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LEWIS WALKS OUT ON COAL TALKS

Poland Asks Council Action Against Franco

Mr. Ickes Too Much Hannegan For Party Welfare

By HAROLD L. ICKES

EDWARD H. CRUMP of Tennessee was right when he remarked during the Pauley purification rites that no one should be Postmaster General and Chairman of a National Committee at the same time. He was talking about Robert E. Hannegan of his own party, who certainly was no great shakes as National Chairman during the 1944 campaign.

"Tradition" is a wonderful thing. Many believe that it is customary for the National Chairman of the party in power to be Postmaster General. The fact is, however, that this so-called custom is a parvenu upstart. The first man to hold both posts was George B. Cortelyou under President Theodore Roosevelt. The incident was not repeated until Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed James A. Farley, National Chairman, to be Postmaster General. Then Frank C. Walker, already a member of the Cabinet, became National Chairman as a stopgap. He continued as Postmaster General into the fourth term, although Hannegan, the ward politician from St. Louis, had become Chairman of the National Committee.

FDR PASSED HIM BY

It is significant that Franklin D. Roosevelt did not name Mr. Hannegan to his Cabinet. It remained for President Truman to prove how much he wanted the Roosevelt Cabinet to continue by pushing the competent Mr. Walker out and installing Mr. Hannegan as Postmaster General. Of those who doubled up, at least briefly, in the two jobs—Cortelyou, Farley, Walker and Hannegan—the last named was the least qualified for either position.

If President Truman possessed recognized qualities of leadership, Hannegan would not be doing him so much harm. A too complacent President and a too assertive Chairman make a poor combination. They do not inspire the country with confidence. Hannegan is not one to hide his light under a bushel. He prefers to put it in front of a reflector. Apparently he wants everyone to believe that he is the hand that dishes out the patronage and distributes the favors of the Administration. He has even usurped the right to set up a "brain trust" to determine what the Administration's policies should be. It is Mr. Hannegan who tells members of Congress how they should vote and how they should not vote, nor does he tell them in mitued tones. It was he who tried to bludgeon through the Senate the confirmation of Edwin W. Pauley for Under Secretary of the Navy when his stubborn adherence to proved error could do nothing but damage to both the President and the Democratic Party.

Mr. Hannegan might be a passable man in an office that would run itself competently if there were no Postmaster General. But as a principal political adviser of the President he is a splash of red ink. He will not lay aside his trumpet except under orders from the President and these he is not likely to receive. The people do not fancy a National Chairman Postmaster General cracking his whip like a ringmaster. His behavior during the Pauley affair cost his party support and now within less than a year of his elevation beyond his height to the Cabinet, he has caused an open revolt among the members of his party in Congress. They might not object to an attempt at quiet persuasion, but they do not like to be ordered, in a loud voice, to jump through the hoop.

The gentleman from St. Louis is like a bridesmaid who assumes that she is the bride. Mark Hanna had undoubted influence with President McKinley, but he did not do any shouting from the house-tops, while Farley and Walker were models of discretion.

Less frequent and more diluted doses of Hannegan would be good for both the President and the country.

POLAND'S CHILDREN AT PLAY—They say that children forget easily, and it seems as if these children of Warsaw are oblivious to their surroundings as they play the familiar "Ring-Around-the-Rosy" amid the ruins of one the city's streets. But it is unlikely that they will ever completely forget their Warsaw as it is today. Ruins are the rule. (Photo by Reginald Kenny, Acme Correspondent.)

Says Spain Is Haven For Nazis

Regime Viewed As Threat To Peace

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

NEW YORK — (AP) — Poland asked the United Nations Security Council today to take action against the Franco regime in Spain on the ground that it has already threatened world peace and is a haven for Nazis, their assets and German scientists "devising new means of warfare."

The Polish appeal, filed by Ambassador Oscar Lange with Secretary General Trygve Lie, piled up another big political issue for the peace-enforcement body even before it had struggled out from the weight of the Iranian case. The next round in the Iranian case will come at 3 P. M. Monday, a secret meeting of Council members decided today, when Russia will urge and the United States and Britain oppose prompt dismissal of Iran's complaints against Russia.

