

C. J. - P. & H. Friday Feb. 17, 1950.

~~The latest in the coal crisis.~~ John L Lewis has issued another order to the striking miners, telling them to go back to work. With this, Lewis stated the hope that the present negotiations would be successful in settling the terms of a contract - - his first expression of hope.

The order to go back to work is the second that Lewis has passed out to the miners. They ignored the first, staying out on strike - - and thus defying not only their Union leader but also an injunction issued by a Federal Court. Tonight's mandate from Lewis is in even stronger terms. The verbiage is really powerful. But the miners may find more persuasion in the Lewis hope for a settlement.

Earlier in the day, the head of the Fact Finding Board announced what he called - "some real progress" in the bargaining for a contract. It was the first time there had been any mention of progress in eight months, during which time . →
~~etc. etc.~~

end

COAL

The news from the coal negotiations pictures - - modified optimism. Tonight's dispatch from Washington states that John L. Lewis and the soft coal operators have made, what the dispatch calls - - "some real progress". Which is the first time that ~~any~~^{there} has been any mention of progress in eight months - ~~during which time~~ efforts for a settlement have been dragging on and off. We hear, for one thing, that the mine owners have increased their offer to the union, though we're not told just how.

Today President Truman called a meeting of his fact-finding Board. They are to gather at the White House tomorrow morning, together with Federal Mediator Cyrus Ching - and present their views on the prospects of a coal agreement.

But still the strike goes on, and the news, countrywide, continues to dwell on serious conditions caused by the coal shortage. New York City begins a brownout tonight, together with a system of coal rationing. In many places people are rushing to get what they can of the black fuel - - and the crisis would be much worse, if it were not for the mild weather ~~still prevailing in~~ *still prevailing in Eastern States.*

ADD COAL

The latest tonight is from the coal fields.

That
~~And says~~

the strikers are - - "wavering". Not sure - - whether
to obey the new Lewis order. One miner is quoted as saying:

"We have made up our minds, come hell or high water,
to stay on strike until we get a contract. But if Lewis says
there is hope and thinks we ought to go back, may be we will. "

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RESCUE

On desolate Prince ^{ss} Royal Island, they're still hunting for the five remaining members of the crew of the B-36. Not one was found today, although ^{mark} survivors are known to be out there in the great spaces of Wilderness and thicket. More signal shots were heard today - - also a shout.

Eight search teams are criss-crossing the intermenable tangles of ^{thicket} ~~woods~~ and woods - - search teams that include civilian members of the Alpine Club of Vancouver. Mountaineers helping in a terrain that has plenty of rugged crags. Fast boats are circling the island, in the hope of spotting survivors on the shore; but the search is impeded by wretched weather, rain, snow and mist - - as they try to pick out the points from which the gunshots and the cry for help were heard.

and

FLOODS

Along the lower Mississippi, the flood crisis is increasing--
as the rather of waters continues to rise. Today people were
warned to flee - "while you can". officials declare that
in the lower Mississippi valley thirty - eight thousand
persons are already homeless - - seven hundred thousand
acres of land are under water, and it is believed that the
figure will soar to one million acres in the next two weeks.

end

FRENCH FIGHT

Here's French Political news that should interest the American business of pugilism. They're always looking for a battler with a punch - - and a foreign fighter, with a knockout wallop, can be a good drawing card. So why not bring over the champion of the French National Assembly - - who today scored as clean a knockout as was ever seen in any ring.

He's a right wing Deputy - - who at a Committee meeting got into the usual sort of argument with Communists. One Red Legislator called him a Nazi collaborator during the war. Whereupon the Champ started for him, brandishing a chair - - although chair fighting would not seem to be his real line. Another Communist interved. The Champ dropped the Chair, swung a right, and knocked the Communist cold with one punch. Vive La France.

Do you think that broke up the committee meeting? Not at all -- they took it as a bunch of prize fight handlers might regard a knockout in the ring. They revived the unconscious Communist - - after which the Committee proceedings went on, as if nothing had happened. - end

The State Department gives warning against a possible confession from Robert Vogeler, on trial in Red Hungary.

This afternoon, press Officer Michael McDermott intimated that admissions of espionage may have been forced by "intimidation, lack of food, drugging, or other forms of mistreatment."

This follows news of confession by Vogeler's British Co-defendant, Edgar Sanders; they were both managers for International Telegraph and Telephone. In the Red Court today, Sanders pleaded guilty to all charges, stating that he was a member of British Intelligence, doing spy work in the Communist country.

