

GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY - SUNOCO. MON. MAY 17, 1937.

Sokolosky
for LT.
May 17,
1937. 2

The oft-announced steel strike is not likely to take place this week. The proposed walk-out in the five largest independent steel plants has apparently been postponed. The C. I. O. is waiting for the results of the election in the Jones and Laughlin plant which take place this week. If they win, they will have the first closed shop among the larger companies in steel.

But the six big independents Bethlehem, Republic, National, Inland, Youngstown, and Armco are not signing agreements yet. Their argument is that the Labor Relations Act only provides for an election under the management of the National Labor Relations Board. ⁱⁿ Nothing in the Act or in the Supreme Court Decision requires the signing of an agreement with anyone. They are ready, willing, and bold, to obey the law but not to do more than the law requires.

It is beyond doubt true that when the United Steel Corporation came to terms with the C.I.O. it was expected that the entire steel industry would fall into line. This did not happen -- and it looks as though important units of the steel industry might manage to remain out of line.

RETAKE

Sokolosky
for LT.
May 17,
1937.

LEAD

The oft-announced steel strike is not likely to take place this week. The proposed walk-out in the five largest independent steel plants has apparently been postponed. The C. I. O. is waiting for the results of the election in the Jones and Laughlin plant which take place this week. If they win, they will have the first closed shop among the larger companies in steel.

But the six big independents Bethlehem, Republic, National, Inland, Youngstown, and Armco are not signing agreements so far. Their argument is that the Labor Relations Act only provides for an election under the management of the National Labor Relations Board. ⁱⁿ Nothin the Act or in the Supreme Court Decision requires the signing of an agreement with anyone. They are ready, they hold, to obey the law but not to do more than the law requires.

It is beyond doubt true that when the United Steel Corporation came to terms with the C.I.O. it was expected that the entire steel industry would fall into line. This did not happen -- and it looks as though important units of the steel industry might manage to remain out of line.

FILM STRIKE

There'll be no strike of screen actors and actresses for the next ten years, That's one clause in the contract signed today between the Players' Guild and the movie producers. Outside of that, the principal consequence of this agreement is a rise in pay for extras and stand-ins.

ALBANIA

Of all the world's revolutions of the last twenty years, probably the most curious was that short, sharp little affair in Albania. We've observed any number of agitations crying: "Votes for women!" But we've never before heard of people being willing to fight with the slogan: "Veils for ~~women~~ women!"

48

That, it turns out, was the real reason for that rebellion near the Greek frontier. When Kemel Ataturk abolished the fez for men and the veils for women in Turkey, there was grumbling. But not even the most devout of conservative Turk^s ever thought of fighting about it. So it was not unnatural that the ~~Mpret of Albania, popularly known as King Zog,~~ ^{of Albania,} should have followed suit with the complete approval of the Albanian Parliament. In fact, after the Parliament had passed the law, most Albanians took it quietly. The majority of women threw aside their veils even before they had to. Only in two provinces of southern Albania, were the Moslems disgruntled. So a couple of ambitious politicians ~~politicians~~ thought they saw in this sentiment a chance to upset the government and put themselves in its place. But King Zog's troops made short work of them. And one of the leaders was killed.

HINDENBURG

49

The disaster which destroyed the HINDENBURG was not its first accident. So much was brought out at Lakehurst this afternoon. One witness before the Commerce Department's Board of Inquiry was Hans Freund. He's the only survivor of three of the great dirigible's riggers. As such it was his province to watch over the gas cells. And Hans Freund told the Board: "Yes, we did have an accident, a bad one. It was on a voyage to Rio de Janeiro last year. One of the gas valves stuck. Thereupon one of the cells swelled up in dangerous fashion. There was no casualty, and the Germans took warning. They installed a new type of gas valve on the next journey."

MUSEUM

The American Museum of National History wants ten million dollars to spend in ten years. A drive is being organized to get this money. The money is needed to make more readily available, the results of expeditions to all parts of the earth.

50
I used to see a good deal of Roy Chapman Andrews, director of the Museum, when he would go off from Peiping to lose himself in the Gobi desert hunting for dinosaurs eggs and bones. Well, I often wondered what anyone wanted with all this stuff, but then I discovered how little we really know in these civilized days.

50
You know, the Chinese used to dig dinosaur bones and the bones of other prehistoric animals out of the desert sands. They called them "dragon's bones," and they used them for medicine. And it did them ~~xx~~ lots of good.

Well, when my wife was getting all ready to have our baby along came the doctor with tablets all fixed and ready which he said would do her good. The tablets were calcium-- dragon's bones.

We can learn lots from deserts and from other parts of the old earth and from lots of things buried deep in the sands of time. That's why I hope the museum will get its ten million dollars -- so that it might help us learn these things.

MICHAELSON

51

The Republican Party has some advice from the Democrats. Charles Michelson, Director of Publicity for the Democratic National Committee, said that the Republican Party must reconcile itself to the fact that it has no chance for victory in Nineteen Forty. So, he suggests ~~in~~ the G.O.P. should immediately start planning its strategy for Nineteen Forty-Four and Nineteen Forty-Eight.

Michelson said that he was writing not from the standpoint of propaganda, but merely as a political analyst of some experience. His article in the AMERICAN MAGAZINE advises the Republicans that their first fundamental lack is discipline. What they need most is a boss with iron in his soul, one who will command instead of exhort. A Mark Hanna or a Bois Penrose or Matt Quay. As a matter of fact, he has a particular man in mind. Michelson suggests Ogden Mills of New York, the former secretary of the Treasury. Michelson said that he thinks that Ogden Mills comes nearest to measuring up to the job than anyone else.

