

L.T. - P&G Tuesday, January 29, 1952.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY: (Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, announced in the House of Commons today that Britain hopes to sign a new treaty with Egypt. Eden told the Commons that such a pact would provide adequate defense for the Suez Canal, and, at the same time, "meet Egyptian aspirations.") Britain will, however, insist on its full rights under the Nineteen Thirty-Six Treaty, until the Egyptians halt all anti-British terrorism, both in Cairo and the Canal Zone. The Foreign Secretary blamed the former Governor of Mustapha el Mahas for the terrorist attacks, and expressed the hope that the new Premier, Aly Maher, would be willing and able to restore order.

Anthony Eden pointed out that Britain had

repeatedly protested against the attacks by Egyptian police vigilantes, but in vain. "The late Egyptian government paid no heed," in fact, "actively provoked them," said Eden.

As for the wave of arson and terror that swept Cairo on Saturday he blamed the Egyptian Government's policy of "inciting the population to acts of violence." He was cheered when he added that the Egyptian Government will be held fully responsible for all loss of life and property."

American Ambassador Jefferson Caffrey, is expected to submit an American proposal for talks within a few days.

SOVIET NOTE

Russia took an active hand in the Middle East situation today, with a series of diplomatic notes, handed to the representatives of the Arab states. The notes, which also went to the United States, Britain, France and Turkey, Moscow bitterly attacked the proposed Middle East defense pact, as part of a United States scheme for "aggression." Soviet papers in Moscow printed the exchange in full, comparing the Middle East defense plan to what it termed, the "aggressive Atlantic Pact."

BRITAIN

(Britain is headed for a period of grim austerity.) So announced in the House of Commons today by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, R.A. Butler, who outlined his "super-austerity" program for the next budget. Mr. Butler described his drastic plans as necessary to prevent "starvation and unemployment for this island and disaster for other members of the Commonwealth."

The Conservative Government will start by firing ten thousand civil servants during the next six months, cutting the government payroll to the bone, at fourteen million dollars. There will also be (a six million dollar cut in purchases of coal, tobacco, and food from the United States. Food rationing much stricter. The sixteen cents a week meat ration to be slashed still further.) With steel in short supply all civilian goods will be cut. This year, for instance, only sixty thousand private autos will be available for the whole of Britain.

What may prove to be the most controversial measure in this "super-austerity" program is the plan to "direct" labor - through government labor exchanges.

(Britain's health service no longer ^{entirely} free! ~~no~~ Prescriptions will now be paid for / -- also all dental work.)

All this, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer put it, so that Britain can "carry out as quickly as possible the defense program."

U.N.

(In the U.N. today, Russia was found guilty of breaking her Nineteen Forty-Five Treaty of Friendship with Nationalist China, by giving aid to the Chinese Communists.)

The vote - twenty-four to nine, with Britain and France abstaining. Today's condemnation of the Soviets was the biggest U.N. victory the Chinese Nationalists have ever scored over the Reds.

KOREA - TRUCE

From Korea tonight, come first signs of a break in the deadlocked armistice talks. Arnold Dibble of the United Press, reported from Panmunjom that "the general belief in the U.S. high command is that the armistice push will be successful." All day today, the twin sub-committees worked their way through the Allied blueprints. This guarded and long range optimism was the first out of the conference for over a month.

Meanwhile, the Chinese Communists indicated today that they may bow out of the armistice administration of Korea - leave it to the North Koreans. The surprise hint came during discussions of the proposed armistice supervision plan. The Chinese said that they wanted the words "the Commander of the Chinese Peoples Volunteers" and "joint responsibility", eliminated.

For the first time in many weeks, today's report from the truce camp was of "some progress."

At Atlanta, a judge of the Georgia Superior Court granted an annulment in that Enoch Arden case, dissolving the second marriage of Mrs. Agnes Dixon Sasser - who remarried after her first husband had been listed as killed-in-action in Korea. Then, the name of Private Walter Dixon appeared on the list of ~~PRISON~~ persons held by the Reds. ~~Prisoner~~
~~William Sasser, her second husband, Private William Sasser,~~
~~stationed at Fort MacPherson, Georgia, told her to follow~~
~~her conscience.~~

Today, in court, she told the judge of her pitiful dilemma. She couldn't be sure that the name of her first husband on the Red list of prisoners - was really genuine. Then she got a letter from Private William Dixon - in the exchange of mail arranged in the Korea truce negotiations. But the Department of Defense in Washington was doubtful about that - it might be some trick of the Communists. The letter was turned over to the F.B.I., which made a study - and declared that the letter matched other hand-writing of

Private Walter Dixon.

The wife told the judge today that, really, she didn't need the decision of the F.B.I. She knew, in her own heart, that the letter was really from her first husband.

"He mentioned," she said, "the names of relatives, such as Joe and Woody - whom only he would know about."

Judge Andrews was deeply sympathetic, and granted the request of the Enoch Arden wife. He pronounced her second marriage null and void - and tonight her status is simply that of ~~the~~ wife of the prisoner-of-war in a Red camp in Korea.

DEWEY

In Albany, Governor Dewey today presented his budget - a little more than one Billion dollars. It's a record-breaker - the size of which, says the New York Governor, is to be explained by the increase of prices. But the Dewey budget calls for no increase in taxes - tax levies to remain the same.

This draws a complaint from the Democratic side - and from groups that want a decrease of taxes in the state.

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TAFT Senator Taft may withdraw from the New Hampshire Primary. His name was added while he was considering. He may stay in - or pull out - announcement to be made tomorrow morning. So he's still considering!

