

Another Coal Mine Walkout Is Threatened

John L. Lewis Denounces Decision Of Ickes To Fine Strikers

U. M. W. CHIEF IS ANGRY

Boss Of Workers Refrains From Saying What Action To Be Taken

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Another coal strike threatened tonight as John L. Lewis angrily denounced what he called "a brutal application of economic sanctions" by the decision of Secretary Ickes that bituminous miners who took part in the June 1-5 walkout will be fined \$1 a day.

Lewis himself refrained from saying what he would do about the action taken by the government boss of the coal mines, but some United Mine Workers officials in the field warned of another work stoppage.

Action Is Condemned

"An unwarranted, illegal act," Lewis said in a statement today. "An act which will cost nearly \$3,000,000 worth of coal from the fingers and mouths of children of the mining camps—a brutal application of economic sanctions against free citizens, another step toward political tyranny in America."

Looking for peace in the industry also were indications that the War Labor Board did not look favorably on \$1.30 a day pay for underground travel.

Lewis, leader of the United Mine Workers, won agreement last night of the central Pennsylvania association of employers for \$5,000 to this payment. However, the figure is subject to WLB approval and pointed questions by members of the board at public hearings today suggested that it might be modified.

"What the miners' reaction would be to such a board move was speculative. In the past, Lewis has roundly denounced the board for what he termed its interference with collective bargaining, and threatened to take to court charges that the board violates the Wagner Labor Relations act guaranteeing collective bargaining."

Secretary Ickes, who as fuel administrator has operated the mines for the government since their seizure May 1, told a press conference he intended to invoke provisions of the old contract providing a penalty of \$1 a day (in some cases \$2 a day) if a miner fails to work without good reason. This contract expired March 31, but the U. M. W. progressively extended it for three periods.

Lewis, in his statement today, however, contended that the contract had expired at the time of the last work stoppage and "the United Mine Workers cannot understand how fines can be levied under the provisions of an expired contract."

Ickes said the government had ordered the old contract extended indefinitely until a new agreement was reached, and that hence the penalties applied. He declared, however, that penalties would be levied only if there was any future walkout. The U. M. W. order ending the June 1 walkout was made effective only through June 20.

In the mine fields there was an immediate outcry against Ickes' announcement. A union official at Palmont, W. Va., asserted, "this means another walkout," and one at Harlan, Ky., where 1,350 miners are idle "waiting for a contract," declared fines "will just

OPA Rationing Officer Favors 'Meatless Days'

By establishing meatless days in New Hanover county, this area would be "falling in line with the rationing that other communities, where the meat shortage is less acute, have taken," D. J. Herrin, rationing officer of OPA district headquarters said Thursday in an elaborate report to the move to eliminate meat consumption here one day a week.

Mr. Herrin, who conducted a survey which revealed that Wilmington is receiving only 35 percent of the amount of meat shipped here a year ago, indicated that he is in favor of any measure that would help bring about a more equitable distribution of the product. "The meat is not here in quantity," he said.

Senator Says Strike Bill Would Give WLB Power To Rule Labor

WASHINGTON, June 10.—(AP)—Senator Danaher (R-Conn.) charged in the Senate today that a revised anti-strike bill approved by a joint Senate-house committee would "give the War Labor Board overriding power actually to write labor contracts from one end of the country to another."

Danaher was on the committee but he said he would not sign its report. He complained that the amended version of the bill, which previously had passed both houses in different form, would freeze labor conditions in war plants where controversies threatened to bring about a strike and where the government stepped in to take control of the facility.

ICKES SEEKS GAS RATION POWER

Interior Secretary Wants To Handle Disbursement Of Supplies

WASHINGTON, June 10.—(AP)—Secretary Ickes disclosed today that he is seeking to obtain gasoline rationing powers now exercised by the Office of Price Administration (OPA), and in testimony before a Congressional committee also said:

1. East Coast residents who heat their homes with oil cannot look for any larger fuel supplies in the coming winter than they had in the last one.

2. The Eastern Seaboard gasoline famine would not be relieved by greater restrictions at present on use of motor fuel in the Midwest since the gasoline saved could not now be moved to the East by already over-taxed transportation facilities.

Ickes' deputy at petroleum administration, Ralph K. Davies, told the committee that the Midwest would be safe from increased restrictions at least until August 1, when the Illinois-to-East Coast leg of the 24-inch oil pipeline is completed. In this connection, Ickes said later in a statement:

"We are approaching the time when it is quite possible that we shall be able to move so much out of the Middle-West that greater civilian restrictions in that section may be necessary in order to make sufficient products available."

