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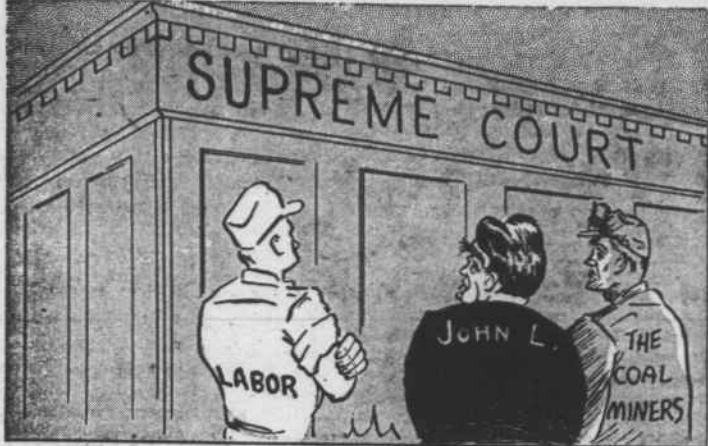
NO. 47

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Packers Sign Wage Agreements; Grant Carriers Rate Relief; Labor Awaits High Court Decree

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.



LABOR:

Packer Peace

Meat conditions continued to look rosy for the American housewife with the AFL and CIO packing-house unions coming to terms with the big packers on new contracts without resorting to costly strikes. The AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers Workmen set the pattern for peace in the industry by agreeing with Swift on a 7½ cent an hour wage increase, higher pay for night work, a better vacation plan, pay for eight holidays and reduction of geographical wage differentials. Including all benefits, the total hourly increase amounts to 12 cents.

Not to be outdone, the CIO United Packinghouse Workers of America then signed with Cudahy for an average wage increase of 15 cents, extra night pay, a sick leave plan, compensation for eight holidays and elimination of geographical wage differentials. At the same time, the CIO union also reached agreement with the Tobin Packing company of Fort Dodge, Iowa, on a new contract providing for guaranteed employment of 52 weeks.

Sue for Back Pay

As a result of a Supreme court decision of last June 10 decreeing that employees of the Mount Clemens Pottery company were entitled to compensation under the fair labor standards act of 1938 for walking to their jobs on plant property, American industry faced the prospect of being forced to shell out hundreds of millions of dollars of back pay.

Wasting no time in taking advantage of the court ruling, the CIO United Steelworkers and CIO Auto Workers filed suits in the Cleveland, Ohio, federal court for back pay for 180,000 union members. The Steelworkers asked 56 million dollars for 148,000 employees of Republic Steel company and 38 million dollars for 30,000 workers of American Steel and Wire. The Auto Workers seek 12½ million dollars for 2,000 employees of Ohio Crankshaft company.

At least one employer, faced with the prospect of being forced to pay help for time spent in reaching their jobs in the plant, settled with the union. Dow Chemical company of Midland, Mich., agreed to pay 1,200 employees of John L. Lewis' UMW's District 50 a total of \$4,656,000.

FREIGHT RATES:

Grant Boost

Interstate Commerce commission was unanimous in granting rail and water carriers an average 17.6 per cent freight rate increase and permitting railroads to maintain a 10 per cent passenger fare boost.

Noting that wage costs alone since 1941 have mounted by \$1,382,000,000 annually, ICC declared that the new rates were necessary (1) for maintenance and development of the transport system to meet national needs, and (2) to assure the movement of a high volume of traffic efficiently.

Rates on commodities other than those especially treated were increased by 20 per cent under the ICC order while tariffs on agricultural products and livestock (except fruits and vegetables) were boosted 15 per cent. Maximum increases were allowed on many items to maintain the competitive balance between different regions.

SUPREME COURT:

Weighty Decision

In calling off the costly soft-coal strike, John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers was content to leave determination of the issue to the U. S. Supreme court. Said John L.: "The Supreme court is, and we be-

lieve will ever be, the protector of American liberties and the rightful privileges of individual citizens."

