

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

DREW PEARSON

LEWIS IN REAL ESTATE
WASHINGTON.—Just how vigorously John L. Lewis plans to enter his battle to recapture the CIO came out at the AFL executive board meeting in Miami, where the bushy-browed labor thespian joined his former enemies in a holy war against his former friends, Phil Murray and the CIO.

One of Lewis' first moves was to persuade the AFL to move out of its shabby 30-year-old headquarters to a modern streamlined building near the White House. Lewis was named chairman of an AFL committee to acquire the new building. Some years ago John paid a quarter of a million for the University club, once the home of Washington elite, and made it his United Mine Workers headquarters.

'VOTED AGAINST VETERANS'
Veterans are considering a new symbol which may become as famous as the label "Made by Union Labor." It will probably take the form of the initials "VAV."

When these initials are used immediately following a congressman's name, it will indicate that he "voted against veterans."

Congressmen, already sensitive about this year's elections, are worried sick about the recent vote on housing for veterans, especially the vote on subsidies which would have permitted low-cost homes at a price-range which veterans could afford.

This worry was why congress ducked a roll-call vote. If each congressman had been forced to stand up and be counted, it would have been political suicide for some.

The Democrats, despite a plea from President Truman himself, plus telegrams from Bob Hannegan, split ranks. Here are the Democrats who in the future will be labeled "VAVH" (voted against veterans' housing) in this important test vote: Barden, N. C.; Brown, Ga.; Camp, Ga.; Colmer, Miss.; Cox, Ga.; Cravens, Ark.; Dough-ton, N. C.; Durham, N. C.; Earth-man, Tenn.; Ervin, N. C.; Gath-ings, Ark.; Gibson, Ga.; Hare, S. C.; Lanham, Texas; McMillan, S. C.; Manasco, Ala.; May, Ky.; Mills, Ark.; Murdock, Ariz.; Murray, Tenn.; Pacen, Ga.; Page, Texas; Riley, S. C.; Roe, Md.; Russell, Texas; Slaughter, Mo.; Smith, Va.; Summers, Texas; Tarver, Ga.; Vin-son, Ga.; Whitten, Miss.; Whittin-gton, Miss.

NYE'S RESIDENCE

Ex-Senator Gerald Nye took a setback in his first attempt to return to his old senate seat. People in North Dakota didn't like the fact that Nye continued his residence in Maryland, though running in North Dakota, and he didn't get far in the first Republican primaries.