EVIDENCE OF THREAT

Lange cited as evidence of the threat to peace and of the "international friction" which he said were caused by Franco's government the fact that on Feb. 26, 1946, the Spanish-French frontier was closed and next day the Spanish regime "ordered the concentration of troops at the border of France."

Moreover, he said, the Spanish Government has given haven to Nazi assets and personnel and to "war criminals and Nazi leaders who continue their activities" from Spain.

Also, said Lange's letter, the Franco Administration "allows and promotes scientific research by German scientists engaged in devising new means of warfare."

Lange did not say exactly what the Council ought to do about Franco but he urged "adoption of such measures as are provided for in the charter."

U. S. STAND CHALLENGED

He took sharp issue with the official American position, as stated in State Department notes on Spain, that the situation revolving around Franco is an internal one for the Spanish people to handle. He sought to show that the United Nations Charter bolstered his position.

Franco, Lange argued, is "a concern of all the United Nations." He said that Article 2, Paragraph 6 says the United Nations should see to it that even non-member states "act in accordance with the principles of the organization as far as may be necessary for the maintenance of international peace and security."

"The situation in Spain," Lange said, "makes the application of this provision imperative."

Lange noted that Feb. 9, this year, in its London meeting the United Nations General Assembly banned the Franco Government from membership, sharply criticized its history and conduct and recommended that U.N. members take the resolution into account in conducting their individual diplomatic relations with Spain.

"Since then," Lange said, "a series of developments has made

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One Chance In A Million

Co-Worker Throws Rope And Saves Pal From Fatal Fall

CHICAGO — (AP) — A workman, hurtling to the street from a scaffolding rope on the fifteenth floor of a Loop hotel, was snatched from possible death as his fellow workman twirled a rope around his body, breaking his fall.

The fast-thinking of Philip Walsh, 53-year-old tuck pointer, was credited by police with saving his fellow worker, James Anderson, 29, as he hurtled to the street from the fourteenth floor of the Fort Dearborn Hotel. Police said it was a one chance in a million rescue.

It was quitting time when Anderson swung out on a rope from the scaffolding on the fifteenth floor. Intending to lower himself to a fourteenth floor window to enter and pick up his tools, Suddenly, he lost a glove and slipped. His body began to plummet to the street.

Walsh seized the rope from which Anderson had fallen, twirled it in a wide circle and jerked. The rope, corkscrewing in the air, looped around Anderson's body. Anderson slipped down the length of the rope with the loose loop around him but he apparently lost his grip at the second story and fell.

Walsh rode down in an elevator and rushed to the street where he found Anderson sitting up. At St. Luke's Hospital attendants said Anderson suffered rope burns.

UMW Chief And Union Committee Quit Parleys

Demand Welfare Fund Discussion

WASHINGTON — (AP) — John L. Lewis and a United Mine Workers committee walked out on wage negotiations with soft coal operators today and threatened to stay out until the producers agree to discuss a welfare fund and improved safety conditions.

The UMW president has put the fund and safety conditions at the top of the nine demands he has made in negotiations on a new contract to end the ten-day-old shutdown in the soft coal pits.

CONDITIONS "HOPELESS"

K. C. Adams, editor of the United Mine Workers Journal and union spokesman, told newsmen the UMW delegation found it "useless and hopeless" to continue negotiations under present conditions.

There was no immediate comment from the operators, who stayed temporarily behind in the conference room.

Adams added in a statement that the operators had blocked the miners' attempt to report disagreement to the full joint conference. The statement continued:

"Whereupon the mine workers, seeing the situation useless and hopeless and that the operators would not discuss any things in a serious vein on the health and welfare and safety proposals, withdew from the meeting until such time as the operators show evidence they are willing to meet and discuss these things, which are just as important as wages and hours. We are not going to let them bypass them."

Lewis also released a statement which he had prepared for the wage conference and in which he indicated that he expected the operators to meet his terms eventually if the strike is prolonged.

"We trust that time, as it shrinks your purse, may modify your niggardly and anti-social propensities," he said.

Lewis complained of what he said was the operators' "complacency" and asserted that their "senseless cupidity . . . withholds from the miner the rewards of honorable and perilous exertion."

