

Showdown Nearer in Soft Coal Dispute

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sorenson

Reports come in of price chiseling in gasoline sales because of tighter competition. Oregon isn't affected much so far, but California cities and other cities across the country are having limited price wars in gasoline. Cuts up to 5.4 cents a gallon are reported. Petroleum, once in such short supply that authorities started worrying, is now running out of the ground and "out of the ears" of producing companies. The wildcatting and accelerated drilling of postwar years has made production outpace demand.

The first oversupply on this coast was in fuel oil, the heavy end of petroleum. Slack maritime use and the switch to diesel on railroads built up stocks in California. Oil from many of the newer wells was in the unwanted class of heavy grades. To relieve storage, California refineries have been "dumping" fuel oil surplus on eastern markets.

Now the gas tanks are filling up to uncomfortable levels. The consumption in 1949 was little higher than in 1948. Secondary refiners and jobbers, running into difficulties marketing gasoline, have resorted to the old custom of trimming prices. That has pushed some of the major factors to meet competition. How far it will go depends on what lift there is to gasoline demand as spring and summer draw on.

This condition of oversupply is getting petroleum into politics - not that it has ever been very far out of politics. Domestic producers point to importations from foreign countries: Venezuela and the middle east. They say, clap a tariff on imports; save the American market for domestic producers. But our biggest

(Continued on editorial page 4)

Mediation Fails As Telephone Strike Nears

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21-(AP)-A report on fruitless efforts to head off a nationwide telephone strike went to the White House tonight.

With the strike set for Friday, government peacemakers struck a new impasse and apparently were not sure what the next step would be.

Western Electric company rejected a government bid to talk peace with its workers in Washington, and the union promptly called off any new bargaining in New York.

This development was reported to the White House by Cyrus Ching, federal mediation chief, but no announcement was expected tonight.

Western Electric is the Bell Telephone system's manufacturing and installation subsidiary.

Oregon Phone Unions Vote to Strike Friday

PORTLAND, Feb. 21-(AP)-CIO telephone workers in Oregon will strike Friday unless a nationwide agreement first is reached, C. H. Wright, union president, said here today.

He announced the 14 locals in the state had voted to walk out then. The strike will affect Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company operations. The vote count was not disclosed.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Man, am I bushed! I had to take three of the Rajah's wives shopping... Turn right, turn left, no, right - look out for that truck..."

Convention Leaders Get Together



A group of central Willamette Valley Farmers Union members got together Tuesday for a bit of convention discussion. Shown are W. L. Creech, charter president of the first Marion county local, Bethel; Gus Schlicker, Salem, president of the Marion county unit; John Bollinger, Salem, manager of the Farmers Union cooperatives; A. L. Gurber, Corvallis, Tuesday afternoon meeting chairman, and Peter V. Stroh, Salem, former member of the North Dakota Farmers Union. (Farm photo for the Statesman).

Zoners Okeh Change for Debated Lot

By Robert E. Gangware

City Editor, The Statesman

The southeast corner of Capitol and Center streets, long a controversial spot in the Salem zoning map, was recommended for restricted business zoning Tuesday night by the Salem city planning and zoning commission.

Commissioners also heard, without taking action, proposals for a South High street apartment house project at Kearney street across from Bush's pasture and for business zoning along the west side of North Capitol street from Hollywood south to Hood street.

Favorable action on the Capitol and Center street zone change was taken on a request by property owners George Rhoten and S. F. Speerstra for a class III-X business zone there, limited to use for a service station to be trimmed in glass and marble in keeping with nearby capitol group architecture. The zoning endorsement goes to the city council for final action.

Previous attempts to establish a business zone for that corner, now in a residential zone, have been defeated in recent years because of the proximity of the state capitol group.

The corner property, which the owners said was too small for apartment house use, lies across Capitol street from site of a new highway commission building and across Center street from the Capitol Shopping center.

(Photo and additional zoning developments on page 2).

Ghost Ship Drifts Back to Scene of Wartime Service

HONOLULU, Feb. 21-(AP)-A ghost ship, which drifted more than 3,000 miles in four and one-half months, has been sighted in the seas where she chased Japanese submarines during the war.

