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4—Salem, Oregon, Tuesday, February 21, 1950

The Coal Strike Muddle

The reluctance of the president to utilize the Taft-Hartley act to end the United Mine Workers strike in the nation's coal fields is reflected in the hesitation of the courts to enforce their orders to end the strike, and the extension of time granted because of miners' defiance and the renewal of Lewis' old battle cry, "no contract, no work." There is a sharp contrast with the government's decisive action in 1946 and 1948 when heavy fines for contempt of court were levied against both Lewis and his union.

This time Lewis has twice ordered the miners back to the pits to comply with the court's order, but for the first time the union members refuse to obey their czar's order, whether under clandestine agreement with Lewis, is not known, but he has officially complied with the letter of the law. There is no law however to compel a man to work against his will, though the union can be penalized and fined for contempt, as previously.

If the union does not comply with the back to work order by Friday, it will mean a hearing before Judge Keech next Monday, when the strikers will have been in contempt of court for two weeks. The order was renewed Monday until March 3. The union paid \$2,130,000 in two fines before.

Among the many court actions pending or in progress against the United Mine Workers are:

- 1. A pending request from the government for an 80-day anti-strike injunction under the Taft-Hartley law.
2. The government's current request for punishment of the union for contempt of court in refusing to obey a 10-day temporary restraining order.
3. A court order barring the union from demanding four key contract clauses (union shop, welfare fund for unionists only, a clause stating miners must work only when able and willing, and memorial period work stoppages). The national labor relations board must yet rule whether these are unfair labor practices.
4. Various other actions, including the suit of a miner for an accounting of mine welfare funds; suits by Senator Bridges (R-N.H.) and Ezra Van Horn to declare themselves not responsible for any dissipation of welfare funds; a court action by Charles I. Dawson to force Lewis to recognize him as the operator member of the welfare board of trustees; and damage suits brought by operators against the union, particularly in Ohio and Kentucky, seeking to collect money from the mine union for allegedly illegal acts.

For the past year Lewis has been cutting down the coal stockpiles by strikes and 3-day work weeks to improve the miners' position. With the coldest weather of winter clashing the east, the coal reserves are down to ten days' supplies, rationing and brown-outs are in effect in many regions, rail transportation has been curtailed, many industries forced to close and the danger point reached.

Meanwhile negotiations for a new contract have bogged down and a crisis reached affecting the welfare and health of the public, due to kid-glove handling of the pampered strikers.

Another Framed Red Conviction

Robert A. Vogeler, 39, the American businessman who pleaded guilty to sabotage and spying against the communist government of Hungary for the United States has been sentenced to 15 years in prison. The prosecution appealed on grounds that the court had been too lenient. A British associate, Edgar Sanders, was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment. Two Hungarian co-defendants were given death sentences. Three other Hungarians were sentenced to prison terms of five to 10 years.

The trial followed the usual communist pattern. The accused are never brought to trial unless a "confession" is first secured through drugs, threats, torture or threats of torture, inducements and pressure. If there is no "confession" there is no trial and the accused "disappear" either before a firing squad or in some slave work camp—never to be heard of again. Those who have escaped from prison have described the whole procedure.

In Vienna Morris L. Ernst, New York attorney who was refused a visa to defend Vogeler, said the trial was "a rigged up affair." He said he counted 85 misstatements of fact in the testimony Vogeler read, and "torture or drugs apparently were used." The same procedure was followed against Sanders, just as it had been previously against Cardinal Mindszenty and against many others. Neither the American nor British ministers had been permitted to see the accused since their arrest.

Compare the communist trials of accused spies with the trials of the accused communist spies in this country, in New York, which last nine months and the defendants permitted to hire the best lawyers for their defense, who used every pettifogging device in behalf of their clients, and after conviction by a jury, are permitted release on bail pending appeal to higher courts, from mild sentences of imprisonment.

A Chance to Beautify the Station

The other day the Southern Pacific announced modestly that a few minor repairs would be made in the Salem station. There would be some redecorating, too.

There was nothing elaborate about these spring clean-up plans. But from them came an idea. The "Friendly Railroad" was asked if it would be agreeable to a joint venture to beautify the ample grounds around the station. The SP indicated it would—on a limited scale.

