

The present boom of prosperity in this country was disclosed in the form of figures today - figures showing that the average weekly earnings of Americans are now at an all-time high. This emanates from the Labor Department, which discloses that wages in manufacturing rose in May to a record average of forty-eight-dollars-and-eighty-six cents a week. The previous peak was established during the war - forty-seven-dollars-and-a-half a week. That was for a wartime forty-five hour week, while the still higher figure right now is for a week that averages forty-and-four-tenths hours.

At the same time, unemployment has tied the previous low record. Right now there are less than two million unemployed, matching a similar low figure for last Fall.

Furthermore, housing construction is booming to a new peak, the prediction being that Nineteen Forty-Seven will show a figure of twelve billion dollars invested in the construction of new buildings.

All of which is the technical background for a Labor Department report that this nation's economic position is now on what the report calls -

"A high level, a plateau, with plenty of strength." ~~and~~

*With* ~~there is~~ no sign of a slump in the making, the Labor

Department ~~puts that fact in the following words:~~ *puts it as follows: -*

"There is nothing in the current picture to indicate any general downtrend or recession."

## LABOR BILL

~~President Truman will take action on the Labor Bill - Friday. The deadline is Friday night - for a decision of a veto or sign.~~ The President still refuses to give any indication of what he'll do <sup>on the Labor Bill;</sup> but the prevailing guess in Washington is - veto.

It would appear that the White House has never been under such heavy pressure - floods of mail and telegrams urging the President to veto that Labor Bill to which the Unions are so bitterly opposed. Seven hundred thousand messages have reached the White House thus far, and they ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> pouring in at the rate of ten thousand letters and forty thousand postal cards, and two thousand telegrams a day.

~~The brunt of the pressure, naturally enough,~~ <sup>Mainly</sup> ~~is coming~~ from the A. F. of L. and C.I.O., the unions sponsoring what is called "A veto caravan," ~~Automobile parties~~ from cities all the way out to the coast ~~are~~ ~~xxx~~ pouring into Washington, for a parade tomorrow - and the C.I.O. ~~is~~ presenting veto petitions which ~~xx~~ they claim have five hundred thousand signatures.



## JOINT TAX

The Treasury Department has given Congress an income-splitting plan to allow husbands and wives to divide up the total family income for purposes of taxation. According to the scheme, a husband and a wife could each report half of their total income, even though the husband earned it all - which, of course, would mean a considerable saving.

The details of the plan were submitted today by the Treasury Department to the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, and Republican Congressman Robertson of North Dakota told ~~that~~ the Committee that it should be adopted - to cancel out an inequality that now exists. In ten states, right now, ~~that~~ husband and wife are permitted to divide up their combined income in reporting it for taxation. This, argued the North Dakota Congressman, produces inequality - the states that permit this kind of community property having an advantage over the non-community property states. At present ~~t~~ nine hundred thousand husbands and wives split their income and file separate tax returns - a



privilege which, according to the present plan, would be extended to all income taxpayers who might want to split income between husband and wife in reporting for taxation.

## MARSHALL PLAN

( Great Britain and France have issued an appeal to Soviet Russia: - please come in and join the Marshall Plan! ) It was announced in Paris tonight that British Foreign Secretary Bevin and French Foreign Minister Bidault have dispatched a note to Moscow, urging the Soviets to participate in the program proposed by the American Secretary of State - the European nations to get together in a concerted effort to do what they can for themselves, and the United States to fill in with whatever Europe is unable to provide.

There's not much optimism in Paris about a Soviet reply, the key to the matter being the fact that today French Communist papers continued their bitter attacks on the Marshall Plan. *throwing* all their Communist catch-phrases to condemn the American scheme to help in ~~the~~ *the* economic reorganization of Europe. It is taken for granted that French Red Journalism is getting its orders from Moscow - is following the party line as dictated by the Stalin Regime.

But the ~~xxx~~ British and the French ~~are~~ *are*



~~to be eager~~  
~~simply falling over themselves~~ to take advantage of the offer made by our Secretary of State. Today, Bevin and his economic experts were in tireless conference with French officials. They <sup>are</sup> not only going into the business with great alacrity, but they <sup>are</sup> also getting results. Bevin arrived in Paris yesterday, and right away today French Foreign Minister Bidault announced that an agreement had been reached on how to make a quick start. Bevin has okayed a French plan to create what the news dispatch calls - "A special European economic commission to carry out the Marshall Plan."

This Commission, as proposed by France, will name four technical committees to work out schemes of coordinating the four principal branches of European economy - coal, steel, transport and agriculture. ~~in~~ each branch they'll try to arrange economic cooperation between the nations for the two-fold purpose as set forth by General Marshall - <sup>that is,</sup> figure out what Europe, by concerted international action, can do; and what Europe then will need.