The ship is the former submarine chaser PGM 23. The 173-foot, 280-ton vessel broke her towline 400 miles northeast of Honolulu October 9 while being towed to Portland, Ore., for the Collins Concrete and Steel Pipe corp., of Portland, which had bought her for junk.

Search was abandoned and the PGM 23 was listed as a derelict menace to navigation.

Today, the navy freighter Ryer radioed it had spotted the vessel in Caroline island waters and would tow her to Kwajalein.

Democrats Retaliate For Republican Ban

PORTLAND, Feb. 21-(AP)-Multnomah county democrats no longer want to listen to republicans running for non-partisan office.

Miners Stiffen Stand Despite Court Threat

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21-(AP)-The fast-spreading chill of fuel famine brought a showdown in the coal dispute nearer today as striking miners stiffened their stand in the face of a contempt of court threat.

A spokesman for the National Coal association said: "There is no sign of a break anywhere. The situation is growing steadily worse. We'll soon be seeing a complete paralysis of the industrial world."

These were the developments: 1. John L. Lewis and his United Mine Workers maintained chilly silence on last night's federal court contempt citation, with no sign of any new moves to get the miners back to work as the court has ordered.

2. Lewis and the coal operators argued their way fruitlessly through two long sessions of court-ordered bargaining and after both of them operator spokesman George H. Love said he saw no sign of progress.

3. Layoffs in affected industries, outside the mines themselves, amounted to 55,500 with a faster spread of joblessness an immediate threat.

4. Federal Mediator Chief Cyrus S. Ching made a 35-minute report to Dr. John R. Steilman, presidential labor aide, but said his account boiled down to the same story of "no progress" that Ching already had given out last night.

5. The 372,000 striking soft coal miners, already idle for five weeks, stayed stubbornly out of the pits with occasional acid comments about the difficulty of jailing so many men and about how little coal a contempt order will dig up.

6. Senator Taft (R-Ohio) said a group which called on him reported "organized gangs" are operating in Ohio to keep miners from working. He said it seemed like "a clear case of contempt" and referred his callers to the justice department. There were clashes with pickets in Pennsylvania and West Virginia too.

7. Talk of legislation for seizure of the mines, often batted down by the White House, rose again above the whisper stage. But Presidential Secretary Charles G. Ross referred inquirers to President Truman's statements that he does not have nor want seizure powers.

Industry Hit Hard by Lack Of Soft Coal

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 21-(AP)-The coal strike rained new hammer blows on American industry today while roving pickets raided non-union mines in their drive to cut down production still more.

Lay-offs in coal-using industries mounted to 55,500. An additional 23,000 workers will be furloughed tomorrow by one steel company alone if the "no contract no work" walkout continues.

There is no let up in diggers' determination to hold out for a contract despite stop-strike orders from John L. Lewis and a federal court.

An outbreak of violence in western Pennsylvania saw firemen ramming through a road blockade and a barrage of stones to put out a mine tippie fire which state police said was set by strike pickets.

ROSEBURG FAVORS DST

ROSEBURG, Feb. 21-(AP)-Roseburg tentatively is planning to go on daylight saving time from April 30 to Sept. 24.

Parents Testify Sons Given Consent To Join Board-Labeled 'Secret' Club

Parents of Salem high school students testified Tuesday that they had given their sons permission to join a boys' club, which the Salem district school board has labeled as being a secret society.

At least seven parents said, at the Marion county circuit trial involving the 18 students, that they had investigated the boys' club and decided it was not secret and a "good organization."

The trial of the students against the school board moved into its second day Wednesday as attorneys for the students shortened their questionings. The trial was recessed to Thursday at 9:30 a. m. by Circuit Judge Dal King of Coquille.

Plaintiffs' attorneys, Reginald Williams and Lawrence Osterman indicated their side of the case would be completed Thursday. Defense attorneys George Rhoten, Robert DeArmond and Donald Young said they hoped to wind up the trial by Friday.

U.S. Breaks With Red Led Bulgaria

American Minister Recalled Prison Sentence Handed Vogeler

By Edward E. Bombar

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21-(AP)-The United States broke off relations with communist Bulgaria today in the toughest American action thus far against any of the Soviet bloc countries.

