

THE JERUSALEM C.I.P.+G Fri. Dec. 9 '49

The United Nations made a surprise move -- and a drastic move tonight. The General Assembly, by an overwhelming vote, decreed that Jerusalem shall be internationalized under the control of the U.N.

This followed a new declaration by Israel, whose delegate stated insistently that the Jewish state will not accept U.N. control of the Holy City, being determined to retain the new section of Jerusalem, which forces of Israel now hold. Also -- a telegram from King Abdullah of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, stating that his government would never agree, but would hang onto control of the old city, within the walls, which his own soldiers control.

The United States and Great Britain supported a move to put the whole question off until next year. British and Americans argued that any attempt to internationalize Jerusalem would be futile -- with both Israel and Abdullah so strongly opposed.

Nevertheless, a large majority in the General Assembly insisted, and proceeded to vote the

internationalization of Jerusalem by a majority
of thirty-eight to fourteen, with seven countries
abstaining. The majority ^{included} ~~was~~ a strange line-up of
Soviet Russia, Arab countries and Latin America.

So now this decision by the world organization
stands against the combined hostility of Israel and the
Hashemite Kingdom - the two powers in actual
possession of Jerusalem.

All the others of the eleven defendants have
appeared - in the usual way of a Communist trial. The
first today was a millionaire, who joined the Communist
Party, and rose high in the Red Government. Today he
was a doctor. He told how he first met the number
one Communist and was impressed, describing him in
those words - "an intelligent man, unlike other
Communists." That got a laugh.

The witness then continued: "I found Kestor
an intelligent man with whom one could reach an
understanding. My friends and I agreed," he went on,

BULGARIA

It is hard to think of comedy at a Red trial, with its atmosphere of terror and execution. But there were roars of laughter in the courtroom today at Sofia, capital of Bulgaria - that headline trial which has been astonishing all along.

The chief defendant refusing to confess - Kostov, former number two Bulgarian Communist repudiating the admissions of guilt he made to the ~~guzk~~ police.

All the others of the eleven defendants have confessed - in the usual way at a Communist trial. The star today was a millionaire, who joined the Communist Party, and rose high in the Red Government. Today he accused Kostov. He told how he first met the number two Communist and was impressed, describing him in these words - "An intelligent man, unlike other Communists." That got a laugh.

The witness then continued: "I found Kostov an intelligent man with whom one could reach an understanding," "My friends and I agreed," he went on,

BULGARIA...3

"that, if all Communists were like that, even we industrialists would become Communists." The spectators roared with laughter, and the Red judge had to bang his gavel for order.

The story explained - how the millionaire became a Communist. He joined the party, and rose to the post of director of the state rubber industry. But, said he today, Kostov persuaded him to sabotage the rubber program.

The proceedings today ended the series of confessions - everybody's except Kostov's whose astonishing defiance continues to excite an almost incredulous wonder.

From London today, we have a story of the downfall of that number two Communist - a catastrophe that began with a small, seemingly trivial event. Fantastic - how some minor detail can lead to overwhelming results.

Kostov really ran Red Bulgaria. The premier was Dmitrov, but that veteran big-shot, so long in the

high favor of Stalin, was ill-, dying about a year ago. Kostov was the boss of the Bulgarian Communist Party, and his personal secretary was the minister of police - meaning everything in a police state. He was the Communist theorist in Bulgaria, and right now the Reds in that country are busy with a purge of their own literature - because it was written by Kostov.

Then came some trade negotiations with Soviet Russia, during which Kostov did not tell the Soviet trade delegation the actual cost of certain articles of merchandise in question - keeping the figures a secret. He explained that he was required by law to keep them a secret. To which the Soviets replied in an official statement: "The supposition that the law for official secrets could in any way be applied to the Soviet Union - is dangerous." That was the beginning of the downfall of Kostov - opposing the Soviets on that one point.

YUGOSLAVIA

Prison sentences were imposed today in the Yugoslav Red trial - which presented the unusual spectacle of Soviet agents being tried before a Communist court. The defendants are White Russians, who confessed that they went over to the Soviet side and did Moscow spy work. Ten of them - and today they were given prison sentences ranging from three to twenty years.

BERLIN

In the Soviet zone of Berlin, the Red police held a Yugoslav military mission prisoners for seventeen hours. Yesterday, those representatives of Marshal Tito were ordered out, but today they were stopped as they tried to leave. They sought to take their belongings with them, but the Red police wouldn't let them. The whole thing ended with members of the military mission and their families fleeing to the Western zone.

