

WESTERN UNION

Fri. May 23 - '52. L.T.-R.G.

(The Western Union strike ends -- with an agreement today between the company the the union. A contract -- for two years. This ^{concludes} ~~ends~~ a stubborn dispute -- the walk-out going into its eighth week.)

RAILROADS

The Railroads of the United States under-went a great transition today -- though you would never know it, unless you were told. The lines passed out of the possession of the Government; were given back to private ownership. Which meant -- hardly a single change in management, hardly any replacement of personnel. For nearly two years the railroads were operated by the Army, ~~and~~ ^{But you may have noticed that} Colonels, Generals, and G.I.'s were conspicuous by their absence -- in the operation of the trains. Nominal control, mostly ~~a~~ illegal fiction -- to avert a strike in a labor dispute.

But that has ended now, the ~~EE~~ argument over wages compromised and settled. Today the official papers were signed -- transferring possession of American railroads. Meaning -- hardly any change at all.

The Unions involved, however, are going to continue to fight. Their object -- to cancel the Government authority to ~~seize~~ ^{take over the} railroads. They say they

The Supreme Court is passing on the seizure of steel -- in which the Truman administration makes the claim that the President has "inherent" power to take possession of any property, in an emergency. In Congress today Senator Homer Ferguson stated that if the court upholds these "inherent" powers, he will introduce a constitutional amendment. Change the Constitution in such a way as to deprive the President of any authority to seize private industries.

Along that same line, a sub-committee of the House of Representatives took action today -- recommending legislation to deny those "inherent" powers, the President claims.

PARIS

(Communist riots in Paris today -- demonstrations against the forthcoming arrival of American General Ridgway,) The Communist's high Commander gave the order -- for an organized protest against (the new Commander for the North-Atlantic Treaty organization, successor to General Eisenhower.) Trouble broke out at a railroad station, where the police began ~~MOVING~~ ~~MOVING~~ hauling off Reds in Patrol wagons. Whereupon three Communist columns closed in, ^{and} ~~the~~ pitch battle was on. ^{PP} (The French Government has mobilized fifteen thousand policemen, trained for rough riot action, to crush the Red outbreaks against Ridgway.)

KOREA -- RIOT

in Korea There was a riot at the port of Pusan today -- when a mob tried to break into the National Assembly of Southern Korea. They were not Reds, but Nationalists -- breaking into violence against fourteen members of the Southern Korean legislature, who have been staging demonstrations of opposition against President Syngman Rhee.

Korean police and soldiers ^{intervened} ~~tried to suppress~~ and fighting broke out. ~~which lasted for three hours~~ There were a number of women in the crowd, and one was killed -- one-hundred and forty-four persons injured -- in violence that lasted for three hours.

WARNING

The State Department in Washington admits that ~~ten~~ ten days ago, the United States ~~gave~~ gave a warning -- of possible new Red aggression in Asia. This information was passed along to the sixteen countries that have soldiers in Korea. ~~This warning~~ was first reported from the Phillipines, and was denied. Now admitted by the State Department -- Apprehension of new Red aggression in Asia.

Washington reports ~~drastic~~ (military penalties for Brigadi^{er}s Generals Dodd and Colson. Both -- demoted, reduced to the rank of Colonel. This as punishment for their parts in that farcical prison-camp *travesty* on Koje Island.)

Secretary of the Army, Frank Pace, explains that ~~General~~ Dodd is being demoted for bad judgment -- when seized and held hostage by Red prisoners. "He showed a lack of sound judgment," ^{says} ~~said~~ the Secretary, "in establishing the practice of conferring with prisoners of war at the gates of their compound, instead of having their representative brought to his office under guard."

In the case of Colson, the Secretary of the Army concedes that he faced a "difficult situation". If he had used force, Dodd would probably have been killed. But Colson is rebuked for making statements in writing to prisoners of war which could be ~~MI~~ distorted and used for purposes of Red propaganda.

^{Brigadier}
So the two ^{Brigadier} Generals are "busted" to the rank of

KOREA -- GENERALS 2

Colonel. ^H ~~and~~ still another officer is reprimanded,
~~as~~ General Paul Yount, Commander of the Pusan area --
which included Koje Island. General Yount O.K'd. the
way Colson handled the situation -- though Colson's
reports to him were "incomplete".

