

WLB Locked In Arguments On Coal Wage

No Indication Seen When Vote May Come On Latest Row

IN CLOSED SESSION

Deliberations Resumed By Board After Day Of Indecision

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—(AP)—The War Labor Board was locked in argument to-night over the Ickes-Lewis coal wage agreement, and there was no indication when a vote might come on the question of approving it.

A vote originally had been scheduled for 11 a. m. (E. W. T.) Members said last night after all-day study of the proposal that there was an agreement to take a ballot at that hour this morning. Instead, the board remained in session behind closed doors all the forenoon, recessed for lunch, and then resumed deliberations which went on into the night.

Board Must Okch Plan The board must approve the agreement if it is to become effective, and reports from the coal fields said many miners were desiring a return to work until it was.

Partial operations were resumed in major producing states. John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, ordered the strikers to resume production as quickly as possible after he and Secretary of Interior Ickes, as government operator of the seized mines, agreed Wednesday on a working contract for the period of government operations.

One WLB member said tonight at the start of a dinner recess (6:50 to 8:30 p. m. EWT) that the board hoped to reach a decision on the agreement within hours.

This contract embraces essential features of the previous agreement negotiated between Lewis and the Ickes operators association but turned down by the WLB. To meet WLB objections to the \$1.50 a day increased earnings provided in the Ickes proposal, Lewis and Ickes proposed to increase the working 15 minutes by cutting the 30-minute lunch period in half.

It would mean a basic wage of \$3.50 a day for an 8 3/4-hour "portal-portal" working day. The scale has been \$7 for a 7-hour day calculated on the basis of time spent at the coal face or seam. Anthracite miners, adding 15 minutes to their 7-hour working day by a similar cut in the lunch period, would receive 37.8 cents a day increase in earnings.

With coal production reduced by the series of earlier scattered strikes as well as the general shutdown beginning last Monday, there were increasing reports of fuel shortages.

Governor B. B. Hickenlooper announced at Des Moines that the Iowa state capital was so nearly out of coal that a half-time heating program was being instituted. At Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in the heart of the anthracite belt, it was decided to extend the Armistice Day school holiday until the following Monday because schools are short of fuel.

Reports on the progress of returning the mines to production indicated Illinois—Operations about 35 to 40 per cent of normal. Several thousand miners asked to be allowed to go back to work under the old contract pending study of the Ickes-Lewis agreement, but op-

More Bureaucratic Abuse

(An Editorial)

The main question has not been whether there is enough water at Hood's Creek to meet Wilmington's requirements but whether it is salt-free the year around.

When the War Production Board refuses to release enough material to extend the pipeline to King's Bluff, on the ground that the Hood's Creek supply is sufficient, it sidesteps the main issue and does Wilmington a disservice.

Apparently it is content to know that water may flow through the city's mains at all times and doesn't give a hang if it is nauseating when the rainfall is small and autumnal tides are high.

Repeated surveys have shown that the only source of flowing water adequate for this growing city and free from salt is behind the dam at King's Bluff. The dam offers a barrier to salt, however high the tide may rise or far up the Cape Fear it may infiltrate.

There is no assurance that the water from Hood's Creek will not become brackish again as it has in the past. Signs of salt are plain to see there.

Yet the WPB refuses to attach any weight to the city's claim to salt-free water and seems to think consumers ought to be grateful for any water at all, whether drinkable or not.

Wilmington has been persistently mistreated by bureaucrats since they came into power. Its people have been subjected to unjust discrimination in food and the necessities of life in general. They ought to be used to bureaucratic persecution by now, and experience no particular disappointment at this new evidence of Washington's antagonistic attitude, and it may be that they are so hardened by adversity that the ruling on water does not shock them. Abuses like an abscess, sets up its own immunity, for a time.

Even so, there is no good excuse for them to take it lying down and metaphorically grovel under Washington's lash. When Washington turned thumbs down on Henry Kaiser he went ahead anyway. Wilmington needs no better example than is offered by him. Let it "go it alone" as he did and take its chances with the bureaucrats. They could not defeat him, as his fleet of ships proves. With equal determination they cannot beat Wilmington.