STEEL HEADACHE

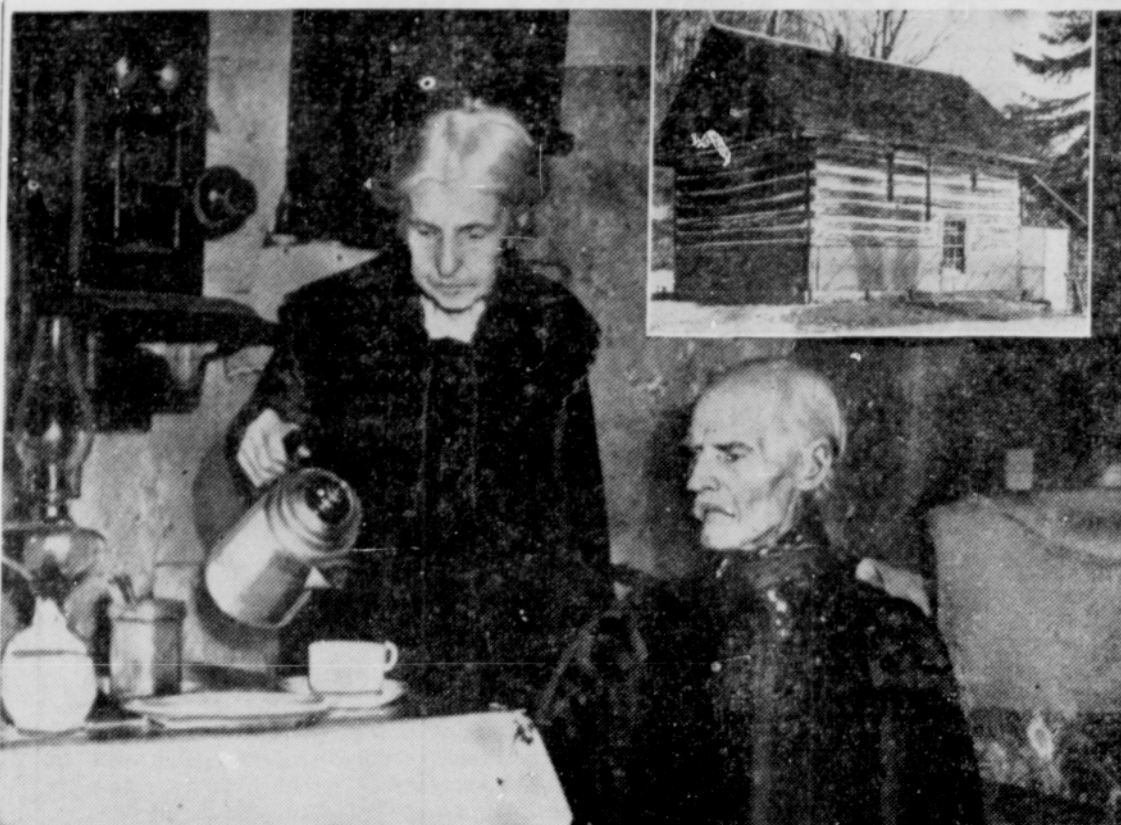
One of the biggest reconversion headaches is lack of steel. Hundreds of smaller firms, including Henry Kaiser's new auto company, can't get steel, while strike-struck General Motors was gorged with it. Recently General Motors officials traveled to Washington, wangled a promise from OPA Administrator Jack Small that he would not confiscate the thousands of tons of strategic materials which General Motors is hoarding. Small has cracked down on smaller companies hoarding ny-lons, but General Motors appears too big to touch.

CAPITAL CHASE

Democrats were wrangling last week about the right of Chicago's Representative Sabath to be heard as much as Mississippi's Represen-tative John Rankin. Meanwhile, GOP Leader Joe Martin went over to Democrat Mike Monroney of Ok-la-homa and said: "Mike, the next time you Democrats get into a scrap like this and it comes to a vote, we're just going to vote 'present' and let you Democrats fight it out yourselves." Atlanta's new con-gresswoman, Mrs. Helen Douglas Mankin, has been assiduously cul-tivated by the Georgia delegation—with long visits on the floor of the house even from the two Georgia signa-tors—George and Russel. But the first chance she got she voted against Rankin. North Caro-lina's Chairman Bob Doughton of the house ways and means com-mittee not only believes that people should continue paying the wartime excess-tax rates on luxuries such as furs, but also that children should continue paying the wartime tax on movie tickets. "After all," says Doughton, "kids don't have to go to the movies—they're a luxury."

VIGOROUS LOBBYING

Capitol Hill today is more be-sieged by lobbyists than at any time in years. Big utility lobby-ists are working against any in-crease of federal power, even passing out nylons to con-gress-men's wives to win votes. The American Legion is buttonholing senators in favor of military con-scription, and the railroad lobby-ists are pulling wires in favor of the Bulwinkle bill which exempt the railroads from anti-trust suits.



ON THEIR DIAMOND WEDDING DAY . . . Seventy-five years of wedded bliss, spent in the log cabin home which they constructed themselves when they were first married, is the proud record of Mr. and Mrs. George Turner, Viroqua, Wis. They were married by a Methodist circuit rider and have four married children who live in the surrounding countryside. Mr. Turner is 96 and his wife, Mary Jane, is 92 years old.



HIROSHIMA KNOWS EFFECTS OF ATOMIC BOMB . . . Seven months after the atomic bomb hit Hiroshima, what was once a thriving city still lays in ruins except for an emergency housing project which is attempting to provide shelter. Shown in the photo is one of the 600 homes which are arising from the rubble of what was once war factories. These natives know the real power of atomic bombs.



