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Salem, Oregon, Friday, August 1, 1952

STEEL STRIKE LESSONS

The steel strike again exhibits both the futility of long strikes in major industry and the folly of muddling government intervention. If there ever was a strike against public welfare and national interest, the steel walkout was it. Called at a time when the nation was engaged in spending billions for national as well as international defense it was unnecessary and penalized national production in major industries.

President Truman could have had a settlement of the prolonged walkout any time before or after the strike started, by offering the \$5.20 a ton price increase to the industry, finally accepted to offset the increased cost of production forced by higher wages. It took 53 days of shutdown and loss of wages to strikers as well as 20 million tons of steel vitally needed and the prospect of disaster to get action by the White House.

CIO President Murray lost the main issue over which the strike was called, the full closed union shop and on the same day lost his effort to nominate the democratic candidate for president, as both Kefauver and Harriman lost out despite labor support.

The final settlement gives the steel workers a 16 cents an hour raise. They could have had 12 1/2 cents without a strike. It added nothing in "fringe benefits," and little in the full union shop issue, which Mr. Truman had insisted on. The steel companies in turn get a price boost bigger than the government's first offer.

The "fringe" benefits costing 8 cents an hour were offered by the industry before the strike. Basic wage rates are to be \$2.04 an hour. The compromise on the closed shop requires new employees to join the union but allows them to resign during an "escape" period. Present non-union employees can stay out of the union.

The 20 million tons of steel loss during the strike is more steel than Britain produces in a year and more than half of Russia's annual production. Our military forces have lost 25 per cent of the scheduled arms production for 1952.

The wages lost by steel workers averaged \$600 per worker. More than a million workers in other industries lost wages for several weeks. The companies also lost heavily and the general public as usual the heaviest losers in retarded industry.

The greatest gain for the future by the strike was the ruling May 3 of the supreme court sustaining an injunction against seizure of plants by the government and ordering their return to owners, which may mean a restoration of collective bargaining for labor disputes.

LATEST GAMBLE IN KOREA

Commentators, hard-up for new phrases to describe a war that drags into its third year, have tagged the stepped-up bombings in Korea as the "pressure" stage of the conflict in the Far East. But to the soldiers, sailors and Marines fighting under fantastic conditions, it's still just plain war.

Two graphic stories in today's Capital Journal describe the reaction of men in the front lines. The account by James A. Michener, author of "Tales of the South Pacific," is outstanding. It senses the tenseness, the fine line between life and death on the battlefield, and the grotesque situation of the fighting lines brushing by the paths leading to the "peace" tents at Panmunjom.

The other account, by Richard Applegate, raises the question of the average man resting in deep trenches or dugouts: Do the folks back home know there's a war going on?

The new pressure tactics of the United States command to bring a showdown in Korea—either peace or renewed large-scale warfare—could well force the folks back home and in Washington to become aware again of terror in the Orient.

General James A. Van Fleet, top allied commander in the field, admits he's pessimistic as to the outcome of the truce talks at Panmunjom. There is less chance for an armistice in Korea than ever before. He describes the prospect for an armistice as being in direct proportion to the amount of military pressure put on the communists, however.

Drafting of the millionth American since the beginning of the undeclared war in Korea would indicate losing of the previous gamble of those in Washington that the allies could deal with the communists. How many men must still be drafted before Washington awakens to the reality of the real war the men are fighting in Korea?

Perhaps the so-called "pressure" phase of that conflict indicates the Truman administration may be finally admitting what the average GI readily tells correspondents at the front: The unofficial war in Korea is as real as anything in World War II or any other previous war in which the United States has become involved.

CRASH JAMS ROADS

Crashing of a Marine Corps fighter plane Thursday afternoon east of the Center street-Lancaster drive intersection in Salem soon had key streets jammed beyond capacity by cars carrying the curious-minded.

Fortunately, the Marine pilot was not hurt nor did the plane burn in the forced landing in a grain field, so it probably didn't matter if emergency equipment got to the scene in a hurry or not. However, the overloaded roads should have caused worry and concern to those responsible for the handling of traffic in case of a city-wide disaster. The two-lane roads couldn't handle the load. With the bulk of the traffic moving out Center street, cars moved about as fast as the proverbial snail's pace.

It was no one's fault, particularly, that traffic jammed the way it did. However, the incident so vividly showed the problems involved if a city like Salem had to be evacuated in a hurry in some disaster.

Offers Rootbeer Stand as Park

Chesterton, Ind. (AP)—Irwin Strudman, whose earthly possessions include a rootbeer stand and a square inch of property which he bought for \$50 today offered to give the land free to the next president.

The only catch, explained Strudman, is that Dwight D. Eisenhower or Adlai E. Stevenson dedicate the valuable bit of land as a national park.

BY BECK

Actions You Regret



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Payday Is One Day No One On Office Staff Calls in Sick

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—There is always one day when no one on the office staff calls in sick. That is the day the ghost walks — payday.

