

DEMOCRATS

L.J. - P+G. Friday, Feb. 20, 1948.

In Congress today, revolting Southern Democrats gave the high command of their party twenty-seven days in which to meet Southern demands. Fifty Congressmen from eleven ~~Southern~~ states held a meeting and endorsed resolutions adopted ^{Feb. 7th} by the conference of Southern Governors ~~on February Seventh.~~

⌘ The Governors, protesting against racial policies proposed by President Truman, debated a Southern secession from the Democratic Party. Their decision was to delay action - and give the party chieftains ^a ~~some~~ space of time to retract on the racial issue - or there'd be a Southern bolt. The time allowed by the Governors was forty days, and today the Southern Congressmen okayed the resolution. ⌘ Thirteen of the forty days have elapsed - leaving twenty-seven days. They decided to send a committee to Democratic National Chairman McGrath, to present an ultimatum with that deadline - Southern secession from the party, if the racial issue is not soft-pedalled.

Last night, in his Jefferson-Jackson Day address, President Truman did not mention his program for racial rights -

silent about it. But that presidential silence is not enough to placate the Southerners - the Dixie²land lawmakers taking their action today.

~~All of which provides a thorny problem for the Democratic high command - who, in fact, are trying to handle two problems bristling with thorns - the rising Southern protest added to the menace of Henry Wallace, as exemplified in that recent congressional election in New York. Trouble on the Right, trouble on the Left - a double jeopardy in the plans to reelect President Truman - who, by the way, has gone on a vacation trip to the West Indies.~~

CHINA AID

The question of aid to China is under consideration in Washington - with Secretary of State Marshall appearing before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House today, ~~and testifying in favor of President Truman's proposal to extend non-military help to the Chinese Government - five hundred and seventy million dollars' worth.~~ Washington deliberations on this question are of the greatest international import, and are being conducted with grave regard for the world aspects ~~of America~~ - not to forget the American political aspects. Nearly everything takes on a political slant, somehow or other, this presidential year - and so with aid to China.

Today in Congress, a proposal was made by Smith of Wisconsin. He suggested that in dealing with the question of aid to China, Congress should have expert advice, counsel from a high quarter indeed. He proposed that Congress summon a top-ranking ~~figure~~ to give information on the China problem - ~~Congress to call home~~ - General Douglas MacArthur.

~~That was an inspiring idea~~ ^{but the} ~~the supreme commander,~~
~~so great in fame, returning to this country for the first time~~
~~since he won the victory in the Pacific~~ ~~returning to advise~~
~~Congress on China. They smelled politics.~~ ~~But this~~ This
 Wisconsin Republican suggestion was received with intense
 suspicion by the Democrats - who pointed out that General
 MacArthur has been entered in the Wisconsin primaries as a
 candidate for the Republican nomination for president. So they
 figured that China was not the real point. ^W MacArthur is the
 only one of our top commanders in the victory of World War Two
 who has not come home and had a ticker-tape parade. You can
 imagine the coast-to-coast ovations when he gets here! And
 you can imagine the political possibilities if this should
 happen just as the presidential campaign gets going full blast!
 What ~~could be~~ more wonderful for a presidential candidate - if
 MacArthur should happen to want to be one? ~~So you can~~
~~understand the Democratic suspicion at the idea of Congress~~
~~calling MacArthur home to advise on China just at this time.~~

THE YEMEN (New Lead)

Conflicting ~~Conflicting~~ news is ^{coming} ~~filtering~~ out of the ^{Arabian} ancient city of Sana, ~~for~~ in the remote mountains of Yemen. ^{At any rate - confused or not the} ~~in South West Arabia.~~ This news of political overthrow and murder ^{in Yemen} may have widespread repercussions in ~~the tangled~~ ^{the rest of} tangled affairs of this modern world - touching as it ~~does~~ does on that ~~most~~ ^{complex} difficult and disputed problem - Palestine. ^{For} The Yemen ^{is} one of the nations of the Arab League, ^{- particularly} ~~is~~ bitter in opposition to the establishment of the Jewish state.

Today, in London, British officials called at a fashionable hotel to reveal certain information to a handsome young Arab - Prince Abdullah-the-Silent, ^{he is} ~~called, the~~ ^{Imam} sixth son of eighty-three year old ~~Yah-Ya, known as~~ "The Imam, His Majesty, King of the Yemen." These officials told Abdullah of a communication received by the British Government from a certain Abdullah Ibn Wazir in Sana, the Yemen capital, ~~saying~~ IBn Wazir saying he had been "Elected" Imam of Yemen following the death of the aged Yah-ya.

