

Nation Faces Legal, Economic Dilemma Through Steel Strike

Editor's Note: What are the long-range implications of the steel strike? What effect is it having on the economy? Why can't management and union reach an accord after nearly six months of negotiations? UPI Labor Reporter William J. Eaton answers these and other questions in the following analysis of the nation's worst steel strike.

By WILLIAM J. EATON
Washington — UPI — The nation faces a double dilemma—legal and economic—because the steel strike is in its 94th day with no solution in sight. Congress undoubtedly will consider a new law next year to deal with critical labor-management disputes because of widespread disenchantment with emergency machinery of the Taft-Hartley Act.

The legal dilemma is how to preserve free collective bargaining and yet protect the public interest when the giants of basic industry and organized labor clash head-on.

Cost in Billions
Cost of the nation's worst steel strike already is counted in the billions of dollars and that figure is expected to mount even if government seeks an 80-day truce through court injunction.

The economic dilemma is how to prevent chaos in steel markets when the strike ends and laid-off workers back on their jobs despite problems

in cranking up production. A less obvious effect of the walkout will be its impact on union demands and management reactions in future negotiations.

The unyielding stand of spokesmen for the "big 12" steelmakers in seeking greater power to revise "wasteful" working rules is the central issue in the dispute.

Steelworkers Stand Firm
Leaders of the Steelworkers' Union reported the 500,000 strikers were determined not to give in to management's demands for changes that could affect every detail in a millhand's life from crew

sizes to coffee breaks. While the stalemate continues, the economy has begun to feel the pinch. More than 85 per cent of steel production has been choked off, with the following results:

Nearly 250,000 workers in coal mines, railroads, oreboats and related jobs have been laid off because of the strike. These workers and the strikers have lost about three-quarters of a billion dollars in wages.

Auto Production Curtailed
Production of 1960 model cars has been curtailed because of shrinking steel stocks. General Motors says

its layoffs alone will surpass 37,000 by today.

Time has grown short for shipments of iron ore on the Great Lakes in the ice-free shipping season.

Direct and indirect losses in lost wages, sales, taxes and other items could easily reach \$6,500,000,000, Steel Magazine predicted.

Starting up the mills will take time—perhaps up to six weeks to hit 90 per cent of capacity—sources in the industry said.

Why? Because four-man teams representing the "big 12" and the Steelworkers could not agree in nearly six months of negotiations on changes in their 1956 contracts.

Atmosphere Tense
Even before formal sessions started last May, both sides took full-page newspaper ads to present their case to the public. The steel industry proposed a wage-freeze to battle inflation. Union spokesmen countered with vows to seek the biggest increase in Steelworkers' history.

The atmosphere was tense when contract talks formally opened. They got nowhere, despite repeated appeals from President Eisenhower for hard bargaining.

Contracts were extended two weeks to July 14 at White House request but the uneasy truce collapsed and the strike began the next day.

Federal mediators moved in, unsuccessfully. One of them has described the sessions as polite but grim. Finally, the President said the strike "must not continue" and called in management and union leaders on Sept. 30 to urge resumption of negotiations.

Invokes Taft-Hartley
The talks began again but blew up in less than a week. Ten days later, the President invoked the Taft-Hartley law and named a fact-finding board to investigate the issues in dispute.

Much to Board Chairman George W. Taylor's surprise, he could not find out what the issues were. He sadly declared that only a "miracle" could bring a settlement.

Under Taft-Hartley provisions, the President may seek a court order to halt the walkout for 80 days with no guarantee that it will not be resumed on the 81st day.

The inflexibility of the law and the court-ordered return to work have troubled observers for some time.

Its application in the steel strike, however, seemed to

create more demands for changes than any of the 16 other times the Taft-Hartley law has been used since it was passed in 1947.

There have been suggestions for compulsory arbitration, seizure of industries, compulsory fact-finding and other solutions to the emergency strike dilemma.

The steel dispute has put the Eisenhower administration in an uncomfortable position far from the "hands-off" philosophy the President once advocated.

There seems to be little doubt that it also has nipped in the bud the business recovery from last year's recession. Some government economists fear it may trigger a new rise in unemployment this winter.

