

STRIKE LAW

C.I. - Sinoco. Tuesday, Oct. 30, 1945.

The Military Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives voted today to repeal the strike vote and plant seizure provisions of the Smith-Connally Law. That is - the Legislation providing for strike votes by Unions and for seizure of factories tied up by strikes.

All of which is part of Congressional concern about the nationwide wave of strikes, the Committee also voting to inflict penalties on any union that calls a strike in violation of a no-strike agreement in a contract with employers.

SHOES

Shoe rationing is off - effective at
Midnight tonight. For nearly two years and nine
months, we have been restricted to two pairs of
shoes per year per civilian. That, says Washington,
turned out to be enough for men, but not for women
and children - ~~all~~^{all} of which is now academic, with
shoe rationing ending at Midnight. You can throw
away your shoe ration stamps.

TAXES

The House of Representatives put its okay today on the tax reduction bill, which calls for a cut of nearly six billion dollars. Our own personal income tax ~~to~~ to be reduced to the tune of two billion, six hundred and forty-four million. This is a compromise bill which harmonizes tax reduction measures passed previously by the house and the Senate.

In Manila today, Japanese Lieutenant General Yamashita was disturbed - "The Tiger of the Malaya" who hitherto has been the impassive and unperturbed at his trial as a war criminal. The thing that shook his oriental composure was testimony given by an Irish Priest, Father Cosgrave of Ireland calmly and eloquently described how at LaSalle College, fifty civilians, including sixteen Christian Brothers, were massacred, as General MacArthur's Troops closed in on the Philippine Capital. He told how a Japanese officer screamed the command for mass murder with bayonets. The Irish Priest himself received two bayonet wounds, but survived.

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As Yamashita listened to the calm and factual narration, his impassive stoicism ~~xx~~ ~~x~~ lapsed. He cast quick, furtive glances, through horn rimmed spectacles at the five-man commission of Army judges - they stoney and impassive, sitting in judgment.

CHINA

From China we hear that negotiations have been resumed between Chiang Kai-Shek and the Communists - in an attempt to check the spread of the undeclared civil war that is raging in North China. The Communists are charging that a Chiang Kai-Shek Army of two hundred thousand men is driving against the Red Forces along the Yellow River, and has captured eight cities.

And the latest tells of a Chiang Kai-Shek Army of veteran troops massing along the Great Wall of China - ~~near~~^{where} the Chinese Red Army has taken up defensive positions.

MACARTHUR

The word from Washington is that plans for the control of Japan may be changed to make them more acceptable to the Soviets. Moscow has been demanding that Supreme Commander ^{Douglas}~~General~~ MacArthur be replaced by a four-power control commission.

The latest from Washington is that the United States is willing to make almost any ~~xxx~~ concession to Soviet Russia - so long as the position of General MacArthur is not jeopardized.

TREASURE

Here's an interesting question, how rich is Hirohito? That was answered today - though only in part. Bu' even the mere part was impressive.

Hirohito is worth a hundred and six million and forty-one thousand dollars - not counting other multi-millions in art treasures and hoards of jewels and precious metals.

The disclosure came after General MacArthur had ordered the Tokyo Government to give an account of the wealth of the Emperor of Japan. So a report was turned in - listing more than a million shares of securities, enormous real estate holdings, larger than the State of Connecticut, and more than a million dollars in cash. Total, more than a hundred and six million dollars.

There is to be a supplemental report later on, listing Hirohito's collections of art and jewelry, treasures of gems and silver and gold.

~~All of which is accompanied by word of still another treasure - though of a very different kind.~~

~~American Troops have seized a hoard of opium and other drugs. Taken in Central Honshu, the haul included four tons of crude opium, valued at four million dollars. Morphine, cocaine and other narcotics - two hundred thousand dollars. And - thirty-two tons of quinine, worth two million. American ical men say that the amount of quinine seized was enough to protect a million American soldiers against malaria for one month.~~

Along with the various bits of news about the seizure of treasure in Japan, I've noticed that there is no word about one really fabulous kind of treasure - some old fossilized bones. I learned about these from a book, a new volume turned out by Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews. It's called - "Meet your ancestors", and tells a fascinating story of a scientific search for remains of earliest man, the hunt for the missing link.