Climaxing a "long series of intolerable restrictions and indignities" against the U. S. legation in Sofia, American Minister Donald R. Heath and his entire staff were ordered home.

At the same time, the state department demanded the recall of Doctor Peter Voutov and his smaller Bulgarian staff in Washington.

First Since War

It was the first formal American diplomatic break with any country since World War II.

Officials indicated the move reflected a harder diplomatic attitude by President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson toward the Moscow satellites with which the U. S. has been waging post-war disputes.

A ban on American travel in Hungary is already in effect. There have been veiled hints in recent notes to communist Czechoslovakia and Poland that relations might be severed. Meantime all American consuls have been ordered out of communist China, which the United States has not recognized.

Detailed Charges

Announcing the break with Bulgaria as a "suspension of relations," the state department for the first time detailed charges that Bulgaria militia tortured and killed three Bulgarian employees of the U. S. legation.

Since the legation was established in September, 1947, the department declared Bulgarian officials and the controlled Bulgarian press have been "constantly denouncing and insulting the United States." The Sofia government, it said, has carried on an "unprincipled campaign of persecution" against Bulgarian employees of the legation.

Virtual Ultimatum

The department also renewed charges filed with the United Nations that Bulgaria has flouted its peace treaty obligations and supported "organized gangs" are operating in Ohio to keep miners from working. He said it seemed like "a clear case of contempt" and referred his callers to the justice department. There were clashes with pickets in Pennsylvania and West Virginia too.

The U. S. government responded with a virtual ultimatum saying that relations would end unless the charges were withdrawn. The break came just a month later with no sign of a formal reply from the Bulgarian government despite repeated prodding by Acheson and Heath.

Racial Bans Outlawed by Portland Vote

PORTLAND, Feb. 21-(AP)-Portland observed Brotherhood week today by outlawing racial discrimination in any business offering public services.

The city, which gets an award tonight for improving race relations in the past year, passed a resolution requiring that hotels, theaters, restaurants and other places "of public accommodation" be open to all regardless of "race, color, religion, ancestry or racial origin."

The city council passed the ordinance after a morning-long hearing in which council chambers were jammed to hear arguments from supporters and opponents. The vote was unanimous. The ordinance provides a maximum fine of \$500 and six months imprisonment.

The award presented tonight was from the national conference of Christian and Jews, crediting Portland with making greater progress in race relations than any other United States city in the past year.

East's Record Cold Wave Tempers Off

NEW YORK, Feb. 21-(AP)-A record February cold wave tapered off today in the shivering northeastern United States.

Temperatures headed above zero, bitter winds died down and a light fall of snow dusted some areas.

The weather bureau said the mercury should continue to rise until it reaches a normal February level.

The relief came only after most of the eastern seaboard, from Canada to the southern states, suffered through a second straight day of record lows.

By Endre Marion

BUDAPEST, Hungary, Feb. 21-(AP)-Hungarian people's court sentenced Robert A. Vogeler of New York today to 15 years in prison and his British business associate, Edgar Sanders, to 13 years on charges of sabotage and spying for the west. Appeals are to be filed soon.

Two of five Hungarian co-defendants were sentenced to death. The others got lesser prison terms. The verdicts were passed after a three-day trial in which all calmly confessed.

(In Washington the United States denounced the trial as "devoid of justice, inadequate as to evidence, and replete with falsehoods.")

All seven appealed, choosing to risk their chances before a higher court empowered to increase as well as to decrease sentences.

Vogeler is an assistant vice-president of the International Telephone and Telegraph company and its roving representative in eastern Europe.

Sanders, 43, was an accountant in the Standard Electric Works, an IT&T subsidiary that the Hungarian government nationalized.

The court ordered that their personal assets in Hungary be confiscated and that they be expelled after finishing their terms.

The two condemned to die are Irma Geiger, former manager of the Standard company, and Zoltan Rado, former department chief in Hungary's ministry of heavy industry.

