grown-ups. As is illustrated by the Coast Guard

Cutter Bibbs. In fact, ^{-ugh-} mumps - and tooth-ache - are excruciatingly painful, in the Arctic.