

TIMBER STRIKE THREAT GROWS

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

OUR old friend Vishinsky, of whom we haven't been hearing much lately, bobs back into the news again. On his way back to Moscow (after attending the UN general assembly session in New York) he stops off in the Russian part of Berlin to pay a visit to the bedside of Otto Grotewohl, prime minister of the Russian-sponsored East German Republic.

WHY is that worth printing? Well, it's this way: Grotewohl is in a Berlin hospital for treatment of what East German (communist) officials describe as a "slight case of influenza."

West German (our side) newspapers report that he has "lost favor" with the Soviet eye and hint that he is suffering from a "political illness."

PERSONALLY, if I were Grotewohl, I'd rather have the old Spanish flu itself even in the 1918 version of it than the "political illness" that since the war has been more or less epidemic behind the Iron Curtain.

The flu can be licked, but this political illness business in communist countries is invariably fatal.

FRED HAMPSON, who left Oregon some years back to become a war correspondent and has been working at it ever since, has just been forced out of Shanghai by the communists. He says in a dispatch this morning: "The saddest phase of this farwell to Shanghai was wrapped up in a small group of Chinese who saw us to the ship with their brave bouquets of flowers for the departing foreigners DESPITE THE GLOOMING DISAPPROVAL OF COMMUNIST GUARDS."

He goes on: "This group of Chinese seemed to me to represent the beginning of a solid middle class in China which could have grown and brought greatness to China. They were the product of Shanghai. They had absorbed the best of the West and mixed it compatibly with their Oriental natures."

"They had modest but good homes. Their children were in school. They had learned professions and trades. They could earn enough at them to maintain themselves with pride and decency. And they had done it ON THEIR OWN. No ties with the rich. No political connections. No special privilege except their own abilities."

FRED then adds: "Now they are OUT OF WORK. The gates of their professions and trades are closed to them unless they can somehow get into the PARTY MACHINE and wear grotesque cotton uniforms, send their kids to the 'correct' schools and live on a few dollars a month and a regimented rice allowance."

"I guess they are the despised bourgeois who must be crushed down to become part of that vague horde—the PROLETARIAT—above which one is not supposed to want to rise."

"There are to be destroyed. A millennium has arrived."

FRED has been on the ground, over in tragic China, WATCHING IT WITH HIS OWN EYES. Our parlor pinkies, who praise the "proletariat" and despise what we call the middle class and what the pinks in their Marxian patter call the "bourgeois," haven't seen it in operation.

Seeing it with your own eyes makes such an UNBELIEVABLE difference.

800 Homes Burn In Rangoon

RANGOON, Burma, Dec. 15 (AP)—Eight hundred dwellings were destroyed in a fire here today, leaving 3,000 persons homeless.

Three persons are missing and six were injured in the blaze, which lasted only an hour.



GETTING YOUR SHARE of packages? The post office is whipping them out as fast as Christmas mail arrives. Here Andrew Schorr checks off two Main street deliveries in the hands of Vernon Skoog, helper.

Beating of Kejsar Necessary, Claim Of City Policemen

A petty trial in municipal court last night brought to light allegations—or at least insinuations—that officers of the city police department dealt a ruthless beating to a man being arrested on charges of intoxication and disorderly conduct.

James Kejsar, husky 47-year-old carpenter, was on trial on the drunk charge and was found guilty by unanimous vote of a six-man jury.

But the question of whether he was drunk appeared only occasionally in the four hours of testimony.

Kejsar had pleaded not guilty to both charges, was represented by Attorneys Mark Simons and U. S. Balentine and possibly last night's hearing was only the beginning of a battle against the city and its police force.

Kejsar was arrested on Pine between 3rd and 4th in the early morning hours of Sunday, November 20, when he allegedly interfered when two city officers, Chuck Currier, 36, and Tom Gordon, 32, placed Byron Pounds, 41, under arrest on a disorderly conduct charge.

Pounds and Kejsar, with Mrs. Kejsar, had attended a dance earlier in the evening.

When Kejsar, according to testimony of the officers, stepped between Currier and Pounds and defied police to put the latter in the paddy wagon, a fight started which ranged up and down the street for 15 minutes to half an hour and which resulted in Kejsar finally being taken to Klamath Valley hospital for medical attention.

According to police testimony, Kejsar more than held his own against Currier and Gordon but was subdued when another prowl car containing four more cops arrived.

Kejsar received a nasty cut on his lip, black eyes, a cut on his head and many bruises and lumps on his head and face.

Currier and Gordon both said Kejsar swung first, flattening Gordon. They estimated they hit the carpenter "dozens of times" with saps but never knocked him out. Currier said the object of using their saps (blackjacks) was to kyo Kejsar but that he was never knocked unconscious.

When reinforcements arrived, Kejsar, they said, had Currier on the ground and was choking him. Patrolman Tony Nelms, 25, finally got handcuffs on the prisoner.