Having agreed to consider the case directly from the federal district court, the high tribunal set January 14 as the date for government and defense arguments. Upon the final decision not only rested whether the heavy fines against the UMW and Lewis would stick but, more importantly, whether government-operated industries could prevent workers from striking.

Legally, the issue boiled down to this: Could government operation of an industry be considered essential to the running of the government? As the ruling power, the government said all its actions were necessary; on the other hand, the UMW said the running of coal mines was not within governmental province.

BRITAIN:

Royal Romance

Great Britain, which takes its royalty seriously, was bubbling all over with the latest regal romance, this one involving Prince Philip of Greece and Princess Elizabeth.

Long rumored, the engagement of the royal couple loomed as more and more of a possibility as the British press continued to build up the handsome, blond prince. Much ado was made of his application for British citizenship. Steamed up over the ballyhoo, bobby-soxers joined otherwise staid Britishers in believing the match was "super."

While the prince and princess made a fitting couple, the rumored romance was not without its politi-



Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip shown as they attend reception in London.

cal implications. Such a royal marriage would bind Britain more closely to Greece, which occupies a strategic position in the eastern Mediterranean and presently is a diplomatic battleground between Britain and Russia in the fight for control of the Near East.

FOREIGN MINISTERS:

Germany Next

Having cleaned up the Balkan peace pacts, the foreign ministers of the Big Four agreed to undertake the thorny issue of a German treaty in Moscow next March.

The decision came as the U. S. and Britain determined to unify their two occupation zones to speed up the economic recovery of western Germany and trim their relief burdens, and continental Europe, once dependent upon the Reich for essential supplies, continued to lag in reconstruction.

U. S. consent to conduct the parley in Moscow was forthcoming only after Russian Foreign Commissar Molotov promised Secretary of State Byrnes that newsmen would be given both freedom and facilities for reporting the meeting. Byrnes insisted that newsmen had not been afforded suitable accommodations during the last confab in the Soviet capital.

U. N.:

Slap Franco

Even as 300,000 Spaniards assembled before the national palace in Madrid to hear Generalissimo Franco lash "foreign interference," the United Nations political and security committee, meeting at Lake Success, N. Y., adopted a resolution for the withdrawal of all members' ambassadors from Spain.

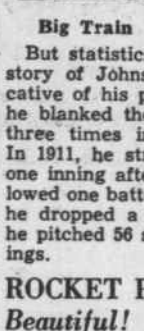
Remaining obdurate in its contention that no drastic action should be taken against Spain but the Spanish people should be given every opportunity for holding free elections, the U. S. abstained from voting on the resolution. As it was, the resolution was mild enough, since the countries agreed to leave other diplomatic representatives in Spain to conduct business as usual. Effect of the action was to snub Franco on the direct government level.

Fierly Spaniards plastered fiery placards against "foreign interference" in Madrid in the demonstrations against world condemnation against the Franco regime. In addressing the throngs, Franco declared: The Spanish government was a matter of concern to the Spanish people alone; Spain had demonstrated its peaceful intentions by remaining neutral through World War II; Spain showed its willingness to further prosperity by being willing to deal commercially with other nations.

'Big Train' Passes On

Another of baseball's greats passed into Valhalla with the death of Walter Johnson, 59, acclaimed by many as the greatest pitcher who ever toed the rubber.

Famed for his blinding speed, Johnson blazed a trail of glory during his 21-year playing career with the Washington Senators. Known as the "Big Train," he won 413 games and lost 280; set the modern strike-out record of 3,497, topping the 200 mark for seven consecutive seasons; hurled 2 no-hitters, and 114 shutouts.



Big Train

But statistics do not tell the true story of Johnson's greatness. Indicative of his prowess and strength, he blanked the New York Yankees three times in four days in 1910. In 1911, he struck out four men in one inning after his catcher had allowed one batter to reach base when he dropped a third strike. In 1912, he pitched 56 straight scoreless innings.

