

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

One of the nation's great showmen was in his glory today -- John L. Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers Union, and master of the dramatic arts. Like the good showman he is, John provided some variety - that spice of life. Of course, he gloated in triumph - as why wouldn't he, immediately after signing the best union contract he ever made. But John didn't just gloat, which might have been monotonous. He varied it with a bit of snarling -- nobody can snarl with more eloquent effect than John L. Lewis, with all that menace of big bushy eyebrows and deep rumbling voice. A snarl from John L. Lewis has something of the quality of the roar of a lion.

During a news conference, he announced that the union and the Northern Coal operators had just signed the contract that sends half of the soft coal diggers back to work.

The latest is a bulletin just in

which states that six of the southern coal mine operators have signed up okaying the same terms.

^{John L.}
Today Lewis declared jubilantly that the contract was altogether satisfactory to the union.) He said he hoped it would, in his words -- "Mark the beginning of a ~~new~~ new era in the industry."

(The new soft coal contract gives the miners a wage increase of a-dollar-and-twenty cents a day, and shorter hours.)

One of the most interesting points is -- the relation of the new coal contract to the new labor law, the Taft-Hartley Act. The news has been telling how the agreement between the mine owners and the union was held up at the last minute by a Lewis demand for a clause that would get around the Taft-Hartley Act. So how does all of this turn out? Well, the contract calls for the union ship -- which the soft coal miners have

had all along, and which the new labor law permits. Union dues are to be taken out of wages, the check-off. The Taft-Hartley Act forbids this, unless each worker agrees.

And, the new contract meets that condition, squaring with the labor law.

(Now that ~~xxxxxx~~ famous welfare fund:-- and up it goes from five cents to ten cents a ton. The new contract provides ~~for~~ a royalty of ten cents on every ton of soft coal.)

↘ The Taft-Hartley Act requires that, in the Administration of any such fund, the employer shall have a voice. The new contract meets that condition - the mine union welfare fund to be administered by a three-man board, a union and a company representative and a third impartial member.)

There's one section of the contract that's definitely designed to get around the labor law. This is the feature about which there was an eleventh hour dispute. Today's agreement holds good as long as the miners, in the words of the contract, are -- "Able and

willing to work." That guards the union against lawsuits because of such x things as wildcat strikes - the Taft-Hartley Act giving employers the right to sue. The coal operators balked at that provision, that escape-clause for the union, but, finally conceded.

However, they refused to agree to still another escape-clause that Lewis wanted - a specific pledge that they would not sue the union under the labor law. Lewis couldn't put that across, but he did get a compromise -- a provision that all disputes and differences shall be settled by direct negotiations. This, though indirectly, rules out any appeal to the courts under the Taft-Hartley Act -- the operators agreeing to settle by negotiating with the union. ~~The whole thing amounts to a by-passing of the law, that part of the Taft Hartley Act which permits employers to sue unions for damages.~~

All of which was cause for jubilation by John L. Lewis -- and he jubilated abundantly today. However, as we've noted, Lewis is too good a showman

to risk monotony - so he varied the jubilation with a few snarls. About what? About the Taft-Hartley Act.

The big eyebrows were at their most formidable, and the Lewis basso profundo rumbled as ominously as an earthquake ^{as} he denounced the new labor law with all his rhetoric, ^{and he heaped} ~~and heaped~~ obloquy on the heads of the legislators who voted for it. John L. Lewis, himself a Republican, excoriated ^{ing} the Republican Congress.

The number one target for his wrath was Senator Taft of Ohio, co-author of the labor law. "Senator Taft," roared John L. Lewis - "has forfeited his chance for the Presidency of the United States." He thundered that, if Taft is nominated on the Republican ticket next year -- & "He won't," ~~xi~~ said Lewis, "be able to carry his home state of Ohio."

So far there's no ~~x~~ retort from Senator Taft, but a Congressional reply is made by Republican Congressman Halleck of Indiana, ^{who} ~~he~~ said that the soft coal contract, signed ~~xxx~~ today, was proof of the soundness of the labor law -- as a means of stopping

strikes. "A calamitous strike has been averted," said he. "Collective Bargaining has been freely carried on with a result highly satisfactory to the union," he added

TAX

The House of Representatives has just passed the tax bill again - that reduction of income tax. The vote was overwhelming, a concerted shout of approval - a majority large enough to over-ride another Presidential veto. The veto: Three hundred and two to ~~xxx~~ one hundred and twelve. Twenty six more than needed to over-ride a Presidential veto. And we hear the Senate probably will do likewise.

