

Long Fight for Freedom Continues

Korea a Sore Spot in Far Eastern Politics

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WASHINGTON. — "Reveal the secret clauses in the Yalta agreement and the American people will demand a free and independent Korea." That is what you hear from the earnest group of Koreans and Americans who will be waving a tearful but hopeful farewell to their beloved leader and friend — the venerable Dr. Syngman Rhee — as he departs for "the land of the morning calm" for the second time since his exile 40 years ago. Dr. Rhee's followers consider him the legitimate head of the provisional Korean government set up by those leaders fortunate enough to escape when Japan dealt Korea its final, crushing blow in 1905.



Baukhage

Presidents of the United States since Theodore Roosevelt's time, state department and other government officials have been consistently sympathetic and stubbornly uncooperative with the effort of this unflinching patriot to obtain recognition of his country. They did not frown on his return to Korea when it was "liberated" by the defeat of Japan. They put no obstacles in the way of his choice as head of the group which set up a provisional government of Korea. They permitted that group to send an observer to the U. N. but when Dr. Rhee returned from Korea in December of last year his efforts to make his voice heard before the international body were blocked by the state department ukase, "No official standing."

Today Korea is a nation bisected by the 38th parallel. The North, under Russian control, is separated by the Asiatic model of the Iron Curtain and no real Korea government exists in the Southern half, still administered by the U. S. military government. This is due, Dr. Rhee says, to the same lack of official sanction from the state department which the aging doctor has sought since Pearl Harbor.

"All we ask is that we be allowed to hold elections to set up in the American zone of Korea a national government just as the Russians have set up what they call a 'democratic government' in their zone. We only ask that the United States do for us what they have already done for Japan."

"The other liberated countries have been given this privilege. We never fought against the Allies. For

more than 40 years we have carried underground work against our Japanese oppressors."

I asked if he thought the people were ready for a democratic government.

He paused a moment and said: "You may be surprised, as I was, to learn how familiar the Koreans are with the democratic system."

The Japanese, it seems, when they made their various levies upon the Koreans found they had to deal with a system that had already been set up, based on the democratic choice of a leader for a group of perhaps 20 homes which, in turn, chose their representatives for larger groups. Dr. Rhee said he found his people were much more familiar with these processes than he thought they could be even though he had followed their activities so closely through all these years. Then Dr. Rhee went on to explain that with cooperation of the military government, at least five attempts had been made to set up a national government; that each time the Communists had blocked it by refusing to join and because of the directives under which the military government was forced to operate—no government was permitted in which the Communists did not participate.

"They (the Communists) claim they have 20,000 members in the



Syngman Rhee
Wants to Tell Secrets

southern area—what right have 20,000, if there are that many (which I doubt), to interfere with the rights of 18 million Koreans in the southern zone?" asks Dr. Rhee.

In the secret agreement at Yalta, Dr. Rhee asserts: "President Roosevelt agreed that Manchuria and Northern Korea be placed in the zone of the Soviets. This was contrary to the spirit of the Atlantic Charter and the other agreements up to that time. When the American people realize this, I am sure sentiment will develop that will make it possible for Korea to become a nation again. I am going back to Korea with that hope."



FROM THE FAR NORTH . . . Presenting a majestic picture of symmetry and winter at war with the earth's inner force, towering Mt. Shishaldin on Unimak island in the Aleutians is plumed by smoke emitted by the seething volcano concealed in the cone-like mountain.

NEWS REVIEW

Congress Scans Tax Cut; Ford Slashes Car Prices

CONGRESS:

Tax-Minded

Standing pat on their determination to scale personal income, taxes and trim the 1947-48 budget of unnecessary frills, GOP house leaders massed to push through a 20 per cent cut proposed by Representative Knutson (Rep., Minn.).

With the Republicans cautious about paring military expenditures because of the unsettled world situation, President Truman's budget did not leave too much room for tinkering. As a result, GOP leaders planned to concentrate on the income cut estimated at 3½ billion dollars and continue the current high excise levies on liquor, furs, jewelry and other items.

Representative Taber (Rep., N. Y.), chairman of the house appropriations committee, asserted the budget could be reduced at least 3 to 4 billion dollars, still assuring essential expenditures and allowing for a payment on the national debt. Such a cut would bring the budget in line with the decrease in revenue resulting from the 20 per cent tax slash.

FORD:

Production Lead

Declaring that the high standard of American living was based upon mass production, Ford Motor company slashed the price of nine models from \$15 to \$50 to stimulate a cautious buyers' market.

