

Labor Unrest Mounts; DeGaulle Stands Firm

PARIS (AP)—French electrical and gas workers went on a two-hour strike Friday while a week-old walkout still paralyzed the nation's coal mines.

Growing labor unrest moved swiftly toward a major crisis between the President Charles de Gaulle's government and Communist, Socialist and Catholic unions.

Beyond immediate demands for wages, shorter working hours and other benefits was the issue of the right to strike.

Workers in the nationalized electrical and gas industry walked out to protest the government's drafting of the nation's 200,000 striking coal miners. Metal workers in eastern France and the upper Loire Valley scheduled a one-way walkout Tuesday, charging that the draft order abridged the right to strike.

The Catholic Labor Union in the Moselle region of eastern France called for a nationwide general strike in both private and nationalized industries.

By defying the draft order to return to the pits, the miners made themselves liable to fines or jail sentences. The government has made no move to enforce the draft, and the miners stood fast in defiance of it. But official sources indicated the government may order the arrest of the strike leaders as a first step.

Vatican Meeting Stirs Speculation

By GERALD MILLER
Of the Associated Press

VATICAN CITY—The meeting between Premier Khrushchev's son-in-law and Pope John XXIII sparked speculation Friday that the Soviet Union and the Roman Catholic Church may be on the threshold of a major breakthrough to friendlier relations.

Signs of a change between the Kremlin and the Vatican have been evident for months.

The 18-minute private audience which Pope John granted Alexei Adzhubei Thursday was the first face to face meeting in history of a Roman Catholic ruler and a leading figure from the Soviet Union.

Besides his family connection with Premier Khrushchev, Adzhubei, 39, is chief editor of Izvestia, the Soviet government newspaper.

The initiative for the meeting came from the Soviet side. Adzhubei and Khrushchev's daughter, Rada, are touring Italy. Vatican officials said the couple asked to see the Pope. Apparently Pope John welcomed the opportunity.

There was no suggestion that communism is coming to terms with the church. Rather, Khrushchev appears ready to try for co-existence with Catholicism.

A major overture came from the Soviets last October. The Russian Orthodox Church accepted the Vatican's invitation to send observers to the Vatican Ecumenical Council. Last month Moscow released a Ukrainian Catholic archbishop held in prison for 18 years.

Pope John's meeting with Adzhubei coincided with reports that some kind of diplomatic or consular tie might be in the making between the Vatican and Moscow. Prior to his meeting with Pope John, Adzhubei said he thought a Vatican consulate in the Soviet Union would be a good idea.

Mindszenty May Leave U.S. Legation

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Reports circulated here Friday that Cardinal Mindszenty, primate of Hungary, may soon leave the U.S. legation in Budapest, where he fled for asylum in 1956.

A spokesman for the Austrian Embassy to the Holy See said that Josef Cardinal Mindszenty, primate of Hungary, may soon leave the U.S. legation in Budapest, where he fled for asylum in 1956.

The statement on Cardinal Koenig's trip followed newspaper speculation that the archbishop was going to Hungary in an effort to persuade the primate to leave the nation.

Mindszenty has been in the legation since Russian tanks crushed the abortive Hungarian revolt.

According to Vatican sources in the past, the 71-year-old Hungarian primate has not wanted nor asked to leave his country—the only circumstances under which the Communist government would permit him to leave the U.S. legation.

Embarrassing to U.S.

But his presence there has been embarrassing to the United States whose normal policy is to refuse political asylum in embassies or legations.

For some time the Vatican also took the stand that it did not want Mindszenty to leave Hungary.

According to Vatican sources, the Vatican now would be willing to have Mindszenty released and out of the country although the Holy See prefers that he be released and remain in the nation whose Catholic Church he heads.

Park Playschool To Start March 25

Registration for spring term playschool for four- and five-year-olds is under way at Washington Park Recreation Center. The session will begin March 25 and continue nine weeks to May 24.

The cost is \$3 for four-year-olds, who will attend classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., and \$4 for the five-year-olds, who will have classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Marge Reall and Karen Wilson will be in charge of the classes.

To register children, or for more information, call DI 4-7191.

Bridge for Squirrels

LONGVIEW (AP)—It may sound nutty but the City Council has authorized a foot bridge for squirrels—70 feet long and four inches wide—from the city park to the library lawn. Too many squirrels have been killed by cars while running across the street.

Trains Halted

The electricity and gas strike caused lights to blink out, halted elevators, lowered gas pressure and stopped the vast Paris subway system. It also halted commuter trains into Paris. But since it came after the rush hour, most commuters got to work.

The 110,000 electricity and gas workers also seek pay boosts to bring them into line with workers in private industry. The reason the government is determined to break the miners' strike is because it fears wage hikes for the miners will bring new demands from workers in other nationalized industries.