On hearing the news, Abdullah the Silent said not a word. Instead he girded a golden dagger round his waist, gathered his flowing robes around him, swept from the hotel, and grabbed a cab to the airport. Tonight he is on the way to Cairo, with his golden dagger. TH That ~~his~~ father is dead, Prince Abdullah-the-Silent is sure. But he and the British officials with whom he conferred, have ^{had further} ~~heard other~~ reports " ^{intrigue -} ~~stories of~~ murder, and political ~~overthrow~~ the deaths of three of his brothers, as well as ^{the assassination} of his father. ~~King of Yemen~~

TH ~~The kingdom of~~ Yemen is at the southwest corner of Arabia, just behind the ^{blistering} ~~Sultan~~ British crown colony of Aden. But the Yemen is not bleak desert, not the eternal sand, like so much of Arabia. It is mountainous, and there is water. The Romans called Yemen - ~~Arabia~~ Arabia Felix in their time - Happy Arabia.

It is supposed to have been the realm of the Queen of Sheba,
land of incense and spices - and at a later day, the land of
— - *moecha*,
coffee. Today it's often called the kingdom of coffee.

The Yemen has long been ruled by a line of priest-kings,
claiming descent from the Prophet Mohammed - sovereigns ~~who~~
of ~~the~~ state and pontiffs of religion.

And so we come to Imam Yahya, who became the
priest-king of the Yemen away back in Nineteen Four, which gives
him a reign of forty-four years - longer than that of any other
present-day sovereign. The Imam Yahya was a bold and able
ruler. In World War One, he gained the independence of his
kingdom from the Turks. Subsequently, he succeeded in holding
his own even against the redoubtable Ibn Saud, lord of the
desert. When the United Nations came onto the stage of world
politics, the Yemen was one of them and Imam Yahya sent his
delegation to the meetings of the U.N. In the Palestine
dispute, the government of the Yemen was ^{*prominent in*} ~~part of~~ the councils
of the Arab League, and foremost in opposition to a Jewish

state in Palestine.

But trouble meanwhile was brewing in the kingdom of coffee. Imam Yahya had sixteen sons, thanks to Allah and the polygamy permitted by the Koran. All of the sixteen sons had the same name, Saif-el-Islam, sword of Islam. To distinguish between them, they were Prince Ahmad, Prince Abdullah, Prince Ibrahim, and so on.

With Imam Yahya reaching the great age of eighty-two, ~~— even as the Arabians' sons in the Arabian Nights~~ his sons fell to quarreling among themselves, and recent news ^{sixteen} has told how they split into factions. A year ago, one of them, the eighth, Prince Ibrahim, fled from the Yemen, and started a campaign against the despotic rule of his father. "Despotic" was the word - the priest-king Imam Yahya, on his red ~~constituted~~ cushioned throne, having absolute power, the most despotic sovereign on earth. ^R His exiled son became the head of a group calling itself - the Free Yemenites, and agitated for constitutional government in the kingdom of coffee. A constitutional government, with a parliament, cabinet, and

so on, might seem mighty strange in the ancient land of the Queen of Sheba. But apparently that has happened - at least in words. ^R In a ~~roman~~ melodrama of violence and bloodshed, a constitutional government has been set up - though it's

likely to be that in name only. ^R Word from the distant ^{mountain} city of ~~a walled city of ancient skyscrapers~~ Sana ~~states that~~ (the Imam Yahya has been murdered, together

with three of his sons and some of his councillors. There was revolt and assassination in the palace of the ~~remote~~ ^{remote} city of

Sana - and tonight a new Imam sits on the red cushioned throne ^{of Yemen}

^R Curiously, he is not one of the sixteen sons. (He is described as a wealthy merchant,) a coffee exporter - which sounds modern and yet typical of the kingdom of coffee. In any case, the coffee exporter is now the priest-king. ^R But there's a Prime Minister too, sounding most constitutional - and he's the revolting eighth son, Prince Ibrahim. So the feud among the sixteen sons ~~appears~~ of Imam Yahya appears to ~~have~~ result in some kind of westernized regime, with a coffee exporter as the Imam, and a rebel son as Prime Minister.

