

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:-

Word from Washington is that the federal government will press for heavy penalties against John L. Lewis -- an exceedingly stiff fine and a jail sentence. Some observers think that tomorrow the government will ask for a continuing fine of two hundred thousand dollars a day as long as the strikers go on. This is a heavy blow against the finances of Lewis and his union, the three million dollar fund that the United Mine Workers are known to have.

The court today ^{found} in finding Lewis guilty, announced a most unusual step. The judge said he would delay pronouncing sentence for twenty-four hours, and tomorrow would consult with the attorneys on both sides, consult them on what kind of penalty to inflict on this country's headline ~~man~~ union leader.

LEWIS

It was apparent in court today that John L. Lewis expected a conviction, because all through the proceedings he kept fingering a manuscript - and this turned out to be a prepared statement, which he read in answer to the verdict of the court. No sooner had Judge Goldsborough announced his finding of guilty, than the burly chief of the mine workers arose, and asked ~~permission~~ permission to speak. The judge nodded - Yes. Whereupon Lewis put on his glasses and started to read the statement that he had been holding in readiness all the time - the paper that he had been fingering in expectation.

^{in his} Lewis ~~replied~~ reply, to the verdict of guilty was a bitter denunciation of the injunction that he defied. He harked back to labor's long time opposition to the use of injunctions in stopping strikes - and ^{to} ~~the~~ laws enacted to check what he called "government by

injunction." One, the Clayton Act; The other, the
Norris-LaGuardia Act. He cited the terms of the latter,
a flat prohibition of injunctions in labor disputes.
Judge Goldsborough, of course, had ruled that the
Norris-LaGuardia Act did not apply to the government,
but only to private employers - the union contending
~~that it did.~~ Lewis ^{also} ~~repeated that contention,~~ and went
on to refer to the demand he made in asking the
government to reopen its contract with the union -
a demand for shorter hours with the same pay. He said
the miners were required to work nine hours a day, six
days a week - and he described this as - "a deadly,
brutal fifty-four hour work-week-underground."

All this Lewis declaimed in his usual gruff,
portentous tone, dark and deep. He referred to the
Constitution, and proclaimed: "As citizens, the miners
and I, stand upon the rights guaranteed in the

Constitution." Which was official notice that today's
verdict, ^{and the sentence} ~~with sentence~~ to be announced tomorrow, will be
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appealed to the Supreme Court. That's expected to take
five or six days - during which the strike will continue.

The Lewis court speech today indicated clearly
that he will not call off the strike - even if he is sent
to jail.

COAL

Prospects of some sort of compromise of the strike were diminished considerably today - with the resignation of the President of the Southern Coal Mine Owners, *former* Senator Burke. His resignation is regarded as being the result of his proposal - that the government ask Lewis to declare a strike truce, while the union negotiated directly with the coal operators, leaving the government out.

That idea
~~which~~ sounded like a kind of face-saving compromise and was regarded as appeasement of Lewis.

This was the more peculiar, because, as President of the Southern Coal Owners Association, former ~~Senator Burke~~ Senator Burke had been a sharp critic and antagonist of Lewis. During negotiations, they had wrangled bitterly, and the story is that at a conference last year, the two were about to start swinging punches at each other and friends had to intervene to stop a fist fight

between Lewis and Burke. Yet now there was a Burke

proposal which was considered as appeasement of Lewis,

It suggested that proposed way out ~~which~~ was promptly denounced ~~and today~~ by a large section of the coal owners. And today
Burke resigned. The reason why he steps out is not

stated, but the Coal Owners Association promptly issued a declaration rejecting any idea of negotiating with the union until the miners have returned to work.

Meanwhile, the national supply of soft coal is fading rapidly. The current cold snap has doubled consumption, and the danger point is near. Figures given ~~out~~ today show that the number of people thrown out of work by the soft coal strike has now mounted to more than half a million. Cities are hard hit - Denver the hardest. The capital of Colorado reports that its coal supplies are exhausted, and many apartment buildings are without heat. All schools in Denver were closed today, and city officials warned that the crisis of no heat will bring

near-disaster this coming weekend.

And, the coal shortage is so serious for the railroads, that today the Interstate Commerce Commission put an embargo on all freight shipments, except vital necessities. And the Post Office Department ordered a drastic limitation of the size and weight of parcel post packages mailed for Christmas -- all in order to save coal.

Auto companies announce the freight embargo will force them to close their plants in a few days -- throwing a $\frac{1}{2}$ million out of work.

In Washington, ~~with~~ a call is issued for President Truman to make a personal appeal to the coal miners. Senator Johnson of Colorado today urged the President to go on the radio with a fireside chat -- and ask the miners to go back and start digging coal immediately.

