

CONGRESS SEEKS STRIKE SOLUTION



SEIZED IN JAP PLOT—Terundori Aral, 26, with Japanese guards in Tokyo, Japan, after being seized in alleged plot on the life of Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Aral is reported to have said he had joined the communist party to make assassination attempt appear as Red plot.

Canfield Hotel Fire Death Toll Hits 16

Arabs Decorate Jerusalem for Leader's Return
JERUSALEM—(AP)—Arabs decorated most of the narrow streets of the old city of Jerusalem today with flags, flowers and olive branches on hearing unconfirmed reports that the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem had arrived at Damascus to help Arab resistance against Jewish immigration.

The Moslem leader was exiled in 1938 for anti-British activities. His pictures appeared everywhere in Jerusalem, surrounded by wreaths of olive leaves. Many streets in the Arab quarter of the new city also were decorated.

"Guides" and beggars all were saying with conviction that "we know the mufti is in Damascus and he will be coming to Jerusalem in a few days." The Arab league council currently is meeting in extraordinary session in Damascus, capital of Syria.

Dr. Hussein El Khalidi, a leader of one of the five parties composing the Arab higher front, said he had been advised that the Grand Mufti had arrived at Budan, Syria, and would arrive in Jerusalem for a meeting of the Arab league council now in session there.

The council has been discussing the report of the British-American committee of inquiry on Palestine, which recently recommended that 100,000 European Jews be admitted to Palestine at once.

The Grand Mufti spiritual leader of Palestine's 800,000 Moslems, has for years led the Arab fight against establishment of a national home for Jews in Palestine. After his banishment by the British, he sought refuge in Arab-Jewish disorders he sought refuge in Syria until 1942, when he fled to Italy and was warmly welcomed by Benito Mussolini.

He made at least one trip to Berlin, where he was received by Adolf Hitler and Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop.

After the defeat of Germany he fell into the hands of the French and had been reported under close surveillance in Paris. He recently issued a statement from there appealing to the Arab world to "unite and firm" in opposition to Zionism.

Arabs have been clamoring for his return to Palestine.

A French foreign office spokesman said yesterday in Paris that the grand mufti had left France. The spokesman did not disclose his state of departure or destination, however.

Teeny Tiny Tots Contest Begins
Pictures are on display and votes are rapidly coming in for contestants in the Teeny Tiny Tots popularity contest, held in connection with the DAV sponsored Pop Parade, Mrs. Frances Allen Cochran, director of the show, said today.

Big Tobacco Companies Are Fined in Court

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Supreme court held today that three big tobacco companies had conspired to form a monopoly and upheld their conviction under the Sherman anti-trust act.

In a 6-to-3 decision, the court declared it was not necessary to show competitors actually had been excluded to form a monopoly and upheld the ruling on the point.

The case involved the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company, Liggett and Myers Tobacco company and the American Tobacco company. They were fined a total of \$255,000 in St. District court in Lexington, Ky. The sixth federal circuit court upheld the conviction.

Justice Burton delivered the 6-0 decision. Justices Reed and Jackson did not participate.

Burton said the companies "have been found to have conspired to establish a monopoly and also to have the power and intent to establish and maintain the monopoly. To hold that they do not come within the prohibition of the Sherman act would destroy the force of that act."

The companies asked the supreme court to review numerous questions. But it agreed to consider only whether actual exclusion of competitors is a necessary element for monopolization, under the terms of the Sherman act.

The justice department contended its case against the companies showed there was "intent and power to produce a result which the Sherman act excluded competitors." It argued that "neither on authority nor on reason is the further element of actual exclusion of competitors necessary to this offense" (of monopolization).

Justice Rutledge wrote a brief concurring opinion in which he said he agreed that "the offense of monopolization is complete when power is acquired to exclude competitors and therefore actual exclusion need not be shown."

Message on Case Bill Expected in Senate Tomorrow

WASHINGTON—(AP)—President Truman told his congressional leadership today he would send a message to congress tomorrow on the Case labor disputes bill, but apparently did not say whether he would veto or sign it.

Rayburn (D-Texas) told reporters after a 45-minute conference with the Chief Executive at the White House.

"Whether it will be a veto or a message on approval we don't know," Rayburn replied that it is some times done.

Rayburn also disclosed that the administration leadership will try to get a rule in the house to send the president's own emergency strike control proposal to a conference of the two houses this week. Each passed it in different form.

