

STRIKE

*L.J. - Sunoco. Wednesday, Jan. 16, 1946.*

In a room at the White House, where meetings of the Cabinet are held, a conference is going on tonight that may decide the strike issue for this nation - whether the giant walkouts are going to continue and increase for a national crisis. Or - whether the strikes may suddenly dwindle almost to the vanishing point. Either one of those two extreme alternatives may come out of that White House meeting.

At a table sit Benjamin Fairless, President of United Steel, and Philip Murray, President of the C.I.O. They are trying to settle the wage dispute in the empire of steel. Earlier in the day, President Truman talked to them, and vigorously urged an agreement.

The word in Washington is that a <sup>definitive</sup> settlement of the steel issue <sup>would</sup> ~~will~~ most likely be followed by an end to the meat packers' strike. Nearly three hundred thousand packing house workers <sup>went</sup> ~~have gone~~ out today, tying up the meat industry, and threatening a meat famine within a week.

But what has steel ~~got~~ to do with packing houses? The answer is that the conference on steel can set a pattern for a settlement of the current series of major wage disputes. That's what the government is attempting - trying to evolve a steel agreement that would provide a formula. That is - a figure, a rate of wage increase on which industry in general could compromise with the unions.

How far reaching such an agreement, setting a pattern, would be, is indicated by a simple figure - one million workers on strike in this nation tonight, and hundreds of thousands of others threatening to walk out!

## CHINESE STRIKE

The Chinese are having a strike, but it's different - something new. Leave it to the heathen Chinese to think up an ingenious novelty with a curious twist. In Shanghai, the Chinese conductors of buses and street cars are on strike, but the buses and street cars today were running as usual, and doing more business than ever - if you can call it business. The Chinese call it - "a free ride strike." That is, the bus and street car conductors, instead of walking out, stay right on the job - only they don't collect any fares. Everybody rides free.

They explain that this is a way to avoid the usual dilemma that attends a strike - public inconvenience. ~~Ordinarily, the workers, in forcing their demand, don't think too much about the public.~~ ~~But the Chinese do.~~ In fact, it's the other way around. The public is happy about the strike in Shanghai. The passengers not only ride, but they ~~also~~ ride free.

*how!*  
Ding ~~is~~ as the Chinese say.

CHINESE STRIKE - 2

The word from Shanghai is that never before in the history of the city have so many people ridden in buses and street cars. ~~When the Chinese heard the riding was free, they piled aboard those vehicles of public transportation. And the more that ride free, the larger is the number of fares that fail to be collected - and the greater is the loss to the Company.~~

In one day, the free ride strike is estimated to have cost the company <sup>fares to the tune of</sup> a hundred and fifty million Chinese dollars. ~~With inflation, the Chinese dollar is not such a treasureable unit of currency - but a hundred and fifty million is a lot of them.~~

~~All of which is~~ Causing much grief to the company, <sup>which is</sup> ~~It's~~ owned by the French, and you know how careless a Frenchman is with money - even Chinese <sup>money.</sup> ~~dollars.~~

The free ride strike has the French Company owners cursing in their cognac - while the Chinese <sup>say!</sup> ~~go~~ - Ding how!  
ho!

PEARL HARBOR

Admiral Kimmel stated today that he had protested personally to President Roosevelt against the weakening of the Fleet in the Pacific to build up naval power in the Atlantic. The Admiral, testifying at the Pearl Harbor investigation, told how one full naval division, including three battleships had been taken out of the Pacific -- this at the time when the undeclared shooting war against the Nazis was going on in the Atlantic. <sup>R</sup> Kimmel stated <sup>further,</sup> today, that, as Navy Commander at Pearl Harbor, he was, in the words of <sup>the</sup> a dispatch, ~~from Washington~~ -- "disturbed whenever he heard reports that his Pacific Fleet was to be sacrificed for the benefit of the Atlantic Armada. "I felt," he said, ~~today,~~ "that we should make every effort to keep Japan out of the war. I felt that the way to do that was to have a fleet out there capable of doing it."

He was informed by the late Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, that still more warships were to be sent from the Pacific to the Atlantic -- whereupon he

had an interview with the late President Roosevelt.--

*He says that F. D. R.,*  
~~and the President~~ told him that the Navy Department had

stated it was all right to take more ships out of the

Pacific. Today Admiral Kimmel quoted his own reply:

"I said, 'Well, whoever told you that is crazy. It's

just ridiculous.'" *His* protest was effective -- and the

Pacific Fleet was not further weakened.

