

STRIKE

L.T. - C. W. - Thurs, Oct. 1st. '59

Today's longshoremen's strike - unexpected. The contract between the Companies and Union - expired at midnight. But it looked as if a truce would be arranged - delaying a walkout of the dock workers, while negotiations were continuing.

However, the southern shipping companies would not agree that a new contract would be retroactive, Applying - to the period of the truce. Which refusal - was followed by a walkout of longshoremen at Gulf ports, Beginning - with New Orleans. Followed - immediately by an extension of the strike to the Atlantic coast.

Tonight, one hundred thousand dock workers are out. Bringing about a tie-up of seaports - from Maine to Texas.

~~XX~~

However, a New York local has rebelled against the Union - and ordered its men back to work, tomorrow.

Now we have two huge strikes. Waterfront - added to the steel strike.

In this latter dispute, ^{*steel*} negotiations began again today - between the Companies and the Steel Workers' Union. *This*

Following yesterday's intervention - by President Eisenhower.

Who demanded that they get together for an end of what is
already - the longest steel strike in the history of this
country.

EXPLOSION

The explosion at Charleston, South Carolina, today, could have been a holocaust. If it had happened - a couple of hours later. A huge gasoline storage tank blowing up - along a principal highway, which would have been crowded - ~~is~~ with traffic. But it happened early this morning - when few people were around. Nine injured - none seriously. By the blast - which touched off two million, five hundred gallons of automobile gasoline, hurling flame and smoke in a column - four hundred feet high. The cloud of smoke - visible twenty miles away.

It was feared that the fire might spread among other nearby storage tanks - but the blaze-battlers kept these drenched with water. Cooling them - to prevent their inflammable contents from exploding.

48
Charleston - still littered with wreckage left by Hurricane Gracie. The blast of the tropical storm, followed by today's giant explosion.

PROGRAM

I wonder if I ought to

This evening, ~~I feel I must~~ explain. Today, the

United Press International put out a dispatch, beginning as follows: "Veteran news commentator Lowell Thomas threw the "This Is Your Life" television program into an uproar last night." By refusing - to affect the humility ordinarily required by a guest on the show," said the dispatch.

Which noted that Ralph Edwards' highly successful feature is usually sentimental. Often - with people in tears.

The dispatch stating: "When the master of ceremonies, Ralph Edwards, approached, and called out: 'This is your life, Lowell Thomas', the news commentator replied: 'This is a sinister conspiracy.'

When Ralph Edwards said to me: "I'm sure you are going to be happy as your life goes by", I replied, "I doubt that very much."

The dispatch points out that when my sister Pherbia related: "Father insisted that Lowell know every geological formation in the Cripple Creek area" - I retorted: "I knew

every saloon, too."

Well, the facts are true, but I have an excuse. If I seemed a bit sardonic - it was only because I was utterly startled.

For "This Is Your Life" they brought my old-time school teacher in Cripple Creek, Mrs. Mabel Barbee Lee, all the way from California. She's the author of "Cripple Creek Days", a new book. Also they brought Mother Oliver, from Denver, a family friend of long ago. That extraordinary woman, Mrs. Bertha Spafford Vester, whom I first met in Jerusalem in Allenby in - Palestine - Lawrence-of-Arabia days - they brought her all the way from Jerusalem, where she's now the head of The American Colony. Mrs. Vester, I think is the most remarkable living American woman. A modern Florence Nightingale. From California - came the well known actress of stage and screen, Beulah Bondi, a pal of mine in college. And,

as a top surprise of all - Count Felix von Luckner, the Sea Devil - and his Sweedish countess. All the way - from wherever they were in Europe - one from Hamburg, the other from Stockholm.

Who wouldn't be startled - being greeted by such an array of old friends! Maybe I should have been in tears, but I was too flabbergasted. And amazed - at the resourcefulness and enterprize of Ralph Edwards and his associates in bringing my old friends from out West, and from Europe and Asia.

DOG

A weird end - in the story of Bingo, the dog without a country. About whom we heard - a couple of weeks ago. The Australian pooch - wandering aboard a Dutch freighter at Sydney. Unable to go back ashore - because of a twist in Australian regulations concerning the admission of dogs. So what country would accept Bingo? Hardly any - it seemed. Leaving the pooch - a dog without a country.

Today, however, the Dutch freighter put in at its home port, Amsterdam. Where a family - was waiting for Bingo. Carolus Mekenkamp and his wife and children - eager to give the pooch a home. But - there was a twist.

Some while ago, the Mekenkamps lost their pet dog, which wandered away. The family so eager to get the pooch back - they consulted a telepathist. Who, with occult thought transference - gave them some information. The story of the dog without a country was in the news. Described - as black and white. Their own dog - black and white. The telepathist assured them - that ^{Bingo} ~~the dog without a country~~ was really their own.

So that's why the Mekenkamps were at the dock today.

But when they saw Bingo - it wasn't their dog at all.

Disappointment!

However, "All is well that ends well", as

Shakespeare remarked. They wanted a household pet - and took

Bingo. Who now has a home - with the Mekenkamp children.

Bingo for Bingo.

BASEBALL

A Hollywood horror - in Chicago. That third inning!
~~which was~~ ^{What} a nightmare for the Los Angeles Dodgers. I can't recall anything quite so humiliating in a World Series game. The "hitless wonders" of Chicago - slamming the ball all over the place. With the Dodgers - making ghastly errors. The mighty Duke Snyder - guilty of two. Dropping a fly ball, then following that with a wild throw. Three Dodger errors - in that one inning. Chicago scoring - seven runs. Winning the game - eleven to nothing. The Dodgers - suffering the worst first game defeat in World Series history.

~~That final score - tying a record for the biggest shut-out in World Series history. Equalling an eleven to zero win scored by the immortal Dizzy Dean in 1900. The only four.~~

Another World Series record - tied by those hitless wonders. First Baseman Kluszewski, who smashed out a couple of homers - ~~knocked~~ knocked in five runs during the game. Which tied records established by heroes of the old-time New York Yankees, Tony Lazzeri and Bill Dickey.

Well, "Big Klu" is an old man, so far as baseball goes. But so is Early Wynn, the White Sox pitcher, who pitched shut out ball for seven innings, and only left the game when his arm stiffened. His shut-out protected by relief pitcher Gerry Staley.

The sports pages have been telling - how wild Los Angeles is about those pennant-winning Dodgers, who, today, produced a nightmare - to match a Hollywood horror.

But, Dick, wasn't it a beautiful dream for the Chicago White Sox fans as they chanted the White Sox battle cry, "Go, go, go?"!

BEER

Anti-trust action - in the sudsy world of beer.

The Department of Justice - demanding the dissolution of a merger between two big brewing companies, Pabst and Blatz. Charging - that the combination violates the laws against monopoly.

~~XE~~ Last February, Pabst acquired Blatz, and now Attorney General Rogers declares - that this ~~ixx~~ eliminates competition between the two Companies.

Filing an anti-trust suit - against Pabst and Blatz.

Two names - so melodious, there should be a singing commercial: "Pabst and Blatz, I love you." And ^{then} you'd weep in your ~~xxxxx~~ beer. *And I'd say - s-l-u-t-m.*