

LABOR

P. 2. Sunoco. Monday, Sept. 17, 1945.

~~In the industrial world, the outlook is none
too cheerful. The people of Detroit tonight are suffering
from strike jitters, so runs a story from the automobile
capital. Eighty five thousand men are out ^{with} ~~there, and~~
every Ford plant is idle. ^{Tonight We are} ~~The entire country is~~ waiting
to hear what General Motors will answer tomorrow to the
C. I. O. ultimatum for a thirty per cent raise in wages.
Thirty per cent or a strike that will tie up a hundred
and thirty five factories employing three hundred and
fifty thousand people. General Motors has twenty-four
hours to answer, and gives no indication of what that
answer will be. The belief is that Chrysler and Ford,
who have also received ultimatums, will follow the line
set by G. M. But Chrysler and Ford have several days
of Grace.~~

All of which

~~Of course all this is delaying the~~

~~production of new cars, ^{and} there are indications that
this delay may last a long time, which will be a shock
to thousands of people whose cars are worn out, or who
have already junked them.~~

In Washington, President Truman is now considering what hand he will take in this emergency. He had a long conference today with Lewis Schwellenback, Secretary of Labor. Early in the forenoon, he consulted with the leaders of Congress, not only about the strike possibility but the unemployment compensation bill. He still has hopes of getting something better out of the lawmakers than the proposal of the Senate Finance Committee, which would leave the amount of unemployment compensation up to the states. Senator Barkley, the Democratic leader, said Mr. Truman was anxious to have ^S some practical effective form of unemployment _A compensation passed as rapidly as possible. The revised bill, as drawn ~~in~~ by the Senate Finance Committee, will come before the Senate tomorrow.

~~Getting back to the strike,~~ ^{TP} The President still has power under the law to seize factories making ~~a~~ vital commodities. And motor cars ~~xx~~ at the present time may reasonably be considered a vital commodity.

However, Mr. Truman's advisors on labor are not in favor of such drastic action. They want to avoid it, at any rate for the time being.

HOOVER

Uncle Sam cannot afford to lend his money indiscriminately or help other countries without restriction, as he did to a considerable extent after the last war. So said former President Hoover at Chicago today. Furthermore, we cannot afford to have our resources used to keep up the armies of other countries, to enable other countries to engage in non-productive enterprises, or pay their debts to others or to subsidize social experiments; or for going into business in competition with us, or to pay for propaganda to upset our government.

That was part of what Herbert Hoover told the Executives's Club today. ^{Then he} ~~he~~ advanced a carefully thought out plan for our financial relationships with our Allies. He pointed out that lending money is a poor road to international friendship. And, said he, "Propaganda has again begun that we are delinquent in our contributions to ~~the~~ World War the Second, although we have spent far more per capita than any other ally."

Mr. Hoover suggested that we propose a

worldwide moratorium for five years on all war debts between governments. At the end of those five years, when the shape of the world is more clear, we should join our Allies in settling the disposition of all such debts. In the meantime, he added, we should demand that all the weapons we have sent on Lend-Lease should be destroyed.

Also, that the United States should insist on some indirect benefits from other countries. For instance, no quotas against us, no tariffs discriminating against us, no dumping of goods, no cartel operations against us.

And that
~~Also,~~ we must have some protection from socialized foreign trade.

OCCUPATION

~~That was great news to the families and friends of fighting men in the Pacific that General MacArthur gave out today.~~ ^{Gen. MacArthur said today} He said definitely [^] that all citizen soldiers in the Pacific ~~most~~ probably can be demobilized within six months. The General proposes to entrust the occupation of the Japanese home islands to regular Army troops, and only two hundred thousand of them. That's because the occupation of the enemy's country has been ~~such a good job that it is~~ coming along more smoothly than ~~anyone~~ ^{anyone} expected.

At the outset, said MacArthur, that occupation was probably the greatest gamble in history. In the first landings, our forces were outnumbered one thousand to one. However, he added, the stakes were worth it.

He indicated that he was able to do this by using the machinery of the Japanese government, ^{making} ~~that~~ [^] ~~made~~ it ~~is~~ possible for him to enforce ~~the~~ surrender with only a few men, saving the use of millions of troops, billions of dollars, and years of time. The consequence is that within six months, unless something

quite unforeseen crops up, the occupational force will not need to number more than ~~xxx~~ two hundred thousand. Once Japan is disarmed, he explained, this force will be sufficiently strong to enforce our will. And that size, he said further, is probably within the framework of our projected regular establishment.

So, our boys will be returned to their homes just as fast as the ships are mobilized to bring them across.

