

COAL

C.T. - P. & G. Wednesday, Feb. 8, 1950.

The government has ordered a twenty-five per cent reduction of all coal burning freight traffic on the railroads. Also - a further cut in passenger traffic. This - as industry all over the country reports difficulties because of the coal shortage.

Rallying to the side of John L. Lewis and the union - comes the C.I.O. steel workers. This afternoon C.I.O. President Philip Murray announced financial support - a five hundred thousand dollar gift, to back up the coal strike.

COAL

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There was an explosion in Washington today - a John L. Lewis explosion. Which certainly can be loud and violent. The blow-up occurred at the hearing called by the Presidential Fact Finding Board in the coal strike - all a prelude to a possible injunction under the Taft-Hartley Law.

The uproar broke out in the middle of a statement made by company negotiator George H. Love, who told of something he claimed the union chief said at a meeting with mine owners. He quoted Lewis as proclaiming: "You have the coal, You want it mined. I have four hundred thousand coal miners that I hold in the palm of my hand..."

At that moment, Lewis leaped to his feet, and shouted: "George Love, I hold that that is a dirty, deliberate, infamous lie!"

The company spokesman tried to continue - but Lewis, with a ferocity of eyebrows and thunder of voice, bellowed on: "I say to you, George Love, that you are a liar by the clock."

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Which were strong words, for so dignified a gathering - and the Fact Finding Board worked hard to restore order. "Mr. Lewis," pleaded the chairman, "we don't want to deal in personalities here."

"Why not?" growled Lewis, and he sat down, still glaring at George Love. →

~~The meeting was adjourned until tomorrow, when they hope to have less noise - if not a negotiated settlement, which seems doubtful.~~

ADD COAL (sub the following for the last paragraph
of coal)

The meeting adjourned, then it resumed
this evening - eight thirty Washington time. But
there is no sign of an agreement.

ATOMIC

Here's a question that has occurred to millions - "Will the hydrogen bomb work?" That same sort of question must have been asked a thousand times in the inner circles half a dozen years ago - would the A-bomb work? Well, it did - as we all know.

Tonight we have an opinion from Dr. Harold Urey, a top ranking atomic scientist and Nobel Prize winner. He says there is "still hope." Hope, he says, that the hydrogen bomb will not work. Hope that American attempts, and presumably Soviet attempts to construct a hydrogen bomb - will fail. But Dr. Urey says he believes that - it will work. He's afraid that the ~~new~~^{new} bomb will become a reality.

(Moreover, he expressed the opinion that secret information given to the Soviets by Dr. Klaus Fuchs, the British scientist under arrest, may have put the Russians a year ahead of us in research on the hydrogen bomb. He says that, the moment the A-bomb was exploded, the scientists over here immediately

1 saw the possibilities of - hydrogen. And Klaus
Fuchs was in a position to gather all the secret
knowledge that we had - and transmit it to Moscow.

Dr. Urey gave this opinion, after testifying
before a Congressional Committee, at which he
described an alarming possibility - of Soviet Russia
forcing the surrender of Western Europe by an atomic
threat. He said he expected the Russians to make a
serious move this year, Nineteen Fifty, to alienate
the West European Powers from the United States -
and one way of doing this would be to put atomic
bombs in tramp steamers, and sneak these quietly
into big ports of Western Europe. Then - warn the
countries in question of what would happen, unless
they came to terms with Moscow. Dr. Urey gave the
impression that this kind of atomic plot might
succeed - with nations deserting the American side,
rather than see ^{atom} ~~a~~ bombs exploded in their harbors.

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ADD ATOMIC

To all of which the scientist remarks -
that we might as well watch our own harbors.

COPLON

At the New York trial of Judith Coplon and the Soviet Engineer Gubichev, a blonde secretary in the Department of Justice testified this evening that Judy Coplon tried to ^(obtain) ~~obtain~~ keys to files containing "top secret documents". Margaret McKinney gave graphic evidence against her ~~former~~ former fellow employee in the Department of Justice, who is accused of red espionage; - and then there was a passage of question and answer which illustrates the intellectual level of the defense at some of these Red trials.

