

BRITON CONFESSES GUILT AS SPY

Progress Reported In Deadlocked Soft Coal Talks

UMW Chief Cuts Some Issues Of Contract Dispute

Fact-Finder Tells Of Real Progress

Washington, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—A government fact-finder reported "real progress" in the deadlocked soft coal negotiations today at the close of a three-hour bargaining meeting between John L. Lewis and the coal operators.

That optimistic report came from Chairman David L. Cole of President Truman's fact-finding board. He and Federal Mediation Director Cyrus S. Ching had been standing by throughout the union-management meeting to take a hand if needed.

Cole said some of the proposals Lewis made yesterday for a new contract were "soft-pedaled" today. He said the union mine workers chief has narrowed the issues on which he wants to bargain, particularly with regard to pay raises.

Cole said the operators, who previously had offered the miners nothing better than their old contract, have "improved their money offer." However, Cole would not say specifically what contract terms were being discussed.

Both sides were scheduled to resume negotiations at 3 p.m. Ching left with the mine operators. He would not comment.

Might Ask Seizure

Cole hinted to newsmen that if the negotiations should break down unexpectedly, President Truman might ask congress for power to seize the strike-bound coal mines.

The White House announced earlier in the day that Cole and Ching would report there at 10:00 a.m., EST., tomorrow.

Cole said he had no idea what course Mr. Truman would take after getting the report.

Burglars Caught As Attempting Getaway

Portland, Ore., Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—Police today captured two burglars as they attempted to flee from a meat market.

Officers said Harold Clyde Rambo, 45, was shot in the leg when he dashed from the market and Samuel Wells Lewis, 36, was taken as he pushed headlong into a clump of blackberry bushes at the side of the building.

The police radio received three calls to the Fulton Provision company and the Fulton delicatessen before the two men were found in a refrigeration room. They ran when they spotted the officers.

"We cut through the wrong wall," Lewis told officers. "The refrigerator motor made so much noise we didn't hear the cops."

Rambo and Lewis, already under indictment by the grand jury on burglary charges last month, were jailed for \$5,000 bail each. Officers said both had records for burglary and safe-cracking.

Child Killed In Try To Save Baby Sister

New York, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—William Meade, 7, burned to death last night trying in vain to save his baby sister from the fire that swept the Bronx tenement in which they lived.

Heavy smoke filled the cold water flat when William's father, Charles, was awakened by the crackling flames. The father grabbed two of his four children and told William to get his sister, Lynn Carol, two months, and follow him.

But the boy lost sight of his father in the smoke and flames. Firemen found William's body, his dead sister clutched in his arms.

ATTENDS CONFERENCE

Mail Tribune City Editor Eric W. Allen Jr. and Mrs. Allen left here today for Eugene where they will attend the 31st annual Oregon Press conference and the Eric W. Allen memorial lecture on the University of Oregon campus. Speaker at the lecture will be Columnist Marquis Childs.

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Search Teams Push Onto Lonely Isle To Hunt 5 Airmen

Paratroopers Landed In 70-Mile Winds

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—Seven search teams hit the gale-lashed beaches of a lonely island again today where a man's cry for help and gun shots kept hopes high that the remaining five members of a 17-man B-36 crew will be found.

"This is 'payoff day,'" one search officer said.

A Canadian destroyer, four U.S. coast guard cutters, high speed launches and a dozen U.S. and RCAF planes circled the island in an all-out effort to find the missing men.

Paratroopers who were to be dropped to brush-tangled Princess Royal island off the British Columbia coast, were landed instead. It was feared winds gusting to 70 miles an hour would blow them out to sea.

A group of civilian mountaineers from Vancouver's Alpine club were standing by on the Canadian navy's destroyer Cayuga.

Twelve crewmen of the lost six-engine super bomber have been evacuated and are under treatment for injuries and exposure. Eleven of those were at McChord field air force base, Wash., and were to be flown to their home base at Fort Worth, Tex., today.

The last survivor to be rescued was on the Cayuga awaiting a flight to McChord field.

Driving rain turned soggy snow into six-inch deep slush, as the seven rescue teams—composed of a minimum of eight men each—fanned out across the large craggy island.

Search officers felt that if the men are not found today a fifth night of exposure and hunger would almost certainly be fatal.

