

COAL

L. J. Sunaco - Tuesday, May 21, 1946.

There are some indications that the coal miners may work for the government - after the strike truce ends at midnight Saturday. ~~There is~~ Nothing definite about this, the optimism being based merely on rather vague intimations. <sup>TP</sup> One of these is a strong hint that the President consulted with John L. Lewis before ordering the seizure of the soft coal mines, and Lewis agreed with the move - the government talking things over with both sides, the Companies and the Unions, ~~and~~ both sides agreeing.

Another sign is noted in the White House statement pertaining to the federal official appointed to run the mines, under government control. He is Secretary of the Interior Krug, and his appointment was discussed by all parties concerned - the Companies, the Unions, ~~and~~ John L. Lewis. Krug was, in the words of the White House - "acceptable to both sides." <sup>TP</sup> All this Lewis approval, it is

assumed, may mean that the big boss of the mine workers will keep the strike truce going - under government control.

But why not consult John D. Lewis himself? There is no use of that. He was consulted immediately after *today's* announcement of government seizure. He was asked - would his Union membership stay on the job? To which he responded: "I have no comment of any character."

So there's no use of further questioning - of any character.

The soft coal mines pass under federal control at noon tomorrow - which now puts the government in charge of two of the nation's greatest industries, coal and railroads.

In the railroad ~~wage~~ dispute, there are rumors in Washington that President Truman is proposing a wage increase of a dollar and forty-eight cents a day, ~~that is~~

twenty cents more than the pay boost recommended by his Fact Finding Board. One version is that, in return for more money, the Railroad Brotherhoods will be asked to drop their demand for <sup>^</sup>*certain unannounced* changes in the operating rules.

Another story is that the changes will be settled later by negotiation - in case of the acceptance of the presidential proposal for a larger ~~pay~~ increase - to forestall the railroad strike set for Thursday afternoon.

When the government took over the railroads last weekend, the strike was postponed, and the White House is working to get it postponed again - or settled.

The latest <sup>o</sup> - conferences this afternoon, with insistant reports of a likely settlement based on ~~the~~ new White House proposals.

## ATOMIC

A Congressional Committee has slashed ~~the~~ naval appropriation<sup>s</sup> - giving an atomic reason. The Navy asked for more than six-and-a-quarter billion dollars, but the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives today stated that the atomic bomb makes it difficult to decide just what the future of the fleet will be. Why do so much warship building, when we don't know what kind of navy we'll need in this atomic era?- such was the argument. So the Committee cut the appropriation to the tune of more than a billion dollars.

## WAR CRIMINALS

One of the arch war criminals ~~was~~ sentenced to death today - Karl Hermann Frank, the destroyer of Lidice. As the one-time Nazi oppressor, called "Protector" of Czechoslovakia, he was tried at Prague - and admitted that he had given the order for the murder of the people of the town of Lidice - the atrocity that was a horror headline of the war. Lidice was wiped out as a reprisal for the assassination of Heinrich, the Hangman, and now the mass murderer, Karl Hermann Frank, successor to the Hangman, goes to justice.

And ~~justice~~ justice is in process of being administered at the German town of the infamous name - Dachau. There the Nazi plug-ugly, Sepp Dietrick, and a gang of fellow criminals, are on trial for the murder of American prisoners of war in the Battle of the Bulge. Today the testimony spelled inevitable doom - when American G.I.'s, survivors of the hideous massacre,

told how Germans of <sup>a</sup>~~the~~ Storm Trooper Division had  
mowed down rank upon rank of American prisoners of war  
with machine gun fire - and they pointed out individual  
defendants as participants in one of the worst crimes of  
the war.

## NUREMBERG

At another trial of war criminals, the one in Nuremberg - evidence was given today that may be ~~xxxxxx~~ material for history. The former ~~xxxxxx~~ Secretary of the German Foreign Office stated some things about the famous Hitler-Stalin Pact. He declared that, in addition to the published version, there was a secret appendix. According to the secret ~~xx~~ terms, Nazi Germany conceded to Soviet Russia the following territories - Finland, ~~xxxxxx~~ the Baltic republics, the eastern part of Poland, and a part of Romania. Later on, this secret appendix was amended, the Hitler-Stalin Pact now giving to the Soviets the Republic of Lithuania and another slice of Poland.

This testimony by the former Secretary of the German Foreign Office was admitted into the Nuremberg record today - in spite of strenuous protests by the Soviet member of the prosecution.

## SELECTIVE SERVICE

The extension of the Selective Service Law, as we know, exempts youths under twenty from being drafted - which, of course, makes the thing a farce. The reason for this has been the supposition that parents are opposed to having their eighteen and nineteen-year-old sons taken for a tour of military duty. What are the good grounds, if any, for such objections? To tell us, I've asked an officer who should know, the Chaplain of the Army, Major General Luther Deck Miller. The Army Chaplains are in ~~skk~~ closest touch with G.I.'s, and Major General Miller can summarize their collective opinion. General Miller, the news has been telling a good deal about the misbehavior of teen-age soldiers abroad. What about it?

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GEN. MILLER:- Well, here at home, the daily papers feature incidents involving crime, divorces and other sordid phases of life. The same holds true for the American soldier, at home or overseas. There's really no difference between teen-age soldiers and teen-age civilians. Early training, good or bad, is not changed



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materially by donning the uniform.

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L.T.:- In other words, the G.I. abroad presents the same patterns as youth at home.

