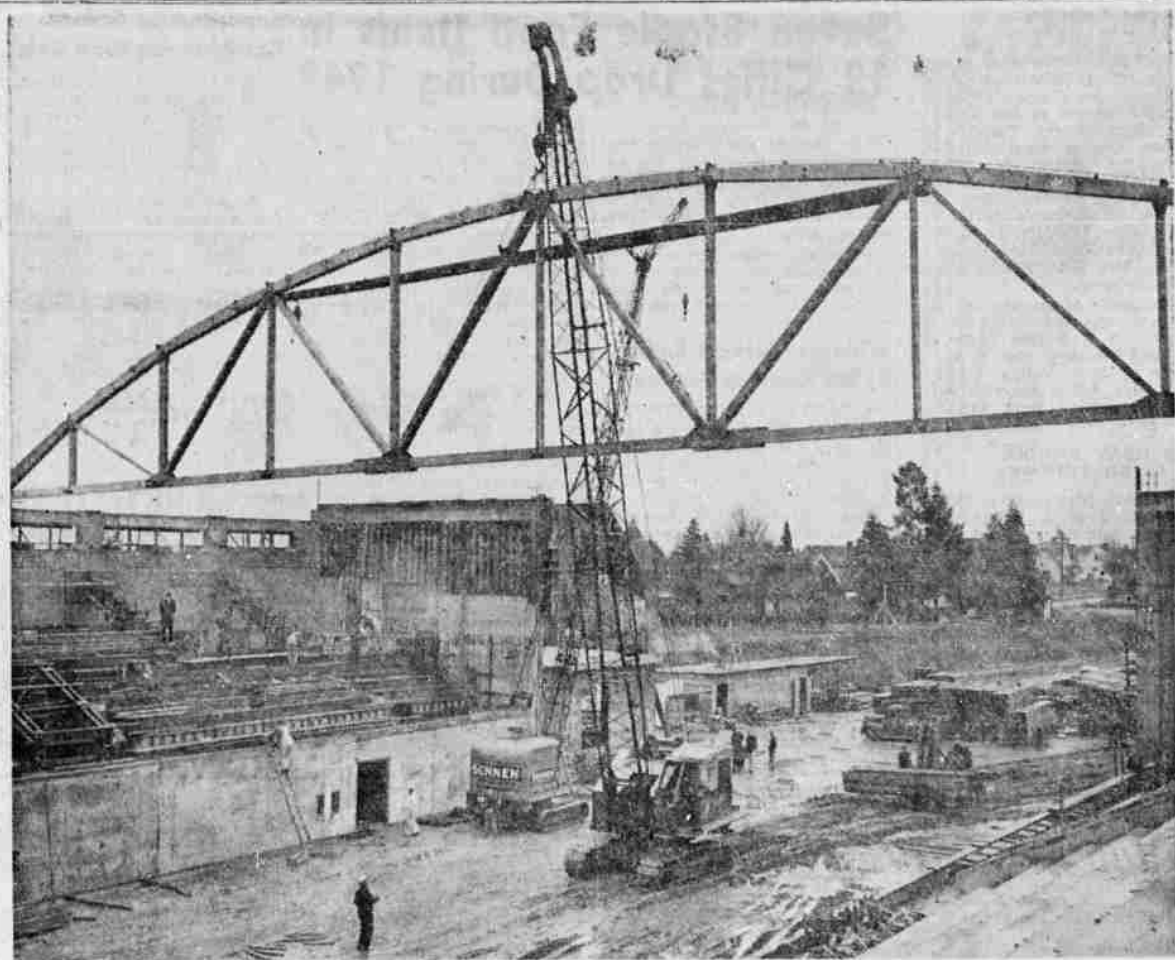




IMPOSSIBLE?—Contractors, engineers and some architects said it was impossible to raise a 168-foot roof truss in one complete unit. This feat recently became a recorded accomplishment in Tacoma because architects Mock and Morrison had faith in versatile wood. Nine huge wood trusses, each 23-feet high, were lifted bodily 60 feet from the ground and anchored as roof supports on the new memorial field house at Tacoma's College of Puget Sound, where athletic events can be viewed by 6,500 spectators without the obstruction of a single vertical support. This trussed roof section of this reinforced concrete building, which is 168 feet wide and 200 feet long, carries 90,000 board feet of roof decking. Designated as a Monocord truss and prefabricated by the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company at its Longview, Wash., plant, each truss contains 7600 board feet of stress-grade sturdy Douglas fir, harvested on the St. Helens Tree Farm in eastern Cowlitz County.

Moscow's 'Peace Offensive' Poses Mystery as to Its Real Purpose

By DEWITT MACKENZIE

Associated Press Foreign Affairs Analyst

Moscow's continuance of its mysterious "peace offensive," which this column has been describing as a Trojan horse, certainly challenges observers to figure out what it's all about.

There have been several Bolshevik calls for "peace" the past few days. Palmiro Togliatti, Italian Communist leader, and

Marcel Cachin, French Red chief, again have begged "the peoples of the world to save imperiled

peace." Even more striking was the declaration by P. N. Pospelov, editor of the Moscow newspaper Pravda, that Russia has an "unshakable will for international cooperation."