TRUMAN

At his afternoon press conference the President told the reporters that in his message to the new Congress, he will call for a revision of government labor policies. That he will urge labor policy changes in the strongest possible terms.

Only the most essential services are operating in Oakland, California, tonight, the city and surrounding area ^{being caught} in the throes of a paralyzing general strike.

A.F. of L. workers are protesting what they allege to be police action in breaking picket lines, and C.I.O. unions have joined them in a sympathy walkout making the tie-up of Oakland and its metropolitan environs of more than one million population virtually complete.

Right now, only gas, electricity, and telephone service can be had in Oakland although vital deliveries to hospitals ^{are continuing and} sanitation employees and necessary retailers, such as pharmacists, are ~~going~~ ^{going} on with their work.

For a time tonight, ~~it~~ ^{it} looked as ~~if~~ if there might be ~~trouble~~ serious trouble. Unionists, infuriated with police intervention in a local strike last Sunday, were massed in downtown Oakland. And in the basement ^{the} of City Hall, special riot squads of police stood

NEW LEAD OAKLAND STRIKE - 2.

by, armed with tear gas bombs and masks -- ready for anything.

The trouble was averted, at least for the time being; but there seems to be little hope for an early end to the general strike in Oakland.



HOUSING

★ Washington ^{believes} ~~rumor has it~~ tonight that Wilson Wyatt, Housing Expediter, is resigning, resigning because President Truman has failed to re-affirm his authority.

Wyatt paid his second visit to the White House ~~in~~ in less than a week today, reportedly for a showdown ^{ON} ~~to~~ his demand that Mr. Truman indorse plans for government loans to builders of assembly line houses. But for the second time, Wyatt came away without that indorsement.

All he would say to reporters after his meeting with the President was, "I didn't resign today."

~~But~~ Washington observers say his resignation is inevitable, Wyatt being convinced that his Veterans Housing Program will not succeed unless his authority is bolstered substantially.

U.N.

At the Assembly of the United Nations today, all the proceedings concerned Spain, ~~xxx~~ with one speaker after another denouncing Franco as a Fascist dictator. The differences of opinion concerned - what to do about Franco. American delegates urged a proposal that the U.N. ask Franco to quit in favor of a provisional government and, if that doesn't work, request the Spanish people to do something about it themselves.

From the ~~the~~ Soviet side came the demand that all the United Nations break off diplomatic and economic relations with Spain - and isolate Franco with an embargo. There were American and British objections to this course - that a diplomatic and economic break would precipitate a civil war in Spain.

And Generalissimo Franco, never thick skinned when it comes to foreign ~~xxxx~~ criticism, lodged a vehement protest today against the United Nations resolution -- a seven point rebuttal of allied charges against Spain.

The Spanish reply, delivered to the United States Charge d'affaires in Madrid this afternoon, said the Spanish Dictator was "offended" by the United Nations" action -- as well he might be.

Franco still claims his government is not Fascist, but respects fundamental liberties. The Spanish people, he adds, reject the claim that their regime does not represent them by the fact that they have supported it for ten ~~xx~~ years. Finally, Franco says that his people enetgetically resent interference in their internal affairs.

PALESTINE

The news from Palestine brings a story of one of the weirdest of rescues - a Jewish terrorist taken at pistol point from a hospital at Tel Aviv.

He was one of three ~~members~~ members of the Stern Gang who tried to rob a cashier of the Polish Refugee Relief Fund. The cashier was carrying a satchel containing sixty thousand dollars, and ~~that~~ with him was a Jewish constable, acting as guard. They were in front of Barclay's Bank at Tel Aviv, when the Stern Gang ^A gunmen struck. They began by hurling "scare" bombs, explosives that made a noise and drove passersby under cover. People on the street ducked as fast as they could but the Jewish constable guarding the cashier was of a different calibre. When, in the uproar of bursting "scare" bombs, the three Stern Gang members approached for the hold-up -- he pulled out his pistol, and shot them down. One was killed, the two others wounded.

H These two were taken to a hospital, the Hadassah Hospital of Tel Aviv - and there one of them, today, was on the operating table, the doctors extracting bullets from the severely wounded man. And this was precisely the moment selected for a rescue.

The Stern Gang, of the Zionist underground, was determined to get its two wounded members out of the hands of the British authorities; ~~and today they executed a desperate rescue~~ ^{in the rescue,} There were two groups, One held up the guards on duty at the main door of the hospital, while another party of five men entered and proceeded to the operating room. They got there right in the middle of the operation, stalked in and held up the doctors at pistol point. They ordered the surgeons to go ahead with the operation - which the surgeons did. When they were through, the operation completed, the rescue party carried the patient out of the building -

through the front door, where guards were still being held up.

