

POSTAL STRIKE

March 20, 1970  
Dallas Townsend

Good evening everybody. With the postal strike spreading coast to coast - confrontation in Washington. Secretary of Labor George Shultz meeting with the heads of seven postal unions. After two hours of talk, the union leaders finally agreed to tell their men to go back to work immediately. In return, Schultz said Postmaster General Winton Blount has agreed to discuss the full range of issues raised by the unions - including demands for higher pay - if the strikers first resume work. Schultz said - "We have no intention of sitting down with anyone until the mail is being delivered."

So far, however, the letter carriers have ignored all orders to end their wildcat walkout. And now a new complication has developed. President James Rademacher of the letter carriers union met today with three-hundred local union leaders from around the country - and they told him he must call a nationwide strike if no agreement is reached by the negotiators within five days. Rademacher

## POSTAL STRIKE - 2

PRICES

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## PRICES

*The nation's worst inflationary period in twenty years - is still with us. The U.S. cost of living index - jumping another five-tenths of a per cent last month - according to figures announced today. This adding up to a six-point-three per cent jump over the past year - the fastest rate of increase since the Korean War. And it comes just three days after a White House conference - where it was proclaimed that inflation had finally "defeated."*

**(SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED**

**"CROWN PRINCE")**

**With that - it's time again for Lowell Thomas; reporting tonight on the "making of a King" - up near the "roof of the world". Lowell...**

... First, the King went to St. Joseph's College, the famous Jesuit school at Darjeeling in India, where so many sons of maharajahs and other top families in India and its neighbors got their basic early education. From there he went to England, to St. John's, for three years. His House Master, Peter Williams, who looks like a real-life "Mr. Chips", was one of the wedding guests. He tells me the Nepalese Prince gave a good account of himself at school. Next he did some post-grad work at the University of Toronto, then a year at Harvard. One of the most conspicuous



CROWN PRINCE

*L. J. Tape insert -  
unedited*

Good evening, everybody. It probably will sound like an exaggeration, but I suspect young Birendra, the twenty-seven-year-old Crown Prince of Nepal, has had better all-around training to be king than any heir apparent of our times. If this is so, then surely the major credit should go to his father, King Mahendra. The king himself had far less special training and no doubt saw how important it would be.

First, the king sent his son to St. Joseph's College, the famous Jesuit boys school at Darjeeling in India, where so many sons of maharajahs and other top families in India and its neighbors got their basic early education. From there he went to England, to Eton, for five years. His House Master, Peter Williams, who looks like a real-life "Mr. Chips", was one of the wedding guests. He tells me the Nepalese Prince gave a good account of himself at Eton.

Next he did some post-grad work at the University of Tokyo, then a year at Harvard. One of the most conspicuous

guests at the wedding has been his Harvard instructor, a tall young man with bright wavy red hair down over his ears and his collar, who looked somewhat wild and weird in his tails, white tie and silk hat.

Both before and after Harvard, he travelled around extensively in both North and South America. He visited Russia and China, too - everywhere discussing both local and world affairs with heads of government. Also in Africa - and even Israel, where he spend considerable time. As his Eton housemaster summed it up: "I've never known anyone so well adjusted to two worlds - the modern world, and his own world here in the land of Lost Horizon." So long.

**(SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED  
"CROWN PRINCE")**

**Thank you, Lowell.**



## VIENTIANE

A high official of the Communist Pathet Lao arrived today at Vientiane in Laos, bearing with him - a copy of the latest Communist peace plan supposedly aimed at ending the fighting in Laos. For now though - the fighting continues; with Communist troops threatening once more that Royal Laotian command post at Long Cheng.... a US-supported base. Word got out a few hours ago that two battalions of Thai troops have arrived in Louse, to help with the defense of Long Cheng .. the troops flown there from Thailand in planes of Air America, which reportedly is subsidized by the US government. Late this afternoon, White House news secretary Ronald Ziegler called that report "grossly exaggerated" - but he did concede that there is a "very limited" Thai involvement in Louse.

## PHNOM PENH

*At Phnom Penh in Cambodia - that country's new military command today ordered a special alert; telling government troops to be ready to oppose by force - any action that Prince Sihanouk might take in an effort to restore himself to power.*

*At the same time, a report today that Premier Lon Nol - Cambodia's new strongman - is about ready to launch his first move against insurgent Viet Cong troops. This - we are told - by cutting Communist supply lines - which now stretch from the port of Sihanoukville in Cambodia all the way to South Vietnam.*

WASHINGTON

*See the same vein*

~~Here at home~~ - a report today from Donald

MacDonald - the U.S. Foreign Aid manager in Vietnam; telling of a possible "silver lining" - in the cloud cover that currently darkens that country.

For example, Mac Donald observes that South Vietnam has already achieved - even in the midst of war - "a breakthrough in mass education" - also, national health care. He further says the South Vietnamese will eventually "inherit from the war years - a large reservoir of literate manpower, trained to comparatively high levels in diverse technical and management skills;" as well as "first class seaports - warehousing facilities - and excellent major road arteries."

Summing up, Mac Donald asserts that Saigon is building "a better place in which to live - not at some distant time, but today and tomorrow."

## ALEXANDER SHELEPIN

*Diplomatic sources in Moscow say Alexander Shelepin - a member of the Soviet Politburo - has been hospitalized with a liver ailment. Shelepin is chief of the Soviet Trade Union Federation. The word from Moscow is that he has not made a public appearance for three or four weeks.*

*Ordinarily a report of this type would scarcely be worth mentioning. But in this case there are special circumstances. According to reports last week from Belgrade and Prague, Shelepin was one of three high Soviet officials who allegedly wrote a letter criticizing party boss Breznev and Premier Kosygin for shortcomings in the Soviet economy. The Kremlin later denounced the report of the alleged letter as a fabrication. But there is no doubt that the Soviet economy is in trouble, and there must be a bitter debate going on behind the Kremlin walls. Hence the interest in that report that Alexander Shelepin has been hospitalized.*

*Dallas Townsend saying Goodnight.*