

BEVIN

L.S. - P. & G. Thursday, Jan. 22, 1948.

Ernest Bevin today told the British House of Commons <sup>today</sup> ~~that he believes another war inevitable, inevitable because~~ Soviet Russia is trying to force Communist rule upon the whole of Europe.

Then The British Foreign Secretary, <sup>informed</sup> ~~spoke to~~ Parliament for ninety minutes, in a speech which correspondents describe as historic. Bevin informed the British lawmakers that the London government is trying to line up Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg, for a fifty year offensive-and-defensive alliance, <sup>along</sup> with John Bull and France. The time, said he, is ripe for consolidating all western Europe.

~~Bevin appealed to public men, statesmen and diplomats all round the world to exercise the greatest tact. He said it was needed more than ever -- particularly in handling a problem like Greece. And he pointed to the likelihood of the Soviets making a grave blunder with regard to Greece.~~

Bevin went on to say that there can be no doubt about the intention of the <sup>Kremlin</sup> ~~Soviet Union~~ to use

every means in its power to obtain Communist control over all Eastern Europe, and Western Europe too, if it can. He placed the blame for ~~all~~ recent strikes, in France and Italy, *on the Reds.*

The British ~~Foreign~~ Foreign Secretary pointed out that the Russians, in private conversation, make no attempt to deny their designs. And that Molotov has warned both the British and the French that if they continue to oppose the Kremlin they can expect nothing but trouble. *To which he* ~~As to this Bevin~~ replied that threats are no novelty to John Bull. That the British will continue to do what they consider right.

~~But~~ Since those warnings from Molotov, said Bevin, the British and French have pursued a course in favor of a united Europe.

Then he added, that if there is any division of Europe, it will all be the fault of Russia.

GERMANY

In the American zone of Germany, two million workers -- Bavarians -- walked out, at six o'clock tonight -- our time.

The biggest walkout since the end of the war. A twenty-four hour affair we hear.

Bavarian labor leaders say they are striking against <sup>their own</sup> ~~the~~ government over the food situation.

~~It's~~ Purely a German affair; ~~we are told~~.  
~~This one~~ not Russian inspired.

TRUMAN

The White House announces that President Truman has invited the four top leaders of Congress to <sup>meet him</sup> ~~the White House~~ at eleven A.M. tomorrow - just before he goes to deliver his special message to Congress. Republican leaders Senator Vandenberg and Congressman Joe Martin, and Democratic <sup>the two</sup> ~~Minority~~ <sup>Leader</sup> ~~Senator~~ Barkley and Congressman Sam Rayburn, <sup>- they to</sup> ~~will~~ be given a preview of the message - informed of what the President will say.

Good Eve. Ev. Body: -

Tomorrow's Presidential

The White House is keeping the purport of <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ message a closely guarded secret, and tonight Washington is buzzing with speculation. It is generally understood that President Truman will give to the joint session of the Senate and the House a report on the Communist crisis in Europe - an alarming picture.

There are rumors that the Soviets have demanded military alliances from the Scandinavian countries, Sweden, Norway and Denmark - along the line of Stalin's message to <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>President of</sup> Finland, proposing a treaty, Soviet alliance meaning the status of a satellite, any such Moscow success with the Scandinavian countries would put Soviet power on the Atlantic.

## PALESTINE

A truck carrying Jewish special police was rolling along a road near Jaffa, and ran into an Arab road block. The police were stabbed and beaten to death; and three Arabs were killed.

A dispatch from Lebanon says that thousands of armed Arabs are moving south into Palestine from Syria and Lebanon; many of them working on bases, strong points for the use of larger forces, presumably when the big attack is launched against the Jews in the Holy Land - after the British pull out. Most of these they are building in the hills.

We hear that a number of Germans have arrived in the Near East, aboard a Norwegian ship; German officers, and technicians, hired to help the Arabs in the making of grenades, mines and so on.

KING

( One more European King on his way out; and, on his way to America. Leopold-the-Third, King of the Belgians, sailed from Lisbon today bound for Havana. ~~It~~ The probability is that his seventeen year old son Prince Baldwin will succeed him.

All this goes back to the terrifying days when the Nazis over-ran the low countries and then France. Leopold, instead of escaping to London with the rest of the government in Nineteen Forty, stayed with his Army, and finally surrendered it to the Germans.) Then he was taken to Berchtesgaden to meet Hitler, and then went back to Belgium, where he stayed until the Allies liberated the country in Nineteen Forty-five.

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Hostilities over, the Belgian government in exile refused to cooperate with King Leopold - said he was a traitor, and obliged him to seek refuge in Switzerland. For a time his brother, Prince Charles, served as Regent.

For two years now Leopold has been the center of controversy among the Belgians. The Roman Catholic Church and the Catholic Political Party wanted him ~~bx~~ back -- but not the Socialists. Only last month Premier Spaak won a vote of confidence in the Belgian Parliament on the subject of Leopold, a vote of a hundred-and-fifty-two to thirty-two.

A story from Geneva, which seems reliable, reports that Premier Spaak was there last week, conferring with King Leopold on the future of the crown. Hence the rumor that Leopold is to abdicate, to be succeeded by the seventeen year old Prince.

