

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

San Diego Strike. Upset Labor Policy. Navy's Strong Stand.

The strike of the A. F. L. Building Tradesmen against Navy defense projects is the most serious set-back Roosevelt's labor policy has received to date. It was particularly significant in that the building trades and the government had a stabilization agreement.

The stabilization agreement is the latest government device for preventing strikes on defense projects. And the San Diego strike was a violation of the workers agreement with the government.

Government officials put a great deal of faith in the stabilization agreement. Sidney Hillman expressed his faith in laborers working under a stabilization agreement when he explained his position in the Currier case.

In the Currier case, Hillman advised other government officials not to give a Detroit construction contract to the lowest bidder. His main reason for this was that although the low bidder was a reliable employer, his laborers were not under a stabilization agreement and that therefore he expected labor trouble to hold up defense construction if the low bidder was given the contract.

Mr. Hillman's testimony explaining the administration's faith in stabilization agreements was brought out a few weeks ago by a Senate investigating committee. Thus, when the recent San Diego strike began, government authorities were shocked.

The main office of A. F. L. outlawed the strike, however, and the

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acting president, Robert Gray, informed the local labor leaders that they were breaking their agreement with the government.

Robert Gray's stand and the Navy's strong attitude toward labor unions were strong factors in persuading strikers to call off the strike. In fact, the strike that could have broken the Roosevelt labor policy was settled so fast that now the President's position is stronger.

Japan To Decide. War Is Near U. S. British To Act.

The arrival of Japan's special envoy, Saburo Kurosu, means that the long drawn-out diplomatic conversations between Japan and the United States have entered a decisive state.

Relations between the United States and Japan have been critical since the Japanese invaded Manchuria ten years ago and have now reached the stage where war can be avoided, apparently, only by substantial concessions from Japan. Not many experts believe that the Japanese are ready to give up their ambitious program in the Far East.

The situation in the Far East is complicated by commitments by the United States and Japan in relation to the struggle in Europe. The position of this country is clear and unmistakable inasmuch as we are definitely pledged to the defeat of Hitler.

The Japanese, who signed a treaty of alliance with Germany and Italy have insisted that the pact was purely defensive and that Japan is free to pursue an independent policy. It has been revealed recently in Tokyo that at the time of the signing of the Triple Alliance there was a verbal proviso, explicitly accepted by Germany, that nothing in the pact obligated Japan to go to war in the Pacific except by her own decision.

The British Prime Minister has made the position of his country clear, asserting that if our efforts to maintain peace fail in the Pacific and we become involved in war with Japan, "a British declaration will follow within the hour."

This public notice advises Japan very definitely that she cannot expect an isolated war with the United

States in the Pacific but that if peace is not maintained, the Island Empire will find herself opposed by the British as well as the Americans. In addition, the Dutch, the Chinese and the Russians will not be idle.

It is impossible to predict the outcome of the conversations in Washington. The effect of economic sanctions upon Japan is so serious that the Empire cannot afford to permit the situation to continue. Tokyo knows that a decision is imperative and that Japan must come to some kind of arrangement with the democracies or begin a war which might be disastrous to the Empire.

C. I. O. Bolts Board. Public Against Lewis.

The eleven-man National Defense Mediation Board, which decided against John L. Lewis on the closed-shop issue of the captive mines, had two C. I. O. members and two A. F. L. members.

The position of the A. F. L. members was very amusing. They were in a situation which compelled them to vote against strengthening the position of a labor union. They voted against giving Lewis a closed-shop, because to give him a closed-shop was to give him part of their membership.

The two C. I. O. members were the only ones to side with Lewis. This shows how unpopular Mr. Lewis' position is—especially when it is true that the Mediation Board usually leans toward labor.

It appears that now our national labor policy is catching up with the sentiment of the people of the United States to put national defense first. Neither labor unions nor management should be allowed to strengthen their position during a national emergency when it is so vitally important to the security of our nation and freedom that the wheels of industry keep rolling.

A Two-Ocean War. Hostilities Underway.

The United States is not yet engaged in an all-out war, but undeclared warfare is raging in the Atlantic Ocean and hostilities may begin in the Pacific at any moment.