Folsom Penitentiary Inmate Knife Victim

Sacramento, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—Two Folsom prison inmates faced automatic death sentences today for the slaying of a fellow convict with an eight-inch prison-made knife.

Convicted of killing convict Willard Borton were Louis F. Smith and John Allen. A superior court jury found the pair guilty on two counts—assault by a life term convict and first degree murder. Both counts carry an automatic death sentence.

Earl Fitzgerald, a third defendant accused of the fatal stabbing, was acquitted and will be returned to Folsom prison to serve out his life term, authorities said.

Superior Judge Grover Bedeau will pronounce sentence February 24.

RECEIVES AWARD

New York, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—The National Institute and American Academy of Arts and Letters awarded H. L. Mencken its gold medal for essays and criticism today for his "distinguished achievement" in the writing field.

Ski Conditions

If the present weather holds, skiing should be good at Crater Lake over the weekend. According to reports received by radio this morning, the present depth of 128 inches of snow has a crusty surface that is covered with six inches of powder snow. Weather there this morning was excellent.

Roads are clear and dry from Medford to Union Creek but chains are required from park headquarters to the rim of the lake. Maximum temperature yesterday was 35 degrees and the minimum this morning was 13.

Following the jump, the survivors experienced 40 hours of wet, cold and hunger during which their hopes alternately were buoyed up and then dashed to pieces. Once a search plane approached their position, circled and disappeared into the fog.

Before they bailed out, the radar operator, Lieut. Paul Gerhart of Germantown, Pa., remembers receiving an order from the aircraft commander, Capt. Harold Barry of Hillsboro, Ill., to "find land—and fast!"

"We flew over one island," said Gerhart, "but it was too



EIGHT DEAD IN B-29 CRASH—Rescuers probe the wreckage of the B-29 which carried eight men to their death when it crashed moments after takeoff from Great Falls air base, Mont. The B-29 was the command plane of a group of 12 B-29's which took off from the air base to join the search for the B-36 which crashed off the coast of British Columbia. All 17 men aboard the B-36 were found safe after directing rescue units to their British Columbia island by sending up a towering column of smoke. Seven men aboard the B-29 search plane walked away from the crash.

GOP Called Selfish Political Hypocrites At Jackson Dinner

Washington, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—The democrats came up today with their battle theme for 1950. The republicans are selfish political hypocrites who lie to their pockets.

It was their answer to GOP charges of "socialism"—a tag the democrats hope to shake off before entering the crucial stages of this year's congressional elections.

President Truman, Vice President Alben W. Barkley and Speaker Sam Rayburn unveiled the theme last night in using ridicule, sarcasm and invective against the republicans at a gigantic Jefferson-Jackson day dinner here.

More than 5,300 democrats contributed \$100 each to the party to eat filet mignon and drink American burgundy with the president, the cabinet and just about every big name in the administration.

The mammoth party was held at the national guard armory, with the food and drink

Tracked by long distance from two downtown hotels.

Mr. Truman was naturally the main attraction. He called the republicans everything from ink-squirting "scuttles" to "advocates of false economy" and merchants of "scare words."

Arguments Rejected

The president scornfully rejected republican arguments as "the same old moth-eaten scarecrow of 'socialism' . . . an insult to the intelligence of the American people."

Barkley said the GOP hadn't come up with a new idea in nearly 80 years.

Rayburn said business, labor and agriculture never had it so good as under the democrats.

The democratic diners whooped and banged their water glasses in approval.

The president ridiculed the GOP's new platform and its charges that the democratic program is "socialistic."

Same Old Story

"It's the same old story—the same old words and the same old music—the same empty and futile attempt to scare the American people—in complete contradiction of the plain facts that are visible to every citizen in his daily life to see," he boomed.

"And we're not going to let them get away with it—I don't worry about that."

Swollen Mississippi Threatens Big Levee

Chicago, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—The swollen Mississippi river today threatened to burst a big levee in southeast Missouri and army engineers said the flood situation was getting worse in Louisiana.

Flood waters receded in the upper Ohio valley and a forecast of fair weather in the flood zone during the next 48 hours offered relief to some flood-weary areas.

But in other sections—particularly along the lower Mississippi—the worst was yet to come.