It is a touching tribute to the durability of the average worker that, no matter how restless a bed of pain he has lain in all week, he will rise from it on payday and trudge into the office to get his paycheck.

That is one day he simply refuses to let the boss down.

Payday is a great American institution, and eternally is regarded by most citizens as "that vague, endless period of enforced hibernation between paydays."

All horses may approach their oats in much the same manner. But the characters in the ordinary office react to their rewards in different ways.

You will probably recognize some of the following payday characters in your office:

1. The nervous Nellie—"What happened? they should have passed out the checks half an hour ago," he mumbles. "Do you think the firm has failed?"

2. The conveyor belt—the office has been mailing his check home for years. "Payday don't mean anything to me," he whines. "My wife won't even tell me how much I'm making."

3. The human leech—as each fellow employee comes up from the bank after cashing his check, he borrows from \$1 to \$5 from each and says, "don't worry—I'm putting it down in my little black book. I won't forget."

When he retires years later, the man who cleans out his desk finds 37 little black books, all full of unpaid debts.

4. The coward—instead of cashing his check, he sneaks into the men's room and hides it between his sock and the sole of his foot, so no one can rob him.

5. The conscience-stricken ass—in 1937 the bookkeeping department added \$2 to his check by mistake, and has been making the same error ever since.

He suffers the tortures of the damned as he tears open his pay envelope, fearing they have found their blunder and will make him pay up.

6. The gay blade—he starts writing checks to his bookie, chucks the stenographer under her chin and asks her for a date, and comes back from lunch smoking a foot-long cigar and smelling like an empty Martini glass.

7. The anarchist—he stares at his paycheck moodily and grumbles, "another insult. How long

are we going to put up with it?"

8. The spinster secretary—this romantic old maid blushes dreamily as she wonders what else she can buy for her hope chest, the contents of which now overflow three warehouses.

9. The I - remember - when philosopher—he looks at the figures on his check and breaks out crying, "if I only got this when money was money," he sobs.

10. The lonely boss—he walks out into the office feeling proud he has managed to meet another payroll, and he is a little hurt because no one claps him on the back and says gratefully, "chief, you've done it again!"

By nightfall the office elation is gone, and as they all depart each one looks at the calendar and starts figuring—how long is it until the next payday? They can't wait until the ghost walks again—and they only wish he would break into a run.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

BY CARL ANDERSON

Alice Longworth, Close Friend Of Taft, Mellows to Gen. Ike

BY DREW PEARSON

Washington—Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth, daughter of Teddy and one of the rulers of Washington society is either getting benign or else has fallen for the Eisenhower charm.

After Willkie was nominated, Alice remarked, "He sprang from the grass-roots of the country clubs of America."

After Dewey was nominated, she cracked: "How can you vote for a man who looks like a bridegroom on a wedding cake?"

Both men had defeated Mrs. Longworth's close friend, Bob Taft. But of the man who defeated Taft for the third time, Alice is more tolerant.

"Naturally, I am sorry that Bob didn't make it," she tells friends. "But that's the way it was and I am willing to accept it."

She admitted that she watched the Eisenhower demonstration. "But," she added, "conventions aren't what they used to be. Television is spoiling them."

WHY SUMMERFIELD SWITCHED

Though the democrats probably got more publicity focused on their hectic backstage wire-pulling than the republicans, some of the latter's deals are just coming to the surface.

One of them, sure to be denied, sheds light on why Arthur Summerfield of Michigan, long a vigorous Taft supporter, switched over to Eisenhower. Summerfield, a Chevrolet dealer, was under heavy pressure from General Motors to switch. But there was more to it than that—according to the story told by Summerfield's close friend, Congressman Jesse Wolcott of Michigan.

Wolcott says that during the GOP discussion over seating the southern delegates, he got a frantic phone call from Summerfield to come to Chicago immediately.

Arriving in Chicago, Summerfield told him he was being pressured by Tom Coleman, GOP leader in Wisconsin and Taft's floor manager, to back Taft. He was also under pressure from Senator Ferguson and Congressman Schafer of Michigan.

While Governor Stevenson was hanging back on the Chicago draft, his sons were doing their best to push the draft.

One day, youngest son John Fell Stevenson turned up at the Draft-Stevenson headquarters at the Hilton hotel wearing a "We Need Adlai Badly" button as big as a flying saucer.

Immediately Dr. Walter Johnson, University of Chicago professor who masterminded the draft, grabbed him by the arm, pulled him into a room, and told him that if he wanted to upset the draft this was the best way to do it. Young Stevenson departed.

Shortly thereafter, second son Borden Stevenson with some young friends, arrived, all wearing Stevenson buttons. This time, Johnson took them to the back stairway of the hotel and walked them most of the way to the ground floor, for fear they would be seen by the press.

