

GANDHI PERILS BRITISH OFFER

Reports Say He Has Swung
All-India Congress Group
Against Cripps.

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tions, especially the congress and the powerful Moslem minority. But it seemed to make certain that his efforts were gravely endangered unless some compromise formula can be worked out quickly.

Gandhi Passive as Usual

Gandhi, as always in his opposition to Britain, was following a passive opposition policy. His main opposition was said to be based on his policy of non-violence, which made the British proposal for Indian participation in the war unacceptable.

That position was not regarded as an impossible obstacle to agreement, but the congress leaders were more strongly opposed to Cripps' proposal on the grounds that it might result in setting up a separate Moslem-dominated dominion.

The position of Jawaharlal Nehru, former congress president, still was uncertain but he wanted some changes in the British plan. Cripps reportedly had been counting heavily on Nehru's support as he had been mentioned as a candidate for the British war cabinet in event the plan is accepted.

(A dispatch to the British Exchange Telegraph Agency said that Cripps had said he was prepared to leave India at once if Britain's "final" war-time proposal were rejected and that Nehru as well as Gandhi and Azad was opposing the British plan.)

HOOSIER SEAMAN MISSING
VINCENNES, Ind., March 31 (U.P.)—Raymond C. Gilmore, 43, of near Vincennes, was reported among 21 seamen listed as missing in the torpedoing of an American freighter off the Atlantic coast recently, according to word received by his family.

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Standard Oil Chief Denies Arnold Charges on Rubber

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cartel agreement which retarded synthetic rubber production in this country but encouraged it in the Reich.

Committee Chairman Harry S. Truman (D. Mo.) has described the purported Cartel arrangement as "treason" on the part of Standard.

"I wish to assert with conviction," Mr. Farish said, "that whether the several contracts made with I. G. did or did not fall within the borders set by the patent statutes or the Sherman act, they did injure greatly to the advance of American industry and more than any other one thing have made possible our present war activities in aviation gasoline, toluol and explosives and in synthetic rubber itself."

Termed Normal Business

Referring specifically to Mr. Arnold's charges, which he denied, Mr. Farish said:

"It seems to me that the press and others have gone beyond the evidence which the committee has heard, perhaps, and probably, through misapprehension."

"Standard Oil's agreement with Farben in 1929, he asserted, was a normal business transaction. He made a particular point of answering Mr. Arnold's charge that in 1939 an attempt was made to insure continuance of the cartel even if the United States entered the war."

"Our contracts of 1929 were to run until 1947," he explained. "As you gentlemen doubtless know, contracts such as these are not, in law, abrogated, but merely suspended when the parties' nations are at war."

Offered Help to U. S.

"The parties to such contracts must therefore find some way of getting along with their own business while the contracts are so suspended."

In answer to Mr. Arnold's charge that Standard had kept Germany informed of developments in its own process of producing butyl



W. S. Farish

rubber, while keeping this government in ignorance of the progress, Mr. Farish said:

"When the European war broke out in 1939 and Standard took over control of the Buna (German process) patents in the United States, it informed the war and navy departments and offered its co-operation in speeding up the production of synthetic rubber."

He read documents purporting to show that Standard always had offered this government co-operation in the synthetic rubber program, but that financial difficulties had stood in the way.

Butyl rubber, he said, was inferior in some respects to the Buna process and, furthermore, was not in a stage ready for commercial development until March, 1941.

Answers Each Charge

He gave the following answers to specific charges made by Mr. Arnold:

1. Charge: That in September, 1939, Standard, fearing a break in American-Japanese relations, discussed a "closer relationship" with the Japanese Mitsui firm.

Mr. Farish: "This cable (upon which Mr. Arnold based the charge) was sent by an American, the local manager in Yokohama, in an effort to advise the directors that immediate steps could be taken to maintain some part of our American oil business in Japan against a rising tide." He added that the state department was informed of the situation.