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A commission appointed by King Leopold took a year investigating his wartime conduct, absolved him of collaboration with the Nazis.

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INFLATION

The American Federation of Labor is agreeable to one suggestion made by Barney Baruch on Monday, one part of his remedy for inflation:

a longer work-week with overtime pay. The A F Of L

said so today, <sup>through</sup> ~~through~~ its President, William Green, *who*

*says he* ~~he~~ will agree to new contracts with management for

a longer work-week, provided - the national legislature

enacts measures to put the brakes on inflation.



In Washington the C I O Executive Board voted thirty-three to eleven to put the organization on record against a third party for the Presidential campaign.

The resolution was passed after a bitter eight hour debate. Apparently the left wing elements were strong for Henry Wallace, but the moderates won. Said President Phil Murray in announcing the decision "we shall not support a third party movement in Nineteen Forty-eight. We believe now it is politically unwise to inject a ~~third party~~ third party into the political scene". And he added that his use of the phrase "third party" ~~meant~~ meant any third party.

According to Murray the C I O is in no way committed to ~~any~~ any presidential aspirant."

When the newsmen asked him if Harry Bridges would be fired for his endorsement of Wallace, Murray smiled and said: "That is a bridge we will cross when we get there."


TRUMAN

When the subject of politics came up at his press conference Mr. Truman remarked that anybody in the United States has a right to be a candidate for President on either the democratic or Republican ticket. Said a reporter: "Third Party too?"

Yes, replied the President, "Third Party too". However, he added that he rather suspected a candidate would have a better chance as a member of one of the major parties.

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Mr. Truman successfully ducked attempts of newsmen to get him to admit that he is a candidate this year. One reporter did point out that three Republicans are now avowedly in the race - and when may the country expect to hear from the Democrats? Mr. Truman said he hadn't the slightest idea, but that presumably some statement will be issued before the convention in July. The newsmen used all the roundabout devices known to seasoned reporters, but the President turned out to be



WALLACE

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question-proof. Said one:- "Mr. President, do you plan to do much traveling this year?" Mr. Truman smiled and replied: "No, only a vacation trip to Key west." How about a back porch campaign?" asked one. Referring to the balcony Mr. Truman is adding to the White House. The President replied, "maybe" to that.

## EISENHOWER

General Dwight Eisenhower's name is to be placed on the California primary ballot --- as a Republican presidential candidate. This announcement was made in Los Angeles today, by an organization calling itself "man-of-the-hour-incorporated." With General Ike apparently knowing nothing about it.

In fact the heads of this movement say they haven't ~~even~~ contacted the General. They say they don't need his permission merely put his name on a primary ballot.

Whatever happens, they say they are determined to make the General "the man of the hour" for a four year term.

## GOLD

The shadow of the New Deal is hovering over the great California gold strike of Nineteen Forty-eight -- those twenty dollar gold pieces so eagerly scooped out of the earth on the old Will Martin estate at Monterey.

Gold in plenty found by the jar-full -- and each twenty dollar piece worth from sixty to seventy dollars -- as a collectors item. At that reckoning some thirty two thousand dollars worth of gold has been retrived by amateur prospectors. Gold hidden by eccentric old ~~Wim~~ Will Martin, forty years ago -- discovered by the blade of a bulldozer cutting the soil for the foundation of a new school house.

Today we hear that Uncle Sam is interested in those golden twenty dollar pieces. He wants them. Federal reserve authorities and secret Service men are in ~~fm~~ conference to see how they can be retrieved. Those who have them are holding them illegally. Why? Well, in Nineteen thirty-three, President Roosevelt signed an order as part of the currency

stabilization program -- an order that all gold pieces be turned in to the government. And that order is still in force. Anyone owning more than one gold piece -- you are allowed one as a collector's item is liable to a penalty of ten thousand dollars and ten years in prison.

All of which doesn't look good for the Monterey gold diggers who turned up those four hundred ancient twenty dollar gold pieces - eight thousand dollars worth at face value if turned in, government and worth thirty-two thousand to collectors. It appears that Uncle Sam wants all those coins, and has a legal right to them because of that Presidential order in Nineteen thirty-three. Sour news for the sourdoughs of Nineteen forty-eight.

## CHAINS

A farmer of Elkhart County, Indiana, ~~was~~ went to the Sheriff's office with a weird story. He told the sheriff that the last time he visited the home of a neighbor, Samuel D. Hochstettler, he heard the sound of chains, rattling.

When Sheriff Luther Yoder went to the farm to investigate, Farmer Hochstettler made no ~~an~~ attempt to conceal anything. He led the sheriff into the room of his forty-one year old daughter, and there she was, in chains, as she had been for the last three years.

The father, is a bishop of the Amish church. According to the story that came over my wire before putting his daughter in chains, he had kept her tied to a bed with a rope for ~~xxxxxx~~ seven years.

Neighbors say the young woman was perfectly normal when she left school at the age of sixteen, that is normal in the eyes of most people. But her father didn't approve because she wished to leave the Amish Church.

