

P. 7 - Sunoco. News, Nov. 16/36.

LABOR

A novel sort of situation developed at the big Labor Conference in Tampa, Florida, today. Up to now, we have thought that the issue was whether John L. Lewis and his insurgent unions would be thrown out of the American Federation of Labor. That's the climax many people have been afraid of, including government officials. But today the plot of the play is that Mr. Lewis apparently wants to be thrown out while some of his bitterest enemies among the old line unions, want to keep him in.

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The four hundred and fifty delegates of the A.F. of L. had hardly ~~tax begun~~ taken their seats before the fireworks started. The big event of the day was the speech by William Green, the President. As everybody expected, he hurled volley after volley at the insurgent unions. But to the surprise of most people, he didn't demand the expulsion of Mr. Lewis and his Committee for Industrial Organization. On the one hand, he shouted: "No surrender to the rebels!" But almost in the next sentence he begged them to come in and be good boys. "Stand fast with the A.F. of L.! Maintain a united front!" he cried. "I ask those who acted contrary to the principal of democracy

and labor to come back and take their seats! "

Another interesting part of his fiery defense was his utterance on the subject of ^{the} craft and industrial types of unions. As we have often heard in the last few days, the big issue is supposed to be between the old craft unions, of which the American Federation of Labor is composed, and the industrial union. ~~In other words, all the workers in one industry organized into one union, for which John L. Lewis has battled so vehemently.~~ So it was somewhat of a surprise when President Green declared: "The Federation has always favored both craft and industrial unions." And he added: "John Lewis is not sincere when he accuses the A.F. of L. of being opposed to industrial unionism. He is trying to bust the A.F. of L. and set up his own organization in its place."

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Nevertheless, ^{still} as we have seen, Mr. Green expressed the policy of the ^{moderates} ~~modernist~~ in the Federation and left the way open for peace if Mr. Lewis and his associates want it. But a still more amazing development at Tampa was that Lewis's worst enemies in the federation don't want him to withdraw.

Foremost among them was William Hutcheson, President of the carpenters. In the famous Convention of Nineteen Thirty-Five, the enmity between Lewis and Hutcheson reached such a pitch, that they had a fist fight on the floor. Hutcheson got the worst of it from the burly two-fisted miner. So it's ~~extraordinary~~ ^{interesting} to see him on the side of the moderates.

The leader of the compromise ^{faction} is Major George Berry.

I am told
It's due to his persuasiveness and his tactful manipulation

that the middle of the road policy is prevailing today. Major

Berry is not only the President's Federal Industrial Coordinator,

but also the head of the pressmen's union. And, by the way,

Mr. Berry ^{is} ~~runs~~ in the news today in another ^{way} ~~direction~~. Business

leaders, it became known, who have held off from cooperating

with the government, have let it be known that they might come

into camp if the President would appoint a new Co-ordinator.

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cut.

(At eight o'clock this morning some two hundred and fifty thousand of Uncle Sam's grey-clad mail-carriers started on their rounds to make history. From more than forty -five thousand post-offices they went out with bulging pouches, ~~They~~ ~~were~~ crammed full of envelopes containing copies of a new official document. To three million employers they carried the new Social Security cards. ~~It~~ So began the first step of a radically new departure for our government, the first motion of the machinery to take care of wage-earners in their old age. ~~and so~~ ^{Thus} begins a new era in the social life of America. An era, it is ~~intended~~ ^{intended} in which people will no longer have to worry about going to the poorhouse in their old age; ^{an era} in which their children will no longer wonder whether they will be able to take care of their aged parents.

You'll be hearing a good deal about those cards. So it will be hardly necessary for me to explain that on them every employer is asked to tell how many people work for him what they do, their names and addresses. The cards have to be filled out and returned to Uncle Sam by Saturday Postage prepaid.

But that's only the beginning of the work for Jim

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Farley's post office. After those cards have been received., sorted out and classified³, then comes the job of mailing questionnaires to everyone of twenty-six million workers. After the workers have filled out and sent in those questionnaires the Social Security Board at Baltimore has the Hurculean task of filing and keeping track of them.

I have been requested by Washington to say that the government is going to release a short sound picture - a trailer - on the subject of Social Security. Two such have already been made. One will be released tomorrow afternoon. It will show how it all works -- to make it clear what you have to do to get your share. "Applications for Happiness," is the name of it.

ROOSEVELT

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A late dispatch from Washington:- President Roosevelt will sail Wednesday aboard the cruiser INDIANAPOLIS for Buenos Aires. We've heard reports of this before, but they were never acknowledged at the White House. This makes it official.