There is a definite tie-up between the situation that confronts the United States in the two oceans. Japan, the ally of Germany and Italy, believes that the totalitarian states will be victors in the European fight and, consequently, Tokyo is anxious to cash in on the opportunity. The United States, on the other hand, is pledged to do whatever is necessary to defeat Hitler and, consequently, is tired of Japan's "nuisance" tactics in the Pacific and ready for a showdown.

With the United States Navy operating on "shoot on sight" orders in the Atlantic, this country is, no doubt, giving valuable assistance to the British in the Battle of the Atlantic. For this type of work, cruisers, destroyers and lighter warships are used, together with airplanes, but in the Pacific, where the Japanese Navy's nine battleships are ready to fight, the United States must maintain its powerful battle fleet.

The situation in the Pacific has been somewhat improved by the decision of Great Britain to provide a powerful naval force of heavy ships for service in the Pacific, if needed.

With the distinct threat of war before them, the people of the United States are apparently calm and undisturbed. Public opinion has gone a long way since the passage of the Lease-Lend Act, early this year, definitely put the United States among the foes of Hitler and what has happened since that legislation has been the logical result of our national position.

Despite our desire for peace, the United States has taken a stand which leaves the question of peace or war entirely up to Germany or Japan. This dangerous situation, which may result in hostilities at any time, has been accepted by the people of this country as an alternative preferable to the surrender of our rights and acquiescence in the rule of might in international affairs.

As the world situation shapes itself today, we do not see how the United States can avoid war, either with Germany or Japan. These nations are engaged in a militant campaign of aggression, determined to reap rich spoils and the United States is equally determined to thwart their programs. Hostilities in the Pacific would be largely naval and aerial although more active and costly than the undeclared struggle now going on in the Atlantic, where the British stand between us and German forces.

The only question before the American people now, in regard to the war generally, is whether this nation will, at any time, provide another expeditionary force, if necessary, to bring about the defeat of Hitler. Upon this question, we think it may be safely said, the people of the United States are definitely opposed to such participation in the war in Europe.

This conclusion may be altered in a very short space of time by developments in the Atlantic or the Pacific. Encounters with the foe, entailing loss of life, will produce a popular reaction and, if numerous and prolonged, incite a public demand for all-out participation in the struggle. This will mean an expeditionary force, if necessary, to end the present war.

No suitable substitute for cork for bottle caps and stoppers is in production, according to the Department of Commerce.

USO Fund Reaches 16 Million Mark

J. Emmett Winslow, Perquimans County chairman for the USO, has received word from Thomas E. Dewey, National Chairman, that the USO fund will shortly reach a total of 16 million dollars.

Under the direction of Mr. Winslow, Perquimans was one of the first counties in the State to raise its quota for this fund. The money will be used to provide men in the U. S. armed services with recreation centers.

Mr. Dewey reported that the USO was delayed for three months with its program due to failure of government agencies to progress rapidly enough with the building program, but that this is now in the hands of the army and the program is coming along fine.

The USO has been assured that

240 USO buildings will be ready for use by men before December 25. At the present time, there are 293 units in operation, with 161 actual clubs for service men. These are scattered from Alaska to Hawaii, from Newfoundland to the West Indies, and of course, there are the clubs in the U. S. A total of 600 people is now employed.

DAUGHTER OF FORMER RESIDENT MARRIED

The wedding of Miss Beulah Mae Winslow and John F. Feezer, Jr., took place at Ward's Chapel, Halbrook, Maryland, on Saturday evening, November 1st. The bride wore white satin with a veil, and carried white roses. Miss Edna Winslow, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and wore a Spanish ruffled gown. Her flowers were an arm bouquet of yellow roses and snapdragons. Miss Betty Feezer, sister

of the groom, and Mrs. Julius Mielke were bridesmaids. They wore peacock blue and carried pink roses and snapdragons. The father of the bride gave her in marriage. The groom had as his best man his brother, William Feezer, and the ushers were Dexter Shilling and Julius Mielke.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Winslow, formerly of Hertford. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Feezer, of Randallstown, Md.

