

Uneasy Quiet Resumes in Gaza Strip After Latest Ceasefire

(Editor's note: Egypt and Israel have been at uneasy peace since the end of the Palestine War in 1948 and the United Nations-sponsored truce of 1949. Frequent clashes have marred their relationship in the interim, principally in the region of the Gaza strip — a thin finger of land between the Egyptian and Israeli frontiers. The latest series of clashes started Aug. 22 and were ended last Sunday when both sides accepted a cease fire proposed by Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, chief of the U.N. Truce Supervisory Organization. In the following dispatch, United Press staff correspondent Gerald Arathoon gives the background of the Gaza clashes.)

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Cairo (U.P.)—The eight-year-old hostility between Egypt and Israel reached a new peak in the recent Gaza fighting that revived the specter of full war in the inflammable Middle East. Worsening Egyptian-Israeli relations hit a dangerous low with the Gaza border flare-up on Aug. 22. The clash that day between Israeli and Egyptian troops exploded into a frontier free-for-all that scuttled the precarious peace established by the United Nations after the Palestine War of 1948.

The Gaza strip is a 25-mile-long finger of land running up the Mediterranean Coast from Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. At the most it is only 10 miles wide, with the Mediterranean on the west and Israeli territory to the north and east.

A thin line of whitewashed stones mark the 35-mile long truce demarcation line.

Renewal of the Gaza fighting came less than three months after a comparative lull had been imposed on both sides of the line.

Truce Talks Fail

The new outbreak underlined the utter failure of the joint Egyptian-Israeli talks to reduce border tension. United Nations hopes that these talks would produce a workable agreement on border security sank with the firing of the first round of bullets on Aug. 22.

The predominant feature of the mounting Gaza tension this year was that "seasonal" armed clashes alternated with fruitless conferences between Egyptians and Israelis. Hovering above the Gaza border talks was the mutual distrust of both parties, and their readiness to resort to arms on the least pretext.

Canadian Major General Edson L. M. Burns, head of the United Nations Palestine Truce Supervision Organization (TSO), presented a four point plan in November, 1954, designed to preserve border security at Gaza. Burns proposed:

1. Establishment of joint patrols along sensitive sections of the demarcation line.
2. Negotiation of an agree-

ment among the local military commanders to eliminate border infiltrations.

3. Erection of a barbed wire barrier along some parts of the frontier.

4. Manning of all outposts and patrols along the demarcation line by regular Egyptian and Israeli troops, to reduce the possibility of fanatics or terrorists touching off incidents.

Two Meetings Held

Egyptian and Israeli representatives at the Mixed Armistice Commission (MAC) held two meetings with Burns in January this year to examine his proposals. But they did not reach agreement.

Hardly a month had passed before severe fighting broke out on the border on Feb. 28. Israeli troops attacked Egyptian outposts across the demarcation line, wreaking havoc among the small Egyptian garrisons on the outskirts of Gaza.

Following that incident, Egyptians and Israelis clashed daily in the biggest sustained conflict since the end of the Palestine War. The fighting lasted until the end of May. Egyptian Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser warned on March 3, soon after the Israeli incursion, that any future aggression would be met by Egyptian counter-aggression. The then Israeli Premier Moshe Sharett retorted that Egypt would have to bear the consequences of the "state of war" she was perpetuating between the two countries.

The United Nations Security Council was summoned for an emergency session to stave off a possible Egyptian-Israeli war. After deliberating the Gaza crisis, the council adopted two resolutions. The first condemned Israel for the incident of Feb. 28, and the second asked Egypt and Israel to hold new talks with Burns on his plan for maintaining security along the Gaza border.

Egypt Accuses Israel

While Burns shuttled back and forth between Jerusalem and Cairo to lay the groundwork for the talks, Israelis and Egyptians continued hammering away at each other with gunfire across the border. Egypt accused Israel of putting armed pressure on her to accept high level discussions.

The border incidents stopped suddenly at the end of May, in apparent anticipation of the talks. The meetings began on June 28 under Burns' chairmanship. But even at the outset the

talks seemed doomed to failure. The talks came to a deadlock on Aug. 9, after 10 sessions lasting a total of 55 odd hours. Burns had not lost all hope of reaching agreement between the two parties, so he simply adjourned the talks.

When Burns called on Nasser in Cairo on Aug. 24 to discuss the fate of the moribund Gaza meetings, Nasser promptly informed him that Egypt had decided to break off the talks in view of Israeli "aggression" two days before.

Quiet and peace were restored when both sides finally accepted a cease fire proposed by Burns last Sunday.

NLRB Declares 13 Northwest Firms Violating T-H Law

Washington (U.P.)—The National Labor Relations Board has found 13 Northwest Lumber Companies and associations in violation of the Taft-Hartley labor law for refusal to bargain with the International Woodworkers Union (CIO) on two issues.

Refuse to Agree

It has ordered the Oregon Coast Operators Association, the Willamette Valley Lumbermen's Association, the Consumers Cooperative Association, and 10 lumber companies to discuss with the union's local 7-140 the question of wrapping all side agreements into one contract. The union has made the proposal, but the companies have refused to agree.