ROCKET PLANE: Beautiful!

Stepping out of the Bell XS-1 after taking the rocket plane up to 35,000 feet and running it at 550 miles per hour, test pilot Chalmers Goodlin, 23, exclaimed gleefully:

"The plane, the engine—in fact, everything about the flight—was beautiful. It was all very quiet, with absolutely no noise at all in the cockpit, no sensation of the roar of an engine."

Fueled with ethyl alcohol mixed with oxygen, the XS-1 is designed for a speed of 1,700 m.p.h., but Goodlin held it down to 550 m.p.h. in the preliminary test. Built for speedy, high altitude flying, the plane measures only 31 feet in length and has a wing span of 28 feet.

Army acceptance of the craft is conditioned upon its ability to travel at 80 per cent of the speed of sound, which ranges from 660 m.p.h. to 763 m.p.h., depending upon temperature and altitude. In hitting it up at 550 m.p.h., Goodlin achieved a speed of 75 per cent.

NEAR EAST:

Bluff Reds

Russia drew a pass in the diplomatic poker game in the Near East as Iran, Greece and Turkey, backed by the Anglo-American powers, rebuffed leftist jockeyings for advantage in Iran and Greece.

In a bold maneuver to test the extent of Russian determination to dominate oil-rich northern Iran, government forces marched into Azerbaijan province ostensibly to guarantee free parliamentary elections. At first, Communist leaders threatened civil war if the government troops continued their march, but suddenly backtracked when the Nationalists called their bluff.



MAN ABOUT TOWN

Sallies in Our Alley: Chums hear that war hero Flip Cochran "went through every dime he had" fooling around the zig-zaggy cotton market. . . . Preston Sturges, the film producer, is such a stickler for perfect grammar that he argues with waiters all over town whenever he sees a word used incorrectly on a menu. That's a new way of aggravating yourself! . . . We hear Sally Rand is weary of courtroom scenes and may retire. . . . One of the Zanzibar employees is such a ham he bought \$500 worth of looking-glasses (to put all over his apt.) so that he can see how small he is from any angle. . . . Gail Barber, Village Corner strip-teaser, was bitten by a dawg recently—and the bowwow died two days later!

The Miami rain fell as it did in the Jeanne Eagels show, "Rain," and the wind howled for two nights (sometimes at 42 miles per hour). But the Florida gazettes referred to the storm as "squalls" . . . Squalls? Midget hurricanes! . . . Floridians with a sensayuma call them "Yankee breezes" . . . And just when California's Governor Warren arrived. Haw! . . . Florida's Governor Caldwell handled it adroitly, saying: "We had these storms to make Governor Warren feel at home."

The Late Watch: Tip the feature editors that Howard Hughes has a good story about the people he is rewarding for helping him live after his plane crash. A fire chief out there is among them. . . . Remember Bob Crawford? He composed the famous song, "Off We Go—Into the Wild Blue Yonder, dum-de-dum-deedle-de-dummmmm!" Well, he's opened a spot called The Blue Yonder in Miami. He says the brass hats never gave him any recognition for it or the 39 months he flew with the air corps! And some guys got army diplomas for week-ending over there! Fine thing.

Washington Sq. Vignette: They tell this story around the square. . . . They add that it may not be true—but then again—it may. . . . Two little boys (with the unknowing cruelty of children) were playing a friend because he was lame. . . . A woman paused and told them that they shouldn't poke fun at anyone less fortunate than they. . . . Besides, she said, just because he couldn't use his legs didn't mean he wasn't just as strong and brave as they were. . . . The last great President, she said, became President, though paralyzed. . . . "And he," she continued, "was as strong and brave as any man living. I know. You see I was his wife."