Since peace is wholly contrary to Bolshevik strategy for world revolution we know the Soviet union doesn't want peace. What, then, is Moscow up to?

Obviously the Reds want easement of some situation which has been made too tough for them by the Democracies. Likely sev-

eral situations are involved, but it's a safe bet that steady hardening of American opinion against Communism is one of the big factors behind the "peace offensive."

U. S. Attitude Effective

After all, the U. S. A. is the world's dominant power and its attitude is Communism's greatest concern. Not only is the very formidable Communist machine in this country breaking up, but public opinion has swung heavily against the Red machinations.

Just take a look at the develop-

Soviet 'Peace Offensive' Launched In Western Europe, as Predicted

By JAMES THRASHER

Two months ago Leon Dennen predicted, in an NEA dispatch from Paris, that the Kremlin would launch a "peace offensive" in western Europe and turn its attention to the Far East. It is evident that this prediction was based on accurate knowledge, and that it is now in the process of coming true.

A couple of Moscow's favorite sounding boards, Marcel Cachin of France and Palmiro Togliatti of Italy, have been given the job of announcing the latest party-line switch. It is a radical switch, but by no means drastic. The comrades' tone is suddenly mild. War between communism and capitalism is not inevitable, they say. Complete collaboration between East and West is possible and so on.

Meanwhile the Communists are winning the civil war in China. Russian activity has been present, but not obtrusive, in that struggle. The Chinese Reds have been helped by concessions won by Russia after Japan's surrender, and by Japanese arms left behind by the Russians. But for a long time the Kremlin apparently hoped, by remaining in the background, to foster the misconception that the Chinese Communists were not part of the world apparatus of Marxism, but simply agrarian reformers.

School Recess Smoking Suggestion Criticized

MEDFORD, Mass., Jan. 27.—(AP)—A suggestion that high school pupils be permitted to smoke cigarettes during recess was criticized today by Mrs. Pearl J. Larson, secretary of the School Committee.

She said lack of discipline would result from proposed periods of "freedom" for smoking recommended by High School Principal Edward H. Leonard and Vocational School Director Melvin V. Weldon.

Leonard and Weldon reported that "about 75 per cent of the boys and 50 per cent of the girls smoke." They said they felt some action should be taken on the rule against smoking.

In disagreeing Mrs. Larson declared: "I know that children will smoke after school if they are not allowed to smoke during school. Then it is the parents' responsibility, not the School Committee's."

Mexican Cavalry Slay Kidnap, Rescue Girl

CHILPANCINGO, Mex., Jan. 27.—(AP)—Army cavalry rescued a pretty girl Tuesday after shooting it out with her four kidnappers. One was killed in the fighting and the others are being hunted.

The four held up a bus on the main highway near Garapatas, and made off with Rosalba Gonzalez. She is candidate for queen of the Tierra Colorado carnival. The bus driver notified the military at Garapatas, and a cavalry detachment was sent into the mountains in pursuit. Within a few hours they located the band and the girl in a wooded ravine and opened fire. Three of the band fled when the fourth was shot.

Will Rogers' Favorite Horse Gets Park Burial

SANTA MONICA, Calif., Jan. 27.—(AP)—They've buried "Bootlegger," Will Rogers' favorite polo and roping horse, on his ranch that is now Will Rogers State Park here.

"Bootlegger," 33 years old when he died last Saturday, was purchased by the late comedian in New York in 1923 from an Oklahoma rodeo cowboy, Barton Carter. Will's family gave "Bootlegger" to a cowboy artist, Joe De Yong of Hollywood, in 1936 and the horse has been on a San Fernando Valley ranch.

The State Park Commission, at request of Will's son, Jimmy, authorized the burial in the park.

ments in the United States recently. President Truman in his inaugural address called Communism a "false philosophy" and in effect declared all-out war against the ism. Our new secretary of state, Dean Acheson, says:

"It is my view that Communism as a doctrine is economically fatal to a free society and to human rights and fundamental freedom. Communism is an aggressive factor in world conquest and fatal to independent governments and free peoples."

That's hot mustard to come from the president of the United States and from his secretary of state. However, if you hold that actions speak louder than words, look at this:

Eleven high United States Communists, all members of the party's national committee, went on trial in New York last week. They are charged with working for the forcible overthrow of the American Government.

Out in Seattle the University of Washington Board of Regents dismissed three long-time professors as the aftermath of a controversy over asserted former Communist party membership. The three criticized the action as a blow to civil liberties and indicated they would appeal.

Bolsheviks' sins are beginning to find it out. Small wonder, then, that Moscow should want to placate the Democracies, especially America, and try to soften the upheaval which is growing against this devilish ism.

Wool Manufacturers Want End of Tariff Pact

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—(AP)—The National Association of Wool Manufacturers asked Congress yesterday to end the reciprocal trade programs. It said "the idea of setting tariff rates by agreeing to 'bargains' with foreign nations is unsound."

House Ways and Means Committee. The Committee is studying President Truman's plea for repeal of the changes made in the trade program by the Republican-controlled 80th Congress. These changes restrict the president's powers to cut tariffs.

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