

# Europe Keeps Eye On Greek Balloting

By HAL BOYLE  
ATHENS—(AP)—For the first time in a decade in this historic birthplace of democracy Greek voters will go to the polls tomorrow to pick by free balloting new Government for the only country in the Balkans where the other side has taken no potentially decisive step.

It is one of the most important elections of post-war Europe because Greece is the last outpost in the Balkans of dominant British Empire influence. This tiny nation is also the only Balkan country which has not been engulfed by the leftwing political enthusiasm sweeping west and south from victorious and power Russia.

Almost all veteran political observers here believe the elections will return a Government predominantly right of center and perhaps pave the way for the return of King George, an absentee monarch whose throne is desired by many thousands of subjects only because they regard him as lesser of two evils. The other side in their views is Communism.

POPULARITY NOT HIGH  
And it is only on that issue—anything rather than Communism—that King George apparently ever will sit again on his throne here. In the last days he has been a great resurgence of propaganda for his return to Athens but this has done in no sense a whit to his personal popularity which certainly isn't high.

"I would rather vote Republican but I am sure to vote Royalist because I believe that is the best way to end strife and violence and restore order from Communism," said one middle-class citizen. "We all wish to avoid any recurrence of such violence and excesses as accompanied our civil war in December, 1944, when Communists and other leftwingers seized thousands of hostages. They executed many, two members of my own family were killed."

"I don't like King George, he has been a bad king. He is supercilious and arrogant. But I am sure to vote for him because I believe that will bring peace to this country."

MRS. ROOSEVELT AND HER GODCHILD—In San Francisco to attend the christening ceremonies, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt had her goddaughter and namesake, Anna Eleanor Martin, daughter of Mrs. Hershey Martin, the former Marylin Chaney, professional dancer. (Acme Photo.)

# COUNCIL A STRAITJACKET Coal Talks Held As Walkout Deadline Nears



HERO AND GRANDMOTHER—Wearing the Congressional Medal of Honor, presented to him at the White House by President Truman, M/Sgt. Charles L. McGaha of Cosby, Tenn., places an arm around his 88-year-old grandmother, Mrs. Jane McGaha. Mrs. McGaha made the trip with other members of her family to witness the ceremony. (Acme Photo.)

## Labor Dept. Chief Sees Principals No Hint Whether Progress Made

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Secretary of Labor Schwellenbach held last-minute conferences with John L. Lewis and soft coal operators today but gave no immediate hint whether progress had been made toward averting a walkout of 400,000 miners Sunday midnight.

He told reporters, however, that he would have something to say later at a news conference.

Neither Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, nor the operators would comment on the conferences which also were attended by Assistant Secretary of Labor John W. Gibson and conciliator Douglas Byrd.

The Secretary declined to say whether he has prepared a suggested compromise on Lewis' nine contract demands.

Lewis' principal request this year is for creation of a health and welfare fund.

The scheduled work halt would not be felt until Tuesday because Monday is a traditional holiday in the mines.

Lewis' UMW Journal, published today, said "There is no hope or likelihood the operators will agree to any part" of the union demands before the Sunday midnight deadline.

As for what will happen once a strike begins, the Journal commented that "the union demands before the Sunday midnight deadline" will be taken, but the meeting will be limited until a new agreement is negotiated.

Lewis has demanded establishment of a temporary fund for miners financed from assessments on coal tonnage produced, with the fund to be turned over to his union. The Coal Association contended this would make Lewis "a dictator more powerful than any America has ever known."

The operators have offered to make the fund permanent, set in the automobile, oil and steel industries. But Lewis has avoided any specific wage increase demand, pending the health and welfare fund proposal.

## Argue Over A-Bomb Solons Deny Test Is Threat Of War

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The weight of Congressional opinion tipped heavily today in favor of holding the Bikini A-bomb tests this Summer, although three Senators protested this is a bad time for such an awesome experiment.

