

# Minimum Wage Bill Reported Favorably

RALEIGH (AP)—With its chairman casting the deciding vote to break a 4-4 tie, the Senate Committee on Manufacturing, Labor and Commerce today approved a bill to fix a minimum wage of 50 cents a week for \$20 a week for 14-hour workers.

The bill now will go before the entire Senate for action, possibly tomorrow where it is expected to pass by a large margin because of the measure's popularity.

The measure was first amended to exempt workers who are derived from tips. Already exempted were farm workers, domestic help, day laborers, and workers having no more than two workers and several other groups.

Sen. Nelson W. Aldrich, Republican, chairman, voted to give the bill a favorable report after his committee had divided evenly on the bill.

It was one of the few times in legislative history that a minimum wage bill has lived to get out of committee. It has the backing of Gov. Orin Moody who called for such a measure in his inaugural address.

In other legislative action, the House Welfare Committee gave its blessing to a Senate bill to allow public works projects to be used to employ the unemployed. The measure would require public works departments to prepare twice as many jobs for the unemployed as they would be filled in any county auditor's office and would be available for public inspection.

The same committee deferred action on a measure which would have kept a program from receiving payments under aid to dependent children program for more than one illegitimate child.

Several members of the committee indicated they favored the bill but were restrained from reporting it favorably because the attorney general had informed them he believed it is unconstitutional.

Rep. J. A. Sprague of Berne, N. Y., introduced the bill, he said it was aimed at women having several illegitimate children in order to get larger assistance payments.

The House Education Committee delayed a vote on a controversial measure to allow local school units to establish and support community colleges. By a 14-11 vote, it put the bill off until next week.

The House Conservation Committee killed a measure which would allow the State Stream Sanitation Commission to take action in cases of stream pollution. Under present law, the committee must wait until it has completed a study of the state's watersheds before it can order cities or industries to discontinue pollution practices.

The bill reported unfavorably by the committee would have allowed the stream sanitation group to prohibit the use of landfills and orders to clean up pollution problems.

# AWAITING RESCUE

## March Floods Leave Damage in New England

Month's Rainfall Generally Heavy

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Windy March blew a wet goodly to wide areas of the nation today with a preview of April showers.

Rainfall in many sections during March was the heaviest on record. It also was a month of the season's first tornadoes and early spring floods.

The worst floods in New England since 1906 appeared again today as thousands of families endeavored to evacuate scores of families endangered in both New Hampshire and Maine as fears were expressed that a flood scattered dam on Lake Ossipee at Ellingham Falls, N. H., might not hold. The Bearcamp River was measured a foot above an inch an hour before dawn in the New Hampshire area hard hit by the flood waters over the week-end.

STILL OUT

Some 1,200 persons still were not allowed to return to their homes at Mexico, Me., although the Swift and Anderson River were well below their flood crests. More than 150 families were evacuated from the area around the dam on the Saco, Me. The Saco River still was out of bounds but reportedly was being held at the dam.

Light rain continued in parts of the New England states and eastward.

More than 30,000 production workers will be idled by the time the last iron and steel making furnace is cooled and sealed late this afternoon.

More than 4,500 employees of the subsidiary Union Railroad Co. struck, bringing forth orders to all Big Steel workers in plants served by the railroad.

An official of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen said the railroad, called over the suspension of two conductors, was unauthorized. There have been no disclosures of any plans to end the strike.

The closed mills have an annual capacity of nine million tons of steel, compared to the national total of 117,500,000 tons.

At least 100,000 workers in various parts of the country are idled by the strike. A. P. Steel officials said the plants can't operate while the railroad is on strike. A. P. Steel officials said the plants can't operate while the railroad is on strike. A. P. Steel officials said the plants can't operate while the railroad is on strike.

# UN TANKS LOOKING FOR TARGETS



Called on to add their fire power to that of the artillery, UN tanks in Korea move up as the tempo is increased in fighting along the front. (UP Telephoto).

# Silent On Peace Hopes

## U. S. Officials Discuss Offer

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. (AP)—U. S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. conferred with Chief British Delegate Sir Gladwyn Jebb and India's K. Krishna Menon today about Communist China's latest Korean truce suggestions.

All three men maintained strict silence about their talks. There was no immediate indication that any special U. N. action was planned.

It was the author of the U. N. plan for ending the present stalemate of the only item on the U. N. agenda.

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# Defense Aide Says Curbing Red Trade Helps

## Senator To Confer With Secretary Dulles

WASHINGTON (AP)—A top Pentagon official told Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.) today his efforts to curb Western trade with Red China would meet with applause from the military unless he undercut overall Government policies.

The testimony by Frank C. Nash, assistant secretary of defense, came on the heels of a blast from Harold E. Stassen, mutual security director, who said yesterday McCarthy's work was "undermining the administration's effort to deal with the Red trade problem."

