

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

### Weigh President's Political Fate After Labor Crisis; U. S. Agrees To Aid French Reconstruction

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EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.



**WASHINGTON SCENE**— In top panel, General Eisenhower (left), and Admiral Nimitz (center), ask for Pan-American defense in testimony before house military committee presided over by Representative Bloom (Dem., N. Y.), at right. In lower picture, Treasury Secretary Vinson (left), watches Secretary of State Byrnes sign French loan agreement as Ambassador Bonnet and Leon Blum of France also look on.

### WHITE HOUSE: President's Status

Amid the welter of reconversion difficulties, climaxed by the great railroad and coal strikes, the political status of Harry S. Truman, 32nd president of the U. S., remained clouded.

Inheriting a thankless task from the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, the one-time Missouri farm boy, whom A. F. Whitney of the Railroad Trainmen lashed as a "political accident," seemed to have reached a crisis in his public life in the railroad strike. With reaction still mixed only time would tell the effects.

An avalanche of telegrams from average Americans commending him for his courageous action in the railroad strike were partly offset by the bitter denunciations of the Railroad Trainmen's chief. Declaring that the President had led him and Alvanley Johnston of the Locomo-



Members of White House secretarial staff pore over flood of telegrams complimenting President Truman on strike action.

otive Engineers into believing that they could expect substantial concessions if they postponed their walkout, Whitney said they had been double-crossed and 2½ million dollars would be spent in trying to defeat Mr. Truman in 1948.

Linked with the breaking of the railroad strike was the passage of restrictive labor legislation which tended to further complicate Mr. Truman's position. With strong sentiment for such legislation in and out of congress, the President stood to lose much of the popularity he gained in getting the trains going by bucking labor regulation, while he was faced with the potent disfavor of unionists if he approved it.

Meanwhile, settlement of the soft coal strike on terms favorable to the United Mine Workers promised to increase the prestige of John L. Lewis, whose clever handling of the walkout enabled him to escape presidential censure. With his hard-won health and welfare fund, burly John L., at 66, took a front position in the AFL on the eve of its great organization drive in the south in competition with the CIO.

### FRANCE: Big Loan

Having helped France in wresting its freedom on the battlefield, the U. S. committed itself to assisting the liberated country in peacetime

reconstruction with the advance of a \$1,400,000,000 loan and credit from the Export-Import bank.

Climaxing 11 weeks of negotiations between the two countries, the agreement provides for a cash loan of \$650,000,000 and a credit of \$720,000,000 for title to lend-lease material shipped after the war and U. S. surplus property. Further discussions are being held over an additional \$25,000,000 credit for acquisition of 750,000 tons of merchant shipping.

Under the easy terms of the agreement, no principal payments will be expected for the first five years, but interest of 3 per cent on the loan and 2 per cent on the credit will start next July. Beginning in 1951, the loan is to be paid in 20 annual installments and the credit in 25.

### PAN-AMERICA: Joint Defense

In testifying in behalf of President Truman's plan for helping arm and organize South American countries and Canada in a grand defense system, General of the Army Eisenhower and Fleet Admiral Nimitz told a congressional committee that hemispheric solidarity would discourage aggressive designs against this part of the world.

Stressing the need for standardization of equipment among the Pan-American nations, the military and naval chieftains declared that a similarity of weapons and tactics would simplify a common defense in case of attack. Unless the U. S. provided the arms, they said, the different countries would look elsewhere for material.

Visualizing a joint naval task force of Pan-American nations operating under a unified command, Nimitz revealed the U. S. would give each country sufficient vessels to protect their own coastal waters. To come from the U. S.'s surplus of naval ships, it was believed the craft would be of the small escort or destroyer classes.

### DAIRY PRODUCTS: On Rise

Even higher prices for dairy products than recent increases granted to spur output were predicted by Stabilization Director Bowles if congress approves of a sharp cut in subsidy payments.

As a result of less stringent reductions, Bowles approved of a boost of 1 cent a quart for milk, 11 cents a pound for butter and 6 cents for cheddar cheese, but, he said, a bigger slash in subsidies would lead to an increase of 3 cents in a quart of milk and bring butter up to as much as 80 cents a pound.

The boosting of prices in the face of subsidy reductions would cost consumers \$250,000,000 a year, Bowles said. Thus, consumers would pay directly for increased prices designed to assure production of fair returns instead of having higher costs spread to all taxpayers through government outlays.

