

SUBSTITUTE COAL C.J. - Sumner and P. & G. Fri., Nov. 15, 1946.

Late word <sup>here in</sup> ~~from~~ <sup>tonight is</sup> Washington ~~is~~ that the government is

considering legal measures against John L. Lewis -- if the boss of the coal mine unions persists in his threat to call a strike -- midnight, Wednesday. The Department of Justice is looking into the possibilities of either an injunction -- or a prosecution.

The Smith-Connally Act makes the calling of a coal mine strike illegal -- though John L. Lewis carefully refrains from an outright strike call. He merely says he is terminating the so-called contract that the United Mine Workers made with the government. But then, of course, it is well known that the policy of the coal miners has always been -- no contract, no work. So, in effect, the Lewis announcement of the termination of the contract actually means -- a coal strike. Some think that's grounds for prosecution.

The threat of a tie-up of the soft coal mines, beginning Wednesday, produced immediate reverberations in Congress today -- a swift and hostile reaction, which is natural enough, <sup>considering</sup> ~~etcetera,~~ ~~etcetera.~~

~~(continue with the rest of the story)~~

Coal - 2

~~--- a coal strike,~~

~~There were immediate reverberations in Congress and~~  
~~a swift and hostile reaction, which was natural enough considering~~  
how serious a strike of the soft coal mines would be to the  
economy of the nation.

Senator Capehart of Indiana called for a Special session  
of Congress to deal with the coal mine strike. He said he favored  
the calling of a special session unless a settlement was  
reached in what he called "a reasonable time"

Democratic Senator Ellender of Louisiana said that the coal  
strike crisis was in his words--"bound to bring trouble for labor".  
And he added that it might cause Congressional action.

C.I.O.

There was anti-Communist action tonight in the C.I.O. At Atlantic City a meeting of the C. I. O. Executive Board is being held. <sup>ln</sup> ~~And~~ a vote tonight, the board gave President Philip Murray the power to expel Communists. The C.I.O. President ~~is~~ authorized to take such action against any reds in the C.I.O. -- in order to stop them from using the labor organization as a medium for Communist activities and propaganda. President Murray and other C.I.O. leaders, too, make it clear that they intend to halt the pro-Communist doings of some C.I.O. leaders with red inclination.

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CREDIT.

Credit controls were removed today in a sweeping move by the Federal Reserve Board. On a whole series of items, the war-time curbs on installment buying are lifted. Credit buying has been sharply restricted ever since nineteen forty-one---Another wartime control ~~that~~ now is lifted, ~~for the most part,~~

The regulations will apply still to a dozen items-- --including automobiles. Otherwise, easy credit buying is back again.

PARLIAMENT

In The British Parliament today the Labor

party rebels won out in the demand for a debate on foreign

policy. These labor party rebels are the left wing faction which

has been delivering bitter attacks against the policy pursued by

Foreign Secretary Bevin-- Bevin's way of standing with the

United States against Soviet Russia. These British

leftists contend that Britain should not side with the

United States in what they call a "Conflict between American

capitalism and Soviet communism" <sup>--and they've</sup> ~~they've~~ been making bitter

attacks against this country of <sup>ours</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>---</sup> ~~ours~~ demanding that in

the debates between American Secretary of State <sup>g</sup> Byrnes and

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov, the British should take a

<sup>neutral</sup> ~~neutral~~ attitude, ~~and~~ not side with Byrnes against Molotov.

Last night we had <sup>7</sup> ~~word~~ of angry attacks on Bevin with demands

for his resignation <sup>ht</sup> ~~p~~---and tonight the news is that the labor

<sup>g</sup> ~~g~~overnment has agreed on a foreign policy debate. Let the

left-wingers have their say, with full opportunity for oratory

in parliament. <sup>FF</sup> The debate is scheduled for Monday.

The Labor party faces what may be a dangerous insurrection within its own ranks by a faction that is only a minority--- but a loud minority. Today strenuous efforts were being made by Prime Minister <sup>Attlee,</sup> ~~Bevin~~ and leader of the Commons, ~~Herbert~~ Morrison--who is one of the most powerful of British Labor leaders. They were laboring to quell the left wing--<sup>a</sup> ~~anti-~~ American revolt--by applying party discipline. A labor M.P. who persists in defying the official leadership of ~~the~~ the party is liable to penalties---such as being cut off from the holding of important offices, or even being expelled from the Labor party.