"In "Meet your Ancestors", Dr. Andrews relates the discovery of Peking man - fossilized

remains found in a cave near Peking. These were a dazzling revelation of human evolution, a revelation that was being developed when war broke out in the Pacific.

The fossilized bones of Peking man, a priceless treasure for anthropology, could not be got out of China in time to escape the Japs. What has happened to them? That is not known, Maybe the Japs seized the fossils. And maybe these will turn up among the loot that is now being recovered.

Soviet Russia will not send a delegation to the meeting of the Educational and Cultural discussions of the United Nations, which opens on Thursday. This was stated in London today with the explanation that Moscow demanded a postponement. This did not meet with the approval of Great Britain and the United States, which thought there should be no delay. To which Moscow replied that the Soviets would not attend. So the United Nations educational and cultural discussions will go on without anything being said in Russian.

There will be a 3-hour discussion between Britain, Canada and the U.S.A.

ATOMIC BOMB

The Military Affairs Committee of the House of representatives has okayed the presidential program for the atomic bomb, today voting its approval of a nine-man commission for a rigid control of atomic energy and the secret of the bomb.

Along with this we have word that atomic problems are to be discussed in Washington by President Truman and British Prime Minister Attlee. We've been hearing that the head of the London Labor Government would make a trip to the United States, and that today was confirmed - with the explanation that the Attlee visit is primarily an atomic matter. ~~The problem of the secret of the bomb will be the only official topic~~ *There will be a 3-power discussion, between Britain, Canada and the U.S.A.* ~~though other matters may be taken up informally in the conference of the President and the Prime Minister.~~

ALLIED BOMBING

Here's an official statement that Allied bombing would have ended the European war in a few months, without the necessity of an invasion. Even without D-Day, Nazi Germany could have ~~xxxx~~ stood up long under the tremendous pounding from the air.

This is the verdict of a civilian commission named by the Secretary of War to report on the effect of strategic bombing. The commission studied the results and interviewed German military leaders. The finding is that the war of the air ~~xxxxxx~~ would have been decisive - all by itself, without an invasion.

COLOGNE CATHEDRAL

Word from Germany is that the great and historic cathedral of Cologne may be about to collapse, and that would be a thing of tragic irony.

When the war ended, the Cologne Cathedral still stood - and that seemed almost a miracle of survival. The city of Cologne had been utterly devastated by bombing, and the area surrounding the cathedral had been especially hard hit. But the majestic church of the middle ages, reared high, its lofty twin towers ^{comparitively} unharmed and serene - above a sea of wreckage and rubble.

Near the Cathedral flows the River Rhine, which was choked by blown up bridges, sunken ships, and wrecked installations. Allied engineers have been clearing these out with high explosive. And the repeated shocks of heavy blasts have weakened the cathedral.

Engineers think the structure of the cathedral can be strengthened, the great medieval architecture saved. Let's hope so - for it would ~~be~~ be tragic irony indeed if the cathedral of Cologne, having

survived the bombing of war, should fall victim to the reconstruction work of peacetime.

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There are many here in this country who have more than a passing interest in that glorious cathedral of Cologne, many American travellers of ^{whom} ~~which~~ I am one. The last time I saw it ~~was~~ from a small artillery observation plane. We circled right down over the spires, close enough to see ^{that} the Cathedral itself ~~had~~ had been damaged a great deal, and that parts of the towers had been knocked off. That was ~~one~~ ^{right} ~~day~~ ~~shortly~~ after our troops had advanced to the Rhine. ^{And} The Germans were on the other side, firing shells back into Cologne, some of which may have done serious damage to their own glorious cathedral. The city all around it had been ~~pretty much~~ flattened by those thousand plane raids ^{bombing} ~~raids~~ that must have shaken those tower. to their very foundations.

Commentator Cesar Saerchinger's son, in the hush hush service of the O S S, the office of

Strategic Services, was in Cologne at that time, and brought me a stone from the Cathedral, ^{a stone} ~~that had been~~ blown off ^{by a bomb or a shell - - ^} a stone fleur-de-lis, for our Quaker Hill History of Civilization Fireplace. Now the word comes that the historic cathedral of Cologne, one of the glories of the world, may collapse.