So now Salem can join with the Southern Pacific in putting in some trees and shrubs to offer a softened effect to the station which welcomes travelers to this city. Salem interests would supply the trees and shrubs. The railroad would look after the watering.

The investment in this project would not be large, but the effect of trees and shrubs typical of the valley would tend to beautify a nice-looking station that appears lonesome now in its surroundings. Perhaps some of the nurseries in the area would donate trees and shrubs for the project. Perhaps the garden clubs in the city could join forces to care for the planting for the first few years to insure a good start for the trees and shrubs.

The result would be a simply, but pleasantly, landscaped station that would give a more friendly reception to train travelers coming to Salem.

BY BECK

Recollections



KRISS-KROSS

Oh Well, if Business Was So Good, He Could Afford It

By CHRIS KOWITZ, Jr.

Attorney Fred A. Williams was a busy man yesterday... too busy to get away from his desk long enough to feed a hungry parking meter by his car.

As a client was leaving law office, Williams handed the client a nickel and asked him to kindly insert it in parking meter.

Williams gave a good description of car, and told him approximately where vehicle was parked. Fred doffed his worries. About a half hour later he went to his car.

The meter was red and one of those familiar little yellow slips was under windshield wiper. Now Fred is trying to figure out whether his client has a short memory or is unable to distinguish a coupe from a sedan.

"Xmas trees for sale" reads a sign north of Salem. Nothing like buying early... Man sneezed so hard during high school fraternity case in circuit court yesterday that his belt snapped in two... The 30-odd high school students who sat on the frat case did so in spite of warning from school authorities that they would be given failing grades for so doing... Don't let all the "Stromboli" publicity mislead you. Only thing hot about the movie is the volcano eruption therein... The portion of the Busick's market building at Commercial and Marion streets now occupied

Naming of certain roads in outskirts of Salem is presenting quite a problem for city and county officials. Roads in question are public roads not owned by the county. Law is clear on changing of road names within that circle, but law makes no provision for naming new roads in the area. Some roads have laid around for five or six years now waiting for someone to name them. The question is... who'll do the naming?

'Miss Bivalve of 1950'

Portland, Feb. 21 (AP)—Oregon spawned a new threat today to the clam-consuming championship of the west—a 147-pound woman, whose potentialities are unmeasured.

She won the Oregon championship—and the title "Miss Bivalve of 1950"—by gulping down 181 little neck clams at one sitting. Her nearest competitor, a 235-pound man, put away 167.

The titlist, Mary Jean Hine, a radio copy writer, then went to another table and ate a clam dinner.

She will represent Oregon in a clam-eating contest in Seattle next Saturday.

And this is warning to Seattleites to start digging clams now.

Miss Hine deprecated her achievement here, remarking that in New England, where she used to live, she had eaten more than 200 at a sitting.

No one knows how many she might have eaten here. They ran out of clams just as she was going good.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Insects Are Laughing at Us

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Sayings of a curbstone Socrates: The difference between love in a crowded cottage and love in a mansion is three children—and five bathrooms. Mirrors have caused more self-improvement than colleges. A pessimist looks at life through the other fellow's ulcers.

Two worn dollar bills were discussing their careers. "Have you noticed," said one, "the way the value of people has fallen off in our lifetime?"

Unrequited love never made the average woman as miserable as sitting on a wet rock at a picnic.

Woeful waists make for woe-fuel diet.

Fear is only climate without a change of season.

Tell me your dreams and I'll explain your nightmares.

If museums collected people instead of things the world would be less cluttered up with museum pieces.

A man who beats his wife probably never had a chance to spank his mother as a child.

Remember way back when people used to marry for a reason instead of a season?

Nothing keeps its youth like envy.

Temperance is man's compromise between temptation and hardening of the arteries.

A wife and his bathroom

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Military Chiefs Give Grave Picture of Red Military Plans

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Around the giant Pentagon building, just across the Potomac, winds a labyrinth of beautiful boulevards built during the war at considerable cost to American taxpayers.

The other day in Richmond, Va., the two builders of these boulevards, McKenzie Davison and W. J. "Doc" Hardy, walked

into court and pleaded "no contest" to four of six counts accusing them of defrauding the government of \$217,806 in taxes—the same government which paid them handsomely on war contracts.