Straub Candidate As Demo Chairman

Springfield—UPI—State Sen. Robert W. Straub of Springfield has announced his candidacy for the chairmanship of the Oregon Democratic Central Committee.

The 39-year-old former Lane county commissioner said his decision to seek the post came after encouragement from the Lane County Democratic Central Committee's Board of Directors and from other friends.

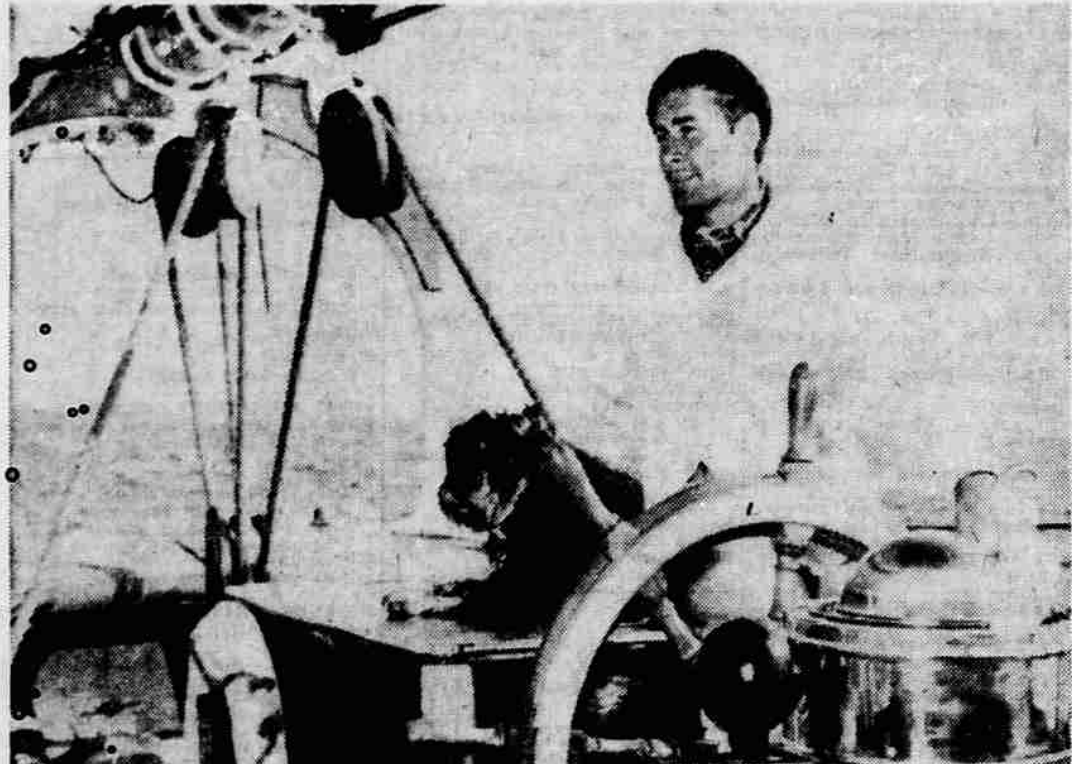
Straub was the second to officially announce that he is a candidate for the state chairmanship. First to announce his intent was Dan Poling of Salem, former Marion County Democratic chairman.

Others who have been mentioned include the acting chairman, State Rep. Beulah Hand of Milwaukie; Berkeley Lent of Portland; Vernon Burda of Wasco county, and former State Rep. R. E. Scheiden of Gresham.

The State Central Committee meets in Portland Oct. 31 to elect a chairman to succeed the late Dave Epps.

54th Year MEDFORD TRIBUNE

2nd SECTION MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1959 Pages 1-8



SAILING ENTHUSIAST — Dashing Actor Errol Flynn died unexpectedly Wednesday night. Cause of death was tentatively blamed on a heart attack. Flynn, a sailing enthusiast, had been in Vancouver, B. C., for a week to negotiate sale of his yacht. He is shown here aboard the yacht Zaca. (UPI Telephoto)

Automatic Gag Carried Aboard Newest Satellite

Washington—UPI—America's newest satellite carries an automatic gag to make sure it won't make a beeping nuisance of itself.