Kelemen Domokos, a Standard company accountant, and the Rev. Istvan Justh, a Roman Catholic priest, each were sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Edina Doery, a hotel telephone operator and barmaid, was given a five-year term.

Governorship Race Joined by Pearson

Democrats went all out for control of the state of Oregon Tuesday with the announcement of State Treasurer Walter J. Pearson that he would be a candidate for the democratic nomination as governor.

Pearson, a Portland insurance man who served one term as state representative (1948) and two as state senator (1949-50), said he "proposed" to "return to the people of Oregon the government of their state." He called for "an end to one-party rule" and declared "members of both parties have urged me to become a candidate for governor."

He charged that republican leadership "has been dictated by ultra-conservatives and special interests."

Pearson, long-time opponent of the sales tax, is the second democrat to announce for the governorship. Former State Sen. Lew Wallace, twice a gubernatorial candidate, announced Sunday.

Still to be heard from as to similar aspirations are State Sen. Austin Flegel of Portland; W. L. Joslin, chairman of the democratic state committee, and State Sen. Richard Neuberger, also of Portland. None has counted himself out.

Pearson's term as treasurer has another two years to run. If he does not resign to campaign for governor (and legally he is not forced to), the democrats are assured of at least one member on the three-man board of control through 1952 even if Pearson loses the governorship. If he should become governor, he could appoint his own successor as state treasurer and thus give the democrats a 2 to 1 margin on the control board.

(Additional details page 12)

State News Service

MACLEAY, Feb. 21-(AP)-A. W. Sahli will head the committee seeking removal of the county garbage dump from Macleay.

Mrs. Theo Olson is secretary and Mrs. Joseph Fenrick treasurer of the committee following a Monday night meeting. On the citizens committee also are Theo Olson, Paul Reick, Roy March, Joseph Fenrick, Warren Creech, Mr. and Mrs. George Boedigeim, Mrs. A. W. Sahli, Arthur Johnson, LeRoy Horsely, Fred Magar, Wilbur Miller, William Batleyoun and Harry Martin, jr.

The committee will meet at the Marion county courthouse next Tuesday at 2:30, to outline protest actions. Norman Winslow is attorney for the residents.

BONUS CHECKS MAILED

OLYMPIA, Feb. 21-(AP)-World War II bonus checks will be received by nearly 4,000 Washington state veterans tomorrow as initial payment from the \$70,000,000 fund.

Film Choice Discrimination Asked by Minister Group

By Winston H. Taylor

Church Editor, The Statesman

"Discrimination in the choice of every film" seen was asked of "people of Christian conscience and character" Tuesday morning by Salem Ministerial association.

Action of the group did not mention the film "Stromboli," but followed a lengthy discussion of the controversy surrounding its release.

The resolution adopted by the association read: "We call upon the people of Christian conscience and character to use discrimination in the choice of every film that they and their families see. We deplore the low standards of an industry which will exploit adultery to publicize a motion picture. It is our hope that public protest and disapproval of such conduct, expressed through a lack of patronage at the theatre, will help in raising the moral standards of an industry which has a major responsibility in American life."

Members expressed fear that some stands might further publicize the film, whose release coincided with the birth out-of-wedlock of a child to its star and producer.

Dr. Louis C. Kirby of Jason Lee Methodist church declared there was only a choice between two evils—to keep silent and appear not to care about such morals or to take a stand and aid in publicity.

In the discussion, following a report of the social and civic affairs committee headed by Dr. Seth E. Huntington of First Congregational church, stress was continually placed that the churchmen were not "casting stones" at individuals but at Hollywood and the film industry for using adultery as a means of publicity.

The Rev. W. H. Lyman of Court Street Christian church hit the industry's "flaunting of moral standards."

(Additional details on page 7.)

THE WEATHER

City	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	54	40	0.00
Portland	52	41	.01
San Francisco	61	40	.00
Chicago	35	20	0.00
New York	23	6	0.05

Williamette river 8 feet.

FORECAST from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem: Cloudy with occasional light rain today becoming partly cloudy with showers tonight. Little change in temperature with high today near 54; low tonight near 38.

SALEM PRECIPITATION

This Year	Last Year	Normal
30.88	33.40	29.35