

Looking at WASHINGTON

Recent Maritime Strike Had Peculiar Background

The strike started by two A. F. of L. Maritime unions, with 65,000 members, recently tied up ports along the 4,883-mile coast of the United States. While the two striking unions represented only a minority of the workers, they had pledges of support from all the maritime unions in the different labor camps.

The basic facts in connection with the strike are that six CIO maritime unions and one independent union won wage increases in June. This gave the workers a base pay of \$145 a month. The A. F. of L. unions were not involved and subsequent negotiations were designed to settle their demands.

In July, the A. F. of L. unions won an agreement from ship operators, including representatives of government-owned ships, for wage increases which set the pay of able seamen at \$172.50 a month. The increase was \$10 more than the CIO men won. This agreement was approved by the War Shipping Administration but was disapproved by the Wage Stabilization Board which represents the government's anti-inflation controls.

It seems to us that there should have been better coordination between the War Shipping Administration and the Wage Stabilization Board. Moreover, one should not overlook the fact that ship owners receive liberal subsidies from the government, one of which covers the difference between their operating cost and those of foreign companies and, consequently, the ship owners were probably willing to pay the increase and get the subsidy rather than to tie up shipping.

Byrnes Explains U. S. Policy

Includes European Interests

The United States Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, in a public address delivered in Stuttgart, Germany, frankly recognized the clash in policies over Germany, with Russia refusing to follow the Potsdam Agreement and treat Germany as an economic unit.

At the present time Germany is divided into four occupation zones. The Russian zone, in the East, contains 22,000,000 people and an area of 46,400 square miles. The British zone, in the north and west, is 36,800 square miles, with 18,000,000 people. The United States has the southern zone, with 42,500 square miles and 17,300,000 people. The French have a western zone, containing 16,500 square miles and a population of 6,400,000.

Under the Potsdam Agreement, the Big Three pledged themselves to a demilitarized Germany but to an economically-united country. The purpose of this last provision was not so much to help the Germans but to enable the population to reorganize normal economic activities which would lead to an economic recovery and lessen the drain on the occupying powers.

In his speech, Mr. Byrnes admitted the disagreement between Russia on one side and the United States and Great Britain on the other, and practically invited the Russians to come back to the previous agreement, with the warning that unless Russia cooperates, the other nations will attempt to unite their zones of occupation. This will strain relations between the Big Three and it is not a desired end, but if the Russians refuse to cooperate, the Anglo-American nations have no other choice.

Says Meat Shortage Will Not Last Long

The meat shortage that is now being blamed on the OPA and the re-imposition of price ceilings were predicted some weeks ago by Price Administrator Paul Porter, who pointed out that the existing supply is far short of demand.

The OPA is planning an enforcement drive to prevent meat supplies from entering the "black market" and the American Meat Institute promises that the industry "will do everything it can to make restored OPA ceilings work." The ceilings went into effect on September 10th, after a "holiday" which was terminated when the Decontrol Board concluded that controls were necessary.

During the price-free period, animals were rushed to the market, prices went to new high levels and more animals poured into the markets. During the "holiday," a majority of marketable animals were disposed of and the result is the present shortage of meat.

There is no way of telling exactly what will happen, but it will probably be next spring before ample supplies of meat are available. Pork will be scarce and may not catch up with demands until late next year. Lamb and mutton are reported in fairly adequate supply.

What Is U. S. Interests In International Affairs?

The furor caused by the speech of Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace has led to considerable discussion of the foreign policy of the United States and there are many indications that, in connection with international affairs, some of our leaders are not quite clear as they express themselves in the newspapers, on the radio and in public assemblies.

One editor, in discussing the Wallace suggestion that "we have no more business in the political affairs of Eastern Europe than Russia has in the political affairs of Latin America, Western Europe and the United States," asks, "What business was it of ours when Hitler invaded Poland?"

It is very important for the people of the United States to understand that, in every essence, the United States has no business whatever with political developments in other lands or even occasional war, unless they constitute a menace to the interests of the United States.

While it is perfectly proper for people in this country to sympathize with the victims of larger nations, either in economic bondage or under military attack, it would be foolish to believe that it is the business of the United States to attempt to correct all the evils of the present world.

