

# THE ALAMANANCE GLEANER

VOL. LXXII

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1946

No. 16

## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

### Costly Coal Strike Crimps U. S.; Plan Further Feed Reductions To Conserve Grain for Food

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

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.



Ill-fed and ill-clad, people in Italy clamor atop army truck as it arrives at dump and seek to salvage scraps of food, discarded clothing, cigarette butts and even cardboard boxes. Men, women and children climb up even before G.I.s can unload refuse.

### COAL STRIKE: Costly Walkout

Though John L. Lewis ordered his United Mine Workers back to the pits under a two-week truce to relieve the critically low supply of fuel, the 1946 coal strike promises to be long remembered as one of the most costly in history, with the necessity for curbing fuel consumption resulting in serious restrictions on public utilities, industry and transport.

Lewis acted as the widespread effects of the walkout on the nation's economy led Senator Eastland (Dem., Miss.) to rise to his feet in the upper chamber to tell his colleagues that as a result of limiting freight movements to essential commodities "... the shipment of embalming fluid has been embargoed and we can't bury the dead."

Most spectacular figure in the strike, of course, was the burly, beetle-browed Lewis, United Mine Worker chieftain, who held out for the operators' consideration of his proposal for a health and welfare fund. Holding fast in face of mounting public opposition and senatorial fury, Lewis received the backing of the American Federation of Labor, to which his UMW is affiliated.

John L.'s acceptance of a truce to discuss the No. 1 issue of a health and welfare fund came after dwindling fuel supplies had led the government to urge coal-burning utilities east of the Mississippi and in Iowa, Minnesota and Missouri to follow Chicago's example in reducing power consumption.

### CONGRESS: Busy Solons

With the coal strike crippling the economy, U. S. senators moved to take up restrictive labor legislation in the face of public concern over the prolonged walkout even as they were engaged in heated debate over passage of the \$3,750,000,000 loan to Great Britain.

Though Democratic Majority Leader Barkley sought to sidetrack consideration of labor measures while feeling over the coal strike flared at white heat, administration forces were compelled to surrender to congressional pressure for action. Ordinarily pro-labor, Senator Lucas (Dem., Ill.) led the fight for legislation which would give the President power to assure continued operation of essential industries in event of union disputes.

Passage of the \$3,750,000,000 British loan was assured with the resounding defeat of amendments which would have limited the size of the advance, provided for expenditure of 90 per cent of the funds in the U. S., and extension of interest-free, unsecured loans to veterans. The solons also rejected the argument of Senator Johnson (Dem., Colo.) that since the bill contemplated the raising of money for the loan only the house, which directly

represents the people through individual districts, had the constitutional power to originate such legislation.

Pressed by the labor and loan legislation, the senate voted for temporary extension of the draft until the decks are cleared for full consideration of the question.

### GRAIN: Seek Feed Cut

Following the increase in the price of corn, wheat, oats, barley and rye, government officials contemplated a reduction in the ceilings on heavy hogs and a cut in fall breeding as further steps in the conservation program designed to make more grain available for food.

While initiation of the new price program resulted in cancellation of the 30 cents per bushel bonus payment on corn, a similar premium, plus the higher price, was retained on wheat, which is most vitally needed for foreign relief. As a result of the price changes, corn was boosted 25 cents a bushel, wheat 15 cents, rye 10 cents, barley 9 cents and oats 5 cents.

With grain sales being made more profitable than livestock feeding, liquidation of hogs, cattle and poultry was expected to result in increased supplies in the immediate future but less meat later. Even with reduced livestock production growing out of the new price program and the other contemplated government measures, the total supply of meat, eggs and poultry will be above prewar levels, it was said.

### Food Prospects

Though farm production remains high, heavy domestic demand and relief needs abroad will out-balance supply, the bureau of agricultural economics reported. Indicative of continued large output, farm income for 1946 is expected to approach last year's record of nearly 21 billion dollars.

The bureau provided this picture of the 1946 food situation:

- Livestock and meat production will continue close to the 1945 level but fall short of demand, with prices of animals pressing against ceilings.
- Dairy products will remain below demand throughout the year, with butter supplies short even during the flush season of milk production from May to August.
- Poultry and eggs will be in plentiful supply through most of the year, with scarcities developing in the last three months of 1946. Prices may be moderately lower.
- Fats and vegetable oils may not be in sufficient domestic supply because of large export requirements of lard, shortening and edible oils.