"It is just a matter of awaiting action on the Case bill," Rayburn said.

Asked by reporters earlier whether the Case bill was brought up in the discussion with Mr. Truman, Senator Hill (D-Ark.) replied: "I am not sure."

Hill replied "lots of things." Hill attended in place of Senator Barkley (Ky) the democratic leader.

Rayburn, who waited to talk with reporters, said the President did not say what action he contemplated on the Case bill, and added, "he was not asked."

Gray County Grand Jury Meeting Today
Indictments in several criminal cases are expected to be returned by the Gray county grand jury, in session at the court house today.

Row in House Committee Holds Up Publication of Report on Russia
By CLAIR JOHNSON
WASHINGTON—(AP)—A row in the house foreign affairs committee is holding up publication of a report critical of Russia's policies in dealing with her neighbor nations behind "the iron curtain."

Mihailovic Is Facing Trial For Treason

BELGRADE—(AP)—Marshal Tito's Yugoslav government charged at the opening of Gen. Draza Mihailovic's treason trial today that American officers sat in on a conference between the former Chetnik leader and the German commander in Yugoslavia.

The government indictment was read at the opening of the trial of the man who was left behind by former King Peter's government for the announced purpose of waging underground war against the Germans.

In the summer of 1944, the indictment continued, "The American Colonel McDowell, chief of the American military mission to Mihailovic's headquarters, arrived at the airfield at Pranjina. As soon as he met Mihailovic he told him 'we Americans are not interested in your fight with Germany. They must be put out of Yugoslavia by action of the Allies. It is up to you to remain among the people x x x America is helping exclusively you and your movement in Yugoslavia.'"

In August, 1944, the indictment said, McDowell "took part" in a meeting at the village of Focsi between Mihailovic and the chief of the administrative staff of the German military command in Serbia, Neubaucher, McDowell and participated in a later meeting in Section between Mihailovic and Neubaucher's deputy, Sterker, near the village of Panjina, it was charged.

The government-controlled central news agency charged that 200 national officers and men were killed or wounded as 12 communist brigades assaulted government positions at Lafa and Kiu railway stations, east of Yungki.

(Associated Press Correspondent Tom Masterson radioed from Peiping today that the government's central news agency charged the communists attacked four Manchurian cities four hours after Chiang's cease fire order to government troops became effective Friday.

Masterson said it was likely the red troops were without radios and were not informed of the truce. News of which was broadcast a day in advance.

Depressed Vet Takes Own Life
PITTSBURGH—(AP)—Fear born of the rolling thunder of big guns which brought death on Selpan in 1944 took a fresh grip on the mind of a former Pittsburgh marine corporal in the weekend's booming thunderstorms—and cost him his life.

Roy E. Delaplane, Jr., of suburban Wilksburg, was with his girlfriend, Miss Eve Shivers, when he clasped his hands over his ears at a loud clap of thunder and shouted: "I can't stand it."

Miss Shivers said: "Then, suddenly, he just bolted from me." With her mother, the girl taxied to the home of the 20-year old ex-marine.

"He was standing near the stairs, holding a pistol," Miss Shivers wept. "We tried to reason with him but he paid no attention. Suddenly, he told us to get out."

The two women left to get help, but on the sidewalk they heard a shot.

Corp. Delaplane had put a bullet through his head.

Texan Dies of Burns Suffered From Fire
CHICAGO—(AP)—Jerry Tyler, 45, president of the Tyler Fixtures corporation with plants in Wixahachie, Texas, and Niles, Mich., died here last night of injuries suffered in the La Salle hotel fire last Wednesday.

Tyler's wife, Mary, 40, died in the fire and their son, Michael, 12, died shortly after being taken from the hotel.

Tyler's death brought the toll of the hotel fire to 61 dead.

The family came to Chicago Tuesday from Texas on a business and pleasure trip. They had made their home in Texas for the past seven months.

Slain King of Siam Succeeded by Brother

PANGKOK—(AP)—Prince Phumiphon Aduldet, 18, was named King of Siam today while this shocked nation mourned the death of his brother, 20-year-old King Ananda Mahidol, who was found in the Royal palace yesterday with a bullet wound between the eyes.

The new king, who will become the ruler of more than 200,000 square miles and 18,000,000 subjects, was unanimously selected by an extraordinary session of the legislature, meeting 12 hours after his brother's death.

