

Coal Operators Agree to Pay Holiday Wages

Move Opens Way for Discussion of Key Issues in Strike Deadlock

Washington, May 13 (AP)—Soft coal operators today agreed to pay \$3,000,000 in back holiday pay claimed by John L. Lewis' miners, clearing the way for discussion of key issues in the deadlocked negotiations.

In a statement the operators said that in agreeing to make the payment the action "is not to be construed as a recognition in any way of any merit in the demand made, nor as establishing a precedent for future action."

Call for Negotiations

"The sole purpose is to open the way for real negotiations," they said. "The operators now call upon the union to proceed immediately to negotiate a contract."

Lewis' claim involved overtime payment he said was due to those workers who worked a full week during the weeks in which Labor day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year holidays occurred.

The operators estimated the claim involved will range from \$4 to \$16 each for workers who had labored during the holidays.

Offers Refused

The operators said they had offered to settle the controversy under a grievance provision of the contract or to submit the question to arbitration. The union rejected the proposal, the operators said.

Since the negotiations have been stymied on the issue, the operators said they had agreed to make the payment in view of "the extremely critical situation" of the country, and as a "sincere endeavor" to start the conference upon its basic work.

With the issue out of the way, the conference could turn now to Lewis' nine contract proposals, chief of which are:

1. Creation of a health and welfare fund by the operators. The producers say Lewis wants this raised by levying a 10 cent royalty on each ton of coal mined, enough to net the union \$50 to \$60 million dollars annually. The operators also say Lewis demands complete administration of this fund.

2. Improved safety measures, including agreement by the operators to accept recommendations of federal mine inspectors for improving mines. These are now advisory only.

3. Adjustment of the controversy over unionization of supervisory workers.

4. Increased pay and shorter working hours.

The coal situation, meantime, came for review at a meeting of President Truman and congressional leaders.

Edward F. McGrady, special government conciliator, told reporters that a night session may be held tonight in an effort to speed work on a new contract.

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58 Will Hang For Atrocities

Dachau, May 13 (AP)—An American military tribunal today sentenced 58 Mauthausen concentration camp workers to be hanged for atrocities. Three other defendants convicted Saturday were given life imprisonment.

Maj. Gen. Gay B. Prickett, head of the seven-man tribunal, announced the sentences of the 61 defendants, reading the verdict first in English and then in German. Two of those given death sentences had to be helped from the courtroom.

Most of the defendants snapped to attention to hear their fate. August Elgruber, gauleiter of upper Austria, where Mauthausen was located, wore a gay Bavarian costume when he was sentenced to death.

Prickett said it was impossible for anyone who worked at the concentration camp to have escaped knowledge of the criminal practices enforced there. Sentences must be revived by the U.S. Third army and Gen. Joseph McNarney before they are carried out. The trial lasted six weeks and two days.

Siamese Twins Week Old Tuesday

Portland, May 13 (AP)—The Siamese twin girls—Carol and Susan Hulse—will be a week old tomorrow.

Portland General hospital reported today the infants were thriving and continue to improve in color. The blonde girls, born to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hulse, Deep River, Wash., had been given only a slight chance to live until last Friday when the weaker one began taking nourishment normally.

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Franco Regime Said Working on Atomic Energy

New York, May 13 (AP)—The Spanish government—in exile said today that the Franco regime is threatening world peace by working on atomic energy with the aid of German scientists.

The statement is contained in one of the documents which Dr. Jose Giral, premier of the government-in-exile, brought from Paris yesterday for presentation to the United Nations subcommittee investigating the Spanish question.

Although the 350-page report still had not been presented to the United Nations this afternoon, it was learned from a reliable source that it contained a statement that atomic research was being carried out in two Spanish cities—Granada and Murcia.

The report, which Giral said would be submitted "within the next 24 hours," also said that:

1. Generalissimo Franco was maintaining a huge military force, a large part of which was massed on the French frontier.

2. The Franco regime was not only sheltering many notorious nazis, but actually was employing many former Gestapo agents in its secret police. The report listed the names of some of these.

3. Franco was violating human rights by "tortures, terrorism and cruelties" in Spanish jails and concentration camps.

Giral said he would present the report directly to Trygve Lie, secretary-general of the United Nations, which meant it probably would not be in the hands of the five-man subcommittee when it meets this afternoon.

Giral indicated he would not appear before the committee personally before he leaves Wednesday for Mexico but that he might appear when he returns to New York in about 10 days.