The latest is a sudden denial of the official announcement of this agreement. A denial issued by a spokesman of the French Foreign Office. This is a diplomatic sensation in Paris tonight, ~~But~~ it is not being taken too seriously in the face of the official statement earlier in the day. The belief is that the British and French do not want to flaunt their agreement in the face of Soviet Russia - ~~do not~~ <sup>-- that they don't</sup> want to seem to present the Soviets with an accomplished fact, in which Moscow ~~x~~ had no part. It is taken for granted that the official announcement was correct - and that Britain and France have agreed on an organization for taking advantage of the American<sup>n</sup> offer.

To a newsman who has been watching these international parleys and palavers for a long time, it's a new sensation to see how fast and with what decision they <sup>are</sup> ~~are~~ getting into action with the Marshall Plan in Europe. Britain and France, ~~wasting~~ wasting mightily little time, are agreeing on practical measures. It almost gives

one a feeling the program suggested by the American Secretary of State has rallied European nations ~~for~~ for a get together - the like of which hasn't been seen for a long time. <sup>(Here's hoping. The</sup> ~~The~~ Marshall Plan may well turn out to be a surprising force <sup>toward</sup> ~~of~~ pulling Europe together for economic coordination.)

## PALESTINE

In the all-Jewish City of Tel Aviv today, there was a violent explosion - with all sorts of melodramatic angles. ~~The blast was in the basement of a building only sixty yards from British Security Headquarters - one of the most heavily guarded buildings in Palestine.~~ The British police say there was a plot that almost caused the greatest disaster in the recent violent history of ~~the~~ the Holy land. Why did the plot fail? What happened? That's one of the strangest parts of the story.

British authorities declare that in the basement of the apartment house was a hidden armament factory, where terrorists of the Jewish Underground, Irgun Zvai Leumi, made weapons and explosives. At the same time, the apartment house basement was the starting <sup>point</sup> for an attempt to blow up the British Security Headquarters - only sixty yards away. <sup>That is,</sup> from the basement a tunnel had been dug in the direction of the Security Building, and ~~xxx~~ had only a few <sup>more</sup> yards to go. The supposition is that the Terrorists intended to pack explosives under the Security



Headquarters and blow it up. Instead, the basement <sup>and</sup> ~~blew~~  
*its Jewish Underground plant, blew* up today, with a violent blast. One man ~~was~~ killed. When  
the police investigated the wreckage in the basement,  
they found the body of a Zionist believed to have been a  
member of the Irgun Zvai Leumi.

But they also found something else. In the  
wreckage the police picked up a note written in Hebrew,  
a note saying: "Haganah has ~~just~~ just been here." Haganah,  
of course, is the main Jewish Underground Army, moderate  
in policy, the Armed Force directed by the Jewish Agency.  
Haganah is opposed to the doings of the Terrorists and  
has issued a stern warning - no violence while the  
Commission of the United Nations is in Palestine. That  
Commission, investigating the problem of the Holy Land,  
has been holding hearings in Jerusalem - and today is  
making an inspection tour.

The note found in the wreckage of the ~~basement~~  
basement is believed to indicate that Haganah was making  
good its warning - no terrorism while the U.N. commission  
is conducting its investigation. Supposedly the

moderate forces of the Jewish Underground knew about the plot to blow up the British Security Headquarters at Tel Aviv, and took action to forestall it - by blowing up the basement from which the attempt was being made. That is believed to have been the meaning of the note in Hebrew found in the wreckage - Haganah has just been here!

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Later news from Tel Aviv:- Hagana admits its part in today's explosion. Moreover, Hagana says that the dead man found in the wrecked basement was ~~not~~ not a member of Irgun Zvai Leumi. Instead ~~was~~ a member of Hagana's Army. In fact he was the one who detonated the mine that was to have blown up British headquarters in Tel Aviv. His name: Zeev Werber; just twenty years old.

Hagana tonight is appealing to the public of Tel Aviv ~~to~~ to attend Werber's funeral, describing him as "an officer killed in action while saving Tel Aviv".

## BRITISH LABOR LEADER

In London today, newsmen flocked to the bare shabby house of a penniless old man. At the same time members of Parliament, with Prime Minister Attlee presiding, held a meeting to consider the case of the seventy-eight year old Patriarch, who was in ~~aid~~ distress.

He is John Robert Clynes, for long years known as - the grand old man of the Labor Party. He was a member of the House of Commons for thirty-five ~~xxxx~~ years. In the Coalition Government during the first World War, he was food comptroller, later Lord Privy Seal. ~~xx~~ After which he was Deputy Leader of the House of Commons, and then Secretary of State for ~~xxxx~~ Home Affairs

During his long service in Parliament, there was one thing especially, in which John Robert Clynes played a prominent part. This was the organization of a pension plan for retired M.P.'s. Clynes was one of the foremost in establishing a fund out of which pensions could be paid to members of Parliament who might be in need after retiring from policitcal office. That's the ironical part of it - because it turned out that, when



the grand old man of the Labor Party fell into need, he himself was not eligible for one of those pensions.

Seventy-eight years old now, he kept his troubles to himself - out of pride. Even now he would still not speak out, if it were not for his wife, to whom he has been married for fifty years. She was injured during the wartime bombings of London, crippled in the blitz, an invalid ever ~~xi~~ since - and requires hospital care. So, because of his invalid wife, the grand old man of the Labor ~~R~~ Party had to pocket his pride and ~~disclose~~ disclose his plight of poverty. This he did in typical British fashion - by writing a letter to the London Times.

