

GUNFIRE KILLS ROSS SIMMERS

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
THERE are some faint signs of improvement in human relationships in the news today. ANY such sign is encouraging.

ON the foreign front, there is a new premier in Iran. He is said in cautious dispatches from London (where UNO is in session) to be favorable to friendly relations with Russia, and people who ought to know say he will likely drop or "shelve" Iran's demand on UNO for a settlement of her dispute while he NEGOTIATES DIRECTLY with Russia for an agreement—which is Russia's idea of the way it should be done.

That (temporarily, at least) would cool off one of the hot spots UNO is sitting on.

THE dispute involves Iranian territory adjacent to Russia. IF UNO were compelled to settle the quarrel and IF the decision went against Russia and IF Russia thereupon refused to accept the decision it would be an awkward beginning for UNO.

IF a settlement acceptable to Iran can be arranged by means of DIRECT negotiations with Russia this danger can be bypassed—for the time being, anyway.

IT is quite possible that Iran may have realized that in addition to upsetting UNO's apparatus here at the beginning of the great international experiment she would be likely to lose in the long run in any conflict with big Russia.

Whatever else may be said of it, that would be REALISTIC thinking.

(WE must be careful not to accept any of these international MAYBES as accomplished facts. Favorable developments today can be up tomorrow UNO's job will be a long, slow one. The thing to hope for is that it can be kept working and making some progress.)

ON the disturbed home front, Ford makes a settlement with the union—reported as these words are written this morning to be an increase of 18 cents an hour amounting to an up of 18 1/2%. The negotiations aren't entirely closed, but it seems to be generally hoped that the settlement will stick.

Any settlement by MUTUAL AGREEMENT that puts men back to work is encouraging.

THERE is at least an interesting (whether hopeful or not remains to be seen) development in the meat strike.

The government seized 134 struck packing plants. AFL (with 55,000 workers involved) agreed to work in the plants pending a settlement. CIO (with 193,000 workers involved) first announced that not only would its men not go back to work, but they would continue to PICKET the seized plants—which would have put one of our two great union organizations in the position of DEFYING THE GOVERNMENT.

Calmer counsel prevailed, and CIO later withdrew its picketing statement and urged its members to work pending a settlement of the demands for higher pay.

Thus again we get PRODUCTION RESUMED.

IN our complicated modern society, it is hard to understand clearly that our cherished ideals of prosperity and rising living standards can be realized ONLY by means of increased production based upon what the experts term "increasing technological efficiency"—which in simple words means more output per manhour.

Money has been tangled up in the situation so long that we have come to think of money as wealth—which it is not.

Money is worth only what it will BUY. Wealth consists of THINGS.

OVER and over, in Europe during the past summer, this writer saw people STARVING with their pockets full of money, because of LACK OF PRODUCTION OF THINGS.

That sight shakes one down to fundamentals as nothing else can.

Truman Will Take Florida Vacation

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 (AP)—President Truman will leave Washington February 11 by plane to spend a "brief" vacation in Florida waters, the White House announced today. The president will take off in the morning and go first to Orlando, Fla., then drive to Winter Park, seat of Rollins college, where he will receive an honorary degree of doctor of humanities the same day.

Immediately afterwards he will drive back to Orlando and board his C-54 transport plane, the "Sacred Cow," for Miami. That evening he will board the presidential yacht Williamsburg for what Secretary Charles G. Rose described as a "brief cruise in Florida waters."

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FORD OK'S 18-CENT HIKE

Details Of Product Of Automobiles Will Be Discussed At Early Date

DETROIT, Jan. 26 (AP)—Negotiators for the Ford Motor company and the CIO United Auto Workers settled their wage dispute today on the basis of an increase of 18 cents an hour. A joint statement said: "An agreement on a wage increase of 18 cents an hour was reached today by the Ford Motor company and the UAW-CIO. The effective date of the wage increase still has not been decided. Details connected with fair, efficient, and uninterrupted production will be discussed at an early date and we hope that the wage increase will become effective not later than February 1.

"We have confidence that there will be an early termination to all matters remaining to be negotiated."

The increase agreed upon is equivalent to 15.1 per cent against an original demand by the union for a 30 per cent increase. The union had scaled down its demand from 30 to 16.3 per cent before today's unannounced meeting of the negotiators.

The Ford agreement was announced half an hour before Chrysler negotiators were scheduled to go into a meeting expected generally to produce an agreement in the second of the three major disputes in the car industry.

Meanwhile the dispute between the UAW-CIO and General Motors remained deadlocked with 175,000 workers idle for the 66th day.

GM Deadlocked
The Ford agreement was made under the names of John S. Bugas, director of industrial relations of the company, and Richard T. Leonard, national Ford director for the union.