His name is Bob Turner . . . Was a Zanuck hireling before the war but never made a film. . . . Understudied in a couple of shows last season but rarely got on stage. . . . He became friendly with a girl working on a movie mag, who put his picture in the July issue. . . . Since then he's received 5,000 fan letters from every state, Hawaii, South Africa and even India. . . . Has 124 fan clubs, a monthly newspaper and a quarterly magazine put out by the clubs. . . . He's been swamped with marriage proposals and has been forced to move because he never got any rest. . . . Because he said his hobby was collecting giraffes, he's received 35 miniature giraffes. . . . He's the most famous unknown person in the business. . . . But despite his great popularity and fame—he can't get a job!

Third Act: (By Don Wahn): I thought the lovely party never ended. . . . I thought the violins would never die. . . . I thought that love was gay and rich and splendid. . . . And that the moon was married to the sky. . . . And then I heard the awesome sound of thunder. . . . The lightning flashed—and I was numb with fear. . . . And, childlike, I could only stare in wonder. . . . And trace the landscape, desolate and drear. . . . I turned to you—and you were white—and shaken. . . . And love was but a gray and misty ghost. . . . And we were trapped, forgotten and forsaken. . . . By all the lures that we had cherished most. . . . And on the lips that once were surely mine. . . . There were no words—no laughter and no wine!



SOARING IN THE SKY . . . Ski enthusiasts flock to the nation's snow fields this winter, with resorts primed for their first big season since the war. Upper left photo shows one of the open slopes of Yosemite National park, a skijoring haven. At the upper right is a fast action shot made at Alta, Utah. Center, an instructor demonstrates for a class at Sun Valley, Idaho. Lower left photo shows a skier doing a "galende-sprung" off a cornice on the side of Mt. Hood, Oregon. At the lower right, Crater Lake National park, also in Oregon, affords the double thrill of excellent skiing and novel scenic effects.

FULL FLIGHT

Winter Sports Areas Primed For Influx of Ski Enthusiasts

WNU Features

Skijoring will dominate the American outdoor sports scene this winter as most of the famous ski areas of the West and Middle-west resume operation for the first time since Pearl Harbor.

This winter ski fans will find old favorite lodges and chalets improved and in full operation again after the war, while many new and interesting spots are primed for a mass recreational invasion.

Although most of the ski resorts open their season in December, snow will be in its best dry, powdery state during January, February and March.

This year the "regular run" of sports enthusiasts who head for the snow fields will be supplemented by a new group—former G.I.s who learned the art of skiing during the war as a matter of military necessity and now are converting that knowledge into personal enjoyment.

Major jumping and slalom tournaments have been scheduled at every ski basin from Michigan to famed Sun Valley, Idaho, and the slopes of the Pacific Northwest.

Olympics Scheduled.

Major attraction of the season will be the Olympic tryouts in March on Sun Valley's Bald mountain. The nationals are booked at Ishpeming, Mich., February 22-23.

Ski enthusiasts will find the new air age in full flight over the great frozen spaces, most of the ski areas now being linked together for the first time by fast airline service. The slalom slopes of Banff and the Canadian Rockies with almost startling suddenness have become only 14 flying hours from ski fans in Southern California, seven hours from Salt Lake City, nine hours from Denver.

The luxurious chalet and championship course at Sun Valley are only a seven-hour hop from Los Angeles. Colorado's 36 winter sportlands have been brought within a mere four and a half hours of the Pacific coast. Western Air Lines even is inaugurating a "ski special" from Los Angeles to popular resorts.

After serving as a naval rehabilitation center during the war, Sun Valley was reopened as a resort December 21. All types of winter sports are available, including skijoring, ice skating, sleighing, dog-sledding and swimming in natural hot springs water.

Install Ski Lifts.

Four electric ski lifts serve four skiing areas on Dollar, Ruud, Proctor and Baldy mountains. The lift on Baldy is 11,500 feet long and is divided into three sections to carry skiers to the 9,200-foot summit in 20 minutes.

