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Senate Emasculates Truman's Labor Bill

After a week of bitter argument the senate has passed, in a session that lasted past midnight, a greatly diluted version of President Truman's emergency labor program, which the house passed by a vote of 306 to 13 last Saturday after listening to the executive's appeal for authority to draft those who strike against the government.

The senate not only struck out the labor-draft provision, but also eliminated sections which would deny seniority rights to strikers in seized industries and require payment of "just compensation" to plant owners whose property is taken over.

There is left in the measure a provision arming the president with seizure authority similar to that he now has under the wartime Smith-Connally act. After seizure he could adjust wages and working conditions, an authority the senate upheld by a 54 to 28 vote.

Union leaders also would be required to take "affirmative action" to call off a strike, with penalties of \$5000 fine or a year's imprisonment for violation of this section. The bill likewise would permit the attorney general to seek injunctions to enforce the no-strike ban, a provision some senators said would authorize imprisonment of those who violate court orders.

The bill goes back to the house for concurrence in amendments or failing that, to conference to adjust differences between the house and senate versions. Speedy action is unlikely as the house has agreed not to take up the controversial legislation until Thursday and in addition the representatives will probably delay consideration until it learns what the president intends to do with the Case anti-strike bill now in the White House. A veto might make a difference in the fate of the Truman legislation.

Race Track Betting Big Business

The extent of gambling at the race tracks of the nation is revealed by the report of the Federation of Tax Administrators showing that \$70 millions in taxes were collected in 21 states from race track operators. Pari-mutuel betting rose to \$1,500 million last year, as 18 million citizens went to the betting windows, twice that of 1943.

In New York state alone over \$450 million was bet on the races, California was second with over \$233 million wagered, Illinois third with \$168 million and Maryland fourth with over \$103 million and this despite the fact racing was restricted for part of last year because of the war.

The tax take of the various states included: New York over \$30 million, California nearly \$13 million, Illinois over \$4 million and Maryland nearly \$4 million. The greatest source of these revenues was the pari-mutuel tax, a percentage of the gross betting volume, which varies in different states from 1 to 8 percent. In some states cities also take an additional tax, New York City taking 5 percent, others less.

License taxes are also imposed in most states varying from \$15 a day on small Nebraska race tracks to \$6000 a day at Pimlico in Maryland. Baltimore county also collects a \$3000 fee from Pimlico. Ten states also impose an admissions tax ranging from 10 to 15 percent of the price of admissions. Several states also collect license fees from jockeys, trainers, horse owners, etc.

Race track betting has become big business despite the fact that gambling is prohibited by the constitution in many states in which it flourishes as legalized and 1946 race attendance records, though hampered by strikes, seems destined to break all records.

Reforming Legislative Procedure

A joint congressional committee, headed by Senator Robt. N. LaFollette of Wisconsin, after spending nearly a year diagnosing the situation, has recommended that congress reorganize its legislative procedures in the interest of efficiency. The report says that the machinery for government, devised for the simpler tasks of the 19th century, is breaking down under its tremendous work load and that "democracy itself is in grave danger of disintegrating from internal dissensions under pressure of the postwar world." Among the recommendations are:

1. Appointment of at least one administrative assistant for each congressman to "run errands and knock on departmental doors."
2. Increasing congressional pay to \$15,000 a year (senators now receive \$10,000; representatives, \$10,000 plus a \$2500 expense allowance).
3. Approval of a three-month congressional vacation each year.
4. Creation of a retirement system to encourage members to retire at the age of 62.
5. Reducing the number of committees.

The cost of the program was estimated at \$12 million annually but it is asserted that the abolition of legislative ills and the patronage system would more than offset the outlay.

Shipload of Animals Sails For Bikini Atoll Rendezvous

San Francisco, June 1 (AP)—A cargo of animals faintly resembling that of Noah's ark sailed today aboard the navy transport Burleson for a rendezvous with destiny at Bikini atoll. The ship carried about 4000 white rats, 200 goats from the region of Houston, Tex.; 200 pigs from Sacramento, Calif.; an odd assortment of disease germs and insects, a few guinea pigs and a few mice. The animals will experience the effects of the atomic bombs in "Operations Crossroads."

Like Noah's charges, they will ride out a catastrophe—this time a man-made one—which may affect the future of the whole world. Their keepers expect many to survive the fury of the splintered atoms and live to a ripe old age in the luxury of government laboratories.

The day before the first blast at Bikini, they will be placed in strategic positions aboard 22 of the 77 target ships. As soon as it is safe for humans to board the ships after the initial bombing, the animals will be returned to the Burleson and examined by doctors and biological scientists seeking answers to thousands of questions about the effects of atom blasts on living things.

For these examinations, the Burleson carried probably the most costly and extensive laboratory equipment ever put afloat. The animals will be



The Fireside Pulpit

Reverend George H. Swift
Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Our Daily Bread.—This week we have observed the Rogation Days. The name "rogation" is derived from "rogare," meaning "to ask." We pray at this time especially for the growing crops and all that enters into the production of our daily bread. It is amazing the number of people involved in giving us our daily bread. So, when in the Lord's Prayer we say, "Give us this day our daily bread," we should have in mind not only the weather, the soil, the seed, and the farmer, but also the dairy-men, stockmen, poultrymen, fishers, the transportation companies, the coal producers, the oil men, the power and light companies, the telephone people, the bankers, the doctors, the lawyers, the clergymen, and the millions of other workers.