Truman Action Said Tinge Of Communism

Washington, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—Sen. Robert A. Taft (R., O.) believed that President Truman's bid to "purge" him from the senate has a deep red tinge of communism.

Mr. Truman told a news conference yesterday that he will swing across country this fall seeking re-election of a democratic congress. Other political leaders have quoted the president as saying that Ohio will be a key target.

Taft, co-author of the Taft-Hartley law, faces a tough battle with the CIO's political action committee and left-wing groups against him, but is confident of victory.

He told reporters he would "welcome" an invasion of Ohio by the president because it would be "of material assistance in my campaign."

U. S. Blockade Of China Ports Urged

Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—An American naval blockade of communist China ports has been suggested by Sen. William F. Knowland (R., Cal.) as a means of freeing "illegally held" Americans.

At a Lincoln day dinner last night, Knowland said the United States should "make it clear that this government will not sit back for more than a year and do nothing but send a series of notes when people representing this government are illegally held by the communist regime in China."

He said that at least two carriers should be added to the U.S. navy's far eastern force. He said they "would do much to restore confidence in that part of the world."

At daybreak Tuesday, Cox, who freed himself from a tree, and Lieut. Roy Darrah of Martin's Ferry, O., found each other and headed for shore. They had had one of Darrah's cough drops for breakfast and another at noon.

From the beach, they saw seven fishing boats during the afternoon. They managed to start a fire, shot some smoke grenades, but no one saw them.

Then, the tide moved in and doused their signal fire.

Early Tuesday morning, Sgt. Martin Stephens and Lieut. Col. Daniel McDonald, Los Angeles,

met, shared the colonel's candy bar and struck out for what they thought was the coast.

"We saw a fire," said Stephens, "found Sgt. Jim Ford (Holdenville, Okla.) and Lieut. Gerhart sitting around it. Then Sgt. Thrasher came stumbling through the brush from the other end of the lake and joined us. We were all just about whipped."

The next morning (Wednesday) they made it to the coast and met Captain Barry and Lieut. Ray Whitfield Jr., of San Antonio, Tex.

The pair had been busy the previous day trying to make Sgt. Vitale Trippodi (Brooklyn, N. Y.), comfortable. He had been hanging by an ankle in a tree for hours before Barry and Whitfield cut him down and placed him under a parachute.

"We were too tired to carry him to the beach," said Barry.

Cpl. Richard Schuler, Miami, Fla., spent the first night unconscious from a fall out of the tree he landed in. In the morning he found bear tracks around him in the snow. He was only 75 yards from the shoreline and built a shelter with his parachute

on the beach.

Capt. Vance King of the fishing vessel "Cape Perry" plucked Lieut. Cox and Lieut. Darrah out of the surf, after Cox hurled a smoke grenade into the air.

Down the coast, seven more clambered into a life boat, tipped it over and were pulled out wet—as they had been for 40 hours. They made it to the "Cape Perry" on the second try.

Last to be picked up by the fishing boat was Cpl. Schuler. They found him sitting alone in the parachute tent. Trippodi was rescued Wednesday night.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Fair tonight. Cloudy with occasional rain Saturday. Warmer tonight.

Highest Yesterday 54
Lowest this Morning 30
Prec. to 4:30 A.M. Today .03

Judith Coplon Fires Attorney; Three Appointed

Statement Withheld On Discharge Cause

New York, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—Judith Coplon fired her attorney, Archibald Palmer, today and the court assigned her three new lawyers.

Federal Judge Sylvester J. Ryan designated Sidney Bernan, Samuel Neuberger and Leonard Boudin to take up her defense in her current espionage conspiracy trial with Valentin Gubitchev.

The three will be made her attorneys of record at a formal hearing at 3 p.m.

Palmer's dismissal and his successors were announced at the end of a one-hour and 15 minute conference of Miss Coplon, her family, Palmer and Judge Ryan.

Palmer said he had no comment.

Miss Coplon also refused to make a statement.

But Palmer said before the conference that he would wish any new attorney "Godspeed" and would help him all he could. He would expect new attorneys to also handle Miss Coplon's appeal of her conviction in Washington, he added.

It will be determined this afternoon whether the new lawyers will need an adjournment of the trial to study the record so far before taking over her defense.