"When that time arrives, we shall without a moment's hesitation recommend the imposition of such additional restrictions, just as we have said time and again that we would."

Ickes also asserted that inventories of petroleum products are "going down" in North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida—the Eastern states exempted from the recent ban on pleasure driving—and a surplus there will not exist very long.

As petroleum administrator, he testified before a special committee of legislators from Atlantic Coastal states. In connection with his statement that he had asked the War Production Board to take gasoline rationing from OPA and give it to him, other sources said Ickes felt that under the present system he "sets up the bank account and somebody else has the check book."

Ickes is empowered now to say where gasoline should be rationed, but OPA determines the amount of the ration.

These sources said Ickes also had asked authority to handle coal rationing, should that become necessary.

Asked why he did not favor building up reserves in the Midwest through imposition immediately of the same rationing as in the East, he said:

New Tax Bill Is Approved By Roosevelt

President Signs Pay-As-You-Go Revenue Measure; Is Now Law

COMPROMISE METHOD

Newest Addition To Nation's Statutes Worked Out By Solons

WASHINGTON, June 10.—(AP)—President Roosevelt signed the pay-as-you-go tax bill today, even as his aides conferred on a program to raise the \$16,000,000,000 in additional savings and revenue he has requested for this term.

The measure approved by the President is the compromise worked out by Senate and House after Mr. Roosevelt announced he would not sign the Senate's Ruml-like bill granting abatement of a full year's taxes to virtually all of the nation's 44,000,000 individual income taxpayers.

The new law grants no relief from the quarterly tax installment due next Tuesday on 1942 tax liabilities. It does, however, give 75 per cent to 100 per cent abatement on either 1942 or 1943 taxes, and sets up a 20 per cent withholding levy against wages and salaries, starting July 1.

The Treasury was reported to have presented to James F. Byrnes war mobilization director, a comprehensive program covering Mr. Roosevelt's \$16,000,000,000 request. Informants who did not wish to be identified said the program centers on a spending tax and includes new excise levies and suggestions for increasing individual and corporation income taxes.

Byrnes met with Randolph Paul, Treasury counsel; Harold D. Smith, (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

21,548 PLEDGES MADE TO CHEST

Analysis Of Campaign Results Is Announced By Secretary Stearns

An estimate of total of 21,548 pledges was made in the United Community and War Chest campaign last fall, George Stearns, secretary of the chest, announced Thursday, following the completion of an analysis of campaign results.

These 21,548 persons gave a total of \$110,592.

By far the largest number of pledges were for amounts less than \$5, this total representing an estimated 18,380 donors giving \$49,483, and amounting to 54.8 of the funds raised.

Next came those who gave from \$5 to \$9; this group numbered 1,838. There were 494 persons to contribute \$25 and over; 121 to give \$50 and over; 138 who gave \$100 and over. There were 25 persons who contributed more than \$250; and five who gave between \$1,000 and \$5,000.

The second highest percentage of money raised, next to that of the less than \$5 group, was contributed by those who gave \$25 and over, the figure being 37.5 of the total. The largest individual contributions, donations of \$1,000 and more, accounted for only six per cent of the entire fund.

WEATHER

FORECAST North Carolina: Little change in temperature.

(Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday.

State Department Lays Out Policy On War Victims

WASHINGTON, June 10.—(AP)—The State Department today announced a draft agreement for rehabilitation administration, a central agency to feed and otherwise assist war victims, was announced tonight by the State Department.

Approved by the United States, Great Britain, Soviet Russia, and China, the document was sent to the governments of all the 28 other United Nations and the 11 nations associated with them in the war for their consideration. The French authorities at Algiers also were informed of it.

The department expressed the hope that preliminary discussion of what it termed the tentative plan would "speedily clear the way" for a conference of all these nations to reach a definite agreement for joint action.

Under the proposed agreement, the nations would establish immediately the central agency, with a council, central committee and regional, as well as technical, standing committees. They would assume responsibility for meeting the basic needs of war victims, particularly peoples in areas liberated from Axis dominations.

OPA WILL PROBE SHORTAGE OF ICE

State Headquarters Begins Investigation Of Condition Here

With a view to easing the general ice shortage in Wilmington, state headquarters of the Office of Price Administration began a survey of the problem Thursday, according to an announcement made by OPA officials Thursday night.

T. S. Johnson, director of OPA, declared that the seriousness of the local situation, necessitating shipments of ice from Philadelphia, had been brought to the attention of the state office and was deserving of thorough study.