The process of enforcement of American rule has gone ahead without ~~any untoward instance~~ ^{incident} over the weekend. ^{Another} Japanese general, former head of the police in Tokyo and North China, committed suicide. Shigemitsu resigned as Foreign Minister, and according to ~~the story~~ ^{of the correspondents} ~~that is all for the better.~~ ^{over there, that's okay.} Shigemitsu apparently reformed, is actually a die hard war-maker. So say the men who know Japan. The man who succeeds him is Yoshita, who was Ambassador to London ~~xxx~~ before the war.

~~One remarkable happening was the printing in.~~

FUJIYAMA

Four American newspapermen carried out an experiment today to discover whether they could climb Fujiyama, the Sacred Mountain of the Japanese, ^{—do it} in a jeep. The answer is - no, it cannot be done, but the correspondents had an interesting time trying it. They spread terror among the people ~~in~~ in the villages along the way. As the ~~jeep~~ jeep came roaring through ~~the~~ narrow streets, ~~the~~ women ran into the houses or out into the field, snatching up their naked babies as they ran. Older children dived into the ditches. The men stood their ground and looked amazed when no harm came to them from the four unarmed reporters. When the Americans waved or called out a greeting, the country folk were even more scared. Just a few men bowed or saluted.

When they stopped the jeep in the middle of a village, the inhabitants at first hid in their houses. When they saw the Americans were grinning, they timidly came out, and presently their curiosity became stronger than their fears. Eventually, crowds of men, women and children would ~~xx~~ surround the jeep, jabbering at the

tops of their voices.

They ^{did} managed to drive their jeep half way
up Mount Fuji, ~~driving along above the lowest bank of~~
~~clouds, but over them were still clouds around the peak.~~
~~Occasionally they caught a glimpse of the top of the~~
~~mountain. And that was all.~~

EISENHOWER

In high military circles, the latest report is that the new Chief-of-Staff of the United States Army, succeeding ^{Gen.} Marshall, will be General ~~Dwight D.~~ Eisenhower, ^{this not} ~~nothing~~ official, just a rumor that is traced to Frankfurt in Germany, Eisenhower's headquarters

Of course there have been ~~several~~ rumors ^{before} that General Marshall was about to resign, ~~but they also~~ ^{all} ~~were quite~~ unofficial. Newspapermen in Frankfurt asked questions of high ranking officers on Eisenhower's staff, and their answer was that all they knew was what they had read in the papers. ^{Gen.} Eisenhower himself is touring around Europe and ^{at the moment not} ~~not even~~ available to newspapermen. It has been suggested that his tour was by way of a farewell to the men ~~xx~~ serving under him.

Of course this opens up also a speculation as to who will be ^{Gen.} Eisenhower's successor and how soon he will leave his command in Europe. The best guessing to date is the middle of October, and the ~~scuttlebutt~~ gossip is that he will be succeeded by Lieutenant General Lucius Clay, who is now serving as Eisenhower's Deputy.

Gen. Eisenhower's friends declare he is not anxious to be Chief of Staff. But, as a soldier, he will do whatever he is ordered to do.

MEAT

Just as we were getting ready to say
goodbye to food rationing, we hear that we may have to
go through it all again. The warning comes from President
Truman ^{that we still} ~~himself~~ we may have to go without, in order to
help feed Europe.

The President admitted that in the United
States there is now enough food to meet all the requests
from European countries and U N R R A for the balance
of the year, ^{But he explains that} ~~but~~ they have asked for very little,
because they have exhausted their credit.

~~As soon as satisfactory financial arrangements
have been made, meaning as soon as Congress has
appropriated the money, shipments to Europe of some
foods will be doubled. So, the President set forth, it
may become necessary to resume ration controls of
certain items if they become so short that controls are
required to insure their being properly distributed. And~~

~~If foreign countries and U N R R A obtain more money
from congress, both the Department of ^{Agriculture} ~~Commerce~~ and
the War Production Board have the authority to set aside~~

substantial quantities of food whether ~~it is~~ rationed or not.

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson, who has the last word on food now, said that we could cut out all rationing now or very shortly, so far as the domestic picture is concerned. But, he added, the question of shipments abroad makes it another matter. As for meat, it depends on what we do in Europe.

Mr. Truman is determined to keep the pledge he made when he returned from Potsdam, that we of the United States must help to feed Europe to the limits of our strength.

In London's famous criminal court, Old Bailey the principal character of the day was the one-time broadcaster, known as Lord Haw Haw of Zeesen. William Joyce - which is his real name - was on trial for his life, accused of treason. It became evident that his only defense was that foreshadowed by his preliminary hearing in Bow Street Police - court a couple of months ago, the ~~xxxx~~ plea that he cannot be guilty of treason to the British crown because he is an American citizen. His counsel did not try to deny what Joyce had done during the war, did not try to mitigate the fact that he had broadcast pr^o-nazi propoganda, with his affected exaggerated British pronunciation. He simply harped on the claim that Joyce is an American, born in the United States, and has always remained a citizen. Joyce's lawyer added that he might be forced to ask the Judge to adjourn the trial to bring Joyce's uncle to London from the United States.