"Can't we even come into the hotel?" asked one of the boys. "Only if you go to Harriman or Russell headquarters," replied Johnson. "And only if you take off those buttons."

He knew that if the newspapers showed the Stevenson boys as part of the draft movement, either the public would think it was a phony draft, or the governor would get mad and call the whole thing off.

WAR PRISONERS

The inside story of the bogged-down Korean truce talks is that we have been impaled on our own figures—figures that we issue boastfully at the time we were capturing communists and wanted to impress the enemy.

We announced to the world last December, for instance, that we held 20,699 Chinese. But now we have told the truce negotiators that all we can turn back is 6,400. This is chiefly because the balance of the Chinese don't want to go back.

With North Korean prisoners, however, some of our army people padded the figures by including some South Korean refugees with the North Korean prisoners. Now, having announced them, they are stuck with those figures. The Reds won't believe anything else.

Though an impression got through the press that we were only 9,000 prisoners apart in reaching an agreement, this is not exactly true.

At the start of the talks, we estimated that about 101,000 prisoners could be returned. After careful screening, however, we said only 72,000 could go back.

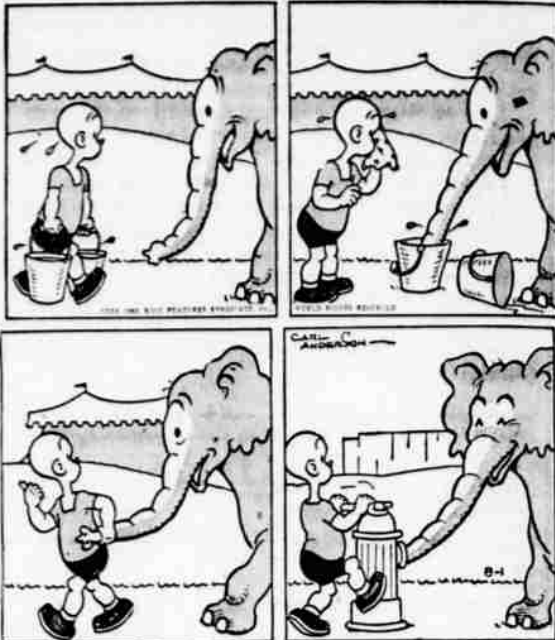
Meanwhile, the communists demanded the return of 116,000. Later we pushed our figure up to 85,000, while they brought their figure down to 110,000. That's as close as we have ever come.

While the Reds' offer of 110,000 was only 9,000 more than our original estimate of 101,000, it is still 27,000 more than we are willing to return.

That's exactly where the truce talks are today. Another full-dress session is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 3.

(Copyright, 1952)

Henry



IN HOT AND COLD WARS

How News of This Week Balanced for Good and Bad

By PHIL NEWSOM

(United Press Foreign Affairs Analyst)

The week's balance sheet between the good and bad news in the hot and cold wars:

THE BAD

1. Gen. James A. Van Fleet gave us bluntly the bad news about Korea. He said the chances for an armistice were the worst they ever had been.

Barring a change in location of the truce talks to some place outside Korea, it seemed the U.N. had only one of two choices. It could surrender to the Reds on the question of return of war prisoners, or it could step up its military pressure in the hope of forcing the Reds to change their minds.

2. Russian attempts to turn East Germany into a full-blown satellite state were meeting with less than whole-hearted approval by the German people. Refugees, including former East German policemen, streamed to the west at a rate greater than 1,000 a day. Meanwhile, West Germany's highest court threw out an attempt by the West German peace contract and the European army plan declared unconstitutional.

3. Egypt's strong man, Maj. Gen. Mohammed Naguib, and his premier, Ali Maher, were making at least outward attempts to democratize the country after the ouster of King Farouk. Titles were abolished, censorship of newspapers eased and steps were being taken to encourage the return of foreign investments to Egypt.

4. Anti-American feeling continued to mount in Iran. The Iranians accuse U.S. of siding with Britain in the dispute over Iranian oil and are resentful because U.S. aid to Iran has been less than that given to Greece and Turkey. The Tudeh party (Iranian communists) was

Thought He Was Drinking Wine

Edinburg, Tex. (AP)—Tony Villareal, 20, thought he was drinking wine. It looked like wine. It tasted like wine. Doctors at Grandview hospital said Tony was in serious condition from the effects of drinking insecticide.

More Relief From Hay Fever

By J. H. Willett

In the past year there have been greater developments of the antihistamine drugs and hay fever victims should get more relief from drugs.

One of the newer types marketed recently affords an average of 19 hours relief from a single dose without the undesirable side effects encountered in using other types.

Let a doctor prescribe the drug which is best suited to your individual needs.

Choose a friendly, dependable pharmacy for all your drug and prescription needs.

This is the 600th of a series of Editorial advertisements appearing in this paper each Friday.

Capital Drug Store

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We give double 24c Green Stamps every day on all cash sales of prescriptions