Thus did Henry Ford II, youthful president of the famed auto company, steal a march on organized

labor on the eve of negotiations for new contracts and set the pace for industry generally. As labor was to clamor for higher wages, Ford inferred that they could be paid out of increasing production of goods, with workers sharing the rising profits.

With prices away up and buyers hesitant to pay for inflated values, American industry stands at the crossroads, Ford said. Bring prices within reach of the average consumer through mass production and the U. S. may well avoid a business recession, he declared. With employee efficiency on the rise, Ford revealed that his company is turning out about 4,000 units a day, exclusive of buses and tractors.

ALLIANCE:

Britain-France

Traditional allies against Germany, Great Britain and France renewed their old bond in London by agreeing to a treaty of alliance to guard against a rebirth of an aggressive reich.

Though the alliance ostensibly was directed against Germany, observers saw in the pact a strengthening of the western European powers against the expanded influence of Russia on the continent. With Britain and France serving as a core, smaller nations like Holland and Belgium might adhere to the western bloc to check the threat of communism.

In concluding their alliance, Britain and France agreed to work for the orderly development of western European economy to promote mutual prosperity and at the same time prevent establishment of a strong industrial base for war in Germany. Emphasis was placed on harmonizing the British and French economies to remove trade conflicts and harnessing essential German industry, like coal, to the needs of neighboring countries.

GEORGIA:

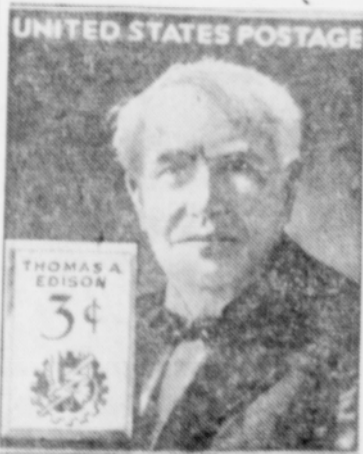
Chip Off Old Block

With "Old Gene" gone, "Young Herman" kept alive the fiery Talmadge tradition in Georgia politics.

When his father died before he could be inaugurated, young Talmadge mustered sufficient support in the legislature to have himself named governor; then, defying incumbent Governor Arnall, who held his election illegal, he set up his own offices in the state capitol.

Meeting young Talmadge's bold challenge, Arnall carried the issue to the state supreme court, dominated by his own appointees. But again Herman struck back by threatening to ignore an adverse court decision on the grounds that the constitution empowered the legislature to elect a governor and a denial of the right represented judicial encroachment upon the legislative branch of government.

Amid the hub-bub, one sure fact emerged: Young Talmadge had demonstrated political leadership and was a power to be reckoned with in Georgia politics.



COMMEMORATIVE STAMP . . . This special postage stamp will be placed on sale at Milan, Ohio, February 11 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Thomas A. Edison.

HOPE FOR HOMES

Million Houses To Be Started

WASHINGTON. — Construction will be started on a million new permanent dwelling units and about 800,000 units will be completed by private builders during 1947, it is estimated by the department of commerce. The estimates compare with 675,000 units started and about 450,000 completed during 1946.

Prospects for meeting the nation's construction industry goal of 15 billion dollars, representing an increase of 50 per cent over last year, were termed favorable by John L. Haynes, chief of the commerce department's construction division.

An additional outlay of 6½ billion to 7 billion dollars will be made for repairs and maintenance, according to Haynes.

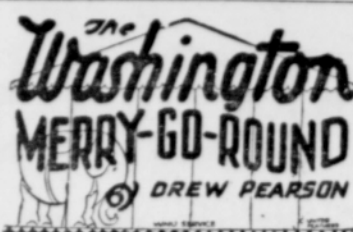
Haynes points out that the estimates are based "on the assumption that increases in the cost of construction will be moderate in 1947 and that any increases in the price index of materials and labor rates will be offset, in part at least, by the increased volume of building materials."

It also is assumed, he adds, "that remaining controls on non-residential construction will be

eased and that there will be no general business recession in 1947 severe enough to impede construction."

Haynes' estimates show that 6 billion dollars will be expended for private residential construction, exclusive of farm homes, for the largest outlay in any class of construction.

Private construction of all types, he adds, will make up the bulk of the year's new construction spending, amounting to 11,700 million dollars or 49 per cent more than last year.



RUSSIAN MANEUVERING

WASHINGTON. — Despite our improved relations with Russia, something very peculiar is going on regarding the key island of Spitzbergen up near the Arctic circle. The Russians have been exerting all sorts of pressure on Norway to militarize this strategic island, thus permitting them to use it as a military base.

There is only one objective for a base on Spitzbergen — offensive action against the United States. From it rocket bombs probably could hit New York.