Such is the aftermath of one of the strangest
episodes in the history of Warfare.

KOREA -- PRISONERS

It looks as if something decisive will be done ~~EEEE~~ about the prisoner camp farce on Koje Island. (Today our Far East Command^{er}, General Mark Clark, ordered the Eighth Army to take what the General calls -- "uncontested control.") As it stands, the Red prisoners of war have been exercising what would seem to be "uncontested control." Hard-boiled Communists have been running Compound Seventy-six pretty much to suit themselves. "Intolerable" says General Clark, ^{and} that word would seem to be a good description.

(On Koje Island, Camp Commander, ~~Brigade~~ General Boatner, announces that he will carry out the ~~EEEE~~ Clark order -- and bring the Reds to suitable obedience.) Today, American paratroopers went through a drill in tactics to suppress a ~~EEEE~~ riot. ~~N~~ A drill -- with bayonets and gas-masks. Indicating -- the use of tear-gas in suppressing disorders. A later dispatch states that Australian troops have joined the Americans on Koje Island.

~~The Communist prisoners have been ^{informed} --~~
~~though how far the ^{warning} information will be spread among~~

KOREA PRISONERS -2

Today's dispatch gives new details of the fantastic -- this time from a prison camp on the mainland near the port of Pusan. There, after the suppression of a riot, it was found that the prisoners had more than five-hundred weapons -- home made and of an odd sort. They had spears with steel tips -- and flails ribbed with barbed-wire. Curious weapons -- but it sounds as if they could be ugly. They had dummy sub-machine guns, imitations. And -- pistols made of wood.

One of the Red captives wore a uniform like that of an American four-star General.

SCIENTIST

In Washington today, a Federal Grand Jury returned an indictment against "Scientist X". That was what they called him before he was identified as Doctor Joseph Weinberg, formerly of the University of ~~XXXX~~ California, later of the University of Minnesota -- from the faculty of which he was ousted a year ago.

The Committee on UnAmerican activities brought out evidence ~~to~~ ^{ing} indicate that Weinberg, who did War-time atomic work, slipped important secrets to Communist leader Steve Nelson, for transmission ~~to~~ ^{to} Soviet Espionage. ^{It} Weinberg, while under oath, denied everything -- that he ever knew Nelson, that he ever was a Communist. The Grand Jury finds that ~~XXXX~~ this was perjury -- Scientist X, indicted.

EISENHOWER

(Detroit announces that General Eisenhower will make a major address in the "city of automobiles", June fourteenth, Flag Day.) General Ike was invited, and has accepted. (His first address after his return from Europe will be ~~in~~ⁱⁿ Abilene, Kansas, his home town. Second -- Detroit.)

We are told -- the speech will be "non-partisan." But, of course, the political angle will be as large as a Detroit auto factory -- the Republican Convention coming later on in June.

The Director of the Eisenhower boom in Michigan states that the Michigan delegates to the convention will have ample opportunity for a talk with Ike -- and that could be important. The State has a big vote, forty-six -- and the delegation is not committed to any candidate. A private poll, however, shows that the delegates are about fifty-fifty -- evenly divided between General Ike and Senator Taft.

CALIFORNIA POLITICS

I am leaving for the East tonight, homeward bound -- so here is a final report on California Politics. When I started out on this Western trip, I figured -- the interesting angles of local news ^{that} ~~which they~~ run into would be largely political. What else would you expect -- this Presidential year? ^{Here}

In California, I found the campaign twisters ~~for~~ odd and intricate. Which continues, in a way, right on to this last report. ^H It begins with a fantastic scene of witches, dusky, grotesque. With -- a graceful fairy queen dancing among the hobgoblins. All -- under the ocean. ~~It~~ Sounds like Hollywood -- and it was.

^H I was inquired ^{ing} about ~~practical~~ ^{political} opinions of people in ~~the movie land,~~ ^{the film world,} which took me to Hollywood studios, and this was the Goldwyn lot. Where they were filming -- Hans Christian Anderson. Hence the scene from a fairy tale -- for a talk about Senator Taft, General Eisenhower, Senator Kefauver.

