

President Pins Medal On Hoover as FBI Chief

The first team of the Eisenhower Administration gathered in the White House rose garden this morning to watch President Eisenhower pin the National Security Medal on J. Edgar Hoover. Members of the cabinet and the National Security Council were on hand for the occasion.

The FBI chief is the second recipient of the award, which was created by President Truman on his last day in office, January 19, 1953. Gen. Walter Bedell Smith was decorated for his work as director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr. Hoover was cited for his "outstanding contribution to the national security of the United States" as director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for 31 years.

The citation, read by Deputy Attorney General William B. Rogers, also praised Mr. Hoover's "exceptional tact, perceptiveness, judgment and brilliant leadership in a position of great responsibility."

"Through his well-grounded and clearly defined concept of

investigative procedures, reinforced by his recognized integrity and high personal prestige, he has won international recognition for the Federal law enforcement system of the United States," Mr. Rogers read.

After presenting the medal, the President told the FBI chief: "Mr. Hoover, your dedication and devotion to public service are so long and so well known, your accomplishments in that service are so great and so well known, that it seems idle for me to try to say anything that could add to the dignity of this ceremony."

"Perhaps it is just best for me to say I am proud to be an agent for our people in conferring upon you this highest award that the Government has, and to say that your real award—as all of us here know, is in the hearts, the thanks and the gratitude of our entire Nation."

Mr. Hoover thanked the President and expressed deep gratitude for the honor.

Newspaper Strike In France Ended

PARIS, May 27 (AP).—A 24-hour newspaper strike called to protest a bill involving rights of labor unions ended last night. Work resumed normally, spokesmen said, after the walk-out left Paris and some parts of the provinces without morning and afternoon papers yesterday. Meanwhile, the National Assembly passed the disputed bill, 510-109.

The strike was called by the Book Workers' Federation, which says it is non-Communist but is affiliated with the Communist-dominated General Confederation of Labor.

\$1,500 Tray of Rings Stolen at F Street Store

A tray of diamond rings, valued at about \$1,500, was stolen from a showcase at Schwartz Jewelers, 1305 F street N.W., last night, police reported.

The rings, believed to be of yellow gold, were taken between 7:10 and 7:45 p.m., Charles Schwartz, owner of the store, said. The number taken was not immediately determined.

French Division Shifts to Algeria

PARIS, May 27 (AP).—France is moving one of its divisions assigned to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization from West Germany to Algeria to fight the spreading rebellion in that North African area.

Premier Edgar Faure told a press conference last night that his government has told Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, of the move and expects to get his approval. France has two small and three regular sized divisions in Germany.

"In the very logic of NATO, order must be maintained and security guaranteed in a country which can eventually prove to be a strategic rear," the Premier said. "Everyone must understand that as far as we are concerned, priority must go to Algeria."

Guerrilla bands and underground independence-seeking terrorists have recently stepped up their months-long campaign of shooting, bombings and arson in Algeria and the French protectorate of Morocco. Their strength in Algeria has been estimated at 1,500 and they apparently are becoming bolder and more numerous daily.

Reinforcements already have raised the number of French troops in Algeria to 100,000. The government appears more concerned over the situation there than over Morocco and its companion protectorate of Tunisia. Unlike the protectorates, Algeria is a part of France proper.

Peron Signs Church Split

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, May 27 (AP).—President Juan D. Peron has signed a measure setting up the process for amending the constitution to break the ties between the state and the Roman Catholic Church in Argentina.

Today's issue of the official bulletin showed the law was signed Monday, three days after it won approval in both houses of Congress, where Peronistas have heavy majorities. It calls for elections for a National Assembly to rewrite the constitution.

Roman Catholicism is now the state religion and the president must be a Catholic. The state now contributes about \$7 million a year to support Catholic private schools and to pay part of the salary of top church prelates.

Passage of the law was one of the aims of Gen. Peron's supporters in the campaign they have waged against the Roman Catholic church in Argentina since last November.

Congress has also approved measures to cancel tax exemptions of churches and religious organizations, and to discontinue Roman Catholic education in the public schools.

These measures still await the president's signature.

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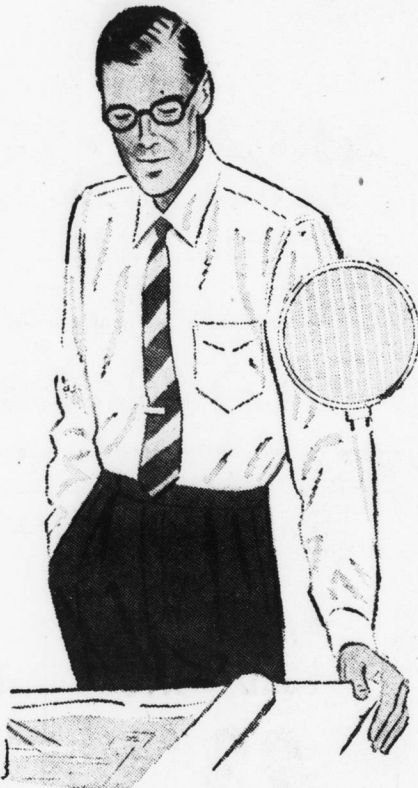
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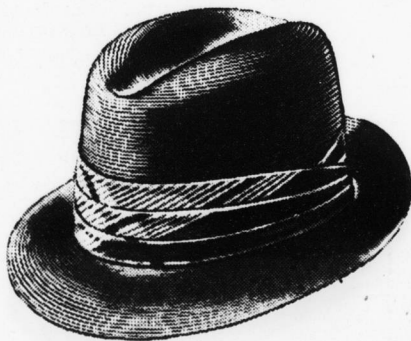


