

The latest news comes in a dramatic way - a bulletin from the scene of revolution (in Colombia, where a savage insurrection has broken up the Pan-American Conference.) After a series of fragmentary despatches we have a conservative summary sent by the New York Herald Tribune correspondent Mack R. Johnson, and released by United Press.

This was telephoned from the Hotel Astor in Bogota, directly across the street from the presidential palace, and a block from the capitol building where the Pan-American conference has been in session. The American correspondents right now are barricaded in the hotel, with grim and bloody fighting ~~is~~ going on in the streets outside. From this point Newsman Johnson has been able to get through by telephone to New York, and here's what he says:-

"There is complete anarchy here. Police and troops are firing in the streets. It is a <sup>(flaming</sup> ~~flaming~~ full-fledged revolt." To which he adds: "At this moment there seems to be no possibility of restoring

order and continuing the Pan American conference." Other dispatches tell of mobs raging looting and burning - in full control of the downtown section of the Colombian capitol. The government radio stations, seized by the rebels, are blaring a call for countrywide revolution.

Here is the background while the Assembly of the Americas had been in session at Bogota;- there has been seething political discontent throughout the Republic of Colombia. <sup>with</sup> Hostility ~~has been~~ increasing between the conservative and liberal parties, following an election that put a conservative president in power. And today the situation exploded - touched off by ~~an~~ political assassination.

( A gunman shot down liberal party leader ~~Mr~~ Gaitan, who was fatally wounded and died several hours later. The shots were like pulling the trigger of revolt. A swiftly assembling mob seized the assassin, who had been captured by the police, and beat him to death. Whereupon the enraged crowd went charging to the capitol building where the sessions of the Pan

American Conference are held. They burst in, and smashed up the place, howling "down with Laureano Gomez" shouting for the blood of the Colombian Foreign Minister, prominent leader of the Conservative Party, who was Chief Colombian delegate to the conference.)

It's not clear to what extent the Pan American Conference was in operation when the building was stormed. All we know is that (the American delegation including Secretary of State Marshall, is safe.) In Washington, acting Secretary of State Lovett had a telephone call a few hours ago from Secretary Marshall - who was at his temporary residence, some distance from the center of trouble. It seems likely that the American delegation will be promptly withdrawn. Argentina already is sending planes to <sup>take</sup> bring the Argentinian delegation home -- the conference broken up by the revolution.

News from Bogota ~~is~~ tends to give the insurrection a Communist tinge -- also anti-American.

The rebel radio shouts that the United States is to blame for the assassination of liberal leader Gaitan. It is not clear whether the Communists played a part in the incitement of revolt, or whether they have merely taken advantage of the revolution that flamed so suddenly today.

The latest in a dispatch from the American Embassy in Bogota which reports to the State Department that liberal leaders are at the palace demanding that President Ospina Perez resign and transfer the government to the liberals. (The dispatch from our Embassy adds - "the mob continues rioting and looting and fires are still burning ~~at~~ despite heavy rains.")

PALESTINE

In Jerusalem today, the Arab Quarter, they held the funeral of Abdul Kadar Hussein, ~~the~~ nephew of the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem. <sup>R</sup> Leader of the Arab Military Forces in Palestine, he was killed in battle against the Jews. So today, carrying his body, a huge procession of Moslems went streaming through the <sup>narrow</sup> streets, ~~along Jericho Road, through Herod's gate. There~~ <sup>There</sup> was a waving of Moslem standards, and a bedlam of shouts of war, as a procession of Sheiks led the way to the ancient Mosque of Omar <sup>R</sup>.

Abdul Kadar Hussein, nephew of the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, was killed in <sup>the</sup> battle for the village of Kastel, a strategic hill <sup>town</sup> which dominates the <sup>old</sup> road from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. For days the Jews and Arabs have been fighting for the village, and last night two thousand Moslems went surging to the attack - led by Abdul Kadar ~~H~~ Hussein. They took the village by storm - but their leader fell. Today, while his funeral was held, the battle for ~~that~~ <sup>the</sup> village was resumed. This time the Jewish Militia, Hagannah, stormed and

captured the place - the strong point in Jewish hands tonight.

The news from Palestine tells of another Arab village, not far away. There, the Jewish extremists of Irgun Zvai Leumi made an attack, and today an Irgun spokesman claimed that two hundred Arabs, men, women and children, were killed in the blowing up of houses.

