

STRIKE

LT- P & L Friday, Nov. 4, 1949

The government is moving into the coal strike - Federal Mediator Cyrus Ching calling John L. Lewis to a secret conference this afternoon. Company representatives have been asked to a meeting with the Federal Mediator tomorrow afternoon.

The steel strike threatens to grow larger - with a walkout at the Timken Roller Bearing Company of Cleveland. The Company has rejected what is called - the Bethlehem Agreement. That is, the pension and social insurance plan accepted by the Bethlehem Steel Company. On the other hand, negotiations were resumed today between the Union and Republic Steel. Basis - the Bethlehem Agreement.

EARTHQUAKE

Earthquake in Southern California -- but it was nothing much. In some places, like San Diego, there was a swaying of buildings, sharp enough to cause office workers to rush to the street. At Los Angeles, the quake was hardly noticed.

CONFERENCE

The conference of the Big Three will begin in Paris next week; - that's definite. The Foreign Ministers of the ~~Nixx~~ United States, Great Britain and France will gather in Paris on Wednesday - if American Secretary of State Dean Acheson can get over there in time. ~~The discussions are expected to last for about a week.~~

They will be global in scope. China - the surge of Communism there, and the question of recognizing the Red regime. Yugoslavia - the problems brought up by the fight between Red Marshal Tito and Soviet Russia, with accent on the surprising success Tito is having in his defiance of Stalin. Germany - which actually is number one on the program. There's talk of ending the state of war with Western Germany, without actually making a peace treaty. Everything will be done to strengthen the new West German government - ~~hard~~ ^{faced} as it is, by the puppet regime the Soviets have set up in Eastern Germany.

One touchy question will be - the dismantling of German factories. That is the more delicate, because of recent

statements by United States High Commissioner John J. McCloy - who called the dismantling - purposeless. The British and French are a bit uneasy about High Commissioner McCloy - who, though on the job only a brief time, has been speaking his mind plainly. One British spokesman is quoted as ~~xy~~ saying:

"Britain and France do not want another MacArthur." Meaning they don't want John J. McCloy to start running things the way McArthur does in Japan. They don't quite know what to make of him and his ideas.

So what kind of attitude has our High Commissioner toward the problem of Germany - the task of making the Germans democratic and peace-loving? Well, here is something to illustrate:-

Shortly before he left to take his post in Germany,

Jack McCloy was up at my house, talking with myself and my

colleague and neighbor Ed
~~neighbor, Edward J.~~ Murrow. He noted that Germany had engaged

in two world wars, and lost them both, the second more disastrously than the first; whereupon he turned to an anecdote, an experience of his own college days.

He said he was quite a college boxer, a lightweight.

"I was good," he told us, "speedy, and had a hard punch. I was always boxing with heavier fellows, and beating them."

Telling how in college he had the old philosophy of Bob Fitzsimmons - the bigger they come, the harder they fall.

"Then one day," McCloy went on, "I took on a bigger fellow than I had ever tackled before - and he gave me a thorough licking. But I wasn't satisfied. I was so used to winning I couldn't believe that I had really been beaten. I kept finding excuses:- If I had only crossed my right that time when he hit me with the left hook; if I'd side-stepped, and kept jabbing that other time - everything would have been different.

That, pointed out McCloy, was like the Germans after the First World War. If Von Kluck had only been supported better in his rush on Paris. If Von Hindenburg had been given another division in his great drive. If this or that had not happened Germany would have won the First World War.

"I, myself," McCloy went on, "had the same sort of feeling. It had all been an accident - and I practically had not been beaten at all. So, I demanded another fight from the big fellow. He didn't want to, but I goaded him. This time he was really annoyed - and, when he got me in the ring, he punched me all over the place. I came out of it bruised and battered - and, convinced. Two lickings were enough, and I had no desire for a third. So maybe," he concluded, "the Germans will feel the same way about it."

In that plain, down-to-earth way, High Commissioner McCloy cherishes the hope that the German people may feel they have had enough beating, and that - war does not pay.

TIBET

Here's a dispatch from London. "The Regent of Tibet, on the roof-of-the-world," it says, "cabled an appeal for help today from the threat of the Chinese Communists. 'I hope all nations will help us,' said the Regent."

This comes about because, on September Thirteenth, seven weeks ago, United Press Correspondent Harold Guard, stationed in London, sent an inquiry which the dispatch describes as follows: "A telegram, September Thirteenth, to His Highness Takdhag Pandit Hotkoku, ^{the aged} Regent of Tibet, who administers ^{worldly} ~~worldly~~ affairs for the Dalai Lama, the all-embracing Lama, reincarnation of Buddha, who is the spiritual ruler."

~~Now, that hits me right between the eyes, the coincidence of it~~ September Thirteenth! That was ~~me~~
~~my~~ ^{the} day - when, on the way out from the Dalai Lama's town of Lhasa I had that accident, ^{just after crossing Karo La,} and broke my leg. We were ^{the highest pass. We were} leaving Tibet, with a scroll from the Dalai Lama, ^{South,} for President Truman ^{and} an appeal from ^{Tibet to} the Regent ^{for} for American aid against the Communists. ^{And} ^{was the day the} ~~So, on that day of the accident, the~~ ^{his message}
U.P. Correspondent in London ~~me~~ sent ~~a telegram~~ asking about the

Tibetan attitude toward the Red menace.

Seven weeks ago! - and he got a reply only today!

~~Not so fast for telegraphy.~~ ^{Evidently} Well, I suppose the Dalai Lama's government took time to think it over. - They don't do things fast in Tibet. ^{And then too the line} ~~Moreover~~ while there's ~~a~~ telegraph wire from India to Lhasa ^{is} ~~it's~~ down half the time, and you can't tell when they'll get it repaired.

