

L.J. - *Seneca and V. & G. Monday, June 23, 1947.*

The United States Senate today accomplished what amounts to a new chapter in the history of Congress. (Never before was a presidential veto over-ridden in such circumstances as accompanied the final and definite enactment of the Taft-Hartley Bill this afternoon, ~~for~~ <sup>that</sup> the bill <sup>^</sup> is now law. Never before had there been so much agitation and pressure from both sides. Never before had the sustaining or objection of such an important veto hung in the balance.

The vote, sixty-eight to twenty-five, four more than Senator Taft and his colleagues needed to override it.) The Democrats would have had one more, but for the illness of Senator Wagner, father of the Wagner Act. His physicians declared that the effort of going to ~~Washington~~ Washington to vote might be fatal. From his bed in a New York hospital <sup>Wagner</sup> ~~he~~ <sup>^</sup> begged his colleagues to uphold <sup>R</sup> the President. Mr. Truman himself made a last minute effort to win with a letter to Senator Barkley, the minority leader, who read it ~~out~~ on the floor of the Senate. But the opposition waged a losing fight. Actually, the issue

has not been in doubt any time in the last four days.

The first concrete reaction to the ~~making~~ passing of the Taft-Hartley Bill was the resignation of Jerhardt van Arkle, general counsel to the National Labor Relations Board. He explained that he was ~~was~~ unwilling to attempt to have any part in the enforcing of the Taft-Hartley Act ~~because he considered it~~ <sup>which he says</sup> ~~considered~~ <sup>which was</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>that has been</sup> one of the strong arguments of the bill's opponents, that it was neither fair nor workable. Senator Ives of New York, as he voted, said there were indications that a definite attempt ~~was~~ being planned to sabotage the Taft-Hartley law before it has had a fair chance. In reply, Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon, the man who kept on talking for ten hours Friday and Saturday, admitted it was true that organized labor was digging in along a united front to prevent the bill being applied. That, he said, was not sabotage, but human nature.

It would take ~~me~~ a whole broadcast to explain the bill, but the important points are that (it prohibits a closed

shop, renders unions liable to suits for damages for unfair labor practices, forbids jurisdictional boycotts and secondary boycotts, gives the government the power to obtain injunctions for eighty days against any strike which might threaten the national health and safety. It does permit labor organizations to maintain a union shop along definitely restricted lines.)

The spectacular overriding of Mr. Truman's veto, as foreshadowed, was accompanied by a coalition of Republican and Southern Democrats. Senator Taylor of Idaho begged the Southerners to vote as Democrats, <sup>He said</sup> ~~that~~ the Democratic Party must be a liberal party if it is to be a party at all.

Republican Senator George Malone, who voted on the Truman side, said that this bill would bring about not less government meddling but more, in relations between management and labor.

Senator Taft expressed the guiding sentiment of the Republicans when he declared that they were passing the Taft-Hartley measure because there is an overwhelming demand throughout the country for the act, definitely and positively.

*That* If they had failed, the Republican <sup>S</sup>~~Party~~ would be held delinquent. He denied completely that there had been any politics in the drafting of that law.

ADD VETO (Substitute for early Bulletin.)

(Labor's reaction to all this -- to the Senate's over-riding the President's veto -- was immediate and bitter.) Angry threats from San Francisco and New York and Pittsburgh; and <sup>in</sup> Birmingham, Alabama, labor retaliation.

Within an hour after the Senate vote, almost thirteen thousand United Mine workers walked off their jobs in Birmingham's rich coal fields. And the walk-out there is spreading, seventy-five percent of the United Mine Workers membership in that area expected to be idle by this time tomorrow.

The miners obviously had a well-organized plan prepared in advance. However, it is not yet obvious if they acted upon direct orders from John L. Lewis, head of the *United Mine Workers*.

In Pittsburgh, some three thousand miners struck this afternoon, <sup>also in</sup> ~~and~~ protesting ~~the Taft Hartley Labor~~

END

In San Francisco, an angry Phil Murray, President of the C.I.O., has called for a twenty-four-hour nationwide work stoppage against what he terms the "slave law." In other words, Phil Murray is calling for a general strike. And Harry Bridges, <sup>Australian</sup> head of ~~the Maritime~~ <sup>out</sup> Longshoremens' Union on the West Coast, has ~~just~~ served notice that his group will fight back "by organizing, striking and picketing if employers deny workers their rights."

Murray, in his denunciation of the act, suggested, ~~and so quote~~ "That the national C. I. O. call upon the A. F. of L., the railroad brotherhoods, and independent unions to join together in protest against ~~the~~ <sup>new</sup> law."

