LT. Older. Fri, act. 16=59,

STEEL

There's optimism tonight - over the possibility of a quick end of the steel strike. The companies, today agreeing to consider a new offer made by the union. Previous demands by the steel workers reduced. The new union proposal- providing for smaller increases of wages and other benefits.

Today, the chief negotiator for the companies told newsmen;-"We are, on both sides, strenuously endeavoring- to reach an agreement."

This comes, as a shortage of steel is being felt- increasingly. General Notors announcing - a slow down of its assembly lines, because of the shortage. with lay-offs -that now come to sixty thousand.

In Paris, stronger police protection - for President Charles DeGaulle. Also -for top officials who support the DeGaulle policy of self determination for Algeria. which policy was okayed in the National Assembly, early today. by a large majority. But this DeGaulle success -was accompanied by melodramatic doings. Yesterday, a Paris newspaper printed a report -that ten public figures had been marked for assassination by right wing extremists. in a terrorist campaign -against the DeGaulle proposals for negotiating with Algerian rebels. Later a member of the National Assembly charged -that killers had crossed the Spanish frontier with a list of those- marked for assassination, all of which was a preface to an attempt against the life of Senator Mitterand, a prominent political figure. a left-winger who backs the DeGaulle policy for peace in Algeria.

Mitterand -driving in his car when he noticed -an automobile following him, pulling up alongside. This on a street beside the gardens of Luxembourg Palace. In alarm, he jammed on the brakes of his car - and jumped. Just in time -as gundin in the other car opened fire. Mitterand, forty-two years old - and athletic. nimble in the get-away. Jumping over a fence three and a half feet high - and dashing into the Luxembourg Gardens. Ducking behind a tree escaping the bullets.

Terrorism - in France. not by the Algerian rebels but by the other side.

CRASH

In a sparsely settled part of southwestern Kentucky, today, men with geiger counters - found a nuclear weapon. A top secret atomic device - recovered from the wreckage of that air crash last night - as a giant strato-fortress was being refueled by a tanker plane - the two colliding. Three airman killed, five missing - and four survivors.

There was immediate alarm, when it became known - that the stratocruiser carried a nuclear weapon; some sort of an atomic bomb. But there was no danger from that - since it couldn't possibly explode, the firing machanism - not connected. It never is - until the moment when the nuclear weapon is to be used.

A salvage crew, today, found the atomic weapon intact among debris - in a Hentucky field.

Referring, of course -to the quis show scandals.

This announcement by CBS was made at a meeting of the National Association of Broadcasters, in New Orleans, where the pledge was made that the radio-television industry would "clean its own house." CBS taking the lead - in dropping all big-money give-away programs.

CBS

ALBATROSS

Today we learn of: the calling of a conference to meet next Tuesday; to consider the problem - of the Albatross. Four organizations, dedicated to the cause of wildlife - to confabulate with the U.S. Navy.

On Midway Island in the Pacific, we have a huge Naval Air Base. But the island is also a nesting place for those great scaring birds - the Albatross. Naval authorities estimate there are between one hundred and two hundred thousand Albatross on Midway - with all that air traffic. A peril - to planes.

Many have been damaged by collisions with the massive birds. No fatalities, yet. But the fear is that an albatross may be drawn into the intake of a jet plane - which could mean - disaster.

One suggestion is to catch and transfer the myriads of birds to some other island. But it's no go. The Navy took numbers of the albatross to islands hundreds



ALBATROSS - 2

of miles away. But the big birds - always flew back to Midway. Their island.

I recall Johnson Island in mid-Pacific, during the war. That island is the nesting place for another fascinating bird - the Arctic Tern.

Ultimately, the prospect is that on Midway they may have to destroy all the albatrosses. Perhaps shoot them by the thousands, which sounds ominous - if you believe in poetry.

The albatross - a bird of good luck, in the old legend of the sea. Remember the verses by Coleridge? The despairing cry of the ancient mariner, as he relates

"With my cross bow, I shot the albatross."

Maybe the Navy should read "The Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner." Today, a lot of checks of record-breaking size - were mailed Who took part out in New York. Checks - to the ball players in the World Series. The total pool for the players - the biggest ever, more than eight hundred and ninety-three thousand dollars.

Twenty-nine of the winning Dodgers - get eleven thousand, two hundred and thirty-one dollars and eighteen cents, each. Those are full shares - with smaller shares going to others on the ball club. The previous record of full shares - about a hundred dollars less. This year, the figure for the losing team is also a record-breaker. Full shares for the Chicago White Sox - coming to a little more than seventy-two hundred dollars each.

Everybody knows the reason for the big money this year- the huge giant Los Angeles Coliseum- where they packed them in - at the rate of more than ninety thousand customers per game.

The losing White Sox growled about the Coliseum - as the most But Dick they for not growling at the checks they for getting!

SO LONG

For 29 years, now, 1've been ending these news programs by saying, "So long until tomorrow." And all that time I haven't known the origin of "so long?"

The question is raised by Dr. Bergen Evans, of the CBS program, "The Last Word." Which deals - with words and their meanings. In the magazine "Coronet," Dr. Evans notes that, could come from the Arabic salutation - "Salaam Aleikum." Meaning - peace be with you. Salaam.

But there's another derivation. Referring back to an old expression, "So long as we're apart, good luck!" That - shortened into a mere "so long", as a friendly expression.

Says Dr. Evans: "Custom seems to demand that on parting - we must make some cheerful noise. The British go in for, Ta-ta, Toodle-oo, "Cheerio," the Doctor adding - that "Ta-ta" and "Toodle-oo, XEXXXXIX are not to the

SO LONG - 2

American taste.

At any rate I'm for ending on a cheerful note -Ta-ta, Toodle-oo, Cheerio, say the British. As for me, I still prefer solong!.

So long until Monday.