RETAKE

MARSHALL PLAN

There seems to be some disagreement between the Soviets and the Satellites. Today, the Moscow radio announced that Romania would refuse to participate in the Paris parley on the program for American aid. However, a few hours later the Romanian Foreign Office denied the Moscow announcement, and said that Romania had made no decision as yet. This follows word that Czechoslovakia, another satellite, has accepted the invitation to Paris -- Czechoslovakia refusing to join the Soviet ^{boycott} ~~no~~ of the Marshall Plan.

The Moscow radio says that Jugoslavia and Poland will refuse to attend, and indications are that this is probably true. Hungary, under Soviet domination, is said to be undecided -- trying to make up the Hungarian mind * about what to do.

The general impression tonight is one of tremendous hostile pressure to keep the Satellites in line -- keep them from yielding to the temptation of sharing in American economic aid, the bounty of the U.S.A.

ADD MARSHALL

The latest - the Swedish parliament has accepted. Despite what Russia says, the Swedes announce that they regard the conference as strictly economic and non-political.

Earlier today, the Swedish foreign office received a memorandum from Moscow, outlining Russia's objections. Apparently it didn't frighten Stockholm,

PALESTINE

In Jerusalem today, the British Commander confirmed the death sentences against three members of the Jewish Underground. This was unexpected -- since the United Nations Commission investigating in Palestine, had asked that the matter of the death sentences be held in abeyance while the inquiry was going on. Members of the U.N. Mission say they're surprised by the action of the British Commander. ^{AF} High Commissioner, Sir Alan Cunningham, may intervene, and some British officials believe he will commute the death sentence to life imprisonment.

If not, the imminent likelihood is - a new outbreak of terrorism. The condemned prisoners are members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, which is making ominous threats about what will happen if the death sentences are carried out.

LEAD SAUCERS

Here's the latest - which may have a sensational meaning, or maybe not. From Roswell, New Mexico, comes a bulletin stating that an object, which may be one of the flying discs, has been found by the Army Air Forces. Officers at the Air Base declare ~~that~~ that the mysterious object has been taken aboard a superfortress and is being flown to what is called - ~~the~~ "A higher headquarters," *meaning to Wright Field.*

Air Force spokesmen say this "saucer" or whatever it is, is lightly constructed, a kite-like object, measuring twenty five feet in diameter and covered with a material resembling tin foil. With no apparent source of power or capacity for speed -- especially the supersonic speeds attributed to the "flying saucer". Found a couple of weeks ago on a ranch at Corona, New Mexico, seventy-five miles northwest of Roswell Field. The rancher who found it has no telephone so he thought he'd wait until the sheriff dropped around. Well, the sheriff dropped around today, and immediately called Army Intelligence.

It may be some type of weather meter says the Army.

SAUCERS

^{Today}
But New reports of flying saucers -- and the
^{all New-Merico!}
datelines are not Oregon or South Carolina, or any place
as near as that. The newest flying saucer accounts come
from Australia and England. Six Australians ^{says} ~~declare~~ that
they saw a flock of those mysterious discs flying over
Sydney, last night. In England, the wife of a clergyman
~~says~~ ~~declares~~ ^{says} that she saw one speeding over the English
Channel.

So other people than ourselves are getting
into the flying saucer epidemic - which is a welcome fact,
considering the way the foreign newspaper are kidding
us about the American furore over the fantastic discs.
Today the London Daily Herald suggested an explanation; -
perhaps a Russian athlete, practicing for the Olympic
Games, was throwing the discs. Some powerful Muscovite
hurling one discs after another, without realizing his
strength, ^a a sort of Soviet Paul Bunyan flinging discs
across continents and oceans all over the world.

But the unkindest cut of all comes from

Scotland, the region of Loch Ness, where they had the famous monster. The canny Scots take the view that the flying saucers are just an American publicity stunt to attract visitors to summer resorts. Today J. W. McKillop, County Clerk of Inverness Shire, gave a Caledonian snort and said: "Those flying saucers! Huh! a passing fancy! The rage for the moment only! Our monster of Loch Ness, on the other hand," said he "has been attracting visitors here for almost fourteen hundred years. Also, "he added with a dour smile, "you can look at him without getting a crick in your neck."