The board also has ordered some of the companies to supply Local 7-140 and Local 7-116 with "relevant and necessary" information the unions have asked for.

Given 10 Days

The order was issued Aug. 28, giving the companies 10 days in which to notify the board's regional director at Seattle of the steps they have taken to obey. The union's complaints against the group arose from bargaining sessions in March and April, 1954.

The side agreements which the unions wanted wrapped into one document included such things as wage scales. The union argued that omission of these and other items from the main contract made it difficult to carry out its collective bargaining functions.



'KEY WITNESS'—Mrs. Gertrude Silver (above), wanted for questioning for two weeks as a "key witness," has agreed to appear at a hearing on charges of being an accessory in the abortion-death of her daughter. She had accompanied her daughter, Mrs. Jean Silver Ostreicher, to the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Schwartz the night the young bride died from the abortion attempt.

Child Suffocates In Plastic Sack

Spokane, Wash. (U.P.)—A three-year-old boy died of suffocation Friday after he pulled a plastic bag—which his mother said was his "favorite playing"—over his face.

The victim was identified as Thomas E. Cael, 3, son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Cael, Spokane.

Deputy Coroner William E. Jones said the boy's mother had fixed the bag—like those in which vegetables are sold—like a cap and put it on his head. "He wouldn't play with anything else," Jones quoted her as saying.

The child's mother found Thomas lying in the yard of the family home. Efforts to revive him failed. The mother told Jones she did not know how long he had been lying on the lawn before she found him or whether he had been playing with other children when the tight fitting bag came over his face.

Westinghouse, CIO Hold Conferences To Prevent Strike

Pittsburgh (U.P.)—Officials of the CIO International Union of Electrical Workers and Westinghouse Electric Corp., held top level conferences Saturday in an all-out effort to prevent a company-wide strike of 44,000 workers scheduled for Sunday midnight.

At least 16,000 workers were idle in premature walkouts as IUE International President James B. Carey and R. D. Blasler, Westinghouse vice-president in charge of industrial relations, conferred in an effort to iron out the dispute arising out of a time-study program at the firm's East Pittsburgh plant.

IUE officials said union members in 28 Westinghouse locals were voting "better than two-to-one" in favor of a company-wide strike to back up 2,200 day-workers who walked out their jobs at the Pittsburgh district plant rather than go along with an evaluation of their jobs by efficiency engineers.

The company has furloughed nearly 9,000 workers at the East Pittsburgh plant as a result of the day-workers' strike. They refused a return to work offer.

In a premature walkout, more than 7,000 employees at Westinghouse plants in New Jersey and West Virginia quit.

As a result of the strikes, Carey hastened here from Washington IUE headquarters in an effort to stop the walkouts from spreading.

The deadline for a company-wide walkout was set by the union's Westinghouse Conference board, but at the same time the board called for a referendum of local unions.

The IUE returns from the vote showed 18 locals in favor of a walkout. The company disputed the figure Friday night, contending that at that time only 11 of 19 locals, whose votes had been counted, were in favor of a strike.

The premature walkouts largely were the result of the company's policy of furloughing

workers who left their jobs to vote in the referendum, the union said.

Plants idled in addition to the East Pittsburgh workers, according to the union, were those at Metuchen, Bloomfield, and Belleville, N.J., and the glass and lamp plants at Fairmont.

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Churches Condemn Slaying of Youth

Memphis, Tenn. (U.P.)—The National Negro Baptist convention Saturday branded the "wolf whistle" kidnapping of teen-aged Emmet Till in Mississippi as "worse than a lynching."

But the convention delegates applauded Mississippi authorities for their investigation of the 15-year-old Chicago Negro boy's death.

The delegates burst into applause as they voted unanimously Friday to adopt a resolution commending officers for their handling of the notorious slaying of Till after he allegedly whistled at a white woman at a rural store in Mississippi.

Some 15,000 Negro delegates from throughout the nation are attending the convention at Memphis.

Circuit Judge Curtis M. Swango at Sumner, Miss., Friday set Sept. 19 as a date for the trial of half-brothers Roy Bryant and J. W. Milam, charged "jointly and separately" with kidnapping and murdering Till.