LEWIS' STATEMENT

The text of the Lewis statement:

"For four weeks we have sat with you; we attended when you fixed the hour; we departed when weariness affected your pleasure.

"Our effort to resolve mutual questions has been vain: you have been intolerant of suggestions and impatient of analysis.

"When we sought surcease from bloodletting, you professed indifference; when we cried aloud for the safety of our numbers you answer—be content—'twas always thus!

"When we urged that you abate a stench you averred that your nostrils were not offended.

"When we emphasized the importance of life you pleaded the priority of profits; when we spoke of little children in unkept surroundings you said—look to the state!

"You aver that you own the mines: we suggest that, as yet, you do not own the people.

"You profess annoyance at our

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Evidence Of Arson

Eight Persons Die In Boston Blaze

BOSTON — (AP) — Eight persons perished today in a Back Bay apartment house fire and Fire Commissioner Russell Codman later said there was evidence that the blaze had been set by a fireburg.

Codman said, also, that there was evidence of arson in two other fires which broke out within a ten block radius as firemen battled the flames in the Belvedere St. structure, where the deaths occurred.

The police listed the dead as: Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Wassell and their children, Suzanne, 5; Linda, 3, and Peter, 2; Napoleon LaPete, and his sister, Verna, and Patrolman Robert Mahar, 45.

Suzanne Mahoney, 22, was injured critically. Physicians said Mahar, who was in the area when the fire started, died from severe burns and a possible leg fracture.

The bodies of three members of the Wassell family were huddled near a window in their upper floor apartment. The others were sprawled in other parts of their home.

Thirty-three other tenants fled from the building in which the fire was burning fiercely when the first fire apparatus arrived. Other families left their homes in an adjacent building, but a firewall prevented spread of the blaze.

While fire apparatus and ambulances crowded into the area around the Belvedere Street fire, alarms summoned firemen to fight a blaze in an unoccupied building on Huntington Avenue, near Copley Square, and to another building in Irvington Street, near St. Botolph.

Police reported that Mahar and Miss Mahoney leaped from the Belvedere St. building when trapped by the spreading fire.

Views Given By Wallace

WASHINGTON — (AP)—Secretary Henry A. Wallace said today he favors the two-party system, was against the Roosevelt "purge" of 1938, and asserted that in the days ahead "we will need a sense of party responsibility."

Referring to an informal speech on parity discipline before the Women's Democratic Club here March 18, Wallace said he didn't use the word "purge" as some headlines said, but urged "self-discipline" for party members who failed to vote with their leadership on major issues.

"I tremble for the nation," the Commerce Secretary said, "unless we have a sense of party responsibility."

Wallace, who had CIO support for the Democratic Vice-Presidential nomination in 1944, was testifying at a Senate Interstate Commerce Committee hearing. He got off the subject when Senator Reed, Republican, Kansas, drew a parallel between what he called "coercion" by railroads in rate-making and what he recalled as "coercion you (Wallace) suggested a short time ago."

RAISED NO CHALLENGE

Wallace had been quoted in an unheralded address before the Democratic women—and raised no challenge to the report at the time—as saying that Senators and Representatives who oppose their own parties on major legislation should be banned from seeking election on their party tickets.

Denying he used the word "purge," Wallace told Reed:

"I suggested that the parties—both of them—should agree on certain major questions and that the members should stick together

"If they didn't agree with the way their party had voted, they could make their own stands clear at the country level or state level by speeches and so on."

Speedy Draft Action Goal

By WILLIAM ARBOGAST

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The House Lea de r s h ip signaled today for double-quick action on a bill for straightaway continuation of the draft until Feb. 15, 1947.

Almost as soon as the House Military Committee decided in favor of this nine-month extension, the measure was given a preferred place on the chamber's calendar, with debate scheduled for Friday and Saturday and a vote hoped for before the week-end recess.

The present law is due to expire five weeks from today—May 15, and that space leaves Congress with comparatively scant elbow room should legislative tangles develop between House and Senate over details of the measure to be enacted.

Indications were that the bitter battle which preceded the committee's 15 to 8 extender recommendation late yesterday would be renewed on the House floor.