Nothing definite is known about the eldest of the sixteen sons, the heir to the throne, Prince Ahmad, who commanded the army of the Yemen. Chief adherent of his ^{murdered} father, the old Imam, he survived the insurrection and assassinations, and one report pictures him as leading his military forces against the new government. - But, all that is in doubt - with the suggestion that the kingdom of coffee, with its ^{exporter} coffee Imam, may be in for civil war.

Nor is there anything ~~fr~~ very clear about the position of the sixth son, Prince Abdullah, who was his father's delegate to the United Nations in New York, cutting a picturesque figure in his Arabian robes - and who also represented the Yemen in the Arab League.

What effect will all this have on the Yemenite attitude toward Palestine? Will it produce any change in the Arab League and the opposition to ~~Jewish~~ a Jewish state in the Holy Land? That's an international question, following the political overturn, with fierce melodrama, ^{in the exotic} ~~in the~~ land of the Yemen.

FOLLOW YEMEN

The latest is ~~a bulletin~~ from Cairo, stating that the Arab League is sending a special mission to the Yemen to investigate the state of affairs there, - and inquire what goes on ~~there,~~ after the assassination of Imam Yahya and three of his sons.

Meanwhile, Cairo itself ~~had~~ had a blast of violence today - the city shaken by an explosion. The report is just off the wire, with no details - but it is rumored that the blast was an attempt to assassinate Sheik Hassan Banna, chief of the Moslem Brotherhood, one of the most powerful Mohammedan organizations.

PALESTINE

Palestine reports a thriller - an escape. Twelve members of the Jewish underground broke out of the central prison in Jerusalem today - and the way they did it was a wonder. You often hear of prisoners digging a tunnel for a get-away, and that's what the twelve members of the Jewish underground did - but with what skill!

They are described as terrorists of the Irgun ~~Zvai~~ Leumi and the ~~S~~tern Gang, who were convicted for acts of violence and sentenced to long terms. Today they were found to be missing from the central prison - a jail that's a hundred years old. There was blank mystery. How did they get out? It took hours to answer the question, that long a search before the tunnel was found - concealed ~~with~~ that cleverly.

TH The tunnel led to a manhole on St. Paul Road, a busy thoroughfare. From this manhole the prisoners emerged - a couple of trucks waiting to speed them away. At last reports, the ~~escapers~~ escapers were still at large.

LOOT

The news gives us another strange story of American looting in conquered Germany. A quarter of a million dollars' worth of treasure has been recovered -- a gleaming hoard of gold and jewels -- diamonds, emeralds, rubies, pearls, amethysts, and sapphires. All that taken by the G.I.'s as "souvenirs," loot.

The treasure is being handed back to Countess Nina von Stauffenberg. -- And that name gives the key to the somber implications of the story. The Countess is the widow of the German officer who placed the bomb that nearly killed Hitler, toward the end of the war.

The news at the time was full of ~~the~~^{the} melodrama -- how top-rankers on the General Staff of Hitler's Army plotted to kill the Nazi Fuehrer, and make peace. Hitler was to be blown up, as he held a conference with military advisors. The bomb was placed by a staff officer, Count Claus von Stauffenberg. But the plot failed. The exploding bomb injured Hitler, but failed to kill him -- and the failure was followed by wholesale executions of high officers, Count Claus von Stauffenberg

among them. His widow was put in a camp. The Gestapo stole some of her treasure and buried it. Then, when the American army broke into Germany, the

Stauffenberg home was taken over -- and there the

G.I.'s ^{found the buried heirlooms-} ~~did some fancy "souvenir" grabbing,~~ looting

two-hundred-and-fifty-thousand-dollars worth. ^R Ever

since the end of the war, Army Intelligence has been

working on ~~xx~~ the case -- recovering the "souvenirs."

Soldiers and former soldiers here, there, and the next

place, had to give back valuable articles of ~~junk~~

jewelry, and much of the loot was recovered ^{here -} in the United

States. ^R After extensive sleuthing by Army Intelligence,

a huge treasure hunt, most of the "souvenirs" have now

been recovered, and are being returned to the widow of

the officer who placed the bomb that nearly got Hitler.

None of the ^{ex-G.} I's to be prosecuted, because local federal attys refuse to take action -- so says the Army.