The prosecutor, Sir Harvey Shawcross, countered with the statement that it did not matter where Joyce had ~~xx~~ been born, since he had used a British

passport and upon several occasions had the protection which is ~~is~~ accorded by the Crown to British subjects. He clothed himself in the full status of a British subject, added the prosecutor. That made his actions treasonable. In fact, he quoted a statement once made by Joyce in which ^{*Haw Haw before he was Haw Haw*} ~~he~~ said: "I am prepared to draw the sword in British interests".

The presiding Judge agreed with the prosecutor. He overruled the plea of Joyce's lawyer that he was an American citizen and not subject to British jurisdiction. And that looks as though Haw Haw of Zeesen would soon be Haw Haw of the Gallows.

HURRICANE

Throughout the States on the Eastern seaboard, people are fastening shutters on their windows, lashing down chicken coops, securing everything ~~that is~~ moveable, preparing for the big winds that are threatened for tonight. They'll probably blow as far north as New England. The Weather Bureau has issued warnings, particularly to people on the coast of Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Long Island. Storm warnings ~~have been~~ hoisted from Cape Hatteras to Cape Ann, Massachusetts. The average winds will be thirty-five to forty miles an hour, ^{velocity of these} ~~but some may go~~ ^{with some} as high as sixty. ~~miles an hour.~~

^{Meaning} ~~So evidently~~ that hurricane that has done fifty million dollars worth of damage in Florida, is losing ~~some of~~ its violence. As it tore across Florida, the gale reached a velocity of a hundred and forty-three an hour. ^π In Virginia and South Carolina, ^{today,} streets were deserted, all schools closed, workers at the Charleston Navy Yard were sent home, and ~~people still on their~~ ^{many people} ~~vacation~~ rushed inland as far as they could. The streets

of Charleston were flooded with ^{half a foot of} ~~six and a half inches of~~ water, and with rain. At many points the lights kept flickering on and off.

~~But no other state has yet suffered as severely as Florida.~~

SMITH

Nine months ago, the United States Navy announced that Commander Columbus ~~W.~~ Smith of Atlanta, Georgia, was officially dead. Today he was back ~~in~~ among the living with ^{quite a} ~~an extraordinary~~ tale to tell.

Some time ago he resigned from the Navy, but he rejoined in Nineteen Forty and was employed as a pilot on the River Whangpoo, which he knew thoroughly. November twenty-eighth, Nineteen Forty-one, he became Commander of the United States Gunboat Wake. It was the only ship he ever skippered, and his command did ^{not} last long. For ten days later ~~in~~ it was captured by the Japanese.

This remarkable sailor managed to talk his way into the confidence of the Japs. They swallowed his persuasive talk, took him into their confidence. But when he tried to escape from Shanghai, they were offended and charged him with desertion from the Japanese army in wartime. Furthermore, they were going to have his United States pay stopped. But it has never been explained how they proposed to do that.

They sentenced him to death, and commuted the sentence to ten years. He witnessed the torture of many Allied prisoners, by now an old, old story. But when he told them he did not propose to put up with such treatment himself, he again managed to impress them and they did ~~not~~ not commit any atrocity on him.

For eighteen months Commander Columbus Smith planned his escape over the twenty-five foot ~~high~~ walls of the Municipal Jail in Shanghai. With seven other prisoners he made it, October Sixth, Nineteen Forty-four. He actually passed through the streets of Shanghai in prison clothes under the very noses of Japanese sentries. The Japs recaptured five of the eight, including Commander Winfred Scot Cunningham, who had been naval commander on Wake Island.

Smith and two other prisoners walked two hundred miles and reached Nanchang, in the Province of Kiangsi. Chinese guerrillas helped him to join American military forces in China, and ~~a United States~~ ^{an American} plane picked him up and took him to Chungking. Thence he was

flown to Washington, where he gave important information to the Navy. The Admirals ^{then} asked him ^{if he would} volunteer for espionage duty. Smith agreed. To throw the Japs off the trail, the Navy announced that Smith was dead, and even notified his wife to that effect. And so for the last nine months that has been his employment.

But, there ^{is still} another ~~amazing~~ angle to the Smith story. While he was in prison in Shanghai, the Navy promoted him to ^{the rank of} Commander. But his increase of pay could not go into effect until he signed an acceptance of the commission. That means he lost out on considerable back pay. But Smith said today in Washing^{to}n "I'll fix that", and he explained: "I've instructed my wife to file a claim for Ten Thousand Dollars ⁱⁿ war insurance, and she might be able to collect, ^{says he} since the Navy has listed me as dead".

And now, like Commander Columbus Smith, here's Hugh, also very much alive