

STRIKES

L.I. - P. & G. Monday, April 24, 1950.

~~Now about the two strikes - railroad and~~

~~telephone:~~ Federal mediators were doing their utmost today in a last-minute effort to delay walkouts that would seriously affect ^{the nation's} rail and wire communications. That their efforts were at least partially successful is indicated by the following late news: The Brotherhood of Railroad Firemen ^{tonight} came through with word that they ~~would~~ ^{will} hold off for two weeks. Their strike had been scheduled to go into effect the day after tomorrow -- on the great Pennsylvania railway system.

And the ^(nation-wide) ~~nation-wide~~ telephone strike?

Workers in ~~xxxxxxx~~ forty-three states jumped the gun on that one. Although scheduled for tomorrow night, eleven thousand installation workers went out today. "Installers" they are called. And the latest ^{tells about} ~~is~~ a call to their members, requesting all of them to put in calls to long distance operators, everywhere -- ~~just~~ keep the long distance operators so busy that the rest of the nation will find it well nigh impossible to use the lines. That's their strategy.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN

"We are not going to transform our fine F B I into a gestapo-like police!" So said the President of the United States tonight, in ^{the} a speech that he made in Washington a few minutes ago. Although he used no names, it was quite clear the President meant that the F B I files are not going to be released.

Mr. Truman added that "we are not going to try and control what our people read, and say and think."

He suggested that ~~all~~ the charges of Communism in our Government ^(departments) are not entirely made without a political ~~max~~ motive. ^{As expected he spoke} ~~And he spoke~~ a ~~strong defense~~ of the government's efforts to ferret out every Communist on Uncle Sam's payroll, and fire ^{them all,} ~~him each and every one found.~~

In his opinion "the noisy but small Communist minority in this country is pretty well under control". ^{As he sees it} ~~is~~ the real ~~danger~~ danger is the Russian threat, ^{danger} danger of attack from abroad.

Lashing out at his political
~~One of the most striking statements in~~
adversaries —

~~the President's speech tonight was when~~ he said:

"We are not going to turn the United States into a right-wing totalitarian country in order to deal with a left-wing totalitarian threat.

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A Senate sub-committee has been set up to investigate the question of whether or not the means of weeding out Communists from the State Department are effective enough. This new body was created today by the Senate investigators who have been hearing the charges made by McCarthy of Wisconsin.

CHINA

The Chinese Nationalists have lost the Island of Hainan. That becomes clear today, after earlier ^{news} reports ~~telling of~~ the Communist capture of the principal town. The Reds have seized control of the northern part of Hainan, and today's dispatch tells of Nationalist officials evacuating in a hurry, taken off by boat.

Actually, the Chiang Kai Shek people seem to have given-up in the business of holding Hainan. Up ^{to} the last, the Nationalist bulletins told of smashing victories -- but these were as untrustworthy as war bulletins can sometimes be, especially in China. Today's news indicates that, the Reds having seized beach-heads, the defending commanders made urgent demands for reinforcements -- appealing to the remnants of the Nationalist government on Formosa. But these demands ~~were~~ were rejected; so the Generals on Hainan ordered an evacuation -- get as many of their people out as possible. They are getting a lot of offic~~es~~ ^{ial} ~~out~~ ^{away} by sea, but most

of their military forces will have to remain behind
-- ~~the~~ old story.

~~(One report was that Chiang Kai Shek ordered
the evacuation of Mainan but this the Generalissimo
denies today -- claiming it was the Generals on the
island who gave up.)~~

MEXICO

A new international dispute -- with Mexico this time. But, it is not such a large affair, no ^{small} ~~whale~~ of a crisis. -- It ^{'s} ~~is~~ about the size of a shrimp. ^{And} ~~only~~ shrimp is ~~an~~ exactly the word, a Mexican gunboat having seized seven American shrimp-fishing-craft that were hauling in the succulent crustacean off the Mexican coast. Two ^{were released} ~~of the seven managed to get~~ ~~away~~. But the other five ~~are~~ are now being taken to the port of Tampico.