ANTARCTICA

The international drama of Antarctica has developed a new twist - a climax that is often featured nowadays. In almost any kind of affair, you're likely to find the climax produced by the mention of the word - "atomic." President Gonzalez Videla of Chile ^{is} ~~has~~ ^{ing} ~~returned~~ from the Antarctic with uranium. ^{TF} At least, he thinks it's uranium. The President of Chile went to the south polar continent, and there proceeded to annex a large area ~~down there~~ ^{of} in the farthest south. The Antarctic land he has claimed for Chile happens to be ^{claimed} ~~being~~ by Great Britain - which brings up international questions. And these are made all the more vivid by the statement ^{from} the Chilean President ~~made~~ today. He said that on the Antarctic continent he found minerals that contain the stuff of which the atomic bomb is made. He is bringing back samples to be analyzed - hoping that they'll turn out to be uranium ore.

the
In process of annexing part of the south polar continent, President Gonzalez Videla gave a name to the territory that Chile now claims. The name - O'Higgins Land.

~~And El Presidente inaugurated a south polar base, called~~

~~"General O'Higgins Base."~~ All of which sounds Irish, and points

back to the historical fact that the first president of Chile

had that exceedingly Irish name. The father of Chilean

independence was - General Bernard^O_^O'Higgins.

The Navy tells us a sad story about the South Sea Islanders who were evacuated from Bikini -- at the time of those famous test explosions of the atomic bomb. They were transferred to another coral atoll of the far Pacific.--But, they are not happy. They are plagued by -- Libokra. That Micronesian word ~~xxx~~ signifies -- evil spirit. ^R Of course, they were lucky to be away from their native Bikini when the atomic blast hurled its giant radioactive cloud. But, moved away from atomic explosion ^{and} ~~in~~ radio-activity, they ran into Libokra. This is the statement made by Leonard Mason, anthropologist of the University of Hawaii, who just returned from a two weeks' survey of the atoll to which the Bikini islanders were taken.

The coral atoll chosen for them is called Rongerik -- and the islanders claimed that when they got there, they found it ~~was~~ haunted. Haunted by Libokra ^{the wicked one.} So, in their present homes they are living under a curse, and their future can't be anything but evil. ~~The~~

ISLANDERS - 2

The anthropologist from the University of Hawaii says they want to go back to their own Bikini. ~~But~~ According to the Navy -- that's out; because radioactivity still lingers on Bikini, and ^{the} atomic radiation is worse than Libokra.

However, they feel under a curse where they are, and so they'll be moved. This was stated today by Vice Admiral McCrea, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet. He ~~says~~ the islanders ~~are~~ to be removed to Kwajalein -- but only temporarily. They'll be kept at Kwajalein until some new island-home can be found for them -- ~~for~~ some coral atoll without Libokra.

Now Nelson, let's hear from you.

C.J. - P. & G. Monday, Feb. 23, 1948.

SOUTHERN DEMOCRATS.

(In Washington, five Southern Governors tonight issued a flaming challenge to the Deomocratic Party in reply to J. Howard McGrath the party national ~~xxxx~~ chairman who rebuffed their protests ^{regarding} ~~against~~ ^{Chairman McGrath} President Truman's civil rights program. ~~and~~ told them he was committed to the President's program, and that he would support it.

The Southern Governor's met McGrath in a ninety minutes closed session and asked him to soft pedal ~~the~~ ^{the} Truman's proposals for federal laws against racial discrimination. Afterwards they conferred among themselves, and issued a joint statement in which (they say: "The present leadership of the Deomocratic Party will soon realize that the South is no longer in the bag.") The Statement ^{adds} ~~said~~ that the Southern States are aroused, ~~xx~~ and that each Southern State will work out effective means of resisting the proposals of the present leadership of the party. ^R "Resist them we will" say the Governors ^{who are}

in rebellion. ~~against the Democrats~~. The statement^{made} issued by the executives of South and North Carolina, Texas, Arkansas and Maryland, calls on Democrats everywhere to support them, Democrats, that is "Who are opposed to a centralized Government invading the rights of the people and the rights of the respective states."

These Southern Governors believe that one of the most effective weapons they have would be to withhold from Mr Truman the electoral college votes of the Southern States, and thus^{try and} throw selection of the next president into the House of Representatives, the constitution providing that the House pick the President if a candidate fails to get a majority vote in the electoral college.

But word in Washington tonight is that the Democratic leaders^{further} are concerned over the possibility that the Southern States may refuse to chip in to the Party Campaign Fund. A serious loss, and a probably certainty

L.T 6

if this breach between the Southern and Northern ~~Democrats~~
Democrats is not healed.

(Meanwhile, according to a bulletin just
in, ~~xxxxxx~~ from Ridgeland, South Carolina, the Jasper
County Democratic Committee ^{of So. Carolina,} formally quit the
National Party mid the cheers of some two thousand
supporters..)

