

PALESTINE

L.J.-P. + G.

Wed., May 5, 1948.

There is no definite word from Jericho.

Today, a United Nations commission returned to Jerusalem, after having participated in the Jewish-Arab-British truce -- conference in that ancient town on the River Jordan. The U.N. Representatives were secretive, but there is unofficial word that progress has been made for an armistice in Jerusalem. The proposal, we hear is to have the British enforce a temporary truce in Jerusalem until the time for their withdrawal, May fifteenth. Thereafter -- have the International Red Cross administer the Holy City, under a Jewish-Arab agreement for a truce. ~~of the~~

The conference at Jericho, we hear, has also been discussing the possibility of a general armistice for ^{all} Palestine, but the word is that they are deadlocked on that -- the Jews insisting on Zionist immigration into Palestine, the Moslems demanding Arab sovereignty. ^R There is defiant word from King Abdullah of Trans-Jordania, who declared today that he will send his Arab legion into Palestine the moment the British


withdrawal is legal^y in effect. Abdullah says he will accept no general armistice for Palestine, but will move in and take over sections of territory -- even if the Arab League should agree on a truce for the entire area. ~~He~~ Abdullah ^{to} ~~will~~ reject ^{any truce} and act on his own! -- so he says.

Meanwhile, there has been some disturbance at Jerusalem, Arabs opening fire with ^{motor} shells against forces of Jewish Haganah in the Kadamon Quarter -- this in defiance of the cease-fire order issued by the British. However, this violation seems not to have produced a general breakdown of the Jerusalem truce.

Meanwhile, all ~~the~~ attention is focused on Jericho, where the negotiations are veiled in secrecy. So much so that, as for news from Jericho, I thought I might as well go back to the Bible -- and look up what was news in old testament days, when the walls of Jericho fell down. I consulted the Sixth ~~xx~~ Chapter of Joshua, and what did I find? The chapter begins: "Now Jericho was straitly shut up."

That seemed so apt a description of the secrecy today that I went ~~in~~ ahead and ^{re}read the memorable account of how Joshua took Jericho. "So the people shouted," says the Bible, "when the Priests blew with the trumpets. And it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted with a great shout -- that the wall fell down flat."

Well, Jericho has no wall nowadays and we hope that, instead of the sound of the trumpet, we'll be hearing the ^{coming} ~~coming~~ of the dove of peace -- from Jericho.



KOREA

From Far Eastern Korea we have news of a perplexing sound. Two conservative Korean leaders in the American zone have reached an agreement with the Communist government of the Soviet Zone. They announce that they have come to terms with the Reds for the formation of a unified independent Korea.

This is perplexing, because the American military command in South Korea has made plans for the setting up of a ~~the~~ South Korean Government -- separate from the Soviet Northern Zone. Our occupation authorities picked a President to head a South Korean legislature -- *we hear that* but [^]he is one of the two right wing leaders who now have made an arrangement with the Communist Regime. One part of the agreement, which they announced today, is that both Soviet and American Troops shall withdraw from Korea. Earlier today, our American Commander, ~~General~~ General George Hodge, gave a flat rejection to a Red suggestion that our troops pull out. The American view over there is that, even if the Soviet Army should

withdraw ^{from} Northern Korea, it would only leave the whole country at the mercy of Korean Communist military forces, which the Russians have organized.

It would all seem to be quite a dilemma; and I wonder -- do those right wing Koreans understand what it would ^{mean} ~~mean~~ to team up with a Red outfit established by the Soviets?

METHODISTS

A bulletin from Boston states that the Methodist Church is going to spend four-and-a-half million dollars a year and train at least two-hundred missionaries for the battle of freedom against ~~MMMM~~ Communism. The Methodist Church is holding a quadrennial conference, and the announcement to the delegates today was made by Dr. Ralph Diefendorfer of ~~Nx~~ New York, head of the Division of Foreign Missions.

He states that, under the four- and-a-half million dollar program, two ~~MMMM~~ hundred missionaries will be thoroughly schooled in the doctrines of Marx, Lenin and Stalin -- so as to be fully equipped to controvert the dogmas of the ~~R~~eds. Sent to Europe, Latin America, and Asia, they will constitute a specially-trained Christian task-force, whose duty will be, ⁱⁿ the words of the head of the division of foreign missions: - "to fight the millions of Communists who in all languages are seeking to batter down the works of Christ".

ATOMIC

(From England we hear that a major obstacle has been overcome in the development of atomic power for industrial use -- cheap atomic power for the ordinary needs of life. They've developed a method of getting enough atomic heat for super-heated steam to run ~~sixsix~~ electrical generators.)

