

New Threats of Strikes Heard Through Nation

The nation was beset Thursday by threats of new strikes, with the most packing, steel and communications industries expected to feel the brunt of labor's insistent demands for higher postwar pay.

Western Union employees in the New York area voted to leave their jobs next Tuesday.

Meat Packers To Strike

A strike of 200,000 packing house workers was called in Chicago Wednesday for January 16. A tremendous upsurge in farm slaughter was seen as a result of the scheduled nationwide meat strike.

Supply on hand good for less than a week.

Transit Workers To Strike

Seattle transit employees will strike on January 11 unless a settlement is reached in a wage dispute with the city transit commission.

Would Avert Strike

President Truman sought Monday to head off a steel strike with the appointment of a fact-finding board and instructions to the OPA.

to review the possible need for price increases.

G. M. Quits Meeting

General Motors, refusing to discuss its profits in relation to wages, walked out on a government fact-finding board Friday.

Hirohito Not Divine

General Hirohito told his 30,000,000 Japanese subjects Tuesday that, contrary to what they have been taught all their lives to believe, he is not divine.

Control Plan Rapped

General Douglas MacArthur announced Sunday that he objected to the two-month advance to the Japanese control arrangement, just made at Moscow by the Big Three.

and was not consulted during the conference, but nevertheless intended to "try to make it work."

Secretary of State Byrnes assured the nation Sunday that the new policy and control machinery for Japan "safeguards the efficient administration" of General MacArthur.

Mine Sinks U. S. Vessel

The USS Minivet, a large minesweeper, struck a mine Saturday northwest of Kyushu island, Japan, with "moderate loss of life and injury" to the men aboard.

The mine sank Sunday.

Americans Stoned

Koreans stoned American soldiers, fought one another in the streets and engaged in mass work stoppages Saturday in a smelting of internal political dissent and angry objection to the Big Three's five-year trusteeship program for their country.

Swarm to U. S. Zone

Lt. Gen. Frederick E. Morgan, chief of the UNRRA operations in Germany, said Wednesday that thousands of Polish Jews were coming into the American zone from the east, and expressed belief they were doing so with a "well organized, positive plan to get out of Europe."

Act to Cut Mishaps

Fourth air force takes steps to cut down mishaps. Cross-country flights limited to only most experienced pilots.

Says Orders Ignored

Admiral Stark told a senate-looker committee Wednesday that Admiral Kimmel, Pacific fleet commander, failed to carry out orders given him in a "war warning" before the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor December 7.

Lord Haw Haw Hanged

William "Lord Haw Haw" Joyce, a Nazi radio fame died on the gallows in London for high treason Thursday.

New Uniform Planned

The navy Monday revealed the details of its proposed new design for enlisted men's uniforms, replacing the jumper and bell-bottom trousers which have been the trademark of seafaring men for six centuries.

Services of Red Cross Increased

TOKYO.—With the arrival of additional personnel and supplies now on route, Red Cross services to the army of occupation will reach an all-time high for this theatre, said Nyles I. Christensen, director of operations at American Red Cross headquarters today.

"We realize, as do military authorities, that the problem of more and more soldiers who must remain for the occupation is of utmost importance. Our plans are being made with the idea of providing in Japan and Korea the most extensive welfare and recreation program we have ever attempted."

Mr. Christensen disclosed that there are more than 1000 American Red Cross workers with the occupation forces in the Southwest Pacific, 375 of whom are now in Japan-Korea area. Since the first staff members landed in Yokohama they have, in addition to assisting the military with the servicing of thousands of recovered prisoners of war and civilian internees, established 115 field welfare offices, 15 metropolitan clubs and canteens, and dozens of "on-the-spot" recreation centers with individual military units. Thirty-five workers are attached to hospitals. Warehouses have been set up at all main ports. Four administrative headquarters are now functioning. Central Red Cross headquarters for the Japan-Korea area is in Tokyo, with offices at Yokohama for the eighth army, Kyoto for the sixth army, and Seoul, Korea, for the 24th corps.

As ordered by the army, Red Cross will not undertake feeding and billeting of army personnel, either in Japan or Korea. It will operate clubs on posts, in communities and cities, which will have canteen service; but the emphasis is to be placed on providing wholesome activities for soldiers during their off-duty time. Occupation clubs will have a wide and varied program of indoor and outdoor recreation, educational tours, information, barber and tailoring services. Cultural activities will be stressed, particularly those which permit allied soldiers to become acquainted with Japanese culture.

Red Cross will co-operate with army special services in providing recreation program for special service resort hotels. There will eventually be eleven such rest and recreation centers, three of which are now open, and American Red Cross has been asked to attach a staff to each to establish service



Herbert S. Thatcher
Associate Counsel, American Federation of Labor

As debated by
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Associate Counsel, American Federation of Labor

WAKE UP AMERICA!

Should We Have a 65c Minimum Wage Law?

