

The attack on slave labor was launched formally in the United Nations today, with an American resolution placed before the Security Council-- demanding an inquiry into the Soviet system of convict workers. The United States proposal asks that the U N commission on human rights inquire into the way the Soviets have of condemning hosts of political prisoners to what amounts to slavery.

The resolution today was backed up in powerful fashion by a ~~document~~ document from a source most authoritative -- American labor -- American unions, the A F of L. The Federation offered evidence of the enormity of the slave labor camps run by the Soviets -- from eight to fourteen million human beings held in servitude, it is believed. The A F of L document ~~is~~ describes the serf of the Reds in the following ~~is~~ vivid words: "A dazed unhappy working beast, a dead cipher in ~~the involved account of~~ the planned economy of Soviet Russia."

FOLLOW SLAVE LABOR

The American protest, documented by the A F of L, was backed promptly by Great Britain at Lake Success tonight. The British delegation to the Security Council declared that the Red slave labor concentrations are as bad as the atrocity camps of Nazi Germany.

HUNGARY

Another line of Red propaganda in the case of Cardinal Mindszenty. It is hard to figure the Communist logic, ~~by~~ but the Reds of Budapest are issuing a blast to the effect that before they arrested the Primate of Hungary, they provided an opportunity for him to leave the country. They say they gave the Vatican a chance to remove the Cardinal, informing the Vatican of the evidence against him. But the offer was rejected. So they had to go ahead and put the high ~~■~~■ ecclesiastic on trial, and doom him to life imprisonment, -- Communist kind of prison.

T Which sounds like a funny kind of legal logic -- offering to let you take a defendant away, and then trying and convicting him because you didn't. We'll be interested to hear the Vatican reply to that.

R The Reds explain that they were willing to let the Cardinal go in order to encourage an agreement between the Roman ~~Catholic~~ Catholic church in Hungary and the Communist dictatorship. Could it have been - that the Communist outfit were trying to use the safety

of the Cardinal as the price of Church concessions, extorting church submission to the Red tyranny?

Well, we don't know -- nor do we know the ~~name~~ identity of the person who has sent threatening letters to the Red Hungarian Minister in Washington -- although we are given some interesting facts about him. He's an American business man, who was in Budapest in the summer of Nineteen Forty-Seven -- and was tossed into jail. What crime had he committed? He ^{said} ~~insulted~~ ^{by things about} the President of Hungary -- and that, as things turned out, cost him ~~Seventy-five~~ ^{one} hundred dollars. ^R The American legation procured his release. Whereupon he found that the Red police had taken ~~Seventy-five~~ ^{one} hundred dollar bills from his desk while he was in jail. The American legation tried to get the money back, but the Red reply was -- that cussing out the President was a very grave offense!

Returning home, this American businessman is still demanding the return of his money -- and in the course of this, he wrote a threatening letter to the Hungarian Minister in Washington.

Well, in this country, you can cuss the President -- for free, as often as you please. If it cost ~~Seventy~~-five hundred dollars each time, a lot of Americans from the days of George Washington on would have wound up in the poor house.

ANNA LOUISE STRONG

~~well~~ ^{as we know,} The Soviets are likely to do almost anything. - They are likely to arrest almost anybody.

But we never expected to hear of Anna Louise Strong locked up in Moscow on a charge of sabotage and espionage. ^R ~~For years, she was one of the most~~

~~prominent of the pro-Soviet American writers, turning out a stream of articles and books in praise of the Red Utopia. The daughter of a Christian minister at~~

~~Seattle,~~ Anna Louise Strong first went to ~~Communist~~ Russia in Nineteen Twenty-one, working for a relief-service-run by the Quakers. She became a convert to Communist ideas, stayed on as a journalist in Russia, and founded the first Soviet newspaper in

England. ^R In Nineteen thirty-two she married a Soviet official, head of a Red press department, ^R he

~~is~~ died ten years later. ^R All the while, she was one of the busiest protagonists of pro-Soviet ideas, lecturing all over the United States, and writing

reams of ~~more~~ copy ~~that was~~ often denounced as Red propaganda. The titles of some of her books will

illustrate: Children Of Revolution, The Soviets

Conquer Wheat, I Change Worlds, The Soviet Constitution,

^{and}
~~xxx~~ I Saw The New Poland. (As recently as Nineteen
forty-six, Anna Louise Strong raised ructions

in the editorial staff of that ~~xxx~~ venerable publication

The Atlantic Monthly. William Henry Chamberlain

resigned because of the publication of two articles

by the woman writer, praising Red Poland. He

denounced Anna Louise Strong as a Soviet propagandist.