52

Michelson believes that the Republican Party must return to its traditional conservatism, amputate its progressive arm. He implies that first of all the ~~XX~~ G.O.P. should drop

Mr. Landon and Mr. Hamilton. He apparently must find John Hamilton a bit of competition.

Michelson feels that after the results of the 1936 campaign the Republican Party must take its stand definitely on one side or the other of the economic fence. The Republicans, he says, cannot go radical. And the party cannot hope to compete in the field of temperate liberalism such as that of the Franklin Roosevelt school. Actually, he said, there is no other place for the party to go than back to the old-time fundamental conservatism.

But Republicans feel that what Michelson calls old-time fundamental conservatism is really a struggle in the direction of a restoration of traditional American freedoms. Many Republicans insist that the future of the party is not at all gloomy, not more gloomy than was the future of the Democratic Party after Woodrow Wilson left office. ^{Some} ~~These~~ Republicans find a program in Herbert Hoover's speech during the last campaign in Denver. They say that if Republicans can agree on this program leadership will not be wanting.

53

THEATRE

A curious event occurred last night in New York. Actors and actresses assembled at a mass meeting to protest against the Dunnigan Bill which would make the New York City Commissioner of Licenses, a censor over all plays produced in that city. And for that matter, he would enjoy a censorship that would be nation-wide because most plays start in New York and if they are killed here, they are not likely to survive on the road.

In my opinion

Any ~~other~~ form of censorship, becomes an issue at this time when the struggle between democracy and dictatorship is the great political issue of the age.

54
In Japan, they have a crime which would startle most Americans. That crime is called, "Dangerous thoughts." A man can get into real trouble if he is caught having any "dangerous thoughts." Lots of folks have gone to jail there for that crime.

All over the world I've had lots of experience with censorship and I've never seen it work yet. When I lived in China, a stiff censorship was clapped on to the press. So a lot of smart newspaper boys got out what came to be called "Mosquito Papers." They were called that because nobody could

catch the editors -- here today and gone tomorrow. Those papers published the news. Censorship can only lead to bootlegging.

HORVATH

Well, I see old Dmitri Horvath died. He was seventy-eight years old.

55 I knew him well in Harbin and Peiping. He was over six feet tall, erect and strong -- a real soldier. And he enjoyed the longest and fullest beard I have ever seen on any man.

55 Horvath was born in the Czar's palace in old St. Petersburg and he remained loyal to the Czar through all the years of revolution and change in Russia.

When I first met him, he was the Director of the Chinese ~~the~~ Eastern Railway, which Russia and China owned in partnership-- China being the silent partner because she had nothing to say in its management. General Horvath governed North Manchuria through which the railroad ran as though he owned it -- and for that matter, nobody ever thought that he did not own it. In those parts of the world, every government official is a little king and nobody cares.

WINDSOR

56
The squabble about the Duke of Windsor's wedding is no longer a secret in England. It's being openly talked about today in London's newspapers. And they openly intimate that there are differences between the royal family and the government. Only, it isn't so much Prime Minister Baldwin and his colleagues as the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is opposing the royal family. And, of course, His Grace is not, strictly speaking, a member of the government.

So far as King George is concerned, he has long been willing to announce his permission for the marriage of his elder brother to Mrs. Warfield. But, in the words of the English papers, there are "ecclesiastical objections" to Mrs. Warfield as a twice divorced lady.

57
Thus, two days after the coronation, the most famous romance in the world today becomes the principal topic of conversation in Britain. All the world will know tomorrow just when and where Mrs. Warfield will become Duchess of Windsor, in what circumstances and who will be there. The Duke himself will give an audience to the hoards of correspondents, a hundred and seventy of

them, at Monts, who are on the job at the moment. Presumably we shall also be informed just exactly what will be the title, rank and status of the bride.

57
One of the things that interested London today was not in the news columns but among the advertisements. Buried among hundreds of other ads, it read: "I, formerly Bessie Wallis Simpson, have renounced and abandoned my Christian name of Bessie and also have renounced and abandoned my surname of Simpson, and in lieu of such surname I assume the surname of Warfield.

(Signed) Wallis Warfield."

Mrs. Warfield took this step by what is known as a poll deed, a simple procedure by which English people can go through the formality of officially changing their names without having to take the trouble of going to court as we do.

58

Tomorrow's the day in the Supreme Court fight.

Either the Senate Judiciary Committee will report against the President's Bill or the President will compromise.

It seems certain that the Bill cannot pass the Senate as the President prepared it. The revolt in Congress is as much against "Must" legislation as it is against the "Court Plan." The Senate is fighting for the right to legislate all on its own. Democratic Senators are in the lead in this fight, and although it may split the party, it is likely to restore the balance between Congress and the President.

58
58/2

Win or lose, this has been a good fight, because it has been fought entirely on the basis of principle -- and that is good, healthy American doctrine.

SUPREME COURT

We have still to learn what the Supreme Court of the United States thinks about the Social Security Act. Some rulings were handed down in Washington today, but not one of them concerned the question everybody wants to have answered: "Is that Act constitutional?"

One of today's decisions upheld an important Louisiana law. That was one of the Huey Long statutes which levied license taxes on chain stores.

Goodnight**