

STRIKE

NOTES

L. T. SURACO BROADCAST  
8/11/33

I'm in a nice cool place tonight  
Wash. D.C.

The terrific temperatures which prevailed throughout the East have stirred up tempers in two states to the point of open warfare between strikers and forces of the law.

The most serious conflict occurred in Pennsylvania. I learn by telephone from Governor Pinchot at Harrisburg that the trouble began at Brownsville in Fayette County. It began when Deputy Sheriffs were escorting strike breakers past the picket lines of strikers on the line of the H. C. Frick Coke Company, a subsidiary of the United States Steel. As the strike breakers were going to work, several miners dashed forward to grab one of them. A deputy sheriff drew his gun and then the bloodshed began. Seven strikers were shot. The deputies threw tear gas bombs two of which struck and injured other striking miners.

The Governor tells me that the Major commanding the three hundred National Guardsmen learned about the trouble and sent an armed squad with fixed bayonets on the double run to the scene of the riot. The trouble was soon over and there were no arrests.

But the strike seems to be spreading. Mines are closing down

in Washington and Greene Counties in Western Pennsylvania.

Mr. Pinchot is trying to negotiate a settlement. He has called a conference of representatives of the miners and the H. C. Frick Coke Company, but up to a late hour officials of that company had not accepted the call.

Then we learn that Union Miners in Allegheny County walked out in four of the mines of the Pittsburgh Terminal Coal Company. Moreover, the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company has closed down its mines so as to prevent disorders. This company will purchase coal rather than have trouble. Meanwhile some of the steel plants which have been increasing production are running short of coal. One plant of the American Steel and Wire Company is facing a shortage and if it has to close down this will affect every important plant of the U.S. Steel Corporation.

Meanwhile there was trouble in New York State over a milk strike. The disorders started in Lewis County and Oneida County. Picketing farmers are stopping trucks and dumping milk on the road. Both milk producers and sympathizers are attempting to obstruct all deliveries from northern New York. There was an encounter between state troopers and picketers on the high road. No bloodshed is reported yet nor were any shots fired as the state troopers were able to disperse the mobs with nightsticks.

KIDNAPPERS

( President Roosevelt himself is taking a hand in the campaign against the kidnapers. Despite the intense heat which sent the thermometer up over a hundred in the Hudson River Valley, the President called in his advisors to the Summer White House to discuss means of coping with this menace.) He held a long conference with Professor Moley, Assistant Secretary of State. Doctor Moley's principal interest before he joined the Administration was crime in the United States. He has directed crime surveys in many states and cities and is the author of several monographs on the subject.

It is believed that the efforts of the Administration will be concentrated on making the laws which are being suggested to state legislatures throughout the land all uniform. Attorney General Cummings already has announced that he will offer legislation on the subject to the next session of Congress.

As was announced yesterday, Governor Lehman asked the New York Legislature to lead the way in passing especially drastic laws. Mr. Lehman emphasized the necessity for doing something to prevent the compounding of a felony in kidnapping cases. That is, to prevent the

families of the kidnapped persons from obstructing the police and letting the kidnapers have their own way. The attitude of the Legislature promises a stern fight.

An example of the attitude of kidnapped victims' families is afforded by the case of Charles F. Urschel, the Millionaire Oil Man of Oklahoma City. Since his return to his palatial home, after being held prisoner blindfolded for nine days, Urschel has refused to give out any information. It is reported that a huge sum was paid to ransom him, but Urschel refuses to say anything about it. It is understood that the Underhill gang which broke out of the Kansas State Penitentiary on Memorial Day is suspected of having committed this crime. ~~paragraph~~ The Oklahoma City Police Department tells me that the Urschel family have said frankly that they will not give out any information to either the Federal or the State authorities.

MOLEY

Here's news from the Summer White House, or I should say, just next door to it. It is an item from the fair city of Poughkeepsie.