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Klamath Falls and News

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1949 Telephone 8111 No. 2157

Paper Hints England Has A-Bomb

LONDON, Dec. 15 (AP)—The Daily Mirror gave its readers the impression today that Britain has produced an atomic bomb.

The mass circulation tabloid said in an unattributed, undated article by its atomic affairs writer, Ronald Bedford:

"Britain's atomic weapon, which our scientists have been developing for more than two years, will not be tried out at the forthcoming test of American super-atom bombs."

There was no confirmation from any other source of the inference that Britain already has an atomic weapon.

Mum

Government ministers, questioned frequently on the subject in the house of commons, have refused consistently to give any hint as to whether British researchers have succeeded in making atomic weapons.

Bedford noted that Defense Minister A. V. Alexander, in May, 1948, said atomic weapons were "being developed" here.

Bedford wrote that the United States, Britain and Canada at a recent Washington conference on atomic energy decided against testing the purported British weapon during the forthcoming test of American weapons at Eniwetok atoll in the Pacific.

Coffee Hike Stops; Probe Action Eases

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP)—Senate investigators called a temporary halt in their probe of the high cost of coffee today with word that "the sky-rocketing of prices had stopped."

Senator Gillette (D-Iowa) told that to reporters yesterday as he suspended public hearings until congress meets again early in January.

The senator called attention to Washington grocery advertisements of brand coffee at 56 cents a pound that had been selling for 84 cents. But he held out slight hope for immediate return of "the nickel cup of java."

Good News

Two government officials brought Gillette's senate agricultural subcommittee some encouraging news about coffee supplies at the final public hearing yesterday.

Philip M. Hauser, acting director of the census, said a spot check of coffee stocks conducted at the senator's request indicated supplies on hand at the start of this month were about the same as last year.

Shuck Case Taken Under Advisement

A preliminary hearing in justice court yesterday plowed over the same ground covered by a similar hearing six months ago and Justice of the Peace J. A. Mahoney took the case of Richard Shuck, 26, under advisement.

Shuck is charged with negligent homicide in the death of Robert Henry Anderson, 73, in an automobile crash June 27.

Under Bond

Shuck is free on \$10,000 bond. He was indicted by a grand jury last July for negligent homicide but when time for trial arrived last Monday the district attorney's office asked the indictment be dismissed because of a flaw.

Yesterday's preliminary hearing started the proceedings over again.



FAMILY'S EYE SAVED—Mary Hope Hodgdon, 12, (above) has returned to her Portland, Ore., home following a successful operation that saved the sight of her one good eye—the only eye in the family—her mother and father being blind. Thousands of letters from well-wishers over the nation awaited her, as well as Christmas gifts.

Better Enforcement Here of Liquor Law For Minors Demanded

A representative of the Oregon state liquor control commission, Sgt. Arthur Taaffe of Eugene, heard from members of Parents and Patrons club of Klamath Union high school in session yesterday afternoon when they urged better law enforcement and a speed-up of action on the part of the commission where minors are concerned.

Sgt. Taaffe, who later admitted that he had never attended "such a meeting of interested parents," assured the group that David Warwick, recently appointed state law enforcement officer, would do all in his power to meet their requests.

The commission representative, who has Lane and Marion county as his territory, was pinch hitting for Warwick who was scheduled to appear at a trial in Portland.

Parents as well as school heads and faculty voiced strong complaint on the slow action being taken by the commission in its investigation and action where minors are involved in the purchase and possession of liquor, especially beer.

Back-Fire

Sgt. Taaffe was under fire on several occasions and finally placed the blame on the part of parents who should, he claimed, "know where their children are."

Instances of sales violations which occurred last June and July which had not yet been brought to trial were cited, but these, it was advised by Taaffe, were now scheduled for late December.

James W. Pinniger, chairman of a special Parents and Patrons committee appointed to investigate violation of the Knox law on selling liquor and beer to minors, presented six resolutions which were adopted by the organization, to be forwarded to the commission. The body of the resolutions set forth:

Committee

A permanent committee be appointed to work with and assist city and county state law enforcement officers on liquor violations concerning minors.

Copies of all liquor violations, concerning minors, should be forwarded immediately to the juvenile officer.

Recommendation that parents give all possible support to officers. Study possibility of discussion between students and adults to instill a proper attitude toward the liquor question in this county.

Appreciation of the committee to school and local authorities for help in formulating a program.

Chance

That the enforcement chief, David Warwick, be given an opportunity to show he can and will enforce the liquor law concerning minors.

The business meeting followed a program of Christmas music presented by students of the music department under the direction of Andrew Loney Jr.

Later parents, including a number of interested fathers who attended the afternoon meeting, were served tea in the cafeteria. The table stressed the holiday theme.

Pope Authorizes Special Mass

VATICAN CITY, Dec. 15 (AP)—The Pope authorized today the celebration of a special mass for the holy year at midnight December 31 in all the Roman Catholic churches of the world.

A decree published today by the congregation of sacraments said the masses should be celebrated to ask God that the holy year gives the expected results.

City Auto Theft Ring Broken Up

Three young Indians are held in the city jail in connection with the theft of at least three automobiles and several car prowls while investigation into other similar depredations is going on.