FAMINE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE APPOINTED . . . With Chester C. Davis, upper left, as chairman, President Truman has named the executive group of the Famine Emergency committee. Other members are Eugene Meyer, publisher, vice chairman, lower left; George H. Gallup, upper right, director of the American Institute of Public Opinion, and Miss Anna Lord Strauss, lower right.



BRINGING G.M. STRIKE TO AN END . . . Weary and exhausted at the end of the 113-day General Motors strike, federal conciliator James Dewey, with strike terms in his hand, reads the terms which sent the workers back to work. Millions of dollars in wages and profits were lost while the strike was being conducted. In addition to an increase of 18½ cents an hour, other benefits were secured by the union members.

Veterans' SERVICE BUREAU

EDITOR'S NOTE: This newspaper, through special arrangement with the Washington Bureau of Western News-paper Union at 1616 Eye Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., is able to bring read-ers this weekly column on problems of the veteran and serviceman and his fam-ily. Questions may be addressed to the above Bureau and they will be answered in a subsequent column. No replies can be made direct by mail, but only in the column which will appear in this news paper regularly.

Vets' Hospital Facilities To Be Greatly Enlarged

Reflecting the need for increased hospitalization facilities and the pushing of the Veterans' adminis-tration hospital construction pro-gram, is the fact that at the begin-ning of February a total of 17,015 veterans were on the hospital list awaiting entrance and the number was increasing at the rate of ap-proximately 4,000 per month.

As a matter of fact, however, less than 4 per cent of those awaiting treatments had service - connected disabilities, although it is the policy of the administration to provide hos-pital facilities for all non-service disabilities wherever room is avail-able.

In his effort to provide more hos-pital space, Gen. Omar Bradley has obtained the use of six army hos-pitals and in addition, navy has agreed to make available 9,850 beds in navy hospitals. The army has agreed to supply up to 10,000 beds if they can obtain the neces-sary personnel to service them.

Maj. Gen. Paul R. Hawley, who recently resigned from the army to take over full charge of the vet-erans' medical and surgical division, asserts that more than 13,000 veter-ans discharged from the service have their hearing affected and have gone through rehabilitation programs. He estimated that in the next 20 years there would be from 200,000 to 400,000 hard-of-hearing veterans as a result of war service.

Questions and Answers

Q. My son was in the army for 3 years, overseas 18 months. Be-fore going, he took out an allotment for my three children, but I never received it. He also sent \$30 to me out of his check, but I didn't know it at the time, thinking it was the allotment to the children. When he came home, he told me I was not receiving the allotment. I would like to know if I can still get it.—Mrs. L. R. S., Wasola, Mo.

A. The army says that if the al-lotment was actually deducted from your son's pay he is entitled to a refund of the amount deducted. Write to the Office of Dependency Benefits, U. S. Army, Newark 2, N. J., giving all details, son's full name and serial number.

Q. I am a veteran of this war and was wounded November 19, 1944, and since have been unable to do much of anything. I got dis-charged two weeks ago and decided I had to have money so I went up to see about getting a G. I. loan. They told me the only things you could get a loan on was to buy a home or a business. Now I have been misled, for I thought I could get a loan on anything your local banker would let me have the money on, so I am stuck. I want to buy a tractor and equipment so I can farm, also build on my house I already have paid for. Now how can I do it?—E. T. M., Arlington, Kan.

A. The G. I. law provides you may obtain money for both these pur-poses, either a tractor for furthering your business of farming or to re-pair, remodel or make alterations to your home. The law also pro-vides, however, that you must first obtain a lender who will make the loan and that the lender is the judge of whether or not you are a good risk. Would suggest you obtain from your nearest veterans' admin-istration a list of approved lenders in your town and seek out one who will agree to make the loan.

Q. I have sugar diabetes 100 per cent. Was inducted before the war and spent three months and was discharged in January after war was declared. They sent me to the veterans' facilities for application for compensation, but they turned me down, said the fact was on my induction papers. I appealed to Washington and was turned down there. Please tell me how I can get some help from the government.—L. W., Poplarville, Miss.

