

LABOR

P.I. - Sunoco. Fri., May 23, 1947.

About the new labor ~~wa~~ legislation, there still seems to be a difference of opinion between House and Senate leaders.

But the Senate and House leaders did agree today that a law permitting the government to prevent strikes by injunction should be in operation by July first - in case Lewis has in mind another soft coal strike.

House and Senate leaders, seeking to work out ~~ixxi~~ legislation acceptable to both branches of Congress, propose that the government be permitted to obtain a court order against any strike that would imperil the nation's health or safety. If such a measure does go through then there will be no strike on July first, the day after the government relinquishes control of the nation's soft coal mines.

While the legislators met today, Lewis attended another meeting -- this one with southern coal mine ~~wa~~ owners. The fact that the meeting took place represented a back down by Lewis.

The Union chief has been negotiating all along with northern operators only, in conferences boycotted by the southern owners who insist on ~~and~~ dealing separately.

Hitherto, Lewis has demanded a general settlement, southerners as well as northerners, but now he has modified that stand -- and now is negotiating with the southern operators, separately.

ROMNEY

A Washington Court has imposed a prison sentence on the former Sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives - Kenneth Romney, charged with concealing a shortage of funds. Romney, a Democrat was Sergeant at arms during the seventeen years of the Democratic control of congress - in charge of a sort of unofficial bank in which Congressmen deposited their funds. He draws a sentence of from one to three years in prison.

THIRD TERM

The State of Nebraska has ratified the anti-third terms amendment - the State Legislature taking action today. Nebraska becomes the Eighteenth State to okay the constitutional provision that would limit any President to two terms in office. Thirty-six ratifications are needed - so a halfway mark has been reached.

Hitherto the State Legislatures that have ratified it have been Republican, and the turn-downs on the anti-Third Term Amendments have come from the Democratic side - Texas and Oklahoma, for example. Nebraska, of course, is a Republican state, but not its legislature - which is non-partisan.

MISSOURI

The word from Grandivew, Missouri, tonight, from the President, that his mother is growing a little weaker.

Mr. Truman added: "She was resting well when I left. That's about all I can say".

LYNCHING

The acquittal of lynchers in South Carolina ^{is} immediately followed what seems like a lynching in North Carolina. ^{TP} At the City of Jackson, a mob of masked men, gun in hand, broke into the county jail and took out a negro, who had been arrested on the charge of trying to attack a young white woman. The mob, in cars drove off with the ~~exit~~ victim -- who has not been seen since. A search has brought no result, and it is believed that the negro was lynched and his body thrown into the Roanoke River -- carried away by the swift currents of the stream.

VIRUS

A strange, portentous gamble was presented today. A sort of life and death lottery in the world of science. We are told of a mystery of biological chemistry that may turn out to be a magnificent boon for mankind, or a fearful disaster -- all ~~of~~ a matter of chance, depending on luck.

Today Dr. Wendell Stanley, of the Rockefeller ~~Ins~~ Institute for Medical Research, winner of the Nobel Prize for chemistry last year; was given still another scientific decoration, the Willard Gibbs medal. In accepting he told some of the latest things about virus. A mysterious deadly something that cause^s disease⁻⁻⁻ that's a virus. It may consist of germs, but, if so, these are so small that scientists have never been able to see them through the most powerful of microscopes. Or perhaps a virus is a chemical fluid that behaves as if it were living matter.

Many types have been discovered, causing

various diseases. ^{And} some kinds are used to prevent disease, vaccines. Smallpox is a virus disease; and you can be vaccinated against it, as was shown by the wholesale vaccinations in New York City recently. But there are other kinds of virus disease that have not been conquered - infantile paralysis measles, mumps, a virus type of pneumonia, and the common cold.

The remarkable fact disclosed today is how a virus can change its character, and turn from deadly to beneficial - or vice-versa. Such transformation can be brought about in the laboratory, by chemical action - the scientists ^{changing} ~~can change~~ a virus from deadly to beneficial or vice versa.

Today Dr. Wendell Stanley disclosed experiments with a virus that causes a disease of tobacco plants, a plant - malady called - tobacco mosaic. He said that in the laboratory they have detected fifty different strains of tobacco mosaic virus - some of which destroy tobacco plants, other^s harmless. And often a slight

chemical change in the laboratory will transform the strain of the virus that is harmless into one that kills the plants.

Of course What the scientists are ~~ix~~ trying to do is ~~to~~ use chemical action to change viruses from bad to good - producing alterations that will make them cure, instead of causing ^e~~ing~~ disease. In this way, they hope to convert the deadly enemy of mankind into a good and healing friend.

But with this goes a warning. Dr. Wendell Stanley points out that a virus may change of its own accord by some kind of mutation, ~~change~~ from a harmless type into something new and deadly - bringing about a new disease, some hitherto, unknown epidemic that might sweep the world. The Nobel Prize winner for chemistry puts it in these words: "If a killing type of virus should suddenly arise by mutation, among the viruses which attack human beings - it could be carried rapidly to the far corners of the earth and cause the deaths of millions of people." *So, there's the gamble of life and death in the world of science.*

INDIA

(In India, the Hindu leaders headed by Pandit Nehru have received the latest proposals from the British Government in the matter of independence for India.

