

L.T.-P.G. Mon. May 5 '52. (San Francisco.)

STEEL

The steel dispute is marking time waiting for a decision from the Supreme Court. The White House palaver between companies and union, with President Truman presiding, came to nothing. It now remains for the court to give its verdict on Judge David Pine's injunction declaring the government seizure unconstitutional.

In the middle of all of the suspense, U.S. Steel, biggest of them all, ^{had} ~~at~~ a stockholders' meeting at Hoboken, New Jersey today -- 268,000 shareholders ^{resented,} ~~resented~~. Almost as many shareholders as workers, I suppose.

The question of the seizure of steel was presented by company officials -- but the lively part of it all was a battle between rival groups of women stockholders. The ladies got into a verbal clash, with shouts and screams -- and turned the whole thing into pandemonium. Having, not only the last word -- but nearly all the words.)

OIL STRIKE

The pinch is increasing, because of the oil strike -- now six days old. Commercial airlines and mid-western motorists are feeling the fuel shortage -- gasoline supplies restricted.

But hope for settlement arose today when the Union announced that wage demands have been decreased. (Previously, the strikers were insisting on a hike of 28¢ an hour now cut down to -- 18½¢ an hour. Which is in accordance with the settlement on the West Coast, between Standard Oil of California and an independent union.)

PRIMARY

Maryland had a primary election today -- about as unexciting as you could make one. The only name on the Democratic ticket - Kefauver. The Senator taking an early lead against a slate of uninstructed delegates.

On the Republican side, no presidential name at all on the ballot -- the voters merely choosing delegates to the Republican National Convention.

No write-ins / ~~permitted~~, no contest, no excitement, no nothing.

POLITICS

In the political battle, a new leader takes an important command in the boom for Senator Taft. Lt. Gen. Albert ^{e.} Wedemeyer becomes chairman of a "National Citizens for Taft Committee." Gen. Wedemeyer, who won a high distinction in the Pacific War, states ^{that} he was urged by Gen. Douglas MacArthur -- to step forward in behalf of the Senator from Ohio.

(In New York, still another General made a statement today. -- Lucius Clay, former American Commander in Germany, ~~is~~ backing Gen. Eisenhower -- ~~and~~ gives information about speeches General Ike will make upon his return home in June. Gen. Clay says that Eisenhower, seeking the Republican nomination, will not campaign in what Clay calls -- "the accepted sense of getting out and stumping." He won't go on any tour of the whistle stops -- but will content himself with a series of major addresses.)

FOLLOW POLITICS

Here's loud support for still another General -- that legended Oklahoma statesman, "Alfalpa "Bill" Murray coming out for MacArthur. Eighty-three years old, with ~~z~~ ^{his} famous handle-bar mustaches bristling, "Alfalpa Bill" said there were only four great Generals in history -- Charlemagne, Frederick The Great, Napoleon and MacArthur. What -- no Alexander The Great? No Hannibal? No Caesar? However, that may be, "Alfalpa Bill" was in New York today -- booming ~~z~~ MacArthur.

FOREIGN AID

The Senate vote^(S) to delay in the debate on the Foreign Aid program -- intending to see ~~that~~ ^{if} any of the funds should be diverted to the U.S. Military forces. The news today tells of testimony -- that there is a shortage of ammunition in Korea, *and a* ~~the~~ menace of obsolete war planes. Warning -- against cuts in funds for United States armament. So the Senate wants to consider the question of using some of the European ~~own~~ ^{aid} money to increase our own strength.

GERM WARFARE

(Today's alleged confessions of germ warfare are questioned immediately. Officers in Korea say they can't tell whether or not the voices on the Chinese Red radio are actually those of American fliers. Or, if so -- what means were used in obtaining the "confessions".

The Reds report them as tape recordings -- the two fliers telling how they were instructed, at secret briefings, about bombs loaded with germ-bearing insects. And -- how they dropped bacteriological bombs in North Korea.)

The two fliers are named as Lt. Kenneth Enoch of Youngstown, Ohio, and Lt. John Quinn, no address.

