

A young lady who wanted to know about the newspaper had just written a letter asking for information. In his column to Tom Fesperman tells her of some of the problems. Turn to the Feature Page.

Starliner Carrying 69 Falls, Sinks Into Harbor Off Puerto Rico

Jane Froman's Husband On Board

NEW YORK (AP)—A Pan-American Airways plane with 69 aboard and captained by the husband of Singing Star Jane Froman crashed and sank in the harbor of San Juan, Puerto Rico, today.

There was no immediate information as to the survivors. The plane, a DC-4, carried 58 adults, six infants and a crew of five.

The crash occurred five miles northwest of the harbor entrance at 11:02 A. M. EST. The line said the plane "ditched and sank." It had taken off from New York.

A Coast Guard PBY amphibian rescue plane was reported on the water over the scene of the sinking. Three other planes were hovering.

When the Yankee Clipper plane crashed into the Tapu River in February, 1943, 24 lives were lost. Both Miss Froman and copilot Burns were tossed about 100 yards into the river, severely injured.

However, he managed to reach her, after he had been above the water.

This was the first official statement from the commission on the proposed plant, reports of which have been circulating in Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia.

ALCO General Manager M. W. Boyer said in a statement the Commission is surveying prospective locations for a site of 5,000 to 6,000 acres for a new gaseous diffusion plant, which is included in the AEC expansion program now being drafted for submission to Congress.

He said studies are being pinpointed in the Ohio River Valley region because of the availability of potential power at reasonable cost in quantities needed for construction and operation of the gaseous diffusion plant and the availability of water.

Members of Congress have said the Louisville area, the Cincinnati and Portsmouth areas of Ohio, and a place near Point Pleasant, W. Va., are in the running. Opposition to locating the plant in their area has grown up in Louisville and Cincinnati.

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Harvey G. Booth, North Carolina manager of Southern Bell, said the boards were removed because they had contained notices of a union mass meeting of employees Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Wagner countered with an argument that the union had right under that contract to post notices of such a meeting.

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Mr. Booth said long-distance calls were being handled by supervisory personnel, plus "about six" other employees who crossed the picket lines.

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PICKETS ON THE JOB

Southern Bell's "hello girls" and other employees showed up at the N. Goldwell St. exchange building this morning as usual, but they didn't go to work. Instead, they stayed outside and formed picket lines, protesting company action in taking away their union bulletin boards. The company used supervisors to handle long-distance calls.

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Government, Murray May Make Pay Deal

Industry-Union Talks Make No Progress

WASHINGTON (AP)—Floundering negotiations for a settlement of the steel labor dispute led to reports today that the administration may go ahead and make its own wage deal with CIO President Philip Murray.

Any such move is certain to provoke another quick court attack from the steel industry.

At the moment the industry is under government operation, there is no steel strike, the steel companies are managing their own plants and finances under nominal federal rule, and the vital defense metal is flowing.

How long this "status quo" will mean there had been no progress since industry-union talks closed before Tuesday night's hour.

BOTH COULD WAIT A great deal depended upon how each side felt about the seizure's legality. The industry, feeling the government's taking over of its plants and mills was illegal, could wait it out until a court test.

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Eisenhower's letter, dated April 2, asked that Lovett "initiate appropriate action" for his release approximately June 1. Lovett's letter said that had been done.

In releasing these letters, Presidential Secretary Joseph Short told reporters there also had been an exchange of letters between President Truman and Eisenhower. He said the President's letter was in long-hand and signed.

"Both letters were personal and very cordial and will not be made public."

NO SUCCESSOR YET Short had no news as to Eisenhower's successor in the defense command. He said there would be no announcement about that today.

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Evening Prayer

Gracious Father in Heaven, let us sleep in peace as we rest on our beds tonight. But 'ere we sleep help us to pray for those who watch. May morning find us and our nation fresher, brighter, and stronger for service to Thee and to our fellow man. We pray in the Name of Christ, Amen.

Long Distance Service Crippled

700 Phone Workers Stage Walkout Here

By TOM FESPERMAN Charlotte News Staff Writer

An estimated 700 Charlotte employees of Southern Bell continued their strike today, apparently ending their demonstration which started at 8 A. M. today, curtailing long-distance service.

Pickets paraded back and forth in front of the central exchange offices on N. Caldwell St. and the equipment storerooms on S. Mint St.

Union leaders said that the walkout was called because of a dispute over union bulletin boards which were taken down by company officials in those two buildings.

There were no pickets at the local commercial office on S. Church St. because the union's board there is still in place, according to J. B. Wagner, president of Charlotte Local 2603, Communications Workers of America (CWA).

Harvey G. Booth, North Carolina manager of Southern Bell, said the boards were removed because they had contained notices of a union mass meeting of employees Wednesday afternoon.

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Michigan Bell Settlement May Bring Phone Peace

DETROIT (AP)—Michigan's strike of 18,000 telephone workers was settled today, apparently opening the way to peace nationally in the telephone industry.

The Michigan Bell Telephone Co. and the CIO Communications Workers of America jointly announced the settlement.

Full details were not revealed immediately, but the basis for the settlement was reported by a union spokesman said the company's last general increase offer of 84 to 87 a week would stand, with adjustments.

Army engineers' gauges showed a 24.7 foot reading at midnight (CST). But with upriver tributaries still pouring in huge quantities of water, they refused to say the crest has passed. Flood stage here is 15 feet.

The big muddy river, normally thousands feet wide, spread over five miles to engulf all but three blocks of nearby Fort Pierre and 10 blocks of this South Dakota capital.

21 DISASTER AREAS The Red Cross declared 21 Nebraska and Iowa counties disaster areas as the unrelenting torrent swirled southward. In South Dakota, 23 counties fought the raging river and its tributaries. Floods also were reported in North Dakota, Minnesota and Montana.

Damages from the overflow mounted into the millions of dollars. At South Sioux City, Neb., the flood passed through a dike yesterday to drive out 250 families.

The Red Cross also reported that Sioux City, Ia., readied plans to care for one thousand families expected to be driven out when the crest hits there about Monday.

The downstream cities of Omaha, Neb., and Council Bluffs, Ia., Western against a predicted crest of 28.5 feet, some six feet above that which brought havoc in the last great flood of 1942.

If the forecast holds true, Missouri water will climb two feet higher there than the protecting dikes erected after that most recent disaster.

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Comic Dictionary

MALE The lion of the household. If he's less than three years old.

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GEN. EISENHOWER

perian question" of civil rights "as soon as he becomes 'Mister' Eisenhower."

Powell said in a statement he had requested Eisenhower's views on civil rights and had received a letter from the general stating "I always will continue to have time to make the detailed studies and analysis required to answer the questions you submitted."

"Moreover," Powell quoted Eisenhower as having written, "there is the question of the propriety of an officer on active duty publicly discussing many of the issues listed in your letter."

Powell suggested that Eisenhower resign his NATO post and come home at once "so that the American people will stop voting for a candidate who cannot indicate to the people what he believes in."

This has had both advantages and disadvantages. On the one hand, he has not been permitted to express himself on the developments of the day—such as the situation—as have others in the race.

On the other hand, he has not been in close contact with the party leaders in states and local communities.

A sample of the sort of things into which Eisenhower may have to mix on his return was afforded today by a demand from Rep. Powell (D-NY) that the Senate report Committee invite Eisenhower to give his views on the "all-

The first serious political effort in behalf of Eisenhower was made within the army chief of staff, Gen. Omar Bradley, on Jan. 12, 1947.

The general refrained from making the bold statement of support which would not meet nomination, a would not accept on page 16-A.

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