They took the wounded man in an automobile, and got away.

This, I should say, is the first case on record of doctors being held up in the middle of an operation, and ^a~~the~~ prisoner patient rescued.

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LORD NELSON

There was a bitter debate in the London House of Commons today - so angry a wrangle that a Conservative M.P., who was also an Admiral, stalked out in towering indignation. What was it all about? Well, the wrathful argument summoned two figures out of the past, two figures of historic romance - Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton. History tells of the long sentimental attachment between Britain's hero of the sea, and the woman who was the wife of a British diplomat stationed at Naples.

The House of Commons took up that ancient moon-struck matter today, because of a Labor Party bill to abolish the permanent pension left to the heirs of Lord Nelson. In the glory days of Trafalgar, Parliament voted a perpetual pension of twenty thousand dollars a year, and this went to Lord Nelson's elder brother, his heir, and has been paid to the descendants of that elder

brother ever since. Now the Labor Party wants to stop it but the British Navy objects - holding the Nelson pension to be a part of British naval tradition.

In the uproar today, Labor Party members argued that in his last hours, dying in the midst of the victory of Trafalgar, Lord Nelson was not thinking of his elder brother, his legal heir - but of Lady Hamilton and the daughter he had by her. ^a ~~The~~ Communist M.P. declared: "The government in Eighteen Six was not prepared to carry out Nelson's wishes - because Lady Hamilton was not sufficiently respectable."

All of which was followed by angry protests from the Conservative side - protests that the memory of Britain's Admiral of greatest renown was being insulted. Vice-Admiral Ernest Taylor, M.P., called out in angry tones: "These references to Lady Hamilton may be very amusing, but may I ask that she be left to rest in peace?"

That sentiment of chivalry drew a laugh from the Labor side -- whereupon the Vice-Admiral member of Parliament arose in ~~the~~ towering wrath, and stalked out of the House of Commons.

And now from Lord Nelson-of-Traf-- to Lord Nelson-- of Ivory.

AMBASSADOR

Taken from early Dec. 3 bc.

President Truman has appointed a new
Ambassador to London - O. Max Gardner, now Under-
Secretary of the Treasury. ^{O. Max} Gardner is a former
governor of North Carolina - and now succeeds Averill
Harriman, who quit his post as Ambassador to the Court
of St. James's to become Secretary of Commerce.

OAKLAND STRIKE

Oakland, California, is having a general strike by the A.F. of L. And the result is so serious that the city government seems likely to put into effect a ~~big~~ Disaster-Emergency Plan. One hundred thousand workers of the American Federation of Labor staged a walkout today, with the result that Oakland and its metropolitan area of ^{some} ~~five~~ million ^{5 or} people was paralyzed. All public transportation ceased, four newspapers had to suspend. Factories, shipyards, retail stores, restaurants and hotels closed down. This general strike of the A. F. of L. has the support of the C.I.O. unions too. C.I.O. workers refusing to pass picket lines.

Even Santa Claus was picketed ⁱⁿ Oakland today. For more than thirty minutes, strikers prevented children from visiting St. Nick in the window of a department store. Finally, angry mothers and their tearful youngsters convinced the pickets that Santa wasn't unfair to anyone. The pickets gave way.

INDIA

The London conference on India got off to a bad start today. Hindu leader Jawaharlal Nehru told Prime Minister Attlee that the Constituent Assembly must meet on schedule, December Ninth - for the purpose of drawing up a Constitution for independent India. He was equally definite in declaring to the Prime Minister that a separate Moslem state in India is out of the question - no chance that the Hindus will agree to Pakistan, which the Moslems demand.

All of which was contradicted completely by Moslem leader Mohammed Ali Jinnah - who stated that the Constituent Assembly must be postponed, indefinitely. And Mohammed Ali Jinnah, President of the Moslem League, is equally positive in repeating the Mohammedan demand for a separate state, Pakistan.

How the British Cabinet can compromise these utterly opposing views is a question indeed -

especially in so short a time. Only six days are left before the scheduled opening of the Assembly, which is to frame the Constitution. Precious time was lost in travel delays from India. The conference was to be held over the weekend, but the plane that carried the Viceroy Viscount Wavell, and the leaders of the Indian factions broke down at Malta, which caused a loss of valuable time.

EGYPT

Extra

More
~~There~~

bombing in Cairo; an explosion today
blasting the home of the leader of the liberal party,
Mohammed Hussein Heykal Pasha - former head of the
Egyptian delegation to the United Nations Assembly in
New York. This climaxes a series of bombings by extremist
nationalists, who are resorting to terrorism in protest
against the proposed treaty between Egypt and Great
Britain. And today there was a wholesale round-up of
political fanatics and suspected ~~xxxxxx~~ terrorists.