The Siamese police director general told the legislature that Ananda's death was accidental.

Phumiphon Aduldet, the almost constant companion of his older brother, was born in Boston, Mass., while his father, the late Prince Mahidol of Songkhla, was studying at Harvard. Phumiphon Aduldet and Ananda attended school together in Switzerland.

A three-member council of regency was named by the legislature to advise the new monarch. Pridi Phanomyong, reappointed premier only three days ago, was expected to be retained in that post.

Only sketchy details were disclosed on the shooting of King Ananda, a bespectacled, diffident youth often described as a reluctant monarch, who had become extremely popular since his return from Switzerland last December.

The young ruler had been ill for two days and arose at 6 a. m. yesterday to take some medicine. Nothing was known of his actions after that time, official sources said, and his body was discovered several hours later in the bedroom of the Baromphan palace by a servant.

News of the death, which occurred on the eve of a projected trip to the United States, was broadcast at 7 p. m. yesterday, and was greeted by walls of grief from a crowd gathered in front of the publicity building in Bangkok.

High School Youths Practice Politics
AUSTIN—(AP)—High school youths from all over the state practiced politics and government at the American Legion sponsored boys' state convention.

They will organize their own state government and conduct affairs of state throughout the week. Nominations for officers will be made today, the election will be held tomorrow, and installation Wednesday.

General director of the conference is Lee O. Smith of Beaumont.

Health Board Will Discuss Age Limit
SAN ANTONIO—(AP)—Lowering of the age limit to 16 years in public gathering restrictions enforced during the current polio epidemic probably will be discussed today at a conference of the San Antonio health board.

Last Monday the age limit was lowered from 22 to 18 years.

Producers Reported Reluctant To Sell Famine-Smashing Wheat Crop
CHICAGO—(AP)—A famine-smashing wheat crop maturing in the south-west prompted speculation today on the amount of grain which will be held back on farms. Although yields of the golden grain were greater than expected, causing upward revisions of production estimates, grain dealers were disturbed by reports producers were reluctant to send the wheat to market.

Success of the government's famine relief program, as well as easing of the flour shortage at home, depended not only on the output of wheat but also upon how much was marketed.

Splendid weather in recent weeks caused higher crop forecasts. C. M. Galvin, statistician for James E. Bennett and company, placed the winter wheat crop at 751,089,000 bushels and Walter Scott of the Kansas City board of trade estimated 760,000,000 bushels.

Both predictions reflected improved weather conditions since the agriculture department's May 1 estimate of 742,887,000 bushels. Increasing reports were heard that farmers, angered over the gov-

University of T. Controversy In Full Bloom

AUSTIN—(AP)—The University of Texas controversy is in full bloom again today.

The American Association of University Professors has placed the university on its list of censured institutions, and an official of the university said the action was a surprise move without the customary advance notice.

These developments came on the heels of the announcement by a faculty member that he has resigned in protest of what he called flagrant and repeated violations of good academic practice by the board of regents.

The council of the American Association of University Professors yesterday in Chicago placed the university on its censured list because of "attempts by a politically-dominant group to impose its social and educational views on the university."

Executive Secretary Ralph Hirstead of the association said the council's vote was an outgrowth of the discharge of Dr. Homer P. Rainey as president in 1942, and failure of the regents in 1942 to re-employ three economics professors.

Dr. J. C. Dolley, vice-president of the university, said that the action of the A. A. U. P. council had not followed the organization's standard procedure and that the university had not been notified that the council was contemplating immediate action.

The university administration also said it was not yet ready to comment on the resignation of Dr. Herschel C. Baker as assistant professor of English in protest of affairs at the controverted-plaques university.

Dr. Dolley said that he was commenting without benefit of the association's council's full report, and that President T. S. Painter would issue a formal statement later this week.

In Dallas Chairman Dudley K. Woodward Jr., of the board of regents, had no comment on the censure move.

Old Man Drouth Gives City 'Fit'
CANADIAN (Special) The city water department is running a close race with Old Man Drouth, while part of the city has as yet been out of water, the reserve gets a little too low on hot dry days to suit Jim Miller, the superintendent of the water department.

Miller has recently completed a new well 92 feet deep, on the city property, in the north edge of town, which responds to the pump at the rate of 450 gallons per minute, but the new steel 210-thousand gallon tank recently purchased for use at the new well has not arrived.

