

C. J. - P. & G. Wednesday, Sept. 1, 1948.

In Birmingham, Alabama, tonight Henry Wallace refused to speak. An audience of three thousand, including one thousand negroes, was waiting for him on the steps of the court house. But they were segregated, and Wallace refused to talk to a segregated audience. His decision was received with a storm of jeering and booing -- and eggs were thrown.

Previously during the day, the third party candidate had a mixed reception in other parts of Alabama - received quietly in some places; ~~but~~ angrily and stormily in others.

(President Truman this afternoon received assurance of labor support - personal assurance. A Deputation of union leaders, headed by President Philip Murray of the C I O, called at the White House to give the President official notification that he has been ~~xx~~ endorsed by the C I O.)

In Albany, Governor Dewey is talking things over with Harold Stassen his ^{recent} rival for ^{the} G O P nomination, who is now ready for an all-out campaign-

job in behalf of the Dewey-Warren ticket. They held a news conference tonight, during which one subject was communism. Governor Dewey stated his belief that the task of driving the Reds out of the government in ~~Washington~~ Washington was what ~~he~~ he called - "an earnest and pressing national problem". To which he added: "It will be ~~done~~ done just as fast as a Republican can be elected and start doing it."

... rail traffic into Berlin ...
September 1948 ...
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... original Soviet excuse ...
... the blockade ...
... rail lines needed repairs.

SUBSTITUTE LEAD CRISIS

(Berlin tonight is buzzing with rumors that the Soviet food blockade will soon be a thing of the past. Both American and German sources predict resumption of normal transportation -- within ten days. U S air circles state that preparations ~~were~~ underway to end the joint air supply line) - "within a hundred days". Railway officials for the western powers are saying that they have been alerted to resume rail traffic into Berlin -- some time after September Fifth".

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(Another news report tells of two huge western supply trains already assembled and loaded, prepared to go rolling to Berlin at any moment.)

The hopeful signs include - the black market. The value of western marks is falling. Hitherto they have been three times the value of Soviet marks. But now the word is that the agreement will make Soviet marks the only currency in Berlin - ~~xxx~~ western marks to be exchanged on an equal basis. The prospect for a settlement appears to be so good that in the black market western marks declined rapidly today toward parity with Soviet currency. Two Berlin newspapers, one in the American and the other in the British zone, have begun accepting Soviet ~~xxx~~ marks in payment for papers.

These symptoms are echoed in larger terms in London. Authoritative sources today confirmed rumors that another big power conference is likely to be held soon. They say that this has been a major theme in the long ~~xxxx~~ negotiations, the repeated ~~xxxxxxx~~ meetings at

the Kremlin. The envoys of the United States, Great Britain and France talked with Stalin and Molotov about another get-together of foreign ministers - but would agree to nothing until the Berlin blockade ends, a conference will be announced, and will be held this autumn.

All this is attributed to a change of mood in the Kremlin, Stalin adopting a new attitude of conciliation.

SUB LEAD ZDHANOV

In Moscow tonight Stalin stood with bowed head at a coffin - the flag-draped bier of Colonel General Zhdanov, who was often reported to be the most likely successor to the Soviet Premier. Today members of the all powerful politburo took turns in standing as honor guards in the funeral pageant -- Stalin taking his turn tonight. While hundreds of thousands jammed Red Square - and filed past; - miles of them.

The death of Zhdanov arouses world wide speculations. United Press correspondent Walter Kronkite refers to a document, ~~etc etc~~ which →

ZHDANOV

Moscow today was in dramatic mourning - for Zhdanov. The Stalin government put on a solemn funeral pageant - while in other countries world diplomacy tried to reckon the effects of the passing of that powerful Soviet figure. Zhdanov was known to be the most relentless adherent of world revolution, pressing for aggressive policy against the west - the Soviet drive and push. He was reckoned, likewise, to be a probably successor to Stalin. So what now does his passing mean in the secret councils behind the fortress walls of the Kremlin?

For an answer, let's go to a newsman, returned recently from Moscow - Walter Cronkite, who was for two years the bureau manager for the United Press ~~in the Soviet capital. He refers to a document, which~~ must be one of the most interesting in the world - and one of the most important, Stalin's will. He says the word in Moscow is that Stalin has made a will, and in it answers the question of who is to succeed him.