Among the phases of the problem to be discussed, Johnson said, is the need for price adjustments to warrant the sale of foreign ice.

The Office of Price Administration is one of several organizations attempting to bring relief to the city, after a week of ice shortage. Local ice firms, wholesale and retail, the board of health, city and county governments, have entered into negotiations to lessen the hardship imposed by decreased supply.

Promised shipments of ice from Philadelphia had not arrived late Thursday night, according to word from the Independent Ice company, instrumental in importing the extra quantities. Considerable loss by melting was counted as a strong probability, even if the shipments should arrive by early Friday morning. The journey from Philadelphia began at 3 p. m. Wednesday.

More important than the shipments from Philadelphia in the temporary relief of the situation was the board of health, city and county governments, of the Independent firm said.

The ice problem, scheduled for discussion in the meeting of the county Board of Health Thursday night, was the subject of a letter from the Philadelphia Board of Health to Wilmington.

The Argentine government tonight cancelled facilities which have permitted Axis embassies and nationals to transmit code messages to their capital.

The government took this step in compliance with the resolution adopted in Rio de Janeiro by American foreign ministers against Axis espionage.

Under the previous government, Axis embassies and nationals have been able to send 100-word code messages daily. Many observers held that the messages contained ship information which aided the Axis in its submarine war.

Big American Raids On Axis Are Forecast

U. S. Airforce In Britain Rapidly Approaching RAF's Strength

HUGE ASSAULTS SEEN

General Ira Eaker Predicts Many Attacks In Single Day

LONDON, June 10.—(AP)—The strength of the Eighth United States Air Force, which is rapidly approaching parity with the RAF in Britain, will be used to hit the enemy in three, four, five or more places in a single day with bombing fleets capable of obliterating any normal industrial target, Maj. Gen. Ira C. Eaker disclosed today.

Having doubled in size since March and growing at the rate of 15 to 30 per cent monthly, the U. S. Bomber Command was able to send nearly 300 of its heavyweights against St. Nazaire, Rennes and La Pallice in a three-way raid on May 29, the Eighth Air Force commander told a press conference.

Separate Sorties Planned Separate, medium-sized bomber forces will be used in multiple raids against pinpoint targets in the future rather than concentrating a fleet of many hundreds over a single city as the RAF does in area bombing at night, Eaker indicated.

Eaker said that the forces such as the American command has been using recently "can be guaranteed to saturate and obliterate any normal industrial target. We have found also that a formation of this size can defend itself and will sustain normally losses of five per cent or less."

"We shall, by and large, therefore launch as many such assaults on any favorable day as we have the overall force to effect. The chief defensive advantage of these multiple raids is to prevent the enemy from concentrating his defenses on a single fleet, which he has been able to do in the past when the Americans were able to send out only one force."

Despite all handicaps, Eaker explained, losses on these small force raids have run less than four per cent since the American bombings began 10 months ago, and have shown no tendency to increase with heavier operations. In fact, he said, the record-breaking May operations have tended to prove that the "loss curve goes down as the force goes up."

Eaker recalled that a year ago British Chief Air Marshal A. T. Harris, answering those who said that mass bombings alone cannot win a war, said that it hadn't been tried yet, and that Germany would make an interesting subject. He predicted at that time that joint British-American mass bombing of the Reich could, and

Argentine Stops Axis Code Message Use

Government Takes Step In Compliance With Resolution Adopted Against Espionage Activity By Foreign Ministers

BUENOS AIRES, June 10.—(AP)—The Argentine government tonight cancelled facilities which have permitted Axis embassies and nationals to transmit code messages to their capital.

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CONDEMNED GARRISON ON PANTELLERIA HIT AGAIN BY U. S. BOMBS

Boy Masters Artillery Problems



Francis N. Brogden, 15, astounded artillerymen by mastering the tough officer candidate gunnery course after a friendly officer invited him to sit on a class. Francis wants to be an artillery officer when he grows up, and was born on the Fort Sill (Okla.) post. With Fort Sill artillerymen gathered around, he demonstrates his ability.

Il Duce Seeks Bulwark Against Allied Attack

LONDON, June 10.—(AP)—The Allied air siege of Italy's island bastions thundered on without interruption today while Mussolini, unhappily observing the third anniversary of his entry into war, sought to buttress his country against invasion by a shakeup of provincial governments.

Pantelleria, the first island stepping stone for Allied invaders, shook under the impact of an aerial assault which has been going on for 18 days.

