

L.T. - SUNOCO. FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1946

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

In the Seante this afternoon, there was a shift of forces from the extreme opposition to the White House on the subject of the President's emergency strike bill. Day before yesterday, the majority against the proposal to draft the strikers was beaten by a lopsided majority of seventy to thirteen. Today, the Seantorial battle was over the remainder of the bill -- minus the business to draft strikers idea. And the latest vote this afternoon showed a majority of forty-two to forty in favor of the White House.

The overwhelming majority against the provision to draft strikers consisted of a strange alliance of opposite extremes, Left Wing New Dealers and Conservative Democrats and Republicans -- plus about everything else. Today, the extremes were still in opposition to the White House, the Left Wing Dew Dealers and Republicans

voting to shelve the bill, but a lot of the middle dropped out, and went over to the Presidential side, giving the White House a two-vote majority. Which narrow margin gives reason for the belief that the measure is likely to pass in the Senate -- minus the business of drafting strikers.

That proposal was not even mentioned in the Senate today, nor was there any consideration for further White House remarks on the subject -- the President today defending the draft of strikers in spite of the way the Senators turned it down.

The point at issue was a motion by Senator Thomas of Utah to shelve the bill, send it back to committee.

That brought a test vote-- with a hairline majority in favor of the Presidential measure. The President today stated that his proposal to draft strikers had been sadly misinterpreted and misrepresented.

He explained that he didn't really mean to conscript strikers into the Army and make them go back to their jobs as soldiers. He said he merely wanted the authority not

to draft labor but to deputize civilian experts to cope with the crisis. He pointed to the fact that it has long been the custom in this country for sheriffs to deputize citizens in emergencies.

About the Maritime strike, President Truman stated that the prospects of a settlement look dark at present - and a strike is likely, with the Navy and the Coast Guard ready to take over.

the Security Council in the crisis of the Korean dispute. He stated that Stettinius has been taking little more than carrying out instructions from the State Department. However, from the Stettinius group at the Security Council, he has seen that there have been no differences between Stettinius and Truman.

One expression about the Stettinius resignation is that his prestige in the United Nations would be enhanced by a presidential refusal to let him go - the equivalent of a White House vote of confidence.

## STETTINIUS

It isn't clear whether our chief delegate to the United Nation's is going to step out. He has resigned, but President Truman has not accepted and hopes to get him to stay on.

There have been rumors that Edward R. Stettinius has been discontented by the way the principal role has been taken over by Secretary of State Byrnes -- the Secretary officiating at the Security Council in the crisis of the Iranian dispute. And since then, Stettinius has been doing little more than carrying out instructions from the State Department. However, from the Stettinius group at the Security Council, we hear that there have been no differences between Stettinius and Byrnes.

One supposition about the Stettinius resignation is that his prestige in the United Nations would be enhanced by a presidential <sup>refusal</sup> ~~refusal~~ to let him go -- the equivalent of a White House vote of confidence.

## SLOVAKIA

We hear of dangerous disturbances in the Republic of Czecho-slovakia -- days of riot and violence, following the election last Sunday. In that election, the Communists came out as the strongest party in Czecho-slovakia as a whole. But in Slovakia, the eastern agricultural province, the victory went to the Slovak Democratic Party, Christian and Moderate. The Slovakian Democrats won an overwhelming victory over all other parties, an absolute majority of over sixty per cent.

The Communists refuse to accept the election verdict. They've been rioting day after day, and now have ordered a general strike in Slovakia, thereby bringing a dangerous crisis.

Having lost the ~~ix~~ election so decisively, the Reds demand an equal share in the government.

## FOOD-ENGLAND

Great Britain learned today what Morrison got in Washington. Herbert Morrison, Lord President of the Council, was over here in America recently on a food mission, and today he told the House of Commons that he had been granted one million, a hundred and sixty-five thousand tons of grain for India; and six hundred and seventy-five thousand tons for Germany -- that is, the British zone in Germany. These amounts of foodstuffs will go a long way to avert famine in places where it counts most for Britain -- India and Northwestern Germany occupied by the British.

All of this came forth in a House of Commons debate in which there were open statements about one big reason for the desperate shortage of food in Western Europe. The great grain producing areas are under Soviet control -- Hungary, Romania, Eastern Germany, Poland, normally these are the bread basket for the more industrialized areas farther West in Europe. And they're cut off by the Soviet iron curtain.

## WAR CRIMINAL TRIAL

In Hamburg today, there was a verdict of not guilty the first acquittal in a war criminal trial of major consequence. German Lieutenant General Karl von Behrens was exonerated of responsibility for the murder of fourteen British commandos in Norway. The decision was handed down by a British military court of five senior officers, headed by a major general. And it may set a precedent in the cases of other accused German officers.

In Norway, the Germans had a research plant of the utmost importance -- atomic importance. There, German scientists were engaged in atomic experiments. The British knew about it, and assigned special commando force to raid and destroy this focus of the peril of enemy science. . The Nazis, on their part, were equally determined to safeguard their atomic work. The plant in Norway was considered so important that Hitler personally issued a special order that any British commandos who attacked it were to be executed.

