

RAILROADS

P.J.-Sunoco Thursday, May 20, 1946.

Tonight's explanation of the sudden postponement of the railroad strike on Saturday, is that the unions consented to postpone it because President Truman promised them that he would override his own Fact-Finding Panel and give the men a higher increase than the panel recommended.

Authority for this information are the Union leaders themselves, Alvanley Johnston of the Engineers, and Whitney of the Trainmen. They had a long session today with John R. Steelman, the President's adviser, at which they said they are willing to resume discussions with the railroad managers, on the basis of a raise of eighteen-and-a-half cents an hour. Originally they were demanding thirty cents more per hour.

The new deadline for the strike -- in case the management refuses to meet these terms -- four o'clock Thursday afternoon, Standard Time.

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Here's an optimistic report: Another Union official announced that it's quite possible the whole railroad

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dispute may be settled tonight. So says Thomas Harkins of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. In his opinion the prospects are excellent for a satisfactory conclusion.

COAL

No progress in the coal dispute today. Most of the heavy emphasis in Washington ~~today~~ ^{being} on averting the possibility ^{of resumption} of the railroad strikes ~~being resumed~~.

^{TP} ~~But~~ The two week truce ~~that~~ John L. Lewis conceded, ~~will~~ ^{that} end ^{on} Saturday. ~~So~~ something has to be done before then.

^{TP} During the absence of the President, in Missouri, the White House Secretary said that so far as he knew, Mr. Truman had no immediate intention of taking over the soft coal mines.

TRUMAN

President Truman today, in his home state, took a sharp crack at people who are constantly criticizing *who themselves* but *never* really set about accomplishing anything. As he put it, we don't need captains and quarterbacks so much, particularly Monday morning quarterbacks, but *we do need* people willing to work for the things they claim they believe in.

The President was speaking off the cuff, no prepared text, at Liberty, Missouri, where he accepted an Honorary Degree from William Jewell College. It was the *well known midwestern* Ninety-Seventh Commencement of that college.

FOOD

A world food administrator is needed to deal with the present world emergency. So says former President Hoover -- said it today before a special session of the Food and Agriculture Division of the United Nations.

As Mr. Hoover told us in that great speech on the air on Saturday -- perhaps his greatest -- the worst of the famine crisis will have passed by September First, although there will be shortages for some time after the Nineteen Forty-six harvest. However, until September, the ~~and~~ need in many lands is desperate. No one who listened to the former President on Saturday could fail to realize how staggering is the emergency.

Mr. Hoover's proposal is that a world food administrator should be appointed not immediately, but after the worst is over. He feels that this world food administrator should take over the functions of UNRRA so far as food is concerned,

also of other food agencies, including the Anglo-American-Canadian Food Commission. Unrra is supposed to stop operating in Europe, January First, and in the Far East by March of next year.

As Mr. Hoover explained his idea, the world food administrator should have the services of a small advisory committee, most of its members coming from the nations which produce surpluses of food. This committee should only function during periods of scarcity. It should also direct its efforts to speeding up the return of normal commerce. ^{Mr.} Hoover then said: "The world must give up charity as a basis of widespread food distribution." And he explained: "I can't too strongly emphasize that charitable distribution is largely wasteful and inefficient."

President Truman ~~was~~ represented at this session by a message which he sent, with the warning that every

country that is able to, must help ~~to~~ fight world famine. His message contained an implied rebuke to Russia for refusing to help.

But a dispatch from Moscow indicates that Russia is not as able to contribute as the propaganda reports from Moscow had maintained. Today's news from the Soviet Union clearly indicates a crop failure in that huge country. Today it looks as though Stalin's promise to abolish food rationing ^{in the U.S.S.R. was} ~~was decidedly~~ premature. Several days ago, inspectors for Unrra reported a severe drought in the Ukraine. Today's dispatch from Moscow brings word that the Soviet Council of Ministers has sent a directive to all sixteen republics of the Soviet Union, ordering the quick ploughing and resowing of land on which winter crops had perished. These resowings are compulsory. And the President of the Council of Ministers of the Ukraine has reported that it is necessary to mobilize

farmers to harvest crops by hand because there is not enough machinery.

Getting back to the emergency session of the Food and Agriculture Committee of the United Nations, John Boyd Orr, its Director, went even further than Herbert Hoover, in picturing the gravity of the world crisis. Shortages, according to ^{is} the Englishman, will continue for three or four years. And he urged the delegates not to waste too much time discussing the size of the coming harvest. For, as he pointed out, after ²that ₁ Nineteen Forty-Six harvest, the world will be just as badly off with food as before last year, because this time there will be no great reserves of foodstuffs carried over from the previous year.

