

R.I. - P. & S. Tuesday, Nov. 1, 1949. 11

The C I O has tossed out the Reds. That action, which has been developing all along occurred late this afternoon at Cleveland -- where the C I O is holding its annual convention. The resolution changes the constitution of the big labor organization and tosses twelve leaders of left-wing unions off the executive board.

This action was preceded by a bitter debate in which the powerful electrical workers union, notoriously dominated by left-wingers, virtually ~~th~~ read itself out of the C I O-- rather than submit to the anti-Communist policy. The vote was by acclamation, the delegates shouting a thunder of approval. Whereupon there was a ~~xxxx~~ secession of left-wing delegates, who walked angrily off the floor of the convention. One of them was Harry ~~xxxx~~ Bridges, the leader of the long-shoremens who has often been ~~th~~ denounced as a Communist. He was in the walkout. ↓

But, told the newsmen that he and his fellow left-wingers would be back.

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LABOR

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The Steel Workers Union declares: "New negotiations are in the mill." The settlement of the Bethlehem strike last night, sends eighty thousand men back to work, but there are still four hundred and twenty thousand out in the strike that has tied up the steel industry. Union officials, in a jubilant mood today, stated: "We have bids from a number of companies to resume negotiations." They refuse to name the companies, but rumor mentions Jones and Laughlin, Republic, and Youngstown ~~Steel~~ ^{Sheet} and Tube. However, when officials of these companies were queried by newsmen today, they replied curtly - "no comment."

Even Bethlehem Steel had a word of warning today - but this applied to the coal strike. They say they have only a short supply of coal on a hand, and this may tie up their plants again - if the walkout continues. So what are the prospects for ending the coal strike?

Nothing immediate, apparently - no development to be expected before next week. Today John L. Lewis called the

Policy Committee of the Union for a meeting in Chicago on Monday - to discuss the conferences that Union representatives have been having with the coal operators.

The negotiations with the Northern & Western operators at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, after dragging on for sometime, were broken off two weeks ago. So the prospects in the coal strike seem to be most ambiguous. However, government officials in Washington are inclined to believe that John L. Lewis is preparing to spring some dramatic move.

NAVY

Furness
We have a new Chief of Naval Operations - Admiral Sherman, as expected. He succeeds Admiral Denfeld, who was ousted as a climax in the bitter feud between the armed services.

Admiral Sherman, in command of the American Fleet in the Mediterranean, was called back to Washington and arrived today. He immediately went into conference with President Truman and *Navis* Secretary ~~of the Navy~~ Matthews - and immediately afterward, late this afternoon, the announcement was made -- Admiral Sherman appointed to succeed Admiral Denfeld.

There has been plenty of talk that Admiral Sherman will not be a popular Chief of Naval Operations -- not popular with the other admirals and the officer corps of the Navy.

He helped ~~to~~ formulate the unified command, and is regarded as a supporter of that unification, against which the Navy has

rebelled. Moreover, Admiral Sherman did not join other high officers in testifying before the Congressional hearing that enquired into the battle of the services - and this was said to be because he did not agree with attacks on unification made by the other admirals.

5 However, the news dispatch from Washington tonight points out that Admiral Sherman has an affable disposition and a good sense of diplomacy in personal relations, and is expected to use these qualities in alleviating some of the bitterness aroused by the removal of Admiral Denfeld.

ADD NAVY

This evening Admiral Sherman held a news conference in which he stated that he was completely in favor of unification, and believes that he would have the loyal support of the Navy high command.

SUB CRASH

The latest about the frightful crash in Washington states that the Bolivian pilot who caused it still ^{doesn't} ~~does not~~ know what happened. He is in a hospital with head injuries and probably a broken back, and has been only half conscious, most of the time. In a hazy way he has asked -- did he hurt anyone when he crashed. They ^{haven't} ~~have not~~ told ~~in~~ him that he ran his P-38 fighter plane, formerly of the U.S. Air Force, into a crowded airliner -- fifty-five lives lost in the worst airline disaster on record.

6 He is Eric Rios Bridoux, Director General of Civil Aeronautics in Bolivia. Reputed to be the best pilot in his country -- a veteran of exploits of South American flying. One explanation of the horror in Washington is that the Bolivian ^{didn't} ~~did not~~ know English ^{very} well. As he came in to land his plane

at the Washington airport, the control tower instructed him to circle the field so that the big airliner could land -- ~~xf~~ for a Washington stop on its way from Boston to New Orleans and Houston Texas/ But the P-38 came right on in and hit the passenger plane, as it was about to land, smashing through the tail. So possibly the Spanish speaking pilot ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ misunderstood the directions, not knowing English well enough.

But later word is that his command of English is excellent -- and the men who were in the control tower say that, as he came in, he was "barreling", stunting that is -- trying to make a hot landing at high speed. Officials are waiting for the pilot to regain clearer consciousness -- to get more of an explanation of that worst of air crashes .