Union representatives explained that the next move would be submission of the proposed 18-cent-an-hour increase to the UAW-CIO strike strategy committee and then, if approved, to the member ship of the Ford local.

Nearly 100,000 workers will be affected.

The Negotiators' settlement, the largest wage agreement reached nationally since the close of the war, was attained after six successive days of private sessions. It was the first major break in the auto unions' five-month-long wage fight with the automobile industry.

2 U. S. Envoys Ready To Quit
WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 (AP)—The imminent resignation of the two topmost U. S. envoys was forecast today by usually well informed diplomatic officials.

They said that Averell Harriman, ambassador to Russia, and John Winant, ambassador to Britain, were ready to quit their posts.

There has been some speculation that Harriman may be succeeded by Florencia La Guardia, former mayor of New York, now a radio commentator. La Guardia left Washington by airplane at 9 a. m. (EST) today for South America to represent President Truman at inauguration of Brazil's new president.

One group has advocated appointment of a military man to the Moscow post.

600 GI Brides And Babies Leave For United States
By BARBARA WACE
SOUTHAMPTON, England, Jan. 26 (AP)—The liner Argentina, sailed from Southampton for New York late today with more than 600 GI brides and babies en route to new homes in the United States.

The vessel departed with the tide at 4:05 p. m. (8:05 a. m. Pacific Standard time).

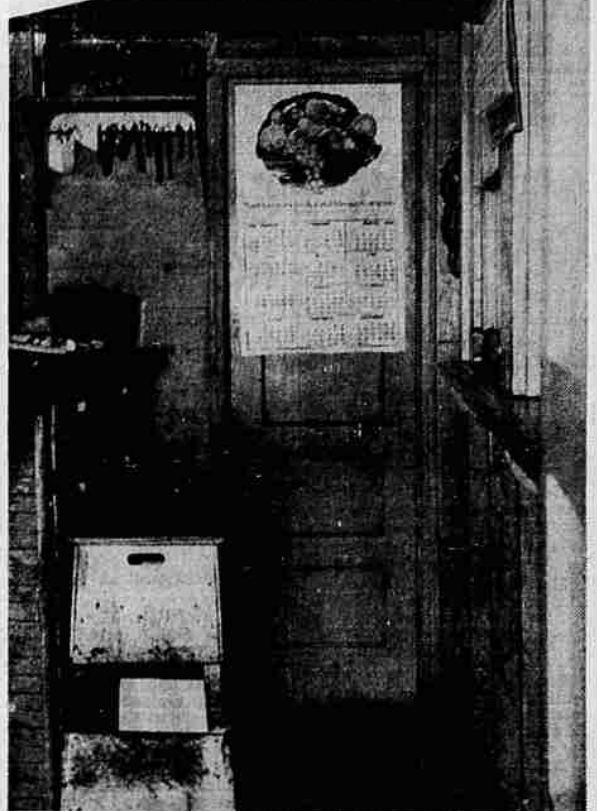
White-helmeted military police had helped the women carry aboard the children and baggage for the six-day voyage to New York.

Tired from five days of grappling with customs and immigration lines at the Tidworth processing camp, the women were relieved at the sight of neat staterooms and ranks of baby playpens.

The first trainload—including all those with youngsters—were welcomed aboard the vessel this morning by naval officers.

In the line coursing up the gangplank was military police-

Scene Of Fatal Shooting



This tiny office room at the Pacific Fruit Express company's ice dock in the SP freight yards was the scene of a shooting last night resulting in the death of Ross Simmers, 53, (above right), Clyde Edward Todd, (below), SP patrolman, is held on second degree murder charges. Simmers was sitting on the box stool working at the desk when the scuffle started.

Chrysler Grants CIO 18.5 Cents Boost In Wages

DETROIT, Jan. 26 (AP)—Chrysler Corp. and the CIO United Auto Workers announced today the "complete agreement" on wages providing for an increase of 18 1/2 cents an hour.

The Chrysler-UAW agreement followed within two hours and 45 minutes upon the settlement of the Ford-union wage disputes on the basis of an 18 cents an hour.

The agreements brought to end two long disputes in the automobile industry, leaving only General Motors of the big three yet to come to terms with the auto union.

Four Cars Pile Up On Viaduct

Four cars telescoped on the S. 6th street viaduct early this afternoon and held up traffic for a considerable length of time. None of the drivers was injured, police said.

A truck, traveling up the viaduct, slowed down and the car immediately following also slowed and the three machines following that car collided. Cars were driven by Alfred Bauder, 5216 Harlan drive; Mrs. Charles Smith, 1529 Ward; R. Schiffman, 3444 Boardman, and Amos Gandy Jr., 1554 Derby.