In New York, angry words also -- unions pledging an early court test of today's labor legislation. One national maritime union Vice-President, waxing lyrical in his alleged martyrdom, cried out, "a concentration camp able to hold one-hundred-thousand will have to be built to enforce any attempt to repress the rights won by the sweat and blood of our seamen."

## SCOTUS

Mater James Caesar Petrollo, oft-times described as the Czar of the Musicians' Union, sustained a defeat, a major defeat, his first in many years. In fact, I don't recall ever having to report a permanent set-back for the smiling little labor autocrat since I've been on the air. <sup>R</sup> Today's was a real one, since it came from the Supreme Court of the United States. The Supreme Court Scotus, as ~~is~~ is called in newspaper jargon, handed down a ruling which surprised many, ~~people~~ including lawyers. It declared ex cathedra that the Lee Act is perfectly valid and constitutional, the act which forbade Petrillo's featherbedding rules as applied to radio stations, ~~As you may have heard, it~~ compels stations to keep musicians on their payrolls, even when they do nothing more than play pinnocle, while a transcription is heard over the air.

It was a split decision, ~~three~~ five to three, but it definitely finds ~~that~~ the Lee Act, as directed against the Musicians' Union, does not ~~make it~~ unconstitutional. Justice Black

who wrote the decision, said it is not class legislation, because it singles out broadcasting employees for regulation ~~while~~ <sup>but</sup> leaving ~~as~~ <sup>other</sup> classes of employees <sup>still free to</sup> ~~engaged in featherbedding practices forbidden to radio workers.~~ <sup>that</sup> It is not within the province of the court to say that because Congress forbids some practices, it must forbid all others.

Petrillo ~~has~~ announced publicly that if the Supreme Court turned him down, he would forbid his musicians to make any more records and <sup>would</sup> go into the recording business himself, so as to get the profits. The court also forbade Petrillo to make the proprietors of dance halls <sup>to</sup> pay the social security taxes of their musicians.

The Supreme Court was profligated with news today handing down several decisions, each of which would have been a story by itself. For instance, the case of the California oil bearing tidelands. That dispute which resulted in the spectacular resignation of Harold Ickes as Secretary of Commerce,



after he had blocked ~~President's~~ President Truman's appointment of Edwin C. Pawley as Under-Secretary of the Navy. The Court, curiously enough, upheld the stormy ex-Cabinet Minister's contention, ruled <sup>in</sup> that those tidelands and the oil under the ocean within the three mile limit, belonged <sup>s</sup> not ~~to~~ to the State of California, but to Uncle Sam.

Then there was the case of two prominent and notorious union leaders in New York, convicted of extortion, Joseph S. Fay, Vice-President of the International Union of Operating Engineers, and James Bove, Vice-President of the International Hod Carriers. They had blackmailed the contractors who built the Delaware Aqueduct, <sup>to the tune of</sup> ~~in New York City~~ for four hundred thousand dollars. A jury convicted them, and they were sentenced to one year in the New York City penitentiary, <sup>to be followed by</sup> ~~and after that~~ seven and a half years in <sup>the</sup> state prison. The majority of the Supreme ~~of~~ justices approved both the conviction and the sentence. Three ~~of them~~ dissented, objecting to the blue ribbon jury system now prevalent in important New York

criminal trials. The dissenting three said that restricting juries to higher types of citizens created a prejudice.

## WEATHER

The Sunday peace of quiet God-fearing Cambridge, Nebraska, suffered a tragic disturbance early yesterday. Down the valley of Medicine Creek and the Republican River, a twelve-foot wall of water made its appearance with dramatic suddenness, tearing thro the countryside, knocking buildings from their foundations, killing at least eleven, with thirty-five more missing -- ~~XXXXXXXX~~ <sup>from a</sup> tourist camp on the banks of Medicine Creek. The Camp washed away as tho it had never been there, and no trace of any of its guests has been found.

In another part of Nebraska, the high waters tore down a bridge and carried away an auto and its two occupants -- a young chap and his girl friend.

Nature was in a wild mood over the weekend. Take that blizzard that hit Yellowstone Park, autos buried, with three perishing of ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ <sup>suffocation.</sup> Thirty carloads of ~~XXXXXXXX~~ visitors stranded on ~~the~~ eleven-thousand-foot Bear Tooth Plateau.

And that tornado blowing six farmhouses away, in Northwest Kansas.

~~In Ohio, on St. Mary's Lake, a sudden storm  
two boats capsized; four drowned.~~

In California, an earthquake in Monterey Bay, that rattled windows in San Francisco and Oakland. No serious damage.