LEWIS

John L. Lewis testified today - at the Senate hearing on mine safety. A bill for federal mine inspection is being considered, and Lewis today backed it in his most powerful language - which can be powerful, indeed. He listed a long series of mine disasters, and hurled at the coal operators an ancient curse: - "anathema ^{maranatha!} ~~marathana~~!" The newsmen were puzzled, but were informed that this was a curse used by the ancient ^{As} Syrians - about whom John L. Lewis has been reading. The President of the Mine Union always was a great one - for books. Today he hurled the book at the operators - "anathema ~~marathana~~ maranatha!"

WAGES

A wonderful story of wages was told today, at Los Angeles - about the plumber who got seven hundred and fifty-six dollars a week. Related by the McNeil Contracting Company, which was engaged by the Atomic Energy Commission to put up a building in Las Vegas, Nevada. They claim they couldn't hire workers - because of the fantastic wages offered by a rival company.

The plumber named is said to have worked forty hours on Monday, only twelve hours on Tuesday. But he did better than that every other day of the week - and worked forty-eight hours on Saturday. / The answer is, of course, overtime - double time. Culminating with - golden time! Which is double-double time for overtime on weekends. Total - seven hundred and fifty-six dollars for the week. It pays to be a plumber.

The Company claims that, appealing to the Union at Las Vegas, they were told that they'd have to pay carpenters - "at least three hundred dollars a week."

It's the old story of - cost plus. The Government paying a profit on top of what the job cost the contractor - who, therefore, may not care a hoot what it costs.

Overtime doubled and redoubled; called golden time!

RIDE

From Hollywood, news of a murder attempt against a former henchman of Mickey Cohen - who used to be called the boss of Hollywood rackets. The idea was - a one-way ride. Sounds grim and sinister. We all remember that evil, deadly legend - gangsters taken for a ride. But Hollywood, apparently, is not up to those old standards of underworld efficiency.

The intended victim, called Big Sam, stood waiting for a street car, when a man in an automobile offered him a ride. Big Sam had known this individual for fifteen years, and thought he was a friend. So he accepted, and they drove off. Whereupon, his friend at the wheel pulled a gun. Big Sam says the purpose was to take him out to a lonely section of ~~the~~ ^{Dehrat} oilfields - for an end of the ride.

Big Sam, however, managed to jump out of the car, and ran. The would-be assassin fired a shot at him, and Big Sam fell. Whereupon he was captured by the gunman, who made him get back in the automobile.

~~So~~ ^{Whereupon} the ride continued - until Big Sam, trying again

to avoid his fate, made a sudden lunge, grabbed the gunman, and wrestled with him. They struggled in the front seat of the automobile, until a cop came up, and arrested both of them.

~~The~~ mobsters of Scarface Al Capone^{, era} would have been shocked by that bungled Hollywood version of - the one-way ride.

PATIENT

Today in Detroit, a court sent a man to a mental institution, after the patient had waged a battle of wits with psychiatrists. The patients still claims he won. He says: "I'm not a bit crazier than the three psychiatrists who examined me."

Refusing a lawyer, he conducted his own case, and started off by putting a question to Dr. Albert Gerisch, one of the experts.

"Why am I cracy?" he demanded.

That might stump almost any psychiatrist, and the Doctor groped for words. He wound up, finally, by saying that the patient, his questioner, talked evasively.

"You seem to be more evasive than I," said the patient defendant.

Then he wanted to know what symptoms he displayed.

The psychiatrists answered - that his refusal to have a lawyer was "a mental symptom." A reply that certainly would please the lawyers.

There was one thing, however, that stumped the

patient - why he had been carrying concealed weapons the way he did? That was the real point, and the judge sent him to an institution, in spite of his victory over psychiatrists, in the battle of wits.

INVESTIGATION

In the tax investigation, ^a~~the~~ Congressional Committee, today, voted two citations for contempt - but for opposite reasons. One, for talking too little. The other, for talking too much. Sounds paradoxical, but opposites/can sometimes produce the same result.

The one who talked too little was Henry Grunewald, the Dutchman - who, a few weeks ago, was in the headlines as a mystery witness. Wanted for questioning - in that famous half a million dollar shake-down sensation - Chicago Lawyer Teitelbaum telling of an attempt to blackmail him under threat of income tax prosecution. At a previous hearing, Grunewald refused to answer questions, and it was the same today - the Dutchman trying to read a statement. But - no answer to questions - about the alleged half a million dollar shake-down.

The one who talked too much - was his lawyer, William Power Maloney. He spoke up - to keep his client from answering. The Committee told him to pipe down, but he wouldn't. That led to a shouting match, until the lawyer was

expelled - and he left the room, ^{still} talking at the top of his voice.

Whereupon the Committee voted citations for contempt against both the witness and the lawyer. One - for talking too little, ^{Nelson.} The other - for talking too much, ~~Nelson.~~

~~Meanwhile, another committee was voting - for an investigation of Attorney General McGrath. His Department of Justice has been involved in the scandals of income tax, and is the center of loud political argument. The investigation voted today is described as - "non-political." McGrath says he welcomes the inquiry.~~

~~Still another income tax charge concerns Republican Governor Beardsley of Iowa. The claim is that he received "preferential treatment" in his own income tax case - so stated by Congressman O'Brien, an Illinois Democrat.~~

~~In Boston - sentence pronounced on Dennis Delaney, former income tax collector, convicted of taking bribes and signing false tax certificates. He gets two years in prison,~~