

### WASHINGTON WEEK

By Harris Ellsworth, M. C.

As this is written, only some three and one-half working weeks remain before the congress will recess for the national nominating conventions. Meanwhile, the house of representatives is more or less waiting for the senate to act upon the appropriations bills and complete action on some other House passed legislation.

Earlier this year it was assumed that the major work of this session could and would be com-

pleted by convention time. Thus there would be a long summer and fall for campaigning. It seems doubtful now, however, that the money bills will be completed by the Fourth of July. Furthermore, the situation in the steel industry is such that unless the strike is settled and the steel workers have a new contract, members of congress will only leave Washington long enough to attend the two nominating conventions and then return late in July, so as to be in session if legislation is required to get steel production going.

Several proposals for new laws

to deal with the steel strike and similar troubles which may arise in the future have been presented. I have not yet been able to read them all but their general theme seems to be to set up compulsory arbitration, provide for government seizure of plants, and permit wages to be set by executive order.

The president refused to use the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act because that procedure would not empower him to set wages. Had he been able to make his unconstitutional seizure order stick, his power to fix wages and otherwise control our economy would have been almost without limit.

At first, I believe, organized labor thought the seizure order was a good idea because it was almost certain to give the steel workers what they were asking. Lately, there has been considerable indication that the more thoughtful labor organization people realize that wage fixing by government means the end of the system of collective bargaining under which labor has made such splendid gains.

Nor can labor possibly gain in the long run if wage fixing is wrapped up in another form and sugar-coated with the label "compulsory arbitration." That term simply means that a very small group of men be given the power, with all of the force of law back of it, to determine wages and working conditions. If that system is substituted for collective bargaining and the right to strike, then organized labor will suffer a shattering set-back.

The "National Emergency" sections of the Taft-Hartley law were carefully thought out and fully debated. They protect the rights of labor to the very final action which is a decision by congress on the specific case involved, based upon facts and a recommendation by the president. This law should have been used earlier in the steel case. It should be used now.

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Most people are inclined to think that a congressman—a member of the U. S. house of representatives—is mighty anxious to be re-elected and keep the job. That is true, of course, in many cases but it is not by any means the general attitude in this service. This year means some 40 members—nearly ten per cent—are not running for re-election to the house.

#### Christian Science

Sunday school from 9:30 to 10:30 a. m. Children and young people up to age of 20 are welcome.

Services Sunday at 11 a. m. Wednesday, testimonial meetings at 8:00 p. m.

Reading room in church, open Friday 3:00 to 5:00 p. m.

Corner of Pine and Alter Across from the Greenhouse All are cordially invited.

Brookings

The deliverance of the child Jesus from the wrath of Herod is included among the Bible references which will be read in all Christian Science churches June 15 as part of the Lesson-Sermon entitled "God the Preserve of

Man" and based upon the familiar verse from the 91st Psalm which serves as the Golden Text "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

Among citations to be read in the Christian Science textbook: "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, is the following: "Led on by the grossest element of mortal mind, Herod decreed the death of every male child in order that the man Jesus, the masculine representative of the spiritual idea, might never hold sway and deprive Herod of his crown.

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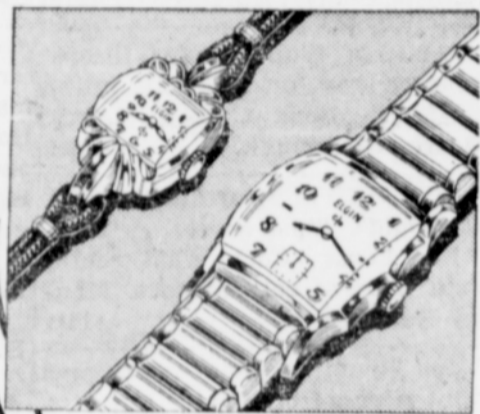
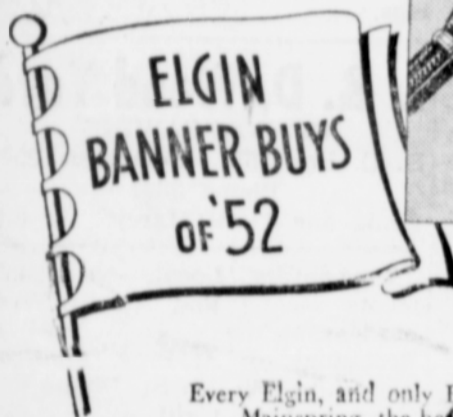
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