It would cost less to fight them through the courts than it does to replace plumbing and boilers ruined by the salt water the WPB says is good enough for this benighted community.

City Council Planning New Water Battle

On Of Fight For King's Bluff Line Is Slated

PORTS CONSIDERED

Delegates To Washington Hearing Return With New Data

The city council elected to continue its fight for extension of the water pipeline to King's Bluff Friday at a special session when members voted to appeal the decision of the War Production Board which denied Wilmington's latest plea for materials for construction of the project.

Appeal To Be Prepared After considering the reports of W. B. Campbell, city attorney, City Engineer J. A. Loughlin and Consulting Engineer W. C. Isen, who returned Friday from a trip to Washington where they presented the city's project to the War Production Board for a hearing, the council instructed Mr. Campbell to prepare the appeal to be forwarded to the Appeals and Review Board of WPB.

Mr. Campbell said Friday the data would be arranged and the appeal prepared without delay and sent to Washington. There is no fixed time for action by the board on the appeal, but Mr. Campbell estimated it might take two weeks for a reply to this latest move by the city.

Meanwhile, city officials announced plans to compile a comprehensive report on the entire pipeline project problem for submission to the Appeals and Review Board of WPB.

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KIEV OUTFLANKED BY REDS DRIVING FROM THE NORTH; ALLIES OVERRUN NAZI LINE

HALFWAY TO ROME

Americans Stream Through Shattered German Defenses

BRITISH SLASH AHEAD

Montgomery's Forces Plunging Toward Main Supply Area

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Nov. 5.—(AP)—Halfway to Rome from its bloody Salerno beachhead, the American Fifth Army streamed through shattered German defenses to the flooded mouth of the Garigliano river on the Mediterranean today, while the hard-driving British Eighth Army slashed on toward the enemy's main supply lifeline to the Trigno river sector on the Adriatic.

The two armies together overran more than a score of towns and villages in their advances yesterday, it was disclosed at headquarters today.

FIGHTING NEAR VENAFRO

American troops were fighting on the heights overlooking Venafro, a central anchor of the Nazis' collapsed Mastic ridge line, and the city's fall was believed imminent. All along the Fifth Army front German troops were falling back under continuous, heavy pressure toward their next stand along the Aurunci mountain range.

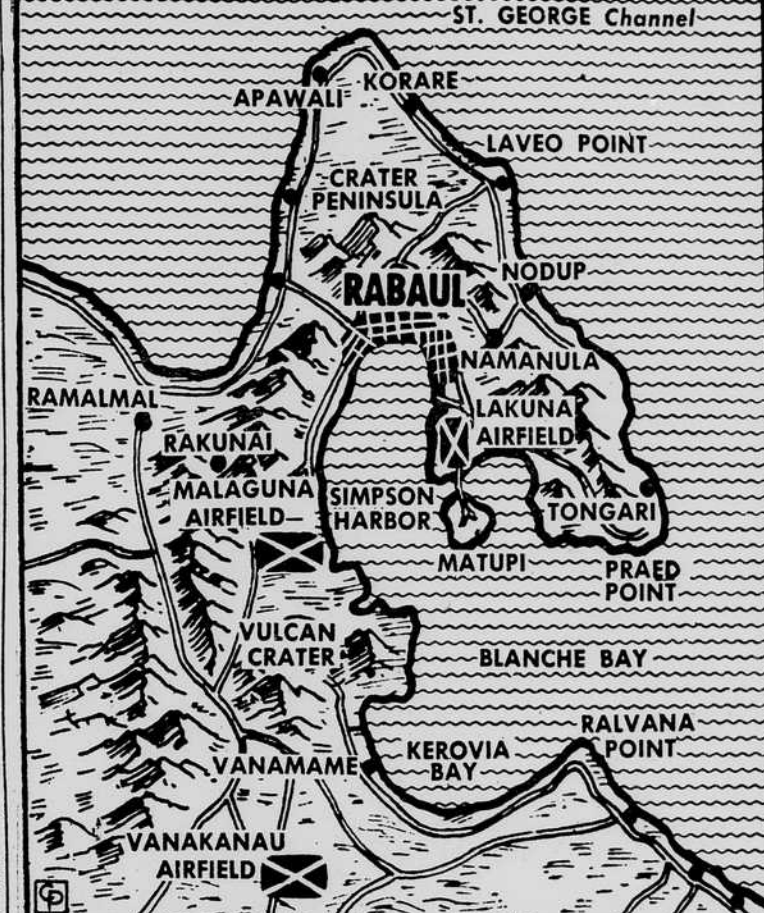
(D. N. B., German news agency, announced that Nazi troops had evacuated Venafro.)

