

LABOR

L.J. - Sunoco and P. & H. Friday, March 7, 1947.

Congress put on a show today, and the star was John L. Lewis. This had nothing to do with the Supreme Court decision against Lewis and the United Mine Workers yesterday. Today's event had been scheduled some while ago - an appearance of the mine union boss before the Senate Labor Committee on the subject of anti-strike laws. It was a dramatic coincidence that the date for this happened to be the day after the court decision, and the hearing attracted the biggest crowd since the ~~the~~ Pearl Harbor investigation ~~in~~ a year ago.

In his testimony Lewis propounded the question: "What's the matter with the coal industry"? ~~This~~ he answered it himself. He declared that there was nothing the matter with the coal industry except the ill-treatment of its employees, which, he maintained was a private matter between the coal operators and the United Mine Workers of America. The miners, he continued, could iron out their disagreements with the employers any time, if the

government would only quit interfering, "stop blackjacking the miners into submission while the operators take the profit," -- as Lewis expressed it.

He gave a lecture on what he called - "recent intrusions by the government". These intrusions, he complained, have put a stop to collective bargaining in the coal industry. He told the committee that there have been no negotiations between the miners and the owners of any character whatsoever, since a short meeting last September.

Lewis declared that he had announced in December that the United Mine workers were prepared to negotiate, at any time, with either the mine operators or the government. To that offer, ^{he said} he has received no response whatsoever, ~~said John L. Lewis.~~

Part of his testimony was a prepared statement, commonly known as a handout. In that, Lewis urged that if you take away the workers right to strike, you change the form of government in America. The right of volunteer contract is the only

difference between serfdom and freedom. He argued that if laws are passed controlling and regimenting labor, they would eventually lead to bureaucratic control not only of labor but businesses also, and would destroy our system of private enterprise.

Lewis pointed out the simple truth that, no matter how many laws are passed forbidding strikes, there is no formula for compelling men to go down into the mines if they don't want to. Even supposing you force them into the cages and the stopes, you can't compel them to work.

Senator Ball of Minnesota agreed with the ~~the~~ beetle-browed mine chief that outlawing the right to strike was utterly ^{incompatible} ~~incompatible~~ with a free society. But, ^{Sen. Ball} ~~he~~ added that some remedy must be found so that the country will not be left at the mercy of mine shut-downs. Without such remedy, there will be either compulsory arbitration or nationalization of the coal ~~industry~~ ^{said he.} To which Senator Ball is just as much opposed as Lewis.

The ~~s~~low rose to a climax, a climax of laughs, when the bull-voiced chieftain of ^{the} coal miners tangled with Senator Taft of Ohio. The Senator asked; - "did not the coal industry differ from others in that ~~xxxxxx~~ John D. Lewis made all the decisions for the United Mine Workers.

To which Lewis retorted: "Senator, I wonder why you make an ~~xxx~~ inaccurate statement of that kind. I've heard it said that you've been pushing the Republican Party around, but I've withheld judgment until I have had a chance to talk with you".

The audience roared - and even Taft had to smile, as he ^{interjected the remark} ~~said~~ that no man can boss anyone else around in Congress. Lewis replied that that was true of his union too. Which gave the spectators another laugh. ~~xxxx~~

The more Lewis insisted that he was not the boss of the miners, the more he tickled the mirth of the crowd. He went into the matter of union elections. He vowed that he himself was elected by

secret ballot, and said he would match the purity of his election with that of any election in Ohio.

The spectators grinned. ^{And} Taft's face grew red as he looked down ~~at~~ his papers, ^{and} then looked up and caught Lewis's eye as he shook with laughter.

P The hilarity became general when the bushy-browed labor leader looked at his cigar ~~and~~ and his clothes, and admitted to the Senators that the miners pay him, buy his cigars and keep him in good clothes. In short, he works for them. Consequently it was his duty to fight against anti-union laws like those now before Congress.

It was good John L. Lewis entertainment, lightened with comedy - after the heavy dramatics of the Supreme Court decision yesterday.