ROLL-CALL LIKELY

But supporters of continuing Selective Service viewed with comfort the fact that the House vote, when it comes, probably will be a roll-call and on the sole issue of extension. Many members, they believe, are fearful of voting on the record in an election year against a proposal which Army and Administration have backed so strongly.

Some committee members had sought legislation extending the draft law for a year but suspending inductions for as long as six months. Had the committee recommended such a plan, the House might have avoided an actual roll-call on a straightaway extension as advocated by General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The draft holiday proposals, how-

See SPEEDY DRAFT on page 8-A

On Senate Floor

British Loan Will Be Up For Debate

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Senate Banking Committee voted 14 to 5 today to send the proposed $3,750,000,000 British loan to the floor for debate.

The action was announced by Senator Barkley, Democrat, Kentucky, after a closed meeting. Barkley predicted the Senate would pass the proposed credit "by a substantial majority."

He said that the bill would be called up for action the first of next week.

PROPOSALS REJECTED

Members said these proposal were rejected by the committee:

By Senator Taft, Republican, Ohio, to give Great Britain $1,250,000,000 outright provided the money be spent in the United States. Taft told reporters that only Senators Capehart, Republican, Indiana, and Capper, Republican, Kansas, voted with him on this.

By Senator McFarland, Democrat, Arizona, to require Great Britain to turn over to the United States permanently the bases now used by this country on a 99-year lease.

This vote was reported to be seven for and fourteen against.

By Senator Capehart to set up a $1,500,000,000 credit for Britain against which she could borrow up to the extent of the annual deficit between her imports and exports. Committeemen said the vote on the Capehart amendment was three to fifteen.

On sending the $3,750,000,000 loan bill to the Senate, the following vote was announced:

For: Glass, Democrat Virginia; Barkley, Democrat, Kentucky; Bankhead, Democrat, Alabama; Radcliffe, Democrat, Maryland; Downey, Democrat, California; Taylor, Democrat, Idaho; Murdock Democrat, Utah; Fulbright, Democrat, Arkansas; Mitchell, Democrat, Washington; Carville, Democrat, Nevada; Tobey, Republican New Hampshire; Buck, Republican, Delaware; Hickenlooper, Republican Iowa and Wagner, Democrat, New York.

Against: McFarland, Democrat Arizona; Taft, Republican, Ohio; Butler, Republican, Nebraska; Capper, Republican, Kansas, and Capehart, Republican, Indiana.

Not voting: Millikin, Republican Colorado.

Proponents of the loan have described it as a transaction designed in part to keep the British from reverting to their prewar empire preference system of foreign trade.

OPA Parity Clause Lifted

WASHINGTON —(AP)— A major threat to passage of an OPA bill acceptable to the Administration lifted today. Farm state legislative leaders agreed to withhold from it a controversial amendment to boost prices of agricultural goods.

The proposal is one by Representative Pace, Democrat, Georgia, to increase parity prices by including in them the cost of farm labor. Parity is a formula designed to keep farmers' buying power on an even keel.

Pace told newsmen he had decided against trying to tie the measure to the OPA legislation. Simultaneously, however, he disclosed an alternate plan to press for passage of his proposal.

Living Thrown Into Furnace

DACHAU, Germany—(AP)—A former inmate of the Mauthausen concentration camp testified today that living prisoners were thrown into the crematory at that German prison along with the dead.

The witness, Trak Gruenberg, a Polish Jew, appeared at the trial of 62 camp officials accused of atrocities by a United States military court. He asserted that SS Doctor Willy Robst ordered him to throw the living into the furnace because "there is no place for them to live."

Fifteen pictures taken inside the camp by a prisoner who obtained the camera of an SS officer were introduced as evidence of conditions.

15th Marriage Of 61-Year-Old Man Annulled

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia.—(AP)—The fifteenth marriage of James P. Williams, 61, has ended in an annulment. His fourteen previous marriages ended in divorces.

Williams told District Judge M. C. Hamel yesterday that Augusta McGary of New Lisbon, Wis., whom he married last Aug. 3 in Iowa City following a correspondence club romance, disappeared after they had lived together about a month.

Williams expressed the belief "the whole thing was a plot" and that she married him for his money rather than to cook his meals and take care of him as she had promised.