This will please space scientists the world over. If there's anything they hate, it's a satellite that keeps talking long after it has anything new to say.

Aboard Explorer VII, launched Tuesday at Cape Canaveral, Fla., is a tiny timer developed by the Bulova Watch Co. for the express purpose of telling the satellite, a year from now, to shut up.

The 91.5-pound Explorer VII itself will stay in orbit 20 to 25 years. But it won't be permitted to use its radio voice, however delightfully modulated, for more than 12 months.

There are only so many radio frequencies in this noisy universe, and any satellite that hogs one too long is just keeping newer and possibly smarter ones from speaking their pieces.

From now on, it is what scientific bureaucrats call a "requirement" that all U.S. satellites be equipped with "shutoff" devices before launching.

If Vanguard I's antennae were ears, they would be burning. History's littlest satellite weight: 3 1/4 pounds also is the gabbiest.

Outlive Creators
Launched March 17, 1958, Vanguard I may live 1,000 years. Its yipping little voice, powered by the sun, may last nearly as long. Nobody has any idea how to squelch it. As one scientist said, "all we can do is listen around it."

Unless a transistor fails or an errant little meteor scores a hit, Vanguard I will beep-beep long after the scientists who created her are dust.

Kuwait's Borgan oil field ranks as the world's largest single oil reservoir.

Small Worlds Around Us
By Lynn M. Watkins

The Bumblebee Works Himself to Death
He's about the most interesting little vagabond you'll ever meet. Wherever flowers bloom, there he will be, happily gathering nectar, singing his buzzing song. Although he is a true insect, he has habits and characteristics that are unbumblelike.

This happy little adventurer, with the flashing sash, like a bullfighter, he pursues his rollicking way across the summer landscape. He is fearless, brave and possesses a great abundance of personality; he is the bumblebee.

Very little is known about their life history; their private lives still remain theirs alone.

One of the most important reasons why Mr. and Mrs. Bumblebee have kept their family secrets so well is the "fleshy saber," a weapon that must be reckoned with whenever we try to interfere with the bumblebee's private affairs.

Bee's Underground
Another reason, the bumblebee lives underground in small colonies, one member, the queen, being the sole survivor from one year to the next. It is she that begins a new swarm. By the time all her former associates are dead, she lays a new batch of eggs to begin a new colony.

Bumblebees have fur-covered bodies; soft, silky fur with about the same texture a lady would select for a fur coat. All female bumblebees sit on their eggs until they are hatched. To make this all the more unusual, she covers the baby bees with her body, exactly like a brooding hen. Unlike the honey bee that only gathers either nectar or pollen on a single trip, the bumblebee gathers both. It is the yellow flower pollen which will form the rich mattress on which the baby bees will live, and feed.

After a few days of pollen eating the bee larvae build about themselves a silken cocoon; they go to sleep and emerge late as perfect little gray bumblebees, which scamper under the furry underside of the mother bee.

Two days later, bright orange colored bands appear and the little fellows are ready for their short life in the sun. It is a hard life but a merry one.

A Few Short Weeks
To die is the unhappy fate of all living creatures, but the bumblebee hastens its end by working itself to death. From

Barry Fitzgerald Claimed Critical

Dublin—UPI—Barry Fitzgerald, 71, Academy Award winning Irish-born actor, underwent an operation here Thursday and his condition described as "critical."

Fitzgerald went into the operating theater of Dublin's St. Vincent's at 3:30 a.m. (p.s.t) for what was reported to be a brain operation.

He has been ill for several weeks.

News of Fitzgerald's illness spread rapidly throughout the city where he made his start in the Abbey Theater.

He won an Academy Award for his portrayal of a priest in the 1944 film, "Going My Way," which also starred Bing Crosby.

Children can repeat the process the following summer. In the short interval of their lives they have applied all the knowledge with which they were born.

(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1959)

Last Day Specials

TODAY AND SATURDAY ONLY!

Saturday, Oct. 17, will be the last day of the season for A&W Drive-In. Come in and enjoy root beer at its finest . . . at special prices!

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