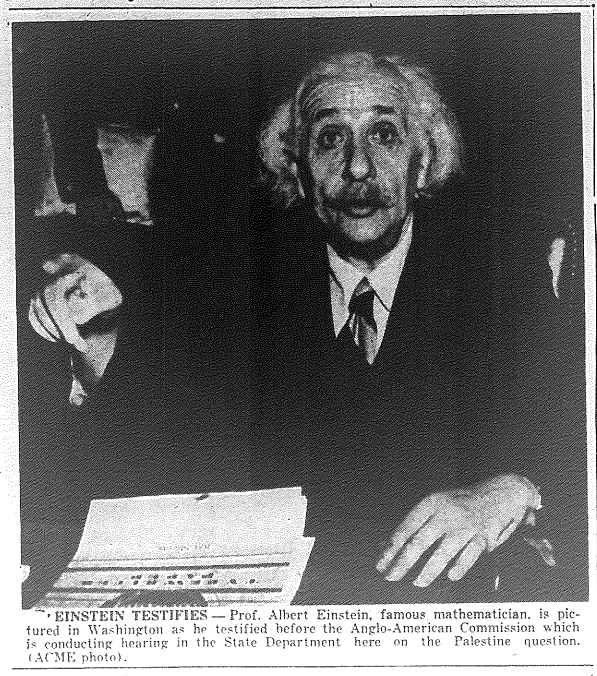


DATE OF 192 COAL MINERS IN DO 200,000 Electrical Workers Go On Strike



EINSTEIN TESTIFIES — Prof. Albert Einstein, famous mathematician, is pictured in Washington as he testified before the Anglo-American Commission which is conducting hearing in the State Department here on the Palestine question. (ACME photo.)

Eisenhower Explains Demobilization Slowed To Stop Army 'Collapse'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower told Congress today demobilization of soldiers was slowed down to prevent "a collapse" of the Army.

Since September, the Chief of Staff said, the Army had been releasing approximately 1,200,000 men monthly and if that rate had been continued, there would not have been any Army left July 1.

Nevertheless, he pledged the Army would meet its original goal of reducing to a strength of 1,500,000 by that date.

To do this, he said, 2,200,000 men will be turned home by April 30 and an additional 500,000 by July 1 under a revised point system.

Reaction of the Congressmen was mixed.

To Representative Rankin, Democrat, Mississippi, leader of a drive to force a House vote on legislation to remove the discharge of soldiers with eighteen months service and men with dependents, Eisenhower's explanation of the slowdown "was unconvincing."

"I didn't get anything new," he said, "but no clearing up."

Chairman May, Democrat, Kentucky, of the same committee expressed belief the Eisenhower statement would "iron out" the complaints against demobilization that have led to demonstrations by GIs abroad and protests from friends and relatives at home.

"It was very convenient," he said, "all the answers," commented Representative Sterling Cook, Republican, New York.

CONFUSION CREATED

Eisenhower told the legislators "the very stopping up" of demobilization in recent months to a point that "exceeded earlier expectations" had been done to create confusion by stimulating optimism among servicemen and their families.

It was natural, he said, that there should be an "emotional wave" to get men home, but "I am frank to say that I had never anticipated this emotional wave would reach proportions of near-hysteria."

By July 1, when the Army will have dropped to a strength of 1,500,000 men, he said, there will be an estimated 207,000 men in the European theater, 28,000 in the Mediterranean and 375,000 in the Pacific. The others would be in this country or scattered at such outposts as Alaska.

Under the revised point system, Eisenhower said that by April 30 every enlisted man with 40 points or more would be out or in the process of being discharged.

At present, 50 points or more and a half year's service are required for discharge.

Furthermore, Eisenhower assured an informal meeting of Senators

Labor Drive Against 3 Firms Is On

GE, Westinghouse And GM Hit

NEW YORK (AP)—Two hundred thousand electrical workers in sixteen states from Massachusetts to California struck today against three companies which produce the major part of the nation's home and industrial electrical appliances.

Albert J. Fitzgerald, international president of the CIO United Electrical Workers, announced at 8 A. M. (EST) that the walkout in plants of General Electric, Westinghouse and General Motors was "100 per cent effective, according to all bulletins received at UE national headquarters up to that time."

The union president declared the walkout was 100 per cent effective at 8 A. M. in plants at Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pa.; Lynn and Springfield, Mass.; Schenectady, N. Y.; Bloomfield, Newark and Jersey City, N. J.; and Dayton, O. A total of 38,000 workers are employed in these plants.

International Headquarters of the union announced shortly after 8 A. M. that "the walkout began on schedule," Fitzgerald said.

"UE-CIO workers from coast to coast in GE, Westinghouse and GM plants are demonstrating by their solidarity and unity that they are determined to obtain their 12-day wage demands," the union said in a statement.

The UE-CIO strike is the first in its history where the workers employed and production employees have joined hands in an industry-wide strike to better their working conditions, wages and salaries.

It was also revealed that more women employees are taking part in this strike than in any strike called nationally in recent years. There are 57,000 women workers on strike including 30,000 in General Electric plants, 20,000 in Westinghouse and 7,000 in GM.

Officials at GE's New York office said that up to 10,15 A. M. no news had been received regarding the effect of the strike at any GE plant.

CALLED "TRAGEDY"

A newspaper advertisement before the walkout, GE had declared that a strike would constitute a "tragedy" that had production, retard reconversion and cost GE workers and their families \$1,100,000 a day in lost wages.

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"Every effort on the part of our international officials to avoid a nation-wide meat packing strike has been unsuccessful," the union officials said in telegrams to the local.

"The offers thus far made by the four large packers cannot possibly be accepted. They are grossly inadequate."