Eight-inch trash pipe is being laid to connect the new supply to the existing mains and will likely be completed by the time the other equipment can be installed.

Health Program Is Studied by Group
The selection and meeting of a committee to study a health program for Pampa and Gray county was scheduled for this afternoon, according to Garland Franks, city manager.

Franks and W. B. Weathered, president of the Pampa chamber of commerce, were to appoint a committee and meet today to study the program.

Last week, Dr. Roy A. Webb, county health officer, attended a meeting at Plainview, which dealt with the possible erection of a polio clinic there, to be financed by the various counties of the North Plains.

Gray county's and Pampa's part in the erection of this clinic and a general health program to be carried out here was to be discussed at today's meeting.

THE WEATHER
U. S. WEATHER BUREAU
WEST TEXAS: Partly cloudy tonight and Tuesday, scattered showers from Pecos valley eastward.

All Mediation Attempts Now Are Deadlocked

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Chairman Augustine B. Kelley (D-Pa) of a House labor subcommittee said today he is going ahead with plans to work out a congressional solution of the maritime dispute now that other federal mediation attempts appear deadlocked.

Kelley told a reporter that his group had held off hearings hoping the labor department could work out a settlement.

"MUST GET BUSY" "We had hoped for a settlement by tomorrow but now that it looks like there will be nothing coming out of the labor department negotiations we feel that we should get busy right away," Kelley said.

Seven unions affiliated with the CIO-combated committee for maritime unity (CMU) have set a strike date for midnight Friday in behalf of their demand, principally for a reduction in the present 56-hour work-week for seamen.

HEARINGS TOMORROW Kelley said his committee will open hearings tomorrow with testimony from either Joseph Curran, president of the CIO national maritime union, or Harry Bridges, head of the CIO International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's union. They are co-chairman of CMU. Another witness will be Joseph Selly, president of the CIO American Communications association.

Union preparations for a maritime strike Friday night coaxed Kelley to high gear today after the CIO National Maritime union turned down a proposal to give seamen shore leave with pay.

WORK-WEEK LENGTH This suggests the first was put forward by labor department consultants as a possible way to break the deadlock over the length of the work week.

Murderer Sought In Shooting of Company Official
BOSTON—(AP)—William A. Whitcomb, 73, president of the Great Northern Paper company, was shot to death in his office in the heart of the city today, and police turned an unsigned contract found on his desk a possible clue to the identity of his well dressed slayer.

"I have a hunch who might have done it," said Chief of Police Harry Warkins. "This contract would have been very beneficial to a certain party if Whitcomb had signed it."

Whitcomb, a native of Clinton, Ind., was slain only seconds after Sally Whitcomb, his secretary, admitted the killer to his private office and left the two men alone. His body was found face down on the floor and four discharged 32-calibre cartridges were nearby.

Miss Whitcomb remembered the slayer as a man who came to the office last week, representing himself as a treasury department agent. Although she did not recall the name, she challenged one of the Great Northern company's eighth floor offices, where some 20 employees sat at their desks, and apparently left the building by an elevator pole on the eighth floor, where she was seen.

They threw a cordon about the building and, with Miss Whitcomb, scanned all who attempted to enter or leave.

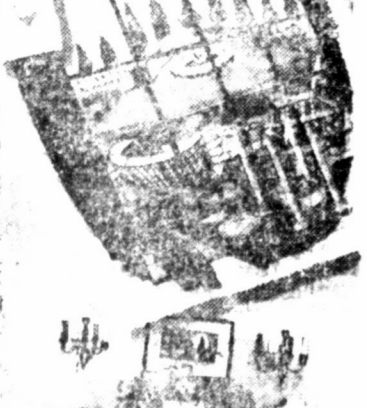
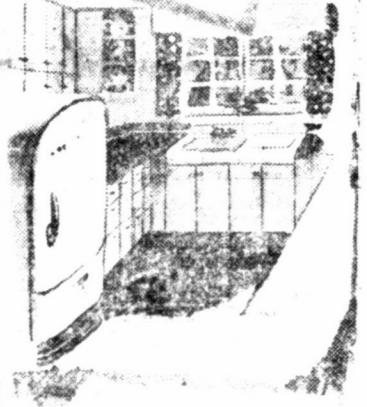
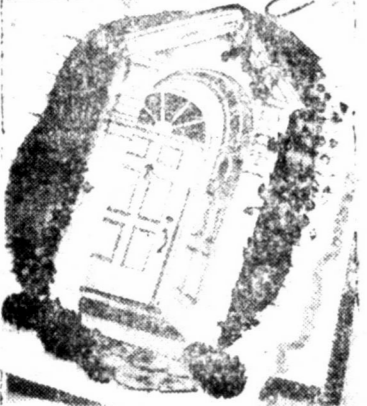
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Guaranteed rebuilt motors. In Garage, 600 S. Cuyler, Ph. 81. (Adv.)