### LEND-LEASE: Make Returns

Over 10 Allied nations have returned approximately one-quarter billion dollars of lend-lease goods thus far and Turkey has become the first country to settle its lend-lease account in full, the foreign liquidation commission revealed.

Of the total returned by Belgium, Brazil, the British empire, China, Egypt, France, the Netherlands, Russia and Yugoslavia, \$796,000 worth was reissued to foreign governments under the lend-lease program and \$897,000 was sold as surplus.

The first country to settle its lend-lease obligations in full, Turkey agreed to pay the U. S. \$4,800,000 within 30 days.

### BASEBALL: Fight Pasquels

At first laughed off by the powerful major league magnates, the Mexican baseball league finally has been taken seriously with the New York Yankees and Brooklyn Dodgers seeking permanent court injunctions against the Pasquel brothers' solicitations of topnotch American performers to play south of the border.

Both the Yankees and Dodgers have received temporary injunctions against the gay grandees' attempts to get U. S. stars to break their American contracts for lucrative Mexican league offers. Granting of permanent restraining orders against Pasquel's agents in this country would seriously crimp their efforts to lure U. S. talent southward.

In going after the Pasquels, Branch Rickey, president of the Dodgers, sadly proclaimed: "... I consider the Pasquel league a temporary nuisance rather than a permanent threat. It is economically unsound. However, this year it could cause irreparable damage to a pennant contender. ..."

### RAILROADS: Want Higher Rates

Railroad spokesmen pressed for a 25 per cent freight rate increase to cover higher wages and operating costs in hearings before the Interstate Commerce commission in Washington, D. C., while shippers called for a thorough examination of the whole tariff structure before determination of permanent schedules.

Declaring wages have increased \$1,300,000,000 since 1941 and the carriers will pay \$500,000,000 more for supplies, materials and fuel, Dr. Julius H. Parmelee, railroad economist, averred that the operators will suffer a \$345,000,000 deficit this year at present rates.

Meeting in Chicago, the National Industrial Traffic league, representing 300,000 shippers, cautioned that higher tariffs may be disastrous to individual industries or discriminatory against them. Asking the ICC to deny the carriers' petition for immediate raises, the organization declared any hearing should provide opportunity for a fair development and examination of facts to determine results.

### Eats Meal From Dump



Seated in the house restaurant in Washington, D. C., Representative Norblad (Rep., Ore.) munched on canned meat and cranberry sauce and drank lemon juice which he said the navy had dumped as garbage in Astoria, Ore. While none of his colleagues or newsmen had the stomach to join him in his repast, Norblad said friends of his had also eaten the food without ill effects and some Astorians had done a brisk business selling some of the discarded fare to restaurants. On the spot, navy officials declared that the food had been thrown away after some personnel had contracted dysentery after eating it.

### MURDER: Town Agog

If traveling through Texarkana, Texas, one would have seen porch lights burning all night, twinkling bulbs hung out in back yards, watchdogs all over town, and the streets deserted. Further, one would have found residents ready to pull a deadly trigger with any false move.

All Texarkana was on the alert against the phantom killer who had slain two couples at night and killed one and wounded another of a pair. Four of the victims were young couples and the two others were elderly married people who had been fired upon through the window of their farm home. All were shot in the head.

While the authorities told Texarkana to keep their guns at their side and shoot to kill if assaulted, the famed Texas rangers, state highway patrolmen, sheriff's deputies, city policemen and the FBI threw out a dragnet for the murderer. They were joined by thousands of amateur detectives in the search.



### CIO LEADERS MANEUVER TO OUST COMMUNISTS

WASHINGTON. — The epochal movement within leftwing labor to shake off the Communists is being quietly helped by the White House. What is behind it can now be set forth as follows:

Since Mr. Byrnes firmed his back against further Russian encroachments in world affairs, the more radical CIO-PAC crowd has been arousing criticism against President Truman and the administration... or was until lately. Statements and speeches from the southpaw people took the Moscow line on pending international issues, adhering to the same technique as when a union picketed the White House to call Mr. Roosevelt a war monger for helping Britain before Russia was invaded, and more recently when the state department was picketed by a union urging ouster of Mr. Byrnes for opposing Russia.

The latest rousing of criticism got under Mr. Truman's skin, as well as some very big union labor hide. Important labor leadership immediately became involved in an internal conflict, the ramifications of which have not yet been disclosed. The CIO-PAC director, Sidney Hillman, has been conspicuously laying low, while some unions in CIO have been taking steps to revise their constitutions to bar Communists from office and membership. Hillman has close relations with the American Labor party in New York, for whom the Communists have been the most active doorbell ringers and vote-fixers. Apparently this element of labor hates to lose its Communist schemers with an election campaign in the offing.

