



**ORGANIZATION MEETING** — Members of the fact-finding board appointed by President Eisenhower in the steel strike, pose for pictures as they meet to organize in Washington D.C. Members are (left to right) John A. Perkins, Pres. Univ. of Delaware; George W. Taylor, Wharton School, Univ. of Penna., chairman and Paul N. Lehoczky, Columbus, Ohio.

## Uncle Sam Is Biggest Operator Of Automobiles In The Nation

By FRANK ELEAZER  
UPI Staff Writer  
WASHINGTON (UPI) — Rep. Walter Rogers (D-Tex.), who is regularly upset by the growth of our government, announced recently that Uncle Sam owned 224,956 automobiles, a car pool of a size which Rogers found "somewhat" disturbing.

Well, it turned out that Rogers had made a slight and understandable error, likely to be made by anybody subjected daily to the official sedans, station wagons, and limousines that swarm over Washington and especially around Capitol Hill.

His mistake was one of three decimal points. Actually, the government owns and operates, at last count, something like 224,956 vehicles, which merely makes Uncle Sam the biggest fleet operator in history.

Most of the cars are Fords, Chevrolts, and Plymouths. The government fleet, which includes trucks but no tactical military vehicles, logs two billion miles yearly. Naturally the pressure always is on to cut costs of all this touring around.

**To Order Economy Cars**  
So government buyers next

**'Space Man' Out Of Job?**

WASHINGTON (UPI)—It looks as though the space scientists, eminent doctors all, are trying to do the space working man out of a job.

If they succeed, it will be a case of technological unemployment replacing a victim before the victim ever had a chance to get on the payroll.

Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director of the Smithsonian Institution's Astrophysical Observatory at Cambridge, Mass., says "teleguppets" will build the first space platforms from which to launch expeditions to the moon and planets.

As described by Whipple in a report to the Office of Naval Research, teleguppets are remotely controlled robots with television eyes.

They would bear little resemblance to the popular image of a pressure-suited construction worker, with a couple of siphon bottles on his back, getting about the job of assembling platforms in space.

Whipple rejects the idea of human workers in the space on the ground that their suits would be awkward, inefficient, and "probably very dangerous." All it would take to end such a worker's career would be one little meteor traveling fast enough to puncture his pressure suit.

The Russians also appear to prefer mechanical to flesh and blood men for space labor. A Soviet scientific article recently circulated here suggests that moon stations will be built by tank-like robots controlled from the earth by radio.

month will go out to order some of the big three's new economy cars. Surprisingly enough, one of the big questions is, can they buy and run 'em any cheaper than the standard models?

Ford's Falcon, Chevrolet's Corvair, and Plymouth's Valiant are supposed to sell in the showroom for a couple of hundred dollars less than their big brothers. But our government doesn't buy its cars out of the showroom. It buys them from the factory, in lots of hundreds and sometimes thousands.

On June 11, the General Services Administration, which does all the car-buying for non military agencies, picked up its most recent big batch of plain passenger cars. As always, it asked for bids. As usual it got several.

The result was it bought 800 four-door, six-cylinder Fords for \$1,475 each, including federal excise tax. No trade-ins were involved. Only freight charges were extra.

**Cars Partially Equipped**  
These cars must have been stripped, you probably figure. Maybe the wheels weren't included. Wrong. Except for radio, they came equipped like people buy 'em in showrooms, including fresh air heater - defroster, automatic transmission, undercoat, windshield washer, outside mirror, and even a cigar lighter.

Overall, the government buys 35,000 to 40,000 new cars and trucks yearly. When they're worn out, they are sold at auction. Except for special purpose cars, like those used for police work, the law says we can't pay more than \$1,500 each for sedans and \$1,950 for station wagons.

If the seller can't meet this price, there's no sale. Maybe that's one reason we get such a bargain in government cars. There are other reasons, including the fact we buy in big lots and, usually, at times when assembly lines aren't running full.

That's why it is still not certain how widely the new compact cars will replace standard models in the government fleet. Nobody knows yet what kind of price manufacturers will offer on the small cars. Maybe they won't be able to shave bids on these cars as deep, proportionately, as on the regular models.

**Doesn't Know Maintenance**  
Nor does the government know anything yet about operation and maintenance costs of the new lighter cars. With regular cars, it has set a high economy standard. Car costs in pools, including depreciation, have been cut to 7.3 cents per mile.

