

STRIKES

C.I. - Sunoco. Thursday, Jan. 31, 1946.

Congress this afternoon took a vote that indicates ~~some of the most~~ drastic action in dealing with strikes. The ^{House} ~~Legislators~~ decided to consider a bill introduced by Congressman Case of South Carolina. The vote was merely to consider, ~~and but~~ it is taken as a sign that ^{the} ~~a~~ bill, ^{or} something like it, will be passed -- a drastic measure to curb strikes. The Majority was two hundred and fifty eight to one hundred and fourteen. The Republicans were overwhelmingly in favor of considering ^{the} ~~a~~ bill, and so were most of the Democrats. ~~And so we may look forward to the Case Bill as something that will be much in the news during the next few days.~~

^{This bill}
~~It~~ is meant to take the place of President Truman's fact finding idea. The Presidential proposal for legislation to ~~xxxxxx~~ create fact finding committees in labor/disputes was chopped up by the congressional committee considering it, ~~was~~ ~~an~~ weakened and watered down. In the new bill strong medicine will be substituted.

The measure provides that both unions and companies shall be liable in court for any violation of their contracts. It calls for a thirty day non-strike cooling off period in labor disputes affecting the national interest. The bill would forbid union boycotts and violence in picketing and ~~it~~ proposes a ~~new~~ labor-management mediation board. ^{This} ~~They~~ to be appointed by the President, would apparently be a substitute for the Presidential fact finding boards -- and ~~they~~ would be given legal backing.

Opponents of this legislation concede that the way the voting went today was a test of congressional sentiment on ~~any~~ strike legislation. It indicates ^d ~~a~~ a strong feeling that something must be done about the wave of strikes -- and ^{probably} ~~possibly~~ the bill will pass.

Meanwhile, President Truman announces that the ^{government} ~~government~~ will not seize the strike-bound steel plants. Such seizure, is not under

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consideration, says the White House. It has been noted that the steel industry is so huge, with so many plants, that it would be an enormous job for the government to take them over.

~~Yet, the C I O today at the whole thing up to the White House. A Union President Philip Murray, speaking of union attempts to come to an agreement with United States Steel states:-~~

~~"We have done all we can. It is now up to the President. Then later came the news that the President is not considering a seizure of the steel plants.~~

More and more, the suggestion is being expressed among the leaders of industry that the way to settle the steel strikes, and other strikes ~~taxes~~ too, is to permit price raises that ~~will~~ will take care of wage raises. Today Henry Ford Jr. suggested that it would be a good thing to end price control except for such things as food and rent, the immediate necessities for the people.

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He argued that, if prices were allowed to rise in basic industries like steel, it would permit large scale production to get ~~in~~ going -- and that would check the rise of prices. Henry Ford Jr. contended that price control that holds down production, instead of checking ~~inflation~~ inflation, tends to promote it. "Inflation" said he, "exists when there are too few products for people to buy with the money they have. ^{That} Inflation grows out of scarcity". ^{TP} And he ~~as~~ warned that unless the steel strike comes to an end the Ford Motor Company will have to shut down completely this week - ~~the~~ because ^{of a lack} ~~the lack~~ of steel.

PALESTINE

In Jerusalem today the sounds of a ram's horn was heard [—] and ~~also~~ an outcry of wailing. The ram's horn is the ancient Jewish symbol of distress, and scores of Jews gathered and lamented at that ancient place of woe, the wailing wall.

This ~~was the~~ ^{be} cause of the British decision to permit ^{only} fifteen hundred Jews to enter Palestine each month. Recently no Jewish immigrants have been allowed to enter. The British consulted the Arabs, and they were opposed, demanding that there be no immigration. The Jews wanted unlimited immigration -- and so the British decision is a compromise that pleases neither party.

In Jerusalem all Jewish owned business places were closed for three hours today, ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ protest. ~~In~~ At Tel Aviv ten thousand Jews held public protest meeting. Two thousand gathered at Haifa. The Jewish agency stated that the British decision permitted ^{ing} ~~ed~~ fifteen hundred Jews ^{a month} ~~to~~ enter Palestine, ~~a month~~ had, in the words of the agency,

2outraged Jewish feelings". The agency added that British consultation with the Arabs on the subject had violated the League of Nations mandate.