O.P.A.

If Congress will continue O.P.A. for another twelve months, the Truman administration will positively fold it up at the end of a year. That was an offer made to the Banking Committee of the Senate today, ^{made by} ~~by the~~ Democratic leader, Senator Barkley.

However, there'll be a string to ^{it.} ~~that~~ ~~discontinuation~~ ^{While} ~~discontinuation~~. The government will get ride of O.P.A. as such, ~~but~~ ^{still} other agencies will have control of commodities that are scarce. ^{And} The President will report to Congress next April ^{as to just which} ~~what these~~ commodities, ~~are~~ and what agencies he proposes to ^{have} control them.

The administration forces in Congress also are willing to concede the removal of ceilings on plentiful items by the end of this year. But there's a string to that. ^{It to} ~~that will~~ be done provided ~~that~~ the increases in prices do not unstabilize the prices of other commodities. If such were to happen, then O.P.A. would resume controls.

This offer did not pacify the southern Democrats and Republicans, who are unqualifiedly opposed to O.P.A. Senator Stewart of Tennessee thinks it should be abolished now, ^{with} ~~and~~ most of its functions turned over to other agencies. Republican Senator Capehart of Indiana, wants to throw O.P.A. out ~~of~~ the window and hand its duties over to the Civilian Production Administration. Senator ~~Bob~~ Taft of Ohio wants to establish a de-control board within the O.P.A. to compel the removal of price ceilings as soon as commodities become plentiful.

At Chicago, the Department of Justice submitted to a federal grand jury, evidence of a huge black market in beer, a million dollar affair. The ^{U.S.} ~~United States~~ Attorney charges that there is a black market traffic between New York and Philadelphia, also between the north and the south. He declared that three distributors in Chicago and fourteen breweries are selling beer at a

dollar-a-case-over-ceiling-prices to southern distributors.

Bottled beer selling for fifteen cents retail is sold in taverns and night-clubs for forty and fifty cents.

leader of the Iranian democratic movement, and that the

people of that province were on a war footing with the

central government, determined to preserve what he

called their "sacred" liberty."

An evening newspaper in Tehran carried an

interview with Premier Ghassemlou ^{with} saying that

there had been a minor clash between the Asgarian army

and the forces of the Iranian government. Ghassemlou

^{thinks} ~~believes~~ the fighting is unimportant, and that it is over

by now.

Nevertheless, Uncle Sam's Consul in Tehran

advised all six American residents there to leave that

province, ~~immediately~~. The situation, said the consul, is

deteriorating. The six American homes are three miles

IRAN

Civil War in Persia

~~The fat is in the fire in Iran.~~

According to

reports from Tabriz, ~~there is an out and out war~~ ^{fight is on} between

Azerbaijan and the central Iranian government. The

leader of the Azerbaijan democrats announced that the

people of that province ~~were~~ on a war footing with ~~the~~

^{own} central government, determined to preserve what he

called their "newly acquired liberty."

An evening newspaper in Teheran carried an

interview with Premier Ghavam ^{with} ~~and quoted~~ him saying that

there had been a minor clash between the Azerbaijan army

and the forces of the Iranian government. Ghavam ~~is quite~~

^{thinks} ~~and they~~ the fighting is unimportant, and that it is over

by now.

Nevertheless, Uncle Sam's Consul in Tabriz

advised all six American residents there to leave that

province, ~~altogether~~. The situation, said the consul, is

deteriorating. The six Americans ~~there~~ are three elderly

missionary teachers, two nurses, and a doctor. If people of those callings are actually in danger, ^{then} the situation must be ^{critical in Azerbaijan.} ~~really crucial~~ ^{I have even} ~~The fact is that the Consul~~ ^{the Amer. Consul} has been a target for open threats by Azerbaijanians.

^{In Tabriz, the Communists there} ~~According to the Azerbaijanians~~ the army of the central government attacked them, on a hundred and fifty mile front at five different points. So there is a ^{wide} ~~disseminarity~~ ^{decided variance} between the official accounts given out at Teheran and at Tabriz.

In New York, the Security Council of the United Nations ^{is awaiting} ~~expects~~ an official report from the Teheran government. This will be due at midnight, Eastern Daylight Time. But the report is expected to concern chiefly the withdrawal of Russian troops from Azerbaijan. According to the Azerbaijan government, there are no Russian soldiers remaining within the province.