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Pampa News

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Subscription Rates: BY CARRIER in Pampa 25c per week. Paid in advance (at office) \$10.00 per 4 months. \$22.50 per six months. \$37.50 per year. Price per single copy 5 cents. No mail orders accepted in localities served by carrier delivery.

Mr. Molotov as Accuser

The charges which Foreign Minister Molotov leveled at the United States and Britain in his report to the home folks on the Paris conference were not new. But heretofore Russia has usually been on the receiving rather than the giving end.

"Accusations of imperialism," of "pressure, threats and intimidation," of "a desire to impose their will have been heard from both sides. And we of the western democracies, surveying the evidence along with the indictments, might be pardoned for believing that the shoe fits the Russian foot better than it does our own."

We cannot be sure whether Mr. Molotov and his government really do feel intimidated (they certainly don't act it) or whether they are seeking to excuse their own activities. It is quite possible that Mr. Molotov feels that all Russia's actions toward peace have been logical and reasonable. And that is one of the discouraging things about his speech. For if he is being candid, then the lack of understanding among the three great powers is re-emphasized.

It seems impossible that, in the face of Britain's offers of self-government to India and of withdrawal from Egypt and other empire outposts, Mr. Molotov should think that British imperialism is on the march. It seems equally impossible that, in the face of Mr. Bryson's disarmament proposals, he should see in the presence of our troops in Japan and of a handful of soldiers in Iceland and Greenland a threat of "aggressive wars."

But perhaps Mr. Molotov began sensing threats and intimidations from the moment that America expected Russia's concession after concession and began suggesting that she act a little more like a member of the world community of nations and a little less like an ambitious empire on the make.

None of the great powers has been completely innocent of putting its own interests first at the moment of peace conferences. But Russia has seemed least capable of abandoning nationalistic ways of thinking.

Yet, whether Russia really fears aggression or whether she is merely bluffing to get a free hand, she must see that the only sane solution is to alter her present aggressive, truculent diplomacy. Mr. Molotov's latest speech only makes clearer the fact that this will be a slow process of attrition.

But agreement will surely come. For, if the goal of any of the great powers is toward anything other than national suicide, it is the only solution.

Mackenzie's Column

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

India's some 600 ruling princes are heading for a tremendous shake-up under the program for Indian independence and will be surprised if five-sixths of them don't survive the ordeal.

Pandit Nehru, president elect of the all-India congress and next to Mahatma Gandhi the most powerful figure in the country, called during the week-end for democratization of the native states within the federal government which is projected. That is, Nehru demands that the rule of the princelings be transferred from the autocratic princes to the people.

This apparently doesn't preclude the retention of a prince as head of state if his people want him. However, he will be merely a nominal ruler instead of having the power of life and death over his subjects, as many of these petty sovereigns have. Moreover, hundreds of the princelings are so small that they are hardly worthy of the designation, and these may be amalgamated into provinces which will retain their names and thus end their rule.

Scores of these potentates have squandered vast fortunes on heaps of jewels and other follies while their subjects literally went hungry. You have to see this kind of life at first hand to believe that it could survive.

The paramount prince of India—and one who presumably will continue as a constitutional ruler—is his Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad. He is absolute ruler over a state about the size of Kansas and having a population of more than 16,000,000.

They say this sixty year old autocrat is the richest man in the world. It has been estimated that he has \$1,500,000,000 in jewels alone.

But the riches of some of the

Gracie Reports

By GRACIE ALLEN

Well, I see that a city in Brazil has made it a crime to sing in the streets and I certainly hope it doesn't happen here. Any man these days should be encouraged, even if his voice resembles that of tobacco auctioneer and the only song he knows is "Onezy, Twozy."

