

Turn to page 9-A of this edition for an appraisal of the box of the United Mine Workers by Victor Hibel, nationally known writer on labor topics.

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NFTW Committee Gets Long Lines Settlement Plan

Proposed Agreement Handed to Policy Body Issues Would Be Arbitrated

WASHINGTON (AP)—A proposed agreement for settling long distance line phases of the nationwide telephone strike was submitted today to the Policy Committee of the National Federation of Telephone Workers.

John J. Moran, president of the Long Lines union and G. S. Dring, assistant president of the A. T. & T. Long Lines division, said the proposal was not initiated during the last meeting of officials of the Long Lines workers organization and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

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Which Will It Be? Boom Or Bust

(Note: Following is the second of three articles summarizing a survey by The Associated Press of business conditions and prospects in the United States, Editors, The News.)

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS MOST economists who talk on the subject expect that the current business boom in the United States will have a set-back by mid-year.

The period to follow can be a healthful readjustment, a recession or a depression. A recession could be mild or severe, brief or prolonged.

With prospects good for at least three more months of the present boom, as indicated in the first article of this series, few economists are discussing a depression.

President Truman has called on industry to co-operate in reducing prices, saying he hoped it would not go "whole hog" for prices to rise.

Stanley Rutenber, chief economist of the CIO, says he has had two examples of price trends. A break is imminent in a matter of weeks, perhaps in a matter of days.

Judge Holds Up Miners' Fine Refund Decision Delayed For Two Weeks

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal Judge T. Alan Goldborough today postponed for two weeks a decision on whether to refund to the United Mine Workers \$2,800,000 of the \$3,500,000 fine imposed on the union for contempt.

It going so, the judge said "I regret exceedingly that there isn't good faith" on the part of the union and president John L. Lewis, in complying with a Supreme Court mandate.

The Supreme Court had ordered the \$2,800,000 refund providing Lewis cancelled a notice terminating the UMW contract with the Government. Lewis has done that.

Goldborough said he thought the matter of returning the \$2,800,000 should be put off until July 1, the date on which the soft coal will be back in private possession.

But he granted a Government request for two week delay with this comment: "This court doesn't see that good faith can be established in two weeks."

UMW lawyers had asked for the refund immediately, contending that Lewis and the UMW had complied with court orders. The Government, however, said it wanted time to study the case.

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Truman Makes Points Price Problem Is Business's Baby

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman said today the responsibility for cutting prices rests squarely with business.

Business wanted free enterprise—now let's see them make it work, the President said, unless prices come down.

In rapid succession during his half day news conference, the President made several additional points to discourage economic critics of the price situation.

He felt there is no necessity of a (economic) readjustment. Business wanted freedom from price controls. Now that it is free, the price problem is up to business.

It would be impractical to reimpose price controls and the people do not want them.

He hoped strikes this year will not have the same effect as last, and will be settled.

He is not planning a message to Congress on the price situation—Congress has plenty from the general public.

1,000 Injured As Oklahoma, Texas Struck

WOODWARD, Okla.—(AP)—A devastating tornado swept across 100-mile path of rich wheat and cattle country killing an estimated 152 persons, injuring more than 1,000 and inflicting property damage running into the millions.

The Texas State Highway Patrol quoting a Red Cross estimate, reported at least 152 were believed dead with the probability more bodies were buried in the rubble.

Hardest hit was Woodward, Okla., where 100 were estimated to be dead, between 800 and 1,000 injured. Many buildings were destroyed in this city of 5,500 population.

Other estimates included Shattuck, Okla., 20 dead; Higgins, Texas, 24, and Glacier, Texas, 8. Earlier, two were reported dead at Gage, Okla., which would bring the total to 154.

The general course of the storm was northeastward from White Deer, Texas, 50 miles from Amarillo, through Glazier, population 200, Higgins, population 750, Woodward, and Gage, a community of 800 persons.

Many of the injured were being taken to nearby towns and hospitals as far away as Wichita, Kas., where preparing beds for possible patients.

Disaster crews were rushed to the stricken areas, and peace officers and hastily formed vigilante crews guarded against looting after early reports of vandalism.

No Serious Damage Earthquake Rocks Far West Areas

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A deep-shaft earthquake, sharp in some sectors but causing no serious damage in heavily populated areas, rocked more than 60,000 square miles of California, Arizona, and Nevada.

A few broken windows and dishes were reported, but no injuries. The tremor was felt here with some sharpness, but subsided quickly into a long rolling motion lasting nearly a minute.

A shattered bank window in Oleno, apparently was the most serious indication that some damage might have occurred in remote communities on the Mojave Desert, which has been the center of the shock.

At Sparks, a Santa Fe Railroad stop just north of San Bernardino, a telephone pole broke and about three jangling telephones were left dangling from their poles.

In Los Angeles, tall buildings rocked and a few cars ran into streets. Reports of tremors ranging from the mercantile store to the Baker Hotel tower came from Santa Barbara, on the south; San Bernardino, on the west; and Las Vegas, Nev., to the east.

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