

Russians Near Decision on Marshall Plan

By Eddy Gilmore
MOSCOW, June 21 (AP)—The Soviet government was believed near a decision today on whether to send a representative to a conference on Secretary of State Marshall's plan for European recovery.

Foreign diplomatic sources said they still believed there was good reason to hope the Russians would be represented at three-cornered talks with the British and French. The only official word from the U.S.S.R., however, was that the Russians were "considering" the Marshall plan following British and French invitation to a conference. There was no indication that the time of such a meeting or who might represent the Soviet union had been decided.

Papers Criticize
It was significant that in a statement by Tass, official news agency, announcing Soviet consideration of the proposal that the Russians were not hesitant in pointing out a few things which appeared to them to be unsatisfactory.

For one thing, the British and French first acted on the Marshall proposal without consulting the Russians. The British-French invitation to Russia was received after British Foreign Secretary Bevin and French Foreign Minister Bidault had begun their talks in Paris.

Secondly, the Russians were asked to discuss a proposition about whose terms they knew nothing.

Sidetrack United Nations
Thirdly, the proposal has not been handled directly through the United Nations.

The history of Soviet Russia's dealings with the British, French and other nations shows that the Russians usually resent their being left out of discussions concerning them, or being invited to participate after someone else has talked over the matter beforehand.

Council to Appoint Baxter Successor
PORTLAND, June 21 (AP)—An interim replacement for Bishop Bruce R. Baxter will be named by the National Methodist conference of bishops but no successor can be elected until the 1948 session of the western jurisdictional conference.

The presiding seat at the conference was taken over today by Bishop W. Earl Ledden, Syracuse, N. Y., a guest speaker at the state conference here.

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Carroll Reece Visits Gov. Snell

Predicting a long era of prosperity for the west and a Republican president in the White House in 1948, Carroll Reece, chairman of the Republican national committee, paid a formal call on Gov. Earl Snell at the executive office in the statehouse Saturday.

"Everywhere I have visited on my western tour I have found strong Republican sentiment," Reece declared, "and there apparently is no reason why the situation should change between now and the next presidential election."

Seafarers Get 5-Cent Raise
SAN FRANCISCO, June 21 (AP)—West coast shipowners granted a 5 per cent basic wage increase to four seafaring unions today, including two which previously had signed for no more pay. Thus west coast maritime peace was achieved for a full year.

The CIO cooks-stewards and the CIO radio operators (ACA) signed up with the Pacific American Shipowners association, getting the increase and nine paid holidays a year won on the east coast by a brief strike.

Then employers re-opened the recently signed contracts with CIO marine engineers and the independent firemen, to include these also in the 5 per cent wage increase and 9-holiday plan. The CIO longshoremen had not asked a pay increase this year and will not be included in the increase.

Little Hope Held To Span East-West Breach at London
LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., June 21 (AP)—Little hope was held by United Nations delegates today for bridging the widening gap in east-west relations until the four-power London peace conference in November.

A virtual deadlock between Russia and the western powers on all major U.N. peace-keeping machinery led some delegates to predict that the four-power deliberations on the German peace settlement may be the critical turning point of east-west relations.

CLAYTON OFF TO LONDON
WASHINGTON, June 21 (AP)—Undersecretary of State William Clayton, ranking American authority on economic foreign policy, flew to London today at the climax of British-French efforts to win Russian cooperation in the Marshall proposal for European recovery.

NATION'S CHERRY CROP LOW
TOLEDO, O., June 21 (AP)—Directors of the National Cherry Growers Industry council predicted today that the 1947 red cherry crop would be 35 per cent less than last year's yield of 110,000 tons.

TORNADO IN NEBRASKA
LOOMIS, Neb., June 21 (AP)—A tornado struck a farm place west of Loomis tonight, demolishing all the farm buildings and injuring at least three persons.

Silverton—Jessie Small reached Silverton this week by plane, coming from Chicago where she has taught dietetics at Mercy hospital. She will spend the summer with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Small.

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Over 6000 Use Facilities at Playgrounds

Salem city playgrounds attracted 6,618 youngsters during the past week through their combined recreational activities of swimming, handicraft and games. An increased attendance is predicted by Vernon Gilmore, playground director, beginning Monday, the second week of playground operation, when more supplies and better weather are expected.

Swimmers in the two city pools totaled 2,476 during the five-day period ending Friday, with 1,415 at Olinger and 1,061 at Leslie pool. Baseball was favored by 204 boys at Olinger field, and 153 participated in free play at Leslie.