This is the first flare-up in a new discovery of wealth in the waters of the sea -- great shrimp beds having been found along the Gulf Coast ^{of both the} ~~United States and Mexico~~. The word is that some fifteen hundred shrimp fisherman have moved to Brownsville, Texas, ^{at} the mouth of the Rio Grande, on the Mexican border -- to take advantage of the shrimp beds nearby. ^{It} All of which provides a likely cause of dispute ~~the~~ ^{the} cause of differences in the coastal regulations of the two countries. The United States maintains a three-mile limit. Everything

beyond that -- open sea -- international. But, Mexico claims a nine mile limit -- nobody allowed within *that 9-mile* coastal belt. The American shrimp fishermen, taking cognizance of the American regulation, seem to feel that the three-mile limit applies to Mexico ~~also~~ *also, in the case of the* ~~and have been fishing in waters that Mexico claim out after those great newly discovered, huge~~ beds of shrimp. ^{RP} (However, Washington hears that the boats which were seized, were actually ten miles from shore -- though they were one-hundred-and-twenty-five miles down the Mexican coast. One report says there was gunfire, when the Mexicans grabbed the craft fishing for shrimp -- but the rumor of shooting is not given much credence in Washington.)

RADIATION LABORATORY

The F B I was investigating ~~the~~^a fire today -- although those top-notch government detectives don't ~~not~~ usually bother themselves with mere cases of possible arson. But all day long, they were poking around in the charred embers of a building completely burned-out in a spectacular blaze ~~last~~^{during the} night. The mere mention of the place explains it -- the radiation laboratory of the University of California at Berkeley, -- a number-one ^{atomic} research center ~~for the atomic bomb and right now a sanctum for the most recondite study of the secrets of the atom.~~^{IP} The administration building caught fire -- ~~not only did fire fighters go overing was destroyed, and there~~
~~to the scene, but also the F B I.~~ The fire might have been an enormous catastrophe² for atomic science. -- Because near the Administration Building is the great cyclotron, the first one ever constructed -- that history-making atom smasher devised by Dr. Earnest Lawrence. It won the Nobel prize for him -- and he is now the head of the radiation laboratory. Nearby, likewise, were Dr. Edwin^{M.} McMillan's

Synchrotron for producing cosmic rays;-- and the
Linear accelerator, created by Dr. Luis Alvarez. *Fiery*
~~These mighty atomic machines heading a whole list of~~
~~the latest marvels of ultra modern science. They~~
~~might have all been engulfed in one huge, fiery,~~
destruction, ^{*might have engulfed*} ~~of~~ this country's great atomic research
center -- but the firemen did fast work, the wind was
right, blowing the flames the other way. ^{*P*} As it was,
great files of records were ^{*burned,*} ~~lost in the burning of~~
~~the Administration Buildings,~~ and today laboratory
manager ~~Rex Barton~~ Barton described the loss as -- very
serious. But he said he didn't think the fire had
destroyed any of the irreplaceable research documents
-- atomic secrets on paper.

(Well, I hope they didn't lose any of that
blood of ours.) Just before leaving California,
arriving in Chicago today, we went over for a visit
to that radiation laboratory ^{*on*} ~~at~~ Saturday. ~~afternoon~~
Rex Barton, ~~is~~ an old friend, ~~and~~ took us to see some
of the newest wonders. ^{*Experience!*} ~~Which~~ included two oddly

incongruous angles -- we gave our blood - and, saw the ball game.

Rex Barton took us first to laboratories of atomic, ^{and then of} medical research ^{under Dr. John Lawrence,} where we were told a fascinating story about revolutionary discoveries ~~being made~~ in the realm of heart stroke and brain stroke. This work is being directed by Dr. John Gofman, who was a partner of Nobel prize winner Seaborg in the discovery of uranium 235, the material of the A-Bomb. With swift logic and ~~remarkable~~ lucidity Dr. Gofman outlined for us the theory along which they are working. ^{all of which} ~~and it was~~ ^{concerning} ~~the~~ came around to the fact that, in researching ~~the~~ causes of ~~heart~~ heart stroke and brain stroke, they have to investigate many examples of human blood, ~~from various persons.~~

~~So~~ The next thing you know, ^{there} we were ^{all} lined up, ~~half a dozen of us,~~ ^{- with} Doctors Gofman and Hardin Jones ^{getting samples} ~~were extracting vials of blood~~ from each of us.