Besieged from air and sea—by blockading naval fleets which have thrown in six devastating bombardments—the island's reduction was considered in some London quarters to be only a matter of time despite the garrison's silence in the face of the Allied demand for surrender.

From here it appeared that this Mediterranean fortress already had been effectively neutralized and that its occupation was imminent. Some observers considered the possibility that, since its defenses now were virtually useless, the island might be by-passed in the event of a great offensive move. However, it does have an airfield that might be useful.

Mussolini's frantic anti-invasion efforts were disclosed in a Rome radio announcement of the mass firing and shifting of prefects in 29 provincial capitals up and down Italy and in Sardinia and Sicily.

This announcement was broadcast between nervous trumpeting that "as each hour goes by we await the enemy" and by plaintive anniversary reminiscences on what might have been if Italy's colonial ambitions had been realized after the last war.

All this was far removed from Mussolini's bombast when he strutted out on the balcony of the Palazzo Venezia three years ago to declare war, and to shout: "The time has come when Italy's need for expansion is about to be realized."

The fever was rising elsewhere in Europe. Italy's occupation army of 50,000 in Corsica was reported working

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SICILY IS POUNDED

39-1 Aerial Victory Won Over Intercepting Axis Aircraft

DEFENSE IS DEFEATED

Tiny Island's Defenders Try To Stem Tide Of Allied Might

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, June 10.—(AP)—American airmen laid explosives across condemned Pantelleria's scarred face again yesterday, tore up two Sicilian airfields near volcanic Mount Etna, and won a 39-to-1 aerial victory at those invasion-jittery Italian outposts, it was disclosed officially today.

Pantelleria, living with a noose around its neck since its refusal to surrender, put up a strong but futile fighter defense against the invasion spearheads. Of the 20 German and Italian fighters arising from the little island, 12 were shot down at a cost of one Allied plane.

Striking northeast of Pantelleria 50 U. S. Liberators from the Middle East Command destroyed 24 parked planes at Catania and Gerbini in Sicily, and shot down at least three of the 20 to 25 intervening Axis fighters. No American planes were lost in that twin stab.

Photos Reveal Damage The terrific pounding of Pantelleria, roughly mid-way between Tunisia and Sicily, was illustrated vividly by aerial reconnaissance photos displayed here. One showed a five-mile-long pall of smoke and dust blanketing the northeastern shoreline which has been under almost ceaseless bombardment by American airmen and British warships.

Each day, and usually each night, this scene has been repeated by what the Rome radio calls "forces of crushing superiority"—an Axis phrase reminiscent of the days just before Italian and German land armies collapsed in Tunisia.

Bomb-carrying American Lightnings participated in the American bomber assault on Pantelleria. The Lightning knocked down five Messerschmitt 109s, while other U. S. planes were credited with four Macchi-202s, two Me-109s, and one Focke Wulf-109.

The size of the bombing force was not disclosed. A Cairo communique said the Liberator attack on Catania, on the Sicilian east coast, and at Gerbini, 13 miles inland, left "numerous large fires with columns of black smoke rising from them."

More than 250,000 pounds of demolition, fragmentation, and fire bombs were dropped. "Bomb were seen to burst in hangars and administration buildings at both airfields," the communique said. "At least two dozen enemy aircraft were seen to be destroyed on the ground. Many others were damaged."

In combat the Americans shot down three planes, probably destroyed two others, and damaged still more, without loss to themselves.

Early one morning, after they had been at sea for a few days, there was a terrific explosion, which brought me hurriedly from my bunk. I had the presence of mind to stick my feet in a pair of shoes with zipper laces, and grab a brief case containing ship's papers in my hurried exit to the boat deck. My station was up forward at Number 2 lifeboat. We

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

Former Wilmingtonian Describes Convoy Work

Editor's note: The following story was written by John Stillman, formerly in the editorial department of the Star-News, now a purser in the American Merchant Marine. It has been passed by censor.

By John Stillman, Jr. In a convoy, somewhere in the Atlantic, a command from the bridge sent our vessel slow ahead, and we proceeded to sea from a port "somewhere on the east coast of the United States." We moved through the calm water and finally reached open sea.

The convoy was met late the same morning and formed at a prearranged rendezvous. Escort vessels combed the area continuously. We got under way and proceeded on our course.

NOTICE!

If your carrier fails to leave your copy of the Wilmington Morning Star, Phone 2-3311 before 9:00 a. m. and one will be sent to you by special messenger.