MURRAY 'TIRED OF IT' But CIO Pres. Phil Murray is reported getting tired of Communist use by CIO-PAC, or what might more accurately be called Russian use of them for international policy purposes. Some labor authorities report him cool toward Hillman, suggest Hillman may be replaced as head of CIO-PAC or predict a showdown between Murray and Hillman.

Regardless of these reports, any level eye can plainly see Mr. Hillman is caught in an enigmatic whirlwind. If he lets the Communists go, he may lose his organization; if he keeps them, the organization may crack.

I would not be surprised if the White House aided in the cracking, strange as this may sound. Latest appointments of an undersecretary and three assistants in the labor department went the AFL way. CIO has one labor undersecretary and is pressuring Truman through him.

The latest appointments, however, have been followed by reports that AFL no longer intends to split administration patronage with CIO on an equal basis, but will see what it can get for itself.

Then AFL is going into the south to organize unions on the greatest scope of opposition it has yet presented. CIO plans in the south are supposed to call for 200 experienced organizers working under leadership of the Textile Workers union, men who have been trained in the Hillman school of action. In competition with this activity, AFL is planning an even greater organizing campaign in the south, and the catch-all district 50 of John L. Lewis has marked out an anti-CIO organizing campaign to get in all the loose unions otherwise unclassifiable in AFL.

### INTENSE RIVALRY COMING

Thus an intense organizational rivalry is springing up which may reach its bitterest proportions in the fields of textiles, telephones, chemicals and plastics. I say these are apt to be the sharpest fields because few observers expect the rivalry in the south to be of great industrial consequence. In the first place, there is not much industry in the south which is not already organized one way or another. The field there at least is limited by comparison with the greater industrial sections of the country. Southern organizing, especially the CIO-PAC kind, is apt to cover political activity (ousting of southern congressmen and senators who have resisted labor legislation) rather than develop any great new numbers for the unions.

Out of this high pressured situation, observers are commonly predicting a new wave of many hundreds of small jurisdictional strikes during coming months, and a period of exceptional labor unrest.



ONE of the few places where people speak of thrift with respect... Vermont, a small state pulling its full share of weight with the rest of the nation and making its own budget meet!

The world has marveled at Vermont's scenic wonders. Many have witnessed the spontaneous explosive splitting of quarry blocks at some of its quarries, where great blocks of granite suddenly snap loose with a sharp report. But the world should know Vermont's people, too. They were first to express constitutional prohibition of all human slavery! They were first in the nation to provide universal manhood suffrage, with voting not dependent upon property, owned or rented, or a specified yearly income.

Vermont always hated slavery, and its legislatures adopted annual resolutions against it. Southern states grew more angry each year. The Georgia legislature requested President Pierce to employ enough able-bodied Irishmen to dig a ditch around Vermont and float "the thing" out to the Atlantic ocean! A Virginia newspaper gravely commented that Vermont was "always foremost in the path of infamy."

Years later, Robert T. Lincoln, son of the Great Emancipator, came to Vermont to make his home at Manchester. A marker now stands on the lot in Bennington where William Lloyd Garrison lived, and where he edited the "Journal of the Times" early in the 19th century. Also, Bennington was the birthplace of John F. Winslow, builder of the "Monitor," the steel ship of Civil war fame.

Vermont is a pleasant place. The climate is cool and the atmosphere dry. The summer season, between frosts, is from 110 to 160 days, depending on location and altitude. Evidences of the ice age still prevail in rounded and grooved ledges, polished rock surfaces, ice-borne boulders and great deposits of unsorted sands, clays and gravels. The range of scenic interest is vast, with mountains and broad valleys, river and lakes, and abundant forests. There will often be 10 feet of snow-cover in the central part, and 34 to 40 inches of rainfall through the year. Lake Champlain is 120 miles long, and there are many others, including Lake Willoughby, Lake Dunmore and Silver Lake.

From Mount Mansfield, 4,393 feet high, there is an excellent view of the White Mountains and Adirondacks, with Lake Champlain visible 30 miles away. Vermont has over 900 peaks with an altitude of 2,000



state and each section has its scenic attractions. Vacationists find almost every kind of allure in Vermont, including hiking on the famous Long Trail and horseback riding on the thousand-mile bridge trail system.