^R Hence the surprise in the news today - the arrest of

Anna Louise Strong in Moscow. The Red radio describing

her in these words: "A well known spy!" and says -- "She

~~that she got into Soviet Russia this last time, because~~

~~of the negligence of Red officials, which might seem~~

~~as if she had been out of favor with the Stalin regime~~

~~for some time. Anyhow, the Moscow radio states: "Mrs.~~

Strong was incriminated in spying and sabotage

activity against the Soviet Union". So, ^AAs an American

citizen she is now to be deported -- tossed out of the

Communist paradise.

FOLLOW ANNA LOUISE STRONG

The latest -- officials in Washington ^{give} warning that the Soviet deportation of Anna Louise Strong may be a "ruse". A spokesman declares: "she would be of more value to them here than there."

It is pointed out that the pro-Soviet woman-writer campaigned ~~actively~~ actively last fall, for Henry Wallace, who was supported so strongly by the Communists in the presidential election. That was only several months ago; and now all of a sudden Anna Louise Strong is hurled out of Russia as an anti-Soviet saboteur and spy.

Not surprising that certain suspicions should be aroused in Washington.

WEATHER

Today's news dispatch describes Chicago as -- a thing of beauty. ~~But,~~ ^{But,} Chicago wishes it were not so beautiful. The dispatch waxes lyrical in describing the metropolis on Lake Michigan, poetry in the following words: "Chicago became a fairyland, as trees and boughs glistened with shining ice". But the people there could do with less of that gleaming loveliness, and less ice. ^R Chicago is an example of the weather story today -- torrential rains in the middle west, with severe cold, the rain freezing as it fell.

In Chicago, [^] that fairyland of frosty trees, — the streets were so slippery that pedestrians couldn't step along on the sidewalks. They had to go out ~~in~~ in the middle of the street where the chains on the wheels of ~~the~~ automobiles ~~had~~ broke up the ice, ^{and} made walking ~~impossible~~ possible -- without sliding on your ear.

In the west, a new blizzard, in Nevada. The Streamliner, City of San Francisco, stalled by the piling up of snow -- and the haylift ~~was~~ grounded ~~again~~ today.

The fury of the new blizzard was concentrated at Elko, where six inches of new snow fell last night, whipped by a howling gale. That same ^{cattle & sheep} metropolis of Elko about which I told last night. Seems as if I got out just in time.

And I wonder what has happened to the Pea Vine Mountain "Milk lift", the sentimental version of the haylift? ^{Some localities} ~~The stockmen at Elko~~ were telling me all about it -- how, a few months ago, an F M radio station was put on the summit of Pea Vine Mountain - ^a/nine thousand foot peak. Everything modern - electrified. Along came the recent great storms. The power went off. The F M keeper and his wife and little daughter had absolutely no heat. The thermometer often forty and fifty below. Their plight was desperate.

The story of it has gone out across the nation. And they are now calling it the "milk lift" because aviators have been dropping milk to the little girl on Pea Vine Peak. The airmen also dropped them an oil stove, and some drums of fuel.

WEATHER - 3

But it landed on the side that had the valve controls, and everything was busted.

I wonder how my truck driver friends are making out in the new blizzard -- sturdy drivers of ponderous vehicles along winter swept highways? At Elko I was told how one driver ^{— in the high mountains —} sacrificed himself. Coming down a steep icy slope he saw a car approaching with a man walking on the other side of the road, directly in his ^{way,} ~~path~~. To avoid killing the man, he steered his ~~xxx~~ great truck ^{off} ~~xxx~~ the highway and the whole thing went hurtling down five hundred feet into the canyon.