However, specifications are now

**CHURCH MAKES PROFIT**  
LONDON (UPI) — The Church of England, a top investor in British industry, made a "paper" profit of about 42 million dollars in the stock market boom that accompanied the Conservative Party election victory, it was reported Sunday.

## Venezuela's President In Midst Of Revolution Against Regime

By PHIL NEWSOM  
UPI Staff Writer  
Venezuelan President Romulo Betancourt, a veteran revolutionary, today finds himself threatened by a revolution against his own eight-month-old regime.

Official statements blame the new wave of violence sweeping the Venezuelan capital of Caracas upon ousted one-time dictator President Marcos Perez Jimenez and his supporters and upon Dominican dictator Leonidas Rafael Trujillo Molina.

There is no doubt that either Perez Jimenez or Trujillo would be most happy to see Betancourt's government fall, and it will be that Betancourt's days in office are numbered.

But so far the wave of unrest sweeping Caracas and the oil city of Maracaibo seems unorganized. It appears to be the result of Venezuela's own lopsided economy rather than the efforts of Betancourt's political enemies.

**Controlled By Dictators**  
Of the 10 republics on the South American continent, Venezuela is the richest, its oil revenues alone total more than half a billion dollars annually.

But for most of the last 50 years it has lived in a political vacuum, under dictatorships which recognized neither political parties nor civil liberties.

A magnificent new highway winds its way up from the Caribbean port of La Guaira to Caracas. In Caracas is the beautiful officers' club, the university and the university hospital. These are evidences of Venezuela's wealth.

But they take no account of the fact that of Venezuela's total population of a little more than six million, some three and a half million barely eke out an existence.

### Sub Sabotage Probe By FBI

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. (UPI)—The FBI and naval intelligence officers today investigated the possibility of sabotage aimed at this country's nuclear submarine fleet.

Capt. Carl A. Johnson, acting commander of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, disclosed Tuesday that the nation's first nuclear powered sub, the Nautilus, had sustained "apparently intentional" damage.

Johnson said he did not know of any other ships or submarines being damaged at the yard, but added that it was a "qualified" answer.

Shipyard officials refused to comment on reports of fires, broken pipes and other incidents at the yard.

In Groton, Conn., extreme security precautions were in force at the Atlantic submarine base and the nearby Electric Boat yard where the world's biggest atomic-powered submarine, the twin-reactor Triton, is scheduled to be commissioned Nov. 10.

Johnson said the damage to the Nautilus, the first submarine in the world to sail beneath the North Pole icecap, involved the cutting of a number of electrical cables but did not extend to the vessel's nuclear reactor.

FBI agent Leo L. Laughlin, in charge of the Boston office, said his men were called into the investigation to determine if federal laws were broken.

Sabotage of government property is a violation of federal law. An undisclosed number of the 9,000 workmen at the shipyard and crew members of the Nautilus already has been questioned, it was learned.

### Origin Of The Moon? Photographs May Tell

MOSCOW (UPI)—The world's scientists may be able to figure out the origin of the moon through Soviet photographs of its hidden side, a Russian professor said today.

But its secret side is expected to look pretty much like its visible side, one spokesman said.

Izvestia, the Soviet government's official newspaper, hinted that the "unprecedented" pictures taken by their Lunik on its looped swing around the moon would be turned over to "astronomers of all nations."

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Also not taken into account is the 65 per cent illiteracy rate among the 170,000 unemployed, the 600,000 children without classroom space.

**Communists Find Entry**  
Nor do the outward evidences of Venezuela's wealth take into account the fact that its economic imbalance has provided a perfect entry for the Communists whose numbers jumped from around 6,000 a few years ago to more than 30,000 today.

It was into this situation that Betancourt stepped some eight

months ago, after one of Venezuela's rare free elections. Betancourt, politically left, announced immediately that Communists would have no part in his government. He made equally clear they were not welcome at the presidential palace.


But his Democratic Action Party, with labor as its backbone, contains admitted Communists many of them in the oil fields.

In 1945, it was Betancourt, at a previous time in power, who reached the 50-50 split agreement with the oil companies which now is a standard the world over. This time, through a new tax plan, he made it 60-40 in favor of the government.

At the same time, he announced an ambitious program designed to spread Venezuela's wealth. In the latter, he has not been outstandingly successful, and he does not have the entire support of the army. That's why his days may be numbered.



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