## COMMUNISTS

From Congress -- word of a bill directed against the American Communists. The committee on Un-American activities today decided on the General outlines of a law to compel the party of American Reds to break all ties with Moscow. The idea is to make top leaders of the American Communist Party liable to sentences of ten years in prison, if they continue to maintain their connection with Soviet Russia.

The Committee states that this is not a bill to outlaw the Communist Party, though a preamble to the measure calls the Red Organization -- "an illegal conspiracy." Presumably ~~the~~ Communist<sup>s</sup> would be considered guilty of illegal conspiracy so long as they are tied up with the Stalin Dictatorship in the Kremlin.

EXPEDITION

Today brought a climax <sup>in the uproar</sup> ~~for what promised to~~  
~~that ends what promised to~~  
be an inspiring romance of exploration and science. The  
expedition, which started out with dreams of glory, has  
returned with wails of anguish.

They set out to make an aerial investigation  
of that mysterious mountain in <sup>far western</sup> China, <sup>(Anne Mahken)</sup> ~~and~~  
<sup>rumored</sup> ~~to be~~ higher than Everest, <sup>- maybe.</sup> Financed by Milton Reynolds  
of fountain pen fame, a party of scientists went along,  
everything to be done in the most modern style of ~~exploration~~  
exploration. I was the more interested because <sup>I know</sup> the pilot  
Bill Odom, ~~is a friend of mine~~ - Bill Odom who last year  
made <sup>two record</sup> flights around the world. <sup>by over all</sup> ~~with Milton Reynolds~~ in  
charge of the <sup>scientific</sup> arrangements was Bradford Washburn, and I've  
known Brad for a long time, keeping in touch with his  
exploits as a <sup>top</sup> mountaineer.

Today from Columbus Ohio, came a blistering  
statement by Professor Richard Goldthwaite, Associate  
Professor of geology at Ohio State University. Dr.  
Goldthwaite was on the expedition, and now he has  
returned. He tells of delays which he says were ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~



unnecessary, the scientists left waiting, while nothing happened. He blames this on Bill Odom <sup>and Reynolds,</sup> and makes one charge of a highly dramatic sort.

He tells of a flight that Odom made, along with Reynolds, a mysterious flight - leaving the scientists behind. Dr. Goldthwaite says he ~~believes~~ believes that the pilot and the backer ~~of~~ of the expedition were trying to find the much debated mountain all by themselves. Today the professor stated: "Bill Odom appeared to be reluctant to share the glory of any discovery with the scientists. The evidence, "Dr. Goldthwaite goes on, "points to Odom's flying to the mountain range with Reynolds."

When Odom and Reynolds rejoined the scientists, they said they had flown down to India on some mission ~~xxx~~ or other. But the Professor believes that this may have been a blind. Then finally, Odom and Reynolds ~~xxx~~ flew off to Tokyo, and then back to the United States - leaving the scientists in China. Stranded says the Professor. Why did Reynolds do that? Today Dr. Goldthwaite suggested the following answer: "It might

have been because he had something - perhaps aerial photographs of the mountain - that he did not wish to show to the Chinese government.

All of which raised a fascinating mystery - had Odom and Reynolds really flown to <sup>Anne</sup> ~~John~~ Machin? And had they come back with secret photographs of the mountain supposed to be higher than Everest? That question beguiled me so thoroughly that I started out to find Bill Odom, and <sup>finally</sup> ~~xxxxxxx~~ located him <sup>in Chicago,</sup> ~~by telephone~~ ~~telephone in Chicago~~ and had a talk with him.

He said the trouble was because of the impatience of the scientists. They had ~~xxxxxx~~ been engaged for only a limited time, and couldn't stay too long - business and duty calling them back home. Moreover, while waiting, they were laid up in an obscure Chinese town, and were soon fed up with that. In addition to which Chinese scientists got into the picture and complicated matters.

As for delays in making a flight to the mountain <sup>Odom</sup> ~~Bill~~ says there was trouble with the plane and trouble

with the weather. He reminded me that he used to be a pilot on the Chinese Airways. So he knew the country and the weather - not to mention the fact that some of the territory over which they would have to fly was controlled by the Chinese Communists.