Tonight Bishop Hochstettler is <sup>the</sup>one who is locked up -- in jail, though not in chains.

## VILLIERS

In these days when there is some question about the sanity of the inhabitants of this globe -- in this half-mad post-war era -- there are some people who try to get away from it all, and a few who manage to do it. But, it gets more and more difficult. There are not so many places now to which our civilization (if that's the word) doesn't penetrate. The airplane goes everywhere.

I've just encountered one chap, an Australian, who found a way to cut himself adrift from this modern world. Some of you will remember him, for a glorious book he wrote years ago: "The Grain Race" the story of racing with grain from Australia to England. <sup>And</sup> /For a year of two he was skipper of a famous sailing ship "The Joseph Conrad". But more recently, he went out to the Indian Ocean and joined the great fleet of sailing ships that operates between the Persian Coast and Zanzibar, all up and down East Africa, and north to the Persian



Gulf. There are nearly a thousand of these ships, vessels that are just about as they were a thousand or two thousand years ago. In fact, they are manned by men who probably are descendants of the ancient Phoenicians.

Alan Villiers, during his year and a half with them made a film in color that is one of the most interesting things I've seen in many moons, and he tells the story with a gusty and a salty flavor that would fascinate any audience.

~~Any committee that wants something unusual should try and get Alan Villiers, although I understand he'll not be here long.~~

He tells of many colorful remarks made by the skipper of the great Dhow on which he sailed. One in particular that I remember was this:- "You know what's the matter with your civilization?"

When Villiers said no, the swarthy sea captain from <sup>Muscat</sup> <sub>^</sub>

Oman said: "You have allowed your women to get out of control. That's what's wrong with you". *Would you agree with the Dhow skipper of Oman and Muscat, Nelson?*

that today. He borrowed a phrase from the late F.D.P. when he ~~was~~ told the Washington correspondents that ~~the~~ Wilson seems to be still living in horse-and-buggy days.

*altho* The Banking Committee Senators did not discuss ~~Bill~~ Green's proposal, ~~but~~ Senator Tobey, their Chairman, said there was no need for legislation, nothing to prevent Green's program from being put into effect at once. Bill Green, on the other hand, said it would go over much better if Congress would recommend it, and he insisted that it would not work unless those inflation curbs are enacted.

## HOOVER

There were both cheers and groans for former President Herbert Hoover in Washington today, ~~in~~ for his proposal to trim the first installment of the Marshall Plan down to four billion dollars. The reaction was on strictly party lines, Republicans pointing with pride, Democrats viewing with alarm. <sup>R</sup> Leading the Democrats was the President, who declined even to argue the matter. Reporters asked him what specifically were his objections to Mr. Hoover's suggestions, and Mr. Truman just declined to specify, said he was agin' 'em, and that was that.

But up at the capitol, it is another story. Senator Taft ~~of Ohio~~ led the Republican ~~bandwagon with a~~ cheerful comment, <sup>with:—</sup> "that's what I've been telling you all along." ~~Democratic~~ Senator ~~Howard~~ McGrath of Rhode Island, ~~the~~ Democratic National Chairman, said the Hoover statement just showed what an isolationist he is at heart.

Senator ~~Arthur~~ Vandenberg is one Republican not whole-heartedly in ~~agreement~~ agreement with Mr.

Hoover, although it was he who asked the ex-President for his written opinion. Vandenberg objected<sup>S</sup> to one clause, ~~in the Hoover program,~~ the ~~clause~~<sup>one</sup> limiting our contributions to Europe, to fifteen months. The President of the Senate declared<sup>S</sup> that the Marshall Plan would fail ~~entirely~~ completely if the western European states were led to believe that we would leave them on their own resources at the end of fifteen months. As Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, ~~Mr.~~ Vandenberg intimated<sup>S</sup> that he might ask Mr. Hoover to testify in person later on.

Another influential Republican spoke up in favor of the Marshall Plan on a general scale. General ~~Bill~~ Bill Donovan, head of the ~~O.S.S.~~ O.S.S. during the war, ~~said it was~~<sup>He says it is</sup> necessary that Uncle Sam counteract what he called<sup>S</sup> "the subversive war which Russia is waging against us," ~~with a strongly reinforced Marshall program.~~<sup>— contract it</sup> ~~On the other hand, Henry J. Taylor, columnist and radio commentator took the opposite view, said there was no guarantee of world peace in the~~

BERMUDA

A kind word for Uncle Sam. ~~That's news of the man-bites-dog category. It was~~ Not heard in Europe; ~~to be sure, but in the Island~~ <sup>in</sup> of Bermuda.

Some members of the Bermuda House of Assembly spoke bitterly because Uncle <sup>Sam</sup> has not yet built the bridge to connect St. George Island with the Great Bermuda, the main island of the group. The promise to build that bridge is supposed to have been part of the agreement by which we obtain a defense base in the islands.

One member of the Assembly, W.E. Roberts, spoke ~~in~~ <sup>says</sup> up in defense of the U.S.A., ~~said~~ that during the last seven years the United States has been the bread-and butter of the Bermudians. He used these words: "They have paured millions in here and they don't owe us anything."