TAYLOR

(Henry Wallace today received a Washington's Birthday present. He obtained the services of a candidate to run for Vice President on his ticket. His candidate the Honorable Glen H. Taylor, United States Senator from Idaho, popularly known as the "Singing Cowboy".)

TP Sen. Glen Taylor who

He was elected to the Senate as a Democrat, ~~but he~~

turned his back on ^{his} ~~the~~ party today in a radio speech of

^{some} of seventeen hundred words, ^{with Henry Wallace} ~~but you are not going to~~
~~at his side.~~

~~hear those seventeen hundred repeated now. Henry~~

~~sat beside him Taylor as he spoke into the microphone,~~

~~without the accompaniment of any musical ^{instrument} ~~instrument~~~~

(Sen. Taylor announced that he was leaving the party that elected him because, as he put it, Wall

Street and "the military" have taken over the Democratic

Party.) ^{He then went on to tell how} ~~He said~~ he had come to the point of despairing

about the party, now that it's under the control of

President Truman's ^{how now} ~~and~~ friends; ~~and~~ he is relieved at ^{the}

^{thought of} ~~being~~ no longer ^{being} ~~teamed~~ up with ^{such} ~~the~~ big city

bosses ^{as} ~~like~~ Kelly of Chicago, Hague of Jersey City;

^{and} Flynn of the Bronx, Curley of Boston, Penderghast of

Kansas City.

At the same time, ^{the Idaho Senator} said he was sorry for
 the Republican liberals who have to ^{as he put it -} "swallow a program
 laid down for them by Joseph N. Pew of Philadelphia,
 Colonel McCormick of the Chicago Tribune, Senator Taft,
 and the National Association of Manufacturers." ~~So~~
 Therefore, ^{he announced as how} ~~said he~~ he is going to cast his lot with
 Henry Wallace and his brave and gallant fight for peace.
^{At which point} ~~peace. And~~ he turned and said: "I am happy and proud,
 Henry Wallace, to be associated with you in the great
 undertaking."
^{He added also} ~~He went on to say~~ that he had ⁵ the faith
 that ^{will} ~~would~~ move mountains and ^{that} he believed ⁵ ~~they were~~ ¹ he, and Henry,
 are facing the last chance to turn utter catastrophe into a
 the supreme ~~in~~ victory of mankind.

Add Glen Taylor

And what are the Democrats of Boise, Idaho saying to night about their errant Senator? The answer is - plenty. If Glen Taylor wants to join forces with Henry Wallace, they say, that's fine, but he will no longer be a member of the party. The local Democratic leaders are unanimous on this point. ^R They even go further. Says Robert Coulter former State Party chairman: "Taylor never was a democrat - he's an opportunist." Ex-Senator Charles Gossett ^{adds} ~~says~~ that Glen Taylor never was anything but a political accident an a menace to democracy. "If he wants to play on Russia's team", ^{continues} ~~says~~ Gossett: "He should get off our squad." To which Party Chairman ~~Robert Coulter~~ Dan Cavanah ^{adds}: "I don't think there's any question but that Taylor is through in Idaho." ^{is} Cavanah ^{is} calling a meeting of the State Democratic Party on Thursday, ^a ~~to~~ ^{meeting to} repudiate Taylor.

HOUSING

After going through the annual ~~stunt~~ ^{ritual} of

~~listening to~~ the reading of George Washington's famous

"Farewell ~~Address~~" today, Congress was then ~~called upon~~ ^{listened}

~~to listen~~ to four-thousand, five hundred words from

President Truman on the subject of ~~Housing~~ ^{IT}. Many of our

families, said he, are living in sub-standard housing,

in painfully cramped quarters, or ~~have~~ doubled up

with friends or relatives. He points out, furthermore

that the critical housing shortage is creating an

upward pressure on the selling price and rental price

of houses.

