

Mendes-France, Generals Confer

PARIS (AP) — Pierre Mendes-France, asked to try to form a new French cabinet, talked Tuesday with the chiefs of French military forces as he worked on a new program for Indochina.

He said he would talk late Tuesday with Ambassador Jean Chauvel, acting head of the French delegation at Geneva conference. Chauvel is being recalled from Geneva for the consultation.

Mendes-France said he would report to President Rene Coty Tuesday night on the progress of his negotiations, and would probably be able to say then when he will go before the National Assembly to ask confirmation.

Since Wednesday will probably have to be devoted to writing his speech of investiture, Mendes-France is not expected to go before the deputies before Thursday.

ARC Returns To Special Disaster Pleas

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The American Red Cross is going back to its previous method of special disaster campaigns.

Failure of disaster-stricken communities to reimburse the Red Cross for funds advanced in time of emergency is responsible for this decision, E. Ronald Harman, national chairman, said Monday in addressing the national convention.

FUNDS SCATTERED

"Largely due to our reluctance in recent years to go before the public in special appeals, the generosity of the public, lacking a point of focus, has been scattered among various local funds and organizations," he said.

"Now I'll say this: when a community wishes to spend disaster funds raised by its own citizens in its own way, it has every right to do so. But first things come first."

"In Flint, Mich., when the tornado hit last June, Red Cross immediately moved in to meet the needs of the sufferers. We spent nearly \$600,000, contributed by all the country. Meanwhile, a committee in Flint solicited funds and received \$900,000."

NOTHING REFUNDED

"Not one cent of this was turned over to the Red Cross to meet its needs. On the contrary, after Red Cross finished its job, all the money was distributed to people over and above what they had received from Red Cross, irrespective of whether they could have taken care of themselves or not."

"Communities that don't help themselves in the total responsibility of a disaster can scarcely expect in the future to be recipients of nationwide generosity."

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FIRST HONORS FOR "POSTHUMOUS AWARD"—This heart-tugging picture of a baby grasping his dead daddy's Congressional Medal of Honors has won United Press Staff Photographer Frank Cancellare, of Washington, D. C., top honors in the "Best News Feature Picture" division of the 1954 National Headliner Contest. It was taken in Washington, D. C., when three-month-old Francis Colton Hammond, Jr., of Alexandria, Va., received the nation's highest honor, awarded posthumously to his father, Navy Hospital Corpsman Francis Colton Hammond, killed in Korea.

Figures Dominate Divorce Testimony

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—Shapely Susan Hayward was due to talk about figures, financial ones, in divorce court Tuesday.

Another sort of figure, a nude one, dashing through her yard at 3 a.m. one day last July was introduced in opening testimony.

The movie queen is expected to be on the stand most of the day under cross-examination by S. S. Hahn, counsel for her estranged husband. The actress seeks a divorce from actor Jess Barker, who has contested the trial, insisting that he wants a reconciliation.

Hahn set the pattern Monday for much of the testimony to follow when he repeatedly quizzed Miss Hayward on a prenuptial agreement signed by the actress and her then husband-to-be.

She testified that the agreement was signed because she was in love with Barker and he didn't want to get married until he was better fixed financially.

"The document merely relieved him of the financial responsibility of a wife," the actress said, explaining that she was earning \$1,700 a week at the time and her fiancé was out of work.

She now wants the court to rule her two-million-dollar movie contract and \$240,000 in assets are not community property.

Testimony on business matters provided an anticlimax to opening testimony of Mrs. Lodee Hazel Swain, a maid next door to the Barkers' Sherman Oaks home.

She told of how she was awakened by screams of a nude redhead, presumably Miss Hayward, screaming:

"Don't kill me! Help! Help! Don't kill me!"

A man who appeared to be Barker, the maid testified, was in hot and threatening pursuit, shouting, "You're going to sign that deal."

Drop in Butter Prices Likely

Committee Okays New Support Plan

WASHINGTON (AP)—Agriculture Department officials predicted Tuesday that retail prices of butter might drop to around 40 cents a pound under a new price support plan approved by the House Agriculture Committee. This would be 25 to 30 cents under present prices.

The committee approved Monday a proposal to require the government to raise the support level for butterfat and milk used for manufacturing purposes from the current 75 per cent to 80 per cent of parity, effective Sept. 1 and continuing until April 1, 1955.

Parity is a standard for measuring farm prices declared by law to be fair to farmers in relation to prices they pay.

But the House plan would permit use of direct government subsidies as a method of supporting returns to dairymen. The taxpayers, in the final analysis, would pay the subsidies. The subsidies would permit a drop in retail prices of butter, cheese, dried milk, evaporated milk and other manufactured dairy products.

Under the present support program, the Agriculture Department offers to buy butter, cheese and dried milk from manufacturers at prices designed to enable the latter to pay dairymen the designated support prices for milk and butterfat. This offer has the effect of setting minimum wholesale and retail prices for these products.

Under the subsidy proposal, wholesale and retail prices of manufactured dairy products would be free to move up and down under the influence of supply and demand.

If the prices failed to give manufacturers enough to pay the designated support levels for milk and butterfat, the government would make up the difference to dairymen.

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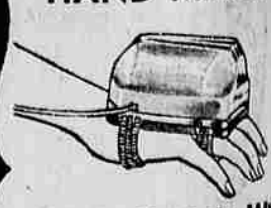
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