In Missouri, more flood. The river on the rise for the fourth time in three weeks. The regional engineer of the Weather Bureau, in Kansas City, reports that it will be even more disastrous than the three previous ones because the river is already swollen and its levees weakened. He adds that this one will clean out The Missouri Valley for this year so far as agriculture is concerned.

*Missouri*  
Tonight some sixty thousand additional acres of plateau corn land are inundated, and at many points the water is nine feet above flood stage.

~~The corpse of~~ Bugsy Siegel lay unmourned in a Los Angeles funeral parlor today. ~~The Hollywood crowd that~~ <sup>Those who</sup> had fawned upon the gangster ~~in his~~ <sup>during his life</sup> looked the other way.

( Three days after <sup>Bugsy</sup> Siegel's assassination, police admit they are no nearer to finding his slayer than they were on Friday night when Siegel was shot to death in his Beverly Hills home.)

But the case has strange ramifications. Any ~~one~~ one of hundreds might have wanted Siegel out of the way. A gangster, who talked too much, who wouldn't play ball with the mob, and a one-time member of Murder, Incorporated, ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> was fated to die with his boots on.

Police are checking all angles.-- on the West Coast, <sup>in</sup> New York City; but the underworld is keeping mum. ~~We don't know nothing~~

~~The peculiar angle to the case developed in a Brooklyn Court today where a Judge was sentencing another self styled Hollywood playboy to twenty to forty years.~~

## OIL

No more export of petroleum products from the United States, at least for the time being. The Government has re-imposed wartime controls on the sale abroad of all motor fuels, kerosene, and gas oil.

Reason for the move? Apparently, the Administration wants to quiet Congressional criticism of American oil shipments to Russia.

These controls won't halt all shipments of oil to the Soviet union, but they will ~~make~~ make them subject to the discretion of the Commerce Department.

From now on, it will require a license to ship oil abroad and the license will come from the Department of Commerce. Department officials point out tonight that they can regulate the amount of oil any country can receive from Uncle Sam from now on simply by cutting down on the number of licensees.

CONFERENCE

*Molotov will be there -- at Paris!*

The Big Three European Foreign Ministers will start

their conference of Secretary of State Marshall's Plan at Paris

on Friday. French Foreign Minister Bidault <sup>today</sup> interrupted a debate

in the French Parliament to announce that Molotov had accepted

the proposal, and Ernest Bevin did the same in the ~~British~~

<sup>TR</sup> House of Commons. This meeting promises to make history, for

the Marshall Plan, if put into effect, will carry out the most

sweeping and unprecedented program of international cooperation

ever attempted, a program to restore the prosperity and

stability of a continent.

The French Communist papers <sup>today were</sup> ~~promptly started~~

~~publishing yaps~~, saying that <sup>the</sup> Molotov's acceptance of the

invitation to the conference does not mean that ~~the~~

he accepts the plan. That, of course, is true. <sup>And</sup> everything will

<sup>hinge</sup> ~~depend~~ on whether Bevin and Bidault ~~will~~ find <sup>that</sup> Molotov has

arrived in Paris with orders from the all-powerful Soviet

Politburo to cooperate.

The entire French Chamber of Deputies broke into

applause when Bidault made his announcement, and Bevin's report to the House of Commons was received with cheers.



## HUBBARD

Have the Russians the atomic bomb? That's ~~the~~ <sup>A</sup> question that has been plaguing many Americans ever since we learned we had one ourselves.

Tonight, in Chico, California, one man, a rather well-known man, gave a partial answer. He happens to be ~~an old~~ <sup>an old</sup> friend of mine -- Father Bernard Hubbard, the famous "Glacier Priest;" ~~and~~ head of the Geological Department at the University of Santa Clara.

The traveling Priest has just returned from a seven months' round-the-world trip, and he brings back ~~with him~~ this information:- The Russians may not have the atomic bomb -- yet, but they are working hard at it. ~~They~~ <sup>That</sup> until a little while ago, they ~~had~~ <sup>had</sup> ~~one~~ <sup>one</sup> atomic energy plant. Unfortunately, for the Russians, that <sup>one</sup> plant blew up. The Russians ~~lacking~~ <sup>lacking</sup> the proper know-how to operate it safely. So says ~~Father~~ ~~Hubbard~~ the Glacier Priest.

Father Hubbard wouldn't disclose his source of information about Russia's atomic projects, but he calls that source "authoritative."

Says the Priest: "One of their professors evidently forgot the decimal point; and the Soviet atomic factory and most of the scientists inside it just disappeared."

And now Nelson -- before we disappear.

Early June 23, 1947.