Several Senators interested in atomic energy developments said that they are flatly opposed to calling off the tests, as suggested in yesterday's Senate Resolution by Senators Hoffman, Democrat, Ohio, and Lucas, Democrat, Illinois. Senator O'Mahoney, Democrat, Wyoming, backed the resolution, however.

The Bikini tests originally were scheduled to begin approximately May 15, but President Truman ordered them postponed six weeks to make possible the attendance of Congressmen who would be kept away on the earlier date because of the press of legislative matters.

The Huffman-Lucas attack on plans to test atomic bombs on ships at the Marshall Islands is based on their assertion that any such demonstration might be misinterpreted by other nations as evidence the United States is preparing for war.

Lucas told reporters that we wouldn't feel very good about the whole thing in this country if some other nation were preparing to test out such a bomb while we were watching.

Company and union representatives opened a joint meeting at 10:45 A. M. their first since negotiations broke down last Tuesday night, but they quickly adjourned it to go into separate sessions to agree upon a stipulation governing arbitration.

WAGE ISSUE RETIRED  
Eye made his statement that one major hurdle had passed at the conference opened. The company and the union earlier this week agreed upon a stipulation governing arbitration.

PEARL HARBOR BIG SURPRISE  
THIRD THING  
Germany Never Wanted America In War, Ribbentrop Declares

By RICHARD KAISSCHKE  
NUERNBERG—(AP)—Joachim Von Ribbentrop, denied emphatically before the International Military Tribunal today that Germany had sought information on a Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and declared: "It was something we never wanted."

hestop continued, "I tried by diplomatic means to keep America out of the war. We always considered the tri-partite pact a defensive one, with the primary aim of keeping the United States neutral."

He said that when Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor came, it was a surprise to even the German Ambassador Oshima in Berlin.

The ex-Foreign Minister gave the tribunal his version of the history of World War II—the allegation that practically all Europe, even Italy, Belgium and Luxembourg, was plotting against Germany. Therefore, he said, Hitler "decided he had to strike first."

MONDAY IS THE DAY  
Harold Ickes starts a three-time weekly column exclusively in Water for The Charlotte News



HERO AND GRANDMOTHER—Wearing the Congressional Medal of Honor, presented to him at the White House by President Truman, M/Sgt. Charles L. McGaha of Cosby, Tenn., places an arm around his 88-year-old grandmother, Mrs. Jane McGaha. Mrs. McGaha made the trip with other members of her family to witness the ceremony. (Acme Photo.)

## Car Dealers Hit At OPA

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Dealers took sharp issue with OPA today as auto industry wage increases boosted retail prices \$1 to \$51 for new cars built by Chrysler, Ford, Hudson and Nash.

To prevent a bigger increase, OPA ordered dealers' profit margins in every manner, shape and form until something is done about it.

Lee W. Moran, executive vice-president of the National Automobile Dealers Association, termed the fresh cut a "cockeyed idea."

"We are going to hammer away in every manner, shape and form until something is done about it," Moran told a reporter.

Prices Hiked  
In announcing the price increases, OPA said it expects that auto manufacturers' prices generally will have to be hiked an average of 2 1/2 per cent as the result of wage increases already granted or anticipated.

It said that despite the uniform cut of two more points in the discount margins of all dealers, they will make a greater net profit than they planned next.

OPA bases this belief on its expectation that dealers will not lose as much money on trade-ins, and that their selling expense will be less.

The retail increases announced apply to nine makes of cars—Plymouth, Dodge, DeSoto, Ford, Mercury, Lincoln, Hudson and Nash. They cover all models produced since March 11.

The increases are smallest for the four-Chrysler-brands, running only \$1 or \$2 for each model. They

## Truman Is Defied Farm Price Raise Voted In Senate

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Administration smarted today under a severe Senate setback that threatened to doom President Truman's minimum wage legislation.

The showdown came on a proposal to incorporate in the bill provisions that would boost farm prices, and the proposal won, 42 to 31, yesterday despite Mr. Truman's advance warning that he would veto the measure in that form.