Tehran Peace Talks Renewed

Tehran, May 13 (AP)—Premier Ahmed Ghassemlou and Jaafar Pishavari, head of the self-proclaimed Azerbaijan regime, sought a peaceful settlement in renewed talks today, apparently averting civil strife, in the province by a slim margin.

Pishavari suddenly requested a resumption of negotiations yesterday, after making all plans to return empty handed to Tabriz. When Ghassemlou agreed, Pishavari withdrew demands which had blocked earlier efforts at a settlement.

Even as the talks resumed, the Tabriz radio broadcast inflammatory statements promising to oppose the central government "bayonet for bayonet." It said 5,000,000 Azerbaijanis were ready to spill their last drop of blood in a struggle ensued.

Apparently the Tabriz radio was not advised that talks had resumed. It said Pishavari had been unable to leave Tehran because of bad flying weather but would do so when the weather improved "as negotiations have been broken down by the treachery of the Tehran reactionaries."

Physicians Service Approved

Portland, May 13 (AP)—Oregon physicians' service, pre-paid medical care organization sponsored by the Oregon State Medical Society, today reported its admission to Association Medical Care Plans, Inc.

British Mission Still Has Hopes for Indian Solution

Simla, India, May 13 (AP)—The British cabinet mission, admitting failure of an eight-day conference with Moslem and Hindu leaders on independence for India, made it plain today that it still had hopes of solving the Indian problem.

The conference ended in complete breakdown yesterday, thus dealing a severe blow to the hopes of those who had expected a quick transition from British control to Indian self-government.

Two communiques issued after the breakdown—one jointly by the cabinet mission, the Moslem league and the Congress party; the other by the cabinet mission alone—gave no reason for collapse of the negotiations.

It seemed apparent, however, the conference had floundered on demands of the Moslem league for an independent Moslem state (Pakistan). These demands have been bitterly op-

Byrnes to Face Split in State Department

Washington, May 13 (AP)—A widening split within the state department may vitally affect American foreign policy on almost every major outstanding issue.

This is one of the main problems which will confront Secretary of State Byrnes upon his return from Paris.

One resignation already has resulted, and speculation is rife among departmental insiders that others either will follow or there will be important reassignments later this year.

McCormack Resigns

First to go was Col. Alfred McCormack, who quit as organizer of a central American intelligence unit because he contended his plans were wrecked by opposition within the department.

Speculation about possible future resignations revolves chiefly around Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson, Assistant Secretary Will Clayton and McCormack's former colleague and successor in the intelligence job—William Langer.

The struggle appears to be an outgrowth of the traditional fight between the foreign service officers—career men who are the backbone of the American diplomatic system—and comparative newcomers to the field of diplomacy.

The fight has been intensified in part by Byrnes' problem at Paris of trying to work out with the Russians, British and French satisfactory peace settlements for Europe. On the central problem of how to deal with the Russians, Byrnes received two strikingly different recommendations.

His regular political-diplomatic advisers under Assistant Secretary James Dunn recommended that he stand firm on every Russian demand considered to represent an expansion of Russian powers into western Europe. These advisers wanted the conference fought out on such issues as Trieste and Tripoli—tactically recognizing that eastern Europe is Russian and western Europe is not.

Byrnes' non-professional advisers under Acheson and Clayton—notably experts on European economy—argued this was likely to create instead of resolve international conflicts.

Consolidating Army Groups

Washington, May 13 (AP)—President Truman has signed an order for abolition of the nine army service commands in the United States, it was learned today.

Functions of the service commands will be consolidated with those of the various army area commands.

The executive order, signed Saturday, also will abolish the army service forces as one of the three basic divisions of the army. Its functions will be distributed among other existing divisions of the war department.

The order carries out part of the recommendations for reorganization of the army made by a special board headed by Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson. It was understood, however, that numerous other recommendations of the Simpson board were not approved at this time.

During the war period, the war department had three basic divisions—ground forces, air forces and service forces. The service forces handled supply, construction and personnel matters.

Gandhi Hopeful Of Settlement

London, May 13 (AP)—Mohandas K. Gandhi was quoted by the New Delhi radio today as saying there was "no need to worry" about the new breakdown in negotiations for India's independence.

The broadcast said Gandhi warned a town meeting against believing the British mission had done nothing to help the situation.

Informed sources believed the mission might leave behind a proposed constitution providing for five years of semi-independent government during which differences could be reconciled.