Railroad Strike Set February 27

Cleveland, O., Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—Two brotherhoods representing 250,000 railroad workers set February 27 today as the date for a nation-wide strike.

The date was announced in the Trainmen News, organ of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. President Truman now is expected to appoint an emergency board to investigate the dispute, which would postpone the strike for at least 30 days.

The other union involved is the Order of Railroad Conductors.

The unions are seeking rule changes, including a 40-hour week without a reduction in pay for yardmen now working 48 hours.

The BRT has about 210,000 members and the ORC has 40,000.

BRT President W. P. Kennedy hinted that the nation-wide strike might not be called February 27 but that the railroads may be struck separately.

That could forestall blocking of a strike by the appointment of an emergency board.

Three Men Hold Up Bank In Washington

Washington, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—Three men held up the Shepherd Park branch of the Hamilton National bank today and escaped with about \$49,000.

Police broadcast a pickup for three white men, armed, headed in black automobile toward near Maryland.

Police said two of the men entered the bank while the third remained in the automobile, described as a black or dark-colored sedan, probably a Ford.

One of the men put money into a light tan suitcase while the other held persons in the bank at bay.

Police said the bandits took \$25,000 in \$1 bills, \$5,000 in \$5 bills, \$6,000 in \$100 bills, \$800 in dimes and the rest in other denominations or change.

An FBI spokesman said that special agents were dispatched to the bank immediately after word was received of the hold-up.

ANGLO-AMERICAN AIDES IMPLICATED IN HUNGARY TRIAL

Budapest, Hungary, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—A British business man pleaded guilty to spy charges when he went on trial with an American associate, Robert E. Vogeler of New York, and five Hungarians today.

Edgar Sanders, Budapest manager for the International Telephone and Telegraph company, implicated several members of the Anglo-American legations here in his plea on the first day of the trial of seven persons accused of spying for the United States and Great Britain.

Vogeler, American vice president and eastern European manager for the I.T. & T. was accused of spying in Hungary for eight years. He and his six co-defendants were alleged to have organized a spy ring with the help of an American army colonel, George Kovacs.

The first day of the trial in the red brick criminal court building in the heart of Budapest ended without Vogeler being summoned to make his plea.

Three Plead Guilty

Sanders and two Hungarians who preceded him before the court pleaded guilty to charges of spying for the United States and Great Britain. The Hungarians were Imre Geiger, manager of the I. T. & T.'s Hungarian subsidiary, and Zoltan Rado, a section chief in a government ministry.

The 44-year-old Sanders, a relative of Film Star George Sanders, answered "I do" in a firm, clear voice when Judge Vilmos Olthi asked him "Do you feel guilty?"

He told the court he had obtained military and economic information about Hungary for the British intelligence service.

Considered Hostile

Sanders said the American and British missions considered Hungary "a hostile country" after the communists took over, and tried "to undermine its present regime."

He mumbled several names which were not clearly audible. Among those he mentioned were the assistant British military attaché, a Colonel Capero, and Colonel Raft and Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyme, both Americans, and an American commercial attaché named Smith.

The British legation was "the center of those activities," Sanders said. He admitted every count against him in the indictment.

Taught Spying

Sanders said the British in 1940 taught him spying and counter-espionage. He said he came to Hungary as a British army captain.

"I was told to obtain information about Soviet and Hungarian troops. I also had to obtain information about economic conditions. I had to make propaganda for the Anglo-Saxon world," he said.

In discussing the slogan chosen for the drive, Van Dyke said, "All of us have an instinctive impulse to help someone in need and each year the millions who need help and the millions who want to help are brought together through the Red Cross. With their skills, with their time, and with their money, all may help through this organization."

Van Dyke is a well-known local attorney who has practiced law in Medford since 1946. He has served four sessions in the Oregon legislature and is now speaker of the house of representatives.

Witnesses Told Lies, Bridges Declares

San Francisco, Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—Longshore Leader Harry Bridges declared today that government witnesses "lied like hell" when they described him as a communist. They should be prosecuted for perjury instead of him, he insisted.

During Bridges' seventh day on the witness stand, Government Prosecutor F. Joseph Donohue continued his relentless probe into the longshore chief's thoughts, feelings and beliefs on a variety of subjects.

At one point, Donohue asked Bridges if he thought anyone was "putting the screws" on him.

