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WITNESS TELLS OF BLANTON'S THREATS

Marine Strike Grip Relaxed As Picket Lines Shortened

AFL Sailors & Longshore Workers Go Back On Job

CIO Allows Men To Return

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The strike stranglehold clamped on America's maritime fleets for thirteen days was broken today by a voluntary shortening of CIO seamen's picket lines so AFL sailors and longshoremen could return to work.

Within a few hours after Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union (CIO), announced his decision to restrict pickets to CIO-contracted vessels, thousands of AFL maritime workers reported for duty in New York, Boston, Baltimore, Portland, Maine, and other ports.

Ships flying foreign flags also were released from CIO picket lines in Curran's order.

SHIPS UNLOADED

In Boston, six ships including cargos of raw sugar, wood pulp, granite and goods from Ireland were being unloaded. AFL waterfront crews went back to work at Baltimore without interference from CIO pickets.

In New York about 500 longshoremen were at work on 22 ships and hundreds at work on six piers and hundreds more longshoremen were expected back on the job later today. At Portland CIO pickets quit three AFL-manned Liberty ships, and workmen, who had refused to pass the picket lines, resumed delayed repairs to two of the vessels at the former New England Shipbuilding Corp. East Yard.

AFL seamen began the strike Sept. 5 in protest against a Wage Stabilization Board decision limiting negotiated wage increases.

Curran's directive followed by several hours a request by the AFL Maritime Trades Department that the NMU withdraw its picket lines around all vessels on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf Coasts except CIO-contracted ships "to eliminate the possibility of wide-open jurisdictional warfare along all docks in all ports."

In urging the NMU withdraw its pickets by 6 A. M. (EDT) today, John Okeefe, Executive Secretary of the Department, which speaks for AFL Maritime Unions, added that AFL Maritime Unions would respect picket lines around vessels whose operators have contracts with the NMU or the CIO Marine Cooks and Stewards Union.

WARNS AGAINST SEIZURE

Owens said that if the Government seized any ships struck by the NMU or MCS the AFL unions would consider the action "a lockout and deal with it as such by stopping work on all piers and on all ships until such Government seizure and operation stops."

On Foreign Policy

Clayton Assumes State Dept. Will Clear Addresses

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Undersecretary of State William L. Clayton said today he assumes that any foreign policy speeches by Government officials henceforth will be cleared with the State Department before delivery.

Clayton made this statement at a news conference shortly after it was announced at the White House that Henry A. Wallace, whose speech last week on Russia churned up an uproar, will see President Truman tomorrow.

SEES PRESIDENT

Clayton talked with Mr. Truman yesterday. On the same day, Wallace declared his intention of making more speeches on foreign policy in the future.

Clayton, in response to a question today, said he whether speeches such as the one given by Wallace in New York last Thursday night will be cleared by the Department, said he assumes they will.

He emphasized, however, that he did not believe Wallace or any other official necessarily would be bound by any changes suggested.

Clayton said he took it that Wallace has a right to make any kind of speech he wants to, but added that whether a speech might be wise or prudent is another question.

In response to a direct question, Clayton said he was assuming that the speech scheduled by Wallace in Providence, R. I., one week from today, will be cleared by the Department.

He was just assuming that, he said, because of the situation which arose as the result of the

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Cafe Meat Meal Prices Rolled Back

Cotton Clothing Edges Higher

By MARVIN L. ARROWSMITH

WASHINGTON — (AP) — An OPA edict sent restaurant price ceilings on meat meals back to June 30 levels today, but the cost of cotton clothing inched up another notch.

Also on the price front:

1. OPA studied a petition for higher prices on General Motors automobiles after granting an average six per cent increase in retail ceilings for Ford - built cars.

2. The Price Decontrol Board, which meets tomorrow to decide whether to restore ceilings on dairy products, reported opposition to revival of controls in nine of the first dozen written statements received.

The OPA order restoring June 30 restaurant ceilings immediately applies to all meals and individual menu items in which meat is the major ingredient.

In issuing the order last night the agency said the cost of dining out was being "rolled back," but it did not estimate how much.

ABOUT 10 PER CENT

An OPA official told a reporter, however, that "most of the increases we have heard about have been about 10 per cent."

Until yesterday ceilings on meat-base restaurant meals had been "frozen" temporarily at prices in effect August 31, just prior to restoration of ceilings on live animals.

OPA said that while the restaurant industry had "pressed" for ceilings higher than the June 30 level, an industry committee had been unable to present sufficient evidence "to show that restaurants could not absorb the prevailing admittedly higher costs for meat."

At retail, ceilings restored on meat early this month averaged about 3 1-2 cents a pound more than those of June 30.