As of several months ago, Stalin named not

one - but two - a dual dictatorship to succeed him, when he passes from the Soviet scene. The two names - Zhdanov and Molotov. In this partnership, as designated by Stalin, Zhdanov would take over Communist Party affairs in Russia, ~~while~~ while Molotov would run the government - meaning foreign affairs, largely. The Soviet system being a one-party dictatorship, this would give the top ranking power to Zhdanov - as boss of the Red political machine. (Molotov, though running the government and foreign affairs, would really be in second place - (the party being all powerful. Such, says Walter Cronkite, was the generally accepted opinion in Moscow - several months ago.)

-But things proceeded to happen. Zhdanov, as the number one zealot of Communism, pushed his own extreme^s policy of aggression against the west. Which has resulted in the present high tension of world crisis. His instrument of international policy was the Cominform, the new Red international organization - Zhdanov's own brain child.

But the Cominform proceeded to back-fire. It reacted in Western Europe, causing the western countries to draw together for a closer union - under the auspices of America's Marshall Plan. worst of all, the Cominform brought about an explosion behind the Iron Curtain - the revolt of a satellite, the defection of Red Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia. (That was bad -

and it was a direct result of Zhdanov's policy. (When

Red Yugoslavia showed signs of independence, Zhdanov insisted on an unrelenting policy, determined to make Tito submit. But, instead, Tito was enraged, and went into open revolt against the Cominform.)

So what did Stalin think about that? Walter Cronkite says it was understood in Moscow that Stalin was angry - he blamed Zhdanov. Did he thereupon change his will? (Did he alter that provision which named

~~Zhdanov~~ Zhdanov and Molotov, a two-man dictatorship, to be his successor? we don't know.) (~~however~~, Stalin's policy

now shows indications of having become more moderate,

And - the death of Zhdanov? Moscow states that he

succumbed to serious illness - high blood pressure and a heart condition.)

Today Walter Cronkite writes: "I saw Zhdanov a little more than a month ago," The United Press correspondent ^{then goes on:-} ~~continues~~ "He was at the ~~Q~~ Bucharest Cominform meeting, which read Tito out of the Soviet Communist Party

That, "the newsman reasons, "would seem to be a tough and unlikely assignment for a man with the serious heart ailments ascribed to him by the Moscow radio."

(In any case, Colonel General Zhdanov has vanished from the Kremlin and the Politburo. The succession to the Stalin dictatorship has completely changed. - It may now be Molotov, all by himself.

Moreover, the most violent ~~and~~ advocate of Soviet opposition to the west has been removed.) (Circles of world diplomacy believe that this will not alter the general drift of Soviet policy - because the others in the politburo ~~are~~ are equally Communist, ^{ie, but somewhat} ~~but they~~ ^{- maybe. So the} ~~are~~ more patient ~~to~~ tactics of the Soviets may

become increasingly moderate, as a result of the passing of Zhdanov - passing first from the favor of Stalin, passing then from this world of red disturbance.)

BENES

News from Czechoslovakia - that former President Benes is not expected to live through the night. ~~Six~~ Sixty-four years old and suffering from hardening of the arteries, he has been sinking for several days - now in a coma. Benes - the long time liberal who thought he could collaborate with ~~the~~ Communists. As President of Czechoslovakia, he saw the Reds grab power, and shortly after that he was - out. He ~~was~~ remained like a ghost of the liberal tradition that at one time distinguished his country.

SUBSTITUTE CHURCHES

Here's a news dispatch with a question -- something for you to try and answer. What is the difference between Roman Catholics and Protestants?

Tonight the World Council of Churches, meeting in Amsterdam, Holland -- was seeking an answer, trying to work out a definition of Catholics-- Protestant difference.

That international Christian conference represents of course, all sorts of churches - from methodists and Baptist, to the High Church of England, the Greek Orthodox Church and the Coptic rite, Christian groups of every sort. The Roman Catholic church, while not officially represented, has sent observers. So you can imagine the interest in the discussion of definitions in the great division among Christians.

A report was brought in by a committee, and that led to the ~~hottest~~ liveliest argument the World Conference has had thus far - no ~~at~~ decision as yet. But Christians everywhere will be interested in that question -- "what is the ~~is~~ difference between Roman Catholic and Protestant."

ATHEISTS

Radio stations were informed today that they are not compelled to broadcast atheism. This ruling emanates from the Federal Communications Commission, which assured the radio people that they will not be punished if they refuse to give broadcast time to atheist programs.

A Congressional Committee has been holding hearings on the subject, and it turns out that the whole question goes back to a ruling issued by the F.C.C. in Nineteen ~~xxx~~ forty-Six. At that time, Robert H. Scott of Palo Alto, California, filed a demand that three California stations be thrown off the air because they refused to let him have time for the broadcast of Godless propaganda.