Singing keeps up through the spirits all through our supply of goods and the prices are being down and the elbows and seats of our pre-war garments almost worn out. Goodness, I think we'd all feel lots better if we started our search for an apartment with a chorus of "A-Hunting We Will Go." And if you have to see this kind of life at first hand to believe that it could survive.

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General Duty Nurse

By LUCY AGNES HANCOCK

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THE STORY: Sally Maynard, popular nurse in Linton Memorial Hospital, overhears Norma Holden accuse her of being an "apple polisher." Norma's mother, Mrs. Forster Jim Hallock, but he appears uninterested. However, by hand, he puts himself out to be nice to Sally. Margaret Adams guesses Norma's love with Hallock and warns her that intermarriage never marries nurses.

ONE o'clock on a calm spring night and the great gray pile famous throughout the County as Linton Memorial Hospital seemed to slumber. Lights were dim and except for the occasional quick step of night nurse, doctor or interne—the sudden cough of a patient or querulous demand for attention, everything was still. Sally Maynard softly closed the door of 214 and slipped into the vacant chair beside Dora Bronson, the floor nurse. She sighed and brushed a stray lock of hair from her forehead.

"Tired?" the girl at the desk asked, sympathetically.

"Not more than usual, I suppose," Sally replied. "But I'm certainly glad 214 is leaving in the morning. It isn't often I'm eager to see the last of a patient; but Mrs. Teiford has run me ragged for three solid weeks. There have been times when I longed to inform her what she needed was a maid, not a nurse. Honestly, Dora, that woman never had anything the matter with her and to think she takes up so much needed space here and the services of two of our overworked nurses!"

"Sure. But she's on the Board, remember. Sunderlin's scared to death of her. That's why you got the job—the model nurse and all that." It was said quite without malice and Sally merely grinned and sighed again.

The elevator whirled to a stop and Miss Hamilton, laden with a



NATIONAL WHIRLIGIG

WASHINGTON

WEALTH—Fellow labor leaders are shaking their heads over A. F. of Railroad Trainers—has \$47,000,000 in the treasury that could be used in a campaign to defeat President Truman for re-election.

At a time when normally sympathetic democrats in congress and in the White House are exasperated at organized labor's tactics, he has attracted attention to the enormous wealth which the workmen's organizations have been able to amass in the prosperous war years.

His statement may provoke an investigation of the source and expending of these vast sums—an inquiry which was persistently blocked by the democratic majority in the days when the nationalist depended on labor for political support.

TREASURIES—On the basis of Mr. Whitney's statement, it has been estimated that the nation's unions, including the international labor and independent units, have cash on hand or investments totaling more than \$500,000,000.

Indeed, in view of the great increase in membership in recent years and the high initiation fees exacted of new recruits, some experts believe that the figure might reach \$1,000,000,000.

Inasmuch as hundreds of millions have been invested in building associations, insurance companies, banks and similar enterprises, the unions enjoy a large annual income aside from payment of regular dues, special assessments and other contributions.

In fact, it is doubtful whether there are a score of U. S. corporations whose capital and net income match the amount in the Whitney-Green-Lewis-Hillman-Murray treasuries.

REVENUE—The elderly, hotheaded head of the trainers was guilty of another admission which his associates regard as particularly damaging to their cause at the present moment of labor crisis.

In personally pledging to spend the union's small fortune for purposes of political revenge against the Truman administration and members of congress who support the work-or-be-drafted program, he disclosed that the management of this vast accumulation of money is vested in the hands of a few officials who make no reports to their membership, to the government, to the securities and exchange commission or to the public.

acknowledge that it isn't good for man to be alone."

"The Devil himself can quote Scripture," the nurse cried indignantly. "I have no patience with you."

A light flashed on the board. "I'll go," the floor nurse offered. "Probably 196 smelled the coffee and is going to demand some. Well, he isn't going to get it—not this time he isn't."

"GOOD GOSH!" applauded Doctor Hallock and turned to Sally. "Somehow I never get a chance to talk to you any more, Sally," he complained. "Are you actually avoiding me—purposely?"

Sally shook her head. "Of course not. Why should I? I'm sure she feels it the safest method. Think what would happen if some nurse should take your attentions seriously. Not that I suppose for a minute that any of our girls would; but one can never be sure and, you know, you do have a certain—well—sort of seductive way with you." Her grin was disarming and he flushed as he got to his feet.

