LABOR BILL C.T. P+G. Wednesday, May 4, 1949.

In Congress, the Wood Bill goes back to committee. That much the Truman administration is able to save out of the catastrophe. The attempt to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act having failed utterly last night, the administration leaders exerted all their powers to block the labor bill put through by a coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats. Today they succeeded in getting a majority of three votes to send the Wood Bill to the Committee for further study.

The wood bill is much the same as the Taft-Hartley Law, which the White House wanted repealed. But blocking it today merely leaves the Taft-Hartley Act still in force. So you can see the desperate straits of the administration in the labor law controversy.

The White House tonight has two alternatives of hope. Number one - that the committee, restudying the Wood Bill, may be able to fix up something acceptable to the President - and, at the same time, acceptable

to Congress. Number two - that the Senate will come forth with a labor law pleasing to the President - and then get that through the lower House.

The measure of the Truman defeat may be taken by noting one simple fact - that both the Democratic platform and the Truman campaign pledges featured the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, as promise number one.

BLOCKADE

The hero in the world of diplomacy tonight is- Jessup. He it was who initiated the negotiations that have led to a solution of the Berlin blockade crisis - Dr. Philip Jessup, American Ambassador-at-large having started it all by putting some guarded questions to Malik, Soviet delegate to the U.N.

Today's official announcement calls it - "An agreement in principle", a familiar diplomatic phrase. But it states definitely that the Soviets have agreed to lift the Berlin blockade, as a preliminary to a meeting of the foreign ministers of the Big Four. The dates to be announced tomorrow morning. However, the United Press, reporting from London, states definitely that the blockade will end May Twelfth, Thursday of next week. The Big Four conference to begin - May Twenty-third, probably in Paris.

And so, according to all appearance, ends the most dangerous crisis in the cold war thus far -

the Red blockade versus the Western airlift. At the expense of many millions we beat that Soviet strangulation move, and it looked many a time as if the crisis might flare into war. But now - the end, apparently. And that now takes us to the scene of that blockade -- to a human angle.

CLAY

When a man goes on a fishing trip, he starts out jolly and gay - but that is not the way of General Lucious Clay in Berlin. He is going cat-fishing, but today his face was a picture of tense emotion, and his voice choked a bit as he talked. Retiring as American military governor in Germany, he said farewell to his troops - who marched on parade, while squadrons of American fighter planes formed the name of Clay in the sky. The General has been with those G.I.'s over there through some mighty tough, critical times of the blockade. So no wonder he felt a pang of regret on leaving.

But, in resigning, he said he wanted to be relieved of heavy military burdens, and just go fishing - taking it easy and angling for catfish down in his native Georgia. So that's why we have to say that General Lucius Clay, going on a fishing trip, does not start out jolly and gay.

CHURCHILL

In London, the Labor Government has decided to let Winston Churchill serve on the British delegation to the Council of Europe. Some while ago, we heard the labor ministers were dubious about giving the war-time prime minister, now leader of the opposition, a place on the Council of the west European democracies. They were afraid that the tremendous prestige and personality of Churchill would eclipse other members of the British delegation - including ministers of the government now in power. In the Council of Europe, the leader of the opposition might well overshadow the foreign secretary - Ernest Bevin.

But the London word is that Churchill threatened to raise an uproar in Parliament, if he were denied a place - and the uproar could be even more embarrassing than the out-shining at the sessions of the Council of Europe. So now the report that the British delegation will be composed of members of all three parties, labor, conservative and Liberal. Winston Churchill as representative of the

conservatives - even though he may steal the show.

BRITAIN

Municipal elections in Scotland. The count tonight shows that the Labor Party suffered a net loss of ~~Forty-Six~~ council seats. In Glasgow, hiterto a citadel of labor, there is nearly an even split, ~~Fifty-six~~ to ~~Fifty-Five~~ - the labor party majority reduced to a margin of one.

At Ipswich, in England, the educational board named three trustees at a school in the town of Stradbroke. When the three trustees tried to take their post, they found that the school had been closed in Nineteen Three, forty-six years ago.

~~Where~~ At Stratford, the birthplace of Shakespeare, the borough hall was repainted - a cream color speckled with red. Today the town councilmen told the decorators to try again, saying that the cream-speckled-with-red looked as if the walls, in the words of the town fathers, "Had been splashed with the taxpayer's blood."

ISRAEL

There is a city that is a scene of celebration and prayer. Riotous rejoicing, and solemn supplication. Tel Aviv - where today it seemed as if half the poeple of Israel had come flocking to commenorate the first anniversary of the Independent Jewish State. Singing and firecrackers, a riot of color, flags of Israel flying everywehre, clusters of bright balloons released by crowds. The latest, a mammoth military parade called off. Because a hundred thousand people rushed the line of march, and formed such a jam, such a bottleneck, that the military units could not get through. The Tel Aviv announcement says: "The crowd refused to clear away for the parade."

All that popular excitement, and also - prayer. Which is not strange at all, considering the religious character of the Jewish State, the mystical, messianic dreams that inspired the creation of Israel.

Today in Tel Aviv, an aged veteran of

Zionism, made comment - Juda Cohen, ninety-two years old, who arrived in the Holy Land fifty years ago. He says: "Not since I first came here, have I seen so many people praying - not even at the wailing wall of Jerusalem." →

FOLLOW ISRAEL

The latest. The Army of Israel was finally able to hold its parade today - after the crowds, which had blocked the march ~~had~~ got tired, and went ~~gone~~ home. Then the military pageant proceeded through ~~in~~ Tel Aviv.