There's plenty of interest in the Kimmel explanation of why the Navy at Pearl Harbor did not carry out long-range reconnaissance by air -- why patrol planes did not keep a watch far out at sea that would have spotted the Japs coming to the attack. *The Admiral* ~~He~~ said that he was so short of planes ~~to do the job~~ that he couldn't *maintain* ~~keep~~ any such long-range patrol all the time, and at the same time do other things that he was ordered to do. He said that he'd been directed to be prepared, with planes and all, for a fleet move westward, in case of war. <sup>So</sup> He had to have planes in readiness for that -- which would have been impossible if he had used up his patrol plane strength on long-range reconnaissance.

The news of the Pearl Harbor investigation includes bitter complaints by Admiral Kimmel about the way he was, as he said -- crucified.

U.N.O.

The United Nations Organization faces its first test - the first large and dangerous question put before it. Today in London, the Iranian delegation announced that the government at Teheran had instructed it to submit to the U.N.O. the Iranian dispute with Soviet Russia. ~~Yesterday, the delegation from Persia stated, that it might present the question to the U.N.O. and now that's definite.~~

This concerns, of course, the rebellion in the northern part of Persia - which is under control of Soviet troops who went in during the war. A local government has been set up, and Teheran has been claiming that the Soviets prevented it from reestablishing its authority. That's what Iran is ~~protesting~~ protesting about, ~~a formal protest to be placed before the U.N.O.~~

~~The Iranian delegation stated today that it hasn't decided whether to lodge the complaint with the U.N.O. Assembly or with the Security Council.~~



~~in other words,~~ The whole thing will be subject to a Soviet veto, each of the major powers having a right to veto anything that comes up. So what will Soviet Russia do - exercise the veto in the case of the first international dispute to be brought to the U.N.O.? The next few days should give an answer to that interesting question.

## CHINA

In China, demobilization of the government's army has begun. Three million men are to be mustered out in the next six months. That will leave an army of one million, eight hundred thousand. At the same time, the Chinese Communists announce that their Red Army will be reduced to a strength of <sup>between</sup> three ~~and~~ four hundred thousand men.

These demobilizations on both sides are in accord with the agreement we heard about yesterday - Chiang Kai-shek becoming the constitutional ruler of a democratic China. Both the government and the Communist armies, much reduced in size, are to be combined under a unified command. This will remove the chief cause of contention between the two factions - Chiang Kai-shek having insisted all along that there could be no unified China with an independent Red Army.

## DEMOBILIZATION

In Germany, General McNarney has taken firm action against those G.I. demonstrations. Hereafter, the G.I.'s had better mutter it in their beards <sup>all that</sup> "I want to go home <sup>business,</sup>" General McNarney has ordered all ~~the~~ unit commanders to prevent ~~the~~ mass protests - the first step taken by a high military commander to stop the demonstrations.

The General stated that homesick marches and meetings have been permitted heretofore, because there had been confusion and misunderstanding. But now another element has come into the picture. General McNarney's order states: "A tendency has been noted on some occasions to use the meetings for purposes other than urging more rapid deployment." He <sup>says</sup> ~~states that~~ the homesickness of the G.I.'s may be, in the General's words, "exploited by some individuals or elements to the extent of becoming definitely injurious."

These McNarney statements tie in with word from the other side of the world - from the Far East.

~~A story~~ <sup>Q</sup> ~~carried by~~ Scripps-Howard staff writer William  
~~Newton~~, points out that the language of the soldier  
protests out there does not, in some cases, sound at all  
like G.I. <sup>JOE,</sup>  ~~talking~~. He quotes one sentence, ~~which reads:~~  
"We civilian soldiers were drafted to serve our nation  
in time of war - not to implement the post-war State  
Department policy." And what soldier ever talked like  
that - about implementing a policy. <sup>G.I. JOE</sup> ~~It sounds like~~

~~Washington or some political writer - the G.I.s~~  
<sup>usually use simpler and</sup>  
~~usually implement their meaning with simpler and~~  
better English.

We are told that the ~~same~~ matter of "I want to  
go home" has taken a turn suspiciously like the  
Communist Party line.

## NUREMBERG

At the Nuremberg trial, an American prosecutor <sup>today</sup> arose to present the case against one of the most important war criminal defendants - Wilhelm Frick, former Nazi Minister of the Interior. The American, a member of the prosecution staff, began to speak, reciting the charges - and that brought a surprise. The way he spoke - his accent, a thick guttural German accent. If one of the Nazi defendants had spoken English with such a dialect - it wouldn't have been surprising. Several of the war criminals, in fact, speak much better English.

