

LABOR

⇒ Lead.

P.J. - Sunoco, Wednesday, Dec. 12, 1945.

The latest is word from Washington that the House of Representatives has just passed a bill to restrict the privileges of unions. <sup>To</sup>~~It~~ would make the unions subject to what is called <sup>ed</sup>~~ed~~ - "the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ anti-racketeering law." These make it a penal offense for anyone to interfere with interstate commerce ~~as~~ <sup>for</sup> what the law calls - "robbery or extortion." And this would apply to unions, according to the bill passed today. <sup>TR</sup> For example, the sponsor of the bill, Congressman Hobbs of Alabama, illustrates as follows: "It would prevent anyone, including a labor union member, from holding up trucks on our public highways and demanding that the driver either pay dues in a union or have his cargo destroyed."

Several years ago, the Supreme Court ruled that the anti-racketeering law did not apply to labor unions - and the purpose of today's bill is to make it apply to them.

At the same time, Congressman Hobbs declared that the measure would not interfere with what he called - "the legitimate rights of organized labor."

## LABOR

The latest from the ~~labor~~ <sup>General Motors</sup> front is news from Detroit that the Auto Workers Union puts its okay on President Truman's Fact-Finding Board. Earlier in the day, the White House announced the appointment of a board to look into the General Motors strike and try to find a way to a settlement. The President has named a panel of three men, all of outstanding reputation.

The Union okay, as announced tonight, is accompanied by a condition - a provision that the President's Fact-Finding Board must inspect the books of the Company. The Union wants this done in connection with its argument that General Motors is able to meet the demand for a thirty per cent increase of wages.

In a news conference ~~today~~, the President stated that he expects Congress to pass legislation giving legal powers to the Fact-Finding Board - ~~to~~ <sup>-- and -- he</sup> expects Congress to act by Christmas.

Meanwhile, the Board will have no authority

to examine the books of General Motors, which it will want to do. <sup>Pres. Truman said he looked for</sup> ~~But he added that he expected~~ mutual cooperation from both sides, from both ~~the~~ Company and ~~the~~ Union. ~~These, however, are outspoken in their opposition to the whole fact-finding idea. Today President Green of the American Federation of Labor reiterated the position of labor as a whole, saying that the President's fact-finding program was neither workable nor logical.~~

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In the Union dispute with Ford, the Company today rejected the demand for a thirty per cent wage increase. The Ford Company, replying to the Union, argues that even as things stand, <sup>the Company</sup> ~~it~~ faces a loss. With ~~the~~ wages at their present rates, the Ford Company stands to lose twenty-seven dollars on each car it delivers - a total loss of thirty-five million dollars during Nineteen Forty-Six. So therefore it can't grant the wage increase - not with the ceiling imposed by the O.P.A. on automobile prices. That's the Ford Company contention.

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## HOUSING

President Truman has taken action in the housing shortage. Today he appointed <sup>a</sup> Housing Expediter, who will supervise a program to cure the present shortage of dwelling places. The new housing boss is former Mayor Wilson Wyatt of Louisville, Kentucky.

The program calls for ceiling prices on the sale of dwellings, <sup>- real estate</sup> prices to be kept in line. Buildings and building materials are to be released by the government for emergency use - including army and navy barracks and dormitories. And, priorities on building materials will be restored, priorities in favor of dwelling house construction.

## INCOME

On the list of money makers, the movies are still in first place. This was disclosed by a Treasury Department list for top salaries paid. For the seventh straight year the Number One position is taken by Motion Picture Executive Louis B. Mayer, whose earnings for the year are listed at nine hundred and eight thousand dollars. Next comes the President of General Motors, Charles E. Wilson, with a figure of a little more than half, - four hundred and fifty-nine thousand.

The highest paid woman - Deanna Durbin, the ~~XXXXXXXX~~ songstress of the movies. Her income is marked down as more than three hundred and twenty-six thousand dollars. She is followed by Movie Actress Barbara Stanwyck, with three hundred and twenty-three thousand.

All of which figures are almost meaningless because the government takes almost all of it. In other words your Uncle Sam gets the magnum, and lends it to the world.

BIG THREE

Secretary of State Byrnes <sup>of</sup> ~~has~~ left for Moscow.

He took off from Washington today, to attend the conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Big Three. His principal purposes, ~~are~~ to seek an understanding on the atomic bomb, and to procure a call for a general peace conference to settle things in Europe.