The couple left on a trip South, and on their return will make their home in Baltimore, Md.

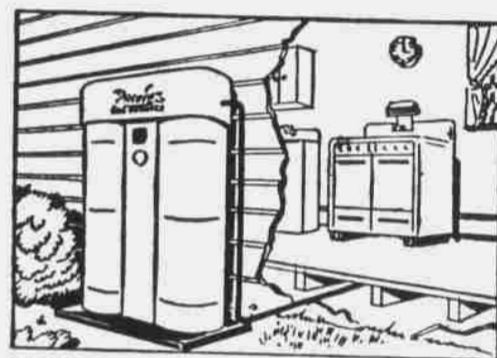
PREACHING AT WOODLAND
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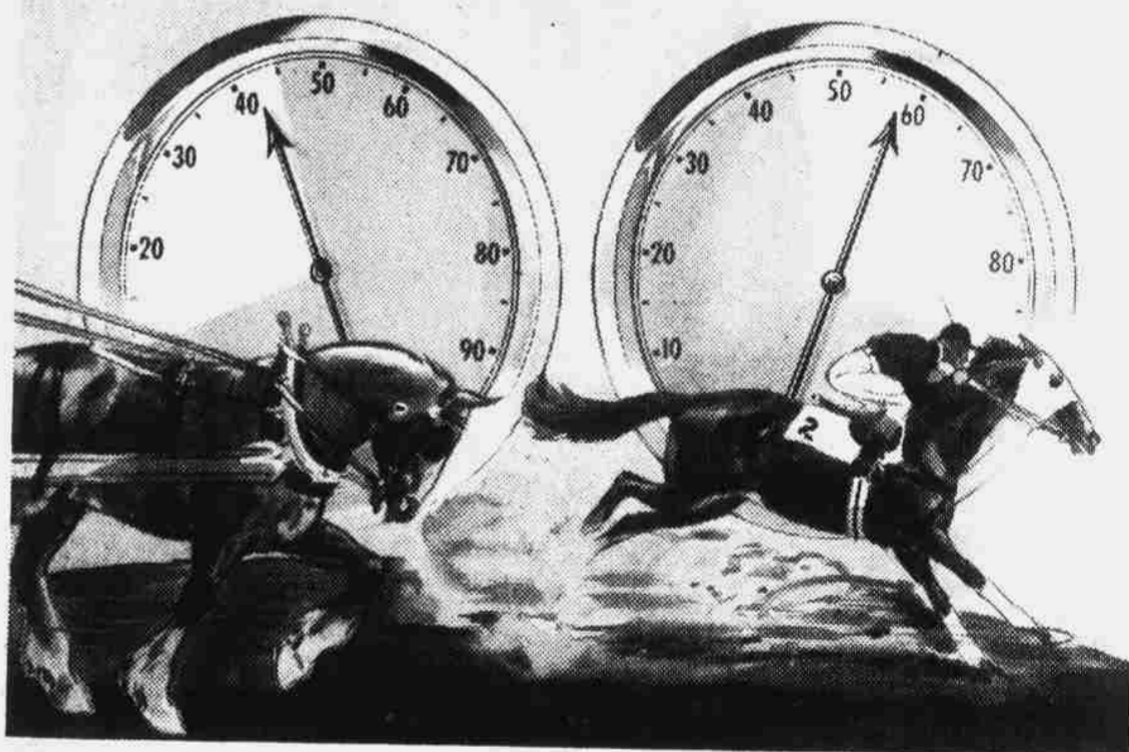
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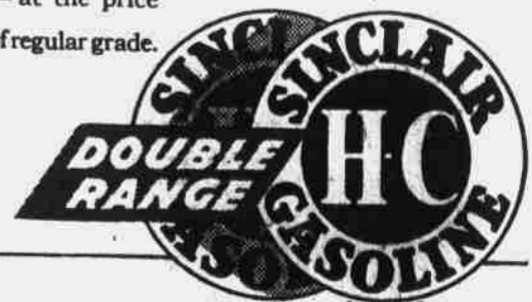


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