Meanwhile, representatives of the American Butter Institute declared that although an increase in butter production could be expected from higher producer returns and a ban on the sale of whipping cream, restoration of a free market was essential for output sufficient to meet the large demand.

### FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

#### U. S., Russ Clash

Stung by Foreign Commissar Molotov's charges that the U. S. and Britain had united at the Paris conference to thwart Russian demands and seek to high pressure Moscow into acceptance of their views, Secretary of State Byrnes disputed the allegations and questioned the sincerity of the accusations.

Molotov's charges were contained in a lengthy article in the Communist party paper, Pravda, as an official review of the recent Paris parley. Among other things, he belabored "certain circles" in the U. S. and Britain for seeking to throttle Russia; warned imperialists in the west are "instigating new and aggressive wars; questioned U. S. intentions for building a base in Iceland, and asserted that U. S. proposals for a 25-year demilitarization pact for Germany did not bear Stalin's approval as claimed because they were incomplete.

Hitting back at Molotov with diplomatic nicety, Byrnes denied the existence of any U. S. and British bloc, and declared that U. S. plans to appeal to the United Nations organization for a peace conference did not constitute pressure tactics but merely a willingness to submit issues to world opinion.

Passing over Molotov's castigation of "western imperialists," Byrnes went on to assert that a U. S. base in Iceland was designed for security reasons alone and could be eventually turned over to the U. N. Regarding U. S. proposals for a 25-year demilitarization pact for Germany, Byrnes averred that Stalin had assured him he would support such plans if they were presented formally.

### Stock Market on Rise

With the wage-price spiral strengthening inflation psychology, the New York stock exchange continued its steady advance to a new average peak of 15 years. Settlement of the big strikes also inspired lively bidding on prospects of increased production.

Despite temporary setbacks resulting from profit-taking, well over 1,000,000 shares were being traded daily, with utilities, steels, motors, rubbers, railroads and mail orders among the leaders. At one stage, a 60 stock average was up to 82.2, the top since March 26, 1931.

Continued heavy trading pushed Commonwealth and Southern up to \$5.50 per share; a good earnings report boosted Montgomery Ward to \$103.25; a proposal for a stock split contributed to Canada Dry's rise to \$58.50; an extra dividend helped National Lead to \$39.87 and Santa Fe rose to \$118.75.

### FLOOD: Takes Toll

Swollen by continuous rains, the Susquehanna river swirled through Pennsylvania and southern New York overflowing its banks and cracking reinforced dikes to cause heavy losses of life and property.

In the section's most serious flood in 10 years, valuable farm land was inundated and industrial centers were under water, with Williamsport, Pa., and Elmira, N. Y., especially hit hard. Williamsport with its 43,000 population lay helpless as the river rose over eight feet above flood level, and one-third of Elmira with its 45,000 people was under five feet of water with all roads but one closed.

At Athens, Pa., the Susquehanna crashed a reinforced 23-foot dike to cover the entire business section, and while the levee held at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., lowlands in the nearby Wyoming valley were flooded.

### LABOR: Test Law

Dapper little James Casar Petrillo, who laid aside a trumpet to become czar of the American Federation of Musicians, struck out to test the legality of the Lea act passed in the midst of the AFM's efforts to compel radio stations to hire standby performers when using recordings or transcriptions.

Though the act provides for up to one year's imprisonment and a \$1,000 fine for each attempt to force employment of extra help, natty little "Jimmy" called the strike at station WAAF in Chicago only after exhaustive consultations with attorneys had convinced him of the questionability of the law. In running the risk of being found guilty of violation in event of the law being upheld, he bravely exclaimed: "I am ready to face the music."

Declaring that the AFM was committed to all-out opposition of the law until the Supreme court adjudged its constitutionality, Petrillo said the act penalized AFM members for seeking to obtain fair working conditions and assuring the continued existence of the union.



### Tales of the Town:

In Sardi's a wise guy was commenting upon the way in which a news weekly picture of some notables looked dwarfed compared to Mrs. Roosevelt in their midst. "That's nothing," said Merry Mac McMichael, "to the way she dwarfs some people who aren't even in the picture."