The British actually did finally destroy the

~~xxxx~~ atomic research plant by a commando raid -- on skis, but not until one attempt had failed. That attempt had ~~mm~~ involved glider landings -- and one glider crashed. In it were fourteen commandos, who were captured. They were in full uniform, and were entitled to treatment as prisoners of war. The German commander of the area was Lieutenant General von Behrens, and he ordered the execution of the commandos -- in accordance with the personal command issued by Hitler.

His defense at the trial in Hamburg was that he was only a soldier carrying out an order given by his legal commander -- Hitler. And today the British military court agreed with this -- and set von Behrens free. Which may set a precedent for arguing, in the case of other German officers, that a soldier cannot be held responsible for carrying out illegal orders issued by his legal commander.



## ATOMIC

British atomic scientists come forward with a program for the control of the atomic bomb. They urge the United Nations to supply themselves with bombs, and station stocks of these at strategic places throughout the world -- to prevent any single nation from making an atomic threat.

This British plan, as announced today, suggests that the United Nations make inspections in every country to be sure that no nation is building up an atomic menace. The U.N. to be given an enormous preponderance of atomic strength, so as to be in a position to crush any country that might go in for atomic power on its own. And that leads to the idea of a series of atomic bases throughout the world, from which the United Nations could hurl atomic devastation on any point of menace.

## DETROIT

I am in Detroit tonight -- here for two days -- especially for tomorrow. Tomorrow, will be the big day of the Golden Jubilee. Who's Golden Jubilee? Why, the horseless carriage.

Just 50 years ago the automobile was born. According to Detroit. Although I suppose there still are plenty of folks who are ready to argue about when it was born and who was the father of it.

Years ago I got in the middle of that ancient debate -- by accident -- when I broadcast from Springfield, Massachusetts, and said I was in the home of the automobile, invented by the Duryea Brothers. You should have seen what I started by saying that. Well, one of the Duryeas has come out from Springfield for this Jubilee. He'll ride in the parade tomorrow -- as will Barney Oldfield, Henry Ford, Charles Nash, General Knudson and other patricarchs, including me!

My father, when he heard I was coming out here, suggested that I start the ~~xxx~~ argument all over again. And he supplied me with some fuel for it.

My father likes an argument. He not only will argue at the drop of a hat -- he'll be in the middle of one before the hat hits the floor.

Here's what my Dad said: "Back in 1890," sez he, "in Hollansburg, Ohio" -- that's almost on the Indiana line -- "we had a photographer-artist-inventor in our town. He was kinda different, was Harvey Davis -- always doing the strangest things."

And then my Dad threw his bombshell into this birth of the automobile argument. He said that one day, down Main Street in Hollansburg, came Harvey Davis, in a contraption driven by an engine. Had no horses, and it had three wheels, and it ran. And Harvey's neighbors gave him the razberries. That was in 1890. And in 1896 Henry Ford built one, and Henry became one of the richest men in the world, and Harvey Davis of Hollansburg long ago died a poor man. Such is life.

Well, Detroit's streets, like the streets of Heaven are paved with gold tonight. They've painted em golden for the parade tomorrow, the biggest parade Detroit

has ever seen.

And the people of Detroit, of South Bend, of Flint, of Lansing and other Michigan cities, are building finer cars than ever. I rode in Henry Ford's 1st car or maybe his second today -- and in his latest a little while ago -- his newest Lincoln. And workers out here are ready to rush em thru to you. They are still held up by strikes at some of the supplier plants -- 150 of such strikes. But, when this strike wave is over -- then watch these Michigan plants -- General Motors, Chrysler, Ford, and the rest. They are all set to break all records.

## ANDOVER

Andover, Massachusetts, is celebrating its three hundredth birthday -- slightly embarrassed, red in the face.

The old town in Massachusetts remembered that over in England there's an Andover -- an Andover over there. So, for the three hundredth birthday celebration, the town fathers invited the mayor and mayoress of Andover, England -- and they, in due time, arrived.

Arrangements were made to entertain the mayor and mayoress in style -- quarters reserved for them in the local hotel, a double room, the best -- the bridal suite, in fact. They were to have occupied that sumptuous double room last night -- but it all turned into a shock, something to startle staid New England, not to mention staid Old England.

They found the mayor and mayoress were not married. His Honor is Mr. G. B. Young. Her Honor is Mrs. Maude Sainsbury. He's a bachelor, while she's the wife of a building contractor over there in Andover, England.

The trouble arose from the fact that the town fathers at Andover, Massachusetts, didn't know that in England, if the mayor is a bachelor, he appoints some lady as official hostess -- and she's called the mayoress. They thought, naturally enough, that ~~xx~~ a mayoress would be the wife of the mayor.

The peril was averted at the last moment, the peril of making the bachelor share the bridal suite with the wife of the building contractor. That would never do in Andover, Massachusetts, or in Andover, England, either. The ~~xxx~~ town fathers hastily engaged separate rooms -- for Their Honors, the ~~xxxx~~ Mayor and Mayoress -- and thus a major catastrophe was averted -- and so long until Monday.