ENGLAND

The people of Britain today are confronted with the worst food shortage they have ever known, far worse than any during the war.

Not since Eighteen Ninety, has there been such a disastrous paralysis of transportation in Great Britain - because of ice, snow and slush.

The Food Ministry announces that there was enough rationed ~~meats~~ meats and canned goods to last over the weekend. But vegetables, milk and other unrationed food has practically vanished from the grocers shelves. Even potatoes have almost disappeared. Live stock is threatened because in many parts of the island the hay supplies have been used up. The prolonged freeze has destroyed thousands of tons of sugar beets.

In Parliament today Winston Churchill offered another motion of no confidence in the government. He charges the Labor cabinet with having with-held the full facts of the crisis from the ~~public~~ public. There will be a full press debate

TRUMAN

President Truman received an academic degree today, but his address of acceptance was by no means ~~XXXXX~~ academic. Made an L.L.D. ~~xx~~ at Baylor University *in Waco,* ~~at~~ Texas, the President delivered a scorching retort to one faction of Republicans - G O P protagonists who have been criticizing the reciprocal trade program.

Without mentioning names, he aimed remarks at Senator Wherry of Nebraska, the G O P whip, who has become spokesman for the Republicans who want to go back to a high tariff policy. That, declared the President, means an attempt at economic isolation, which will not work. Isolationism after two world wars, said he, is a confession of mental and moral bankruptcy.

"We ~~xx~~ now know," the President argued, "that we cannot escape the troubles of the world by just staying within our own borders. Neither can we confine our cooperation, with other countries, to political relationships. Our foreign relations, both political and economic, he contended, are indivisible. We cannot

offer to cooperate in one field and refuse in another.

~~At the academic ceremony - it was the most
important public address the President has made in a
year~~

CONGRESS

So long as the moscow conference is in session, members of the House of Representatives will keep quiet about Soviet Russia. There is no formal resolution to that effect, just an ^{unwritten} agreement ~~among~~ ~~prominent congressmen of those parties~~.

The ^{idea} ~~purpose~~ is to avoid any ^{thing} ~~utterance~~ ~~that~~ might embarass Secretary of State Marshall; ~~and~~ make his task in moscow more difficult. Republican and Democratic floor leaders, Halleck and Sam Rayburn, agreed today that General Marshall's job is an exceedingly delicate one, and it would be a great pity if anything were said publicly by a prominent politician to hamper him in any way.

However, this ~~agreement~~ agreement is not intended to check the determination of both parties in dealing with our home grown communists here in the United States. In fact, a sub-committee has already begun holding hearings on a bill that would forbid communists or fellow travelers to hold any job in the pay of Uncle Sam.

CENSORSHIP

The ~~Dis~~patches from Moscow show no sign of that Freedom of News which the Stalin regime promised for the Moscow conference. In only four days, the Big Four Foreign Ministers will meet, but the Soviet government is still enforcing a strict censorship against foreign news correspondents. Some dispatches never reach their destination at all, others are mangled, and nearly all are delayed any time up to thirty-two hours.

The Kremlin is not being generous with that one concession it made to our quaint western notions of a Free Press. We are told that when the meeting actually begins, the censorship will be lifted. But, until Monday, it will be as strict as ever. After that - we ~~will~~ ^{shall} see what we ~~will~~ ^{shall} see. ~~as the Frenchman remarks~~

CHURCHILL

In the House of Commons today, Winston Churchill gave one of his blazing performances. ~~He~~ ~~Blasting~~ the Labor government for its Indian policy. He made dire predictions, prophesied that the Indian settlement would "redden" the coming years.

The ^{interim} administration of Jawaharlal Nehru, ~~head of the so-called caretaker government,~~ has been a complete disaster, said the war-time Prime Minister. ~~The Labor Government's decision to give the people of Hindustan full charge by June, Nineteen Forty-eight, has wiped out the last chance for a real settlement~~ cried Churchill.