The alleged confessions are the more dubious because they are larded with typical Communist propaganda. Lt. Enoch, for example,

Germ Warfare -- #2

saying: "I see all the more clearly the lies and untruthful war propaganda of the Wall Street radio and press."

In Moscow, meanwhile, five British businessmen are quoted on the subject of germ warfare. They attended a recent Red Trade Conference -- and were given a trip through Siberia to Red China. Where, they say, the Chinese Communists played for them recorded confessions of American fliers. They add that they were shown fragments of bacteriological bombs. Which, it would appear, might well have been pieces of propaganda bombs filled with pamphlets, and shot into the Red lines.

The whole picture is one of the Reds bearing down on their latest -- big lie. American germ warfare in Korea.

Meanwhile, our side makes a charge of --

Germ Warfare -- #3

narcotic warfare by the Reds. Today, at the United Nations in New York, the statement was made that Communists are smuggling drugs into Japan -- to promote narcotic addiction there. And -- use the proceeds to pay for strategic materials needed in Communist China.

NORTH POLE

(For the first time in history -- an airplane has landed at the North Pole -- a dispatch from Anchorage, Alaska, states that the Pole has been conquered again - this time, by an Air Force transport, a C-47, which came down on the ice at the top-most point of this earth, and then took off and flew back to its base.)

Well, this has been coming for some time.

Weather observation planes, based on Alaska have been flying to the Pole on regular schedule -- though without landing, ~~of course~~, at the tip top of the North. During recent months, a Navy scientific expedition has been pushing with landings further and further toward the Pole - making scientific observations. Sooner or later, they were sure to reach that final goal -- and that, now, has happened.

It happened last Saturday, but word has been delayed -- because of bad communications in the Far North. The take off was from one of those Navy stations

established on the ~~next~~ polar ice -- and the flight was one hundred and thirty-five miles. The pilot -- Colonel William Benedi^ct of Paradise, California. With a co-pilot -- Lt. Colonel Joseph Fletcher, of Shawnee, Oklahoma. Their C-47 -- equipped with both wheels and skis. They flew straight for that point, which navigation showed to be -- the ultimate North. There they landed and Colonel Benedict sent a message, brief, and informal, yet historic. He radioed: "Operation instructions carried out -- no sweat." Air Force gargon meaning -- no trouble, no difficulty. Something new and slangy for historic messages -- "no sweat."

They remained at the Pole for three-hours-and-ten-minutes, and then took off and flew back. And still "no sweat".

Such is the gist of an epoch-making news dispatch which is altogether too brief. "Details of the landing," says the dispatch, "were not known immediately, because of poor radio communications."

However, we can fill in with a thing or two

about how they did the most difficult thing of all - the take off from an ice field at the North Pole - where no plane had ever landed before. The latitude and longitude where no human foot had ever been set - except by Admiral Peary and Matt Henson on the historic North Pole trip some forty years ago.

The plane used, the C-47, has had the benefit of some intensive development for Arctic work - with jato and rato - jet propulsion and rocket assistance.

If so happens that I, myself, saw something of this - on the Juneau icecap, where a scientific expedition has been making studies of the great glacier area -- an expedition sent out by the American Geographical Society. On this expedition they also were experimenting with jato and rato, and C-47s. Jato, jet assisted, -- and rato, rocket assisted ~~xx~~ take offs -- giving a plane an extra boost to get off rough ice - over crevasses. I not only saw ~~xxxxxx~~ these experiments, but I took ~~in~~ part in them. And some

of it was hair-raising - over those crevasses.

The plane, trying to take off, sometimes couldn't get up enough speed, and we failed to get into the air even with the jet and rocket ~~■~~ propulsion.

As it happens, by coincidence, this week I'm showing here on the Coast - in Pasadena and Los Angeles - the motion pictures we made on that icecap -- including those experimental spectacular take - offs with jet and rocket; and also scenes down in the crevasses where ~~of course~~ no plane could go, unless it crashed.