In our party were General Albert ^{C.} Wedemeyer, Commander of the Sixth Army at San Francisco and ~~his~~

long-time associate General

Robertson,

and
~~together with~~ their wives. ~~The two generals like~~

~~carefully~~ *They* made out elaborate forms telling of physical condition and food habits -- then ^{*we all*} submitted

to the needle and made our donations. After which General Wedemeyer suggested modestly that he could

send some others to do the same, fifty or sixty,

several maybe ^{*a*} hundred. Which got a laugh. It being ~~so~~

obvious how ~~easily~~ the Commander of the Sixth ^{*h*}

Army ^{*might*} ~~could~~ persuade some volunteers to step forward:--

~~with his~~ ~~sergeant making a few remarks to the G I's.~~

After that (we paid a visit to the Cyclotron, an old acquaintance -- and) Doctors McMillan and

Alvarez took us for a look at the Synchron^{*n*} and

Linear accelerator. At this later marvel of atomic

~~physics~~ physics we saw a young scientist ~~Don Con,~~

peering with intent interest into a scientific

~~the~~ gadget with a circle of glass and green light --

~~what we thought was~~ a "cathode tube". We were

prepared to be impressed by this example of scientific

but
devotion ~~by~~ Dr. Alvarez laughed and told us how Don
Gow ^{was} ~~λ~~ adjusting a couple of cathode tubes, such as
are used to record atomic activity, ^{when he} ~~was~~ suddenly
found ~~that~~ he was looking at - the ball game! Quite
unwittingly, he had set up a television receiving set.

~~And~~ that's what he was doing, ^{as we} ~~was~~ -- watching the ball
~~game~~ ^{and} ~~he~~ ^{there} stood behind him, ~~and joined him, and watch~~ ^{ing}
a game in the Pacific Coast League; ^{-- seen} ~~come~~ ^{through}
on an atomic gadget -- a ball game colored a deep
emerald green.

~~but our adventures were not in the~~

~~Administration Building, which burned up, and so,~~
~~since the~~ fire did not consume ^{all} that blood;
~~ours.~~ Or -- that improvised atomic television
set, which brings the ball game.

FLOODS

The floods in the northern part of the middlewest continue to surge with a focus of drama on Crookston, Minnesota. Yesterday the Red Lake River broke through a dam and hurled a flood for thirty ~~mi~~ miles toward Crookston. Today the swollen stream threw a second deluge into the inundated town, where three hundred homes are surrounded by ~~swirling~~ swirling waters.

DOUKHOBORS

One of the strangest of appeals was made today -- and addressed to Soviet Russia. The regime of Stalin is asked to do something that might help to quiet the wild ructions of the Doukhobors in western Canada -- where the members of that fanatical religious sect are burning houses, and parading naked. All to defy the Canadian authorities -- ~~the~~ arson and ~~the~~ nudis^m:

The appeal to the Soviets is made by the Quakers, who appear in the picture -- because it was the Society of Friends which fifty years ago, helped the Doukhobors to immigrate to Canada from the Russia of the Czars -- where the peculiar sect was being persecuted. ^{So} _A the Quakers now are asking Moscow to locate, if possible, one certain individual who would have a vast influence on the house burners and paraders without clothes in Canadian British Columbia. He is, if still alive, a son of Peter Petrovitch Veregin who was a great prophet among the Doukhobors. Veregin, ~~in fact~~, is revered as the Saint of the sect. So, if his son were sent to Western Canada, he

probably would be able to quiet the ructions of the Doukhobors -- because of the mystical prestige of his father, Veregin.

But where might the son be? He was sent to Siberia twenty years ago by the Bolsheviki, the Reds not liking religious sects. Twenty years in Siberia, sent there by the Communists - and what is the chance of his being alive? However, the Quakers have hope and today they asked the Soviet Government to make an effort to locate the younger Veregin. ^RThis -- as the Dukhobors ^{trouble} in western Canada continues to increase. The jails in the town

of Nelson are crammed with arsonists and nudists of this ^{strange sect} whose ^{motto} is: what was good enough for them ~~is good enough for us~~ and the latest tells how the police broke

up a mass meeting of Doukhobors at which the fanatics

took an oath, on bread and salt, to continue their

defiance by ^{continuing to set} ~~setting~~ buildings on fire and ^{by continuing to shed} ~~shed~~

~~and~~ their cloths in public.

^R And now Nelson, will you shed a little light on whatever subject you feel is in need of illumination but without benefit of conflagration!

and for is good enough for us.