Talking politics -- with Sam Goldwyn, now a ~~sort of~~ ^{He} ~~it~~ [^] was all for

Eisenhower -- ~~speaking of~~ ^{speaking of} ~~talking about~~ the General with a ^{flavor} ~~flavor~~ that rather surprised me. I asked him -- why was he so ~~wildly~~ enthusiastic about General Ike?

His reply brought up a point, ~~which I find to be~~ characteristic among the film people. He said the name of Eisenhower had an enormous prestige in Europe -- the General remembered so vividly as the Commander of Victory for the Western Allies in the Second World War. Respect and admiration, he said, even among the Russians themselves -- not to mention the people of the satellite countries. Which prestige, he thought ^{would} ~~will~~ be a great asset to the United States -- if General Ike were President.

^{This,} ~~That,~~ of course, puts a strong emphasis on the International aspect of our Presidential race. But that is ^{characteristic of} ~~the view taken by~~ the people of motion pictures.

~~So I was told by an old friend,~~ Bob Newman, ~~now a~~ right-hand man to Sam Goldwyn, ~~He~~ pointed out that the top film people are likely to be aware, more than most, of International aspects. So much of the business

~~the~~ American motion pictures ^{is} ~~have~~ with foreign countries, especially Europe -- the export of ~~American~~ pictures. So film people are in touch with opinion abroad -- and are likely to think of what General Ike, as President, would mean in terms of world opinion. They might even be inclined to slide over domestic issues -- in looking at the prestige of the name of Eisenhower abroad.

So that was the gist of it, as we talked politics -- ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ a Hans Christian Anderson scene of a fairy queen among the hobgoblins, at the bottom of the ocean.

Several ^{listeners} ~~of my friends~~ have been chiding me for not mentioning on the air, ~~the fact~~ that I got a hole-in-one ~~at golf~~. It would be interesting to know what the odds are, a golfer's chance of ~~ever~~ getting ~~xxxxxx~~ a hole-in-one. ^{It's not skill, for} I was playing in the company of two ^{far} ~~much~~ better golfers, Frank Smith and Bert Stephenson. The former, ^d ~~who has~~ played all his life, and never had a hole-in-one, nor ever seen one, [^] until ^{this one.} ~~the miracle happened to me.~~ ^R I mention it now because somehow or other, the story made the newspapers, and I've been getting ^{some} ~~quite a~~ letters; The latest ^{is} ~~encloses~~ an article from columnist Sid Shalit in a New York paper. He tells in tones of awe how something even more miraculous happened in another foursome in which I played, ~~not long ago~~. As the Columnist puts it -- "Lowell Thomas will swear that lightning strikes twice -- almost." He tells about ^{the} ~~that~~ hole-in-one, and then ^{adds:-} ~~goes on to say:~~ But the other was as unusual a cutie as ever happened on a golf course. ^{Whereupon he tells how my} ~~The commentators~~ ball hit another that

was a few yards from the cup, causing ^{an} ~~his~~ opponents ball to roll in for what the P G A considers a legitimate, hole-in-one -- for the opponent; who swears that "it is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth". ^Q and he can be believed because he ^{was} ~~is~~ New York Supreme Court Justice Charles E. Murphy.

Yes, those were miracles. But, I know of something concerning golf that is even more impressive. I know a man you can call on the telephone, ~~and~~ ask him to deliver you a golf course, and ^(he'll do) ~~xxxxxxx~~ it.

^{The} story comes from the Boston Sunday Herald. It tells ^{of} ~~about~~ a family that for several generations has made a study of grass, both in Europe and in America. ^{erudite writer in the} As the ^{Boston} paper puts it, in ^{addition} ~~addition~~ to carry ^{ing} ~~ing~~ out the Scriptural chore, of making two blades of grass grow where only one, or none, grew before, the Mitchell Brothers of Danver^s, Massachusetts, and Sunapee, New Hampshire have the largest sod nursery in the world. Then it goes on to tell ^{how Bill Mitchell} ~~that they~~ even shipped a golf course to

Toronto, Canada, thus becoming the first in history to export golf greens, or sod for that matter, from one country to another.

Yes, Bill Mitchell, of Danvers, Mass., is the man to call up on the phone if you want a golf course almost overnight; a man who from his grandfather and father came to know just about everything there is to be known about grass.

And now, here's Nelson, who is an authority too.