There's a report that five parliamentary private Secretaries <sup>tax</sup> may be asked to resign--because of the support they're giving to the pro-Soviet faction. Such private Secretaries are younger men who are considered to be on their way up in Labor party politics.

London says the enforcement of discipline is having results--labor M.P.'s withdrawing from the attack on the Bevin foreign policy of lining up with the United States. But, at the same time <sup>a</sup> other labor members are joining in the revolt--so the size of the <sup>a</sup> ~~anti-~~ American minority <sup>remains</sup> is about the same.

82 Parliament

~~But/it/is/the/only/one/that/labors/parliament/are/going/ta/ta/~~

The latest tonight <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ that the <sup>group against</sup> ~~assault on~~ Bevin has about fifty-four votes.)

The rebel factions has no chance of winning out in Parliament. They <sup>are</sup> ~~are~~ only a labor minority, and anyway Bevin has the support of Winston Churchill's conservatives. So the foreign secretary would be sustained by a huge majority. The <sup>a</sup> ~~an~~ Anti-Bevin faction, in fact doesn't want a vote. The Anti-American pro-Soviet M.P.'s are content with a debate, that debate ~~is~~ set for Monday. The ~~feast~~ <sup>feat</sup> of oratory will give them the chance to use the House of Commons as a sounding board for the airing of their view that Great Britain should stop supporting the United States against Soviet Russia.

Well, London is all the way across the Atlantic, but this parliamentary debate has all sorts of meanings for us Americans--  
<sup>hearing</sup>  
~~being~~ as it does on the vital matter of unity between the

**Parliament**

**United States and Great Britain in the face of the totalitarian system of the Soviets.**



UNITED NATION;

The Doings of the United Nations today presented the spectacle of the United States and Soviet Russia standing shoulder to shoulder--- and taking side-swipes at each other. The shoulder-to-shoulder, and also the side-swipes, on the subject of --- the veto.

American delegate Senate Connally of Texas and Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vishinsky, agreed that ~~the~~<sup>d</sup> veto should be ~~retained~~<sup>retained</sup>. They both assailed any suggestion of abolishing the principle of ~~unanimity~~<sup>unanimity</sup> between ~~the~~<sup>the</sup> Big Powers, ---the vet<sup>o</sup> in other words. In this they stood <sup>d</sup> shoulder-to-shoulder against the smaller nations, of whom Australia is the leader ---the lesser powers wanting an end to the veto.

Where Connally and Vishinsky differed was on the question of how to keep the veto going in a proper way. It should be used sparingly and only in extreme cases, argued Connally of Texas. There should be no light-minded and frivolous exercise of the veto said he---and he assailed the improper way the veto has been used in the past, for petty reasons, merely for obstruction.

These were side-swipes at the Soviets.

Vishinski retorted~~ed~~<sup>d</sup> with a harangue defend~~ing~~<sup>ing</sup> the Soviet use of the veto---which had been entirely OKay, said f he. In his vehement oration, Vishinsky hurled blasts at the Australian attack against the veto, and included Senator Connally in this. He intimated that that the gentleman from Texas was being deluded by the machinations of the small nations~~st~~<sup>st</sup>. Of Connally he said: "With all his great political experience, he has been taken in." Which was quite a side-swipe. We'll all admit that the Senator has had great political experience, politics in Texas and Washington being what they are. But I doubt if the gentleman from Texas enjoyed the idea that he'd been "taken in". That sounds a little too much ~~like~~ like the old ~~story~~<sup>story</sup> of the farmer and the Bunko Steerer.

All of which came under the heading of American and Soviets standing shoulder-to-shoulder, and making side-swipes at each other today.

The latest tells of new harmony on the subject of Trieste. The Foreign Ministers of the big four, after running into what appeared to be a new diplomatic crisis, have reached an agreement designed to help in a settlement of the problem of the great Adriatic port. The big four named the deputy foreign minister of France to try to work out a compromise proposal.