London presented two alternatives. First, a plan for a federated India, which was the original British idea. Second, a scheme for partition between the Hindus and Moslems each group to have a separate state, and each state to have dominion status) - under the British Viceroy as constitutional head.

If the idea of partition is adopted, ~~and~~ dividing India into Hindu and Moslem states, London proposes a three man commission to decide the boundaries of the respective dominions, Hindu and Moslem. It is hard to imagine a more ~~and~~ bedeviling question ^{than} the boundaries of Hindu and Moslem states. The two religious elements are so thoroughly mixed up in so many places, and ~~regard~~ each other with such bitter ~~xxxxxxxx~~ hostility.

~~We hear that the Hindu leaders, headed by~~

Pandit Nehru, are willing to accept either plan. The ^{however} Moslems are utterly against a federated India, and demand a ~~vi~~ division. So the scheme for separate Hindu and Mohammedan Dominions under a constitutional British Viceroy may turn out to be the solution - that is, if the two factions can ever get together on so complex and embittered a question as that of boundaries. Who is to have what?

But meanwhile, in addition to these constitutional matters, a new - or rather a very old - phenomenon has entered the picture. There's a rally of Hindu Holy men, the Mahatmas, the Swamis, the Gurus, the Sadhus. They ^{are} swarming from all over India to protest against new fangled innovations. ^{For one thing they} ~~they~~ ^{are} against the abolition of untouchability. Hindu Leadership with the support of Mahatma Gandhi, has decided to ^{- or try to abolish -} abolish that feature of the caste system, which condemns tens of millions of people to live as the most degraded of outcasts - the depressed classes, the

untouchables. But to the weird ascetics and fantastic Holy Men of mysterious Hindustan, untouchability is a revered part of religion.

~~Moreover,~~ ^{Also the} Holy men ^{-the Sadhus -} are up in arms against the killing of cows. To the Hindus, the cow is a sacred animal, and the angry devotees are demanding an end to the production of beef in India.

Already some three hundred of the most learned Sadhus of India have gathered on the banks of the sacred Jumna River, where ~~incasa~~ they ^{are} going through a ritual of prayer and religious observance and demonstrations of protests. Their numbers are increasing daily, with messengers hastening far and

wide to summon additional hosts of Swamis and Gurus ^{and} ^{Sadhus} from the snowy heights of the Himalayas to the steaming

jungles of ^{Mysore and Travencore,} ~~Southern India,~~ ^{ixxi} It is estimated that

in all Hindustan there are two thousand of these

isoteric mystics ^{who are now} ~~and they~~ trouping in droves to the ^{encampment} ~~camp~~ on the banks of the sacred Jumna.

Right now the Holy Men of the Nagas are

arriving ^{as} nudists ^{— For they} don't even wear the minimum of the loincloth made familiar by Mahatma Gandhi. The Holy men of the Nagas are ascetics who have renounced, not only women but all thoughts of women. If a mystic of the Nagas finds that he has fallen into error, by not being able to keep his mind off the fair sex - he is supposed to expiate the sin by walking to his death into a holy fire.

The protest demonstrations include a feature that sounds rather modern - picketing. From the banks of the sacred Jumna, ten to twenty holy men proceed each day to the capital city of Delhi. ^{There, every day} ~~every day, now~~ they parade or squat in front of the vice-regal palace of Lord Louis Mountbatten. This has been going on for some time now, and every day the police have been arresting holy men. ^R At first the police put the ^{Sadhus} ~~Swamis~~ and Gurus ^{and Fakirs} in jail, but one of them went on a hunger strike and died in his cell. Since then, the police have changed their tactics. They seize a holy man, take him out of town by car and dump him twenty

miles or so outside of Delhi, which leaves the Mahatma to walk back in the sweltering heat of the Indian summer.

One venerable Sadhu, ~~named~~ Brahmin Madan Prakash, was arrested for the fourth time on Tuesday. The police were a bit impatient with ~~him~~ him, so they took him forty miles out of town. ^{Once again he} ~~he~~ walked back. He says he could have ~~had~~ a ride but his religion forbids him to use any kind of conveyance of his own free will. So, ^{once more he} ~~he~~ walked the forty miles, ^{with} ~~the~~ thermometer ~~at~~ a hundred and three in the shade.

Another Sadhu, deeply versed in the mysteries of the Yoga philosophy, was arrested - and went into a trance. A Yogi is an expert in such matters as trances. After he was in a state of catalepsy for three hours, the police thought he was dead, and unloaded him at the roadside. Whereupon the Yogi came out of his trance, and walked back.

All of which only confirms the impression ~~ixx~~ I've had of India. Every time I've been there, I've wondered why the British don't walk up to just anybody and say: - "Here, you take India!"