The Regent's reply begins this way: "With reference to your telegram September " - no day of the month is mentioned. In Tibet a day is too precise - a month will do. Then the Regent goes on to say, "Regarding Communist danger ~~at~~ on border of Tibet, this is an independent country, having spiritual as well as temporal administration, and all its people lead a religious life. We are a neutral country. Therefore," the appeal continues, "I hope all nations will help us. Our policy is to have faith in God, and so we desire to remain as before."

That concludes the message, which agrees generally ^{that we brought from Lhasa,} with the appeal ~~given to us~~ ~~together with details of possible American help.~~ ~~All to be delivered to President Truman and the State Department.~~

FORTUNE


At Montreal, Albert Munslow is listed as an heir to New York real estate valued at three billion dollars. Yes - that's right, billion. There are other reputed heirs, but he's a remarkable exception among them - he's not trying to do anything about it. "I just can't be bothered," he says. He is eighty-six, and retired. Placid and content -- without troubling his head about the three billion.

This is the surprise in the latest angle concerning the fabulous Edwards estate. Lawyers have come forward saying that they have new evidence in that case, which is one of the most remarkable in the history of legended wealth and hopeful heirs.

The story goes back to one Thomas Hall, who came to live on Manhattan Island in the Sixteen Hundreds - the time when New York was a Dutch colony. * He procured from the Dutch Governor a grant to a large tract of land along the Hudson River and left this property to his daughter Elizabeth, who married Thomas Edwards. The British took over, meanwhile, and Edwards

had the grant confirmed by the Royal Governor, Sir Thomas Lovelace. The document he procured describes the property in the following words;- "Betwixt Old John's Land on the south and Van Rotterdam's Road north, and about one hundred rods wide from the river." That would be just about the entire waterfront of Lower Manhattan, along the North River. Value today - three billion dollars.

In Montreal, Albert Munslow is a tenth generation descendant from the original Thomas Hall through his daughter Elizabeth, who married the original Edwards. He says he has been hearing about that fabulous fortune ever since he was a child back in England. In those days, people who claime^d



to be heirs held meetings at his mother's house in Birmingham. So now the excitement is on all over again, with lawyers declaring they have found new evidence. Recently a mass meeting of one hundred would-be heirs was held at New London, Ontario. But Albert Munslow leans back in his chair and says, "Can't be bothered at my age."

ADOPTION

At New York's La Guardia Airfield today, a tall blonde woman from Texas was waiting for an airliner from across the Atlantic. When the plane landed, the stewardess handed her a small child, a little girl six months old, a tiny orphan from Ireland. The blonde from Texas said: "I may be thirty-nine - but I can take care of a baby."

Back home she had been forbidden to adopt a child - because, according to Texas law, a woman of thirty-nine is too old to look after a youngster.

Mrs. Harold Petre and her husband, a restaurant owner at Houston, were married for eleven years, and have had no children. They wanted to adopt one - but ran into that Texas law. Recently, the pastor^{of} their church, the Reverend J.D. Connally, returned from a trip to Ireland, and told them how, at an orphanage in Tipperary, he had seen a pretty baby girl - Mary Ryan, whose parents had died. So thereupon Mrs. Petre saw her solution, how to evade that Texas law. After adoption proceedings by letter, she had tiny Mary Ryan

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flown to New York, and received her there.

Taking the child back to Houston, Mrs.

Petre says: "I feel I am more capable now to raise a child than ten years ago. We plan to adopt another one, next year."

CONVICT

One of the bitterest of all stories is the one that tells of a convict who is innocent, and spends long years in prison for a crime he did not commit. So what must be the thoughts of Louis Gross, who today in Detroit was found innocent and exonerated - after serving sixteen years in the Michigan State Penitentiary, on a false charge of murder? Set free at last, he came out smiling. "I'm too happy," he said, "too happy to think about those sixteen years." And he beamed - "I'm too happy to be sore at anybody." Strange end of the strangest kind of story.

Argosy Magazine runs a section called "Court of Last Resort," which investigates cases of miscarriage of justice. On the Court of Last Resort are Mystery Story writer Earl Stanley Gardner, veteran Detective Raymond Schindler, Lemoyne Snyder, Legal Criminologist for the Michigan State Police, and Henry Steeger, publisher of Argosy. They have procured the reversal of several convictions - the latest being ~~that of~~ ^{this one of} Louis Gross.

He's an Armenian, who was convicted in Detroit of the murder of a Syrian named Martabo Abraham. The crime, an affair among people from the Near East, seems to have involved jealousy over a woman. The police picked up an Armenian named Sam Hazeny, who declared that the murder had been committed by Louis Gross. On that testimony, the word of a suspect, Gross was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment.

The investigation made by the Court of Last Resort disclosed a surprising fact. All records of the conviction were missing, had been taken out of the files. Why - and how? That's a mystery. Somebody, apparently, had reason for not wanting the case to be examined.

However, they got hold of Sam Hazeny, the one witness for the prosecution, and applied the lie detector test. I am told that the needle, registering falsehood, nearly jumped out of the window. Whereupon the Armenian broke down, and confessed that he had given false evidence.

The rest of it was routine. In court today,

States Attorney Gerald O'Brien presented the proof, and the judge immediately set the convict free -- grey, prison worn, and suffering from tuberculosis. He had every reason to be bitter, especially at the man whose false testimony had sent him to prison for sixteen years. But he only smiled, and said: "I'm too happy to be sore at anybody."

What mood are you in tonight, Nelson?