TRIAL

The Germans began to violate the terms of the Versailles Treaty almost before the ink on it was dry. At Nuremberg, today, Grand Admiral Erich Raeder, Commander-in-Chief of the Nazi Navy under Hitler, said so; and he should know.

As early as Nineteen Twenty-five, the Germans were building submarines in Holland. Admiral Raeder explained that there were so many unemployed submarine workers in those days, and as a consequence of their work, when the Anglo-German Naval Treaty of Nineteen Thirty-five announced that the Germans then could build U-boats, why new submarines were all ready to be put into commission -- within eleven days. And, by Nineteen Thirty-five, Admiral Raeder had thirty-four thousand officers and men in his navy, although only fifteen thousand were allowed under the Versailles Treaty.

All of which means that it was not just the Nazis who prepared for war. Even the government of the Weimar Republic was doing it ~~in~~ sub-rosa.

HEART - DURYEE

A group of distinguished citizens, headed by Governor Dewey, met in New York today to discuss possible ways of tracking down the greatest killer of our time. They were meeting to form a council to tackle the problem of diseases that effect the heart. ^π According to these gentlemen heart afflictions cause more deaths, in this country, every year, [^] more than cancer, tuberculosis and polio ~~and~~ combined. They further report that the study of diseases of the heart has been sadly neglected, and they propose to raise funds to remedy this. ^π Not that they have any hope of eliminating heart ailments. But, they are convinced that much of the suffering, and the economic burden, which so often accompanies heart trouble, can be reduced.

The council plans to raise three hundred thousand dollars by public subscription during Nineteen forty-seven, for this all important work.

K.K.K.

The fiery cross made its appearance in the neighborhood of Los Angeles last night, ~~planned~~ other proof that the Ku Klux Klan again is on the rampage. ~~In fact, there have been~~ ^{A whole} series of incidents in southern California showing the K.K.K. ~~has swung back into activity~~ ^{is on the scene}. ~~For one thing there was~~ ^{For one thing there was} the burning of a flaming cross on the lawn of a Jewish fraternity house at the University of California. ~~The letters K.K.K. were painted in black~~ ^{And} on the front of the house. ~~Furthermore~~ ^{TP also} vandals broke into a synagogue at Hollywood, destroyed a sacred scroll, and painted ~~a couple of Swastikas on the wall, also~~ ^{a lot of} offensive words ~~in German~~ ^{on the wall.} The scroll was a particularly valuable one, which the rabbi of a synagogue smuggled out of Berlin eight years ago.

Another fiery cross was burned in a field in north Los Angeles over the weekend; still ~~another~~ another on the lawn over a respectable negro family.

ADD K. K. K.

In Georgia, the Ku Klux Klan is ^{said to be} defying the State government. Governor Ellis Arnall ~~says that~~ the Klan ~~is~~ making the name of Georgia ridiculous, because ~~that state~~ ^{is} still is the headquarters of the organization. Arnall has asked the Attorney General to study the laws of the State and find what can be done legally to crush the K.K.K. The Grand Dragon, whose name is Dr. Samuel Green, threw down the gauntlet to the chief executive of the State, and said, "They can't take our charter away from us legally. It is a legally constituted body in Georgia."

What annoyed Governor Arnall most was the burning of a huge cross on the top of Stone Mountain, signifying the revival of the Klan. It was that ceremony, said he, which brought the name of Georgia into ridicule. ~~If the State government has the right to break up the klan in Georgia, something will be done about it. This means, of course, that the Klan will work against Governor~~

SINATRA

Frank Sinatra today denied the charge that his crooning - or whatever you ~~may~~ call the sounds ~~that~~ he makes - has a Red tinge. This ~~was~~ in answer to a charge brought by the Director of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus, *who* openly accused Sinatra of having lined up with the Communists; ~~and~~ *pointing* to the fact that last Friday night the crooner spoke at a Red rally of ~~sixteen thousand~~ Left Wingers in Madison Square Garden.

Sinatra protested that it could not have been a Red rally, although it was an affair promoted by ~~the~~ outfit calling itself the Independence Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, *which has been* ~~This had been widely~~ reported *to be* ~~as being actually~~ a facade for Red fellow travelers and *other pinkies and Reds.* ~~the so-called Independents had never been~~ ~~at pains to deny it.~~

said Sinatra ~~declared that~~ the Director of the Knights of Columbus who brought the charge against him did not know what he was talking about, in fact, said Sinatra, "The guy is a jerk." *A guy who isn't a jerk.*