City police identified the Indians as Raymond Hoover, 18, Klamath Falls; Preston Kimbol, 20, Chilquin; and Grant Hull, 22, of Klamath Falls.

Hoover and Kimbol are booked for car theft, Hull for vagrancy, and the latter also reportedly intends to file assault and battery charges against the other two.

Three stolen cars have been recovered.

Night Probe

The investigation began just before dawn today when young Hull and his wife came to the police station to report he had been beaten by Hoover and Kimbol. Hull's face was bloody and his clothing torn.

He said Kimbol and Hoover came to his trailer house on Broad street, broke in and started a fight. He told officers Kimbol held and Hoover "worked me over."

They forced Hull to give them a five-foot section of hose, saying they intended to siphon gasoline for a car they had stolen.

A police prowl car went to Hull's trailer to begin the investigation and a few minutes later found a 1941 Ford convertible parked on Market. The car belonged to Leon Adreon, 1126 1/2 Grant, and had been stolen from near the telephone company building.

Duo Found

Hoover and Kimbol were located at the Southern Pacific depot and in their possession were found a number of items, gloves, a spotlight, sun glasses and a flashlight, identified as swiped from other automobiles last night.

At the police station young Hoover was said to have admitted stealing a 1942 Dodge sedan owned by E. M. McCoy, 2202 Radcliffe, last night. The car was abandoned on Oak and recovered. Then, he said, he and Kimbol stole Adreon's car and left it on Market, meanwhile prowling several other parked vehicles.

Prising Theft

Hoover also said Kimbol last Tuesday had stolen a 1949 Mercury belonging to Rev. Kelsey Prinsing, and had taken it to Chilquin. State police recovered that automobile near the Chilquin junction.

There Hoover brought Hull back into his story of their activities. He said it was Hull who located the minister's car and talked Kimbol into stealing it.

Hull was booked for vagrancy and further investigation.

New Auto Plates Legal Today

SALEM, Dec. 15 (AP)—Today is the first day it is legal for automobile owners to use their new license plates.

The plates must be bought by January 1.

Some motorists already have their new plates on their cars, but they were not penalized.

CIO Joins Fight For Pensions

CIO woodworkers, like their AFL brothers in the industry, may make a bid for \$100-a-month company-financed pensions in next year's contract talks with employers.

The AFL lumber and sawmill workers union has already announced it is demanding a pension set-up from the industry and that union is being readied for a strike if employers balk.

In Portland today James Fading, president of the International Woodworkers of America (IWA-CIO), said the union's executive board had taken up the pension topic along with health and welfare programs. The board has concluded a two-day session.

Not Final

However, the board's talks are not final. Union men from the IWA's districts in five western states will meet in Portland January 7-8 to determine upon what matters to reopen their contracts with the industry.

If pensions will be an issue next spring, district leaders will decide at the Portland meeting. Fading's remarks today indicate he anticipates they will.

In the past the CIO and AFL unions have been closely paralleled in contract demands on the industry.

IWA contracts now existing expire April 1.

Here in Klamath Falls Hal Geiger, business agent of local 6-12, said he would attend the January 7-8 meeting in Portland and that the pension issue undoubtedly would come up.

800 Members

IWA in this area has a membership of about 8000, strung from Bend to McCloud, and most of the larger sawmills and lumber operations in this region which are unionized are represented by that union.

The IWA is bargaining agent for Car-Ad-Co and Klamath Basin Pine Mills here, the big McCloud Lumber company at McCloud and several operations in the Bend area.

The AFL's adoption of an employer-financed pension plan issue in the Northwest lumber industry was a page taken from the CIO granted \$100-a-month pensions for elderly workers several weeks ago.

Strike Voted

The AFL has asked the industry to come up with a pension plan immediately and has asked locals to take a strike vote on the issue. The industry is being asked to pay no less than 10 cents an hour per employee into a retirement fund.

Kenneth Davis, AFL secretary in Portland, has threatened the industry with a shutdown by Christmas unless employers bargain on a pension plan immediately.

There has been no official reaction from employers yet.

11 Die In Texas Fire

ROTAN, Tex., Dec. 15 (AP)—Eleven transient farm workers—all members of one family—burned to death near there today when fire destroyed their small home at the edge of a cotton field.

The blackened remains of the four-room home on the C. A. Douthett farm, eight miles northeast of this West Texas town, were found at 9 a. m.

The dead included three generations. Six were children. One of the five adults was a 14-year-old girl, married and pregnant.

Meet the People

CAUGHT PAINTING signs in a window is Lee Hendricks, well known Klamath druggist. Lee had just mixed up the paint in a bowl when the photographer happened by.



RESTING EASY—A "flying" coupe landed upside down astride a station wagon and a sedan after failure to make a curve in a road in National City, Calif. Vehicle plunged down a five-foot bank into used car lot, rolled and slid onto hoods of adjoining cars after hitting a delivery truck. Four marines crawled out without a scratch.