The British were prepared for trouble today and ~~in~~ Jerusalem was heavily guarded by police, *with* and armored cars patrolled the streets, but thus far no disturbances have been reported.

JAP SHIP

For the first time in five years, a merchant ship flying the Rising Sun of Japan is out ^{on} the Pacific. It sailed from Tokyo today -- bound for the United States. This resumes commercial shipping between the two countries. The Japanese cargo vessel being loaded with raw silk -- ~~xxx~~ silk in payment for American merchandise that has been sent to Japan.

CHINA

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A war ended today, ended officially -- a war that has^d lasted for eighteen years. That is, the China Civil War, which went on all through the conflict with Japan, after having begun in the early days of the rule of Chiang Kai Shek, ~~in China~~.

Of course, we've been told about the settlement in China, the armistice between the Nationalists and the Chinese Communists, and the agreement to form a coalition government^{along} ~~along~~ democratic lines, Chiang Kai Shek to be the constitutional head of the State.

Well, all of this was made final and official today when the plan was ~~was~~ okayed by the Peoples Consultative Assembly -- after having been drawn up and fully approved by the representatives of the Nationalists and the Reds.

According to the plan, an interim government is being formed to hold power until national democratic elections can be held. At the same time the armies of the Nationalists and the Communists,

both much reduced in size, will be merged and reorganized along western lines. This will be done under the supervision of ^{a joint} ~~both~~ nationalist and communist committees, with a special advisor. The advisor is -- American Ambassador General ~~Guo~~, Marshall.

PIPE LINE

Here's a news item stating that one of the greatest of all the works of war is on its way to the junk heap -- the longest pipe line in the world. That fabulous pipe line the American Army built from India to China. A dispatch from Delhi states that one stretch of nine hundred miles has been sold for scrap to a firm of India junk dealers.

Why has the pipe line been junked, after being built with such enormous effort and expense? Well, the answer is to be had right here in the studio. There are many great untold stories of World War II still to be told; and here is one of them:- Major J. Norton Christie was one of the engineering officers in the building of the pipe line. In civilian life he had been regional engineer for the Sun Oil Company.

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here in Jacksonville, Florida, -- ^{The Major} ~~and knew about~~
~~has been telling me how~~
~~lines for transferring oil. Getting into the Army~~
~~he was assigned to that huge India to China~~
~~pipeline task. And now~~
~~now can tell us why~~ it has been scraped. ^{Tell us} ~~how about~~
^{why}
St Major Christie?

MAJOR CHRISTIE: There are two reasons: One --

most of the pipe line was not built of permanent materials. Light pipe was all we could get, for the most part -- not the kind of material to last a long time. And secondly -- piping oil and gasoline ^{over the Himalayas} from India to China is not a reasonable and economic thing to do in ordinary times. During the war it was ~~xxxxxx~~ of vital importance, but not in peace time -- when oil can be shipped to China ^{by sea,} much more cheaply.

H.T. We have heard about that pipe line - and what a stupendous job it was.

MAJOR C: Well, it ran from Calcutta in India up the Brahmaputra River Valley along the Ledo and Burma roads, over the jungle covered mountains of

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Burma and The Hump - and on to China. It was eighteen hundred miles long and ran over mountain ranges and Himalayan passes nearly 9000 feet high.

L.T. I've been over that country, Major, and can picture the difficulties you Army people had in that land of elephants, tigers and reptiles. You told me about an American who stepped on a huge python, thinking it was part of the pipe line till it started to move.

MAJOR C: Yes, we had plenty of trouble. The way for the pipe line had to be cut through the dense jungle. During the Monsoon rains we had to drive ahead through mud and water. There were great land slides. The men suffered from malaria, typhus and disentry -- and swarms of leeches. One typhus bug, if it bit you, killed you in three days. Sometimes we were held up by fighting just ahead, troops clearing out the Japs. As Allied forces advanced down into Burma, we built the pipe line behind them, kept them supplied with oil, and then carried the line on into China. We had two other Sun Oil men besides myself - Col Birney K. Morse, and Col. W. C. Kinsolving.