CHINA

China reports that ~~Soviet~~ Russia has agreed to be responsible for the safety of airfields where Chinese Nationalist troops are to be landed in Manchuria. This ~~was~~ stated in Chungking today with the word that Chiang Kai-Shek soldiers will be flown immediately to such important Manchurian centers as Mukden and Harbin -- with Soviet Russia guaranteeing that there will be no ~~any~~ molestation by the Chinese Communists.

## JAP SURRENDER

In Tokyo ~~today~~ a dramatic picture ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> presented in an article in a Japanese magazine - a picture of a group in an air raid shelter. The shelter, ~~was~~ a dugout at the Imperial Palace. The group consisted of the Emperor, and a number of high officials, political and military. They ~~saw~~ <sup>are sitting</sup> in a semi-circle facing the Mikado, ~~who directed the proceedings.~~

~~The~~ <sup>+</sup> meeting in the air raid shelter was held shortly after the first atomic bomb hit Japan, the blast at Hiroshima. The discussion concerned - peace. In the face of the atomic catastrophe, the Emperor and the group of ~~the~~ top ranking leaders knew the war would have to be ended - in a hurry. ~~But~~ Their discussion was about the terms ~~that~~ they would accept.

The military leaders, the chiefs-of-staff, ~~and~~ army and navy commanders, demanded that no terms of peace be accepted whereby Allied troops <sup>would</sup> ~~may~~ land in Japan. They demanded furthermore, that no Japanese leaders should be held responsible for the war - no accusation



of war guilt. Moreover, they insisted that there should be no surrender of troops outside ~~of~~ Japan - these to be <sup>with</sup> drawn and sent home under the orders of the Japanese Army and Navy.

This would seem to indicate the Jap military chiefs had mighty little understanding of the realities of the situation - little notion of the terms the Allies would grant. - ~~But~~, the civilian officials in the semi-circle facing the Emperor had a better understanding. They contended that the only condition that should be asked was that the Allies permit the Emperor to stay on his throne.

There was a bitter argument between the military and political chiefs <sup>there</sup> in the air raid shelter of the Imperial Palace. The Army and Navy commanders fought furiously against the surrender. The decision between the two contending parties was made by the Emperor himself. He sided with the political leaders, agreed with their opinion. And that was that - the surrender of Japan followed immediately.

## HOMMA

In Manila today arrived Lieutenant General Masaharu Homma, brought to the Philippine capital to stand trial as a war criminal. The name of General Homma is familiar - and high on the list of those to face justice for crimes of war. He was the Jap commander who received the surrender of Batan and Corregidor, and who was in charge of the Jap forces at the time of the ~~infamous~~ Batan<sup>a</sup> March of Death.

Of all the war crimes, that one was the closest to Americans and the cause of the bitterest anger.

General Homma, accompanied by several high Jap officers who will go on trial with him, comes to Manila shortly after the sentence pronounced against Yamashita, the sentence of hanging for mass atrocities against Filipinos.

They say that as he stepped from the plane today, Homma stared gloomily at the ground, remembering the Death March of Batan<sup>a</sup>, no doubt.

## NUREMBERG

*In Europe -*

At Nuremberg, the spotlight today was on a most unimpressive figure. Among the other defendants in the prisoners' dock sat a small, drooping individual, whom the news dispatch describes in these words: "He looked like a cartoon of a henpecked husband." Yet he was, according to the evidence, one of the arch tyrants of Nazi oppression. Fritz Sauckel was Hitler's Number One slave labor expert. He was in charge of a program of transporting millions of workers from the conquered countries into Germany, to be used as forced labor.

Today the prosecution ~~xxxx~~ cited a demand that Sauckel made in Nineteen Forty-two, a demand for two million slave workers to be brought from east Europe. In March of Nineteen Forty-three, he demanded another million. And not all of these were for war work. Sauckel promised to German housewives that he would provide them with between four and five hundred thousand Russian girls to work as household slaves.

~~And in Nineteen Forty-four he made an official report stating that of all the millions, less than~~

~~two hundred thousand had come to work in Germany of their own will. Moreover,~~ There was a deliberate policy of working the slaves to death - get rid of them. An order was introduced in the trial today, an order headed: "Delivery of anti-social elements to be worked to death."

That's the kind of spotlight ~~which was~~ thrown today on the mousy little individual described as a caricature of a henpecked husband.