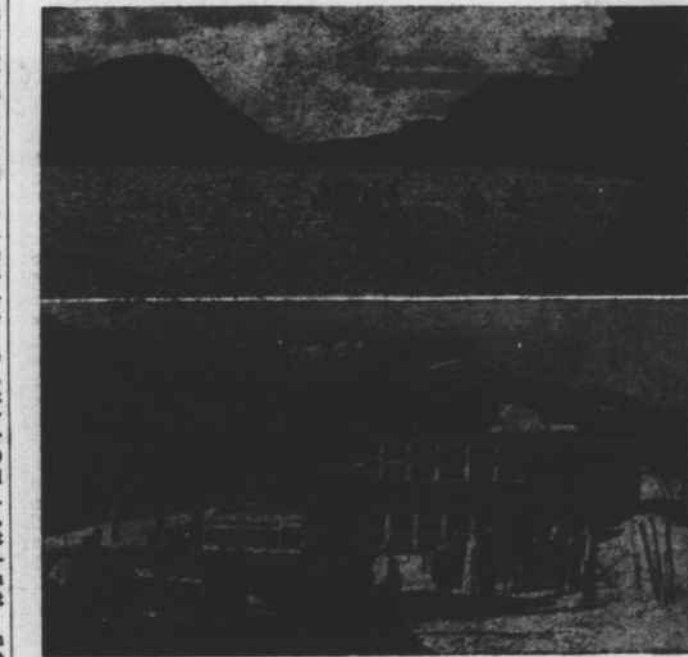
In Poultney, when a lad, Horace Greeley set type in a small print shop. Salmon P. Chase lived and studied law at Randolph. Peacham was the boyhood home of Thaddeus Stevens. Eugene Field, with recollections of his boyhood in Newfane, based several of his poems on local life in Vermont. Few states have produced so many notables in all lines of endeavor as hardy, mountainous Vermont.

Samuel Champlain, French explorer, was the first white man known to have seen any part of Vermont. When coming from Canada, in 1609, he went up the long lake that bears his name. The first settlement in Vermont, though short-lived, was also by the French, when Captain La Motte built a fort and a shrine on Isle La Motte. In 1690, Capt. Jacobus de Warm established an outpost on what is now Chimney Point. In general, however, Vermont was a no-man's land in the 17th and 18th centuries, a mere passageway for French and Indian raiding parties seeking the English farther south and east.

From the earliest days, Vermont gave attention to primary education. The University of Vermont was chartered in 1791. Other institutions for higher education include Norwich university, Northfield, the second oldest military college in the nation; Bennington college; Middlebury college; St. Michael's, Winooski; Trinity, Burlington. There are three normal schools and two junior colleges in the state.

One of the crowning features of Vermont is the province of the Green mountains. Here are found the highest peaks—Killington, Ellen, Lincoln, Camel's Hump, Mansfield and Jay. The physical geography of the state is diversified, however, with the Vermont lowland on the west and much rolling country eastward. The state's geology is complex and extremely fascinating.

Vermont is nicknamed "The Green Mountain State." Its motto is "Freedom and Unity." The state flower is the red clover; state bird, hermit thrush; state song, "Hail, Vermont."



YEAR AROUND... Top picture shows canoeing on Lake Willoughby. Bottom is Toll Road House at the foot of Mt. Mansfield.

feet or over. There are over 400 lakes in the state, and forests and forest parks cover over a half-million acres. Hunting, trapping and fishing are always available to the rugged outdoor man.

There are recreational activities in Vermont all through the year—skiing into April, fishing and other vacationing from May to late fall, and touring and hunting to the opening of the winter season. Tourists penetrate to every corner of the



A Vermont Sugar House

In industry Vermont is noted for lumber and lumber products, woolen mills, paper-making, marble, granite, slate, lime, asbestos, talc, soapstone, kaolin, ocher and other products. Steel squares were invented in Vermont and are still manufactured at St. Johnsbury. In recent years a growing number of writers and artists have made Vermont their permanent homes. Others spend a part of the year there. Dorothy Canfield Fisher, who loves her Arlington home, is one of the state's authors. Robert Frost, the poet lives in Shaftsbury. Chester A. Arthur was the first native Vermonter to become President of the United States, later followed to the White House by Calvin Coolidge of Plymouth. Adm. George Dewey, Levi P. Morton, John Deere, John B. Mansfield, Stephen A. Douglas, John C. Saxe, Joseph Smith, Alphonso Taft, Brigham Young and many other figures in history were born in Vermont.

MORTIMER B. PROCTOR  
Governor of Vermont