

Congressional Battle Looms Over Revision Of Social Security System

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—The long Chrysler strike—climaxing over three years of labor disputes in coal, steel, auto and other industries for pension and welfare plans—focuses attention on the coming Senate battle over revision of the U. S. social security system.

There have been some queer political and economic alliances in this struggle. An extreme right wing group—principally big business employers—has seemed to favor substitution of a flat, government pension scheme for the present contributory system.

The explanation for this stand is fairly simple. Labor unions have been demanding—and getting—contracts which provide that employers shall pay, out of pocket, the difference between government social security old age and survivors insurance benefits of around \$25 a month, and a figure of \$100 or \$125 a month.

Employers want to get off this hook. Small companies say they can't afford to pay this differential, without tremendously increasing their costs. Their solution has been to have the whole pension burden shoved off on the federal government.

Might Be Less For All
Social security officials and welfare workers argue that this may prove to be a shortsighted policy. Their reasoning is that a flat government pension would eventually mean that every person of 65 or

over would be put on government relief.

Funds for paying government pensions for all would have to come from annual appropriations by Congress. In this status, these appropriations would be subject to downward pressures by congressional advocates of economy. The result might be less social security for all.

The position of some of the labor union leaders in this struggle is curious. By collective bargaining and by strikes, the CIO unions in particular have been forcing employers to grant pensions over and above social security benefits.

What these unions really want, they say, are higher government social security benefits. Not being able to get these benefits from Congress, they say they are forced to get them from employers. But their real purpose here is said to be to drive the employers to support their drive for higher government social security.

Private Firms Face Dilemma
A third major force in this argument is the private insurance business. A little background is necessary to understand its position. Originally, the insurance companies fought social security. They thought government old age and survivors' insurance would be a competitor.

It didn't develop that way at all. Instead, social security was the biggest policy sales booster the insurance business ever got. Social security paid only minimum subsistence benefits, at depression levels. They enabled insurance agents to argue that prospects should take out more insurance, to supplement their social security and give them enough to live on in old age.

Now, however, the insurance companies have a new fright. There is talk from the Townsend plan people of the need for \$140 a month. The CIO has figured that the minimum need is \$162 a month. Walter Reuther says the auto workers will

Grand Coulee Power Output At New Mark

COULEE DAM, Wash. —(P)—Grand Coulee dam has passed the three-quarter mark in construction of its maximum power potential, the Bureau of Reclamation says.

By 1951 when 18 generators will be in operation the dam will reach its peak. Thirteen generators are doing business now and the outer shell of No. 14 was placed last week.

Each generator is capable of lighting a city of 200,000 people. Grand Coulee — largest concrete dam in the world — started producing power nine years ago. It already holds world records for hourly, daily, weekly and monthly power production.

State Secretary Forced To Fire 124 Of His Staff

SALEM, May 2. —(P)—Secretary of state Earl T. Newbury says that lack of money has forced him to fire 124 of his department's 731 employees.

And he predicted that other departments also might have to fire some of their employees for the same reason.

The trouble, Newbury said, is that the legislature a year ago provided a \$30 a month pay increase for each state employee, but it appropriated only enough money for a \$20 monthly increase.

At the time the increase was given, legislative leaders said state departments could make up the difference by dismissing employees. Newbury said his department could get along with fewer employees because of the new license plate system, under which plates expire at monthly intervals throughout the year, instead of all of them expiring on January 1.

Newbury said he is trying to find out if further reductions could be made, asserting that some divisions already have fewer employees than they should have.

Modern Woodmen Set Eugene Convention
EUGENE — (P)—About 100 delegates and members of Modern Woodmen of America will meet here May 2 and 3 for a state convention.

The dramatic degree will be conducted by officers from Portland, Salem and Bend, and the fraternal degree by delegates and members from Bend.

Ralph J. Wiese, state consul from Klamath Falls, will give the opening remarks, and State Manager F. C. O'Donnell of Portland will give the main address. Delegates to the national convention in Chicago June 6 will be elected as well as officers for the coming year.

have \$200 a month pensions within 10 years.

If everyone could get an assured government plus private employer pension of \$200 a month, the need for private insurance would largely disappear. Insurance company executives now find themselves in sharp disagreement with their natural allies, the big employers who seem to favor bigger and bigger government pensions.