When Queen Wilhelmina was in the United States during the war she made a tour of inspection at West Point. . . . The boys had. . . been drilled for days, and every detail of protocol was carefully studied except one. . . . No one informed the band which number to play for Her Majesty's entrance, and the leader chose one of his favorite numbers without thinking of the occasion. . . . So, as the signal was given for the Queen's entrance (with every soldier standing rigidly at attention), the band broke into: "The Old Gray Mare, She Ain't What She Used to Be."

A group of editors were discussing the pros and cons of the OPA. "The NAM is right," said one. "After all, they've got business experience that money can't buy." "They've also got lobbies," snapped a cynic, "that money can't."

The Intelligentsia: The career of Booth Tarkington is a lesson to page-struck neophytes. In the first five years of his writing apprenticeship, the two-time Pulitzer Award winner earned the vast sum of \$22.50. . . . Dorothy Thompson will also col'm for a weekly. . . . Louis Fisher, who auth'd "A Week with Gandhi," is flying to India to visit him. . . . There's a sizzling feud on between novelist James T. Farrell and book critic Sterling North. . . . Dr. Harold Urey, atom bomb scientist (one of the important ones), will betcha we have an atom bomb war in less than 5 years, if the powers don't agree soon. . . . Well, goom-bye-bye, all! S'been nize columnabg about you.

The OPA situation summed up: It's a question of whether the prices will be held down—or the people held up.

The Funnies: Alex Woolcott and Heywood Brown walked out on a new flop one night. . . . As he left his row. "A" pew, Alex bent over to pick up a flower that had fallen from a bouquet on the stage. . . . "Don't you know it is bad luck," chided Brown, "to take flowers from a grave?" . . . Percy Hammond once critiqued of a big show failure: "It is the first time in theatre history that an audience ever suffered from stage-fright."

Author Somerset Maugham points out: "All is grist for a writer's mill. I don't create from the whole cloth either of reality or of fancy. I have in my literary kit items in the newspapers, stray encounters in the street, stories I hear, no matter where. Eventually they grind, either as a story or a play."

The Story Tellers: Gene Fowler told Irving Berlin: "You are one of the very few immortals who is still mortal!"

Quotation Marksmanship: O. Henry: Her dress fitted her with fidelity and discretion. . . . Beth Brown: Up in the skyscrapers old women were filling their buckets with footprints. . . . Phil Baker: A gal looking for a guy who could make her dough-dreams come true. . . . Anon: He sat at his typewriter tenderly dispering his brain child with neatly folded phrases. . . . Mark Twain: Man was made at the end of the week's work, when God was tired. . . . Anon: When a girl winks it means one of two things: She has something in her eye or she has somebody in it. . . . Ben Hecht: He, ate like a man with a stowaway under his vest. . . . Olive Schreiner: We talk so much of intellect and knowledge but what are they? After all, the heart can't live on them. One would barter all one's knowledge for one kiss and all one's intellect for one tender touch—just one!

The Times' Berlin newsboy, Ray Daniell, reported that the Germans live in hope that there will be a war between America and Russia. They believe that such a war will give them an opportunity to revive Nazism. . . . In short, when the Allies knock each other—it's only opportunity knocking for Nazis.



### By EDWARD EMERINE

WNUP Features. "A TREASURE," says Webster's dictionary, "is a valuable store, accumulation, or reserve supply; a collection of precious things." And South Dakota is a storehouse of those treasures, a vast accumulation of nature's blessings, with a reserve supply to last man forever.

Among the precious things of South Dakota is the glorious sun itself, shining from its blue heaven almost every day in the year. And precious, too, is the clean, pure air of its plains and mountains. In its rich topsoil is the accumulation of ingredients that produce vast fields of wheat and corn and fruits. The lush grass of its ranges, where fat cattle and sheep feed, is a valuable store of wealth and contentment. Beneath the surface is a reserve supply of minerals, gold and silver, feldspar and lithium, lignite and bentonite.

As though that were not enough, South Dakota has mountains, trout streams, cabins in the pines, lakes, waterfalls, colorful canyons, the fragrance of pine and spruce. The days are cheerfully warm in South Dakota, with the nights cool and refreshing. And the Black Hills have no mosquitoes to take away the pleasure of being out of doors.