Hitherto, the Yugoslav Government had maintained this mission in the Soviet zone of Germany - as a matter of regular diplomatic routine. But the revolt of Red Marshal Tito against Moscow puts an end to the usual protocol. So, the Yugoslavs, ordered out, then held in confinement, - finally free!

GERMANY

The chancellor of Western Germany issues a virtual demand that German military units be included in any Western European army. Chancellor Adnauer has been intimating the same sort of thing for the past few days - which has been embarrassing to the Western Allies, because the West German Government has made the most positive kind of pledge to remain demilitarized, and have no army.

I suppose the Germans argue that military units in a Western European army would not violate the pledge, though it does look as if the Germans, with their long military tradition, might have a sneaking desire for soldiers.

GUN

Over in Germany, the thunder of the gun has died down to a mere pop, hardly louder than a lively champagne cork. The gun, that is, which hitherto has roared in salute at American headquarters, Frankfurt.

The reason - a letter from a German housewife who lives across the street. Frau Werner Schnelle wrote to American headquarters, complaining that the noise of the saluting gun was driving her to distraction. "If you should live here," wrote Frau Schnelle, "you would also lose your nerves sometimes. Every morning at seven, we are nearly falling out of our beds. The whole house is shaking and the windows are nearly breaking. Even on Sunday," she goes on, "this shot is fired - and all illusion of a quiet Sunday is for some time gone."

Today she received an answer. The American commander of the Frankfurt military post informs Frau Schnelle that they will hereafter put a minimum of powder in the cannon for firing the salute - so as not to disturb the haus-frau.

BRITAIN

The British election today merely continues the political pattern over there - the labor party winning a bi-election, but with a reduced majority. The town of South Bradford elected a labor M.P. Which is the thirty-fifth time in a row that the Labor Party, in a bi-election, has retained a seat in Parliament left vacant by the death or retirement of a Labor M. P.

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Tomorrow - Australia goes to the polls, and it's one of the hottest political fights on record. The conservatives are trying to overthrow a Labor Government in the land down under - and are much encouraged by the overthrow of Socialist Labor in New Zealand. Late word from Sydney pictures the Australian election as the closest kind of fight. The result -- anybody's guess.

HISS

The trial of Alger Hiss came to a new turn this evening. Hitherto the case against the former high official in the State Department has been pretty much a repetition of the first Hiss trial - which resulted in a hung jury. But today evidence was given by Mrs. Hede Massing, former wife of Gerhardt Eisler, the big-time Soviet agent who skipped bail and fled this country. At the first trial, Mrs. Massing, was not permitted to testify -- the judge excluding her evidence. But today, in the second trial, it was different, and the former wife of Gerhardt Eisler identified Alger Hiss as the leader of Soviet espionage in the United States government.

She stated that in Nineteen thirty-five she, herself, was a head of a red spy group -- working in competition with the espionage outfit run by Hiss in the State Department. They had a meeting, and discussed a State Department employee named Noel Field, who was doing Red espionage work. This Noel

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Field has since fled the country, and is now in Red Czechoslovakia. ~~At~~ At the time both Alger Hiss and Mrs. Massing were competing for his services. She today ~~is~~ stating:

"I said to Mr. Hiss, 'I understand you are trying to get Noel Field away from my organization into yours'." Hiss replied that they would see who would win out.

She says that last December the F.B.I. brought her face to face with Hiss -- who declared that he did not recognize her.

Point by point she corroborated the testimony of Whittaker Chambers, Chief Accuser of Alger Hiss, who had previously declared that Hiss had competed with the wife of Gerhardt Eisler for the espionage services of Noel Field.

Sounds like testimony with serious meaning for the high State Department official, who was an adviser to the late President Roosevelt in the conference with Stalin at Yalta.

PARNELL THOMAS

Congressman Parnell Thomas of New Jersey resigns his seat in the House of Representatives, as he goes to serve a jail sentence of from six to eighteen months. That was the term imposed today on the legislator convicted of having put dummy employees on the government payroll, and received ^{ing} kick-backs from them.

Parnell Thomas was a prominent member of the Committee on Un-American Activities, and today his wife denounced the prosecution as brought about by Communist influences. She said she is going to run for the Congressional seat left vacant by her husband.

