

AUTOS

C.I. - P. & G.

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 1950.

Last minute attempts are being made to avert a Chrysler automobile strike - called for tomorrow. At Detroit, Federal and State officials joined with company and union representatives tonight in a desperate effort for an agreement that would prevent eighty thousand Chrysler workers from going on strike, ^{at} ten a.m. local time, at plants across the country.

WAGES

President Truman signed the minimum wage bill today, and gave high praise to the measure which hikes the minimum from forty cents an hour to seventy-five cents an hour -- affecting twenty-two million workers.

COAL

The government is sending free potatoes to the hungry families of striking miners in Pennsylvania. The potatoes will be turned over to state authorities for distribution, to people in distress - and dried eggs may be added later.

All the distress notwithstanding, the strikers today, in bitter determination, continued to picket the mines, keeping more than eighty thousand men idle. The miners rejecting the strategy of John L. Lewis, the three-day-week idea - say they're going all out for a new contract with a wage increase and larger contributions to the union welfare fund.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The Rules Committee of the House of Representatives refused today to clear the way for the Truman Civil Rights Bill. The vote was five to five, a tie signifying - no action. Those blocking the bill were four Southern Democrats and one Republican - Congressman Brown of Ohio, who explained his vote by saying that two Republican members were absent, and he had promised to delay decision until they could attend.

Today's Committee vote throws the whole business of Civil Rights back on the floor of the House - where it was held off yesterday by ~~the~~ Democratic speaker Rayburn. The Rules Committee has been deprived of much of its authority to bottle up measures - especially the racial rights issue. But the new scheme puts the power in the hands of the speaker - and he's a Texan, opposed to the Racial Rights Bill. So the whole thing is in a dilemma again.

But even the Southern Democrats admit that the bill cannot be kept out forever. Yesterday Speaker Rayburn blocked it by refusing to recognize Congressman

Lesinski of Michigan, who was trying to bring the measure forward. Today even Congressman Cox of Georgia, Dixieland stalwart, admitted that the obstruction could not continue much longer, and that the House was likely to pass the Racial Rights Bill in a few weeks.

DENFELD

The Senate today confirmed the appointment of Admiral Forest F. Sherman as Chief of Naval Operations. The vote was unanimous - although it was preceded by a blast of angry attacks. Republicans renewed their protest about the ousting of Admiral Denfeld as Chief of Naval Operations, and Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin called for the impeachment of ^{Navy} Secretary ~~of the Navy~~ Matthews.

In the course of the debate, the Wisconsin Senator, made an interesting disclosure. This applies to the wonderful mix-up about which we heard last night - the fact that Admiral Denfeld was not only fired as Navy Commander, but also received a Presidential commission continuing him on the job for two years. Which was a surprising contradiction. Today Senator McCarthy stated that Admiral Denfeld is doing something to clear up the paradox. Talking by telephone from New England, ^{Adm.} Denfeld told the Senator that he is going to resign that commission as Chief of Naval Operations. He wants to dispel all doubt. The Admiral has already

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announced that he is retiring from the Navy - and now, after that, he is also resigning as Commander of the Fleet.

Well, I suppose we will have to accept all these confusions - with resignation.

DYNAMITING

At Charlotte, South Carolina, the police say - Communists! a familiar word. This - in connection with an attempt to dynamite the radio tower of a local station. The police have arrested one Chesley Lovell - who, they say, has a record as a safe-cracker. He tossed five sticks of dynamite at the base of the radio tower, four-hundred-and-twenty-nine feet high. But the police were watching, prevented an explosion - and made a quick arrest. Lovell is reported as confessing that he was hired to blow up the tower. The radio station has been having labor trouble with the electrical workers union, and the police say the whole thing was instigated by - Communists.

ATOMIC

In Washington it is disclosed that, as late as February Nineteen Forty-Five, after the Hiroshima atomic bomb had been exploded - Soviet Russia received a shipment of "heavy water" from the United States.

"Heavy Water" was one of the vital materials in the ~~in~~ development of the atom bomb.

The shipment was made by a New York Chemical firm whose Vice President gave the testimony tonight before the committee on Un-American Activities.

D P 'S

The judiciary committee of the Senate has approved a bill to admit three-hundred-and-twenty-thousand displaced persons into this country by June Thirtieth, Nineteen-Fifty-One. The Committee put its ~~okay~~ okay on a measure which provides new safeguards to make sure that Red subversives do not get into the United States among the thousands of D P 'S.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

In Red Czechoslovakia, the Roman Catholic Church declares that more than one hundred and fifty of its priests have been arrested for refusing to swear allegiance to the Red Regime - and have been sent to prison or slave labor camps.

This follows a Communist announcement that priests everywhere are pledging their loyalty to the Communist Government. The church version is that many are - because they are terrorized and compelled. The official Catholic declaration states: "The most courageous priests land in jail or labor camps, and the others are frightened."

MARRIAGE - MOIRA SHEARER

In London, a movie actress is going to have a wedding in the royal chapel of one of the ancient palaces of England.)

Moira Shearer rose to stardome at Ballet dancing in a highly successful British film - "Red Shoes."

The palace is Hampton Court, which Cardinal Woolsey built and presented to Henry VIII. So why should Moira rate a wedding there? Is she marrying a prince or a duke? Not at all. Her bridegroom will be a mere Mister Kennedy.

His mother is a war widow, living in rooms provided by the government. But those rooms are in Hampton Palace.