The United States happened to learn of the Russian - Norwegian maneuvers because we are a party to a 1920 treaty with Norway, England and Russia, by which Spitzbergen is not to be used as a military base. In order to militarize the island, therefore, it is necessary to change the treaty.

The disturbing thing about the Spitzbergen maneuver, however, is the date on which the Russians began to move for militarization. When the state department began probing the matter, they found that the Russians had first approached the Norwegian government in 1944 — while the war was still on. And they continued high-pressure Norway during 1945, the last year of the war, and up until the present.

What causes U. S. concern is that the Russians appeared to be maneuvering for Atlantic bases aimed against the United States even at a time when we were pouring lend-lease into Russia. In this connection, U. S. diplomats can't help remembering the secret minutes of the Molotov - Ribbentrop conversations in late 1940—shortly before Hitler attacked Russia—when Russia offered to come into the war against the Allies if it got the Dardanelles, half the Balkans, the three eastern provinces of Turkey, Iran and Iraq.

TRUMAN SHAKES HANDS

One ordeal of every President is shaking hands at official receptions. Recently, President Truman stood in line while 1,400 members of the diplomatic corps, plus their wives, filed by to greet him.

Truman considers receptions for congress or the army and navy bad enough, but he especially dreads diplomatic receptions where he cannot always catch foreign names.

After shaking hands so fast he barely was able to glimpse faces, the President looked up to see retiring White House assistant Eddie Locke, with his wife.

"Why, Eddie!" Truman said laughingly. "Thank God here's someone whose name I can pronounce."

"Sh-h-h," said Mrs. Truman.

UNFAILING GOOD HUMOR

Every White House caller these days comes out of the inner sanctum remarking on how well and high - spirited President Truman looks. Expecting him to appear bowed and discouraged by the weight of his office, they remark: "He doesn't seem to have a care in the world."

Even during the middle of the coal strike, when Truman cabinet members were worried sick over the economic consequences to the country, White House callers came out to report that the President seemed to be in fine fettle.

One unofficial explanation is that, since November, the President feels that the Republicans have removed part of the responsibility of leadership from his shoulders. No matter what he does, it can't be right in GOP eyes; therefore, he might as well be philosophical about it.

Another explanation is that, since November, Truman feels he is no longer under any obligation to carry on the Roosevelt New Deal program. The November balloting showed that the majority of the people wanted a change, argue some White House advisers, so Truman has a mandate to desert the Roosevelt program for his own.

JIMMIE BYRNES' 'WHISKERS'

Retiring Secretary of State Jimmie Byrnes has had so many tough diplomatic battles that even in his spare time he can't forget he's not tussling with Russians.

The other morning, Byrnes took his wire-haired terrier "Whiskers" out for a stroll, during which the dog started barking angrily at another pup.

Said Byrnes: "Stop that, Whiskers — that isn't Molotov."

MERRY-GO-ROUND

President Truman has turned down ambassador to Brazil Bill Pawley's bid to be assistant secretary of state for air. . . . Astute senate secretary, Leslie Biffle, will act as top liaison man between the administration and GOP congressional leaders. Biffle will handle all patronage for the White House. He will make all the deals with the Republicans on GOP appointments to executive department jobs and will have the final say on Democratic nominations to vacancies.



Look! Muffins Made With Mince-meat!

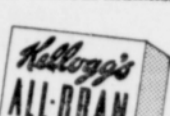
Easy on shortening and sugar, too!

Kellogg's toasted All-Brans and mince-meat taste like Christmas cake!

1 cup Kellogg's All-Brans	¼ cup sugar
1 egg	1 cup sifted flour
¼ cup milk	3 teaspoons baking powder
1 cup prepared mince-meat	½ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons shortening	

Combine Kellogg's All-Brans, milk, and mince-meat. Let soak about 5 minutes. Blend shortening and sugar. Add egg; beat well. Stir in All-Brans and mince-meat. Add sifted dry ingredients. Stir only until liquid and dry ingredients are combined. Fill greased muffin pans two-thirds full. Bake in moderate oven (400° F.) about 25 minutes. Makes 12 luscious muffins.

Good Nutrition. Too! All-Brans is made from the VITAL OUTER LAYERS of finest wheat — serve daily as a cereal.



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CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

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MANY DOCTORS use pepsin preparations in prescriptions to make the medicine more palatable and agreeable to take. So be sure your laxative is contained in Syrup Pepsin.

INSIST ON DR. CALDWELL'S—the favorite of millions for 50 years, and feel that wholesome relief from constipation. Even finicky children love it.

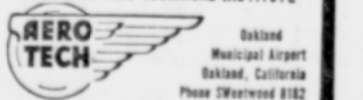
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