Behind this virtual plea of guilty lies a long story, dating back to October 1948, in which this column exposed Hardy and Davison, not only for income-tax evasion, but for political wirepulling, concealment, and dodging. When this column published the story on Oct. 19, 1948, it was so sensational that some papers refused to print it.

The two road contractors had made out false invoices, written checks to other contractors, who then cashed the checks themselves, and generally falsified. Yet for eight months after this column's expose, they argued, pleaded, and haggled with patient justice department attorneys.

Finally, last July the case was sent to the U.S. attorney in Richmond for prosecution, where, however, it dragged. And it was not until after this column, on Oct. 21, 1949, again reviewed the lengthy delay that the tax-evading road builders finally were indicted.

Perhaps the gravest briefing given to congressional leaders since V-J day took place at the Pentagon building last week. The substance of the closed-door session was that Russia must be preparing for aggressive war.

The briefing was given by Lt. Gen. Alfred Gruenther on behalf of the joint chiefs of staff to members of both the senate and house appropriations committees and armed services committees.

Gen. Gruenther was cautious in his statements, confined himself largely to a discussion of Soviet armed strength, let the congressmen draw their own conclusions.

After listening to the report, however, Congressmen Engel of Michigan, Sikes of Florida and Cannon of Missouri spoke out that Russia could have only one purpose in building such a powerful arsenal: to wage war.

Here are some of the main facts presented by Gen. Gruenther—facts which Moscow already knows since there is no particular secret about our armed strength. Russia, he said, is spending 18 percent of her national wealth on arms, which is triple what the United States is spending. Even taking our top budget figure of \$15,500,000,000—which includes stockpiling—the United States is investing only 6 percent of her wealth in defense.

Russia has 40,000 tanks. This includes the best heavy tank in the world—the Joe Stalin Mark III. In contrast, the U.S. army has only 7000 tanks, none of them heavy. In the air, Russia has 17,000 planes, including 300 heavy bombers of the B-29 type. Meanwhile Soviet factories are working feverishly to build a strategic air force. Production of long-range bombers and jet fighters has been stepped up.

To challenge our navy, the Russians have 280 submarines of the latest, speediest German make. Most worrisome, however, is a new Russian torpedo, piloted by an electronic brain that seeks out its own target. This ingenious torpedo can locate a ship eight miles away.

Despite all this firepower, the backbone of Soviet military might is still her manpower, Gen. Gruenther stressed. Russia can muster over 500 divisions at the drop of a bomb.

Throughout the briefings, Secretary of Defense Johnson took a back seat and let military spokesmen talk. At one point, however, he broke in only to be slapped down by Congressman Sheppard of California.

Sheppard wanted to know how reliable the information on Soviet strength was, and while a civilian expert was trying to explain that the iron curtain is drawing tighter, Johnson tried to brush aside the question.

"It we can't get an answer," snapped Sheppard, "we may as well go home."

The secretary of defense subsided. An athlete many times plays with a painful injured ankle or leg, knowing that he will receive the plaudits of the cheering section.

It's a different story to a person lying at death's door in a hospital bed. Particularly,

Some senators and congressmen feared the military chiefs were trying to scare congress

with their harrowing report into increasing appropriations. But, perhaps because of Johnson's stern eye, the military men made little positive comment.

Gen. Gruenther brushed aside questions about increased military needs by warning: "Don't ask me. I am liable to be biased."

Once he quipped: "As Senator Wherry has said, military people would fortify the moon."

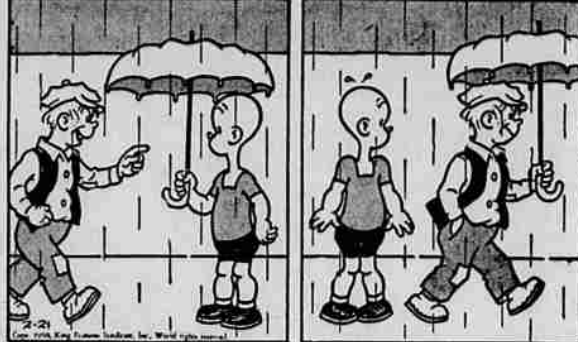
Gruenther also warned that we must not bleed ourselves by over-spending, that some people are too concerned about security and not enough about economy. Finally, Secretary of Defense Johnson broke in and suggested that the chiefs of staff should join Gen. Gruenther in answering some of the questions.