The telegrams went out as Government conciliators preceded with last minute conferences with union and management officials to halt the strike, originally called by the CIO United Packinghouse workers.

25,000 TO QUIT

The AFL officials said 75,000 members of their union would strike at plants of Armour & Company, Swift & Company, Wilson & Company, Cudahy Packing Company, Kingman Packing Company, Indianapolis and John Morrell Company, Ottumwa, Ia.

"Our international union is obligated that there shall be no spoilage of perishable products," the telegrams said. "All such perishables must be cared for and the premises as well as the departments must be left in a sanitary condition."



GETS HIS CHANCE—Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, Navy commander at Pearl Harbor at the time of the Japanese attack, got an opportunity to answer his critics today as he testified before the Pearl Harbor probe committee. This picture shows him at a press conference shortly before the attack. (Acme Photo.)

Missed Chance At Ambush

Kimmel Says Washington Held Up Vital Information

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rear Admiral Husband E. Kimmel asserted today he was "misled" by a pre-war warning into believing that the Navy Department thought no attack on Pearl Harbor was "imminent or probable."

A crowd of 200 spectators gathered at the gray haired former Pacific Fleet commander appeared before a Senate-House Committee to tell publicly for the first time his story of the disastrous Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941.

Attired in a dark suit with a bright blue tie, the 63-year-old retired naval officer began reading a 25,000-word statement in which he asserted that Washington officials had denied him information he said might have made Pearl Harbor an ambush for the Japanese.

Congress Calls Action To Curb Strikes Urged

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congress, back in harness only a day after a holiday recess, today heard fresh calls for speedy action on legislation to curb strikes.

These were the developments:

1—Sen. Taft, Republican Ohio, demanded speed in considering the Administration's labor fact-finding bill and urged legislation to curtail strikes.

2—Rep. Rankin, Democrat, Mississippi, in a House speech, urged legislation to curtail strikes.

3—Rep. Rich, Republican, Pennsylvania, told the House it is "up to Congress to see that people who want to work can do so without paying tribute to a few two-weeks deadline."

Taft suggested Feb. 1 as a target date.

Murray said a subcommittee would try to whittle down the witness list and morning and afternoon sessions would be held when possible.

The Committee is considering two bills. One, introduced by Sen. E. A. Tamm, Democrat, New Mexico, provides for fact-finding boards for the settlement of management-labor disputes.

Before hearing Davis, Murray read the Labor Committee a statement outlining plans for the new hearings, which started before the Christmas holidays.

Taft protested that Murray's outline sounded as if the hearings might last three months.

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Miraculous Escape Is Made By 75 After Blast

West Virginia Explosion Scene

WELCH, W. Va.—(AP)—Seventy-five coal miners miraculously escaped alive today after a tremendous blast in the No. 9 Havaco Mine on the outskirts of Welch, but the fate of 192 others was in doubt as rescuers drove into the smoke and dust-filled shaft workings.

E. L. Chatfield, an inspector-at-large of the State Mines Department, said he was informed that 267 men were in the workings when the explosion occurred around 9:30 A. M.

PUPILS HURT

The force was so terrific that Negro pupils in a school house and workers in the store and office of the New River and Pocahontas Consolidated Coal Company, from 500 to 1,000 feet away were injured by shattered glass and debris. The mine is operated by New River and Pocahontas.

Pete Wimmer, 48-year-old company employee, told interviewers at a hospital following his escape from the blasted workings that he "counted five men on my way out who looked like they might be dead."

Wimmer said he was at work at a point approximately 3,000 feet from the main shaft. He was brought to a Welch Hospital suffering from head injuries.

Unofficial estimates said from a mine about 100 feet from the shaft, which was struck by the blast, which was struck by the blast, which was struck by the blast.

Others had to be helped or dragged from the mine, and some of them appeared to be semi-conscious from the shock.

HOSPITALS FILLED

Hospitals of Welch, a city of 7,000 population and the county seat of the largest bituminous coal producing county in the United States, were quickly filled to capacity with injured miners and children from the school house.

Edward Mullins and his son James, who apparently were not hurt, told newsmen they were the first to reach the surface from the mine workings.

The father said they were at work about one mile from the shaft in No. 3 entry when they heard the blast and immediately started running.

They said the workings immediately became so dark and smoky that they had to stoop over and train their lights on the steel mine rails in their way to the surface.

Two mine inspectors, Ed Chaffin and Walter White, and some volunteers were among the first to enter the mine after the disaster.

Among the volunteers was Louis Goddard, an employee of the Welch mine, who said he was the first to enter the mine after the disaster.

Neither mine officials nor rescuers hurriedly assembled would speculate on the fate of others still in the mine.

The Mullins said the blast appeared to have centered in what they called "The Dip" entry, but there was no official information on how far back that would have been the location of the blast.

300 EMPLOYED

Mine department records indicated that in normal operations, the No. 9 Havaco Mine employed about one-half mile southeast of Welch, employs around 300 men.

transmission which was reported to give rescuers full command of the facilities, said that some of the injured suffered in early relays appeared to be bloody or mangled, only dead.

About an hour after the explosion, the grimy workers began coming out of the shaft singly, or in pairs and threes.

Mrs. Roosevelt Meets Press

LONDON (AP)—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, in her first general press conference since the United Nations Assembly opened today, said she felt that the nations such as Italy should be admitted to the UNO "as soon as possible."

WEATHER

Rain and cool today and tonight. Wednesday partly cloudy and colder.

Temperatures at 3:30 today: 45 high and low 35. 40 hours: 45 high and low 35. 40 hours: 45 high and low 35. 40 hours: 45 high and low 35.