Mr. Roosevelt will go to Charleston tomorrow, ~~leaving on~~ *and leave there*

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Wednesday. He will reach the Argentinian capital on December

First, in time to address the Pan-American Conference. He will

stop at Rio de Janeiro to pick up Sumner Wells of the State

Department, who has been one of his principal advisors on South

American affairs. *and*

This ~~Pan-American~~ Conference bids fair to be the *ever held on this Hemisphere.* most important ~~of all times~~ It certainly is the first time

that a President of the United States has left the country to

a conference attend *in* person. On the surface of things, Mr. Roosevelt's

purpose in going to Buenos Aires is obvious. Between the

lines, however, there seems to be another possibility. The

Washington correspondent of the NEW REPUBLIC declares that the

League of Nations will be the real big issue at Buenos Aires.

The idea will be for Uncle Sam and Argentina to take the lead

in guiding all the republics of the western hemisphere as far

That's one of the rumors.
away from the League as possible. ~~However, that cannot be done~~
~~without opposition.~~ ^{^ they say} The voice of Chile [^] will lead a chorus at
Buenos Aires in favor of the League. And Chile has an exceedingly
important ^{voice} ~~voice~~ among her neighbors.
[^]

SPAIN

What word from Spain? The Rebels claim the capital is as good as their's. But impartial eye-witnesses tell us they claim too much. This battle for Madrid is taking its place in history as one of the most violent on record. -- One of the longest. For nine days now it has been raging. Many times we've heard of it's "approaching a climax". A tragic, long drawn out climax, it appears. Tonight it's definite that the struggle for the capital has reached a new pitch of ferocity. For twenty-four hours the bombardment has been going on without pause, one long continuous roar of explosions.

In one furious attack, the Rebels crossed a bridge over the Manzanares River near the royal palace; caught the government guards at the bridge-head unawares, eating their lunch. Taken by surprise, the defenders were forced to retreat. There was no time to fight, but there was time to blow up the bridge. And that stymied the Rebels, since it had been elaborately mined for just such an emergency. And up it went!

There have been few sights in history to equal the desperate resistance of the Madrid reds. With inferior equipment, they have had to fight fleets of swift tanks with machine guns. In artillery they are far outnumbered. But, they have the preponderance

of man-power. Some of the fiercest fighting today was in the air, where the government now seems to be on equal terms with the Rebels.

Franco's planes, however, bombed the Madrid defenses savagely today.

TRAGEDY

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One hundred miles north of Alberta, there's a little railway settlement called Tieland. Its population consisted entirely of railroad workers and their families. Saturday morning that population consisted of six persons. This morning the total was none. Sometime over the weekend, Tieland was wiped out by a tragedy that might have ~~happened in Mycenae or~~ ^{been enacted in} Corinth or Athens of ancient Greece, rather than ⁱⁿ a normal, hard-working little hamlet in Western Canada.

Tieland was inhabited by Carl Nelson, a section foreman of the Canadian National, his wife and little son, as well as two section hands. The sixth person at Tieland was another railroad employee, Carl Shēits, formerly the foreman. Carl Nelson had taken his job.

The Nelsons had sent to Hondo, the nearest town, for a servant. She arrived on a train Saturday afternoon. The train went off and left her and, to her dismay, she found nobody there. All the buildings, the foreman's house, the tool shop, and everything ~~were~~ locked up. There was no way for that maid to get back home that night. She managed to break into a shack, where she passed the night.

Early the next morning, Sunday, Carl Shēits, the ex-foreman, arrived at the shack. Between them, ^{they} he and the maid, ~~XXXX~~ contrived to scrape up a breakfast which they ate together.

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Shēits then left. Soon after that, a motor car section of the a modern hand-car railway came by, [^] carrying Mrs. Nelson's sister and the man who was operating the car. As they stopped, they were greeted with a fusillade of shots from one of the buildings. They hurried away to the nearest town and reported what had happened to them.

When the police arrived on the scene, they found a ghastly sight. In the shed that housed the hand car, they found Carl Nelson, the foreman, dead. He had been beaten to death. In the foreman's living quarters were his wife and little son, both also clubbed to death. In a couple of shacks nearby were the two section hands stretched on the floor, also dead, shot with rifle bullets.

The police then returned to the right of way of the railroad. Lying across the rails they found the body of Carl Shēits, the ex-foreman. In one hand he held a rifle, another lay near him. The condition of the butts of the rifles showed that they had been used as clubs. But the investigating

officers found no mark on Sheits to indicate how he had ~~be~~
died.