BASEBALL

The plot in the baseball world is thickening -- with the Department of Justice looking into the *law-* *1* ~~s~~uit of former outfielder Danny Gardella against the New York Giants. Gardella jumped ~~into~~ to the outlaw Mexican League a couple of years ago and has been banned from baseball. So he is now suing - claiming that the contract a ball player has to sign is a violation of the Constitution. This, because of the "Reserve Clause" which binds a ball player to one particular team indefinitely -- and prevents him from seeking employment with other ball clubs. ^{HP} A Federal Judge has already called the "Reserve Clause" a kind of peonage. On top of which, the Department of Justice thinks the Gardella suit against the ~~gm~~ Giants may develop evidence to show that ^{our Major and Minor} ~~the~~ league baseball amounts to an illegal monopoly -- a trust. If so, baseball may be hit by action under the anti-trust laws.

~~This might seem to be contrary to a Supreme Court decision ~~going~~ back in Nineteen Twenty-two, when the High Tribunal ruled that professional baseball~~

PLANE

In the State of Washington, an all-day search for a run away plane leads to the belief that the vagrant aircraft, without a pilot, has crashed in remote mountains. That simply has to be the case, after the plane took off all by itself from the flying field at Fort Lewis, and went winging ~~straight~~ ^{a stray} wanderer of the sky. Its gas tank must have been empty long hours ago, and the fear ^{was} ~~was~~ that the fugitive with wings and motor, would crash into some town.

At Fort Lewis, the pilot of a small single engine Army scout plane had things all set for a take off. He had a passenger - who, while trying to open the cockpit, accidentally shoved the throttle. Whereupon, the propellor whirled and the plane started out under full power down the runway. It hit an obstacle and the jar threw the passenger out, which was lucky for him, though he broke his leg. After which the runaway aircraft kept right on and made a perfect take-off, climbed to three thousand feet, levelled off and went weaving in graceful

curves, doing "lazy eights".

The pilotless aircraft disappeared in the distance; ^{and} the hunt was on ^{by} ~~at~~ the Army and the Coast Guard. They've been ^{searching} ~~hunting~~ over a wide area and can only assume that the roaming plane ^{has} crashed in the mountains far away from nowhere.

STOCKINGS

In Jacksonville, Florida today office girls went to work with bare legs -- no stockings. They were trying to escape from the disaster which hit the nylons yesterday - when their stockings disintegrated suddenly, dissolving into shreds, leaving the feminine underpinnings a picture of torn, ragged, fluff and frayed threads. You can imagine the embarrassment. ^RThis happened along a number of blocks in a business district of Jacksonville, and was accompanied by smarting faces and stinging noses. Some kind of invisible ~~gas~~ gas. Chemists of the University of Florida have been investigating and say the dissolution of the stockings was caused by some sort of vapor of chlorine or sulphuric acid. Nylon is made by scientific chemistry, and apparently the process was reversed -- ~~by~~ a chemical breakdown of the fabric of the stockings.

So today bare legs were a fashion among the girls in the office district of ^{(Jacksonville} ~~Jacksonville~~ -- they ~~were~~ were taking no chance with having their

stockings evaporate once again. Today, however, the chemical effect of the invisible gas was not so great, ~~but~~ although some nylons did go into shreds again. ^R-~~T~~The most hopeful thing from the view of the young ladies is that their other garments did not go to pieces. I believe ~~that~~ there are other articles of feminine apparel ~~that are~~ made of ~~is~~ nylon, items that go by the name of -- undies. If the nylon lingerie^l had disintegrated and gone into shreds -- coming off in chunks -- imagine the embarrassment of the girls of Jacksonville. *Can you imagine that Ken, - in Hollywood.*

EXPLOSIONS

New Jersey had two explosions today -- the first when a huge oil storage tank blue up at the town of Carteret - forty thousand barrels of oil going up in a tower of flame and inky black smoke. The explosion threatening^{ed} to spread to ninety other similar tanks nearby, but the fire ~~fix~~ fighters were able to check the flames before all those other tanks ~~xxxx~~ went up - in a giant series of blasts.

The second explosion was at Kearney, where a blast ~~was~~ ripped through a chemical experiment ~~plan~~ building, ~~this occurred~~ at the Koppers Coke Company -- the explosion so violent that it was felt ~~in New York~~ seven miles away. Last May a disaster at that same chemical plant killed ten ~~persons~~ tanks ~~of~~ explosive acids going up. ^{TP} So what were the casualties today? At first there was fear of a ghastly death list. But later news shows that apparently no lives were lost. ^{There were} Only two work~~ers~~ in the building, when the explosion occurred. They were ~~in~~ injured, taken to the hospital.

LT from
Utah
legislature.

Feb. 16, 1949.