The Commission rejected this petition, but issued a long and involved opinion which held that atheists, as well as religious groups, have a right to air their views. This was interpreted by radio stations as meaning that, if they broadcast religious programs, they must ~~id~~ let atheists have an equal time on the air

The Congressional hearing in Washington brought forth a number of witnesses, including one apostle of atheism. Religious leaders appeared, and the net result would seem to be that the F.C.C. is in for a congressional rebuke - for the confusion that has arisen around that original decision on the subject of Godless programs.

So now, in the midst of this, the F.C.C. hastens to assure radio stations that they do not have to give as much air time to atheism as they do to religious programs. They will not be punished if they reflect broadcasts preaching against the belief in God.

RESCUE

Last night a life was save in Chesapeake Bay, and today the story was told - radar.

A small freighter was chugging along fifty miles below Annapolis. The waves were running high in Chesapeake Bay. Heavy seas came rushing, and the freighter was swamped. The boat was loaded with slag, the heaviest kind of cargo, and sank almost at once.

Only two men were aboard, and one managed to leap on a life-raft - ~~XXXXXXXX~~ rescued shortly afterwards. But the other, the skipper, Captain Richard Christie - found himself in the water with only a piece of wreckage to cling to. He drifted off in the darkness - for eight hours.

Today the crew of a Baltimore-Norfolk passenger steamship told how they were navigating in the darkness. The radar set was working -- that magic eye for vision in the dark on the lookout for dangerous floating debris. Then, on the radar screen, something became visible - something out on the black water. They turned a searchlight to see what it was, and in a

moment the glowing beam was shining bright on a human being, a castaway clinging to wreckage. A lifeboat was lowered, and Captain Richard Christie was pulled aboard - saved by radar.

CANDY BLACKMAIL

Today in England a verdict was handed down in the candy blackmail case - an affair which has stirred no end of public interest. Its that strange; at the town of Bradford, A British judge imposed a sentence of six months in prison on Mrs. Florence May -- for her part in the extortion of thirty-eight hundred dollars, all because of some small amount ~~xxx~~ of candy.

England has candy rationing, and Mrs. May's thirteen year old daughter Betty had some candy coupons - illegal - coupons procured from the black market. Her playmate, twelve year old Jean Hall, was hungry for candy, and bought some of the coupons from Betty - paying eighty cents for them.

Testimony ~~showed~~ showed that Mrs. May learned of this, and concocted a scheme of blackmail ~~through~~ through the children. The traffic in candy coupons being illegal, she told Betty to frighten Jean - by threatening to tell on her. Tell on her, that is - unless she paid Betty to keep silent. I happened that a sister of Jean had money

saved up -- to the amount of thirty-eight hundred dollars, Betty frightened Jean so thoroughly that the twelve year old stole her sisters savings, and paid the thirty-eight hundred dollars to Betty as hush money.

Betty's mother got the cash and today went to jail for six months, as England was agog over the candy blackmail case.

LOUISIANA

In Louisiana, Russell Long is in the lead - but a mighty slim lead. The son of the one-time ~~ixkixga~~ Kingfish, ~~f~~ running for the Senate, is a mere thirty-three hundred votes ahead -- in a total of ~~mmk~~ nearly half a million votes cast. All day long the issue seesawed, but the latest shows that the figures from rural areas, the Louisiana parishes, have swung the lead to the son of Huey Long - though his majority is about as slender as a majority can be.

HOLLYWOOD

In Hollywood today, the Youth Forum held a meeting on the steps of City Hall - a rally against juvenile delinquency. Prominent speakers made addresses to the assembled children - urging them to good behavior and proper conduct. One of the stars, appearing in the drive against juvenile delinquency, was to have been movie actor Robert Mitchum. He was scheduled to talk to the children, and give them good advice. You know how boys are impressed by a ~~man~~ movie actor - especially such a favorite in he-man roles.

But Robert Mitchum did not appear. Instead, the news came that he had been arrested on a narcotics charge - caught smoking marijuana. The police broke into the sumptuous Hollywood home of a motion picture starlet, Lila Leeds, and there they found the hostess, Robert Mitchum, and a ~~man~~ couple of others - smoking ~~man~~ reefers.

The thirty-one year old actor, who recently soared into stardom and success, made no defense. He told the police, "I have been smoking marijuanas for years.

I guess its all over now - I'm ruined. This," he added, "is the bitter end of everything - my career, my home, my marriage."

Bitter end, indeed - especially with the youth forum waiting for that address on juvenile delinquence.

And now Jay Sims, how about an address from you?