Mercury Drops To Eight Above

An eight degrees above zero thermometer reading was reported at 8 a. m. Saturday by CAA as ice coated pavement, roof tops and trees, following Thursday's late storm.

Despite the fact that it warmed considerably during the day, little thaw was reported and a clear sky was overhead. There should be a good crowd at Moore park Sunday where scores of persons have enjoyed the coasting on the winding roads the last few Sunday afternoons.

The 24-hour forecast was for clear weather and mild temperatures.

Arriving In United States
By Associated Press
Pvt. Roy W. Hawkins, Klamath Falls, arrived on General Eltinge due in Tacoma January 26.



CIO Urges Return In Meat Tie-Up

CHICAGO, Jan. 26 (AP)—The CIO-United Packinghouse Workers union today urged its 193,000 members to return to work Monday in packing plants now under control and operation by the government but did not call off its strike.

Coupled with assertions by the AFL-Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher workmen that its 55,000 striking members were back at work today or ready to go back, the CIO action, if carried out, would assure Uncle Sam that the labor force of 248,000 on strike since Jan. 18 would get meat production rolling again next week.

Reverse Action
Decision of the CIO leadership, announced by Lewis J. Clark, union president, reversed its action of yesterday before federal seizure at 12:01 a. m., today.

Clark told reporters in a news conference announcing action by the union national wage policy committee that he was telegraphing all locals throughout the country to withdraw pickets as of 5 p. m.

A statement said the return to work was conditional on assurance from Secretary of Agriculture Anderson that he would "apply immediately" for approval of any wage increase a fact-finding board might recommend.

It also said the union expected that "retroactive payments will be forthcoming."

Body Removed
Simmers' body was removed to the Whitlock funeral home and Dr. George H. Adler, county coroner, is to conduct an autopsy. This morning when Todd was photographed at jail he broke down shaking and sobbing. He has been in Klamath (Continued on Page 2, Column 6)

WEATHER
January 26
Max. (Jan. 25) ... 34. Min. 8
Precipitation last 24 hours 00
Forecast: Clear and mild.

Man Seriously Hurt In Wreck

DORRIS — Kenneth Clark, Watsonville, Calif., resident, is in a serious condition at the Dorris hospital following an accident at noon Friday when Clark's car was struck by a northbound potato truck. Mrs. Clark is suffering from shock. Hospital attendants said the Clarks were homeward bound when the truck slid into them on the first corner on the southern edge of Dorris.

Freight Building Gutted By Fire

Fire completely gutted the E. F. Anderson Motor Freight company building, 3225 S. 6th, today causing loss of some \$16,000 to the structure and equipment.

The fire is thought to have started in an oil stove which exploded shortly before noon today. State police, who patrolled the area and directed traffic, said that the inside of the building was completely destroyed along with a diesel truck which was on blocks.

Fire fighting equipment and crews were sent from the county, Klamath Lake Moulding company, Swan Lake Moulding company, and Shasta Planning mill.

SP Detective Held In Ice Dock Death

Gunfire that climaxed what appeared to be a friendly scuffle last night took the life of Ross Clifford Simmers, 53, long-time Klamath county resident, and today second degree murder charges were filed against Clyde Edward Todd, 37, a Southern Pacific railroad detective, in the unique shooting case.

The fatal shooting took place about 5:25 o'clock last night in a tiny office shack at the Pacific Fruit Express ice dock in the Southern Pacific yards, where Todd and Simmers met in the course of their duties as railroad detective and fruit express inspector, respectively.

Todd was arrested by city police and turned over to the sheriff's office last night. The second degree murder charge was filed by District Attorney Clarence A. Humble after he questioned witnesses and the railroad detective last night and this morning. Todd is held at the county jail.

Two men actually saw the shooting in the cramped quarters of the ice house shack. They are Harry Marin and Stanley Hendricks, PFE employes, who were in the office at the time—so close that the bullet burned Marin's shirt as it passed him.

Humble said they told him that Todd patrolled the yard in that vicinity, near the Southern Pacific viaduct on South 6th, and came into the office to report. Simmers was seated at a desk working and Todd kicked his chair fully.

The men scuffled a little and Simmers pinned Todd's arms to his side and took his blackjack away from him, the witnesses said, and Todd's statement to the district attorney was the same.

Then Simmers stepped back and held up the sap, remarking, "I used to use one of these things myself." Todd, according to these accounts, pulled his pistol from the holster and a shot rang out. Simmers groaned "I'm shot," stepped forward and slumped. Todd caught him as he fell and eased him to the floor.

One of the men in the room called the Merchants-Police ambulance and the ambulance and a squad car were dispatched to the scene. The ambulance crew arrived a moment before the police car and found Simmers dead on the floor of the office. Todd was still there and surrendered his pistol to the police.