A. I am afraid there is nothing you can do since your disability was evident when you were inducted, unless you can present evidence it was aggravated by your short ser-vice, or that you have some other disability.

Q. I would like some information regarding the whereabouts of my brothers. One is with the 600th Port company, APO 562. The other with the 54th Reif. Bn. APO 772. Could you tell me where they are located and if they may be home soon?—Mrs. G. R. R., Arcadia, Calif.

A. The 600th Port company ar-rived in New York last August 18 and the 54th Reif. Bn. was inactiv-ated in France on November 4, 1945. If they have not arrived home, they may have been transferred to other units.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

TRUMAN'S CABINET FORCED SECRETARY BYRNES' HAND

WASHINGTON.—The story is told—I do not know how truly—that State Secretary Byrnes faced a verbal firing squad in the cabinet before his recent firming of international policy against en-croachments by Russia around the world.

In the inner group it is re-lated that Pres-ident Truman

allowed his cabinet advisers to express plainly to Byrnes their dissatisfaction at the total lack of results from his position as a diplomatic neutral. Indeed, a majority is said to have pointed out to him that to be a neutral in conflicts between democracy and totalitarianism is to be in-effective.

Some of Mr. Byrnes' friends are trying to stamp out the story, con-tending he wrote one or two of his firming notes before the date of the meeting at which the execution of appeasement, if not of Mr. Byrnes, took place.

PURPOSE OF CHURCHILL'S MISSOURI ADDRESS

I am inclined to believe the story because Mr. Truman stepped out conspicuously on the same platform from which the Churchill address, urging an Anglo-American alliance, was presented. Mr. Truman did not commit himself, except by his pres-



President Truman

ence, but when a Missouri univer-sity grants an honorary degree to anyone you may be sure Mr. Tru-man arranged the affair. Indeed, he is supposed to have read the address in advance. You may recall Mr. Churchill paid a final visit to Washington a week or more before they both went out together for the historic occasion.

The union of these two men for the occasion, however, should not be interpreted as a definite forecast that all Mr. Churchill wanted will come to pass immediately or even soon. Indeed, common interpretation around the country, judging by the comment and reaction, was that Mr. Churchill was inspired by a desire to give a boost to the proposed loan-gift of more than four billion dollars to the British government. No doubt this is true, but the deeper meaning of his words should not be lost in such an obvious de-duction.

The important thing is he spoke out against Russia. He removed the diplomatic velvet from his tongue and talked of realities. He dropped pretense and said what he thought.

DIPLOMATIC TRICKERY HAS NO PLACE IN U. S.

Such plain words have not been much in order around here lately. The Byrnes policy had been found-ed on other factors than plain speak-ing, to say the least. I think it is fair to say the advocates of the Byrnes school of tactics (largely confined to the left-wing groups) were timid in their fear to face truth.

The mere facing of it in these new diplomatic ventures there-fore represents progress. The confused world cannot find sta-bility and peace in diplomatic trickery, appeasements, spoken words without meaning, written and sworn words not to be car-ried into effect, or any of these devices—all lacking confidence, security and good faith neces-sary to sound understanding.

Agreement must be built upon these ingredients as a foundation, or they are meaningless and danger-ous. To fear that war will come is in itself a position of weakness. It will come either way, if it is to come, because it can come only through action of our adversaries. If we face the facts, we will know what the score is and we will be prepared. If we dodge the issue and retreat from position to position in the face of mere diplomatic pres-sures, and delude ourselves into be-lieving surrender is peace, our fate is in the hands of our adversaries.

HER LAST VISIT . . . Mrs. Erna Haupt, whose son was executed as a spy after he landed by sub-marine from Germany, visits her husband prior to her deportation to Germany, and to start of his life sentence, for aiding son in his spy work.



HIS BOLOMETER SEES IN DARK . . . The ability to see ob-jects in the dark as far away as 15 miles, without being seen in return, is made possible by the invention of the bolometer by Dr. Donald H. Andrews of Baltimore. Peacetime use will range from fire alarm to cancer weapon.