Premier Georges Pompidou planned a radio-television address to the nation tonight on the coal strike. He is expected to announce the government's next moves.

Supplies Dwindle

The coal strike, which began last Friday, was the first major clash between the government and France's organized labor bloc in De Gaulle's 4½ years in office.

Coal supplies dwindled but pressure for coal from home owners tapered off with a sharp rise in temperatures.

Two factories in the Marseille area closed when coal reserves ran out. Other factories reported they were on emergency reserves.

The gas and electricity and railroad industries were not threatened immediately. The gas industry reported a 30-day supply. A spokesman for the railroads said only 25 per cent of the nation's trains depend on coal for fuel.

Anti-Gaming Raids Staged

WASHINGTON (AP)—Internal Revenue Service agents swooped down on gambling operations in 52 cities Thursday night, arresting 131 persons who failed to produce federal gambling stamps.

The agents, striking simultaneously at 149 bookmaking and numbers parlors, seized 11 automobiles, 37 slot and pinball machines, and confiscated \$25,000 in cash.

Raids were conducted in cities in 19 states—New York, Tennessee, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Kansas, Missouri, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Michigan, Illinois, South Dakota, Kentucky, Ohio, Louisiana, Texas, Utah, and California.

An IRS spokesman said it was part of the agency's "systematic, periodic raids." The last one came in December.

Trade Talks Slated

LONDON (AP)—The London and Birmingham chambers of commerce will send a mission to Moscow May 6 to foster two-way trade with the Soviet Union. A spokesman for the London chamber said the 10-day visit has been endorsed by the British Board of Trade and by the Foreign Office.



Coup

U.A.R. Welcomes Uprising in Syria

CAIRO (AP)—The United Arab Republic Friday welcomed the Syrian coup but reserved a blanket blessing for the new military rulers.

The U.A.R. quickly promised to protect the Syrian rebels from outside interference. And the Voice of Arabs radio emotionally extended "greetings to you, people of Syria, for your blessed uprising, which brings Syria back to the path of Arab unity."

However, there was no reflection here of the delirious street scenes in Baghdad. In fact, Cairo streets reflected the quiet of this Moslem sabbath, and official sources were similarly placid.

It was evident that while the Syrian coup was no surprise to Cairo, it may raise more questions than it answers.

The outcome could be a genuine move toward Arab unity. It could equally result in some alignment of Syria and Iraq in the northern "fertile crescent," which Egypt has historically opposed.

Of particular interest here is the involvement of Syria's Ba'ath Socialist Party with the new military regime.

Although President Gamal Abdel Nasser warmly welcomed the March 8 revolt in Iraq with its heavy Ba'athist involvement, Syria is a different problem.

The emergence of Ba'athists in Syria would pose to Nasser the question of how to reconcile his nationalistic one-party Arab Socialism with the equally nationalistic but less authoritarian Ba'athists.

From the beginning of the Syrian union with Egypt in 1958, Nasser had differences with the Ba'athists.

The party was finally submerged in Nasser's one-party state and, perhaps as a result, Ba'athists were hardly pro-Nasser when the Syrian-Egyptian breakup took place in 1961.

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The other member states will be asked to ratify the amendment.

Montana ratified the compact in 1961, as did Idaho.

A bill ratifying it was approved by the Washington House last week and will be given a hearing Sunday by the Senate State Government Committee at Olympia.

The Oregon Senate's State and Federal Affairs Committee is deferring action until it sees what Washington does.

HELENA, Mont. (AP)—Gov. Tim Babcock has signed an amendment to the Columbia River Compact under which a unanimous vote of member states would be required for allocation of power.

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U.S. Warns: A-Test Stand Has Limits

GENEVA (AP)—American sources Friday cautioned diplomats at the 17-nation disarmament conference against reading too much flexibility into the U.S. position on a nuclear test ban treaty.

The conference scheduled another session Friday morning, but no progress was expected in breaking the East-West deadlock on the nuclear issue.

The American source said U.S. flexibility on a nuclear treaty is conditional on Soviet acceptance of certain basic principles of negotiation.

They said reports the United States may be planning some further compromise to force the Russians' hand were exaggerated.

The conference has been stalled on the question of on-site inspections needed for policing a test ban. The West has insisted on seven, but the Russians will permit only three and refuse to negotiate the matter.

Some reports that the United States may ease its position have been stirred by the announcement that a new Anglo-American draft treaty is being prepared for presentation here next month.

The treaty is said to place primary reliance for policing a ban on monitoring devices outside the Soviet Union.

The eight neutral nations at the conference have been working on a compromise plan which they hope Moscow and the West will accept as a basis for reaching agreement. The plan is reported to call for five annual on-site inspections.

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