

ESTABLISHED 1888

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1946

Old City Of Kalgan In Need Of Technicians

By SPENCER DAVIS (Substituting for Hal Boyle)

KALGAN—(AP)—This ancient trading and leather-bartering center, where the camel caravans from the Mongolian steppes passed en route into North China, is now a thriving quasi-industrial city, thanks to the Japanese, but is suffering from a lack of technicians.

A community of 200,000 population, it is under the rule of the Chinese Communists, whose leaders here, Gen. Nieh, Jun-Chen, frankly admitted that the shortage of skilled workmen is one of his greatest problems in trying to operate the enemy legions.

The machinery the Japanese left behind five months ago is becoming defective, but there is apparently no immediate way to get either repairmen or replacement material.

GEN. NIEH brought out this problem in a conference with Col. Lee V. Harris of Memphis, Tenn., heading the true-inspection team which is to check on the cease-fire orders in China's civil strife were obeyed.

Japanese engineers in their long-range program, in North China as a colony of their dream empire, built foundries and oil refineries, a four mill, a cement factory, a match factory, an arsenal and numerous light industries here.

The Japanese also cleared a roadbed for a railway to run north through Jehol and Chahar provinces, but never got the rails laid before their surrender because of interference by Chinese Communists and guerrillas.

A completed railway runs east parallel to the Yung Tung River. It is crowded with cars hauling coal and hundreds of laborers in and out of the city, and it may soon be reopened all the way to Peiping for through traffic.

Like most Chinese cities which the Japanese had planned to hold, Kalgan has a mixture of old and new. There is one wide street lined with modern buildings, restaurants and hotels, plus a new theater and a "cinema" station that is a good imitation of the West in size, North Platte, Neb.

STORES WELL-STOCKED Behind these new structures which the old Chinese had built, the old city walls are crumbling, but the city is prosperous. Stores are well-stocked with goods, much having been confiscated from the Japanese.

The "Emancipation Hotel," a full-run establishment, advertises at U. S. a package. The hotel bedrooms are faintly furnished, but the rest of the place is a pot-pourri of cherry trees in each room, very nice bowls of apples, pears and grapes in the kitchen, and in the morning a servant with a pot of steaming tea awakens the sleepers.

At the hotel and at good restaurants the diner is surprised to find quantities of sea foods, including shrimps and sea slugs. Asked how such delicacies are obtained, the manager replied, "small merchants make a business of bringing them from the coast."

This is remarkable because transportation is so scarce. Few automobiles or trucks are to be seen. There is an occasional car, but most hauling apparently is done with pony-drawn carts. The carts are run better than they used to be because all are equipped with rubber tires.

Kalgan's money is issued by the Communist bank of Shansi-Chahar-Hebei. The bank has a circulation of 600 to one American dollar or one two Chinese Communist dollars.

Many Communist soldiers stroll the streets, for Kalgan has been raised a center for recruits and conscripts. Aside from the money and the troops, the Communist control is in the work of the military. It has assets his Government is not of the Soviet type but a Chinese type. He said he had not tried to establish collective farms because they were not wanted in this area.

Shared By Big 3

Nazi Fleet Divided Into Three Parts LONDON—(AP)—Remnants of the German fleet, once a powerful force in world affairs, were divided among the victorious Big Three—Britain, Russia and the United States.

"Operable surface units" of the Nazi Navy, amounting to 1,750 vessels, together with submarines are being split on a three and share alike basis, a tri-power committee said last night. The action plan for Germany without the vestige of a combat fleet. A British source said the German fleet also would be divided up later, although fishing vessels will not be taken.

Coal Mines Close As Result Of Steel Strike

Would Block Filibuster Republicans Seek To Limit Debate On FEPC Measure

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Senate Republicans indicated today they had agreed to seek a limitation of debate on the Fair Employment Practices Bill which Southern Democrats have filibustered since last Thursday.