Musical activities planned for the vacation period include senior and junior band and orchestra rehearsals. Vernon Wiscarson, musical director, announced 267 attended the first practices at Salem high school this week. Seventy attended the senior band practice Tuesday night at 7:30, 50 the junior band practice Wednesday night and 25 the Thursday night orchestra rehearsal.

Neighborhood playgrounds drew 3,335 children, although only open in the afternoons during the first week. Activity classes will be held from 9-11:30 a. m. and 1-4 p. m. beginning Monday, through the remainder of the season. Englewood playground recorded an attendance of 828, with Norma Cass in charge of activities during the absence of Mrs. Gordon Black. At Washington attendance totaled 230 under Mrs. Gertrude Hunter; at Grant, 536 under Mrs. Helen McLeod; at Richmond, 384, under Mrs. Esther Billman; at Bush, 196, under Mrs. Janet Wilder; at Highland, 1,029, under Hilda Fox; and at McKinley, 132, under Mrs. Mildred Ferguson.

Red Steel Said Challenge To United States Output
WASHINGTON, June 21 (AP)—Senator Martin (R-Pa.) pictured Russia today as "making a great effort" to build up her steel industry for a possible challenge to America's production leadership.

Martin, who is directing a special senate inquiry into the steel industry, told a reporter "we better keep our eyes on her steel production, if she acquires any of our American know-how."

DIE IN BLIZZARD
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo., June 21 (AP)—Three persons died, and 19 others were rescued tonight after being trapped for 27 hours in a blizzard on an 11,000-foot pass 35 miles west of Red Lodge, Mont.

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Attlee Denounces Red Encroachment

BARNESLEY, England, June 21 (AP)—Prime Minister Attlee picked what may be one of the decisive weekends in modern European history—when Generalissimo Stalin may decide to embrace or spurn the Marshall plan—to denounce today totalitarian trends along the red fringe of the continent.

In a speech to Yorkshire coal miners Attlee declared that in several countries of eastern Europe "human rights are denied and so-called democratic government is a travesty."

Rain to Prolong Midwest Flood
HANNIBAL, Mo., June 21 (AP)—The flood situation along the rampant Mississippi eased today as the river began receding slightly after cresting below last week's record heights.

However, heavy rains elsewhere promised to prolong the high water which has inundated millions of acres of farm land and made over 20,000 persons homeless in Iowa, Illinois and Missouri in the past two weeks.

Levees, including the Sny barrier which protects 120,000 acres across the river from here, continued to hold along the 123-mile stretch from Keokuk, Ia., to Louisiana, Mo., but army engineers maintained a constant vigil in the face of general rainfall.

Santiam Highway Accident Fatal
Jesse Clifford Metzger, Milwaukee, was killed early Saturday morning in an auto accident near Mill City on the North Santiam highway when the car in which he was riding collided with one driven by H. D. Hudkins of Mill City.

The driver of the Metzger car was Archie E. Hamlin of Portland. Metzger was thrown from the car by the impact, police said. His body was taken to Stayton pending removal to his home, Coroner L. F. Barrick reports.

Portland Area Votes to Ballot on Tax Measures
PORTLAND, June 21 (AP)—Two measures providing more funds for schools and county government will come before this area's voters in a special election Tuesday.

Multnomah county will vote on a 4½ mill tax levy beyond the 6 per cent limitation, and taxpayers in the Portland school district will vote on a proposal to exceed the 6 per cent limitation by \$750,000 for school funds.

Dallas Woman To Head VFW State Auxiliary

GRANTS PASS, June 21 (AP)—The Oregon department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars elected Francis G. Gates, Bend, as commander by a unanimous vote today.

Mrs. Freda Peterson, Dallas, was elected president of the auxiliary. Delegates rejected an invitation from Salem in favor of Pendleton's bid for the 1948 convention.

The convention called for federal and state bonuses, an investigation of Oregon state institutions, and pensions for World War I veterans on the same basis as those now granted Spanish-American war veterans.

Other resolutions, passed before the business sessions ended today, recommended universal military training, reduction of expenses in the veterans' administration, and prohibition of publication distribution by the Soviet embassy.

Vere McCarty, Condon, defeated four opponents to become junior vice-commander in the only major election contest. Bernard Buns, Astoria, was elected senior vice-commander; Fred B. Corn, Hillsboro, quartermaster.

The auxiliary elected Dorothy Hill, Eugene, senior vice-president, and Myrtle Tripp, Corvallis, junior vice-president.

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