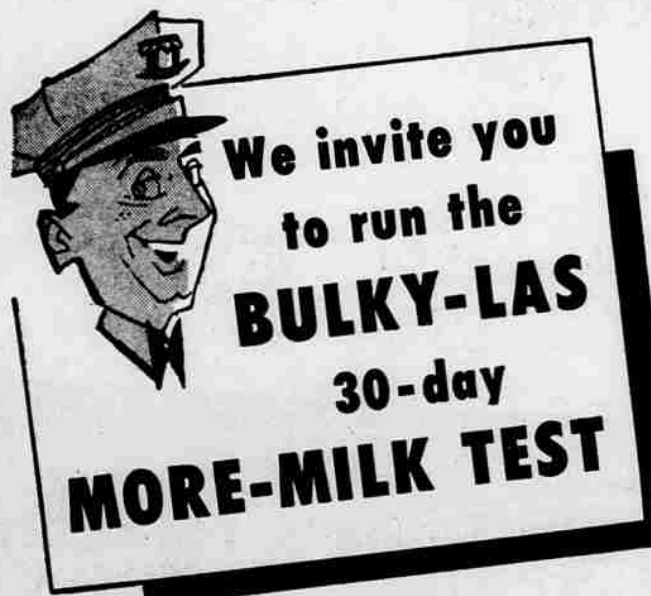
Ashland Area Pioneer Dies; Funeral Saturday

Ashland — Funeral services for William F. Shaw, a 98-year-old pioneer of this area, were held yesterday. He died Thursday after a long illness.

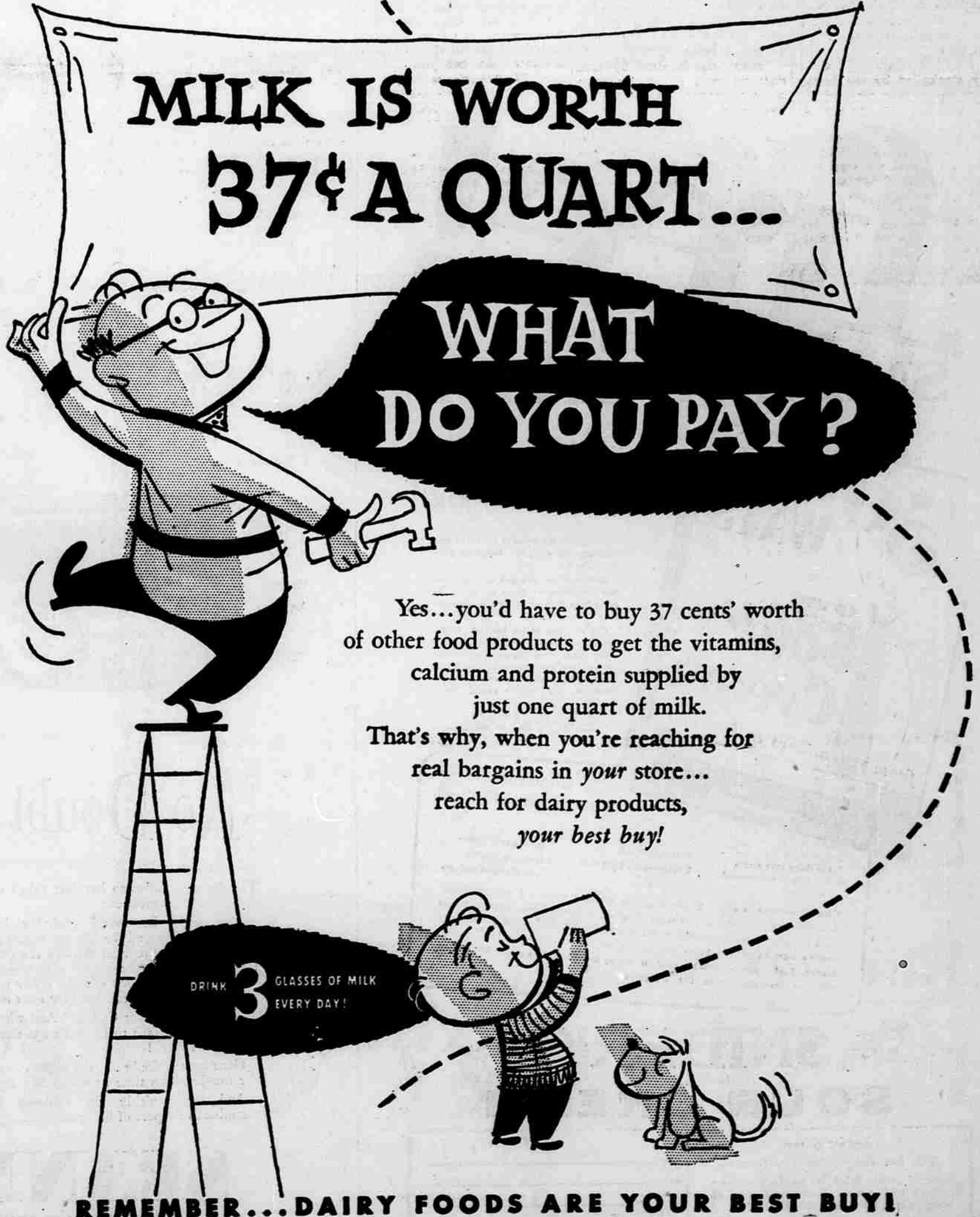
Mr. Shaw was born Aug. 24, 1857, in Hyde Park, Minn., and crossed the plains as a young man. He homesteaded in the Hyatt lake area, returning a few years later to Minnesota where he married Minnie Dixon in 1897. Since 1906 he has lived in Ashland.

Survivors include a number of cousins.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.



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