The Senate's week-end recess gave perplexed Presidential lieutenants a chance to take inventory and consider recasting plans in the face of a politically important defeat.

The farm-price boost amendment won approval after less than an hour of floor debate. The roll call vote found 24 Democrats and 18 Republicans shouting "yes" and 21 Democrats, nine Republicans and the lone Progressive, LaRocca, Wisconsin, answering the "no" asked by the President.

Majority Leader Barkley, Democrat, Kentucky, who had gravely delivered the White House veto warning, refused comment on what he planned next.

Senator Pepper, Democrat, Florida, who championed the amendment which would revise Government parity-price methods, commented: "I think the Senate has done the proper thing."

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See CAR DEALERS on page 6-A

See WAGES BILL on page 6-A

## Moscow And Tehran Sent Queries By UNO Body

Answers Might Settle Matter

By CHARLES A. GRUMIC  
NEW YORK (AP)  
The possibility arose today that replies by Prime Minister Stalin and Premier Ahmed Qavam to Security Council inquiries about the situation in Iran might obviate further United Nations action in the Russian-Iranian dispute.

The Council yesterday adopted the direct method of asking Stalin and Qavam for reports on the status of negotiations between their countries and for information whether Russia is exacting concessions for pulling Red Army troops out of oil-rich Iran.

During the discussions, Secretary of State James F. Byrnes suggested that the answers—if and when they come—might show that the two countries need no further assistance in settling their dispute.

DEADLINE FIXED  
Messages to Stalin and Qavam from A. M. E. T. T. on Wednesday, April 3, as the deadline for receipt of the replies in New York, were sent by the Council secretariat last night to Ambassadors Odran Oromykhin of the Soviet Union and Husayn, Minister of Iran, for relay to their home governments.

The Council then is expected to gain more adequate and exact information regarding the situation in Iran, and to make a decision on the matter. The Soviet Government and the Iranian Government are expected to reply to the Council by April 3.

MacArthur Supported

By GRAHAM ROYCE  
WASHINGTON—Despite opposition from Russia and New Zealand, the Far Eastern Commission today upheld Gen. Douglas MacArthur's decision to permit the Japanese to hold national elections on April 10.

No formal vote was taken on the issue after it became apparent that most of the eleven-national commission members were satisfied with an explanation from the Supreme Commander why he felt it desirable to go ahead with the elections on schedule.

Sir Carl Berenson, New Zealand Minister to the United States, and Nikolai V. Novikov, Charge d'Affaires of the Soviet Embassy, both urged postponement of the balloting.

This information was given to reporters by commission members after an official statement closed the meeting at the former Japanese Embassy.

The secretary had been called to consider MacArthur's explanation, requested by the commission, for proceeding with the elections.

See IRAN CASE on page 6-A

WEATHER  
Official Weather Bureau Forecast  
Partly cloudy and cooler tonight. Sunday partly cloudy and milder.

Professor Maxwell's Advance Predictions  
TEMPERATURE  
Temperatures at 2:30 today: High and low last 24 hours: 61-82. Sunset today: 6:48. Sunrise tomorrow: 6:00.

## Guide To Good Reading

HATE 'N' FLOWERS—You'll be interested in Tom Peepman's story and a striking collection of letters in the Sunday's Section. Other news of special interest to women is in the section on pages 2-B, 3-B and 4-B.

BOYS' WEEK—Next week is being observed nationally as Boys' Week. A timely pictorial story on this subject is on page 3-A.

SPORTS—Golf holds the headlines today. You'll find the news of golf and other sports on pages 6-B and 7-B.

ARTS—Our Saturday page of information about books, music and theater is on page 5-B.

MARRIAGE COUNSEL—Dr. Herbert Sponner's Everyday Counselor today begins a series on "Ten Commandments for a Happy Marriage." The column is in its usual spot on the back page.

Turk-Iraq Agreement  
LONDON—(AP)—The Exchange Telegraph said in an Ankara dispatch today that Turkey and Iraq signed an agreement today, but no details were given.