Meanwhile, a verdict ~~was~~ handed down ~~today~~ in the trial of the Nazis charged with hideous atrocities at the infamous Dachau concentration camp. All ~~were~~ found guilty, all forty, <sup>They</sup> ~~of them~~ and now await sentence.

## PATTON

The news from General Patton's bedside is ominous. In Heidelberg, Germany, the General's doctors call his condition - "grave." Seventy-seven hours after he sustained a broken neck in an automobile accident, Patton ~~was~~ still paralyzed from the neck down.

At the same time, we hear that no action will be taken against either the driver of <sup>the</sup> General ~~Patton's~~ automobile nor the driver of the truck with which it had the collision in which Patton was injured. Both have been accused of negligence, but the word is that no proceedings against them have been planned.

## BOMB

In England today, military engineers completed the first phase of a task fantastic in difficulty and danger. Digging down into the earth, they reached an <sup>un</sup>exploded bomb. And, at the same time, they were fighting against an underground river.

At ~~the town of~~ Croydon, where London's great airport is located, there is a freak of nature in the form of water that flows along below the surface, a subterranean stream. This the local inhabitants call by a strange and sombre name - the Woe Waters. Ten years ago, there was a deadly epidemic of ~~phx~~ typhoid at Croydon, and the people blamed it on the buried river, which they considered - waters of woe.

In Nineteen Forty-One, at the time of the great blitz, a huge German bomb landed in a lumber yard at Croydon, and buried itself deep in the earth - a dud. This was exactly at the place of the subterranean stream, and the hole made by the falling bomb was filled speedily with water - the Woe Waters.

There the bomb has remained ever since - so difficult to get at. Several years of weather have filled up the hole, the infernal missile lying buried in the underground stream. It has been a cause of constant apprehension - people afraid it might explode, blow up ~~the lumber yard, blow up~~ the whole neighborhood.

Now, Britain has got around to clearing up the final vestiges of war, and today military engineers were digging - and pumping. The flow of the underground river was such that they had to pump out water at the rate of from eighteen to twenty thousand gallons an hour - as they dug down to the bomb. They reached it, ~~today~~ and now all that remains is to make it harmless, so that they can take it out. That will be the task of a young lieutenant of the Royal Engineers, Lieutenant G.A. ~~Frank~~ <sup>Frank</sup> an expert on bomb demolition. And it will be his job to climb down into the crater, and remove the fuse ~~of the bomb~~ - while the pumps labor and strain to keep out the flood of the subterranean stream - the Waters of WOE.

## PRINCESS

London is having a new series of headlines - since Princess Elizabeth is now permitted to go out to places of entertainment - like any other young lady. Fashion editors, of course, are all adither about what Her Royal Highness wears - hat, ~~and~~ dress, ornaments and colors. But there is also a dynastic slant, with the average Britisher thinking about the future of the monarchy. This puts attention on the escorts that accompany the Princess to the theatre and the nightclubs for dancing. What young gentleman is with the young lady?

Princess Elizabeth is, of course, heir presumptive to the crown, and when she marries her husband will be the prince consort - a personage of much <sup>consequence</sup> ~~importance~~ to the United Kingdom and the British Empire.

So today London had a headline important enough to be put on the news wire cables to the United States. Princess Elizabeth last night was



escorted by Mr. Charles Villiers. He is described as young, blond and bespectacled, excellent family and all that, and a former captain of the Grenadier Guards, just about the swankiest regiment of the British Army. But, at the same time, he is - Mister.

The vast importance of this lies in the identity of two other young men, with whom the Princess has gone to theatre and dances. They have been regarded as the leading contenders for her favor - possible candidates for the royal hand; ~~They are~~ the young Earl of Euston and the young Duke of Rutland. An Earl and a Duke. His Grace for Her Royal Highness.

Time was when an heir to the crown of England would not have dreamed of marrying anything less than royalty. Even today it would seem proper to the average Englishman for the Princess to marry into a noble family of exalted title. Last night, however, Her Royal Highness was escorted not by the young Earl or the young Duke, but by <sup>but</sup> ~~a gentleman equally young, but~~

<sup>by</sup>  
^ just Mister.

The news dispatch adds that the first tune they danced to was a tango called - "Jealousy."

And it goes on to say: "He handled her as though she were rare China." Yes, Mister, that's the way to handle ~~myself~~ Royal Princess. You don't throw the China around - not in royal circles.

And now a little circumspect behavior from you.