SCIENTIFIC DISPUTE

Another American Soviet dispute - this one scientific, about the "Indrichoterium." Radio Moscow, with a blaze of excitement, announced today that a complete skeleton of the Indrichoterium has been found in faroff Kazakhstan. Twenty feet long, it is the only complete skeleton of what Radio Moscow described as "The father of all animals." The Soviet announcement stated that the Indrichoterium, which lived sixty million years ago, was a turning point between reptiles and ~~xx~~ mammals.

In New York ~~the~~ exciting news was promptly taken to Dr. George Simpson of the American Museum of Natural History, who said the Indrichoterium, of which we have fragmentary parts, was not a transitional creature between reptiles and mammals. On the contrary, it was a sort of giant rhinoceros. The turning point between reptiles and mammals, said he, was a tiny critter, something like a mouse - with no twenty foot skeleton. In addition to which the Indrichoterium lived, not sixty million years ago as the Soviet Radio said but

about thirty million years ago.

Well I suppose we'll be hearing from Molotov or Gromyko about that, too.

STOWAWAYS

The City of New Orleans has on its hands three Australian girls, who stowed away on a freighter to join American boy friends. ^R Some more G.I. wartime romance? Not exactly. One of the Australian girls relates: "I met my boy friend in Sidney when he was returning from the South Pole Expedition." So it isn't only the G.I.'s who have had gay romances. The South Pole seems also to have an effect on a young man's fancy.

Well what should a girl do when the boy-
fi friend doesn't turn out to be as completely devoted,
lovelorn and loyal as he might be? Should she sigh
and pine away in a corner? "No" says the Australian
damsel who met a Jack Tar from the South Pole Expedition.
The sailor sailed away leaving his girl in that
particular port and she never heard from him again, in
spite of all his promises. She sent two cables to
him; but ~~there was~~ no answer. So she stowed away on
a freighter. "At first," said she today, "I was

heartbroken. But now," she snapped, "This will teach him to hand a girl a line."

Well, it should teach him something - the girl he left behind in Australia showing up in the U.S.A. It's an old tradition for a sailor to have a sweetheart in every port, but if every sweetheart in every port should converge on the sailor in his home town, they would knock the tar out of Jack - Tar.

The captain of the freighter at New Orleans declared today that he was furious when he found the three Australian girls stowaways aboard. That happened when he was far out at sea - so what could he do about it? He didn't do so badly. He put the three lassies to work mending, repairing and pressing the clothes of the entire crew, and in New Orleans you never saw such a neatly dressed bunch of sailors before.

And that brings us to our ex-sailor - Nelson Case.

BALKANS

The Balkans Commission of the U.N.

investigating the Greek dispute, has officially put the blame on the Soviet Satellites. The finding of the Commission has been rumored abundantly, and its official today. At Geneva, in the palace of the old league of nations, a ~~xxxx~~ report was signed, declaring that Jugoslavia, - and Albania and Bulgaria to a lesser extent, - had incited Red revolt in Greece. ^WThe Commission finds that the Soviet Puppets recruited Greek Guerrillas, armed them, ~~and~~ trained them, ~~and~~ indoctrinated them in Communism - and sent them across the border to incite a ~~Civil War~~ Civil War for a Communist overthrow of the Greek Government, Against this ~~xxx~~ report there was a minority of two - Soviet Russia and satellite Poland.

ITALY

It looks as if the Republic of Italy will soon have a cabinet again, and the Premier once more will be De Gasperi. Today that statesman, who resigned ten days ago, was asked by the eight leading political parties to form a new government. This followed vain attempts to get a cabinet headed by elder statesmen, politicians who were at the head of things back in the days of the First World War - Orlando, Nitti, Bonomi. These eldest of the elders failed, so it looks like De Gasperi again ^{— —} head of the powerful Christian Democratic Party.

CHINA

(In China - the evacuation of Americans, including women and children, from the city of Changchun, which is under siege by Communists. Changchun, the capital of Manchuria, has changed hands a couple of times in the China Civil War,) and now the Reds are besieging it - with Nationalist airplanes dropping supplies to the defenders. Twenty Americans were evacuated today by plane; an American transport flying in. The women and children are ~~familiar~~ families of American officials at Changchun, like American Consul General Edwin Clubb. The Consul, with his fifteen year old son is remaining in the city under siege.

COAL

A meeting is on between John L. Lewis and the Southern Coal Mine Owners - which represents a backdown by Lewis. The Union Chief has been negotiating with the Northern operators, in conferences boycotted by the Southern Owners. They insisted on dealing separately. Hitherto, Lewis has demanded a general settlement, Southerners as well as Northerners, But now he has modified that stand - and will negotiate with the Southern operators for a union contract - separately.

---0---

The latest is word from Congress that ~~regi~~ legislation will be available to stop a coal strike by July first, when the coal contract expires. This was agreed upon by the Conference of the Senate and the House, which is working out the general law regulating labor relations.