In that splendorous edifice, with memories of Cardinal Woolsey and Henry VIII, apartments are reserved for the families of heroes who perished in the Second World War - and one of these was a ship captain named Kennedy. He was the skipper of the Rawalpindi.

Remember the name? Well, ~~I didn't either until I thought back, and thought hard.~~ Yes there were days when I told a lot on this program about the Rawalpindi - a merchant vessel converted into a warship which, early in

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the war, was summoned to surrender by the German cruisers Gneisenau and Scharnhorst, two of the most powerful. But Captain Kennedy refused to lower his flag, and the Rawalpindi fought it out in a hopeless battle, until she was a mass of flames, and sank.

So the wife of that heroic skipper went to live at Hampton, Palace.-- she's still there. And now his son is to marry the film actress Moira Shearer. So where else should the wedding be celebrated - except in the royal chapel of Hampton Palace.

MANSION

If any of you folks want to fix up the old flat in a quiet, modest way - here's your chance. At Hillsborough, California, they~~are~~ are tearing down one of those incredible mansions that millionaires used to build - a chateau put up in Nineteen Fifteen by Mrs. Harriet Pullman Carolan Schermerhorn, heiress of the Pullman car fortune.

The place cost her three million dollars in Pullman car money, and today the estate was sold for two-hundred-thousand ~~dollars~~ - to be divided into ~~xxxxxxx~~ suburban lots.

They're tearing down the chate^au, and selling the furniture and fixtures - which include some articles that you might want to purchase for home use. For your kitchen you can buy sinks made of sterling silver, and eighteen-karat-gold-water-faucets, a staircase of Roman marble, and carpets about a mile square and three inches thick. Roll up one of those carpets, and it takes fifty

TIGRESS

At Thousand Oaks, California, they say it was all routine, but it sounds to me like something you wouldn't want to try - reaching into the cage of the tigress and picking up one of her cubs. But that's what Mable Stark did, and tonight she's in a hospital - with doctors hoping to save her arm.

Mable Stark has been an animal trainer for thirty-two years, and she never thought her favorite tigress would do it. But when she reached into the cage, there was a savage snarl, and the tigress leaped upon the outstretched arm, which was taking out the cub. Mable Stark was able to pry loose - but not before her arm was badly mangled. ^{TR} Even the meekest little dog becomes formidable, when she has pups.

PADDLING

There's a new angle in the Michigan University story of the co-ed who got spanked.

She is nineteen year old Barbara Lampton. He is Art Miller, ~~a professor this time~~ a college senior - and today he told why he did it. "She kept too many fires burning," says he. The girl friend was setting things ablaze all over the place - a firebug of heart throbs.

"She used to date one guy in the afternoon, and another at night," says Art. "I told her that if she ever did that to me, I'd paddle her. She stood me up, so, I just kept my promise," he explains.

Well, he sure did keep his promise - between classes, and right out on the campus, which was thronged with students. Crowd-amazed - when Art put Barbara across his knee, and administered the paddling.

After which they both went into class. "She was mad at first," says Art, "but she finally laughed." So all's well that ends well.

But no - here's that new angle. Today Barbara declared in tones of ice: "I've got a bonfire going right

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now, and I'm not bothering with little blazes any more."

And in a frosty voice she added: "I'm dating someone else - and his name is not Miller."

So all's not well that doesn't end well.

COLLEGE

The statement was made today that college freshmen are becoming - "increasingly illiterate." This comes from the head of one of our great educational institutions, President Ernest Colwell of the University of Chicago.

Attending a conference of clergymen in Los Angeles, he expressed it in an epigram, saying: "More students are going to school every year to learn less." Well, some people must be wasting a lot of money, sending youth to college to attain - "increasing illiteracy."

ROBBERY

In Boston today, there were jokes and laughter at the Union Club. That's a Bostonian institution, aristocratic with the blueblood of back bay - and full of the dignity for which Boston is famous. So the jokes were not raucous or loud, the laughter was not noisy and vulgar.

A payroll was delivered to the Union Club cashier, Mrs. Etta Stevenson - delivered by Brinks Armored Car Service. Which, of course, is the firm that was held up last week in the robbery of a million and a half. So Mrs. Stevenson, as she received the money from Brinks' driver, made some facetious remarks, and the driver kidded back. You know the kind of whimsey for the occasion - remarks about bandits. Hope you didn't bring any hold-up robbers along.

It was all good fun, after which the driver for Brinks' went his way, and the woman cashier started counting the money. Whereupon two men walked in, with masks across their faces. They drew guns, and growled: "This is a hold-up - no hollering." They snatched the

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payroll some two thousand dollars, and made a quick get-away.

So the jokes and laughs went sour, especially for the Boston police - who tonight have a new hold-up on top of that million and a half affair.

WIFE

In Detroit tonight, Mrs. Carolyn Hutchison is coming along all right, after plenty of medical attention. Mrs. Hutchinson swallowed thirty straight pins, six safety pins, and eight darning needles. Why? Well, to the hospital people she explained:

"It was because my marriage didn't work."

We've heard about a small boy saying: "I'll go out and eat worms." But this is something new. Eating straight pins, safety pins and darning needles, because her marriage didn't work.

LONGEVITY

At Oak Ridge, Iowa, Mrs. Herman Leander makes a contribution to the list of reasons why an aged person has been able to live so long. Mrs. Leander is celebrating her hundred-and-thirty^{with} birthday today. So she was asked the usual question - to what does she attribute her longevity? She answered - "Swedish ancestry and plenty of coffee." Which might be a useful hint, except for one thing.

You can get the coffee - but how do you get the Swedish ancestry? *Nelson?*