He wanted to know why the India problem had not been submitted to the United Nations, considering the Attlee government had ~~done~~ just that in the case of Palestine. ~~His own party, the Conservatives, would disavow any responsibility for the consequence of the Labor government's policy.~~ So said Churchill.

He assailed the laborites for having cast

aside Field Marshall Wavell as Viceroy. He wanted to know whether Admiral Viscount Mountbatten was being sent to New Delhi to replace Wavell on "operation scuttle"? ^{what he called:}

But Churchill did not go unanswered. The Ministers of Defense, A. V. Alexander, threw the accusations right back at him. Said that maybe future generations would decide that the principal factor in preventing the Indian parties from coming together was Mr. Churchill's speech. And he denied angrily that the labor ministers had sent Mountbatten to India in order to cover up a disastrous transaction by taking advantage of a brilliant war figure.

ADD CHURCHILL

All of Churchill's brilliant oratory went for naught - so far as deciding future British policy is concerned. The war-time Prime Minister was applauded ~~expressed~~ by his Tory colleagues, and then the Labor government's steam roller knocked him down. A call for a vote was immediately demanded, and three-hundred-and-thirty-seven members of Parliament supported the Indian policy of Prime Minister Attlee. One-hundred-and-eighty-five ~~recalcitrants~~ sided with Winston Churchill.

ENGLAND

Just as the British were beginning to ~~reix~~ recover from last month's storms and fuel shortage, along comes another - the worst of the winter. Already it has lasted three days and snow continues to fall -- the deepest so far.

All main roads are blocked. In some Shires ■■ the drifts are twenty feet deep. Milk trucks on the way to London, are snowbound, more than a hundred trains stalled in the open country, with hundreds of passengers stranded.

In Devonshire, torrential rains and the worst floods in memory.

And the continent has been hit - as far east as Moscow. Secretary of State General Marshall's plane was grounded today in Paris.

OLYMPIC ARGUMENT

I wonder why it is that the Olympic Games stir up so much argument? Those who are familiar ~~xx~~ with the Olympics [^] both the summer and winter games [^] are often heard to remark that they stir up more ill-feeling than good feeling between the nations. Of course there are many exceptions to this. And to say they do not promote good will, that may be too broad a statement .

The latest argument is being booted about in the snow out here at Sun Valley, where the Olympic races are to ~~xxx~~ take place this Saturday ~~xx~~ and Sunday -- races that will decide which of our skiers will make the trip to St. Moritz, for the winter olympics ~~which are~~ scheduled for Nineteen Forty-eight.

The problem has arisen because there ~~xxxxxx~~ happened to be a number of top skiers at Sun Valley this week from Switzerland and Norway. Our Olympic committee has just decided that the ~~pe~~ ^{visitors} cannot take part in the races this weekend.

Of course if they did their part would only be an exhibition. Only American skiers can be selected, as a ~~result~~ result of these races, ~~■~~ for our ^{Olympic} team.

I understand the ~~■~~ Olympic committee -- two of the members Al Lindley, and Darrow Crooks, are here -- have ^S decided that the Swiss and Norwegians can only play the role of spectators -- because the over-all international olympic organization, in its by-laws, or some other major document, ^{decreed} ~~decided~~ that there must not be any ~~■~~ "exhibition skiing" in connection with Olympic tryouts, ^{And that} ~~which~~ would seem to leave our Olympic Committee no choice in the matter.

Many of the skiers out here, including ~~some~~ ~~those~~ who are going to race, would rather have the Swiss and Norwegians take part. The tougher the competition, whether the winners are from foreign countries and entitled to any recognition if they come in first, or not, it would give our skiers a

greater test, and get them ready for the big Olympic games in Switzerland next winter. All this hullabaloo has arisen because the two top-ski racers in the world are here: Edy Rominger, and Karl Molitor. And they always win when they race.