Well, we haven't yet heard about anybody getting a crick or a crack in the neck from a flying saucer, but that, I suppose, will come next -- somebody carrying his head in his hands and saying a flying saucer severed his neck completely.

From Arizona and New Mexico: word that they've found one. I wonder?

EYE

Here's one about a woman who is seeing things for the first time in many years.

From Canton, Illinois, we hear of a new and remarkable remedy - curing blindness with potato poultices. Mrs. Mary Ellen Johnson, Ninety-Two years old, was blind for long years. Recently she decided to make a poultice of potatoes and try that. What made her think of potatoes I don't know - except that potatoes have eyes. Anyway, it worked, and today's news from Canton states that Mrs. Mary Ellen Johnson has regained her eyesight.

Once again she was able to see the light of day and behold the beautiful world. Imagine the old lady's joy upon getting ~~in~~ her first glimpse -- with her newly restored eyesight. She looked around, gazed at a granddaughter, and snapped: "Well, if you wore your dresses a little longer you'd look better!"

All of which takes us back to the old philosophy: when the blind regain their sight, do they see anything worthwhile?

ALL STAR GAME

In the All Star Game the American League won out today -- two to one. It was a close, well-pitched affair, Johnny Mize of the National League hitting a home run. This is the tenth time in fourteen all star games that the American League has beaten the National^s.

AUSTRALIA

From Australia we hear that somebody is going to get an ear bashing. That's Australian for what is known in classic English as an earful. Who's going to get it? Why, General MacArthur, the lord high Commander-in-Chief in Japan.

Australians are annoyed by what they call MacArthur's "Dictatorial methods" in running Japan. He won't listen to the ~~Soviets~~ Soviets, he won't listen to the British - he won't even listen to the Australians.

The people Down Under are particularly irked by that whaling business - MacArthur giving the Japs permission to go whaling in the Antarctic, and bring back some whale steaks. Moreover, the General is giving the Japs authority to mine phosphates ~~on the~~ Palau Island, The phosphates ^{to} ~~will~~ provide badly ~~needed~~ needed fertilizer for Japanese agriculture. ~~But~~ the Palau ^{— these islands} ~~islands~~ are only three hundred miles north of Australian New ~~Ginea~~ Guinea - and the Aussies are perturbed by having the Japs so near once again. They were altogether too near during the war.

The Australian Minister for External Affairs,

Herbert Evatt, is going to Tokyo to protest -- and he is known as a man of forceful conversation. Today an Australian spokesman stated that Evatt was going to give MacArthur what he called -- "a friendly, but nevertheless pointed, ear bashing."

Well, few people can bash an ear better than Evatt. However, MacArthur himself has the gift of eloquence, and might bash the Australian's ear. By the time the two got through bashing, they mightn't have any ears left. I don't know about Evatt, but MacArthur, minus his two ears, would be a sight to behold especially ~~ix~~ with that fancy scrambled eggs cap he wears.

And now Nelson bash our ears -- I mean give us an earful.

DEWEY

As a matter of strict formality, the trip that Governor Dewey is making to the West has nothing to do with the Presidential campaign next year -- not one single bit. The New York Governor has never said that he'd like to have the Republican nomination -- so that's that.

It must be noted, however, that a lot of people down southwest way seem to be having strange illusions. Tom Dewey was at Sapulpa, Oklahoma, today, -- home of the charming Mrs. Dewey -- and who should appear but a delegation of prominent Republican leaders; one wearing a button -- "Dewey for President." Somebody ought to tell him that the Governor is not making that long, long trip with any idea of Presidential politics -- not at all.

Republican Leader William T. Mills not only wore that button, but he also said: "We're for Tom Dewey all the way!" And he added: "there's a whole heap of sentiment for him down our way." Which would seem to be a whole heap of talking by a Republican leader concerning a New York Governor who is not on a

political trip. After all -- all the governors are heading West for that Governor's meeting in Utah.

Brother Mills was asked whether Governor Dewey had given an indication that he would be a candidate for the Republican nomination next year. "No," drawled the Oklahoman, "but you can tell by the way he talks."

Meaning, I suppose, that Tom Dewey, when he saw that "Dewey for President" button, didn't exactly get mad.