

# COAL STRIKE SET FOR TONIGHT

## In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS  
HERE'S a little story to mull over in your mind:  
A team of scientists at Argonne national laboratory of the atomic energy commission has revealed that they CREATED GOLD OUT OF MERCURY two years ago during the course of a "random" experiment. Just like that!

THE story goes on with a lot of scientific jargon. Piddling around with their complicated modern instruments, they discovered a "hitherto unknown and very weak mercury isotope." All this happened in Chicago. The laboratory in Chicago lacked the equipment to work the new isotope over completely, so they sent it out to Hanford and gave it the works.

When the stuff got back to Chicago, one of the experimenters says, "we looked it over carefully and found that ABOUT FIVE PER CENT OF OUR SAMPLE HAD BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO GOLD and the other 95 per cent into other kinds of mercury."  
The sample, the story goes on, was checked by other chemists to be certain that the yellow metal was really gold. It was.

THE scientist (described as slight, spare and white-haired) related to the reporters in a bored tone of voice that "the discovery was interesting historically and scientifically but was no threat to the world's financial stability."  
On the basis of PRESENT costs, he continued, "the artificial gold would cost many times more than the genuine article mined from the earth. . . there is no estimate of how much an ounce of the mercury gold would cost because of the difficulty of totting up the necessary atomic pile and getting enough of the particular kind of mercury that the artificial gold can be made of."

REASSURING, isn't it?  
We are patting on the head and told there is no danger of all the gold mines being shut down. That if we are prowling around in the mountains and find a lump of yellow metal we can still get all het up over it.  
That nobody is going to make gold in a factory out of mercury as we make nylon in a factory out of coal and limestone and air or rubber out of petroleum.  
In a word, that gold will CONTINUE to be money that nations can pay their bills to other nations with and COULD USE if they chose, to back up their mountains of paper money with, thus giving people more confidence in it.

DON'T be too sure of that.  
I'll venture that the first foot or so of nylon fiber that Du Pont got out of coal and limestone and air cost a whole lot more than an equivalent footage of silk spun by a silk worm would have cost. And I think the first ounce of synthetic rubber made out of hydrocarbon molecules fantastically exceeded in cost an equivalent weight of natural rubber.  
But look at the darned stuff now.

BESIDES, making gold in a factory out of mercury would be just the kind of shenanigan that would appeal to politicians.  
They would say:  
"Look, but we're the only guys in the world who know how to make gold out of base metals (like mercury.) Keep us in office and we'll make gold for you by the long ton in a jigger that only we know how to run, and this gold we'll swap FOR ALL THE PRODUCTS OF ALL THE REST OF THE WORLD."  
"Just keep on voting for us and YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO WORK AGAIN."  
No politician could ever resist that temptation.

Schools Get U.S. Indian Tuition Fund  
A contract between the federal government and the Klamath county school district, giving the schools a \$150,000 advance on Indian tuition, was approved by the school board last night.  
The money was appropriated by congress last August and is to be used for construction of a gymnasium at Chiloquin and for improvements on Bonanza, Bly and Sprague River schools which are attended by Indian children.  
Plans for the gym, which will cost an estimated \$130,000, are now being drawn.  
The money will not come from Indian funds but will be paid by the federal government as a lump advance on tuitions. Then the government will recover its money—plus 3 per cent interest—from tuitions over a 30-year period.  
The school district got some \$8000 last year as Indian tuition and expects considerable more this year.  
The contract contains a provision whereby the district's obligation will be cancelled if the federal government stops paying tuition for Indians—as it would if the Klamath reservation is liquidated.  
The money will be paid through Klamath Agency.

LUMBER SHIPMENTS UP  
PORTLAND, Nov. 30 (AP)—Maritime lumber shipments from Columbia river district ports in the first 10 months of this year were 120,000,000 feet greater than the 12 month total of 1948.

## Can't Return U.S. Ships, Soviets Say

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30 (AP)—Russia told the United States yesterday she won't be able to return two borrowed ice breakers next Thursday, as promised, because they are "inextricably caught" in an Arctic ice pack.

The Soviets said, however, a third lend-lease ice breaker will be handed over December 1 to U. S. naval officials in Yokosuka, Japan.  
The state department announced this shortly after Vladimir I. Bazynkin, counselor of the Soviet embassy, was called in to discuss the long-deferred return of the U. S. vessels.

After much prodding, the Soviets agreed last September 27 to release the ice breakers by December 1, with delivery scheduled at Bremerhaven, Germany.  
Mystery  
Just how and where two of the ships were caught in an Arctic ice floe was not divulged.  
American officials are known to be surprised at the Russian story because the ice breakers are among the most modern afloat and were designed to plow through even the heaviest floes. They were lent-leased to Russia in 1944 and 1945 shortly after they were built.

"The United States has flatly refused to sell the vessels to Russia, presumably because of their war potential."