The coal strike and the recent railroad strike bring home to us forcibly how much we are dependent upon one another. Many thousands of times we have said in the Lord's Prayer "Give us this day our daily bread," without realizing that in a civilization such ours, the procuring of our sustenance involves the whole economic and social structure. Because of this interdependence on one another, our responsibility goes far beyond

our own personal bread and butter needs.

Willkie, in his travels, was profoundly moved by the realization that the whole world is "One World." We are learning more and more that as our prayer for our daily bread has to do with the labor and management of countless people and materials, we should be, instead of fighting one another, helping one another. That is true not only of our national situation, but also of our world wide relationships. If everyone could comprehend the over-all picture of world production and the interdependence of all upon cooperation for the prosperity of all, our world problems would be largely solved.

Let us think more deeply of the meaningful words we know so well and which we repeat so often (and possibly so thoughtlessly), "Our Father... Give us this day our daily bread."

Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

"Don't you be an accidentee," says the current sign of the Salem Lions' club which adorns the traffic signal posts on the downtown street corners. This is a good idea, for no one wants to be an accidentee if he can avoid it, but wouldn't it also be well to toss in a word for the accidenter? After all, without an accidenter there can't very well be an accidentee in traffic accidents. But we could get along without either the tor or the tee, as far as that's concerned.

Tommy Manolis, the little chap who recently sold his shine stand in the Pioneer Trust building lobby and has gone to work for George the Greek further east on State street has been shining shoes for 20 years. Tommy figures he has averaged about a hundred pairs of shoes a day, but if you give him a conservative average and cut it down to 85 for slack days it still leaves quite a bit of shoe shining Tommy has done. It figures out on a basis of 300 working days a year, 510,000 pairs of shoes or 1,020,000 shoes, and incidentally would mean that Tommy has turned up and down 1,020,000 trouser bottoms, except for the fact that all the shining hadn't been done for men. If we knew the average area of the leather that's shined in a shoe we could go on and work out how many acres of

shoe Tommy has shined, but we'll leave that to the census department, they like to fool around with stuff like that and get out a report after three or four years. Tommy must have muscles in his wrists like Byron Nelson.

Gordon Tower, 360 Miller street, reports that he too has a hummingbird nesting at his place, right in a public spot where folks are passing back and forth right along. One egg already has hatched and the family is busy keeping the tiny object supplied with vitamins.

We can warn Gordon to keep an eye out for cats. The robin, who we proudly reported the other day, had built a nest in the wisteria on the front porch, we're now sad to relate, is no more. The other morning we discovered the nest on the porch floor, two broken eggs near by and a collection of robin's feathers strewn around. The cat took the rest of the robin away with him. So tragedy can roost even in a wisteria vine.

A woman who didn't sign the inquiry has written us wanting to know why a well is being drilled at the site of the new First National bank building. Of course, the obvious first answer is to get water, it not being the intention of the board of directors of the bank, to be



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MACKENZIE'S Column

General George C. Marshall, America's special envoy to China, gave the people of that great country a grave warning when he told them on Memorial day at Nanking that they "now tremble on the verge of an even greater calamity" than they so long have endured—meaning a terrible civil war.

The general, who has been striving mightily to end the strife—and who several times has seemed to have success with in his grasp—called on the Chinese to abandon "the suspicion, hate, bitterness and all the other evil passions of the situation." Most certainly China's four hundred millions "now tremble on the verge of an even greater calamity"—so great, indeed, that if Marshall is able to avert it he will be a miracle-man.

The conflict at arms between the Chinese communists and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's nationalist government has gone so far that it is difficult to see how it can be settled in any other way than on the battlefield. My Associated Press colleague, Spencer Davis, who has just returned to New York after a long tour of duty in China, sizes the situation up like this:

"The way things now stand it looks like a fight to a finish."

Speaking militarily, the Chinese communists are not in an unfavorable position. They have a strong grip on Manchuria, with its great agricultural area and highly developed industries, and on the richest parts of northern China. Once they have consolidated their positions. Their resources will be far better than those of the generalissimo.

As for fighting forces, the Chinese have between 300,000 and 500,000 men who are well equipped with light arms. Chiang, on the other hand, has more than a million men, besides special police and provincial troops. However, these are scattered throughout China so that actually the Chinese have more troops in northern China than does Chiang.

tapping the location for oil, as we understand it, the water is to be used in connection with the cooling of the air conditioning system in the bank which they expect to keep at a temperature welcome to all. Why, with the cooling system as planned, there can't even be any hot money get into the vaults.

Folks have been complaining that today seems like Tuesday, what with yesterday seeming like Monday and with Thursday seeming like Sunday. Gosh, how long is this going to keep up, what with Sunday seeming like Wednesday, no doubt.

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Novelties In the News

(By the Associated Press)

Hot Seat

Paris, June 1 (AP)—Pvt. Matt-hew Spence of Baltimore, Md., twice-escaped prisoner who was serving a 10-year sentence for robbery, was back in confinement today after he accidentally sat on the lap of a criminal investigation department agent in a darkened Paris theater Thursday night.

The picture showing was: "You Can't Get Away With Murder."

Runs in Family

Carthage, N. Y., June 1 (AP)—George Zahn, valedictorian of the 1946 graduating class at Carthage high school with a scholastic average of 93.58, is upholding a family tradition. His oldest brother, Lyle, was valedictorian in 1942. Another brother, Keith, won the same honor in 1944.

Can't Stop

Philadelphia, June 1 (AP)—Six Baltimore & Ohio railroad employees, who between them served 270 years continuously with

the carrier, were retired on pension. Three of them—James E. Johnson, 86; Dr. Charles W. Pense, 74, and Charles E. Webb, 70, all Philadelphians—said they'd spend a lot of their spare time traveling.

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