ATOM

Near Brighton, in England, lives the last of the great pioneers of atomic science. In retirement, he still does research in mathematical physics, and ~~he~~ observes the affairs of this atomic era, which he did so much to bring about. He notes the terror of the bomb in war, and the hope of turning the energy of the atom to the peace-time purposes of industry and transportation. And he snorts with disapprobation and scorn. But not at the bomb, not at the destructive might of the atom. He looks down with disdain on the notion of using atomic energy to run factories, propel ships, and even send automobiles bustling along. That, he says, would be - "degrading the atom."

Professor Frederick Soddy, nearly half a century ago, worked with Lord Rutherford, who fathomed the secret of the atom. Both professors at McGill University, in Canada - they together laid the foundations of atomic physics. Professor Soddy, himself, originated the theory of isotopes, coining that word so prominent nowadays - "isotope". He always did have his

own ^{ideas} ~~ideas~~, and now he dis agrees with that favorite vision of these years - the dream of making the atom do all kinds of work for us.

8 Interviewed by United Press Correspondent Robert Musel, the Professor snorted at the notion of using atomic energy for commercial purposes. The atom is too great - or maybe too tiny - for anything so commonplace. Not that he objects to atomic energy being used for the benefit, instead of the destruction, of mankind. He merely thinks that we should, in the words of the news dispatch, "turn this fearful potentiality to uses in which it has no equal."

"Do you want to blow the top off a mountain," exclaims Professor Soddy. "Do you want to let the sea into the desert? Do you want to give some land-locked nation the civilizing influence of an outlet to the ocean? Well, then, use the atom."

So there's the vision of the last of the great pioneers of atomic science - use the atom for colossal

exploits, and not the commonplace tasks of life.

Professor Soddy has his own ideas, likewise, about the atomic explosion in Soviet Russia, reported by President Truman. He says: "It sounds like an accident." ^{and} ~~he~~ explains that the Russian scientists are working under great political pressure, the lash of Stalin, and thinks that this might induce too much haste, not enough elaborate preparation - such as used in the development of the bomb in the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ United States. To which he adds, "The marvel is that there was no major accident in America."

ENGEL

The conviction of Sigmund Engel late this afternoon^o in Chicago was accompanied by the brand of dramatics that has been featured all along in this ~~curious~~ curious case.

The jury took an hour and five minutes to find the aged Romeo guilty of defrauding Mrs. Reseda Corrigan out of ~~R~~ Eighty-Seven Hundred Dollars.

When the verdict was announced Mr. Corrigan, cried out "it has been very gratifying". Everybody has been wonderful! then, she fainted!

Engel shouted "I want my wife, I want my lawyer". The wife part of it referred to Mrs. Pauline Langdon of New York who is the only one of those *that* the seventy-two year old romancer is alleged to have married. She has been beside him at the trial and tonight she answered his plea saying "I'll stick to him".

The venerable heart breaker now stands to get one to ten years in prison. His lawyer immediately demanded a new trial and the judge set a hearing for that -- which will delay the pronouncement of sentence.

PEANUTS

The British Government has issued a report of a scheme launched with high hopes a couple of years ago - a project for growing peanuts in East Africa. In all that British austerity, one of the chief causes is a shortage of fats, cooking fats, and the idea was to begin a huge production of peanut oil. East Africa seemed to be an ideal territory - Kenya and Tanganyika. So a ninety million dollar plan was made to plant more than three million acres, with the expectation of five hundred thousand tons of peanuts per year.

But ^{what's} ~~what has~~ happened? Three thousand tons of peanuts were used for seed in the planting last spring. The crop, now harvested, shows a little over two ~~thousand~~ thousand tons - less than the amount used for seeding, and a lot less than the half a million tons expected.

It's ^{an odd} ~~unaccountable~~ fiasco, and the reason is said to be a lack of skilled labor in East Africa, together with a lack of adequate transportation. The only ones to benefit are the two provinces of Kenya and Tanganyika, where money invested

in the peanut scheme was used to build two hospitals, two airstrips, schools and highways. But, as for cooking fats to ease the austerity in Britain - it hasn't even amounted to peanuts.

RAFFLES

It is always a pleasure to come across a good retort - when somebody talks himself out of trouble, and makes a remark that saves the situation. So tonight ^{we} ~~it~~ feel ^{we} must pay ^{our} ~~us~~ compliments to Mrs. Zetta Wells - wife of Carveth Wells the author, lecturer and world traveler. ^{we've} ~~I've~~ never known Carveth to be at a loss for words, even the right word. So you might say that Zetta has picked up some of Carveth's nimbleness of speech - except that she had plenty of it to begin with.