## 2 Boys Held In Car-Swap, Cabin Thefts

Two teen-age Klamath Falls boys who are believed to have pulled an unusual car-swap at the Lombard motor company as well as a string of burglaries at Lake of the Woods were being returned from Bend today in police custody.  
Bend police identified the youths as Darwin Ericks, 15, and Dwayne Daley, 16. They were picked up there last night in a stolen car and in possession of several radios reportedly from Lake of the Woods homes.

Home Robbed  
Six homes at the lake were burglarized sometime Sunday, according to Al Schmeck, head of the Lake of the Woods home owners association. The cabins were those of Mrs. George Merryman, Ellen Stoner, Twyla Ferguson, Dr. Jenevieve Swedenburg of Ashland, Matt Finnigan and J. R. Krupp of Central Point.  
All the cabins are located on the south end of the east side of the lake. The doors of five were forced and a window of the sixth—the Krupp cabin—had been kicked out.  
Bob Porter, who has a cabin there, first discovered the break-ins Sunday, then went up again yesterday and determined that a second visit apparently had been made by the prowlers. He was unable to determine what had been taken from the cabins but the boys were reported to have only radios in their possession at Bend.

State police here received word that Ericks and Daley had not been at school for several days and were driving around in a 1949 Dodge. They checked with Lombard motor company and found that a sedan had been taken out of the company storage shed, run about 500 miles and replaced in the shed. That apparently occurred over the weekend, and without the motor company noticing that the car was missing.

Swap  
But still another 1949 Dodge was missing from the shed and it was reported to be the one the boys were driving at Bend.  
Apparently they had driven one car two or three days, returned it and picked up another. They were using license plates of a car wrecked several months ago.  
At Bend Ericks and Daley told police they had taken still another automobile from Lombard's, a 1940 Plymouth three weeks ago. How they got into the shed was not disclosed.

Caretaker Dodged  
The Sunday raid on the cabins was made after the caretaker, George Bosley, made a round in the morning and before Porter arrived in the afternoon.  
Juvenile Officer Howard Strode and a state policeman were bringing the youths down from Bend.

Missing Child Found Safe  
GREENVILLE, Calif., Nov. 30 (AP)—A missing three-year-old girl, for whom hundreds of men had searched throughout the night, was found today in the wild mountain country only a few miles from her Greenville home.  
Sheriff Melvin H. Schooler said little Marian Lee "Bunny" Camp was suffering slightly from exposure but was otherwise unharmed.  
The child was found about a mile from where a search party last night had trailed a child's footprints, along with a man's to a point where an automobile apparently had turned around.  
Bunny is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Camp, who moved recently to this northeastern California lumber town from a nearby village.

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**The Night Before Christmas**  
The night before Christmas when all through the house not a creature was stirring not even a mouse. The stockings were hung by the chimney with care in hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there. The children were nestled all snug in their beds while visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads and mamma in her kerchief and i in my cap had just settled down for a long winter's nap.

## Yuletide Season Begins Friday

As gala a parade as you'll ever hope to see is slated for the colorful Christmas opening Friday night, December 2, down the length of a brightly lighted Klamath Falls Main street.  
At 7 o'clock on the dot, the 88-unit mercury vapor lights will be turned on to give Santa Claus and his helpers a fine parade route. The parade starts immediately after the official lighting of the lamps.  
Streets will be cleared starting at 8 o'clock Friday afternoon and Elks will aid the police department in getting the Main street clear. Paper bags will be clamped on the meters and this will be reminder enough to the public to clear the way for the festive show.  
Santa's arrival will be heralded by a huge flare.  
Schools will participate in the parade and their floats will be designated as follows:  
Conger, "Christmas Fairies"; Fairview, "Ice King"; Fremont, "Night Before Christmas"; Mills, "Winklem, Blinkem and Nod"; Pelican, "Hansel and Gretel"; Riverside, "St. Nick"; Roosevelt, "Snow White and Seven Dwarfs"; Sacred Heart academy, "Yuletide Bells"; Altamont junior high, "Toyland"; Shasta, "Shoemaker and the Elves"; Henley, "Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater"; Scouts, "Snowboys."  
In addition there will be choral groups from Altamont junior high, the Lady Eagles drum corps, Klamath Union high school band, House Brothers, choir from KUHS and Sacred Heart, Barbershop group and Camp Fire Girls and Girl Scouts.  
And then—Santa Claus and his helpers.  
Members of 30-30 club will follow Santa in pickups and all those watching the parade are asked to remain on the curb. Candy will be distributed to the children and Scouts will assist.  
The parade starts at Baisinger's and winds up at the big tree on the courthouse lawn.  
All those participating in the parade are asked to be at the fire station lot promptly at 6:30 p.m. Friday.  
Man Faces Prison in Wife's Death  
BEND, Nov. 30 (AP)—Earl Haacke, 38, faced a five-year term in the state prison today on a manslaughter conviction in the death of his wife.  
Mrs. Haacke, 34, died October 3, after a head blow. Trial testimony indicated the husband had been drinking and beat his wife in their apartment here. He was sentenced Monday.  
BURDENED WITH THE HERALD AND NEWS third annual Christmas edition, Bill Mock starts out on route 63 late this afternoon to leave the four-section holiday issue on your doorstep.