As debated by

Allen W. Rucker

Author of "Labor's Road to Plenty";
President, Eddy Rucker - Nichols Company, Management Counsel

MR. THATCHER OPENS: Department of Labor studies indicate an hourly rate of 57¢ for a 40-hour week is necessary to provide bare subsistence for a family of four. Obviously, a 65¢ minimum is socially desirable if it is economically sound. Economists agree that to increase purchasing power in the lower income brackets is not only economically sound but economically necessary if this nation's productive capacity is to be realized and a sound, prosperous economy to obtain. A considerable segment of the consuming public (2,500,000 in manufacturing alone) receive less than 65¢ per hour. Without adequate national capacity to consume, neither manufacturers nor farmers can sell all they are capable of producing. Workers and farmers must receive a fuller share of the wealth they produce—that is the lesson of 1923-1929 when an increasing wider gap between volume of wages paid and value of goods produced resulted in the great depression. Increasing minimum rates will not raise prices nor jeopardize profits. In purchasing generally, wages comprise only 16% of the value of products, and in no industry more than 28%. Price Administrator Bowles recently stated that a 65¢ minimum "would have no significant price consequence and in the long run would have the effect of cutting prices." Corporate profits after taxes are now at an all-time high of 10 billion dollars, 3 billion more than such profits in 1929.

MR. RUCKER CHALLENGES: The unions can do a public service by proving their theory. Let them raise the wages of their members and staff employees to 65¢ or 87¢ and all others 30%, laying off none. This should raise the purchasing power of union employees; if their theory is sound it will not deplete non-taxable union profits (surpluses) nor make necessary an increase in dues (prices) for union members. If the theory is wrong, this experiment which the unions can make with their own employees will show it. In either case, a public service will have been done.

MR. THATCHER REPLIES: The prime object of a 65¢ minimum, aside from affording a living wage, is to raise mass purchasing power. Thus, any experiment in an increased minimum with the employer, such as unions (incidentally, non-profit organizations), employing a comparatively handful of employees, would be inconclusive even assuming, contrary to fact, that unions paid less than 87¢ starting rate. With a 65¢ minimum, over 2½ million workers will be able to buy many products of farm and factory heretofore denied them, and a vast domestic market, heretofore unavailable, will be opened to the benefit of our entire economy. Only thus can the American standard of living be maintained and improved.

bureaus and assist with the recreation program which will include skiing, skating, horseback riding and all winter sports. Red Cross canteen services will be available at major airstrips and railroad stations, with mobile units servicing dock areas. In garrison areas Red Cross is setting up individual unit recreation centers. Large central clubs with each army, corps and division are planned, with smaller, day-room type installations for each regiment.

Christensen said the Red Cross program for Japan and Korea had gone forward rapidly despite continuous bad weather which considerably hampered the movement of supplies and personnel; and by the unexpected surrender of the Japanese, which made necessary an overnight switch from plans set up on a combat basis to those for an occupation force.

At the request of supreme allied headquarters, Red Cross in Washington now has a special representative in Japan to confer with the military government on the method by which the American Red Cross can best be utilized in assisting in a public welfare program. If such a program is found to be necessary, American Red Cross will assist in reorganizing the Japanese and Korean Red Cross societies or such other public health and welfare agencies for the relief of civilians as are required by the military.

In all its program, Mr. Christensen concluded, American Red Cross will work closely with army

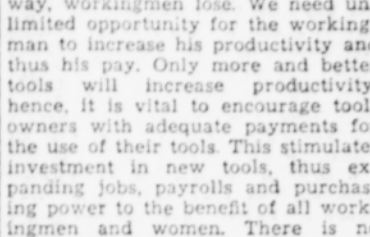
MR. RUCKER OPENS: Without an equal increase in productivity a 60% increase in minimum wage rates can have but one result—to increase unit costs. In turn, there can be but two consequences: (1) prices must be raised; if so, this means exploiting 135 million consumers to benefit a few million workers; or (2) if prices are not raised, payments for the use of tools must be reduced, thus exploiting 50 million tool-owners. Either way, there is no net gain in national purchasing power, only a different distribution. Either way, workingmen lose. For if consumers feel prices are too high, demand declines and so do employment and payrolls. All labor loses. Or, if tool-owners feel payments for the use of tools are too low, investment in new tools declines. That causes loss of employment in heavy industries dependent on investment in new tools for jobs and wages security. Either way, workingmen lose. We need unlimited opportunity for the workingman to increase his productivity and thus his pay. Only more and better tools will increase productivity; hence, it is vital to encourage tool-owners with adequate payments for the use of their tools. This stimulates investment in new tools, thus expanding jobs, payrolls and purchasing power to the benefit of all workmen and women. There is no other way.