The County Court of Brooklyn, New York, today was the scene of one of the final acts in the drama of the sixty-four dollar a week cashier who helped swindle his employer ~~out of~~ eight hundred and four thousand dollars <sup>- all</sup> within a period of twelve months. The cashier himself turned out to be just a minor figure in the scenario. <sup>Just</sup> ~~He was~~ the instrument through which the loot was <sup>siphoned</sup> ~~transferred~~ from the bank account of the famous Mergenthaler Linotype Company into the pockets of a couple of ex-convicts.

Today was sentence day for those graduates from ~~Stir~~; sentence day in the County Court of Kings County, New York, which means Brooklyn in case you don't live here. And the sentencing judge was His Honor Samuel Leibowitz, who was formerly famous as one of the <sup>country's</sup> outstanding defense lawyers, ~~of the entire country.~~ In fact, ~~he was~~ believed to have secured more acquittals in criminal trials than any other lawyer of his time. Police and prosecutors used to speak his name with frowns <sup>and awe.</sup> ~~upon their faces.~~ But since he has been on the bench,

the Honorable Samuel Leibowitz has acquired a new Rhandamanthine fame as a fair but stern judge. He, who knew every trick in the bag, is exceedingly impatient with obstructive lawyers' tactics. And it was he who had the task of sentencing those men convicted in the Mergenthaler case. <sup>TP</sup> One of them ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> a well dressed, playful penitentiary graduate, calling himself by the jovial name of Jimmy Collins, <sup>— —</sup> his real name <sup>being</sup> Julius Lobell, <sup>— who for</sup> ~~was~~ quite a while, ~~to~~ cut a wide swath on Broadway and in Hollywood, associated with ladies and gentlemen of show business, <sup>and</sup> spent his money freely. <sup>TP</sup> After he was convicted, Judge Leibowitz gave him one week to tell the court where he had hidden three-hundred-and-fifty-thousand of those eight-hundred-and-four thousand dollars, which the prosecutor's auditors have been unable to trace. Lobell, alias Collins, refused to sing, as <sup>they say,</sup> ~~the word~~ <sup>goes.</sup> So the judge gave him a sentence of twenty to thirty years in prison, five to ten years on each of three counts, sentences to run consecutively. That means that after each term expires, he can be brought into court again and given

another chance to reveal where he ~~had~~ hidden <sup>that</sup> ~~the~~ money.

The probation report revealed that Lobell, alias Collins, had been associated with ~~the character known as~~ Bugsy Siegel, murdered in Los Angeles last week. The two ~~had been~~ <sup>were</sup> associated in night club deals on the west coast. Said the judge: "You want ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> gamble on a long shot and you hope a technicality will set aside the verdict of guilty." And the judge added: "If you want to gamble, that's up to you." He said further: "After you've served your term and after you realize you may spend the rest of your life in the Big House, you may change your mind."

The other accomplice, known by the interesting nickname of Izzy the Eel, received a mild sentence, seven and a half to twenty years, because they had been unable to trace any of the money to him.

Niles Trammell, head of the N.B.C., sprang a sensation in Washington today. He told the Interstate Commerce Committee of the Senate that the Radio Corporation of America has developed a new method of communication, high speed communication so amazing that it can transmit more than a million words a minute. To illustrate its capacity, Trammell said this new system could send the texts of twenty novels, of fifty thousand words each, from New York to San Francisco, in no more than sixty seconds.

Trammell, ~~who~~ himself ~~is~~ an engineer, said that television research has produced this new system. For the time being, the R.C.A. people call it "Ultrafax." It is, he explained, in effect a radio mail system. *And in point of speed will* ~~in speed, it will~~ out-do radio telegraphy, wire telegraphy, cables, air mail, anything we've hitherto known. He explained further the way it works. Each printed page becomes a frame in a television picture. Each of these frames is then flashed in almost lightning succession. At the receiving end, the pages are

reproduced by new high speed photographic processes for quick delivery.

Ultrafax can deliver <sup>your</sup> ~~your~~ mail, even business documents, checks, photographs, newspapers, magazines. He predicted that the day is not far off when electronic methods will bring newsreels and motion pictures into the home, and you will receive your newspapers by radio.

Trammel's purpose in appearing before the Interstate Commerce Committee was to protest against a new bill increasing government control over the wireless. And he urged the Senators that radio should have the same freedom as the press, because, he pointed out, "together they will be able to withstand any assault upon democracy." He protested against the proposal to give the Federal Communications Committee the right to refuse to renew the license of any station because of the nature of the programs it has broadcast. That form of censorship, said Niles Trammell, would be much more powerful than the blue-pencilling kind.

The bill in question, <sup>sponsored by</sup> ~~whose authority~~ Republican

Senator Wallace White of Maine, would give the F.C.C. drastic  
censorship over radio.