The big brain trust man, Doctor Raymond Moley in his shirt sleeves, had a press conference in the Nelson House Lobby, in Poughkeepsie this afternoon~~xxxxxxx~~ while townsmen, bellboys and chambermaids looked on. Dr. Moley told the Press he and the President had just discussed ways of curbing rackets and crime. After the conference, Anna Dall, daughter of the President, drove Dr. Moley to New York. Mr. Moley said that he will will not resign as Assistant Secretary of State despite rumors.

HULL

Acting Secretary of State Phillips announced today that he had ordered Secretary of State Hull's automobile to meet him in New York Friday upon his return aboard the President Harding. The auto will be used by Secretary Hull to take him to Dutchess County, New York, where he will confer with President Roosevelt over the week-end regarding the London Economic Conference where he of course was the head of the American delegation, and where he won the respect of all.

N B C

There's prodigious interest in Europe over NIRA. French financial writers for instance are saying that the President's recovery program is the greatest economic experiment in history. They regard its success as uncertain, but they are impressed with the huge popular support it is receiving.

Meanwhile folks in Washington are saying that the big test of the Administration's program is taking place now. To that fact is attributed the uncertain conditions of the securities markets. Some people believe that increased wages may mean lower profits for corporations.

~~(Louie suggests this good place for such matter as you have gathered on code hearings)~~

( From San Francisco we learn that no less than fifty-three thousand employers in California, Utah and Nevada have signed NIRA pledges and sent them in. At all post offices, long lines of enthusiastic employers are waiting for their badges and emblems. Nearly every business house in the West has gone on the NIRA scale of hours and wages including banks, stores and restaurants.) Meanwhile reports of increases in wages come from many parts of the country including New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia.

NAVY

It looks as though competition in Navy building is beginning once more between the maritime countries. Uncle Sam made an announcement today which is considered a reply to Japan's vast plans for new warships. Our Navy Department made public plans of its own. Bids were opened recently for an aircraft carrier ranger and the two additional carriers. The department is now preparing to get the necessary equipment of planes for these vessels. The cost of the new planes will be somewhere between ten million and fourteen million dollars. The ranger will be ready next Spring. It will be able to carry no less than a hundred and fourteen planes.

MATCH

The Department of State has requested Governor Lehman of New York to permit the Irish Guard of Toronto, Canada, to cross the border into the state of New York, with arms and munitions, to attend a rifle match to be held ~~on~~ August 4th to ~~on~~ 6th at Fort Niagara, New York. The

Canadian troops <sup>have been</sup> ~~were~~ invited ~~to attend the match~~ by the 291st Infantry

stationed at Fort Niagara. So their purpose is quite peaceful.

In fact the border between Canada and the U. S. A. is the most peaceful in the world, and not patrolled by military forces or protected by forts.

ANDORRA

Trouble is also reported from the tiny Republic of Andorra which recently adopted a new constitution. The revolution by which this went through was quite bloodless at first, but may not continue so. A cable from Paris informs me that men armed with shotguns have seized and are holding the government buildings in Andorra. These men are masquerading as smugglers, but are actually believed to be former officials of the Andorran Government. They are refusing to let the new office holders into the Government building.

France and Spain are joint guardians of this tiny republic and it is the officials whom they appointed that the armed men are keeping out.

INDIA

( All India is in a turmoil again. First of all, Mr. Gandhi is in Jail once more with thirty-two of his principal supporters. They were arrested as they started a civil disobedience march. ) This puts the dispute back to the point at which it was several months ago. Gandhi will start another hunger strike and all the squabbling will have to be gone through again.

When this news became known all the shops in Bombay were closed. Meanwhile on the northwest frontier the trouble grows worse. The attacks ~~force~~ on the rebellious ~~tribesmen~~ Mohammedan villages were made by infantry and airplanes. British airmen used high explosive bombs and drove thousands of rebellious tribesmen into ~~the~~ caves in the foothills. And the Bajauri Chiefs have refused to surrender the "Mad Fakir" who like the "Mad Mullah" in the Sudan forty years ago has stirred up this rebellion. The chiefs of the tribes decline to surrender him because of the traditions of Mohammedan Tribal hostility.