Vogeler, was not in Court to-day - - his turn to come next. Apparently, a confession is expected from him too - - with the State Department pointing out that Red charges of espionage may include the most innocent kind of information, facts open for anyone to see, reports that in a Western Democratic land would be considered nothing at all.

more

The spokesman excoriates the parody of Justice -- Vogeler held incommunicado, not even permitted to see the U S Minister. He has had no choice of legal counsel - - the Reds refusing permission to Morris Ernst, prominent New York Lawyer, who proposed to go to Hungary and defend Vogeler. ^{TP} But take the case of the Soviet Engineer, Gubitchev, who is on trial for espionage over here. - - Gubitchev, ^{is} being granted all the safeguards and legal protection under American Justice.

end

On the island of Hainan, the people cannot see the slim silver crescent of the new moon - - which is not surprising. Because, there in South China, the new moon at this time of year is a season of cloud and fog. It is also the Chinese New Year, according to the lunar calendar of Old, and ordinary there would be feasting and revelry, with an exchange of gifts and the paying off of debts - - as is the ancient custom. But at Hainan - - all is overshadowed by the fear of Communist invasion.

The new moon and the Chinese new Year coincide with an annual shift of the trade winds, and this brings a blow of cloudy, rainy, foggy weather -- ideal to cover an invasion fleet from attack by air. Hainan remembers that eleven years ago the Japanese landed on the island at the shift of the trade wind, and thinks the story will be repeated all over again - - though the Nationalists appear to believe that they can beat off the attack and survive the newness of moon and year.

TIBET

I'm in Washington to-night, and have had a chance to talk with a few Newsmen and Government Officials, - - and they ^{have} been asking me about Tibet. So I've had a chance to do a bit of missionary work, and repeat what I ^{have} been saying about - - the dangers of a Red occupation of the roof-of-the-world, with its fifteen hundred miles of frontier bordering on India.

Naturally, the question was asked - what's the country really like, the people, the condition of society? well, you can't say much in the quick meetings of a hasty visit, and most of the time I had to reply - - see Collier's. The third installment of the story of our trip to the mystery city of Lhasa appears in Collier's to-day, and, as it happens, it presents most of the things we learned by eyesight and personal conversation in the Capital of the Dalai Lama. One thing especially - - the fear among people in a position to know, the fear of Red aggression from China. Which state of mind has only been deepened by events that have occurred since we left.

Tonight Lowell Jr. is speaking to some 4000 members and of the Nat. Geog. Soc., at Constitution Hall. - taking them on a film journey with us to Lhasa.

HOLD-UP

A Washington tradition was violated today - by a gang of bandits. It's a doctrine of the underworld - not to challenge the F B I on it's home grounds. So Washington had not had a bank robbery since nineteen thirty-three seventeen years ago. But today three gun-men held up a branch of the Hamilton National Bank, not so far from F B I Headquarters - and got away with forty thousand dollars. They fled by automobile into nearby Maryland , and tonight the manhunt is on, with the F B I playing a leading part - - after this bank robbery invasion of Washington.

end

BLONDE

In the skies near Washington to-day, there was desperate peril in the air - all because of love and a blonde. The plane was a small private affair, with a pilot, a co-pilot, and one passenger - the blonde.

She hired them in New York to fly her to Florida, they made a stop in Washington--and were winging south. The blonde went to the pilot, and suddenly started punching him with her fists. In surprise and pain, he nearly lost control.

The co-pilot intervened. Whereupon the blonde turned on him, and demanded: "do you love me?"

"Yes, sure, of course," replied the co-pilot, and got her back to the rear of the plane, where she bestowed upon him --a mighty kiss. That kept her quiet for a minute, but then she wailed:"no, you don't love me" and - started beating him with her fists.

The pilot, K H Dubanowich, Radioed the Washington Airport that the plane was in trouble, as it sure was -- and that he was returning .

The co-pilot, T O Sallee, tried to assuage the blonde in the old, old way. "I had to keep saying to her - ' I love you madly'. Anything to keep her quiet". says he. But then she'd start punching him again. Heart-throbs ? Why they were love punches.

Finally, Sallee covered his head with his arms, and let the blonde pummel away. Every once in a while he'd raise his head and say : "I love you madly, I love you madly". then - duck for cover.

In that way he diverted the blonde's attention and kept her from attacking the pilot - for maybe a fatal crash. Then at the airport, both brave airmen got out as fast as they could, and left the blonde to the Police.

end

PICASSO

The news from London brings a review of a new play - a dramatic masterpiece by Picasso, the famous painter whose futuristic art is virtually incomprehensible. Picasso has turned to the theatre, and a Picasso play would seem to be a lot like a Picasso picture.

The drama produced in London is called "Desire caught by the Tail" the scene - "Hotel Sordid." the cast of characters includes individuals called - "fat anxiety", "thin anxiety", "silence" and two are named "bow wow".

Each character, making his entrance on stage, emerges fully clothed, from a bathtub. Out of the bathtub they rise, a lady in an evening gown or a five star General in full uniform.

In the play, the feet of people are also characters, tootsies that talk dialogue. One scene, shows two big feet in conversation with each other. One foot says "my chilblains, my chilblains, my chilblains,". Whereupon the other foot says the same thing.

There's a thrilling climax, when the character called "silence", not saying a word, takes off his clothes.

The Picasso stage directions read :

"silence strips himself, and steps into a bowl of
hot soup".

~~Hear that Nelson - soup. What does that suggest to,~~

2/4
~~see~~ At which point we'll let Nelson
take over. end