Lawyer Archibald Palmer asked Margaret McKinney if she had ever had a disagreement with the defendant. The witness laughed and said: "She told me I was too fat." Which got a laugh in the courtroom because Margaret McKinney is tall and slim. Whereupon the lawyer said courteously: "When she said 'fat' did that refer to your head?"

"Stop that, Mr. Palmer," roared the *Judge,*

Judge.

"The implication might refer to your own head."

Well, it seems as if, in all this

Communist business, even good manners are going.

POST OFFICE SWINDLE

Today brings the disclosure of a huge swindle by an official in the Post Office Department, Washington. ^{His name,} Harry F. Ambrose - who last month was forced to resign a job of special assistant to the postmaster general. He ran a four hundred thousand dollar game - based on stamps.

Ambrose is a relative by marriage of Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming, his wife a niece of Mrs. O'Mahoney - and he got his first post office job on the recommendation of the Senator. He was unlucky in business deals, and ran into debt - which led him to cook up an ingenious fraud.

It was based on commemorative stamps - issued to celebrate some special occasion. Rare stamps can bring high prices from collectors, and the scheme was to buy up huge blocks of commemorative stamps, corner the market, and run up the price. The rank of special assistant to the post ^{master} ~~office~~ general gave plausibility - and ^{lured} speculators to invest. Some of the money was used apparently to purchase

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commemorative stamps - as a front, show business.

But, actually, Ambrose used most of the cash to bet on the races.

Pretty soon investors in the scheme wanted to know - where were all those big profits? So Ambrose would hand over some profits - by getting other speculators into the game, and using their money. The old idea - of robbing Peter to pay Paul.

But that sort of thing cannot go on forever and, recently, some investors began sending lawyers around - visiting the Ambrose home. Mrs. Ambrose found out, and insisted that her husband go to Senator O'Mahoney and tell him. The Senator, hearing the story, sent Ambrose to Postmaster General Donaldson to make a full confession - and you can imagine the surprise of the postmaster general, ^{He} ~~who~~ *gave out the story today.* ~~He heard the account given by his own special~~ ~~assistant.~~

~~(Today postal inspectors stated that Ambrose took in more than four hundred thousand dollars from~~

ADD POST OFFICE SWINDLE

The latest - postmaster General Donaldson states that one of the characters implicated in the four hundred thousand dollar stamp deal is Joe Adonis, notorious New York gambler and racketeer.

SUB PLANE

Tonight a helicopter and a ground party are making ready for a dash to a shelf on a mountain slope in Yukon Territory -- to bring back survivors of an Air Force transport plane, which crashed yesterday. There were twelve in the plane, and ^{all} twelve are alive - though one has a broken leg and another a chest injury. They were spotted from the air today, and immediate measures were taken to get them out. It is all part of the quest for a C-54 which disappeared in the frigid north two weeks ago with forty-two persons aboard. The plane that crashed yesterday was taking part in the still-continuing search.

ROBBERY

Down in Arizona, the bank of Douglas today had a couple of visitors - with mops and ashcan. Looked as if they wanted to clean up the bank, and they did - robbers who stole ~~nearly~~ ^{and sixteen} a hundred thousand dollars.

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A negro and a Mexican, wearing half-masks - they held up bank employees, one after another, and locked them up in closets. All the while, they had mops - in addition to guns and a knife. The idea was - to look like janitors. Every time one of the two bandits passed a window, he'd be sure to be carrying a mop - as if about to scrub the floor.

The purpose of the garbage-can developed, when they forced the cashier to open the vault. The loot was nearly all in small bills, ones, fives and tens - a hundred thousand dollars' worth of that is a lot of paper. They crammed it into the capacious garbage can. Which was all the more useful when they made their getaway, lugging the garbage can down the street to a waiting automobile - still acting like

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janitors.

Tonight a big manhunt is on in the southwest
- to mop up those bandits.

