

Southern Coal Producers Claim Wage Boost May Close Mine

WASHINGTON (AP)—For the second straight year John L. Lewis has come up with a wage boost for miners without a strike—but at a price that industry leaders say may force many mines out of business.

Southern coal producers came to terms with the United Mine Workers chief late Tuesday, thereby avoiding a threatened walkout Wednesday of their 100,000 miners.

The Dixie group agreed to the same terms Lewis had previously negotiated with the rest of the industry—a \$1.90 daily pay increase, plus a 10-cent-a-ton hike in the operator-paid royalty for the union's welfare fund. The daily wage now becomes \$18.25 and the royalty 40 cents a ton.

A number of industry leaders said that undoubtedly a number of mines would have to close, rather than try to pay the new costs. There, they said, are the less-mechanized, hand-labor mines where labor cost is relatively greater.

Even union leaders conceded privately some mines would have to close. One union man told a reporter: "Just as the farmer with a single hand plow can't keep going today against the competition from the mechanized farm, neither can a coal producer keep going without modern methods."

Joseph E. Moody, president of the Southern Coal Producers Association, said a number of his member owners plan to close down some of their high-cost mines.

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Central Intelligence Agency A 1-Day Political Sensation?

By ARTHUR EDSON
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—It looks as if toward Communists, reacted quickly the nation's most secret organization, the Central Intelligence Agency, may have been a one-day political sensation.

The CIA is the organization on which the safety of this nation depends. Its awesome chore: Finding out precisely what any potential enemies are up to.

The CIA became involved in politics because of something its director, Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, said at the tail-end of his testimony in a deposition hearing in Sen. Joseph McCarthy's two-million-dollar libel-slander suit against Sen. William Benton.

QUALIFIED REMARKS

Smith said he believes Communists have worked their way into every security agency, including his own. Later, he qualified his remarks by saying:

"They're (the Communists) so clever you've got to proceed on the assumption they can infiltrate you, and that's what we do."

But never, he said, has a Communist been found in the CIA.

The Republicans, who have maintained all along that the administration has been lax in its attitude

Arthur E. Summerfield, Republican national chairman, said: "Shocking revelation... incredible looseness."

ACTION 'COOLED OFF'

But the Democrats, as represented by their presidential nominee, Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson, counseled against injecting the CIA into politics.

That was after Smith had amplified his original remarks by explaining that it was necessary for him to "assume" that some Communists could be smart enough to get into his organization.

And from that point on, things began to cool off. Said a spokesman for the Republican National Committee: "We have no plan to make a political football" of Gen. Smith's statement. An aide to Gen. Dwight Eisenhower said the GOP presidential nominee would not do anything to endanger the security of the U.S. or the CIA.

FREE FUNERALS

COMO, Italy (AP)—Free funerals for all persons dying here were authorized by the city administration Monday night.

Russian Harvest Declared 'High'

Grain Crop Expected To Break All Records

MOSCOW (AP)—The biggest news in Russia this fall is the harvest. "Almost everywhere," the agricultural scientist, I. Yakushkin, wrote in the Literary Gazette, "From the Estonia Republic to the Khabarovsk region in the Far East, collective and state farms have raised a high harvest."

Statistics on the results, even in the most general form, will not be available for some weeks or even months, but Russians in Moscow already are freely claiming that the all-time record for grain crops in the USSR will be broken.

7 BILLION POUNDS

For over four years now the Soviet grain harvest has hovered just over the magical figure of seven billion pounds, as announced by responsible officials here. A pound is 16 English pounds.

This is the figure which up to now in the Soviet Union has indicated a good crop. It is the equivalent of roughly 115 million metric tons.

The all-time grain harvest high was scored two years ago in 1950 with a crop of 7.6 billion pounds 124 million metric tons.

BAD CROP WEATHER

In 1951, bad crop weather in certain important areas cut the grain harvest to 7.4 billion pounds or 121 million metric tons. However, the wheat crop was higher than in 1950, it was claimed, and the cotton crop was better. The sugar beet crop also was slightly over the previous year.