BRAZIL

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The new head of the Brazilian government promises constitutional rule and a free election. He is Jose Linhares, Chief Justice of the Brazilian Supreme Court, who has now been named provisional President by the military leaders who overthrew President Vargas.

Long ~~been~~ known as virtual dictator of Brazil, Vargas has been tossed out by the Army, because the military men suspected that he planned to call off an election to choose ~~xx~~ a new ~~President~~ President. The election had been scheduled, but Vargas was suspected of scheming to stay in power.

Tonight he is under arrest, with Army leaders stating that no personal harm will come to him - the deposed President to be packed off to his ranch in southern Brazil.

Vargas was taken by surprise in this sudden overthrow, but he was no more astonished than his successor; - the Brazilian chief Justice being suddenly informed by telephone that he was provisional President.

Meanwhile, the United States, Great Britain and Brazil have recognized the result of that other military revolution, in Venezuela. Recognition is extended to the provisional government now in power at Caracas.

ALASKA

We've had a season of peculiar weather - all around the world, more or less. We had a chilly spring and a wet summer - across the Pacific there was an over-supply of typhoons; and recently across the Atlantic, Britain was battered by one of the greatest of storms.

Today, the weather headline is - Alaska, that northern land assailed by winds that are described as - "Cyclonic." A gale over the Bering Sea has been raging at sixty-five miles an hour, with immense and violent seas hurled upon the coast.

The city of Nome, ^{Alaska,} was invaded by waves nine feet high - nine foot rollers, ^{coming over that famous beach} pouring through main street and breaking against the walls of the Federal Building. Hundreds of people have been washed out of house and home, citizens of Nome, miners, eskimo. Damage is heavy, and the rage of the storm has disrupted things to such an extent - that martial law has been declared in Nome. at Nome,

BABY

Here's a marvel to excite the wonder and envy of mothers with teething babies. A dispatch from South Africa tells of an infant that cut five teeth in five days after being born. The toothsome child cut its first, nine hours after birth. Two more came through during the next twenty four hours, and then the fourth and the fifth in rapid succession. The fortunate mama is a Mrs. Deklerk - who, with baby's first five teeth out of the way in such a hurry, will have that much less trouble with the bawling and yowling ^{and} ~~that~~ caterwauling and howling that accompanies teething. -- all of which is of course sweet music to the infant hopeful's adoring parents.

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NAVY OFFICER

Here's the height of impudence - of cheek and gall. In Chicago, a fraudulent fake passed himself off as a war hero of the Navy, giving himself the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Not only that, he made pretensions of social blueblood eminence and aristocracy - Boston aristocracy.

We all know that in the dear old town of the bean-and-the-cod, the great names are Lodge, Lowell, ^{and} Cabot. ^{Well this} phoney war hero picked himself a nice assortment, ~~he~~ called himself - Lieutenant Colonel Godfrey Lowell Cabot, ^{the} Second. How he happened to leave Lodge out, I don't know.

And here's the culminating horror, something to make Boston swoon. His real name is Harris and he's from Mississippi. From Vicksburg, Mississippi - and Boston remembers proudly how the Yankees captured Vicksburg in the Civil War. Imagine that Dixieland Southerner announcing with a ripe Mississippi drawl, "I'm Lieutenant Commander Godfrey Lowell Cabot, Second, of Boston," *uh!*

He got away with it - in Chicago. I don't know what kind of ear for music they've got in the Windy City, but the word is that the Mississippi Bostonian, with his tales of heroic exploits in the war, made a dazzling success among the mid-western millionaires of the Chicago Gold Coast.

However, ~~it~~ it must be admitted that his downfall was finally caused by his accent. Some of the more discriminating society leaders of Chicago cocked a puzzled ear at the deep south accent inflections of Lieutenant Commander Godfrey Lowell Cabot, Second - and tonight he's in the ^{Cook County} hoosegow, not for impersonating a Bostonian, but for impersonating an officer. Bostonians will think that the lesser crime. What do you think Hugh?