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GEN. MILLER:- Yes, we don't have to go to Berlin and Tokyo to find juvenile delinquency. Army figures actually show up better than those of civilian life. Our chaplains are on the job twenty-four hours a day teaching and reinforcing character. And Army discipline remains in the background for the few who would be social problems whether they were in the Army or back home.

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L.T.:- Do you think the drafting of eighteen and nineteen-year-olds will cause much dissatisfaction among parents?

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GEN. MILLER:- Before answering that, I'd like to meet the parents. They know we have to have an Army overseas. And they could not in all conscience ask special treatment for their boys. There are men and boys now

in service who have done their duty and more. These must be relieved. Some one has to relieve them. My own son is in China taking his tour of duty before returning home to resume his college work.

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L.I.T. And he'll come home, Gen. Miller, knowing a lot more about the world.

IRAN

Iran states that the Red Army evacuation was completed on May Sixth - and that puts the Soviets in the position of having hidden their light under a bushel. They promised to get out of Iran by May Sixth - and they did, faithful to their word. They were to have reported on that subject to the United Nations, but failed to do so. Which was rather as if I were to promise you to do something and then refused to let you know that I had kept my word - hiding my light under a bushel. Well, there are, among people, odd turns of pique and annoyance - also among nations.

Anyway, the burning question about the Red Army in Iran would seem to be answered - at this late date. All the uncertainty about whether or not the Soviets had withdrawn on May Sixth are now set at rest, on May Twenty-First. That's the official statement from Iran, although, of course, there had been rumors of Red Army

people staying on - in civilian clothes, and taking part in the resistance of the Province of Azerbaijan <sup>- fighting with</sup> the Iranian government.

And here's a late story with a peculiar sound - a statement made by Jaffar Pishevary, who is described as the "Premier" of Azerbaijan. In other words, the head of the rebel regime, formed under the sponsorship of the Soviets. He states that the American Consul, Robert Rossov ~~has~~ <sup>has</sup> been warned that if he goes around ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> the ~~villages~~ villages, it will be at his own risk. The so-called government of Azerbaijan, says the so-called Premier, will not be responsible for what he calls, a possible "incident."

To this he added the statement that the purpose of the American Consul, in traveling around, was to investigate the withdrawal of Red Army troops. And the so-called Premier declared that he objected to what he

called - "American interference in the internal affairs of Azerbaijan."

This is accompanied by a local news pronunciamento to the effect that if newspapermen are found nosing around, looking for Red Army soldiers, this will be considered - "espionage."

Meanwhile, that state of virtual civil war between the Iranian government and Azerbaijan seems to have quieted down a bit - with news of amicable negotiations, less fighting and other signs of a possible settlement.

## LONDON

Here are two stories in the news from London, one of which is comforting assurance - that it's the same old England. They may have a Labor government, and they may have Socialism - but leave it to the English to retain their love for the upper classes.

At a fashionable hotel, the following regulation is in force. It says: The dogs of guests are charged for at the rate of either one shilling, or one shilling sixpence each day, according to the size and social standing of the dog.

Well, that's really ~~is~~ doggie - and an American newsman was puzzled. How do you figure the social ~~standing~~ standing of a dog? So he asked the hotel manager, a lady - one of those English women who are veddy, veddy aloof. She replied as follows, in a superior tone: "It is difficult to say how we arrive at the distinction, but there is something about dogs - as ~~h~~ about people."

You can more or less tell by looking at them," she added. Yes, it's that social gift so abundant in England, where at a glance they can tell a bounder from a gentleman - either human or dog.

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This other story from London, however, indicates that things do change - even in dear old England. I don't know whether it's the Labor Government, Socialism, or what - but we have a bit of news that fails to accord with ~~that~~ one familiar British tradition. That is - the tradition of respect for the law and the police, the bobbies.

In a London court today, a barman in a pub told what happened last night. The barman said he was on his way home from the pub, when somebody hit him over the head with a lead pipe. That must have dazed him a bit, but he didn't lose his British imperturbability. He turned to the man with the lead pipe and remonstrated.

The answer he got is the point of the story.

Today in court the barman told the judge: "When I remonstrated, Your Worship, the man with the lead pipe apologized and said he had mistaken me for a policeman."

The production of Soviet movies is being expanded immensely. New studios are being built, and the program calls for the production of twenty films a year. Not only that, the new five year film plan gives a schedule of themes for the new motion picture features. A list of subjects to be stressed in the forthcoming period of film activity has been laid down in the plan and includes:

Number One - the adventures of the Soviet people over capitalism. That's the most theme to be stressed in the movies.

Number Two - the role of the Communist Party.

And so it goes the list.

The secret thing to remember and realize is



## SOVIET FILM

Now all you movie fans - you ought to go to Soviet Russia. All of you who like the films - just pack up and start for Moscow. Today the Soviet Government announced another Five Year Plan - a Five Year Film Plan this time. The production of Soviet movies is being expanded immensely. New studios are being built, and the program calls for the production of forty films a year. Not only that, the new Five Year Film Plan gives a schedule of themes for the new motion picture features, a list of subjects to be stressed in the forthcoming pageant of film entertainment. So let's begin with the first and foremost.

Number One - the advantages of the Soviet regime over capitalism. *That's the No. 1 theme to be stressed in the movies.*

Number Two - the role of the Communist Party.

And so on down the line.

The nearest thing to moonlight and romance is

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found in Number Eight, under the heading of -mother heroines. To which the explanation is added - that a heroine is a mother with ten children, to which even we capitalists will say Amen, Comrade.

As for such matters as stories and jokes, they are conspicuous by their absence from the schedule of the new Soviet Five Year Film Plan.

*And now Hugh, no Jokes.*