This year, though the evidence as it has appeared in the press to date is fragmentary, there seems a possibility the USSR may far exceed its previous attainments, not only in grain but also in other vital crops.

Statements such as that which recently appeared in Red Star—"Our country is reaping a good harvest this year"—have been appearing with greater and greater frequency.

Articles from the harvesting areas tell of combine operators having to cope with grain yields which put last year's crops far behind and which raise particular problems in harvesting because the stalks are frequently lying instead of standing.

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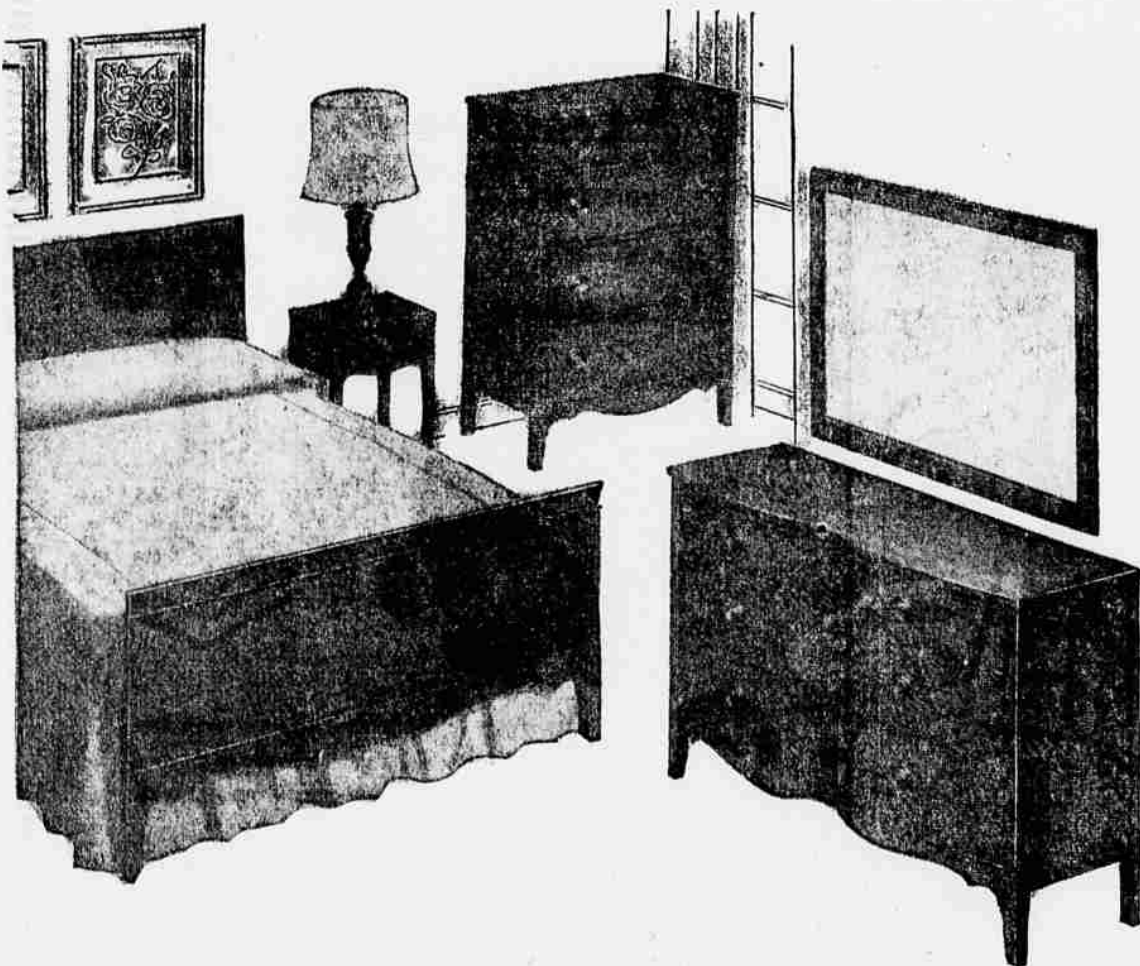
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