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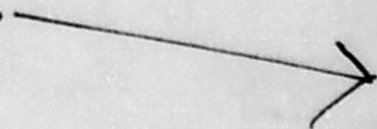
Here in Washington today I have been hearing more about that Bilbo, the Senator-elect of Mississippi who likes to be called "That Man". They are ~~charged~~ charging him with the incitement of Race prejudice -- running for the Senate with loud shouts about White supremacy. Here in Washington I find that a combination of Republicans and Democrats is being formed to contest Bilbo's seat in the Senate - contest it on the charge that he won out because Negroes were not allowed to vote.

All of which promises a lively fight when the new Congress gathers. Supporters of The Man are saying that if the Republicans take part in an attempt to oust him, that will be countered by southern Democratic retaliation -- that Bilbo - supporters will attack Republicans who, in the recent election, won out by narrow margins. The validity of their election will be questioned. All because of the coming battle over "The Man Bilbo".

## PLANE

In the mountains of California, a searching ~~airplane~~ today, spied a wisp of smoke on top of a mountain, and that led the way to the ~~wrecking~~<sup>eye</sup> of the passenger plane missing for two days, with eleven ~~persons~~ aboard. The ~~wrecking~~ ~~was~~ still ~~burning~~<sup>burning</sup>, smoking.

The search plane scouted the scene and the Pilot reported he could ~~not~~ see how there could be any survivors. At last word ground parties were on their way up the mountain.



## ADD PLANE

Word from Burbank, California, explains this latest air disaster in terms of freakish weather. The plane was caught in a violent wind storm, blown off its course. This weather condition apparently was a local atmospheric whirl not indicated by the forecasts. A sudden blast of wind and a heavy downpour of rain, and the airliner was sent to a tragic crash.

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# BLIZZARD

Colorado seems to be in for another blizzard -- after its recent frosty or deal of snow and cold. The United States Weather Bureau tonight warned Colorado that a new storm was coming -- violent winds and heavy snowfall. Tonight, the storm was already <sup>was</sup> raging in eastern Colorado. <sup>In fact</sup> ~~This is a~~ <sup>Another</sup> grave threat to livestock. Railroad cars and trucks are being mobilized to get cattle and sheep out of the way of the approaching blizzard.

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## ARSON.

In Missouri they are having an outbreak of a new and particularly vicious type of crime-- Arson--robbery. Thieves set <sup>fires</sup> fires for the purpose of robbing the houses of people who are fighting the fires. The looters work in small towns <sup>that</sup> ~~where~~ have no regular fire departments, where the citizens go out to <sup>extinguish</sup> ~~extinguish~~ flames as a normal thing.

All this comes out in headlines with an ~~attempt~~ attempt today to put the town of Higbee, Missouri, to the torch. Fires broke out simultaneously in the Higbee business district-- which lies along a couple of blocks of main street. The whole business district was going up in a blaze and everybody in ~~the~~ town came hurrying. While the people were fighting fire, a band of arsonists did a systematic ~~looting~~ looting job in their homes. It later was found that the fires had been set by throwing oil and gasoline on the back doors of five buildings and setting the back doors ablaze. In recent weeks five other towns in central Missouri have had the same sort of experience--though not on so large a scale. Fewer fires were set. <sup>It</sup> It would seem as if a band of criminals--having discovered the technique of arson--robbery were working it on an increasing scale--Higbee being a climax today--~~spitting~~ <sup>putting</sup> the whole business section of the town to the torch.



## BANDITS

The town of Flat Rock, Michigan gives us a story that pictures a climax of the insolence of bandits. Robbers have<sup>been</sup> known to be cool and cheeky, but seldom have they matched the brazen impudence of a couple of hold-up men who looted two houses at Flat Rock.

They went first to the home of Alfred Sherer, covered him with a gun, and stole seventeen dollars and a valuable watch. That wasn't enough -- so , taking their first victim with ~~them~~ them, they proceeded next door and held up Fred Jacworski. This time they got several hundred dollars -- and you'd have thought they would have beat it for a get-away.

But not at all. They tied up their two victims, binding them to chairs -- and, calmly went to bed. I suppose that, after a couple of ~~xx~~ robberies they needed a good night's rest - and they got it. Sound sleep for the rest of the night.

The two tied up victims, meanwhile were trying to get loose. It was a hard job. But about ~~xx~~ daybreak they made it, sneaked out and called the police. Whereupon the good night of rest the bandits were having came to an unpleasant awakening. When they opened their eyes, they were looking down the barrels of a State Trooper's guns.