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L.T. Did you have any trouble with the natives?
Did they tamper with the pipe line?

MAJOR C: Our trouble was not so much with the natives in Burma. We kept them frightened off pretty well. Several times natives were burned by blazing gasoline from the pipe line. We spread word among them that anybody who fooled around with it would likely be burned up. ~~That~~ That scared them and they steered clear of the pipe line.

L.T. Then who caused the trouble?

MAJOR CHRISTIE: The Chinese, especially the Chinese soldiers. They cut the ~~pipe~~ line to steal gasoline for making fires. And they'd shoot up the pipe line, just for the fun of it. ~~it was impossible~~

~~to keep the whole immense length guarded, and the Chinese ^{didn't} caused any amount of trouble -- they didn't~~
frighten so easily.

L.T. All a part of the job of building the India-China pipe line which now has been sold for junk.

BOMB

For more than a week bomb disposal experts have been trying to defuse that big bomb ~~x~~ and make it harmless; the thousand pounder buried in a corner of Saint James Park, in a pond. Digging a shaft, the bomb disposal experts have suddenly come upon still another -- buried in the suck pond. This one a two thousand pound block buster, one of the biggest hurled by the Nazis on London during the great blitz.

And, the third is smaller. They found it accidentally in Lovers' Lane, where romantic London couples have sighed since the time of Henry the Eighth. The much married Blue Beard King. The smaller bomb in Lovers' Lane is less of a public peril. But it might blow up some lovers -- which would be sad indeed.

The ominous familiar fact is that if one bomb were to explode the other two might go up with it -- in which case, nearby Buckingham Palace would be hard hit, and Central Hall and U.N.U. session. Today the staff in the Palace was warned to leave that wing of the Royal

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residence ^{facing} ~~which faces~~ St. James Park, for fear
that it might be knocked crashing down. The King
and Queen, as it happens, are not at home. They
left for the country several days ago, shortly
before the discovery of bomb number two in the duck
pond, and bomb number three in Lovers' Lane.

PLANE

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Tonight in Wyoming, they hope to get to the top of Elk Mountain tomorrow ^{morning,} -- a search party to scale the steep slopes of the rugged peak. They expect to find the wreckage of the plane reported lost today -- an airline ^π~~plane~~ with eighteen passengers aboard and a crew of three. Bound from Portland, Oregon to New York, the plane was ~~reported~~ overdue this morning, ~~and~~ ^h a search by air began. In the afternoon ~~one of the~~ ^a scout planes ~~reported~~ spotting ^{ed} wreckage high up on Elk Mountain -- apparently the wreckage of the missing liner.

Soon thereafter; ~~exactly~~ clouds and fog closed over the summit and prevented further air observation. A search party was formed to climb the ~~mt~~ mountain. The last word is a statement from a ranch at the foot of the peak -- that, ^{so} far ^{as} people there can tell, the search party won't be able to get to the top of the ~~mt~~ mountain ~~ix~~ until tomorrow ^{morning.} So, presumably hours will go by before there is definite news about the plane crash and possible survivors.

INTELLIGENCE

President Turman is going to meet Winston Churchill here in Florida. It's official now.

And while I'm down here in the South, I think I'll try to pick up some *Centella Asiatica* -- which according to a news dispatch today has just been discovered in North Carolina. I could use a bit of it. It's a plant, of remarkable properties -- the Intelligence Plant. It stimulates the brain, and causes profound reflection and a great illumination of the intellect. So we are told.

The *Centella Asiatica* has been known hitherto in India, where the Hindu sages, Mahatmas and Gurus, claim that the leaves of the plant stimulate a great profundity of thinking. You brew a tea of the leaves, drink it -- and you're a genius.

A North Carolina botanist, Professor B.M. Wells tells us that the *Centella Asiatica* is an insignificant little herb. In fact, the Professor says the intelligence plant is a member of the same family as the carrot, the humble carrot. Now instead of eating carrots perhaps we'll turn to its cousin, *Centella Asiatica*, and see

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what happens. Anyway, it's great news. An easy way to become a profound thinker. You just eat Centella Asiatica and when you push back from the table, you are a genius. And now for our So Long ~~Rmr~~ Until Tomorrow, back to you Hugh.