KRNR DIAL LOG

The week of May 7 through 13 has been officially designated as "Music Week" in our land . . . and for it, a panel of music "experts" has drawn up plans for a special radio program, entitled "Music Week Quiz" . . . to be heard on KRNR Tuesday, May 9, 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. Drawing its idea from the famous "Information Please" format, the panel is requesting "stump the experts" questions from listeners on any phase of music . . . composers, Bach to Carmichael; compositions, "Romeo and Juliet" to "Lay That Pistol Down;" or musical instruments, french-horns to zithers. The radio panel of experts will consist of Mr. Wendell Johnson, Martha Jane Plimpton, and the Reverend Willis F. Erickson of the Faith Lutheran church in Roseburg. Each time this panel of three is "stumped" by a too expert question . . . the listener who submitted same will receive a single classical recording. Start sending in your "Music Week Quiz" questions now, to: "Music Week Quiz," in care of KRNR . . . include your name and address, of course. Cards or letters must be postmarked not later than midnight, Monday, May 8, 1950. For further details, tune in tonight's "Tunefully Yours" program, 8:00-8:30 p.m.)

TONIGHT: Mayor Al Flegel takes you "Behind the Mayor's Desk" (7:45-8:00 p.m.) . . . featured orchestra on "Tunefully Yours" (8:00-8:30 p.m.) . . . citizen-of-the-week interview and the music of David Rose and his Orchestra on "Jovin Jamboree" (8:30-9:00 p.m.) . . . political talk entitled "The Ill-fare State" . . . Dave Hoover for U. S. Senator Committee (9:30-10:00 p.m.) . . . and Ravel's "Pavane for a Dead Princess" and "Mother Goose Suite" will be performed by Serge Koussevitzky and the Boston Symphony Orchestra on "Music You Want" (10:15-10:45 p.m.)

KRNR

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REMAINING HOURS TODAY

6:00—Fulton Lewis Jr.—MBS.
6:15—Hemingway—MBS.
6:30—Behind the Mayor's Desk—MBS.
6:45—Concert Miniature—MBS.
7:00—Straight Ahead—MBS.
7:15—Bar-B-Riders—MBS.
7:30—Bill Henry—MBS.
7:45—World of Sports—MBS.
8:00—Tunefully Yours—MBS.
8:15—Jovin Jamboree—MBS.
8:30—New—MBS.
8:45—Songs of Our Times—MBS.
9:00—Fulton Lewis Jr.—MBS.
9:15—Love & Mystery—MBS.
9:30—Music You Want—MBS.
9:45—Platter Show—MBS.
10:00—Blowup for a Day—MBS.
10:15—Sign Off.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1950

6:00—Coffee Club Capers—MBS.
6:15—Rise & Shine—MBS.
6:30—Hemingway—MBS.
6:45—Straight Ahead—MBS.
7:00—Off the Record—MBS.
7:15—Local News—MBS.
7:30—Marching—MBS.
7:45—Brighter Side—MBS.
8:00—Favorite Hymns—MBS.
8:15—Mural News—MBS.
8:30—Modern Home—MBS.
8:45—Tex Renner—MBS.
9:00—Man About Town—MBS.
9:15—Book of Bargains—MBS.
9:30—Cecil Brown—MBS.
9:45—Say It With Music—MBS.
10:00—Ladies Fair—MBS.
10:15—Blowup for a Day—MBS.
10:30—World News—MBS.
10:45—Songs of Pioneers—MBS.
11:00—Johnny Mercer Show—MBS.
11:15—Local News—MBS.
11:30—Man on the Street—MBS.
11:45—Lean Back & Listen—MBS.
12:00—Phone Fun—MBS.
12:15—It's Requested—MBS.
12:30—School Show—MBS.
12:45—Guest Star—MBS.
1:00—Novelty—MBS.
1:15—Fulton Lewis Jr.—MBS.
1:30—Hemingway—MBS.
1:45—Circle of Canada—MBS.
2:00—News—MBS.
2:15—Tom Mix—MBS.
2:30—Music at Six—MBS.
2:45—Mural News—MBS.
3:00—World of Sports—MBS.
3:15—Tex Renner—MBS.
3:30—Bill Henry—MBS.
3:45—Sleeping Beauty—MBS.
4:00—Chuckwagon Jamboree—MBS.
4:15—Name of that Song—MBS.
4:30—June Christy—MBS.
4:45—Cedric Foster—MBS.
5:00—News—MBS.
5:15—Hi Neighbor—MBS.
5:30—Scandinavian Melody—MBS.
5:45—Fulton Lewis Jr.—MBS.
6:00—Love & Mystery—MBS.
6:15—Music You Want—MBS.
6:30—Hanks Music Shop—MBS.
6:45—News Nightcap—MBS.
7:00—Sign Off.