His letter, published in the Times today, explains that all his lifetime savings have been used up for hospital expenses for his wife. He gets a Trade Union pension of about twenty-four dollars a week - which pays less than a half of the medical costs. This income at the same time, prevents him from qualifying for a House of Commons pension. ~~That~~ plan, as he helped ~~to~~ draw it up,

applies only to retired M.P.'s with incomes of less than ~~xxx~~ about eighteen dollars a week. So now he appeals for a change to be made in his favor. Referring to his thirty-five years as a member of Parliament, he writes, "I may ask, what would be ~~xx~~ said about a private employer who turned away an old servant of seventy-eight without a ~~shilling??~~ shilling?"

If John Robert Clynes was embarrassed and put aside his pride, you can imagine the embarrassment of the British Labor Party, from the Prime Minister on down the line of Cabinet Members and M.P.'s - at this publication of the plight of their old time labor party leader. So today hasty measures were being taken to make a Parliamentary pension available to the grand old man of the Labor Party, First World War Food ~~Comptroller~~ Comptroller, <sup>Deputy</sup> ~~xxxxxxx~~ one time Lord Privy Seal, Deputy Leader of the Commons, ~~and~~ Secretary of State for Home Affairs, and one-time Lord Privy Seal.

CLIPPER

The Pan American Clipper America, carrying a group of American editors and publishers on the first Round-The-World scheduled commercial flight is somewhere over Europe tonight. Next stop Istanbul, Turkey.

The Round-the-World travelers, during their brief stay in London, met members of the British Cabinet, had tea with Prime Minister Attlee, and attended a reception at the American Embassy. About now they should be over Italy.



## BOAT RACE

The Harvard-Yale crew race, oldest American intercollegiate sports rivalry -- won ~~today~~ today by Harvard. The margin -- two lengths.

A stirring victory for Harvard, and also a sort of victory for the University of Washington.

Coach of today's victorious Harvard crew was Big Tom Bolles, who once pulled a strong oar in those winning crews the huskies are always sending to Poughkeepsie.

Harvard's crew won today in typical Washington fashion: Rowing at a lower stroke than its rivals but with devastating power and drive.

For Tom Bolles beating Yale is getting to be a habit. Bolles has coached Harvard crews for eleven years and his Harvard varsities have beaten Yale exactly ~~eleven~~ eleven times.

## DRYS

The wets and the drys were opposed in the Idaho elections today. The drys winning by a margin of almost four to one.

Not that Idaho has gone quite as dry as the desert. Hardly that. A worshipper of John Barleycorn still can lug home a bottle or two. But from now on, he'll have to buy it in state-owned liquor stores. No more short snorts over the bar.

There ~~is~~ are four cities left in Idaho where you still can hook your heel on to a bar rail. But the rest of Idaho, well, almost dry. Mebbe it was something they drank, Nelson. But then you wouldn't know; you being an authority on water.

## MOROCCO

Plenty of people have been wondering about the reaction, the return and escape of Abd-El Krim would have in North Africa. Some years ago he was the lion of the Sahara, who led his tribesmen of the Riff to victory against the Spaniards and the French - and it took a full scale campaign before the armies of France were able to defeat and capture him. <sup>TP</sup> They exiled him to a remote island in the Indian Ocean; and then recently the French allowed him to come back for what was intended to be a quiet, pleasant exile in Europe. But, on the way, Abd-El Kim just walked off the boat in Egypt - and was given sanctuary by the Egyptian Government, as a hero of Islam.

It was surmised at the time that this might have repercussions among the warlike tribes of the Riff. *The Riff is* ~~but now~~ a remote wilderness, and only now do we have any inkling of what *has been going on there.*

The account is given by a representative who has come to the United Nations to make an appeal for



an independent Morocco. His name is Mahi<sup>d</sup> Bennouna. ~~son~~ <sup>And he's</sup>  
a member of a tribe of the Riff, ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> The word he brings  
is from the mountain village of Ajdir - home town of  
Abd-El Krim. Mahdi Bennouna relates that the warrior  
people of Ajdir are modern enough now to have a radio,  
and they got the news about Abd-El Krim from the loud  
speaker. So what did they do? "The people", relates  
Mahdi Bennouna, "were overjoyed - and the young men  
immediately started composing new war songs, in the hope  
that Abd-El Krim would come back to lead them again."

So there's the picture - the young warriors  
composing new war songs and singing them. But cooler  
counsels prevailed, for the time being anyway, and it was  
decided to adopt a more up-to-date ~~new~~ method of seeking  
what the tribes of the desert want - independence. The  
United Nations is the latest thing - and they have sent a  
representative ~~to~~ to the U.N. So Mahdi Bennouna is fixing  
up an appeal to make at Lake Success, Long Island - while  
over there in the desert the young men of the tribes,  
presumably, are ~~singing~~ <sup>singing</sup> those newly composed war songs.