

President Given Blanket Authority By House Bill

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The House Judiciary committee Tuesday approved a bill giving President Truman blanket authority to reshuffle government agencies and revise war contracts.

Leaders plan to ask house passage of the bill tomorrow under suspension of the rules.

A similar bill was introduced in the Senate and was promptly challenged by Senator Taft of Ohio, Republican policy leader.

The measure, offered by senate democratic leader Lucas of Illinois, would restore Mr. Truman's World War II authority to reorganize the government and permit re-negotiation of war contracts.

Mr. Truman told Congress Monday he needs the extra powers and

Lucas said "it is absolutely necessary that immediate action should be taken." He described the legislation as "urgent and vital."

Russian Air Superiority Warned By British Leader

LONDON — (AP) — The wartime leader of the Royal air force said Wednesday Russia has jumped into a three-year lead over Britain in the field of fighter aircraft.

Urging a sharp step-up of British rearmament, retired Air Chief Marshal Sir Guy Garrod told a meeting of the air league of the British empire "time is against us."

Sir Guy, who is chairman of the league and who from 1940 to 1943 was in charge of training men for the Royal air force, said it is certain the Russians have "extremely advanced types" of fighter planes.

Sir Guy said that Russia, as a potential aggressor, is in a position of overwhelming strength except for the atom bomb.



FANTASTIC KIDNAP PLOT—Gambler Harold Smith, owner of Reno, Nev., nationally-known Harold's club, and police inspect dummy lumber truck which authorities say was to be used in a fantastic plot to kidnap one of the wealthy Smith family children. Smith pushes on planks that reveal concealed opening to hollowed interior of load of lumber. (AP Wirephoto)

Aged Scotch Whiskey Finds Emergency Use

PENCOED, Wales — (AP) — For 12 years, Mrs. Amelia Griffiths hoarded a bottle of prewar Scotch whiskey against an emergency.

Then she heard that a 14-year-old horse named Frank had fallen into a ditch in his pasture near her house. Would-be rescuers failed to get him out and were about to send for a man with a gun.

Mrs. Griffiths, who is 63, decided the long-awaited emergency had come. She traipsed across the field with her bottle of Scotch under her arm.

After one swallow, Frank let go with a lusty kick. Halfway through the fine old liquor he turned on his side and took a deep breath. As the last drops trickled down his throat, Frank surged to his feet and lit out for home like a two-year-old colt.



NABBED BY REDS — Archbishop Josef Beran, of Prague, has been seized and secretly imprisoned by the Communist government of Czechoslovakia, according to an announcement by the National Catholic Conference in Washington.

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