GOOD OLD DAYS

LOS ANGELES, May 1.—(P)—While tearing down a building yesterday, a construction company's power shovel clawed away the broken bricks and revealed a weathered sign on the adjoining structure:

"Empire restaurant. Meals 10 cents & up."

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Liquor Control Tightening Tried In Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, May 2. —(P)—City officials today studied methods of stopping gambling and racketeering in liquor establishments.

An ordinance designed to tighten the liquor control law was introduced in the city council last night.

The move followed a federal grand jury's report that a \$34,500,000-a-year gambling operation centers in Kansas City.

The measure would empower the city liquor control director to suspend or revoke the license of any tavern or other establishment without notice or hearing. The present law requires a hearing.

Liquor director Fred R. Johnson has already moved against one tavern and is seeking evidence against other establishments named in the federal jury's report.

Johnson yesterday cited Mrs. Isabel Goulding, listed as licensee of the Last Chance tavern, on charges of permitting police characters and felons to loiter about the premises. She was ordered to appear for a hearing May 16.

The tavern is where politician Charles Binaggio and his henchman, ex-convict Charles Gargotta, met shortly before they were slain April 5 in a Kansas City democratic club.

The tavern is built on the Kansas-Missouri state line. Kansas officials have padlocked the Kansas side of the building.

Tues., May 2, 1950—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 5

Columbia Packing Assn. Reports Loss For 1949

ASTORIA, May 2.—(P)—The Columbia River Packers association Inc., Oregon's largest fish packing firm, reported a net operating loss of \$308,452 last year.

The corporation's annual report blamed a smaller fish pack and the lower price of fish. The year before, the firm made a net profit of \$843,332.

The total 1949 pack was 646,031 cases valued at \$10,875,818. That compared with a 1948 pack of 686,233 cases valued at \$14,277,855.

An optimistic note appeared, however, in the report that sales for this year are improving steadily, and are running more than 100 percent above last season.

The company said its expansion in southeastern Alaska was proving "very successful." A total of 4,400,000 pounds of fish was bought in Alaska last year.

violence exploded suddenly. Shops were attacked and stones flew, and the rioting spread to other South African towns.

South Africa recently stepped up her apartheid (segregation) policies under a race program promulgated by the nationalist government of Premier Daniel Malan.

MAYTAG CUTS PRICES
NEWTON, Ia.—(P)—The Maytag company, major manufacturer of home appliances, announces a \$10 price reduction on its automatic washer and a \$5 reduction on its three conventional washer models.

Boy A. Bradi, Maytag vice-president, said the price cut was made possible by "large scale production and manufacturing economies" despite "definite trends upward" in the cost of materials. The reduction became effective May 1.

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13 Natives Killed In Johannesburg Race Riot

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, May 2. —(P)—Rioting erupted Monday night in all the native areas around this city, and at least 13 natives were slain in clashes with police.

After a long period of tension in this race-conscious city, the



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Current farm news, market reports and farming information from the wires of Associated Press.
7:50 - 8 A. M.—
Tues., Thurs., Sat.

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The Wife Saver
Allen Prescott — with time and energy saving tips to the housewife!
10:45 - 11 A. M.—
Mon., Wed., Fri.

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Club 1490 Matinee
—Featuring the music of top bands . . . top vocalists . . . with Lyle Fenner.
1:30 - 2 P. M.—
Mon., Wed., Fri.

★
Behind the Mayor's Desk
An informal radio chat with Roseburg's Mayor Albert G. Flegel.
7:45 - 8—Tonight

★
Jovin Jamboree
—Another citizen-of-the-week interview . . . music by David Rose and his Orchestra.
8:30 - 9—Tonight

★
Music You Want
Tonight: Ravel's "Pavane for a Dead Princess" and "Mother Goose Suite" in performance by Serge Koussevitzky and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.
10:15 - 10:45 P. M.—
Mon. thru Fri.

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