2. Charge: That Standard was delivering aviation gasoline to an Italian airline in Brazil in 1941.

Mr. Farish: "Deliveries to this airline were discussed with the state department and with the American embassy at Rio de Janeiro. No delivery was made except in conformity with the policy of the department."

3. Charge: That in 1938 and 1939 Standard's German subsidiary, DAPG, was considering a plan to co-operate with the German government in erecting a refining plant for aviation gasoline in Hamburg.

Mr. Farish: "Our German subsidiary is a German corporation managed and operated by German personnel. It is accountable to the German government and to no other government. The German government in 1938 and 1939 was expanding its aviation gasoline facilities, and our company was behind other American and British controlled companies in Germany's refining program. Under the circumstances, our German subsidiary could do nothing less than the others had done."

4. Charge: That after the fall of France, Standard helped German interests establish hydrogenation plants in occupied France.

Mr. Farish: "This statement is untrue."

5. Charge: That in July, 1941, Farben offered Standard \$24,000,000 for its Hungarian properties.

Mr. Farish: "This is true, and under advice from the state department and the economic defense board, the offer was not accepted."

ALLIES RENEW AIR OFFENSIVE

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Bomb Invasion Bases North Of Australia; Burma Oil Fields Periled.

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warships, 46 transports and 50 air-planes up to March 1.

Since then the American and Australian pilots were credited with sinking about 28 enemy ships, including at least 14 warships, in the islands north of Australia. Some of these may duplicate Col. Eubank's figures but in any event the total is high.

Counting the enemy ships knocked out in the Philippines and the Dutch East Indies as well as those reported hit or sunk around New Guinea and New Britain Islands, the total number of enemy casualties would be approximately 30 warships and 60 transports in addition to probably 200 airplanes.

Not all of the Japanese craft were sunk, however, and some may have been attacked more than once.

The Japanese advances in central Burma were costly but important.

The greatest immediate danger appeared to be on the allied west flank, where the enemy pushed 20 miles northward to the village of Shwedagon, only 10 miles south of Prom.

London said that British forces probably would be forced to withdraw northward from Prom toward the big oil fields about 100 miles away.

Move North From Toungoo

The Chinese still were fighting in the Toungoo sector on the Burma east flank at last reports, but their main operations were north of that town where they repeatedly counter-attacked the enemy and captured several villages and the Kunyang airfield on Sunday to clear the way for allied withdrawal to their main positions on the highway running 200 miles north to Mandalay.

Today's allied raids against Kengtung and Lae were destructive, Australian communiques said. At least six enemy airplanes were believed destroyed on the ground at Kengtung, while at Lae the Japanese air-drome was hard hit and set afire.

At Lae, the allied planes—believed to include flying fortresses—struck through bad weather and dropped their bombs from 26,000 feet. Hangars and runways were reportedly destroyed.

Reorganize in Australia

The Japanese position in New Guinea appeared to be difficult since their forces advancing into the Markham valley previously had been driven back 27 miles to Lae due to floods and the rainy season now is likely to disrupt land operations for weeks.

Australian Premier John Curtin gave a formal pledge at Melbourne that neither the Australian government nor the parliament would interfere or "over-ride the decisions" of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's supreme command of the war in the southwest Pacific.

Australia's war cabinet approved a reorganization of the armed forces, including appointment of nine new generals, after a warning by Gen. Sir Thomas Blamey that the nation "must be prepared for an invasion" and "this year will determine whether Australia is to live or die."

Leaders Oppose India Plan

In India, the most powerful single party is the all-India congress, of which Maulana A. K. Azad is president and Mohandas K. Gandhi the spiritual leader. A third powerful leader in the party, which includes all factions, but is dominated by Hindus, is Jawaharlal Nehru, former president.

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Lew Ayres Assails War, Goes to Objectors' Camp

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Bomb Invasion Bases North Of Australia; Burma Oil Fields Periled.

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life can be successfully or even respectfully lived without it? We all shake our heads sadly over our predicament, and then wait for the other fellow to stop it first, each side perhaps eager to be the benevolent victor.