ITALY

One of the most spectacular and tragic of air crashes occurred in Italy today - when a big airliner crashed into the steeple of the Cathedral in the City of Turin. At least twenty-nine persons killed - including the members of the champion football team of Italy. ~~soccer~~ soccer Eighteen players, all ~~about~~ but one, he not being aboard the ill-fated airliner.

The Turin Club was returning by air from football games in Portugal - the Italian National Championship team ~~during~~ for the past four years. Soccer is so popular in Italy, that this is the equivalent over here ~~would be~~ to an air crash wiping out a major league baseball team that had won the world series four times in a row.

On a high hill in Turin, stands the Two Hundred year old cathedral, in which for many years the monarchs of the House of Savoy were laid to rest in stately tombs. Today the big airliner was circling the city in heavy rain-clouds, trying for a landing at the Turin airport. A wing-tip caught the

that great
steeple of ~~the~~ cathedral, and the plane swung around

and plunged to the ground - just to the rear of the

— wiping out Italy's
church - ~~and Italy lost its~~ championship football

team.

ADD ITALIAN PLANE CRASH

The effect of the airplane disaster in Italy is indicated by late news from Rome. The Italian Senate adjourned, in mourning for the lost football team.

HERMIT

A strange story was told today by a middle-aged man at Gering, Nebraska. He was arrested in a minor traffic accident. Then, when the police questioned him about his age, his origin, and so on - the weird fantasy came out.

He said he had been reared in a cave in New Hampshire, and had lived in the cave until five years ago - when he was about forty years old. He doesn't know how it all came about - but, in some way, he was taken as a child by an aged hermit who lived in the cave near Keene, New Hampshire. He calls the hermit - "old man pops." He has no recollection of anything before life in the cave, and old man pops would never tell him anything about his parents. So that's the way he was raised, a hermit's life - old man pops teaching him to read and write from the one book he had, the bible.

He grew to manhood and maturity, living in the cave, and only quit that underground life, when old man pops died - five years ago. "I buried

him near the cave," The middle-aged man related today, "took five thousand dollars he had, and left."

That was in Nineteen Forty Four, his first contact with the outside world. ~~he had~~ -And, to his amazement, he learned that the United States, three years before, had gone to war with Germany and Japan.

Using up the five thousand dollars, he drifted around, and then supported himself by doing odd jobs, never telling anybody the strange story - until the minor traffic accident in Nebraska brought the disclosure of nearly forty years living in a New Hampshire cave.

BERGMAN

In the news today we have some sentimental details in the latest headline movie romance --Bergman-Rossellini. For days the gossip wires have been discussing the adventures of the Swedish actress of Hollywood and the Italian motion picture producer. Now, some inside illumination.

But not from Ingrid Bergman herself. In Rome today she gave reporters an interview about as unilluminating as an interview could be. The gist of it was - yes and no. Her husband, Dr. Peter Lindstrom of Hollywood, went over to Europe to investigate and inquire. He had a long hotel room conference with both his wife and Rossellini. What result?

Today Ingrid Bergman, talking to the reporters, indicated that she did not intend to break up her marriage right away. But, neither did she say that she did not plan to get a divorce and eventually marry Rossellini. She merely declared that she would "Return to the side of her husband," as the news dispatch phrases it.

But, as for the rumors that she might, in time, go off and marry the Italian film director - she gave no denial of that.) Her husband is returning to Hollywood, while she is remaining in Italy to make the picture with Rossellini.

The sentimental illumination comes from Hollywood, from friends of the actress. They tell how the romance began, and say that Ingrid Bergman fell in love, first of all, with the films that Rossellini made. He's a creator of pictures that stirred an artistic sensation over here, like - "Open City."

Today a close friend stated: "Ingrid was very unhappy with her last Hollywood movies. She felt tney were the same old commercial stuff." Artistic disillusion, in other words. This friend adds that, moreover, the Swedish star put money of her own in films she made - like Joan of Arc. And - lost the money . Which can be disillusioning, artistic or otherwise.

So she wrote a letter to Rossellini, in which she said: "If you ever need a Swede, I'm available." She ended the letter by saying - "I love you." Although - she had never met the director. The Hollywood friend explains: "She meant she loved him because he represented freedom in art."

of Sicily, is one of the legended places of this earth - where the fire mountain has been a thing of wonder since the days of ancient Greece. I have sailed past it at night a number of times. Fire shooting high from the crater. Rivers of gleaming molten lava pouring down the fire mountain. Superb for making a motion picture, no doubt, but the labors of camera and film in this case seem to be tangled a bit by the romance of the Swedish star who became enamored of the director's movies, and wrote to him, "I love you," before she had ever met him.

And now -- I want you to meet -- Nelson Case!

RETAKE

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Well, they met eventually, some while ago, then saw a good deal of each other in Hollywood - Rossellini journeying to that capital of movieland to sign the actress for a picture to be made in Italy. He stopped for days at the home of herself and husband. That produced dramatics, with the Hollywood gossip columnists relating how Ingrid and Rossellini went out to dinner one night and stayed longer than her husband thought they should. He was so annoyed about it, that he stormed into the cafe where they were, and hauled his wife right out! -- So it is said.

All of which was the prelude to the trip to Italy to make a movie on the Island of Stromboli ~~(scene on the first page)~~, with its famous volcano. That Mediterranean isle, to the north

of Sicily, is one of the legended places of this earth - where the fire mountain has been a thing of wonder since the days of ancient Greece. I have sailed past it at night a number of times. Fire shooting high from the crater. Rivers of gleaming molten lava pouring down the fire mountain. Superb for making a motion picture, no doubt, but the labors of camera and film in this case seem to be tangled a bit by the romance of the Swedish star who became enamored of the director's movies, and wrote to him, "I love you," before she had ever met him.

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