One by one, General Bradley, Army Chief of Staff Collins, and Chief of Naval Operations Sherman agreed that economy comes first. Johnson beamed like a schoolteacher whose pupils are reciting the correct answers.

Bradley reported that our occupation troops are in areas where they are strategically useful, and assured that we could meet any attack by quickly concentrating our forces.

BY CARL ANDERSON

Henry



MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

No Abandoning of Cold War Unless It's in Interest of Reds

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

Current demands that the western powers make fresh efforts to achieve agreement with Russia, and thus avoid a possible atomic war, give rise immediately to the vital question of what the demands are based on.

Is this idea premised on some concrete development or practical proposal which might appeal to Moscow? Or is it merely the result of wishful thinking—a idealistic effort to achieve something which ought to be accomplished by right-minded people?

It's vital that this point be cleared up before further steps are taken. This is so because we know from long, hard experience that there's not the slightest use in going to Moscow and calling for peace simply because peace is good or because somebody will get hurt if there is another war. That would look like an exhibition of weakness and could do untold damage to the cause of peace.

I like the realistic way U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson dealt with this problem in his policy statement of February 8. He summed the situation up by declaring that four years of experience "have brought us the realization" that progress toward peace simply by making agreements with the Russians is impossible. The Soviet government is realistic and adjust policies when compelled by facts to do so. As he pointed out:

"You can't argue with a river; it is going to flow. You can dam it up, you can put it to useful purposes, you can deflect it, but you can't argue with it."

The secretary illustrated by pointing out that we have tried ineffectually for years to get an Austrian treaty. We have made progress toward getting a German treaty. We can't even get a forum with Moscow to discuss a treaty with Japan.

Therefore Acheson rejected all suggestions for new American peace appeals to Russia. He declared the American policy to be "to build situations which will extend the area of possible agreement, that is, to create strength instead of weakness which exists in many quarters."

In short, he based Uncle Sam's anti-communist strategy on a policy of power.

That declaration was made less than a fortnight ago, and the situation certainly hasn't changed since then. What the Western World has to recognize is that Russia is waging her cold war under a concrete plan. It was worked out long ago and is aimed at communizing the world.

Thus far nothing has been allowed to stand in the way of this Red drive, excepting unsurmountable obstacles. The plan has been adapted to conditions over which Russia had no immediate control, but it always has swung back into its straight line when those conditions finally had been met.

The supreme example of this Soviet policy was the part Russia played as an ally of the Western powers against the Hitlerian forces. That took her far off her direct course of world revolution, but she accepted the inevitable. She may even have profited by it. In any event, the point we want to make is that once the world war was over, the Red ship swung back onto its old course, head-on straight for world communism.

We can't overcome those facts by wishful or pious thinking. What we have to do before making a fresh approach to Moscow is to ask ourselves whether it will serve Red interests to call off the cold war, which is an integral part of the communist drive to spread communism.

Marshal Stalin and his captains undoubtedly would debate the subject courteously with representatives from the West. But we may be dead certain there can be no lasting agreement unless that agreement should foster communist interests.

That's an unpleasant conclusion to be forced into. However, we shall save ourselves trouble and disappointment if we face the facts squarely.

Three new pain-killing drugs used in the advanced cancer case are demerol, dilaudid and dolphine—all trade names for variations of morphine derivatives or "cousins" and said to be more effective than morphine itself.

Some cancer doctors also prescribe the injection of alcohol in the veins of the patient. Others have prescribed brain operations, known as pre-frontal lobotomy and topotomy, that do not necessarily kill the pain, but remove the patient's power to feel the pain. A combination of codeine and morphine with aspirin also is being used in some cases.

Too much of any of the drugs often will cause death—and the end of the pain.

OPEN FORUM

Thanks to Newspaperboys

To the Editor: Just a few words of thanks and appreciation to the paper carriers. We take the Capital Journal and Oregonian. Through the snow, ice and mud, our paper always came. We live in the suburban area. When going got too tough to use their bikes, the boys walked.

I think they all did a wonderful job. MRS. W. J. SITON, 210 S. Elma Ave.