

C.T. - P. & S. Friday, April 29, 1949.

The House of Representatives today voted down a proposal for outright repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, and a straight away substitution of the old Wagner Labor Law. This, clear-cut issue was not sought by the Truman forces -- the measure being introduced by Left Wing Congressman Marcantonio of New York who doesn't mind how awkward he makes things. The vote against the simple substitution of the Wagner Act for the Taft Hartley law was overwhelming. Two-hundred-and-seventy-five to thirty-seven.

~~However, the hope of the administration forces is -- compromise.)~~

~~They are willing to accept some amendments in Taft-Hartley repeal. Also - they are trying to make up for damage which is said to have been done by the President's patronage declaration yesterday. Today's dispatch from Washington represents Truman supporters as saying that, in the Taft-Hartley battle, the White House lost thirty votes in the Lower House when the President said the~~

disposal of federal jobs would be withheld from Congressional Democrats who failed to go along with the White House on the Labor Law question. This applies particularly to the ^{rebellious}~~revolting~~ Southerners who have teamed up with the Republicans -- they charging a Presidential use of patronage to ~~bring~~ buy votes. Administration leaders are pictured as trying to make up for that setback.

FOLLOW LABOR LAW

The latest from Washington pictures the Democratic leaders in a quick change, hurrying to revise their policy, after the vote today. It might have been expected that the Lower House would, likely enough, defeat a simple switch of labor laws -- out with Taft-Hartley, and in with the previous Wagner Act. But the huge majority was a surprise, and something of a joke to the administration Democrats -- especially as, immediately afterward, a vote ~~in~~ was taken to limit ~~defeat~~ ^{debate} on a substitute labor law backed by the Republicans and southern Democrats.

~~The regular Democrats demanded the limitation, but~~
~~it~~ ^{this} ~~was~~ defeated one-hundred-and-ninety-nine to one-hundred-and-fifty-eight. ~~This looks like a great clear test of strength between the Administration and the congressional revolt - the revolt winning. Hence the reports of a fast shift now being planned, by the supporters of the White House.~~

SHANGHAI

Shanghai, as it awaits Communist occupation, faces a weird crisis -- a pay-roll crisis. Tomorrow ^{is} Saturday, also the first of the month -- ~~is~~ pay day when ^{Shanghai firms} ~~Firms, Chinese and Foreign~~ are supposed to pay their employees. But with what? ^R Chinese government money is virtually worthless. Today the opening price of the gold Yuan was one million ~~and~~ seven hundred thousand dollars, for a single silver dollar ⁱⁿ coin. The Shanghai ^(employers) ~~business~~ figure that tomorrow they will need two trillion gold Yuan to meet their payrolls. ^{And} the banks have available only nine hundred billion. Then, anyway, Chinese employees don't want that ~~virtually worthless~~ paper money.

~~*~~ Today Shanghai streets were littered with government currency, ~~bags~~ of it strewn far and wide. Nobody bothering to pick it up. ^{TP} Some American firms are preparing to meet their payrolls in merchandise -- one oil company is going to issue seventy thousand cans of kerosene for the payment of services tomorrow.

BERLIN POLICE

A late bulletin from Berlin -- German police from the Soviet zone raiding a municipal farm in the British zone, and kidnapping three British soldiers. According to all appearance, it was a carefully ~~planned~~ planned raid, by a party of ^{The} German police ~~under Soviet control. They were heavily armed, and~~ were taking livestock away from the municipal farm, when British soldiers on patrol intervened. Three of these were disarmed, and made prisoner -- taken over to the Russian area.

BERLIN

In Berlin they are to have a peace conference about the ~~canals~~ canals. This morning, Soviet soldiers returned to their posts at the locks of three big waterways - after having been ousted by the British yesterday, because the Russians were stopping barge traffic all-important for the British sector in Berlin. This morning things looked ominous again, with Soviet statements that the Russians would resume control of the canals -- before noon.

But that was followed shortly by an announcement that British officials were meeting with Soviet offic~~ers~~^{ers} to work out a solution of the dispute -- a peace conference on canals.