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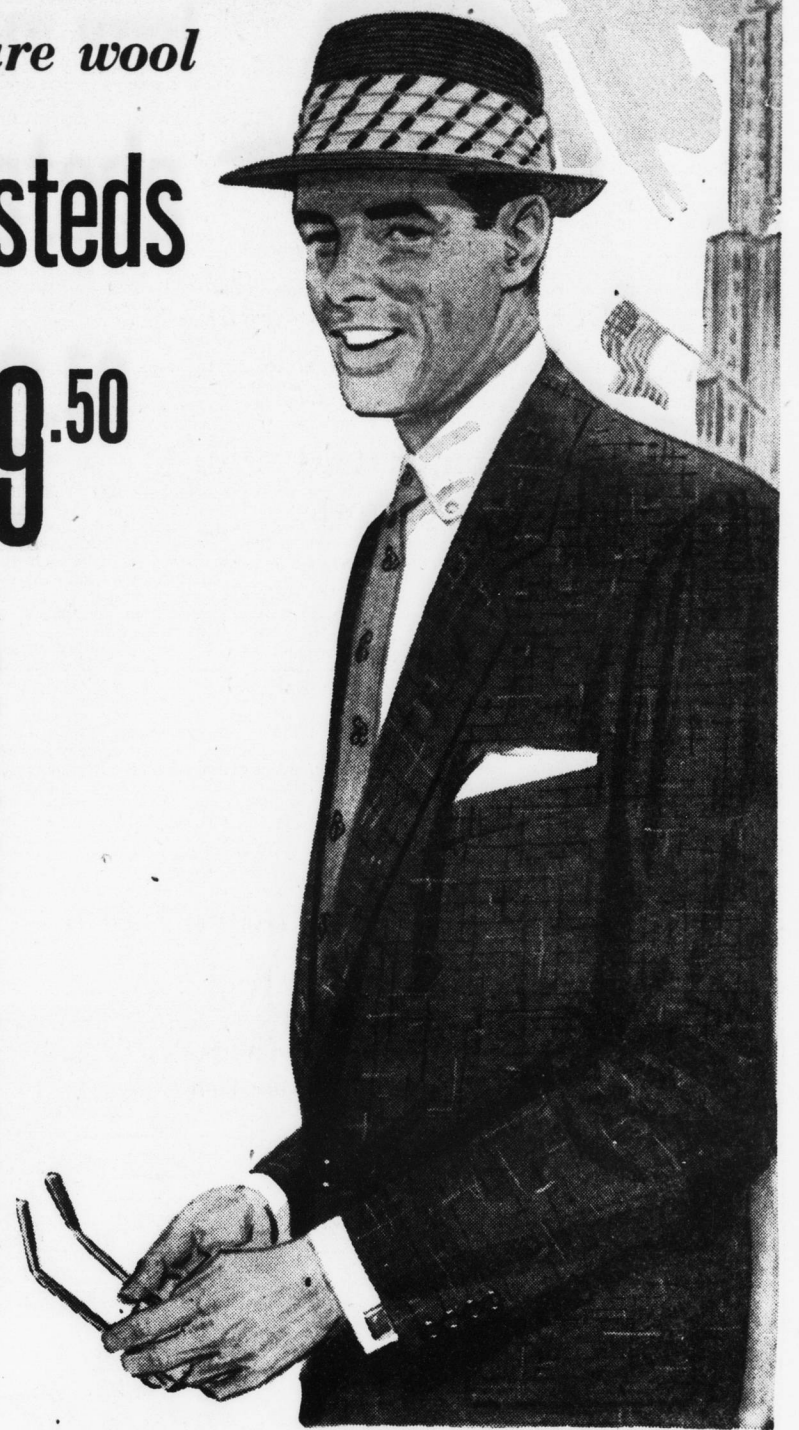
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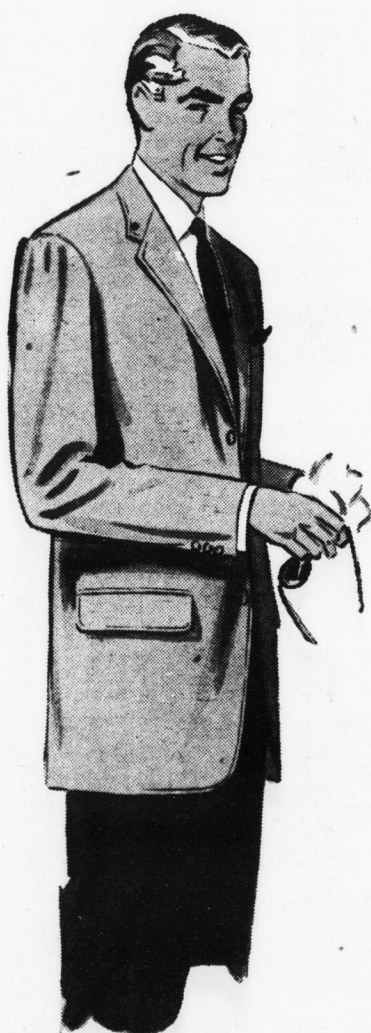
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