Reporters surround Lewis, O'Neill (left)—John L. Lewis (center), president of the United Mine Workers, and Charles O'Neill (right, with glasses), operators' spokesman, are surrounded by reporters in the White House lobby after meeting with President Truman.

To Continue Draft Service By Executive Order

Washington, May 13 (AP)—House military committee sources predicted today President Truman will issue an executive order tomorrow continuing the selective service organization, without inductions, if congress fails to extend the draft law expiring at midnight Tuesday. The purpose of the order, which they said was prepared by national selective service headquarters, would be to prevent collapse of the selective service machinery.

The president has power, they said, to make the selective service organization a part of the executive office under recently enacted reorganization legislation. They declined to be quoted directly.

The House may act late today on a Senate measure extending the draft law until July 1.

Unless congress or the president acts, committee members said, local draft boards will go out of existence at midnight May 15 and the machinery for resuming inductions later will have been junked.

Even an executive order, they said, will not clarify the status of some 8,000 conscientious objectors now held in selective service camps.

An army spokesman expressed the opinion that since the objectors are held under provisions of the draft law, they could walk out of the camps at midnight Wednesday unless the law is extended.

Truman Signs Airport Bill

Washington, May 13 (AP)—President Truman signed into law today legislation authorizing \$500,000,000 in federal expenditures during the next seven years for an airport construction and development program.

The civil aeronautics administration has announced that \$356,250,000 has been earmarked for distribution by states but that no funds will be assigned for cities and communities until CAA engineers determine local needs. The law requires that states and municipalities match the federal money.

Rep. Randolph (D., W. Va.), one of those present when President Truman signed the measure, told reporters he estimated the seven-year program will mean 3,000 new airports, and the improvement of 1,600 others.

The appointment of funds, yet to be appropriated by congress is on a formula basis, one half in proportion to population and one half in proportion to area of the states.

Both states and cities are permitted to deal directly with the CAA in providing their share of funds.

Press Writer Dies

Victoria, B.C., May 13 (AP)—William LaFay, International News Service foreign correspondent, who arrived here Friday on a vacation died suddenly Sunday.

The Weather

(Released by the United States Weather Bureau)
Forecast for Salem and vicinity: Partly cloudy tonight and Tuesday. Lowest temperature tonight, 38. Conditions will be generally favorable for dusting and spraying in the morning. Max. temperature, 68. Min. today, 39. Mean temperature yesterday, 56, which was just normal. Total 24-hour precipitation to 10:30 a.m. today, 0. Total precipitation for the month, .43, which is 48 inches below normal. Willamette river height, 11 ft.

Wheat Ditch at Flour Mills

Washington, May 13 (AP)—The wheat pinch began to hurt at home today with one big flour mill closed as President Truman called in Herbert Hoover for the first of a series of talks that may answer this question:

Will a resort to wartime food rationing—with bread added to the list for the first time in American history—be necessary to solve the world famine crisis?

Those in favor of such a step gained powerful new support with word that Stabilization Director Chester Bowles plans to urge it upon Mr. Truman unless the present dark outlook brightens quickly. Bowles' suggestion, if it is made, will call for action by August, according to a highly-placed official who asked not to be named.

Hoover Silent on Report

While Hoover remained silent on returning from his seven-week 35,000-mile globe girdling food study yesterday, no one expected his report to Mr. Truman today to cast any optimism on the global picture. The former president made the survey at the chief executive's request. He is honorary chairman of the famine emergency committee.

On the domestic scene, meanwhile, the closing of Pillsbury's "A" mill at Minneapolis stood out as a grim reminder that the shortage of wheat can well make deep inroads into American eating habits.

Unable to obtain grain for the first time in its 66-year history, the mill shut down Saturday night.

Since May 1 all flour mills in the country have been limited to a maximum of 21 days' wheat supplies. Many had less than that amount, and the government's action in offering a 30-cent bonus on sales to the government shut off any chance for the millers to augment their dwindling stocks.

Hence others appear certain to follow the Pillsbury lead. How long flour stocks will hold out until bakers and housewives begin to feel the squeeze remains problematical.

This factor undoubtedly figured in the reported decision of Bowles to recommend bread rationing, along with a return to coupons for meat, butter and cheese.

Hoover said overseas cereal needs for the period of May 1 to September 30 were considerably smaller than had been previously stated.