BLOCKADE

In New York today Dr. Philip Jessup was on his way to Norfolk, Connecticut to attend the funeral of his wife's Uncle, former Senator Frederic Wolcott. ^{Jessup} He is of course the American Ambassador-at-large who represented ^S the United States in the negotiations for lifting the Berlin blockade. ^H Enroute to Norfolk he stopped at his New York office, and while he was there a telephone call came for him -- the Soviet U N delegation on the wire. ^H Jessup was asked to meet Moscow ~~and~~ representative ~~John~~ Jacob Malik at four o'clock this afternoon -- Malik who has been ~~in~~ conducting the Soviet-end of the diplomatic conversations. ^{Malik} ^H has just received his instructions from ^{Malik} The American Ambassador-at-large immediately cancelled his plans to attend the funeral of his wife's uncle, so that he could keep the appointment, said to be the most important of all in the negotiations for an agreement in the Berlin question. Perhaps the vital arrangements would be made this afternoon.

FOLLOW BLOCKADE

The conference between Jessup and Malik was a long one, lasting for two-hours-and-thirty-five minutes. Upon emerging, the American Ambassador-at-Large had no comment to make to the newsmen -- the progress of the ~~convention~~ conversation being kept a secret.

PIRATES

Over in England today, romantic Cornwall,
^{The} Falmouth ~~the~~ Chamber of Commerce communicated with
^{at}
thirteen year old David Curtis of San Francisco and
promised to show him the wrecks of ancient ships,
if he should ever come to England. This is a good
natured ^{end} ~~and~~ to a lot of disturbance over there on the
[^]
wild coast of Cornwall: ~~Falmouth and Penzance.~~
~~Recalling the jolly pirates of Penzance by Gilbert~~
~~and Sullivan. ^{It} for days there was~~ a treasure hunt,
a maritime gold rush, throngs of Cornish fishermen
and sailors in quest of Spanish coin, pieces-of-
eight of the Dons of long ago. All this -- because
of ^{that} thirteen year old boy in San Francisco.

Dave Curtis, together with his pal,
Don Bibach, wrote to the town of Falmouth and said
he was a deep sea diver, with plenty of financial
backing and asked for information on a Portuguese
Caravel, the St. Andrew, which sank off Penzance,
in Fifteen Sixty-two. Also, a Spanish treasure
ship which went on the rocks nearby a year later.
^{A rich}
~~Perhaps~~ a big American expedition to go diving for

the chests of doubloons and ingots of gold and silver. Dave forgot to mention that he was thirteen years old.

So that is what started the excitement at Falmouth and Penzance -- the more so because the information mentioned in the letter from the alleged big-money-American-diver coincided remarkably with local history and legend along the coast of Cornwall.

The fact is that this was not Dave's first adventure by letter into the realms of romance. Two years ago, he and Don decided to go exploring on the upper Amazon, and wrote for information -- to the Chamber of Commerce at Rio. That didn't cause any excitement at all. "All we got," said Dave today, "was a few pamphlets and a pretty good booklet." The Brazilians, apparently are less impressed by would-be explorers of the Amazon.

Dave and Don read a book - a boys book of the

romance of the under sea. In this they read a lot about those two treasure ships, ~~the Portuguese Caravel and the Spanish galleon that sank off the coast of Cornwall more than four hundred years ago.~~ So that is how, writing to Falmouth, they were able to mention matters that jibe^d so well with the lore and legend, ~~of Falmouth and Penzance -- where every year or so an old Spanish or Portuguese coin is washed up on the beach, from out of the sea -- when the storm blows.~~

The first that Dave and Don knew of what was happening over in Cornwall was when a Trans-Atlantic telephone call from England came to Dave's home in San Francisco -- a newspaper in London checking up on the millionaire diving expedition. They let out the secret. Two lads of San Francisco who had been reading boys books of adventure and romance.

ART

There is an uproar in England because of a stately, grand affair in London, last night, a most top-lofty and aristocratic affair, the annual banquet of the Royal Academy of Art. The principal address, broadcast all over England, was given by Sir Alfred Munnings, President of the Royal Academy. And with him were war-time Prime Minister Winston Churchill, His Grace the Duke of Gloucester, Field Marshall Viscount Montgomery, and His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury. The uproar today is because of the language used by Sir Alfred in such distinguished company. His address on the esthetics of painting and ~~xxx~~ sculpture was liberally spiced and salted with cuss words, oaths, and assorted strong language.