25'
Such are the preliminary details of this ^{stark} ~~gruesome~~
tragedy, ^{with elements of mystery.} ~~As we can observe, they are so meagre that they will~~
~~leave the actual happenings so far a complete mystery.~~

PICKFORD

With wintry blasts raging around our ears, the atmosphere seems anything but springlike. But according to what Tennyson told us about spring and a young man's fancy lightly turing to thoughts of love this must be balmy May or sunny June. -- What with the Pickford romance coming on top of the betrothal of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., to Miss Ethel DuPont!

Of course there's nothing exactly new in either of these love matches. (Tender feelings between the forty-three year old Miss Pickford and the thirty-two year old Buddy Rogers were rumored as long ago as Nineteen Thirty-One. Every year the rumor has cropped up again, though neither the forthcoming bride nor groom would admit the soft impeachment. Similarly, the Montague-Capulet engagement of a Roosevelt and a Du Pont -- two names opposed in Politics -- was reported months ago.) But the brides branch of the Du Ponts took no part in the recent campaign.

It is just sixteen years ago that the world beamed fondly upon the romantic union between Mary Pickford and

Douglas Fairbanks, then the two foremost people of the screen.

For years it was celebrated as the one ideal love match of

Hollywood. After Mr. Fairbanks fell in love with the fair

Lady Ashley, Miss Pickford turned to authorship and religion.

Indeed, her publishers claim that her ^{pietistic volume} ~~book, "Why Not Try God?"~~

was one of the best sellers. ^{Now -} [^] The one-time first lady of the

screen is ~~now~~ about to try her third marriage.

OPERA

Illuminating news ~~comes~~ from Russia. It isn't permitted to poke fun at religion any more in the Red land of Communism.

~~And that isn't all~~ When the Bolshevists ~~re~~ erected their harsh reign, the first thing they did was to sweep away everything connected with the old Bourgeoise culture. Their attitude towards religion ~~was the policy~~ that has been ^a~~the~~ chief ground for the dislike and suspicion of the rest of the world. But in addition to stripping the Greek Church of its property and influence, they said: "Away with all Bourgeoise ideals!" Ancient ideas, ancient heroes, ancient legends, were all to go by the board. Children were no longer to be taught to admire the strong men of Russia's past, the men who had made her into such a formidable empire.

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Accordingly, the director of the Kamerny Theatre in Moscow, produced the other day a new comic opera, which was written as he thought, in entire harmony with official Bolshevik ideas. The principal figure in it was Prince Vladimir, who christianized Russia in the Tenth Century. Instead of presenting him as a hero,

it ridiculed him. It also poked fun at the Tenth Century warriors who had, under the old regime, been some of the most idealized heroic figures in Russian legend and history. The new opera showed them as no better than bullies and gangsters.

The title of the work was a Russian word meaning "Knights," *not night-time - warriors.*

Now it so happens that a comic opera by the same name was produced sixty years ago, with music by Borodin, one of the most famous of Russian composers. That old opera ~~of sixty years ago,~~ though it treated the knights as heroic figures, poked fun at grand opera. Unfortunately for Borodin, the then reigning czar, Alexander the ~~6x~~ Second, liked grand opera. So that work of ~~sixty years ago~~ was suppressed.

The composer and director of the new opera spent a whole year preparing it. ~~It is~~ One of the most lavish productions ever to be shown under the new regime. It passed the censorships and apparently everything was all right. On the opening night it was a triumphant success. But on the second night an important commissar went to see the show. And on the following morning the doors of the theatre were closed, the new production

was suppressed. [#] The official reasons for this sudden and drastic act by the Moscow censorship are exceedingly interesting.

"The opera is, in official language, "an insolent misrepresentation of the country's history." So say the Arts Committee of the Council of Peoples Commissars. And they say further: "The christianizing of Russia was one of the principal factors in bringing the backward Russian people in contact with the people of Byzantium, and with other peoples of higher culture." [#] And here's another surprising statement to come from Communist headquarters: "It is well known ^{say the Red authorities today,} that Greek clergymen played a big role in promoting literacy in Russia at one time!" ~~By the~~

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[#] When ^{time} they got through with their criticism, the Art Committee showed the new opera to be not only offensive from a religious standpoint, but also from the Marxist point of view. What makes the whole business more ironic is that the author of the libretto is a writer who has been a revolutionist since Nineteen Five, one of the ^{most} widely read of Bolshevik propagandists.

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~~Ordinarily, the suppression of a comic opera would~~
~~comedies says the Stalin. And~~
~~never be worth talking about at such length. But this~~
no more broadcast say I & o. p. - u. - t. - u

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