## DISCHARGE

At Fort Meade, Maryland, today Sergeant John Barner came to the last name on the list he had been working on for a year.

And, he announced that last name, singing it out:- "Sergeant John Barner" whereupon he stepped up to the officer handing out the discharge papers -- and received his own discharge.

Fort Meade has been one of the great separation centers ~~xx~~ for the Army, having mustered out four hundred thousand soldiers. And the Chief name caller has been Sergeant John Barner who sang out two hundred and fifty thousand names; sending home that many G. I's.

Today Fort Meade closed down -- winding up as a separation center and the last name was called by Sergeant Barner -- and appropriately it was his own.

Last on the list of some two hundred and fifty thousand. And now home to Pennsylvania.

DISCHARGE\_\_2

And now Nelson before you start for home  
will you tell us something about something

**GOAL:**

§ A coal strike has been called for midnight Wednesday. That in effect was proclaimed by John L. Lewis today. The union Boss of mine workers served notice that he was terminating the soft-coal contract with the government at midnight, <sup>Wednesday</sup> Wednesday. Which is another way of saying---~~striking~~ <sup>strike.</sup> Lewis declares that his decision will stick---unless the government grants the union demands for higher pay and other concessions.

This culminates a swift moving series of events. <sup>(Here in Washington)</sup> President Truman a couple of days ago made an appeal for a sixty-day truce in the coal mine labor dispute, and proposed that during that time Lewis should get together with the owners of the coal mines.

The situation, is, of course that the government right now is operating the black pits--having taken them over at the time of the previous labor crisis. The government is running the mines under a contract it made with the union. Lewis has demanded that this contract <sup>be</sup> reopened, the President's idea being that the union should deal with the owners, instead of with the government

Coal

---in which case the mines would be turned back to the owners.

Lewis turned that down---no sixty day truce, no dealing with the owners. Whereupon the President countered with an opinion of the government's legal experts. Today he informed Lewis that he had been advised by the experts that the contract between the government and the miners' union could not legally be reopened. According to law, Lewis could not call off the contract.

In a mere few minutes, John L. Lewis gave his answer-- calling off the contract,- announcing that the union was terminating the agreement at midnight on Wednesday, unless the government conceded the union demands. Lewis was careful not to call a strike formally and in so many words. That would have been in violation of the Smith<sup>^</sup>-Connally act, and would have left him open to penalties. He merely said he was cancelling the contract, and the policy of the coal miners has always been-- no contract<sup>1</sup> no work. So in effect the Lewis proclamation mean<sup>5</sup>

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GREECE

Word from the Assembly of the United Nations is that the problem of Greece may be brought before the world organization<sup>22</sup>---brought forward by the Greeks themselves.

The matter at issue concerns the ~~State of Affairs~~ along the frontier of Greece and Jugo Slavia---where trouble has been going on for a long time. A sort of border war is raging between the ~~foes~~ of the Greek government and bands of Communists. This, say the Greeks, has now developed to such a formidable point of danger that it constitutes a threat to world peace--and as such something for the United Nations to consider.

Word from Athens<sup>5</sup> is that the border war is no longer a mere matter of Police and Bandits<sup>+</sup>, but a conflict in which the government of Athens is compelled to use its Army on a scale of regular warfare. Battles are being fought between Greek Military units and Red forces based on Jugo Slav territory--giving the civil strife a distinctly international character. For example the news from Athens tells of a ~~massive~~ full scale clash

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S/2 GREECE

in the Vardar Valley, a battle between Greek Soldiers and  
a Red Brigade named after the former <sup>er</sup> Secretary General  
of The Greek Communist party.

This leftist leader was a prisoner of the Nazis  
during the war--was kept at the infamous Prison Camp at  
Dachau<sup>u</sup>. He was liberated by American troops, returned to  
Greece, and plunged right into revolutionary activities--a  
Communist brigade <sup>armed</sup> ~~named~~ after him. And this outfit now  
operating in the Vardar Valley, is said to be based on  
Jugo Slav territory

This is an example of what amounts to regular  
warfare--and no mere police operation. And the Greek government  
is likely to place <sup>these</sup> border battles before the United Nations  
on the ground that the situation constitutes a threat to world  
peace.

[End]