The bullet, a .32.20, struck Simmers just below or in the heart and did not go through his body.

Todd was taken to the city hall and county officials notified. Humble interrogated the witnesses last night and ordered the SP detective taken to the county jail. He talked to the witnesses again this morning before filing the second degree murder charge.

According to Humble, Todd told the district attorney once that he saw Simmers raise the blackjack and fired and then said that he doesn't know how the shooting happened.

"Horseplay"
The district attorney said he had found no evidences of bad feeling or animosity in the relations of the two men, and added that apparently the shooting incident grew out of "horseplay." On the basis of the charge filed against Todd, the prosecutor indicated he did not regard the shooting as accidental, nor did he consider it a premeditated killing calling for first degree murder charges.

A second degree murder accusation implies intent but not premeditation, and the penalty, upon conviction, is life imprisonment.

Todd's holster, Humble said, was a spring-opening type and when he reached for the pistol he automatically released a catch and the whole front of the holster opened. It's a fast-draw, gunman-type holster.

The pistol itself recently figured in the news. The 14-year-old boy who twice broke into LaPointe's dress shop two months ago and masqueraded in ladies' apparel until arrested, had also stolen the pistol from Todd. It was recovered from a sewer and returned to Todd.

Kimmel To Prosecute
Rex Kimmel of the attorney general's office in Salem is expected to arrive in Klamath Falls tomorrow to conduct the prosecution with District Attorney Clarence A. Humble. Humble's attorneys are Herbert P. Welch of Lakeview and Earl Bernard of Portland.

The complaining witness, Virginia Gibson, has been located in The Dalles and subpoenaed to appear and Bernice Huff is being brought here from her home in Vero Beach, Fla.

Judge Arlie G. Walker of McMinnville, who is hearing the case against Huff, is expected to arrive tomorrow or early Monday. Walker was appointed to preside over the trials when an affidavit of prejudice was filed against Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg.

Jaycee Banquet Slated Tonight

A large crowd will hear Robert S. Farrell Jr., secretary of state, tonight at the Jaycees Founders Day banquet, as indicated by the number of tickets sold for this occasion.

Medals are ready and have been engraved for presentation to the junior first citizen and to the three or four key members meriting awards. These presentations will be made at the banquet celebrating the 50th anniversary of organization of the group, at which Charles R. Stark, manager of the chamber of commerce will serve as master of ceremonies.

The banquet will be preceded by cocktail hour at 8:30 p. m. Shepherd's orchestra will play dinner music during the banquet and furnish music for dancing from 10 to 12 midnight. The dance will be informal and the public is invited.

Heuvel Trial Starts Monday

Criminal case 1802, the state of Oregon vs. Earl Heuvel for sodomy against Virginia Rose Gibson, comes before the circuit court here Monday morning.

The former chief of Klamath Falls police was indicted on this count February 19, 1945, and posted \$5000 cash bail on August 21. Heuvel had left town about the time he was indicted by the grand jury and was returned here from Kennesett, Ark., in August by the FBI.

Virginia Rose Gibson, a resident of The Dalles, was a prisoner in the city jail at the time of the alleged offense, November 10, 1944. She was the witness who failed to appear to testify in the trial of Heuvel for sodomy against Bernice Huff last November. He was unanimously acquitted of that charge.

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Summit Area In Grip Of Mid-Winter Snow and Cold

CASCADE SUMMIT, Jan. 26—This little community on Lake Odell is virtually snowbound with a deep layer of snow covering the Cascade Summit area even to the eaves of the houses.

Additional snow whipped into the mountain section Thursday morning at 7:45 and by early afternoon another seven inches lay on top the already heavy fall.

The Southern Pacific rail detector car, covering the track from Crescent Lake to Oakridge, was handicapped in hunting broken rails by the existing snow and ice.

In the meantime the city folks wonder how natives of this isolated community pass their time. Although the snow gets up to the eaves of the houses and porches have to be dug to let in light at times, the people seem to find ways of entertaining themselves. Every white family here takes at least one daily paper and several take two dailies.

The radio furnishes amusement. The average family only stays at Cascade Summit two or three years. Nearly all of the roofs here have become infirm, probably due to old age and the weight of snow. The heavy snow that must be shoveled off the houses causes roofs to leak sooner than in a place where there is no snow. The snow near the chimney melts causing the water to run down the roof until it reaches the eaves of the house. Then it freezes, backing up under the shingles. About two or three years is the average age of a roof of a house which is occupied and in which there is heat in the winter.

Lake Odell is covered with a thin coating of ice. In places patches of water are in evidence. Even though a thick coating of ice covers it, it is unsafe to walk on due to the current breaking the ice in places. People who have tried it in former years have become frightened after getting out in the middle of it and hearing the ice cracking around them.