

**SHR STRIKE**

*C.I.-P.+G. Wednesday, June 29, 1949.*

Tonight there is a "back to work" rush at the plant of the Bendix Aviation Corporation, South Bend, Indiana -- the strikers having voted this evening to end a seventy-one day walkout. The labor trouble at the Bendix plant was a threat to jet plane production for the air force and Air Secretary Symington intervened personally to bring about a settlement.

## SUB LABOR

It is definite now - the labor law will go to the voters. The word in Washington is that President Truman will veto the Taft-Hartley labor repeal bill, with the amendment permitting injunctions -- and will make the labor-law-question a major issue when a new Congress is elected next year. Which is all the more certain because it was urged today by the heads of the two great labor organizations, President Green of the A F of L and Murray of the C I O.

## SUBSTITUTE HOUSING

Congress has passed the federal housing bill, which provides for the nationwide construction of dwellings and the clearance of slums.

This represents the first important victory for President Truman in the present Congress. But the White House victory was won, only after a narrow escape from disaster. This afternoon a proposal was made to take the Truman program out of the housing bill Congress was <sup>considering</sup> ~~amending~~ -- and that was carried. Which would have meant another heavy defeat for the administration, if the decision had been allowed to stand. But then another vote was taken and there was a reversal - keeping the Truman program in the housing bill. Whereupon the whole thing went to a vote and was passed.



Tonight the New York political puzzle created by the resignation of Senator Wagner was rapidly clearing up. The latest - a statement by Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr. <sup>that</sup> he will not enter the race to succeed Wagner. There had been talk that he might, after his brilliant success in being elected to Congress a couple of weeks ago - the magic of the Roosevelt name.

The statement of F.D.R. Jr. was made at a rally of the United Jewish Appeal tonight - and, instead of himself, he proposes former Governor Lehman as the Democratic Candidate in the State election this November. Lehman has a great reputation as a vote-<sup>^</sup>getter although he was heavily defeated the last time - when he ran for Senator against Irving Ives, who was backed by Governor Dewey.

But what about Dewey himself, as a candidate to succeed Senator Wagner? There had been some supposition that he might enter the race. But Dewey says -- "no". In a statement late this afternoon he declares that he will not make a try for the Senate in the coming election.



Meanwhile, he will make a temporary nomination to replace the retiring Senator Wagner -- a Senator to serve during the summer months. Who? The New York Governor does not say - although there is mention of John Foster Dulles, long-time Dewey advisor who returned recently from Paris, where he was a member of the American Delegation to the Council of Foreign Ministers.

## UNIFICATION

Warning in Washington - that the Senate bill to tighten the unification of the Armed Forces contains a threat of military dictatorship. This was argued today by former President Herbert Hoover, in testimony before the Committee of the House of Representatives. He said he approved in general ~~of~~ the measure passed in the Senate, except for one angle - the provision to create a chairman for the joint Chiefs of Staff. That is, a high military officer to preside over the combined staffs of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force. Herbert Hoover thinks that a military officer in a supreme post like that, would have, in the words of the former president - "Such rank and power that his voice to the country could override the responsible civil officials." Military over civilian. In other words, a threat of military dictatorship.

## HISS

In the Alger Hiss case, the essential drama has been - Hiss versus Chambers. The two, under oath, have contradicted each other in such detail that one or the other is obviously the height of falsehood and perjury. Today the drama takes the form of - Mrs. Hiss versus Mrs. Chambers. The former Communist agent and the former official of the State Department whom he accuses of Red espionage are both supported by the testimony of their wives. Today Mrs. Hiss, on the witness stand, was confronted with evidence given by Mrs. Chambers. So the conflict was - woman against woman.

One important angle of the case is the question - how well did the Hisses know the Chambers? The story told by the Chambers pictures close association and much intimacy - this related in especial detail by Mrs. Chambers. All of which is rejected by the defense, Mrs. Hiss today giving point by point denial. Well, the details of the association of two families would be largely a matter for the women to tell about - angles



of household affairs, small matters of the home.

Today one question was as follows: "Mrs. Chambers said there was paneling in your dining room. Is that a fact?"

"No," Mrs. Hiss responded, "The wall-paper ran all the way down."

In the living room, a fireplace - so testified by Mrs. Chambers. But today Mrs. Hiss said - there were two fireplaces.

Mrs. Chambers, in her testimony, declared: "Mrs. Hiss, by the way, doesn't like ice cream." So one question today was - "Do you like ice cream?"

"yes, I do," replied Mrs. Hiss.

All that was in contrast to ponderous problems of Red espionage and secrets of the State Department. Quite a change - wall-paper, fireplaces, and ice cream in a battle of women.

A later witness today was a one-time school friend of Whittaker Chambers, called by the defense in an effort to show Chambers to be reliable, *and* eccentric. He said that school boy Chambers had a way of writing which the witness described as "in a sensational manner primarily to create humor". As an example, he told how Chambers concocted a romance about a couple meeting in the graveyard, and kept the story going on and on. Then the last line was as follows: "One went one way and the other went the other way - both wagging their tails. To which the witness remarked: "It ~~wasn't~~ until the last line until you ~~know~~ they were dogs". Which may or may not be of great significance in the espionage trial.

## CHINA

The opinion in Shanghai is that the Nationalist bombing was a wanton affair. Five Hundred killed or wounded, when explosives burst in a densely crowded slum area. Perhaps the bombs were meant for the Central Railroad Station, but the slums are so nearby, that they were likely to be hit. Moreover, the day was foggy with an overcast, and accurate aim was not likely. Wanton bombing, says Shanghai - as the Nationalists struck through the air at the Communist conquered city.



## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The news from Czechoslovakia tells of the first outbreak of violence against the Reds in their anti-church campaign. Four Slovak villages have been placed under martial law, following a Communist attempt to arrest their priests. The outbreak began on Sunday, when forces of Red police invaded the villages, and seized the clergymen. "hereupon the local people rose in wrath, assailed the policemen, beat them up, drove them out, and rescued the priests.

That was disclosed today, with word that martial law had been imposed on an area of a hundred square miles - but the rescued priests are still at large, still free.

## BRITISH NEWSPAPERS

In London, a commission appointed by the labor government, makes a report on - ~~the~~ nationalization of newspapers. Which would seem to be getting right down to the bottom of things in the labor program of nationalizing industry - complete Socialism. So what's the answer? The recommendation is - no.

The commission adds that it does not find a solution in what it calls - "Any form of state control of the press. Right now in Britain, syndicates control numbers of newspapers, but not enough, in the words of the commission - "To prejudice free expression of opinion and accurate presentation of news."

The report states: "Free enterprise is a prerequisite of a free press."

The commission adds **that** it does not find a solution in what it calls - "Any form of state control of the press. **We** prefer," The report goes on, "to seek the means of maintaining the free expression of opinion and the greatest possible accuracy in the presentation of news."

All of which reminds me of some interesting things I heard last weekend - when Governor Dewey, returning from a trip to Europe, gave a group of Dutchess County neighbors an account of impressions in Britain. He says the British have plenty of understanding of the difficulties they face - the desperate economic problems. But Governor Dewey got the impression that the chiefs of the labor government think the solution of every trouble is - more nationalization. But now the commission <sup>the</sup> labor government appointed finds no solution at all in the nationalization of newspapers. Which would mean, they think an end to the freedom of the press.



## WORLDS END

Here's an opportunity, folks. How do you want the world to end -- assuming that you want the world to end. Step up and take your pick, selecting your own favorite cosmic cataclysm.

In New York, the Hayden Planetarium is putting on a spectacular exhibition of different ways for the end of the world, and one shows -- an explosion of the sun. Which could happen. Astronomers observe other stars in sudden flare-up -- exploding suns. In that case, this planet, *in hardly a flash,* would be burned to a cinder.

Or the opposite - the sun grows cold. That too is pictured - the light of day, dimmer and *darker,* until the sun is frosted in the abysmal chill of outer space. You can imagine what would happen here - ice on earth. That *t* cataclysm of cold will come about eventually, according to scientists - although it will be a few billions or trillions of years at least, before the sun runs out of heat. Next among the catastrophes of the cosmos, *is* a giant comet crashing into the earth. And that is on display at the planetarium - a comet with

a giant fiery tail. "Possible, but not probably," says Dr. Gordon Atwater, the curator. And he adds: "Comets have been known to pass within a Hundred Thousand miles of the sun. So they naturally had to pass a point where the earth might have been at the time." But the earth wasn't there, luckily - because a comet does not wag its tail, friendly, like a dog.

Then there's a vision of the moon, the romantic moon, being drawn closer to us by gravitation - closer and closer. That causes enormous tides, the ocean spilling over the land, while volcanic fires burst forth - because of the increasing gravitation of the satellite. Until finally - the moon itself breaks up into fragments, and these go circling the earth - a lot of little moons, instead of one big moon.

So take your pick - for the end of the world. Or maybe you'd rather have our old planet go right along as it is. This world of Nineteen Forty Nine may not be such a perfect place, but I guess it's better than no world at all.

## DOG

At a police station, New Britain, Connecticut, there were loud words today when a stranger walked in, and plunked down a five dollar bill. The cops tried to say no - they wouldn't accept it. The stranger said - yes, they would. He had his way and still other donations are piling in - on the reluctant police.

This follows a boy and dog story, which broke in the news today. At the city dog pound, a mongrel pooch was found tied to a post, and on the dogs collar was a note in childis<sup>h</sup> handwriting, as follows: "Dear Mr. dog catcher -- I am a young boy and my mommy says I can't keep my dog, because my daddy is out of work and he can't afford to feed it. My dog's name is Kep. She walks by your side and is very obedient. She is friendly and does not bite. I love her very much, and want to keep her, but I have to be brave for my father and mother. I took her here myself. The dog cried, and so did I. Please find her a good home and I will pray for you every night."

You can imagine the appeal of that. The police



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however, suspect the whole thing may be a hoax, and want to investigate - before taking any money that people send in. But people won't wait. They~~are~~ impatient to contribute, so the dog can be sent back to the boy.

## BASEBALL

This afternoon, again, the miraculous triple did it. Yesterday in ~~in~~ his first game since his long lameness Joe Di Maggio hit a home run and got a single. Today, two home runs. With the Yankess beating the Boston Red Sox nine to seven, jolting Joe, damaged-heel-and-all, ~~smashed~~ the ball out of the lot twice. Not so bad with a bad heel.

TELEGRAM

I have a telegram here, to which the familiar term can be applied - self explanatory. It is from A. F. Watkins of Tyler, Texas, and reads as follows: --

"In your broadcast last evening you told us of the signing by Governor Folsom of Alabama of the state law unmasking the Ku Klux Klan. You said Alabama was the first Southern state to pass an anti-mask law. Texas passed such a law about Twenty Years ago. So Texas is still first, Alabama second. I suggest you have Nelson wash your mouth out with that pure, gentle Ivory."

All right, Nelson, go ahead.