~~It was a most glittering affair, the first full dress banquet of the Royal Academy, since the beginning of the war; and they tried to recapture the brilliant splendors of the social functions of the ~~xxx~~ royal academy of the days of the past. But Sir~~

50 Alfred was talking on modern art -- and he doesn't like cubism, futurism and surrealism. The President of the Royal Academy, himself, specializes as a painter of horses -- and when he makes a picture of a horse it looks like a horse. In his address he thundered with a round oath, that the modern artists were in his words: "Daubers who cannot paint a tree to look like a tree." ^H ~~All of which~~ ^{this} roused ~~plenty of indignation in~~ The audience, ~~which~~ included numbers of modern artists. There was an uproar of loud, angry disapproval.--

But that only inspired Sir Alfred on to his climax -- in which he got Winston Churchill mixed into the argument -- while the Duke of Gloucester, Field Marshall ~~Montgomery~~ Montgomery and the Archbishop of Canterbury ~~lent~~ ^{lended} attentive ears. Winston Churchill himself is a painter by avocation, and Sir Alfred drew him in, on the subject of Picasso, the Spanish modernist who for exmaple paints portraits that look like geometry having a nightmare.

"It is not so long ago," related Sir Alfred "that Mr. Churchill and myself were walking together. Mr. Churchill said to me: 'Alfred, if we saw Picasso coming down this street would you like to join me in kicking hard a certain part of ^{him?"} ~~him?"~~ To which Sir Alfred responded: "Winston, I would." Accompanying this -- with another of those round oaths.

So today the British Broadcasting *Company* ~~Operation~~ was overwhelmed by thundering complaints from respectable Englishmen who approve of what Sir Alfred said about modern art - but not the way he said it.

WIFE

In Germany today a police alarm was put out for the wife of an American Army Sergeant, Mrs. Lennie Martin -- accused of inflicting violence upon her husband's German girl friend. ~~And~~ what violence. The charge is that the Sergeant's wife went to the house of Fraulein Elizabeth Bauer, ~~and there we were~~ looking for her husband. The Sergeant wasn't there, whereupon the wife and a woman friend of hers, took the Fraulein into an automobile, and drove off with her. They took her out onto a lonely country road several miles from Munich, ~~and~~ ^W ~~X~~ there the wife cut off the ~~the~~ Fraulein's hair, right down to the scalp. Also threw acid on her legs. Then the climax. The American wife took some photographs of her husband and rammed them down the Fraulein's throat. Not making her eat her ~~own~~ ^{own} words, or even eat crow - ~~just~~ ^{just} eat the pictures of hubby.

Which certainly was that green-eyed monster jealousy, raging all over the place. And today, they were looking for Mrs. Lennie Martin,

for prosecution under German law. One report is that the vengeful wife is aboard a Dutch ocean liner bound for New York.

DUROCHER

Tonight Leo Durocher said he hadn't heard about his suspension, not informed officially of the decree issued by Baseball Commissioner Happy Chandler. "But I suppose I will soon," snapped Lippy Leo.

Yes, he probably will -- the Czar of baseball having suspended the manager of the New York Giants indefinitely, because of the fracas with a Brooklyn Dodger fan yesterday afternoon.

Chandler says that Durocher, the stormy petrel of baseball, will be given a fair hearing. Meanwhile, the aggrieved fan, at a New York hospital, is said to be suffering from bruises, but no internal injuries -- according to the doctors. He claims that, after he had heckled Durocher during the game, the Manager of the Giants knocked him down and kicked him.

DRUNK

At a police station in Dallas, Texas, today a motorist arrested for drunken driving, was asked to take a sobriety test. He refused indignantly. Instead, he walked over to the Sergeant's desk, plunked down a quarter: "Gimme a bottle of beer, please." Which the cops thereupon took as all the test they needed. Apparently he took the Sergeant's desk for a bar.

Does bar suggest anything to you, Nelson?