SOCIALIZED MEDICINE

Here's a question that might seem to be a joke, something asked in mockery. If Congress passes the national health insurance program of the administration, will we have free wigs? As in Britain - where anybody can get a pair of specs for nothing, and where the business of free wigs, toupees for bald heads, has been a laugh.

But that question was put today to Oscar Ewing, U. S. Federal Security Administrator. He is in London on a visit, and to the question he replied - yes. He said that under the administration health program, Americans would get free spectacles and free wigs. He explained that in Britain, that angle of socialized medicine does not cost a great deal - "Doesn't amount to a hill of beans," in his own words.

However, there would be no free spectacles for foreigners, merely on a visit to the United States. Our Federal Security Administrator explaining: "It seems to me that, if a man can pay his fare to a

SOCIALIZED MEDICINE....2

to a foreign country, he ought to be able to buy his own glasses." And his own wig, too, no doubt. Such articles for free, under the health program, would be limited to Americans - who happen to be near-sighted or bald-headed.

COAL

In New York - a disclosure of the terms John L. Lewis is trying to impose upon the hard coal industry. In the realm of anthracite, the union is demanding a raise of ninety-five cents a day, which would bring the basic wage up to fourteen-dollars-and-forty-five cents a day. Also - double payments to the union welfare fund.

This was made public at a joint press conference held by union and company representatives, who have been negotiating for a week - getting nowhere. The companies announce that they are holding out against any wage increase whatever.

WATER

A catastrophe in New Jersey - a watermain bursting at Newark, ~~and~~ sending three million gallons to flood the streets. Ordinarily, this would have been little more than a picturesque deluge. But, in the emergency of the water shortage, the loss is serious.

In New York, a city councilman states he is going to introduce a bill to put water meters in all dwellings - making people pay for the amount they use. Which would persuade them to save water.

FILM

There's an uproar in the Land of Islam, and all because of a Hollywood motion picture. Linda Darnell is the star, and plays the part of - Fatima, the daughter of Mohamed. We may not be so familiar with Fatima, but we do know about Linda - and the Mohammedans are annoyed.

A Moslem newspaper in Karachi, ^{capital of} Pakistan, tags the Hollywood masterpiece as "Profane" - says it will be banned throughout the world of Islam. And calls it - "False, flippant and ^a vulgar view of Fatima's life."

To which the reminder is given that, in the eyes of we Americans usually mispronounce it and say Fatima Mohammedans, Fatima is one of the most revered of religious figures. Which, of course, is true.

Christians worship the Virgin Mary. Moslems worship

time the daughter of prophet. **IF** What particularly annoys the newspaper in Pakistan is the make-up - the lipstick and the eyebrow pencil. Not to mention the costumes - Hollywood's idea of what the well dressed daughter of a prophet should wear. The Moslem editor, picturing the real Fatima, points to her wedding - when Fatima espoused Ali, another sacred personage for Mohammedans. "In

Fatima

FILM.....2

marriage," says the newspaper, "the prophet's daughter received a dowry not of jewels and costly garments - but a palm leaf mattress, a hand mill, and a waterskin." Ancient gifts of Araby, a bride receiving a mill to grind the flour and the skin in which to carry water from the well.

But that would never do for Hollywood - it would have to be brocaded silk and embroidered damask, glittering with diamonds, emeralds and pearls:—*Worn*
by Linda Darnell.

MARRIAGE

At Clearfield, Pennsylvania, the county recorder, Weir Mullin, received a marriage license - sent back to him after he had issued it a few weeks ago. Attached to it was a note from the lady, saying: "I am sending you back my marriage license - because the marriage is cancelled, and the groom is in jail."

Wedding called off ^{→ groom in jail!} ~~because of prison.~~ ~~they~~

~~comment, Nelson?~~

CAROLS

In England, the stern hand of authority is curbing the celebration of Christmas. The law is taking action against Yuletide revelers who sing too much. Yes, that's the word - sing.

At the towns of Derby and Norwich, the town constables have decreed that the chanting of Christmas carols on the public streets shall be limited, and they forbid the children to go around singing, unless they are in groups led by a grown-up.

Hard to say what got into those constables - and they're being ridiculed in London. Today the Daily Herald came out with a new version of that ancient carol of days gone by.

"God rest ye merry gentlemen

Let nothing you dismay,

We've written to the police chief

And now have his okay."

The moral is - don't sing to excess on Christmas. ^{Nelson -} Let's have another carol, and ^{then} we'll all go home.