"You mean you?" Bridges asked sardonically. "I'm bearing up under it."

"Well, you're not being treated unfairly, are you?" Donohue asked.

Bridges snorted: "What do you mean? I'm up here aren't I? That's unfair, isn't it?"

City Police Remind Motorists Of Parking In Post Office Area

City police today reminded motorists that parking on Sixth street at the post office is restricted to 15 minutes at all hours not just during those hours that the office is open for business.

There have been numerous instances recently of persons parking cars at the front of the post office and leaving them there while they attend the theater, it was said. Police are now conducting a drive against violators of this restricted parking

Frank Van Dyke Tells Slogan For Red Cross Drive

The 1950 fund drive of the Jackson county chapter of the American Red Cross gets under-



Frank Van Dyke

way March 1 and Frank Van Dyke, drive chairman in the county, said today that the slogan, "All May Help," will feature the month-long campaign.

Van Dyke and his assistants in communities throughout the county will attempt to raise \$25,000 locally for a score of charitable services, including disaster relief, welfare, veterans hospital services, counseling, and many others.

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Would-Be Thief Damages Safe At Rogue River

Rogue River, Feb. 17.—A safe at the Homestead cafe here was considerably damaged between midnight and 8 a.m. today by a would-be thief, it was reported.

The safe was not opened. State police this afternoon reported the arrest of Donald Steele Thompson, 22, Rogue River, on a charge of burglary not in a dwelling, in connection with the case.

Radio Highlights

Radio Station KYJC (1230 kc) will broadcast the Ike Williams-Sonny Boy West fight from Madison Square Garden tonight, starting at 7 o'clock.

At 8 p. m. KWIN (1400 kc) will broadcast the Medford-Ashland basketball game from the Ashland junior high school gymnasium.

Saturday at 8 p. m. KWIN will air the Oregon-Idaho game from McArthur court in Eugene and at 9:30 p. m., by delayed broadcast, will carry the Kerby-Medford game from the Medford high school gymnasium.

Eleven Rescued Airmen Resting On Clean, White Hospital Beds Ponder Fate Of Others

McChord Air Force Base, Wash., Feb. 17.—(U.P.)—Eleven men on clean, white beds talked quietly among themselves in a hospital ward today about a sputtering, ice-sheathed super bomber and how they left it in inky darkness over a rain-swept island.

They were 17 when they hit the silk, and today the 11 in bed are wondering how the other six were making out.

(1st Lieut. Charles G. Pooler, Beloit, Kans., has since been rescued.)

Following the jump, the survivors experienced 40 hours of wet, cold and hunger during which their hopes alternately were buoyed up and then dashed to pieces. Once a search plane approached their position, circled and disappeared into the fog.

Before they bailed out, the radar operator, Lieut. Paul Gerhart of Germantown, Pa., remembers receiving an order from the aircraft commander, Capt. Harold Barry of Hillsboro, Ill., to "find land—and fast!"

"We flew over one island," said Gerhart, "but it was too

small. We headed south, bucking a 50-mile-an-hour headwind. A big chunk of land appeared on the scope, but I waited until we were three miles inland before I told the captain. I didn't want that wind to blow anybody back into the sea."

Captain Barry remembers the ship was "losing altitude fast" in the final moments before he ordered his crew to bail out.

"Flames broke out in No. one engine. Then number five engine fired. Number three stopped with a plugged gas line."

T/Sgt. Martin Stephens of Houston, Tex., remembers the grim ceremony at the escape hatch. The man ahead of him, Sgt. Dick Thrasher of Chilton, Tex., got stuck.

"I rammed him through with my shoulder and then took out after him."

Lieut. Charles Cox, first engineer, recalls that he didn't have his chute fastened when the order came to jump. Second Engineer Charles Pooler of Beloit, Kans. (rescued yesterday) helped him fasten the stiff buckles.

At daybreak Tuesday, Cox, who freed himself from a tree, and Lieut. Roy Darrah of Martin's Ferry, O., found each other and headed for shore. They had had one of Darrah's cough drops for breakfast and another at noon.

From the beach, they saw seven fishing boats during the afternoon. They managed to start a fire, shot some smoke grenades, but no one saw them.

Then, the tide moved in and doused their signal fire.

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