But, in races recently in Colorado and Utah our boys have been right on the heels of the two flying Swiss. All of which indicates that the situation is by no means hopeless for Uncle Sam's team, even if ski racing is a comparatively new sport in this country.

A JEWELRY ROBBERY REPORTED IN PASADENA, CALIFORNIA TONIGHT SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF GEMS BURGLARIZED FROM A VACATION BUNGALOW. AND WHO WAS THE VICTIM ? OF ALL PEOPLE, HE WAS SIR EUSTACE RALPHS PULBROOK, FORMER CHAIRMAN OF LLOYDS OF LONDON, THAT WORLD -FAMED INSURANCE AGENCY.

YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, SIR EUSTACE AND HIS LADY VISITED THE SANTA ANITA RACE TRACK. WHILE HE WAS WATCHING THE HORSES , THIEVES IN HIS COTTAGE WERE HORSING AROUND WITH EMERALDS, RUBY AND DIAMOND -STUDED BRACELETS WORTH MORE THAN THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, DIAMOND DRESS CLIPPS VALUED AT SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, AND ODDS AND ENDS TOTALING ALMOST TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS MORE. NOW THE QUESTION IS -WERE THE JEWELS INSURED? IF SO, WHO INSURED THEM? ITS WELL KNOWN THAT LLOYDS OF LONDON WILL INSURE ANYTHING FROM THE WEATHER ON UP, AND A FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE FIRM MUST THINK HIGHLY OF INSURANCE. NONE THE LESS SIR EUSTACE PULBROOK HAD A SOUR EXPRESSION FOR REPORTERS WHO TOUCHED UPON THAT DELICATE MATTER TODAY. THE JEWELS MAY HAVE BEEN INSURED AND THEY MAY HAVE BEEN INSURED BY LLOYDS OF LONDON BUT FROM THE WAY SIR EUSTACE SNAPPED AT REPORTERS, THE JEWELS WOULD SEEM.

denied a writ of habeas Corpus for thirteen hundred and fifty illegal emigrants now being held under detention. The immigrants, who travelled to Palestine all the way from Sweden, now face deportation to Cyprus.

The European questions are by no means all. There are difficulties between the United States and Soviet Russia over Korea, the Dardanelles, ^{and Turkey,} Russian action in Manchuria, and the settlement of the Soviet Lend-Lease account. The Secretary of State is ~~■~~ expected to lay these matters ~~before~~ before Premier Stalin in person.



IRURBI

Famous concert pianist, Jose Iturbi, plans to give a recital in Miami, tonight. So here is a tip to Iturbi. If he goes ahead with his concert, and if Mrs. Harmon Spence Auguste, wife of a prominent New York banker, is allowed inside the auditorium Mr. Iturbi is apt to ^{be} hit by a tomato, ~~right~~ a juicy red tomato, right in the middle of Beethoven or Brahms.

That's how Mrs. Auguste plans to enliven Iturbi's concert tonight. And it seems to be no idle threat. The New York socialite waited until late this afternoon to do her tomato shopping, explaining that she wanted to wait until the good ~~one~~ ones had been sold.

The ill feeling arose last evening when the Iturbis broke, at the last minute, a dinner engagement with Mrs. Auguste. The Mayor of Miami beach was in attendance. He planned to give Iturbi the key to the city. Film ~~star~~ star Mickey Rooney was there. But ^{the} Iturbis didn't show up.

Mrs. Auguste called at the Iturbis hotel suite, to escort them to her dinner party. On the Iturbi door was a sign, "do not disturb." But Mrs. Auguste knocked, anyway. "Then" she says, "out came Iturbi's sister screaming like a wkd woman. We had words. I told her to take the "do not disturb" sign off the door and hang it on Mr. Iturbi."

Stung by the rebuff, the enraged hostess has decided tomatoes are her only recourse. She adds that, if she only know how to whistle, she would give Iturbi the whistle treatment, as well. As it is, over-ripe tomatoes will have to do -- right in the middle of the Beethoven and Brahms.

And now a few closed chords from you Hugh.