As for his mystery flight with Milton Reynolds, Bill insists that they did fly down to India, and not to <sup>Annal</sup>~~Annal~~ Machin - no mystery flight at all. He says the scientists were not left stranded - they had been provided with all necessary money for transportation. And he and Reynolds flying home did not bring back any secret photographs of the mountain supposed to be ~~high~~ higher than Everest. They were never near the lofty summit.

So there we have two sides of the story - and there may be two or three more. We'll probably hear about them later - especially when Brad Washburn gets back and gives his version. It's all sadly familiar in the history of exploration, the way the valorous adventures<sup>n</sup>~~s~~ can get into pitched battles ~~in~~ among themselves. Today, on the long distance ~~travels~~

telephone, Bill Odom expressed it in plaintive tones.

"The only expedition during which you don't have a fight," said he, "is when you go to a funeral." well, Bill, I wouldn't be too sure about that either - not if explorers attended the funeral.

STRIKE

A break in the strike of Chicago packing house workers. Today the Union and one of five companies, the largest company, ~~W~~ Swift, accepted a proposal by President Truman that negotiations be resumed to end the ~~W~~ walkout. So now, both sides will get together in an effort to settle the twenty five day old meat strike.

## RADIO

Today I had a pleasant half hour, reading some ancient history. How ancient? Oh, about twenty years ancient. But those were the antediluvian days in radio. In Collier's a series began today, called, "Men, Mikes and Money" by Merlin H. Aylesworth, whom everybody calls Deac. A real number one pioneer of radio.

Deac Aylesworth has a good deal to say about the legended George Washington Hill, giant of cigarette advertising, whose explosive ways ~~xxx~~ are hilarious radio tradition. Deac tells ~~hx~~ how, during one program, the famous old time announcer, Graham McNamee, read the commercial with soulful feeling, and gave his all as he hit the keynote - "luckies are kind to your throat." Whereupon millions of listeners heard somebody emit a loud cough.

Seconds later, President Aylesworth, who was in full charge of the network, was called to the ~~mixer~~ telephone, and heard the thunderous accents of George Washington Hill -- who listened to every program.

"Deac" he roared, "I want you to fire Graham McNamee or whoever it was that coughed."

To which Aylesworth replied: "The man who coughed was your Vice President."

whereupon the great George Washington Hill changed the subject. The article is full of good yarns like that.

## SHINTO WEDDING

In San Francisco, today, a wartime Commander in the Navy, had a Shinto marriage annulled. He says he didn't know the Japanese ritual he went ~~th~~ through with a red haired Army Intelligence Assistant was a wedding. They thought it was a farewell party, which sounds odd because wedding bells, usually, are more like a hello, than a goodbye. But things ~~are~~ are strange in Japan.

Frederick T. Ebersole, socially prominent in San Francisco, was <sup>already</sup> married at the time; though separated from his wife ~~^~~ with whom he has since become reconciled. In Japan, he was acquainted with Elizabeth Church, who worked for Army ~~Intelligence~~ Intelligence in Tokyo. They both became interested in Shinto, the ancient cult of the Japanese; so when they were ordered back to the United States<sup>s,</sup> at about the same time - a Japanese friend arranged a Shinto celebration. What Ebersole today called: "A beautiful Japanese going away ceremony." The ritual was performed in his friend's house by a Shinto priest, who ~~were~~ wore flowing Oriental robes and a hat



shaped like a cone.

~~(Today Ebersole described the ceremony in these words: "The Shinto priest was mumbling words that we could not understand. Attendants "were playing on flutes and sounding brass gongs. Several times the Priest bowed low, almost to the floor, as the temple music ~~was~~ continued.)~~

The former Navy Commander concludes the account by saying that the Shinto Priest handed them a beautiful scroll with Japanese characters on it. "I didn't know <sup>(what</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>it</sup> said," he explained today.

So that was that, and nothing more was thought of it until recently - when Elizabeth Church, in Seattle, thought she would have the scroll translated. She discovered, to her astonishment, that the <sup>(scroll)</sup> ~~scroll~~ was a Shinto marriage certificate, the supposed Japanese farewell ceremony actually a wedding.

That's the story which Ebersole told the court today, and his wife says - she will accept the explanation. *There's an understanding wife, Nelson.*