Hope was revived that Allied forces would fight their way into Rome, now only 75 miles away, by Christmas or New Year's.

After days of savage fighting, in which numerous Nazi tank-led

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Rabaul—Allied Objective



The real test of Jap fighting strength in the southwest Pacific is near at hand as Allied forces push closer to the big enemy base at Rabaul, New Britain. The tempo of the Allied march through the Solomons has speeded up considerably in the last two weeks.

Japs Reinforcing Rabaul To Offset Allied Drives

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Saturday, Nov. 6.—(AP)—Presaging heavy naval and air battles to come, Japan is rushing both heavy and light cruisers from Truk to Rabaul in a frantic effort to halt the Allied drive up the Solomons, headquarters disclosed today.

It appeared likely that at least five such convoys now are southbound over the 800 miles from Truk toward Kavieng, New Ireland, and Rabaul, New Britain.

Public Is Urged To Follow Lanes

Chief Of Police Calls On Drivers To Obey Traffic Rules

Police Chief C. H. Casteen Friday afternoon called on citizens of Wilmington to cooperate in reducing traffic hazards by properly using the traffic lanes on city streets.

The lanes, the chief pointed out, are plainly marked off by white lines painted onto the surface of the pavement. The purpose of the lanes is to eliminate traffic haz-

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CITY SURROUNDED

Russians Suddenly Pounce Down On Ancient Cathedral Town

MANY VILLAGES TAKEN

Priorka Is Captured And Svyatoshin Also Seized In Drive

LONDON, Saturday, Nov. 6.—(AP)—Soviet forces swarmed down from the north into the northern and western suburbs of Kiev to outflank that historic cathedral city and surround it on three sides in a major new Russian drive that broke through two German defense lines, Moscow announced today.

Entrenched for more than a month on a Dnieper river island a few hundred yards from the eastern cliffs of Kiev, the Russians suddenly pounced down on the city from their bridgehead in the north and in a 16-mile advance in 24 hours broke the German defense lines one after the other.

A number of strongly fortified settlements fell to the victorious Russians as large German forces fled, a midnight bulletin said.

Railway Is Seized

The Russians captured Priorka, three miles north of Kiev, and then smashed into Svyatoshin, four miles to the west, cutting first the railway to Korosten, 82 miles to the northwest, then the road to Zhitomir, 80 miles to the west.

"Large enemy forces were routed," said the Moscow midnight communique supplement recorded by the Soviet monitor.

"The enemy is desperately trying to halt the advance of the Soviet troops. He is hastily bringing up reserves of infantry and tanks and throwing them into the battle from the march."

"Eleven Hitlerite counter-attacks were repulsed with heavy losses to them. About 3,000 German officers and men were wiped out."

The Russians said their troops wrecked 28 German tanks and many guns and trucks in their advance, and in one sector captured 45 field guns, 72 mortars, 140 machineguns, nine large supply dumps and other war material.

"The Germans now could escape only to the southwest and the city appeared doomed as the Russian drive gained momentum."

"The Germans were expected to begin evacuating the centuries-old 'mother of Russian cities' shortly, if they have not already begun their retreat."

"The battle for the possession of Kiev is now in progress," a Berlin broadcast had said earlier.

Cleaving up in the south between the Dnieper river and the Black Sea, the Russians "completely cleared the German Fascist invaders from the territory of the peninsula south of the Dnieper delta," the communique said.

Thirty towns and hamlets were taken back by the Soviet troops who now were opposite the mouth of the Bug river 30 miles due south of Nikolaevo and 50 miles due south of the Black Sea from Odessa. East of this position, where the Dnieper comes down from its wide bend,

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FDR ANNOUNCES CHINESE TALKS

Momentous Conference May Herald New Drive On Japanese

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—(AP)—In momentous conference at Chungking, American, British and Chinese military men have reached complete agreement on the conduct and supply of continental operations against the Japanese, President Roosevelt announced today.