"Nuts!" he exclaimed shortly and turned to leave just as Dora Bronson came into the corridor from room 196. "You can save your sarcasm, Miss Maynard," he went on angrily, then bent over her for a moment to whisper tensely: "You do hate me, don't you?"

Sally was startled. "Don't be silly," she said sharply. "Of course I don't!" and was vaguely troubled at his soft but triumphant chuckle as he sprang down the dim corridor to the stairs.

(To Be Continued)

Peter Edson's Column:

THE PARADOX OF THE RAILROAD STRIKE

WASHINGTON (NEA) — The strangest aspect of the entire two-day railway strike crisis was that the quietest place in Washington, the place least concerned with all the rumpus, was the National Mediation board itself. On the day the strike was settled, there was only one new girl at work in the National Mediation board offices—the place where railway labor disputes are supposed to be settled.

The reason for this paradox was that the board had washed its hands of this particular dispute last January. It reported then to the President that it was unable to settle the issue. Thereafter, the dispute belonged first to two special arbitration boards, then to an emergency board appointed by the President in March. When this emergency board failed to settle the dispute in April, it was right back on the White House doorstep in the mery month of May.

This brief chronology raises a number of important doubts. Why did the National Mediation board fail? Are there certain weaknesses in the Railway Labor Act that need fixing?

THE LAW, NON-COMPULSORY, WORKED FOR 10 YEARS

Railway labor leaders and railroad executives wrote this law themselves to provide machinery for keeping the peace. The law worked for 10 years, though there was nothing compulsory about it, and all agreements had to be arrived at by voluntary means. The act worked until A. F. Whitney of the trainmen and Alvany Johnston of the engineers came along with what has been characterized by such authorities as Donald Richberg as a deliberate attempt to wreck it.

Aside from that, there are some leaders among the railway brotherhoods who feel that the administration of the law has been allowed to grow weak in recent years. They feel they have a genuine gripe against the government for this laxness.

William M. Leiserson, chairman of the National Mediation board until July, 1944, was a pillar of strength who made the law work through the mere force of his character. When he resigned, Harry H. Schwartz, became chairman. He is a lame-duck democratic senator from Wyoming, a nice enough old gentleman but not too forceful and not very experienced in labor relations.

The second member, George A. Cook, is thoroughly experienced in labor relations, having worked at them all his life. But he wants to resign and will step out July 31.

The third member, Judge Frank P. Douglas, a former state judge in Oklahoma, has served on many labor mediation panels. He is relatively inexperienced in railway labor matters, and the brotherhoods claim he spends too much time on his ranch and not enough in Washington.

In summary, it is charged that the National Mediation board, as now constituted, is not strong enough to work things out itself, and so has to dump them on the White House. What it needs is more men of the Leiserson and Cook experience.

THREE BOARDS ARRIVED AT 16-CENT-RAISE FORMULA

When the National Mediation board gave up on the big rain wage case of the five operating brotherhoods to arbitration boards. The case of the 16 non-operating brotherhoods went to a three-man panel on which the public member was Judge Richard P. Mitchell of Iowa. The case of the 16 non-operating brotherhoods went before a six-man panel on which the two public members were Judge E. M. Tipton of Missouri, and Judge Herbert Rudolph of South Dakota. These arbitration boards recommended the 16-cent-an-hour increase which was later approved by a special three-



man emergency board.

The complaint of the railway brotherhoods, as voiced by T. C. Cashen of the switchmen is, briefly, this:

The brotherhoods were willing to arbitrate, he says in effect. They wanted peaceful settlement. They wanted to show what could be achieved without strikes, violence, and tearing the country all apart.

This was the biggest arbitration case in U. S. history, involving over a million men. It called for big men to make the decision. It should have been headlined on the first pages. Instead, it was buried on the financial pages, or not printed at all.

Cashen charges openly that the public members of the arbitration boards were indiscreet enough to say that their principal concern was in keeping down the freight rates on grain shipped from their midwestern farms. Yet the brotherhoods had thought that, by submitting peacefully to arbitration, they would get at least as much as had been awarded the steel and auto unions which struck and threw the country into economic chaos. Instead, the railroaders got less.

That same reasoning is, apparently, what made Alvany Johnston and A. F. Whitney feel justified in calling a strike for their engineers and trainmen—to get theirs by force, the same as the auto and steelworkers had.