Gap in Supplies

He said he and aides who accompanied him on his world circling survey found that minimum cereal needs for the May-September period would be 14,484,000 tons. He said the supply expected to be available for export to famine areas would be 10,897,000 tons.

"Therefore the gap in supplies between May 1 and September 30 can be reduced to about 3,600,000 tons, as against an 11,000,000-ton gap in the earlier appraisals," he said.

Hoover said it might be possible to reduce the estimated 3,600,000 ton deficit to about 1,500,000 providing Russia, the United Kingdom, Iraq and some other countries made more grain available.

No Mass Starvation

In response to queries, Hoover said that in his world tour, he had seen no evidence of "mass starvation." He emphasized, however, that stocks in hungry areas are insufficient to last more than a month.

Hoover said the dominant need is cereals, particularly wheat and rice.

Hoover refused to discuss the world food situation beyond the present emergency.

"If the world balance sheet will be greatly shifted," he said.

The former president said he planned to discuss the world food situation more fully in a speech at Chicago Friday night. He indicated he might at that time go into the question of possible rationing.

Jap Reds Demand Hirohito Release Stored Food Stocks

Tokyo, May 13 (AP)—Japanese communists today demanded that Emperor Hirohito and the imperial family release "stored food stocks" for distribution to the starving Japanese people. The communists directed a public statement to Hirohito a day after a crowd of 100 demonstrators staged an unprecedented invasion of the imperial palace to demand food.

The demonstrators claimed they represented more than 1000 residents of the Setagaya district in Tokyo. They forced their way past palace guards and held a rally in front of the imperial household department household office.

While guards tried to disperse the demonstrators on grounds red flags and singing were "unacceptable" inside the palace grounds, an imperial household department official

Hoover Says World Shortage Can be Overcome if Vigorous Conservation Measures Taken

Ex-president Asked by Truman to Make Food Survey in South America—Refuses to Comment on Food Rationing—Morrison Discusses Famine

Washington, May 13 (AP)—President Truman tapped Herbert Hoover for a food survey of South America as his special ambassador today, but gave no hint of an early return to food rationing in this country.

The former president told reporters after he had conferred with Mr. Truman that he wanted to stay out of the "domestic controversy" over rationing.

And from Herbert Morrison, president of the British council, came a denial that he planned to ask President Truman for a return to rationing of meats and fats in this country.

Press Secretary Charles G. Ross said Mr. Truman complimented Hoover at the conference today on his splendid job so far and asked him to go to South America at his convenience as "food ambassador."

Hoover, Ross said, accepted and is going within the next few weeks. The former president simultaneously told a news conference that the world grain deficit could be largely overcome if surplus-producing nations adopt "further vigorous conservation measures."

Silent on Rationing
Talking after his meeting with the president, Hoover refused to say whether he believed the surplus countries, including the United States, should establish food rationing to help.

He wished, Hoover said, to "be allowed to keep out of the domestic controversy" over rationing.

Herbert Morrison, president of the British council, also discussed the food situation with the president. To reporters he described as "without foundation" a published report that he was asking Mr. Truman to ration meats and fats in the United States, Morrison said.

"Any idea of me telling the Americans what they are going to ration and what they are not going to ration, is not on my agenda."

Denial by Morrison
(In London, the political correspondent for the World, quoting the "highest authority," reported that Morrison would ask the president to ration meats and fats in the United States.)

Morrison said he discussed "the whole famine situation" with the president, and added:

"The president is fully possessed of the facts and urgencies of the matter."

"We are both equally determined to take necessary steps. We compared notes on the American and British points of view. My own impression is that their approach is not dissimilar."

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Buzz Flying Against Law
Leo G. Devaney, director of the Oregon board of aeronautics, warned today that pilots who "buzz" populated areas are liable to fines and imprisonment for violation of state aeronautics laws.

The board has no law enforcement setup on its own, but may report violations to the civil aeronautics administration, which is empowered to levy fines, suspend pilots' licenses and prosecute violators.

The board has asked Governor Earl Snell for power to call upon the state police to enforce aeronautics laws. Attorney General George Neuner in a recent opinion advised the board that the state police could be authorized to enforce aeronautics laws under direction of the governor.

Devaney said approximately 575 airplanes are now owned by Oregon residents.

Wins Frank Scholarship
Portland, May 13 (AP)—James Hart, McMinnville high school senior, has been named winner of the 11th annual four-year college scholarship awarded by the Aaron M. Frank scholarship foundation, Inc. He plans to enter the University of Oregon law school.