This American prosecutor was Dr. Robert ~~Kempner~~ Kempner of Lansdowne, Pennsylvania; ~~He is~~ an anti-Nazi refugee. Some years ago, he was a high official in Berlin - Assistant State's Attorney <sup>there.</sup> Later, he was in a Nazi concentration camp - after which he escaped from Germany and came to the United States. He became an American citizen last year, and now is one of the American prosecutors at Nuremberg - assigned to the special task of presenting war criminal charges against

the former Nazi Minister of the Interior, Wilhelm Frick. This is a job for which Dr. ~~Robert M. W.~~ Kempner of Lansdowne, <sup>Pa.</sup> ~~Pennsylvania~~, is particularly fitted. He had dealings with Frick in the past - and knows ~~the~~ story.

Today, in his thick German accent, Dr. Kempner told how he, as Assistant State's Attorney in Berlin, before Hitler came to power, tried to force the dissolution of the Nazi Party. Hitler at that time was not a German citizen - he was an Austrian. The one who got him over that hurdle was ~~Wilhelm Frick, the~~ <sup>who then was</sup> ~~Nazi who became~~ Minister of the Interior of the German state of Thuringia. Holding that position, Frick was able to grant <sup>t</sup> German citizenship to <sup>the Austrian corporal</sup> ~~Hitler~~.

When Hitler became ~~the~~ Dictator of Germany, prompt retaliation was taken against Kempner - for having tried to dissolve the Nazi Party. Again, it was a matter of citizenship - and again Frick did the job. He personally deprived Kempner of German citizenship - and the one-time Assistant State's Attorney was sent to

a concentration camp.

Well, the wheels of destiny do revolve, and positions have a way of becoming reversed. Today, that same Dr. Kempner, now of Lansdowne, Pennsylvania, officiated as a prosecutor of Wilhelm Frick - who bestowed German citizenship on Hitler and took it away from Kempner. Down yesterday, up today.

COURT-MARTIAL

*spans*

In an Australian court room today, some interesting disclosures were made about American doings in the southwest Pacific during the war. One of Australia's greatest air aces is being tried - Captain C.R. Cauldwell, who had ~~shot down Jap planes all over the place, and won~~ a whole string of decorations. They called him "Killer Cauldwell." Now he is on trial for illicit liquor trading in wartime, and they say Killer Cauldwell made a killing.

~~It happened at Morotai, in New Guinea that famous Morotai base conquered from the Japs, a scene of heroism. Killer Cauldwell scored some of his greatest air triumphs while based at Morotai. He also scored triumphs of another kind - in liquor transactions.~~

In court today he admitted that he had imported whiskey and rum to the Morotai <sup>*New Guinea,*</sup> air base - which was illegal. He said he did it to procure equipment from the Americans - trading Australian liquor for American equipment. This, he claimed, was the only



way he could get material to keep his air squadron going against the Japs. ~~He said~~ <sup>And</sup> that other Australian officers did the same thing to enable their units to operate; ~~He declared~~ that trading liquor seemed to be, in his words, "the recognized practice, if you wanted to get anything from the Americans."

The ace of the air war admitted that he had also gotten money. Not only American equipment but also American cash. But ~~he added~~ <sup>said he:</sup> "The money I received from liquor did not compare with the value of the material and equipment that was obtained from the Americans and which became the property of the Royal Australian Air force."

However, he is being prosecuted. I suppose Australian justice is a little bit pers~~istent~~ <sup>nichity</sup> in such matters, because who ever thought of doing anything about the Americans who traded the equipment for the liquor? !

## NIGHTGOWNS

I'm sorry to have to report to the ladies that the government has put a ban on rayon nightgowns. This, explains the Civilian Production Administration, is because of the clothing shortage - rayon being needed, not so much for nightgowns as for day gowns. However, the Civilian Production Administration assures you ladies, most benevolently, that you will still be able to get cotton and flannel nightgowns, <sup>all of</sup> which inspired a leader of fashion in New York to remark: "If anything is not an essential, it would be ~~cotton and~~ <sup>a</sup> flannel nightgown."

In fact, there is a whole chorus of anguish ~~xxx~~ arising in the world of style. Fashion creators are turning out their latest designs for nightgowns <sup>with</sup> ~~and~~ both cotton and flannel are conspicuous by their absence. For example, one prominent New York stylist is displaying a nightgown for brides, ~~This is~~ described as follows: "White rayon satin with tiny empire puffed sleeves and a ~~r~~ low neckline, embroidered in hearts and cupids. The skirts of the gown is slit in front and embroidered in the same motif - hearts and cupids."

That's for the bride, and how can they make  
it without rayon? I suppose a bride will have to do  
with just the hearts and cupids.

*How about it Hugh?*