Solons Hear Details

Prisoners Lead Gay Life In D. C. Jail

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Congressmen blinked in amazement today at lurid descriptions of what life has been like in the "Big House," less than two miles from the Capitol.

They heard that inmates of the District of Columbia jail have run business ventures from their cells, imported liquor by the case for gambling parties, and even entertained out-of-town models on occasion.

They also received further sworn testimony of prisoners being permitted to leave for business appointments in one of the city's most expensive hotels, of "lavish tipping of sundry jail officials," and of Government stationery being used by prisoners for their correspondence.

Congressional investigators stumbled on this story at the outset of their inquiry into the recent escape of two condemned slayers from death row — a jail break which boosted to 573 the number of prisoners who have fled District penal institutions since 1933.

The fireworks of District jail life was provided by Howard B Gill, who was suspended as prison superintendent after a series of escapes a few month ago.

Gill testified before a special House Committee yesterday that the goings-on he related had taken place before he became superintendent but that he had obtained the details in a 100-page memorandum from an inmate. He asserted that his predecessor, Ray L. Huff, knew what was happening but

See JAIL LIFE on page 8-A

A Seaman's Nightmare

Bibulous Baboon, Pretty Persians And Ship-Skipping Skipper Enliven Voyage

By RICHARD CUSHING

SHANGHAI — (AP) — Seamen spoke with awe tonight in the bars of Bloody Alley of the bizarre voyage of the American freighter Ada Rehan, whose crew reported round-the-world experiences rivaling those of the legendary Flying Dutchman.

Over their vodka and rum the merchantmen told of a skipper with a nervous breakdown, a beer-drinking baboon that went berserk from thirst, and of three beautiful Persian women brought to Shanghai without the formality of being put on the ship's manifest.

The Ada Rehan is unloading United Nation's Relief and Rehabilitation Administration equipment here. War Shipping Administration officials are checking details of the weird voyage which started Aug. 16, 1945, as a routine trip from San Francisco to New Orleans.

A few days out, the story goes, the Ada Rehan was requisitioned by the WSA and sent to Santiago, Chile, for a load of nitrate and then ordered to Tripoli. The voyage was enlivened by such incidents as mistaking a floating mine field for a herd of turtles and "getting lost" in the open ocean because a seaman on watch carried in his pocket a magnet powerful enough to swing the ship's compass crazily.

Crewmen said the skipper, Capt. Harold B. Ellis, a war veteran, went ashore at Tripoli suffering from a nervous collapse. The first mate, F. Henry Haas of Mobile, Ala., took over the command.

At an Arabian port, the crew refused to sail further under Haas' command. The reason was not reported. The vessel got under way for Persia only after he called on the Coast Guard to remove two men whom he charged with insubordination.

The thirsty baboon stepped into the picture at Khorramshahr in the Persian Gulf. A seaman's club there was being disbanded and the mascot was given to Haas, who had a cage built for it on deck.

The skipper didn't know the baboon was an habitual drunk. With its supply of vodka and beer suddenly cut off, the animal broke from its cage, bit the master and jumped ship, speeded on its way by a volley of shots from Haas's revolver. A miniature safari was organized and the baboon was tracked down and shot.

It likewise was at Khorramshahr, where the cargo of UNRRA rail equipment was loaded, that the three pretty persians appeared. The women were taken aboard, along with three or four men and a boy of about seven, the ship's crew related.

There was "some trouble" at sea about attentions paid the women by the seamen, they reported, but the passengers were aboard when the Ada Rehan arrived here, via Colombo and Hong Kong. Whereabouts of the passengers is unknown but they may have been turned over to Chinese immigration authorities.

The vessel is scheduled to sail shortly for San Francisco. Its crew is unanimous in hoping the last leg of the world voyage will not parallel the others.

WEATHER

Official Weather Bureau Forecast

Scattered showers and thunderstorms and not much change in temperature today, tonight and Thursday.

Temperature at 2:30 today 47
High and low last 24 hours 50-46
Sunset today 6:51
Sunrise tomorrow 5:57

Professor Maxwell's Advance Predictions

("The News presents Professor Maxwell's advance weather forecast as an interesting and useful daily feature, but points out that the official forecast remains that of the U. S. Weather Bureau.)