As Nash began his testimony before McCarthy's Senate investigations subcommittee, the Senator announced he had arranged a meeting for tomorrow with Secretary of State Dulles to seek an amicable settlement of the controversy.

EXPECTS LIKE BACKING

McCarthy said he's sure he will get President Eisenhower's backing if the President's subcommittee reports.

The Wisconsin Senator got into a heated argument with Stassen over McCarthy's announcement that his subcommittee has named Communist ports of call for 242 ships to quit hauling goods to Red China, North Korea, and other Communist ports.

McCarthy said he is halting negotiations now in progress in London with the Greek owners of 120 or more other vessels, until after the talk with Dulles.

Nash told the subcommittee today that even one ship taken out of trade with the Reds is a help, and that "242 ships would be 242 times the amount of that help."

Nash emphasized that he does not know just who the McCarthy subcommittee's list of Communist ship owners affects overall policy, but that unless its activities upset something bigger the Government is planning, the agreements "would meet with applause" from the military.

There was no immediate word from the State Dept. on McCarthy's report of a meeting with Dulles. In one point during Stassen's testimony yesterday, McCarthy told his subcommittee he had "accomplished what you and Dulles couldn't accomplish."

McCarthy said then that he would go right on signing agreements with shipowners unless it could be proved he was hurting the program. Stassen didn't show he was opposing it.

The Senator said Stassen's criticism of his report and the subcommittee's action with 242 Greek ships came as "a complete surprise." He said he had originally favored the subcommittee's negotiations but then suddenly changed his mind.

McCarthy said he hopes Eisenhower "gets the correct picture" and added that he is "sure that Eisenhower agrees with me that every ship that carries strategic materials to the Reds helps to intensify the war in Korea and the blood of American boys there."

# Clark Wants Reds To Produce Details

By OLEN CLEMENTS

TOKYO (AP)—A United Nations Command told the Communists today to get down to business if their starting new efforts to end the Korean fighting are sincere.

Gen. Mark Clark, U. N. Far East commander, said he would agree to reopen the suspended armistice talks if the Reds agree to details of exchanging sick and wounded prisoners.

And the U. N. in effect told the Reds to get down to business in a detailed version of last night's radio proposal by Red China's Premier Chou En-lai, to compromise the standoff on voluntary repatriation of war prisoners.

STUMBLING BLOCK

The conflicting U. N. demand that POWs have the choice of returning to their native lands was the one stumbling block in the armistice and it broke up the talks last Oct. 8.

Clark offered to send home those POWs who wanted to go back and send the others to a neutral state where both sides can talk it over with the prisoners.

But he didn't say what the U. N. wants to hear—whether, even if the prisoners would have the final choice.

Clark's proposal, in a letter handed to the Reds at Panmunjom Saturday, was a Communist proposal Saturday to exchange prisoners and reopen the talks. Clark originally had suggested the trade Feb. 22.

CLARK PROPOSAL

In his letter today, Clark proposed that a liaison group from both sides—each headed by a general or an admiral—make the exchange arrangements.

After that is done, he said, negotiations for remaining truce talks could follow "as a second order of business."

Red liaison officers received the letter in a two-minute meeting and gave a hint when there would be an answer.

Clark arrived in Korea for a brief visit two hours before his return to the States.

He told news and sympathetic press that he was ready to give careful and sympathetic consideration to Chou's proposal once it is put in writing.

Clark said, he could not comment.

# Enemy Probes Allied Lines

By GEORGE MCARTHUR

SEOUL (AP)—A mere handful of Communist patrols are probing allied lines along the 15-mile Korean battlefield today in the wake of bloody fighting on the western end of the line.

The day's biggest explosion was provided by a 15-car Communist tunnel train that exploded on a probe by an American bomber.

Stormy skies curtailed aerial warfare today, but the air force roared out at dawn to pound Communist communications and frontier positions.

The Eighth Army reported light probing attacks in the Punch Bowi area on the Eastern Front and in the White Horse Mountain sector of Central Korea. All were turned back easily, the Army said.

No activity was reported on the Western Front where Marines on bloody Vegas Hill broke up two Chinese stabbing attacks Monday.

A B21 Invader spotted the Red train far up the Korean East Coast and Capt. Robert O. Self of Orlando, Fla., the observer, said two bombs landed right on target.

"The whole train lit up," Self reported.

The locomotive and all 15 cars were listed as destroyed.

The Eighth Army reported Allied ground forces killed or wounded 3,004 Communists last week. The figure is the highest in about five months. It does not include Red losses from bombing and artillery fire. The report covered the battle for Old Baldy Hill and some of the fighting for Outpost Vegas.

# OUR WEATHER

Mostly cloudy with occasional light rains and not much temperature change today and tomorrow.

High temperature yesterday, 78 degrees; high expected today, 70 degrees; high expected tomorrow, 63 degrees.

Low this morning, 55 degrees; low expected tonight, 45 degrees.

Summary: 6:15 A. M.; sunset, 6:15 P. M.