Meanwhile the newspapers of the Labor Party at home are vehemently criticising the stern measures adopted by the Government of India.

ENGLISH FARMERS

It is not only in India that John Bull is having his troubles.

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Some English Farmers evidently have been reading American newspapers and learning of the methods of our farmers in the middlewest to obstruct mortgage foreclosure proceedings. What angers the Englishmen particularly is that they are hard up because of the tithes payable to the church.

There have been riots in several parts of England with angry farmers attacking the bailiffs who were trying to execute the foreclosures. The London Daily Mail says the situation is critical.

RED CROSS

The American Red Cross today displayed the NRA blue eagle, after forwarding to the President the signed agreement of the National Recovery Administration. The organization will observe the 40-hour week as set forth covering clerical workers.

NBC

CONEY ISLAND

Two men started a fight while sunning themselves on a balcony at Steeple Chase Park, Coney Island. The jarring caused the floor to sag and cave in. Police extricated fifty persons from the debris all of them injured. Five were reported in serious conditions.

PUBLIC WORKS FUND

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The billion dollar mark was passed today by the Public Works Administration. Administrator Harold L. Ickes announced that allocations from the \$3,300,000,000. public works fund had reach \$1,023,966,201. Nearly one-third of the fund has been allocated in six weeks to speed re-employment and restore purchasing power.

NBC

EXPORTS - COTTON

Exports of cotton manufactures from the United States during the first six months of this year were valued at twenty million six hundred and ninety-one thousand dollars compared with twenty-five million four hundred and fifty-one thousand dollars in the corresponding period of 1932,

according to the Textile Division of the Department of Commerce. *That's a drop of about 5 million.*

## HEAT WAVE

The Chamber of Commerce of Tampa, Florida is vexed with me because I said last night that San Francisco was the only place where cool weather was reported. In Tampa, says the Chamber, the temperature never *has been* ~~was~~ over eighty degrees. But the rest of the country has a different story to tell.

The East was still sweltering in the heat wave. Although the temperature only went up to ninety-five in the shade today, the suffering was worse because of high humidity. In New York and other large cities many business offices suspended work altogether and sent their people home.

Down here in Washington, it has been ninety-seven degrees, with <sup>a</sup> humidity of fifty-one percent. It eased up a bit in the middle west.

*H* A rainstorm last night ended the hottest July ever known in Chicago.

Today the mercury stood at <sup>only</sup> eighty degrees on the shores of Lake Michigan.

But this did not occur until seven people had been killed by the heat.

POEM ENDING

It was so hot in New York today that when a friend of mine called up and said, "Would you like to go for a ride in an airplane?" I immediately jumped at it. I was rather tired out from <sup>a</sup>~~the~~ speech-making trip to Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, so I thought an airplane would be ~~it~~ a good place to cool off and have a nice afternoon snooze. In fact I behaved something like the man who <sup>was</sup> Dan Kershner describes in his poem published in the magazine called Speed:

So I said to the slick young feller,  
Why don't you give her ~~some~~ power,  
But he only grinned — as he answered,  
We're <sup>beatin'</sup>~~beatin'~~ two hundred an hour.  
Well — I stuck my head out the window,  
To prove, he was lyin'. — by heck,  
But he wasen't — fer my whiskers are growin',  
Outa the back of my neck.  
Then I quit tryin' to figger,  
And took a snooze in my chair,  
Till the slick young feller was shaken me,  
I'll be derved — if we wasen't there.  
And now it's time for me to jump in that same Eastern Air plane

POEM ENDING - 2

that I came down to Washington in today and fly back north, so

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.