He therefore asked ~~the National Legislature~~ ^{Congress}

to make it possible for the government to erect a

hundred thousand units a year for the next five years --

low rent houses to be put up at public cost; ~~and~~ ^{then} to be

rented. ~~The most crying need at present, he said, is for~~

~~dwelling units to rent.~~

Building costs, ~~must, of course,~~ ^{he added, must} come down,

~~all of which will require~~ ^{he added, and that entails} more efficient building

~~methods,~~ ^{and} the modernization of building codes, nearly

STEEL

The announced increase in the price of steel has aroused a tempest in Congress. For the first time ~~in our history~~ ^{ing} it provoked the cry of "nationalize the steel industry". ^{TP} The foremost spokesman ^{for the} ~~of that~~ idea is ~~democratic Senator from~~ Wyoming ⁵ ~~Senator~~ ^{Joseph} O'Mahoney, ~~who~~ ^{TP} pointed out that this is the second big ~~jump~~ ^{jump} ~~in~~ prices within the past six months. Said he; — it indicates that this is a virtual monopoly, of which all little business, all local business and all consumers are victims. ^{TP} (And he used these words: "The steel managers, by their indefensible action, are virtually asking ~~the~~ Congress to declare the steel industry a public utility." He said further that eight companies now own about eighty percent of all steel plants, and when the big fellows speak, all the others have to fall in line.)

As a preliminary measure, he proposes to introduce a bill to restore the excess profits taxes on corporations. ^{TO} ~~will~~ ^{TP} force big business ~~be~~ ~~declared~~ either to cut prices or to turn the excess

profits over to the government to pay off the national debt.

LEAD PALESTINE

This afternoon it was announced that the latest bombing of Jerusalem was carried out on orders by the former Grand Mufti, Haj Amin El Husseini. That the Grand Mufti did this in the hope of somehow preventing any compromise of the grave Palestine problem.

The commander of the Arab forces in the Jerusalem district is the Grand Mufti's brother, Abdul Khader Husseini.

We hear further that this bombing is the beginning of a campaign to block any British attempt to force a solution of the problem on both the Arabs and the Jews. *This*

~~So we hear,~~ from Arab sources, in a story dated Beirut, capital of Lebanon. However the story is that the Jerusalem bombing was not perpetrated with the consent of the High Command of the Arab League, that the Mufti in this was playing a lone hand.

On the other hand from Jerusalem we hear that the Secretary of the Palestine Arab Higher committee there, claims credit for the bombing -- says it was on

ADD PALESTINE

The eyes of the world will be on tomorrow's session of the Security Council of the United Nations. What will it do about the Palestine problem? Will the eleven nations of the Security Council vote for the hurried creation of an international force? Or will this be the beginning of the end for the UN? Will the UN prove to be another League of Nations, another brave but futile attempt to set up a Parliament of man?

Men, everywhere, are saying tonight that upon the decision of the Security Council now rests the fate of the United Nations. All because of trouble in the Land that gave us the Prince of Peace!

CONFERENCE

John Bull, Uncle Sam and France opened an informal conference, at London today, to discuss the merging of the three occupied zones in western Germany. The conference, ~~was~~ purely tentative, ^{immediately brought} ~~may never achieve~~ ~~anything. But it aroused an early, even passionate,~~ complaint from three of the Soviet satellites, Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. ~~It was~~ a concerted protest handed in at the State Department ^{in Washington.} ~~simultaneously~~ ^{all three} ~~by the~~ envoys of the three eastern European nations, ^{at the same time.} ~~at Washington.~~ ^{They} complain ^{that} the combining of the three western German zones ^{means} ~~comprised~~ a threat of another war in Europe.

Russia made a similar complaint last week; even before the conference had begun. ^{and} The State Department ~~virtually~~ ^{yet} rejected the protest. ^{TP} The director of the office of European affairs ^{today} told the ~~foreign envoys~~ ~~that~~ ^{foreign envoys} that it would be idle to discuss the matter because their complaint is founded on completely false concepts of the discussions between Britain and France and the United States.

The first action of the representatives at
today
London [^] was to invite the so-called Benelux combination,
Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, to join in
and sit at the round table.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The story of Czechoslovakia is now following a familiar pattern. The eventual domination of the Communists was foreshadowed and assured long since, when President Benes permitted the Cabinet post of Minister of the Interior to go to a Red: Vaclav Nosk. It is the Minister of the Interior who has control of the Police, and ^{that nearly} always means the eventual suppression ~~is and persecution~~ of other parties.)

One sign of this was visible in the streets of Prague today, when the Police appeared with carbines and submachine guns slung over their shoulders. (They seized and occupied the headquarters of their principal rivals, the national socialists, the second largest party in the country.) And they forbade any Czechoslovak citizens to leave the country. All this was ordered by the Ministry of the Interior.

The Communist union leaders ^{have announced} ~~staged~~ a general strike for tomorrow, to last one hour. (They say) If Pres. Benes does ~~not~~ not comply with their demands for complete control, they will follow it up with a ^{nation-wide} general strike to last indefinitely.)