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Possibility of War

CONFERENCES BETWEEN the envoys of the Western Powers and Russian Foreign Minister Molotov continue at the Kremlin but, with a secrecy cloaking the outcome of negotiations reminding of that which surrounded the important parleys of wartime, nothing has yet been divulged to clarify the situation. We had thought weeks ago that the Berlin impasse could not last much longer but still it does. Today it has been suggested that another meeting with Premier Stalin is in the offing which may bring matters to a final decision.

A retreat by either the Russians or the western powers would mean a serious blow to prestige. Although it is admitted that the western allies, their position really being untenable, could be forced out of Berlin or Germany altogether, for that matter, war may not be imminent for Russia can hardly afford to have the atomic bomb used against her cities. Possibly the only thing that could bring about war now would be if Russia viewed it as inevitable and considered the present as the most favorable time. Therefore, war with Russia, while possible, would seem to be still improbable.

V.J. DAY

LAST SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, was the third anniversary of "V-J" Day when Japan surrendered unconditionally to the Allies, official announcement of the surrender touching off victory celebrations throughout the world. "V-J" Day went off almost unremembered this year as far as official observance was concerned. Even press and radio seem to have forgotten it almost altogether.

Probably the reason was that there has been so much disappointment, now that three years have elapsed since the close of the second war to end wars, over the continued elusiveness of real peace. There is, indeed, little enough to boast about in the way of international goodwill and security. In fact the general attitude seems to be that we are again sitting on the brink.

"V-J" Day was almost overlooked because there was so little motive to remember it.

JERUSALEM'S PLIGHT

PRINCE RUPERT will be able to appreciate the plight of Jerusalem, which ancient city, with a population of 100,000, is trying to get along without any piped water at all. Instead, the inhabitants are rationed to a gallon a day for each, and no more, and the weather is hot and dry.

The pipe system has been badly damaged during Arab attacks on Jewish convoys. For several weeks, experimental pumpings have been carried out along the pipe-line route from the coastal region north of Tel Aviv.

BABE RUTH

BABE RUTH rescued baseball when it was tottering in the wind of public disfavor under the impact of the 1919 "Black Sox" scandal and with his mighty bat he went on to change the entire complexion of the national pastime. Baseball, in turn, brought him rich dividends in fame and fortune.

The big, lovable, happy-go-lucky Bambino was more than a star. He was a symbol. Baseball players might come and baseball players might go, but regardless of their achievements, none ever could supplant him in the public mind as the personification of everything that was great and spectacular in the game.

He had an indefinable something called color. Other players might be huge, others some day might even hit more home runs during a season. But the Sultan of Swat had that inborn instinct to make every act and every move exciting.

Wherever he went, crowds surrounded him. He was the idol of the kids, the greatest of all in the hearts of the fans. The "stomach ache" that kept him out of the lineup for about 50 games in 1925 became almost a national calamity.

To Ruth more than any other man went the credit for revolutionizing the game and introducing the modern era of baseball. With the home run, he brought millions of fans through the turn-stiles.

HYDROGRAPHIC VESSEL HERE

The Dominion hydrographic survey vessel William J. Stewart docked here Monday bringing a crew member here for medical treatment, sailing in the evening to continue her survey work off Banks Island. She was tied up at the C. N. R. wharf most of the day. The crew member, Theodore L'Heureux, received treatment to an injured finger at the Prince Rupert General Hospital, and returned to the vessel before she sailed. The William J. Stewart is under the command of Capt. H. W. Miller.

TOURISTS CATCH WHITE WHALES

CHURCHILL — Two white whales were landed Monday afternoon shortly after a special Canadian National Railways train carrying 210 passengers from various parts of Canada and the United States arrived from the south. The first whale, which weighed 1600 lbs, was caught by Miss Suzanne Forterie and Miss Alice Bertschy of Milwaukee after half an hour's hunt. Alice Bertschy got the whale on the second shot. The two ladies came up to Churchill for the express purpose of going white whale hunting and stated this was the greatest thrill of their lives.

The second whale was caught shortly afterwards by George Smith of Bears Pass, Ont., who was accompanied by his wife. The second whale weighed approximately 1400 pounds.

Enroute from The Pas to Churchill a draw was made for lake trout donated by the Flin Flon Board of Trade which weighed 34 pounds. It was won by Miss R. Handler of Chicago.

Mrs. A. Guilmond of Quebec and Mrs. C. Vezina of Ottawa, after a month's visit here with their sister, Mrs. Joseph Garon left by last night's train. They will spend a few days in Edmonton before proceeding to the Peace River country to pay a visit after which they will return East. Mrs. Garon is accompanying them as far as Edmonton.

APPRECIATIVE OF LOCAL GIFT

Mayor Nora Arnold has received appreciative acknowledgment from the mayor of Poole, England, for gift of canned salmon which was sent from here through the Mayor's Fund in connection with the wedding of Princess Elizabeth.

"On behalf of the townspeople of Poole," says the letter "I send you the warmest thanks for the magnificent gift of canned salmon from the citizens of Prince Rupert which is now being distributed among the needy people of the town by the Rotary Club of Poole. We appreciate extremely the friendly spirit exemplified by the gift. If such kindness were more universal how much happier a place this world would be. We of Poole, in common with the people of the rest of the country, are fortified in the knowledge that we can rely on such goodwill and kindness as you have shown. We wish you every success in the future."

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Graham are leaving the city on the Princess Adelaide next Monday night for Courtenay, Vancouver Island, to take up future residence. Mr. Graham recently retired as inspector of mines here and has been succeeded by Fred Hensworth who recently arrived to take up his duties. Mr. and Mrs. Graham have sold their residence on Fifth Avenue West to J. J. Payne. Mr. and Mrs. Hensworth have taken up residence in the house on Market Place which has been occupied by Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Black who are moving to Victoria.

Reminiscences and Reflections

By W.J.

Millions, one reads, labor under the delusion that wealth brings nothing but freedom to enjoy and to spend. Exactly the opposite is the truth, it is asserted. The inference is clear. Yet, is it not little short of astonishing the number of persons who prefer to remain miserable!

Port Day coming up! Hyeu time, you bet. Skookum tum-tum and kio-ho-wya for everybody!

The Olympic Games, in long delayed bright weather, concluded in London last week-end, to meet again four years hence in Finland. Wise indeed would be the seer, who could, anywhere near the mark, foretell what sort of world this will be in 1952. Perhaps by that time the iron curtain has become a bit rusty or Mr. Molotov has mellowed, a little. Age, it is said, sometimes makes a fellow that way.

Another small craft, carrying more refugees than could be safely risked on a voyage over the Atlantic, has arrived in Canada, having found the pressure in Europe too strong. Russian nationals, finding themselves in Britain or the United States, are doing their best to avoid ever returning to the home that obviously is not sweet. Where will it all end? Every day, the Soviet is seen as the world's No. 1 Question Mark.

The townspeople of Prince Rupert is familiar enough to the residents but this cannot be said of the shores and countryside adjacent. Take Sunday, for example. Any number who voyaged to the Salt Lakes were there for the first time. Hundreds who

have lived here for years, have never motored over the Skeena Highway. Hundreds more have never scaled any of the surrounding mountains or been around Kalen Island. And plenty of others have never seen all the harbor.

One can better understand why Gouzenko is under the permanent protection of the R.C. M.P. after reading those despatches from New York and Washington. Russians, in the government service in America, were prepared to do anything even to the point of suffering death or grave injury, rather than return to Russia. There must be something in Soviet life as yet unrevealed.

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