In Oregon 15 areas will be in operation in national forests. At Timberline, 63 miles from Portland, is found one of the nation's longest ski seasons, offering ski slopes until mid-July. The race starts at a 10-

000-foot level and finishes at 7,000 feet near the head of a mile-long ski lift.

At mid-winter the snow is from 8 to 20 feet deep, averaging about 12 feet, with a temperature around 24 degrees. Generous sunshine often permits skiing in shorts.

Few places in America offer such marvelous skiing opportunities as Alta, famous resort in Little Cottonwood canyon of the Wasatch mountains near Salt Lake City. Runs vary from a half mile to two miles for all classes of skiers plus slalom courses and practice slopes.

Brighton in nearby Big Cottonwood canyon is a year-around mountain resort. Near here is Ecker hill, where world record leaps have been made by skiing stars of international fame.

Many Sports Areas.

Colorado's majestic mountain ranges abound with winter sports sites. Among the leading skiing resorts is Aspen, where the ski runs range in elevation from 7,900 to 11,500 feet. Roch run, the outstanding run for experts, is 9,750 feet with a 2,700-foot drop.

Berthoud pass, where local interests are expending considerable money in development of sport facilities, Grand Mesa and Glenwood Springs are other Colorado spots luring an increasing number of winter sport enthusiasts.

Long known as a dude ranch country, Wyoming now is coming into the forefront as a skiers' paradise in winter. Jackson Hole in the scenic Teton country just south of Yellowstone park is among the most popular spots.

Skiers may drive by automobile up the Teton Pass road and ski down numerous runs six to seven miles long with drops ranging from 1,000 to 3,200 feet.

Casper mountain, nine miles from Casper, and Tepee lodge in the remote Big Horns near Sheridan also are being recognized by sport fans because of their great natural advantages.

Montana boasts of Red Lodge, elevation 12,610 feet, where there are 30 acres of practice slopes, ski lifts, downhill, cross country and slalom runs.

Unique Nevada Site.

With a typical western setting above the desert, Mount Charleston, Nev., only an hour's drive from Las Vegas, provides a unique site for winter sports.

More than 60 winter sports areas are found in the High Sierras of California, a state where winter sports fans abound. Among the state's best known resorts are Lake Arrowhead, Big Bear and Big Pine, all in Southern California; Yosemite National park, and the Donner Pass region.

Winter sports, however, are not confined to the Far West. Nature has endowed Minnesota, Wisconsin and upper Michigan with the topography and weather necessary to make them among the best winter sports areas in the nation.

The "regular run" of sports enthusiasts from the Midwest will head for Wisconsin and Michigan's upper peninsula, which offers all winter sports, including long ski runs, toboggan slides, towering ski jumps, ice skating and ice boating.

Plan Annual Carnival.

For spectator pleasure, one of the best winter sports programs is presented every February at the Winter Carnival in St. Paul, Minn., when the entire city takes on the air of a northern Mardi Gras.

In the New England states, too, there is a revival of interest in winter sports. Special ski trains to White Mountain resorts are being resumed this winter.

With expanded airline schedules and increasing use of air transportation to winter sports areas, many fans will invade the Canadian Rockies area this winter. Most popular sites there are in the Banff area and Jasper National park.

Oyster Blast Tops Freak Mishaps

WASHINGTON.—Home accidents took a new turn here when an oyster exploded. The housewife, who was cooking the oyster in deep fat, suffered second degree burns on the hands and face in the freak accident, a Red Cross survey reveals.

In another unusual mishap, a man suffered throat injuries when he fell with a pipe in his mouth. Doctors removed a small hatpin from the lung of a 3-year-old boy, another child swallowed a pencil clip and a 3-months-old baby suffered a frac-

tured skull when its carriage rolled off a porch.

The superstitiously inclined claimed new impetus for their beliefs after a hammer, hanging on the rung of a ladder, fell and struck a man on the head.

In another home accident, a woman was burned when she poured melted fat into a furnace.

Statistics compiled by the Red Cross home accident survey show an increase in accidents and deaths this year over 1945.