Of course, we know that the atomic explosion develops cataclysmic degrees of heat, but there was a difficulty in the production of such high temperatures, in the uranium furnace, for industrial use. The trouble was this: rods of uranium are used, and these rods tend to corrode. To prevent corrosion, the uranium rods are encased in aluminum. But, the aluminum covering, in turn, tends to break down when subjected to great heat. What they now have done is ~~to~~ find a way to prevent the breaking down of the ~~sixsix~~ aluminum covering the uranium. That permits the uranium ~~fxnx~~ furnace to operate at temperatures high enough to make steam hot enough for the production of electricity.

This new discovery, the achievement of

British scientists, is being kept a secret. Because it has meanings, not only for super-heated steam and electricity, but also for military atomic science -- the bomb. Making it ^{all} -- a military secret.

CHINA

(A million dollars for a dollar! Sounds Chinese -- and it is. The word from Shanghai is that, by tomorrow or the next day, you'll be able to get a million Chinese dollars for one American dollar. That's the latest in the fantastic, grotesque tale of Chinese inflation.)

What a change in the three years since I was there! Then for one American dollar we got around a thousand Chinese dollars. And now you get a million!

When the war ended, Chinese currency was valued at twelve thousand to the American dollar -- which was cited as an example of the dire consequence of inflation. Today ~~at~~ at Shanghai the figure was nine-hundred-and-thirty-five ~~to forty-five~~ thousand to one, and still sinking. ^R So, by tomorrow or the next day, if you want to be a millionaire, just go to China, and with one single American buck you can be one; -- ^{and} _A with a two-dollar-bill you can become a multi-millionaire.

PRIMERIES

Tonight's analysis from Ohio shows that *Stassen's* strength ~~of Stassen was~~ ^{was} in the industrial districts with a heavy labor vote. The former Minnesota Governor, going into Ohio against the favorite son, ~~SEN~~ Senator Taft, selected twenty-~~three~~ districts where factories are prominent; and, he won out in nine ^{-- all} centers of industry. He took two at Toledo, two at Dayton, two at Akron, and one in a manufacturing section of Cleveland. Sounds like the labor vote -- the unions having declared strongly against ~~the~~ Senator ^{Taft} because of his ^{part in putting thru} ~~sponsorship of the~~ Taft-Hartley Labor Law. All of which brings comment from ^{He says} Senator Taft today, -- that Democratic labor votes went into the ^{Republican} primary and carried those nine industrial districts for Stassen!

Senator Taft ^{ran} ~~was~~ strong throughout the state -- ~~xxx~~ winning all nine of the Delegates-at-large. Stassen had ~~only~~ one candidate entered for Delegate-at-large, and he ran last.

(In the ^{total} ~~xxxxxxx~~ popular vote, Stassen did well in the ^{Ohio} districts where he contested against the

favorite son, ^{losing} ~~he lost~~ out by a margin of ~~only~~ ^{some} ~~somewhat~~
~~were then~~ seventeen thousand. Taft-- three-hundred-and-
sixty-seven-thousand. Stassen -- three ~~hundreds~~ hundred-and-
forty-nine-thousand.)

(Both sides are claiming victory -- although
neither achieved as much as he said he would.) ~~Senator~~
~~Taft predicted a shutout, declaring that Stassen would win~~
~~and not one delegate in Ohio.~~ Stassen claimed that
at least half of his twenty-three candidates would win -
giving him twelve. In reality, he got nine. ^{RP} The political
world in Washington takes the general view that it's
all ~~unhappy~~ betwixt and between. Taft -- showing weakness
with the labor vote. Stassen -- coming out with less than
he hoped, which would tend to slow down the Stassen
bandwagon.

Senator Taft claimed today that, with the
Ohio result, he will now have the largest vote on the
first ballot in the Republican convention -- although
that would not seem to be indicated by the total number
of delegates pledged to him. Stassen also claims that he

will be number one in the first vote -- and so does
Governor Dewey. ^{Phell,} _^ If you count up the number of delegates
pledged, Dewey has the most -- the core of his strength
being that large block ~~of all delegates~~ from New York.

MACARTHUR FOLLOW PRIMARIES

Tonight the possibility was raised that General MacArthur may attend the Republican National Convention. This hope was expressed by General Jonathan Wainright, the hero of Bataan, who is National Chairman of the Veterans Committee for MacArthur-for-President. General Wainright told a news conference that Congress should call the Supreme Commander from Tokyo to Washington to give his views on National Defense in foreign affairs. He said that MacArthur is still very much in the running for the Republican nomination -- especially if he should make an appearance at the convention in Philadelphia.

ALABAMA PRIMARY

The news from Alabama tonight is - mixed.

It's a combination of politics and romance. On the political side the final ~~ac~~count of the vote in the primary yesterday ~~shows~~ shows the anti-Truman cause in the ascendant. The voters elected a slate of delegates most ^{ly} opposed to the President and his program of racial rights. The Alabama delegates are pledged to walk out of the Democratic Convention at Philadelphia if the Truman race policies are okayed.