Mr. Roosevelt told his press-media conference that the conference was extremely successful but he could not go into details.

He said that among those attending was Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, the Allied supreme commander in Southeast Asia. This suggested that the conference was primarily concerned with coordination of all forces for the reconquest of Burma which, it has been made clear, is the primary task assigned to Mountbatten who has established headquarters in India. There was nothing to indicate, however, whether a move against Burma is now imminent.

In other discussions of the war, the president:

1. Indicated that the island-hopping stage of American operations in the Southwest Pacific is in its last phases. He said that in attacking Bougainville island the American forces are getting set to knock out Rabaul, the key Japanese base in that whole area. Rabaul is on New Britain island to

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HOSPITAL UNIT GETS NEW BEDS

Impossible To Determine Exact Date Of Extension Opening

Beds for equipping the new three-story addition to James Walker Memorial hospital arrived Friday and are being unpacked. It was learned from Superintendent Charles W. Mangum. The beds are of the Gatch type, complete with raising and lowering devices.

Although other equipment such as wheel chairs and dressing carriages has also arrived within the last few days, it is still impossible to determine the definite date of occupation of the addition since many items of essential equipment are still lacking. Articles such as sterilizers which require the use of much critical material will probably account for delay as the local institution must await its turn in delivery of these items.

The handsome husband of Oak-oldest daughter Nancy managed to parry with some thrusts of his own, while every spectator who could squeeze into the tiny courtroom listened in tense silence to the heated exchanges.

Only the insistence of stern Chief Justice Sir Oscar Bedford Daily and police that traditional British court decorum be observed kept the session from being turned into a circus-like field day. Outside the courthouse police halted the sale of soap boxes offered at two shillings (40 cents) apiece for use as seats inside, and officers held back a crowd.

Sir Oscar barred camp chairs from the chamber, and permitted

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MARIGNY'S LIFE BARED IN COURT

Defendant Remains Calm Under Attorneys Cutting Queries

NASSAU, Bahamas, Nov. 5.—(AP)—The cutting questions of Attorney General Eric Hallinan laid bare Alfred de Marigny's private life today before the Bahamas Supreme Court jury which is trying him for the murder of Sir Harry Oakes, his rich father-in-law.

In a voice seemingly soft, but razor-sharp with sarcasm, the white-wigged Crown's attorney subjected the poker-faced defendant to a merciless, hours-long cross examination directed at breaking down his testimony that he was asleep at home the night the elderly Sir Harry was struck on the head and set afire.

Even as he told intimate details of his part under Hallinan's goading, de Marigny remained calm and sure of himself, his temper under control.

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Walter Lippman Says: Achievements Of Moscow Conference Are Beyond Expectations Of World

It can be said with confidence that the achievements of the Moscow conference are constructive beyond the fairest hopes of any world are qualified to judge them. Mr. Eden, Mr. Molotov and Mr. Lippman have in fact done everything that is now possible and all that is now necessary. They could not have done more.

The measure of their success is that there now exists not on paper as a blueprint but in reality as a going concern, the organization which will end the war, will restore order, and can maintain the peace. Therefore we do not have to speculate about plans and to debate abstract proposals: the fundamental question before all men of good will now is how they can best de-

WEATHER

FORECAST: NORTH CAROLINA: Cloudy and warmer today. (Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday.

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Community War Chest Facts

Between 5,000,000 and 7,000,000 Chinese are facing starvation. For 6 years China has suffered the devastation of total war. Through these 6 years Chinese undaunted courage has withstood every onslaught and has taken a toll of those who are our enemies. China is an indispensable ally.

The United China Relief is just one of the 27 agencies in the Community War Chest of Wilmington and the Hard Hanover county.

Kirke Simpson Says: News From Washington Bodes Trouble For Japs While Germany Is Reeling

There was bad news for Japan last night (Friday) from Washington as well from the South Pacific, while Germany reeled under multiple blows by land, sea and air.

Bracketed with a Washington dis-

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