## Whoops, Russ Are Amazin' Again!

LONDON, Nov. 30 (AP)—"Amazing wheat" that yields over 120 bushels an acre has been grown in the Soviet Union, Moscow radio said today.  
The broadcast, heard in London, said the winter wheat bearing five heads on each stalk was developed at the Karaganda agricultural experimental center at Kazakh, near the Iranian border.

Yields above 50 or 60 bushels per acre are considered phenomenal and the U. S. government average for all wheat is 17.9 bushels per acre.

## Thomas Puts Self At Court's Mercy

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30 (AP)—Rep. J. Parnell Thomas (D-NJ) today withdrew his plea of not guilty to charges of payroll padding, and threw himself on the mercy of the court.  
The 54-year-old legislator changed his plea to one of nolo contendere. That means he does not contest the government's charges.

Startling  
With this startling development, Judge Alexander M. Holtzoff dismissed a charge against Miss Helen Campbell, former secretary to Thomas. She was accused of conspiring with Thomas to defraud the government through padding of the lawmaker's office pay roll.  
Holtzoff said that since Miss Campbell seemed to have acted merely as an employee of Thomas, he would dismiss the charges against her.

John R. Fitzpatrick, lawyer for Miss Campbell, had contended at the outset of the trial on Monday that every act of Miss Campbell was under "compulsion" from Thomas due to their employe-employer relationship.

Kick-Back  
Fitzpatrick told the court then that it was true that Miss Campbell had arranged for a niece, Myra Midkiff, and her maid, Arnette Minor, to go on Thomas' payroll. The government contended that neither ever did any real work; that their salary checks were deposited to Miss Campbell's account in a bank here, and that Miss Campbell in turn transferred funds to Thomas' bank account at Allendale, N. J.  
Thomas' change of plea came when the government was ready to put Miss Midkiff and Miss Minor on the stand.

## Chungking's Fall to Reds Reported

HONG KONG, Nov. 30 (AP)—Communist forces moved in on Chungking today and reliable reports from Taipei, Formosa, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's headquarters, said the city fell at noon.  
Chiang arrived in Chengtu, new Nationalist capital, shortly before noon. He had been leading the defense of Chungking and trying to return to China from this British colony.

A dispatch from Chungking to a Chinese newspaper here said 20,000 red troops crossed the Yangtze at 1 a.m. Tuesday, local time, and entered the outskirts of the third Nationalist capital brought under communist guns this year.

## Lewis Fails To Hold Policy Meet

NEW YORK, Nov. 30 (AP)—A new soft coal walk-out appeared certain at midnight tonight. John L. Lewis postponed again today a meeting of his United Mine Workers policy committee until 10 a. m. tomorrow.  
Lewis gave no word publicly about whether or not he will permit a strike.

In Pittsburgh, however, Dennis Harshbarger, UMW District Five representative, said "calls received at my office from local leaders today show definitely the men are planning to quit tonight."  
Truce End  
A three-week truce is scheduled to expire at midnight. The union's 200-man policy committee has been marking time here since Monday, ready to act if Lewis gave the signal either to extend the armistice or to allow the miners again to lay down their tools in their contract dispute with the pit owners.

Lewis met with his district presidents this morning and then allowed a spokesman to say that the full-dress policy meeting scheduled for 1 p. m. would again be postponed.  
The meeting was put off Monday and Tuesday while Lewis remained in Washington.

Speculation  
All that reporters could do was speculate that the mines would be shut down tomorrow, since the committee authorized by the union constitution to act on such major issues would be unable to move before the deadline.  
Whether Lewis has sent out word by his own methods through district presidents could only be guessed about. He gave no hint of what behind-the-scenes move he was involved in.

But new hard coal wage talks were scheduled in the meantime.  
Ralph E. Eggart, chairman of the anthracite operators wage agreement committee, announced that he and Lewis have agreed to reconvene the talks here December 6. They last met in Philadelphia on July 7.

## Probers Seek 28-Death Air Crash Cause

DALLAS, Nov. 30 (AP)—Investigators studied bits of wreckage and survivors' statements today in an effort to piece together all details of an American Airlines plane crash in which 28 died.  
Eighteen other persons were injured in the pre-dawn accident yesterday.

The 60-passenger plane, bound from New York to Mexico City, slammed into two buildings and exploded in flames on the edge of the Love field airport.

## Pollution Control Fund Voted State

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30 (AP)—Washington and Oregon were included in grants for the study of pollution control announced yesterday by the federal security agency.  
A total of \$782,978 was apportioned to the 45 participating states.  
Grants to the states included: Washington \$13,473; Oregon \$12,208.

