

Illness of China's Li Leads to Speculation Of Split With Chiang

Acting President Goes to Hong Kong; Observers Wonder if He Will Go Back

On the surface, Acting President Li Tsung-jen's retreat from China to a Hong Kong hospital looks like a break with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

But it could be an approach to a new understanding.

It could lead to Chiang's resumption of the presidency from which he retired almost 30 months ago or to Mr. Li's triumphant return to duty. It could lead to a final show of Nationalist unity and a final bid for American support.

The dominating trouble between Mr. Li and Chiang is the long-standing question of giving General Pai Chung-hsi full point over the Nationalists' dwindling military potential.

He has been offered the War Ministry in name, but Mr. Li and his followers of the so-called Kwangsi clique have been demanding that Gen. Pai take over the portfolio in fact as well. Gen. Pai, with intact armies numbering perhaps 200,000 men, is central front commander and the strongest Nationalist military factor on the Chinese mainland.

If any Nationalist commander could be considered a strong candidate for American aid, it is this Moslem general of Kwangsi province about whom official U. S. observers have had little but good to report. They have repeatedly pictured him as a victim of Chiang's stubborn know-it-all control of Nationalist military fortunes.

China

LONG lines of trucks streamed out of Chungking today along a 160-mile highway to Chengtu, capital of Szechuan Province, which unofficial reports have named as the next seat of the Nationalist government.

News that acting President Li had arrived in Hong Kong for medical treatment, and that his future role in the government was uncertain, shocked Chungking.

Philippines

SECRETARY OF TREASURY John W. Snyder conferred with President Elpidio Quirino and other high Philippine government officials today, but the subject of the talks was undisclosed.

Iran

FOREIGN Minister Ali Asghar Hekmat said today Iran was studying a proposal for a trade and mercantile treaty with the United States.

Mr. Hekmat said Soviet Russia was still blocking 11 tons of Iranian gold held in the Soviet National Bank, and had not released four Iranian soldiers seized at the frontier recently.

Jerusalem

TWO thousand Catholic pilgrims a week will be permitted to enter Israel during the 1950 Holy Year, the Israeli government said today.

The number will be held at 2000 because of a lack of accommodations, the government said.

Czechoslovakia

AUTHORITIES reported today that the Nov. 16 edition of the U. S. information service bulletin was confiscated on grounds that it carried an "alarmist report menacing the security of the state and public order."

The offending item concerned an Anglo-American resolution in the United Nations political committee, urging respect for the dignity of man, freedom of religion, and full freedom for peaceful expression of political opposition.

Austria

COMMUNIST Eastern Europe has arrested another American and thrown him into jail.

Robert Vogeler of New York, assistant vice president of the International Telephone and Telegraph Co., was seized in Hungary Friday. The U. S. legation in Budapest said he is being held incommunicado.

The State Department, in Washington, said that the Hungarian government has failed to reply to an American request for an investigation into the "disappearance" of Mr. Vogeler.

Spain

A GROUP of touring U. S. Senators headed by Elmer Thomas (D., Okla.) yesterday discussed possible American aid to Spain with Spanish Minister of Industry Juan Antonio Suances, it was disclosed today.

The seven legislators, members of the Senate Armed Services Committee, talked possible dollar aid to Spain through direct loans or credits or in the Marshall Plan.

Italy

THE government today ordered police to drive peasant squatters off private land they have seized under Communist direction.

Interior Minister Mario Scelba warned that efforts to occupy land would plunge the country

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Seymour Fire Loss Placed At \$500,000

40 Autos Destroyed As Downtown Blaze Threatens Hoosier City

Times State Service

SEYMORE, Nov. 21.—A half-million dollars worth of ashes and charred ruins today marked the scene of a fire which destroyed three buildings and threatened most of downtown Seymour yesterday.

Flames raged for four hours early yesterday, destroying the Farmers' Supply Co., the Brown Chevrolet Co. garage and the F. F. Buhner Co. warehouse. The three two-story buildings stood side by side at the south edge of the business district.

Heavy wind from the southwest carried burning embers almost two blocks and twice ignited an elevator of the Blish Milling Co. The second blaze caused considerable damage before it was extinguished.

At another point the raging fire threatened the Topic & Holz Service Station, adjacent to the Buhner warehouse, but firemen fought the blaze back from the structure.

Started in Garage

The fire, which apparently started in a repair room in the garage, was discovered at about 2:40 a. m. by a party of motorists at 8:30. They smelled smoke, round the fire and turned on the alarm.

Firemen from Seymour, Columbus and North Vernon responded to the call. One firefighter commented that the blaze had too much head start.

"You could have extinguished it if you'd put it in the river," he said.

In the Chevrolet garage the fire destroyed 40 automobiles including three new vehicles and all accessories and equipment.

A large quantity of feed and grain burned in the Farmer's Supply Co. In the Buhner warehouse the fire fed on three carloads of lubricating oil, 460 cases of antifreeze and two trucks and an automobile.

Bookkeeper Injured

There was one injury. David Tipton, bookkeeper for Brown Chevrolet, was taken to Schenck Memorial Hospital with a badly cut leg, sustained when he kicked in a door pane in an effort to save records from the burning building. The loss was covered by insurance.

Grill Salesman On Car Sales

A 32-year-old used car salesman was being questioned today on charges he failed to turn over money to owners of autos he was alleged to have sold on consignment.

Kenneth LeRoy Robbins of the Dearborn Hotel, owner of the 10th St. Consignment Sales Co., surrendered at police headquarters today on charges of pre-embazement. The sales lot is in the 4300 block E. 10th St.

He is alleged to have given titles of 35 cars sold to purchasers, but failed to forward the cash to owners of consigned cars, police said.

Mr. Robbins told investigators he still "owed the money" to the original car-owners, police said.

He was arrested on a warrant filed by Detective Sgt. Harold Akeman. State Policeman Richard Wedekind and Sgt. Akeman were investigating the charges.

Twins Connected at Heads Continue to Improve

Doctors Delay Thorough Examination of California Girls, Now 6 1/2 Months Old

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 21 (UPI)—Twin girls born here 6 1/2 months ago have surprised doctors by gaining weight and thriving even though they are joined together at the heads. General Hospital Medical Director Phoebus Berman said today.

However, no attempt will be made "in the near future" to separate May Yvette and Gladys Yvonne Jones. The babies lie with their heads attached at the crown and their feet pointing in opposite directions.

Delay Close Examination

Dr. Berman said the twins are too young to undergo thorough examinations.

If the brains are joined or if the infants are otherwise vitally joined, it would make successful surgery more improbable, Dr. Berman said. Parts of the skulls would have to be replaced by surgical plates.

Because the cranial link is not a perfect one, doctors believe the babies may have separate brains. When one child lies on her back, the other lies on her side.

The twins were born May 12 to Mrs. John Jones, 38, the mother of nine other children. The hospital probably will continue to care for the twins because it would be too expensive for their parents to care for them at home or in a private institution," Dr. Berman said.

Dr. Berman, who classified the birth medically as a craniosynostosis, said he could find no evidence that twins so joined at the heads ever lived.

Death of Clergy Dies

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Nov. 21 (UPI)—The Rt. Rev. Magr. Peter J. Hart, 80, dean of Roman Catholic clergymen in central New Jersey, died in his rectory at St. Peter's Church last night after a long illness.

All entries become the property of The Times, none will be returned and the decision of the judges will be final. Send letters to: Grandma, Indianapolis Times, 214 W. Maryland St.

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