Also - ~~Ragxxx~~ Governor Folsom sustained a political setback. That was indicated in the early returns last night and is now confirmed. The candidates supported by the Governor fared badly, specially the Folsom choice for the Senate -- candidate Philip Hamm. This - in spite of the fact that Governor Folsom backed his candidate with one of those rural stumping tours that have made Folsom famous. He's called - Kissin' Jim. Because he says that in his own successful election campaign a couple of years ago he kissed fifty thousand women voters.

Since then Kissin' Jim has been involved in a paternity suit, and now -- a political set-back as well. Kissin Jim may have kissed fifty thousand Alabama women voters, but his candidate for the Senate lost out one-hundred-and-thirty-four thousand to thirty-four thousand.

But don't underestimate Kissin' Jim - because here's a late dispatch from Alabama which ties this political news right in with romance. The bulletin states that Kissin' Jim has just got married. A widower, he took a bride today -- Miss Jamelle Moore - twenty-one years old, and described as a ~~gag~~ gorgeous brunette, petite, about five-feet tall. Kissin' Jim is six-foot-eight, weighs two-hundred-and-forty pounds and is thirty-nine years ~~xxx~~ old. Kissin' Jim may not have done so well in politics yesterday, but he did all right in the field of romance today.

On the stately highways of this fair land of ours, the electioneering troupers are on the go, featured by the candidates for the Republican nomination- *Sen. Taft,* Governor Dewey, Harold Stassen, ~~Senator Taft~~ *And, the* nationwide traveling ~~political~~ show will now have a new recruit - ~~the~~ President Truman, campaigning for another term in the White House.

This was announced today by Presidential Secretary Moss, who stated that the President will leave Washington on June Third, for a tour of the Middlewest and the Pacific Coast. On June Fourth, he will address a Chicago Scandinavian Celebration -- commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the settlement of Swedish pioneers in the Middlewest. - On June Fifth he'll attend a reunion of his old outfit in World War One - the thirty-fifth Division, in which young Harry Truman served as an artillery officer, in France.

~~the~~ Traveling by train through the Middlewest and along the Pacific Coast, the President will make a lot of those addresses from the rear ~~platform~~ platform of a

passenger coach -- and will shake a lot of hands. After the Stassen revival of the stump speaking technique of old-time American politics, political hand-shaking is much in vogue again. ~~which is all to the good - only~~
~~I hope they don't revive too much of the old tradition~~
~~of baby kissing kissing.~~

TRUMAN-HOLLYWOOD

We hear that a Hollywood night club comedian has communicated with the White House, and got an answer from the President. This has to do with the current Hollywood attitude toward Communism and Reds - a delicate subject. President Truman was involved - hence the telegram to the White House.

The night club comedian is Peter Lind Hayes who recently arrived in Hollywood with a funny skit featuring a Presidential theme. Opening at Ciro's, he expected to get a lot of laughs. There was a brilliant audience of movie celebrities, film stars, writers, executives - and they always like a turn of rambunctious humor. However, to the comedian's dismay the take-off on President Truman fell flat - hardly a sign of applause from the brilliant galaxy of movie stars, screen writers and film executives. They sat on their hands, as the theatrical expression goes. The flop was so complete that the management ordered the Presidential parody taken off after the first night.

The comedian, astonished and chagrined, was told that it was all an aftermath of the Congressional investigation of Communism in Hollywood, with charges hurled against screen writers and producers alleged to be Reds, the motion picture producers barring Communists from various jobs. So the movie world has got the jitters, shying away from anything that might have the faintest tinge of pink. Hollywood is scared - and you can't ~~xxxx~~ kid the President, not there! Comedian Peter Lind Hayes was so disconcerted, that he wired ~~x~~ his apologies to the White House, telling the President he meant no offense. So what is the Presidential answer?

By this time you may be curious about what the offending skit was all about. A description is given by United Press Hollywood ~~xxxxxx~~ reporter Aline ~~xxxxxx~~ Mosby, and here are the dreadful details. The act presented a scene supposed to happen after the next election. President Truman, after having been first ~~xxxxxx~~ citizen of the land, has now become the nation's number one piano player, specializing in the

Missouri waltz. On the stage, impersonated by the comedian, Harry Truman remarks that when he departed from Washington it helped the housing shortage a lot. "When I left he says, a lot of people moved back to Missouri."

Later in the act, he brings out an armful of neckties, announcing: "This is our new fall line. Reminiscent of the Missouri haberdashery shop in which young Harry Truman was once a partner.

For a climax Daughter Margaret, played by a lady comedian, appears and sings. But Papa keeps interrupting her singing, by banging out the Missouri waltz on the piano.

So that was the horrendous offering -- for which apologies were sent to the White House.

What's the reply? How does the President take the comedy and the way Hollywood was shocked? His reply is a White House telegram as follows: "Thanks for your wire. I can't ~~im~~ understand what all the shooting is about." Spoken like Harry Truman. And this next will be spoken like Nelson Case.