LION

At Birmingham, Alabama, J. W. Edmondson had a tug of war with a lion - and comes out of it with forty stitches taken in his leg. It happened at a private zoo, where the twenty-four year old Edmondson was admiring the ferocious majesty of the king of beasts. He got too near the cage, and the next thing he knew - the big paw of a lion reached through the bars, sank its claws into his leg, and started pulling. Edmondson pulled back.

Today he said: "I pressed my other foot against the cage bar to keep the trapped leg from being dragged into the cage - and yelled for help." If the lion had been able to drag the leg into the cage - you can imagine what would have happened.

He yelled for help, and help came promptly - several people who grabbed Edmondson and pulled, trying to drag his leg from the claws of the lion. So it was a tug of war, with four men on one side, and the king of beasts on the other.

There was another lion in the cage, and he

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started clawing at Edmondson's other leg, ripping his trousers and inflicting scratches - while two bears in a nearby cage got all excited, and tried to break out. So there was pandemonium in the zoo.

It all ended suddenly - as Edmonson explained today: "After what seemed like hours, the lion turned loose all at once, let go of my leg - sending the four of us, all sprawling backwards." Which can happen in a tug of war, a whole line-up ~~get~~ going flat on their backs.

No permanent damage was done, luckily - in that fantastic scene in a zoo. - *only 40 stitches needed to remedy the damage done by the lion.*

DOPE

The New York Police have hit hard at one of the biggest of dope rings. Two men arrested - and in their possession the detectives found a large quantity of heroin, worth two million dollars, according to prices in the underworld market. The arrests were made when a drug peddler was caught planting packages of heroin in a telephone booth in a big hotel - hiding it for a purchaser to pick up.

One of the endless devices
~~Cunning~~ methods of delivering dope.

WINDSORS

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A dispatch from London brings along some comment on the latest story about the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. A London gossip columnist published a report that the famous couple would soon make their home in England - dowager Queen Mary having relented toward the Duchess. Which certainly would be - at long last. It is more than a dozen years now since the abdication of Edward the Eighth for "The woman he loved - the American divorcee, Wallis Warfield Simpson, upon whom the Queen Mother frowned, and has never ceased to frown. So has she now changed her attitude toward the Duchess?

The report from court circles is - no. A source close to Buckingham Palace is quoted as saying: "There is nothing to suggest that Queen Mary has changed her mind." To which he adds: "and there is nothing to suggest that Queen Elizabeth has different ideas."

Further, we are told that the attitude of the two queens is shared by Princess Elizabeth, heir

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to the crown.

The finality of all of this would seem to be confirmed by a London newspaper story today, which states that the Windsors are planning to build a house for themselves ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ Paris - permanent home, permanent exile for the former king.

QUEEN MARY

Tonight in London a record-breaking throng jammed into the Victoria and Albert Museum, the biggest crowd ~~we~~ ever to pay admissions to see a single object. Why all the excitement? Well, they poured in to have a look at a handsome rug - needlework of Queen Mother Mary. This piece of carpet, about which we heard the other night, is to be sold to the highest bidder in the United States - dollars for the British Treasury. Britain may be socialist, but they still do love their royalty.

JAPANESE WEDDING

Here's another one of those corrections - to rectify an error in a story we had last week about the forthcoming wedding of the Japanese Princess Taka, daughter of the Emperor Hirohito. The news dispatch from Tokyo said that her imperial highness was marrying a twenty-dollar-a-week clerk - member of an old aristocratic family, but now a government employee at twenty bucks a week. Which drew protests on the ground that it belittled and humiliated the imperial family.

Today in Tokyo, the prospective bridegroom, himself, was queried, and he said the twenty-dollar-a-week part of it was wrong - so this program is making a correction.

He told newsmen that, after his wedding to the Princess Taka, he plans to make a visit to the United States, to study railroading, and take back to Japan plans and models of American trains. These to be placed in the Japanese National Railway Museum, where he is employed - working as a clerk.

The reporters mentioned the fact that there have been protests because of the statement that he is a twenty-dollar-a-week clerk. To which the fiance of the imperial princess replied: "I don't make that much."

In the interest of accuracy, he wants it understood that he makes less than twenty bucks a week.

becoming
How's that for modesty, Nelson?

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