New Labor Trouble Railroad Strike Vote Authorized

CLEVELAND — (AP) — One railroad brotherhood today authorized a strike vote among its members and another indicated preparations for a similar vote, in a dispute with the nation's railroads over wage issues and a series of complex matters in working rules.

Fail To Pick U. S. Officer

LONDON — (AP) — The top men of the five principal powers in the United Nations failed to pick a U. S. representative in the office of the Secretary of State James F. Byrnes today and were reported to have failed again to agree on a candidate for Secretary General of the new security organization.

Streicher Has Heart Attack

NUERNBERG — (AP) — Julius Streicher, one of the defendants in the Nuremberg trial, suffered a heart attack during the noon recess today and was put to bed.

House Committee Takes Action Designed To Curb Music Czar

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Legislation which Chairman Lea, Democrat, California, said was designed to restrain powers of James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, today was approved by a 14-0 vote of the House Interstate Commerce Committee.

Over 14,000 Coal Shaft Miners Idle At Least 52 Of Mines Closed

PITTSBURGH — (AP) — More than 45,000 coal mines in West Virginia and Pennsylvania, the leading coal-producing states, closed today as a result of the CIO's three-day-old general steel strike and other work stoppages.

Short's Testimony Intelligence Head Caught Off Guard

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Maj. Gen. Walter C. Short today gave Congressional investigators evidence which he said showed that two days before Pearl Harbor the chief of Army intelligence did not believe an open split with Japan was near.

Strike Curb Plans Made

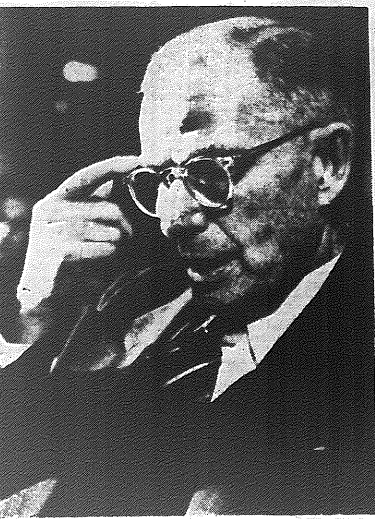
By CLAIR JOHNSON WASHINGTON — (AP) — A strong drive today to rewrite into broad new strike control legislation the war-torn version of President Truman's Fact-Finding Bill.

Scotch Whisky To Stay Scarce

LONDON — (AP) — Scotch whisky will remain scarce for at least another year.

Blow At Petrillo

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DEFENDS HIS COURSE AT PEARL HARBOR—Maj. Gen. Walter C. Short is pictured here as he told a Congressional committee investigating Pearl Harbor that the Army High Command has been trying to "pass the buck" to him for the Pearl Harbor disaster.

Labor-Army Charge Made

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Chairman May, Democrat, Kentucky, today ordered an immediate House Military Committee investigation of charges that Army truck drivers had been ordered not to cross meat strikers' picket lines without union approval.

Cotton Rallies To New High

NEW YORK — (AP) — The cotton market advanced into a new seasonal high ground today on a statement by Administration officials that no final decision has yet been reached on the question of a 1946 cotton crop.

Income Tax Collectors Routed By Tear Gas

CHICAGO — (AP) — Several hundred employees of the Internal Revenue Department were routed today in a riotous quarrel in the old Post Office Building today when a clerk accidentally dropped a switch which set off a tear gas bomb in a vault.

Weather

Fair and warmer today and tonight. Thursday partly cloudy and mild. Temperature at 11:30 today 32. Windy and clear. 24 hours 29.97. Sunset today 5:40. Sunrise tomorrow 6:50.

Agriculture Department Will Take Over Plants

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The White House announced today the Department of Agriculture will seize and operate a strikebound meat packing plant on Saturday.

War Dept. Ready To Give Help

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The War Department is ready to give help to the Agriculture Department which is taking over a strikebound meat packing plant on Saturday.

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