MR. THATCHER CHALLENGES: Mr. Rucker wrongly assumes prices must rise if minimum wages are increased; whereas, the probability is that in the long run prices will thereby be reduced. Industry throughout the world has learned productivity increases when wages, particularly depending on investment in new tools, are raised. Ever if some price increases might be immediately necessary, still no consumer can claim vested right to the benefit of lower prices resulting from substantial wages. Further, inadequate purchasing power contributes much more greatly to evils of decreased demand than do high prices. Profit figures indicate so-called tool-owners can very adequately survive without continued exploitation of underpaid workers.

MR. RUCKER REPLIES: Mr. Thatcher first says (adjoining column), "increasing minimum wages will not raise prices" now (above) he says, "some price increases might be necessary." Thus, in his confusion, he urges exploiting consumers (including labor-union members) by price inflation, and simultaneously reducing payments for tool use. One way he reduces demand and job security; the other way he prevents tool expansion, increased productivity and pay. Both ways, he limits job opportunity, pay and future advancement of all workmen. All this to avoid the real answer—more tools, more productivity, more income for all.

special services and the information and education section; all three agencies combining their resources to give the best possible service in welfare, education and recreation to the American G. I.

QUIT YOUR SKIDDING



Avoid making a quick stop in front of another vehicle. A rear-end collision may result.

Placements Made In Federal Service

Approximately 30,000 veteran placements—including placements of the wives of disabled veterans and the widows of veterans—were made in the federal civil service during the month of November, 1945, the United States civil service commission announces.

More than 225,000 such placements were made during the first 11 months of 1945—an average of 20,773 a month. Ninety-seven per cent were made in federal field establishments outside the District of Columbia. Veteran placements in the District of Columbia averaged 708 a month during this same period.

The 11-month total includes placements of wives of disabled veterans and of widows of veterans as follows: World War II, 335; World War I or other service, 1165.

By agencies, the largest number of veteran placements during November were made in the war department, where placements totaled 14,669. The navy department was next with 10,925. The post office department, the veterans' administration, the treasury department and the interior department were also high on the list.

Approximately 13,000 physically impaired veterans have been placed in federal field establishments since October 1, 1945. In October, 1945, 972, or three per cent, of the veterans placed in field establishments were physically impaired.

Former employees are placed to positions in the federal service in accordance with provisions of the selective training and service act (and other statutes and regulations providing for restoration) during October totaled 10,194. Those restored to duty since July 1, 1944, totaled 40,618.

Veteran placement figures listed by the commission do not include these restorations.

Mrs. Weckert Rites Held on Wednesday

Funeral services for Ella Lenore Weckert, who died December 29 at Sherwood, were held Wednesday afternoon at Sherwood Methodist church with Horston Montgomery of Newberg in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Weckert is survived by two sons, Virgil and Lester, and one daughter, Mabel, all of Portland.

West Union Local to Meet Friday Evening

West Union local of the Farmers' Union will meet Friday evening at 8:30 o'clock at the Jackson school. The state Farmers' Union convention to be held in Hillsboro in February will be discussed. There will also be a guest speaker. All members are urged to attend. The 1946 dues are now payable. It was announced. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Thursday, January 3, 1946

HILLSBORO ARGUS—7

Backus Services Held on Wednesday

Funeral services for Sophie E. Backus of route 1, Tigard, who died December 30, were held Wednesday morning in the Conservatory Chapel of A. J. Rose & Son in Portland, with interment at Lone Fir cemetery.

Mrs. Backus is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Minnie Rider of Tigard, Mrs. Gretchen Van Fleet of Sherwood, and Mrs. Louise Backus of Portland; one sister in South Africa, and five grandchildren.

Unless we take God as our boss, by choice, some other kind of boss will be forced upon us.

Democracy is at the crossroads. Our choice is change—or chains.

Young people and, in fact, all people, need talking with, not to.

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1 Will your brakes stop your car in the required distance?	4 Are your windshield wipers operating efficiently?
2 Is your steering mechanism safe?	5 Will your motor provide that extra ounce of power for emergency?
3 Do your lights provide maximum visibility at night?	6 Does your clutch operate smoothly and provide easy shifting?

If YOU cannot answer "Yes" to all of these questions, you and your family are inviting what might be a tragic accident.

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Don't Cheer Too Soon About the
END OF TIRE RATIONING

No rationing certificates are needed to secure new tires. However, the public is warned that tires are still scarce and the demand cannot be met for several months. Tire conservation is still necessary—those little precautions that mean more miles—safer miles—and less expense.

Don't Ask for More Tires Than You Need

In order that the supply shall benefit as many as possible, all tire dealers are charged with the responsibility of giving out tires to those who are most urgently in need of them. We will not play favorites and to make our task lighter we trust that you will be reasonable in your tire demands.

—AND IN ORDER THAT MORE PEOPLE MAY DRIVE—
Turn In Your Old Tire

It may be repaired or recapped and furnish satisfactory mileage at low cost to some other motorist. Only in this way can we maintain transportation. There has been a severe shortage of good tire casings and by turning in your old tire you will help materially in relieving a very bad situation.

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