For several years Carveth and Zetta Wells had an equally conversational companion - a minah bird from Malaya, a clever ^{bird} ~~parrot~~ named Raffles, which could talk, whistle and sing. But Raffles, after a highly successful career in radio and motion pictures, went the way of all minah birds, and died.

So now Carveth and Zetta have procured and trained another, called Raffles the Second¹¹ - which Zetta introduced today to the news reporters in Washington. Raffles the Second did his stuff okay, talking, whistling and singing. They asked him the sixty-four dollar question - are you

a Communist? Whereupon the minah bird fell over, indicating he'd rather be dead. Then got up, and whistled the Star Spangled Banner. *How's that Nelson? Good going, Zetta.*

Then Zetta told how, on one occasion, she introduced a distinguished newspaperman, a famous columnist, to Raffles. The minah bird was in his cage, and the eminent journalist promptly noticed that the bottom of the bird cage was lined with a sheet of newspaper - and it was his own column, which he had written a couple of days before. He frowned - not at all pleased to see one of his masterpieces at the bottom of a bird cage, together with all that was implied.

But Zetta, observing this, rose to the occasion. "Why you know," she beamed, "Raffles is so smart that he doesn't read anything but the best literature."

Atta girl, Zetta! There's nothing like saying the right thing at the right time, is there, Nelson?

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A singular paradox went into effect in Czechoslovakia today - the Roman Catholic Church becoming, in a legal sense, an adjunct to the Communist state. This was the day for the Church ~~law~~ law to go into force, a law that puts the Church under the control of the Communist regime and makes the clergy government employees, paid by the Communists.

The bishops are demanding that the Church law be revised -- this is announced by the Vatican. They are permitting the priests to take an oath of allegiance and accept government salaries - but only ~~a~~ under the conditions dictated by Christian conscience. The bishops, themselves, are rejecting any incomes offered, and news from Czechoslovakia today states that members of religious orders have decided to refuse ~~the~~ Red salaries.

CRASH

The frightful air crash in Washington seems to have been caused by - poor English. A Bolivian official visiting the United States, Eric Rios Bridoux, ~~who was~~ Director General for Civil Aeronautics in Bolivia, was flying a P-38^a fighter plane, ^{that} formerly belong^{ed} to the U.S. Air Force.

Coming in to land at the Washington Airport, he was instructed by the control tower to turn off, and circle the field - because the big airliner was coming in. But the Bolivian aviation official ^{didn't} ~~didn't~~ understand English ^{too} well, and apparently ~~he~~ misunderstood the directions. He flew straight in for a landing, and crashed into the tail of the airliner. Both planes were shattered, and plunged into a lagoon of the Potomac River nearby. The Bolivian survived with a broken back and fractured skull.

Aboard the passenger plane all lives were lost, and it was crowded - fifty-^{five}~~three~~ persons aboard. One of the victims was Congressman George D. Bates of Massachusetts.

The airliner was on its way from Boston to New

Orleans and Houston, Texas, when disaster struck, the worst in American airline history - because, apparently, a foreign pilot did not know English well enough to understand clearly the directions radioed to him by the control tower.

Men in the control ^{tower} ~~tower~~ declare that the Bolivian pilot was really - barreling. That is, stunting. Trying to make a hot landing at high speed.

On the West Coast there's a pilot of a jet plane strapped under water in the cockpit of his aircraft, and he is believed to be still alive. A jet shooting star plunged into the ocean a hundred yards from the North Naval Station at San Diego, California, and thereupon desperate rescue attempts began, the Navy trying to save the pilot trapped under water.

C.I.O.

The C.I.O. has tossed out the Reds. That action, which has been developing all along, occurred late this afternoon at Cleveland - where the C.I.O. is holding its annual convention. The delegates showed their thundering approval of a resolution to oust from positions of power and influence all Communists and Left Wingers who tag along and follow the Party line. They are ordered removed from the Executive Board of the big labor organization. Yesterday, C.I.O. President Philip Murray excoriated the Communist elements that use a labor union for the benefit of the Soviet Union, and this evening the appropriate measures were taken.

Any union that refuses to go along with the expulsion of Reds, will be expelled by the C.I.O. - which makes it virtually certain that a group of Communist-dominated unions will go it on their own, and form a separate organization, openly Red.

The resolution was preceded by a bitter debate, in which the powerful Electrical Workers Union, notoriously ^{the} dominated by Left Wingers, virtually read itself out of

C.I.O. - rather than yield. The vote was then held, bringing about a change in the C.I.O. Constitution and tossing twelve leaders of Left Wing unions off the Executive Board.

Whereupon there was a secession by Left Wing delegates, who walked angrily off the floor of the convention. One of them was Harry Bridges, leader of the Longshoremen, who has often been denounced as a Communist. He was in the walkout, but told the newsmen that he and his fellow Left Wingers would be back.