It is the business of our government to protect the interests of the United States and only when economic exploitation or military invasion threatens the fundamental liberties or future security of this country, does it become our business.

When Hitler invaded Poland in 1939, it was not the business of the United States to prevent such an invasion. If this had been the case, it would have been our duty to immediately declare war upon Hitler, as the British and French governments did. These governments, it should be understood, moved to thwart Hitler in Poland because his invasion of that country constituted a menace to the continued existence of Great Britain and France.

The United States, being separated from Europe by an ocean, did not feel that the conquest of Poland, which was split up by Germany and Russia, constituted a menace and, consequently, the United States continued to be neutral.

The successes which marked the course of the German army, as the struggle in Europe proceeded, coupled with the alliance that existed between Germany, Italy and Japan, made it clear that the future security of this country would be imperiled in the event that Hitler and his stooges acquired complete control of Europe. Even when this became apparent to a large number of Americans, the government did nothing officially to open warfare with the Axis powers, although it did encourage Great Britain, France and Russia to fight by sending aid in liberal fashion.

Obviously, if the British nation becomes embroiled in war with India, after the Indian government is established, the interests of the United States would not be seriously menaced and, consequently, there would be no reason for this country to extend assistance to the British.

At the same time, if the British become embroiled in a war with Soviet Russia, for example, with the Communists evidently attempting to gain complete control of Europe, the interest of the United States would be involved because a Soviet victory might menace the future security of this country.

Wallace Was Also Boosd By Left-Wing Audience

One of the interesting phenomena in connection with the speech of Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace in New York was the number of times the left-wing audience greeted him with hisses and boos.

John Beaufort, of The Christian Science Monitor, tells of a "hot blast of hisses and boos" that greeted Mr. Wallace when he criticized Russia, that the "audience hissed loudly" when the Secretary declared he was "neither anti-Russian nor pro-British, neither anti-Russian nor pro-Russian," and "a crescendo of boos and hissing" ensued when the Secretary of Commerce declared that Russia's "type of land reform, industrial expropriation, and repression of basic

liberties offend the great majority of the people of the United States."

Mr. Beaufort tells how the Secretary of Commerce doggedly went ahead, "sometimes to applause, sometimes to hisses, sometimes to a combination of both," and was "savagely hissed and was let go at last with scarcely a ripple of applause."

We call attention to this phase of the reception accorded Mr. Wallace because the average American, in reading and hearing discussions about his address, has been led to believe that the Secretary of Commerce gave a straight-out pro-Russian performance.

Statement of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, etc., Required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, and March 3, 1933

Of The Perquimans Weekly, published weekly at Hertford, North Carolina, for October 1, 1946.

State of North Carolina, County of Perquimans ss.

Before me, a deputy Clerk of Superior Court in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Max R. Campbell, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor of the Perquimans Weekly and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the

aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor and business managers are:

Publisher—The Perquimans Weekly, Hertford, N. C.

Editor—Max R. Campbell, Hertford, N. C.

2. That the owners are:

Max R. Campbell, Hertford, N. C.

J. G. Campbell, Wilmington, N. C.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances

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5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is 1,175.

MAX R. CAMPBELL, Editor.
Sworn to and subscribed before me his 28th day of September, 1946.
MYRA E. LAYDEN,
Deputy Clerk Superior Court.

Even Break

Hotel Clerk—"The bill is six dollars because this is an American plan hotel and our charges include three meals."

MacColl—"But I didn't eat any meals."

Clerk—"Can't help that; they were here for you."

MacColl—"Then the bill's square. I charge ye six dollars for kicking me down stairs."

Clerk—"But I didn't kick you down stairs."

MacColl—"I can't help that; I was here for ye."

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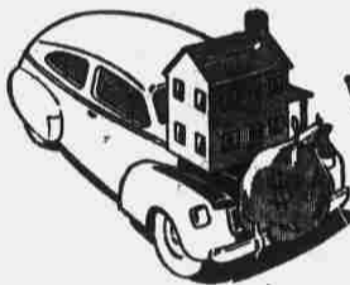
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