It's hard to describe the sensation of getting off in one of those big planes with skis and wheels, rumbling over the ice, over dangerous stretches. Then, the pilot touches a button that sends an electrical impulse to the cylinders of gas under the fusilage. Whereupon with a roar and a deafening swoosh you are catapulted into the air, with a ~~■ ■ ■ ■ ■~~ strange sensation, something like being shot out of a cannon. Exactly like this plane that came down

at the top of the world and then in getting off was
hurled into the air -- swoosh at the North Pole.

WEATHER

The middlewest is having an unseasonable heat wave -- which caused a freakish phenemenon on Lake Huron today. A tidal wave -- called a Seiche, a name bestowed by the French of old. The surface of the water rises, when there is a sudden change of air pressure, accompanied by rain squalls. Which happened today, and three tidal waves hit Port Huron, Michigan. ~~Three -- thirty five and forty five minutes~~ apart, which ^{Flooding} flooded a considerable part of the town.

SCIENTISTS

This weekend brought ^{an} ~~that~~ event ^{that} ~~which~~ makes a stay in San Francisco so delightful for this program -- a party with atomic scientists ~~at~~ of the radiation laboratory, ^{of the} University of California, at Berkeley. We gathered at the home of laboratory administrator, Rex Barton, an old friend. This time there was something special. Two of the scientists at the party had recently become Nobel Prize winners -- in the latest ^(grant) ~~award~~ of that world-famous honor. Dr. Glen Seaborg and Dr. Edwin MacMillan -- sharing the ^{award} ~~Nobel Prize~~ for Chemistry.

A number of the wives of scientists were there, including Mrs. MacMillan -- and that points up a Nobel Prize angle, which has ^(not) ~~never~~ been mentioned, I believe. Yet, it is one of ^{those} ~~the~~ fascinating oddities of human life. For the first time, there are two sisters whose husbands are Nobel Prize winners. ^{All} ~~What~~ ~~is~~ ~~the~~ ~~part~~ ~~of~~ ~~an~~ ~~amusing~~ ~~story~~ ^{-- as} related, with laughs, by Mrs. ^{Ed} MacMillan.

Connecticut
At New Haven, ^{Ed} there were four sisters, and the family name was Blumer. So, ^{naturally} they were called --

So now Edwin MacMillan, too, has won the Nobel Prize. ~~xxxxxxx~~ Which makes the two sisters, the one-time Bloomer Girls -- the wives of Nobel Prize winners.

Mrs. MacMillan, [^] told me ~~xxxxx~~ that ~~laughingxxxxxxx~~

~~xxxxxxx~~ she had a chance to go back ⁱⁿ to ~~the~~ radio. At a San Francisco station they wanted her to take part in a ^{program} ~~xxxxxxx~~ -- and, she explained laughingly, play the part of: "A scientist's dumb wife."

So she took the offer to her husband -- and got all mixed up. She told him she was to ^{be} ~~xxxxxxx~~

"a dumb scientists wife." That cooked the goose. ~~xxxx~~ he said: definitely and firmly; ^{No! And} He was quite right. ~~xxxxxxx~~

^{A)} ~~xxxxxxx~~ Nobel Prize winner ^{is not} ~~xxxxxxx~~ -- "a dumb scientist."

~~xxxxxxx~~ The lighter side of life among atomic scientists -- ~~xx~~ amusing part of that oddity -- two sisters married to Nobel Prize winners,

~~both colleagues in atomic science~~

And now Nelson --

man

TAX

(In Washington, today, former Chief Tax Collector Joseph Nunan refused to answer questions about where he got the money he used in financial transactions. Declining to answer -- on constitutional grounds.

The Committee has evidence, for example, that Nunan made a deposit of more than \$10,000.00 in a bank in 1945 -- while he was Internal Revenue Commissioner. *Asked about that* ~~To which~~ he replied by citing constitutional guarantees, according to which he could not be made a witness against himself.

But he did swear that he never received any compensation, other than his government salary -- for service connected with income tax.)