

L.T. P. & G. WEDNES. DAY, SEPT. 14, 1949

(Given by Mr. Fadiman)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The pro-Soviet underground came above ground in Yugoslavia today. The central district of the capital city of Belgrade was flooded with pamphlets and posters calling for the overthrow of Red Marshal Tito, who's feuding bitterly with Stalin.

The news from Belgrade has just been released, describing what the people of the city found when they got up this morning. The propaganda material was distributed between midnight and seven a.m. -- slipped under doors of houses and thrust into mail boxes. The distribution was wide-spread and organized with the greatest of skill. It had to be, if the underground agents were to evade the precautions taken by the Tito government. Some sort of agitation was expected, and soldiers patrolled the streets at night to guard against it. But the underground was able to strike its propaganda blow -- and get away with it.

SUBSTITUTE LABOR

There is a head-on collision in the world of steel. Tonight the biggest of the companies, ~~the~~ U.S. Steel, refuses to accept the recommendations of President Truman's Fact Finding Board -- the pension-insurance plan. Company President Benjamin Fairless says that U.S. Steel wants -- "intelligent bargaining." He argues that the steel workers should bear part of the cost of pensions and insurance ^{AND} -- ^A not leaving ^E the industry to foot all the bills. Earlier in the day CIO President Philip Murray said that U.S. Steel must okay the recommendations -- otherwise the union would not negotiate. Which would mean a steel strike on September twenty-fifth -- unless there ^S should be some way of ^{STRAIGHTENING OUT} untangling the head-on collision.

In the coal mine dispute John L Lewis made an effort today to put pressure on one of the companies that have failed to pay their contributions to the welfare and retirement fund. He sent a message to the Cleveland Trust Company stating that -- as this bank actually exercises control of the Island Creek Mines, it should make the company pay up. He warned that failure to do so might, in his formidable phrase, "precipitate a social

convulsion in the mining areas of this country." Meaning--
the threat of a new coal strike.

The Cleveland Bank denies that it controls the
Island Creek Mines, saying that it holds less than one-
third of the stock.

SOVIET

Here is news - a story told by two Americans who were prisoners in the Soviet Zone in Germany. They tell how they were treated - and it's a surprise. With genuine courtesy - they say.

Major Victor Milner, Chief of the Air Force Branch of the American Military Government in Germany, was driving with his father in an automobile last Saturday. They entered the Soviet Zone by mistake, were immediately arrested, held in captivity for two days, and then handed back to the Americans.

Today Major Milner told how Russian guards took them to Weimar, where they were confined in a hotel.

"The Russian saluted every time they saw me," says he. ^{He says} ~~and tells how~~ he showed them some American magazines that he had with him. The magazines contained some anti-Soviet articles. But the Red officers were interested in only one thing - pictures of girls - of the pin-up variety.

When the two Americans were released, the Russian officer in charge took offense at the very idea of the Major trying to pay his ^{own} hotel bill. Page Emily Post.

CHEFS

I'm afraid I'm now about to break one of the rules of this program. I know that Lowell Thomas makes it a policy - never take sides! But I fear I must take sides in an argument that has broken out in Philadelphia - between Monsieur Louis Turco of France, and Mister Andrew Brossfield of South Africa.

Monsieur Turco is a chef of reputation, President of the Epicurean Club of Boston. His art soars far above the bean and the cod. Mister Brossfield is also a chef. They're both attending a convention of the International Stewards and Caterers Association, meeting in Philadelphia, the land of the Biddle and the home of the scrapple.

Both appeared on a local radio program, and up came the spicy subject of -- bouillabaisse. The eyes of Monsieur Turco moistened at the mere mention of that savory fish soup, the specialty of Marseille. With pride he told how to cook bouillabaisse. How you prepare the fish and the octopus, with saffron for spice. After which,

said he, you add some water.

"No! No!" said Mister Brossfield of South Africa. You don't put water in bouillabaisse - you should use wine or cognac. Monsieur Turco waxed wroth. Imagine a South African correcting a Frenchman on a subject like bouillabaisse! He glowered at Mr. Brossfield.

"You take zee watair," he shouted.

"Wine and cognac," said the South African.

"Par bleu sacre nom," roared the Frenchman.

The argument grew so hot that Monsieur Turco seized Mister Brossfield by the coat lapels and shook him -- all this in front of the microphone. Which, as everybody knows, is a terribly sensitive instrument. The moderator intervened, moderation being needed - and changed the subject to Irish stew.

Well, in that argument - I am taking sides. I figure that a Frenchman would know more about bouillabaisse than a South African - and I think Lowell Thomas would agree. But he can't possibly be listening in -- there

being no radios in Tibet -- and alas! No bouillabaisse.

However, Lowell is on this program tonight -- in a recorded broadcast from over there on the roof of the world. He's just seen his first Tibetan monastery, and had his first encounter with Buddhist monks - the lamas of Shangri-la. So now -- Lowell Thomas.

LABOR

There's a new threat of a coal mine strike - with John L. Lewis giving a warning to a bank. The Union complaint is that some companies have failed to pay their contribution to the Welfare and Retirement Fund. Prominent among them is the Island Creek Coal Company. Lewis today sent a message to the Cleveland Trust Company, stating that, as this bank actually exercises control of the Island Creek Mines, it should make the company pay up. He warned that failure to do so might, in his formidable phrase, "precipitate a social convulsion in the mining areas of this country." Meaning - the threat of a new coal strike.

As for the Cleveland Bank, it denies that it controls the Island Creek Mines, saying that the Trust Company holds less than one-third of the stock.

And strike talk echoes again in the world of steel - with C.I.O. President Philip Murray calling upon the United States Steel Company, biggest of them all, to accept the recommendations of President Truman's Fact-finding Board, or the Union will not negotiate. Which

would mean a steel strike on September Twenty-Fifth.

U.S. Steel has just announced that it cannot flatly accept the recommendations of the fact-finding board.

END

Lowell Thomas' meeting with a party of Chinese in Tibet sounds as if it might have an angle of high politics - fifteen thousand feet high on the roof of the world. The Chinese Empire used to claim sovereignty over Tibet, and the Chinese Reds of today are reasserting that claim all over again. But more about that tomorrow.

The news from China, meanwhile, tells of riots in Canton today. They attacked what are called - "conscription agents." These agents are hired to recruit soldiers, and their way is to pick up beggars and coolies and shanghai them. They're employed by Chinese war lords, who pay them so much a head. The practice is denounced by the Nationalist authorities, and today the mobs took a hand. Conscription agents were seized, kicked and clubbed - until rescued by the police. Popular fury because there's - shanghai-ing in Canton. Sounds like a Chinese puzzle, doesn't it, Nelson?

As Lowell Thomas says, so long till tomorrow.