More Weather Data on Page 1-A

# Rail Strike Closes A Big Steel Plants

PITTSBURGH (AP)—An unauthorized railroaders strike closed United States Steel Corp. close to its big steel plants in Pittsburgh area today.

More than 30,000 production workers will be idled by the time the last iron and steel making furnace is cooled and sealed late this afternoon.

More than 4,500 employees of the subsidiary Union Railroad Co. struck, bringing forth orders to all Big Steel workers in plants served by the railroad.

An official of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen said the railroad, called over the suspension of two conductors, was unauthorized. There have been no disclosures of any plans to end the strike.

The closed mills have an annual capacity of nine million tons of steel, compared to the national total of 117,500,000 tons.

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# Lattimore's Trial Delayed

WASHINGTON (AP)—U. S. District Judge Luther W. Youngdahl today agreed to postpone Owen Lattimore's perjury trial until October. He refused to move it out of Washington.

The judge said he would fix a definite trial date in a formal order to be issued later.

The trial had been scheduled for May 1. Defense counsel had asked for a change of venue to some other jurisdiction and a postponement of the trial until next January.

Judge Youngdahl ruled that the trial will be held in Washington, saying Lattimore has as "just as fair a trial here as he can in any other jurisdiction."

Falling Farmer Saved By Stout Suspenders

ANTWERP (AP)—A 34-year-old farmer, Antonio Sartoretto, says he was saved by his suspenders for the rest of his life.

He fell from a barn window Monday, and his loose suspenders caught on a window hook. They held him dangling 30 feet off the ground until relatives rescued him.

# Parade To Mark Close Of Van Fleet's Career

WASHINGTON (AP)—The crash of a 17-gun salute at dusk today signaled the end of the military career of Gen. James A. Van Fleet, one of the nation's most successful and most controversial combat leaders.

The 61-year-old warrior stepped into retirement less than 24 hours after the Army reported Allied ground forces killed or wounded 3,004 Communists last week. The figure is the highest in about five months. It does not include Red losses from bombing and artillery fire. The report covered the battle for Old Baldy Hill and some of the fighting for Outpost Vegas.

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# FAMILIAR CLOUD FORM MISSING AFTER BLAST

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP)—The third atomic explosion of the Spring test series flashed bright in the predawn sky over this desert resort today.

The flash, however, was not as brilliant as in the two earlier 1953 shots.

As usual, the Atomic Energy Commission gave no indication of the type of nuclear device detonated at its proving ground 75 miles northwest of here.

In contrast to the first two blasts, on preceding Tuesdays, no troops participated in today's exercise, latest in a series to be climaxed by the firing of the nation's first atomic cannon.

Observers here were puzzled by the fact that five minutes after the explosion, no familiar mushroom cloud was to be seen rising over the Yucca Flat test site.

In the previous tests the fast-rising cloud became quickly visible from here.

Air Force planes again flew over the proving ground area in maneuvers primarily designed to train crews to keep calm during an atomic explosion.

Automobiles and animals, the former for civilian defense experiments, the latter for bio-medical studies, were exposed to the blast.

# British Police Query 'Most Hunted' Man About 6 Murders

By PHILIP CLARKE

LONDON (AP)—John Reginald Christie, Britain's most hunted man, was taken quietly by police today for questioning about the grisly Notting Hill murder house stranding of six women and a man.

A crowd of 200, quickly gathered outside the police station in suburban Putney where Christie was escorted, Scotland Yard officers hurriedly were called to direct the questioning.

The holding, 35-year-old policeman, Thomas Ledger, was walking the beat along the River Thames when he saw a quiet Putney street only five miles from the murder house in London's sleazy Notting Hill.

A strapping 43-year-old policeman, Thomas Ledger, was walking the beat along the River Thames when he saw a quiet Putney street only five miles from the murder house in London's sleazy Notting Hill.

The policeman was a nearly motionless reporter and photographers and had to retreat into the police station.

The finding of Christie ended a week-long search which extended throughout England. It was one of the greatest manhunts in Scotland Yard's long history.

The whole nation was stirred by the bizarre murders. Grim jokes were made about the clippings murder house which no one had yielded the remains of six women.

Pathologists, meanwhile, were examining a find of bones dug up from the garden of Christie's former home to determine whether they had unearthed a seventh victim.

LIVE BAIT

As Christie was picked up, pretty girl policemen in off-duty clothes strolled in London back streets as live bait for the fugitive stranger, believed by police to be a sex maniac.

The little girl had been last seen in the Notting Hill neighborhood about March 23, several days before the first gruesome find was made.

See LONDON on page 1-A

# Comic Dictionary

ADDRESS

The last person to read a postcard.

# EVENING PRAYER

Deliver us, dear Lord, from the sins of selfishness and hypocrisy, that we may make this week holy. Thy Holy Spirit, O God, be with us, O Lord, in Thy teaching and Thy leading, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.