The famed Black Hills! Harney Peak rises 7,242 feet above sea level, the highest point in the United States east of the Rockies. Mount Rushmore has an altitude of 6,200 feet, and on it are sculptured the heads of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt. The largest monument ever conceived or executed by man, the Mount Rushmore National Memorial was sculptured in heroic proportions by Gutzon Borglum, the late world-renowned artist, and is called the "Shrine of Democracy." A half-million visitors come to the monument each year, and it is one of the most photographed scenes of all times. The figures on the solid granite face are carved in proportion to men 450 feet tall!

North and south the Black Hills



**M. Q. SHARPE**  
Governor of South Dakota  
Born in Marysville, Kan., January 11, 1888, Governor Sharpe taught school for two years, served four years in the U. S. navy, and has been a surveyor, newspaper man, lawyer, soldier in World War I, and has had varied other business interests.



Sylvan Lake in the Black Hills.

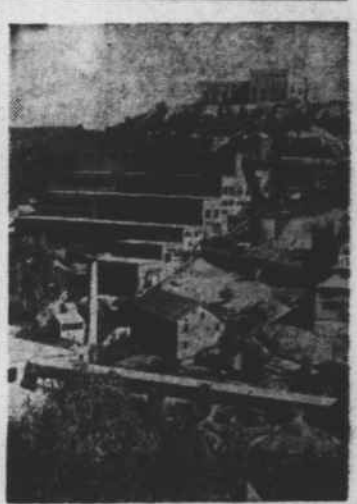
stretch 125 miles and are approximately 50 miles wide. There is Custer state park, with 128,000 acres of mountains, gorges, lakes and streams, and 90,000 acres under fence, with buffalo, elk, deer, bighorn sheep, Rocky mountain goats, antelope and other animals roaming unmolested. President Coolidge had his summer White House there in 1927, and left reluctantly. "I'm coming back," he promised.

**Skeletons of Ancient Beasts.**  
The Big Badlands covering a million acres lie east of the Black Hills, and is one of the most important fossil deposits of prehistoric life. Fossils of alligators, rhinoceroses, hippopotamuses, saber-toothed tigers, three-toed horses and other long-extinct animals are found here and displayed in most of the important museums.

East and northeast of the Badlands, South Dakota is mostly rolling prairie, falling to lowest levels in the northeastern part of the state. Big Stone Lake is the lowest point, 967 feet above sea level. The great Missouri river drains most of the state, cutting South Dakota into two almost equal parts as it flows through it.

The agricultural treasure house of America is filled with corn, cane, wheat, oats, barley, flax and fruits from South Dakota. The vast plains area has a big dairy industry, and beef cattle are grown in all parts of the state. The production of livestock is the main feature of the state's extensive agricultural industry. Hot Springs is the headquarters of horse-breeding, and is also known for its medicinal waters. At the annual Black Hills Round-Up at Belle Fourche, real cowboys from the surrounding cattle ranges compete in riding and roping.

The mineral resources of South Dakota include more than 60 basic minerals, including gold, silver, tin, zinc and others. Many of these deposits are not of economic importance at the moment, but will become important in the future. At any rate, they remain in South Dakota's Treasure House, a reserve supply whenever the nation needs them. At Lead is the largest producing gold mine in the United States. The "Days of '76" celebration at Deadwood re-enacts many of the events of the historic gold rush days, when Wild Bill, Dead-



**HOMESTAKE MINE . . .** At Lead, S. D., known all over the world as the greatest producer of gold ever discovered.

wood Dick, Calamity Jane and other Wild West notables were seen on the streets of this mining center. A pageant descriptive of the Red Man's history of creation is held each year at Custer and called "Gold Discovery Days."

Settlement of South Dakota came slowly, although the Verendrye brothers, Frenchmen from Canada, visited the region in 1743. In 1804 and 1806 the Lewis and Clarke expedition followed the Missouri river throughout the area. Fort Teton was established in 1817 on the site of Fort Pierre, and in 1831 the American Fur company pushed a steamer into the territory.

Both plainsmen and mountain men helped build South Dakota and bring to light its treasures. That there might always be intelligent appreciation of the state, seven institutions of higher learning, all state-supported, were founded. They are the University of South Dakota, Vermillion; South Dakota State college, Brookings; School of Mines, Rapid City; and four normal schools. There are five junior colleges in the state.

Young, thriving and rich, South Dakota does not hoard its wealth, nor does it allow waste. Its treasures are open to all—for the reserves are ample.