In confusion we stumble blindly along with prayers for peace on our lips and bloodstains on our hands, afraid to go forward, afraid to stop, and troubled by strangely perplexed hearts, wherein savagery and virtue reside intertwined.

"So, in my opinion we will never stop wars until we individually cease fighting them and that's what I propose to do. I propose we proclaim a moratorium on all presumed debts of evil done us, to start afresh by wiping the slate clean and continuing to wipe it clean.

"PLEASE ALLOW ME to say that although to some persons this brief revelation of my views may come, perhaps, as a mild surprise, they (the views) were on file well over a year ago and had, of course, long been taken for granted by my personal friends.

"Furthermore I am, and have been, fully aware of the possible consequences arising from such an action as mine in these emotional times, but against all eventualities I am fortified with an inner conviction that seems to increase proportionately with every obstacle I face.

"This decision is not the result of an unstable, overnight reformation, nor do I claim to have found something new or unique. It is but the mature result of hours, days and years of research and reflection upon principles with which our noses since birth, principles that have confirmed themselves so deeply into my being as to make any other course for me a nightmare of hypocrisy and deceit.

"For though in the past I have

been a genuine religion of my own, and my convictions confirm that religion. I am certain that my role in 'All Quiet on the Western Front' had a powerful influence on my life. I was 20 when I played the part of the German soldier who abhorred war and I thoroughly believe that the picture had much to do with my later thinking and my present step."

As for suggestions from Hollywood that he had ruined his future as a motion picture star, Ayres said:

"If my picture career is ruined, then I am sincerely sorry, but—"

He shrugged, peeled off his custom-tailored coat, and prepared to crawl into his upper berth for a sleep which he said he feared would be long in coming.

BORN IN MINNEAPOLIS. Ayres started his career in the entertainment world as a banjo player and made his first Hollywood success in one of Greta Garbo's early pictures.

In Oregon, the 33-year-old actor

will spend the duration of the war clearing underbrush, chopping trees and building fire trails.

GEISEL ENTERS SHERIFF'S RACE

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Veteran Baseball Umpire Plans Short Campaign Before Season Opens.

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own funds. In my lifetime work, I have judged others solely by their conduct, never on the basis of their race, or their personal faith or their economic standing.

"Every decision I make in my work is open to the observation and the criticism of the public and every act of mine as a public official would be made on the same basis."

He has been actively identified with sports, from sandlots to major league baseball parks, for 30 years. Beginning in the smaller professional leagues, he worked up through the various classifications, joined the American league in 1925 and is now the dean of its umpire staff. He has officiated in three world series.

Frequent Luncheon Speaker

Mr. Geisel regularly spends the winter seasons in his native city and over a period of years has made hundreds of talks before various luncheon groups, boys clubs and other organizations to emphasize the character building value of sports. As a result of these activities, he has built up a wide acquaintance throughout the county and state.

Born on N. Davidson st. just outside the mile square, Mr. Geisel is married and now lives at 5782 N. Delaware st. He is a member of Oriental Lodge F. & A. M., Scottish Rite, Murat Temple, Monument chapter Order of Eastern Star and the Indianapolis Kiwanis club.

Two years ago the Kiwanis national magazine carried a feature article on him, the only professional baseball umpire who was a member of the organization.

RADIO CANCER SERIES TO OPEN TOMORROW

Governor Schriener and Mrs. John Speed Harvey of Huntington, W. Va., regional deputy commander of the Woman's Field Army for the Control of Cancer, will speak in the first of a special radio series on the control of cancer at 4:45 p. m. tomorrow on WIRE.

Olive Beldon Lewis, chairman of the radio department for the army in the state, will introduce the governor.

OFFICERS ELECTED BY TYNDALL CLUB

J. W. Ebaugh has been elected president of the Veterans-Tyndall-for-Mayor club, and has called a meeting for 8 p. m. tomorrow at Hoosier Post hall, 143 E. Ohio st.

Clarence Null, former president of the steel workers' union, and Thomas Johnson, former president of the bricklayers' union, were elected vice-presidents and John H. Caylor was named secretary.

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