While meat was not under price control restaurants were permitted to base their ceilings on the actual cost of raw meat. They continue under this principle in the case of menu items which still are ceiling free, such as fish, poultry and dairy products.

OPA's restaurant order came as the agency announced that retail prices for about half of all cotton clothing produced are going up another 1 per cent.

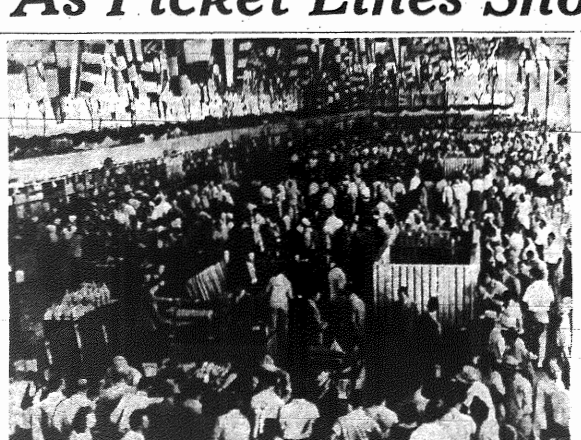
MILL WAGE INCREASE

The new boost is necessary, the agency said, to offset a price hike averaging 2 per cent in ceiling prices for cotton textile made by mills paying a wage increase of 5 cents hourly approved last week by the Wage Stabilization Board.

"These mills, OPA said, turn out "more than half" of the total volume of cotton production.

On bed sheets and pillow cases, towels, table cloths and napkins, the retail increase will amount to about 2 1-2 per cent, OPA estimated.

The textile increase, on top of an 18 1-2 per cent average price hike authorized last month, is effective tomorrow. The new increase for clothing, which consumers will begin paying in four to eight weeks is in addition to a climb of 7 to 10 per cent which resulted from the earlier jump in textile ceilings.



VETERANS' FIRST DEPARTMENT STORE OPENS IN NEW ORLEANS — Throngs of bargain-hunting ex-GIs and their relatives crowd into the nation's first department store operated exclusively for veterans at New Orleans. They bought surplus goods without red tape in the store which was initiated by the War Assets Administration to get the goods before the veterans. (AP Wirephoto).

Divorce Mill Testimony Is Heard In Court

Grand Jury May Indict Others

By TOM WATKINS
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The State paraded witnesses to the stand today in its efforts to show that Defendants Ward M. Blanton, Mrs. Vivian Baird, and Attorney W. T. Shore conspired to suborn of perjury in securing divorces in Mecklenburg Superior Court for persons who were residents of South Carolina.

Some of these witnesses through direct or cross-examination testified that Blanton had intimidated and threatened them against appearing in court here to give evidence against him.

Sheriff Mack Riley said the Grand Jury was to meet at 2:30 o'clock, at the request of Solicitor Basil Whitener, for the State to seek perjury indictments against a number of out-of-town witnesses who failed to appear for the trial. Residents of South Carolina, it was explained, are not required to answer summons into this court, but if indictments are secured they will be recognized in the adjoining state. The perjury indictments will spring from testimony given in Superior Court when divorces were granted the witnesses.

The defense sought to establish whenever possible that the State's witnesses knew when they were getting their divorces that they had not been residents of North Carolina for six months or had not been separated from their husbands for two years as required by law. The defense further sought to show that Blanton acted only as secretary to the late Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick, Charlotte lawyer, and not as counsel for the clients that appeared in the office in the Liberty Life Building.

But the State just as strenuously through oral testimony and through written receipts signed by Blanton sought to prove that Blanton and Mrs. Baird and Shore were all part of a general conspiracy to circumvent the law and to get divorces for South Carolina residents who were not entitled to them.

Mrs. Evelyn Barr of Rock Hill, S. C., returned to the witness stand this morning during the second day of the trial and created a mild sensation when she quoted Blanton as telling her that Col. Kirkpatrick's death was a part of a political frame-up in which Blanton, and the others, had become engulfed.

This witness was being cross-examined about the amount of money she had paid Blanton for "legal fees" when she quoted Blanton as stating that the present trial was a "political frame-up" and that "I never would be able to walk into the courtroom" to testify against him. The statement, Mrs. Barr said, took place after Blanton had been released from the County Jail after his return to Charlotte from Newark, N. J., where he and Mrs. Baird were arrested.

"Blanton told me that Catling (W. T. Catling, agent of the State Bureau of Investigation) and Cannon (Ed Cannon, secretary of the North Carolina Bar Association) stuck a needle in Col. Kirkpatrick's arm and murdered him."

The defense, in questioning this witness, asked if the prosecution hadn't promised her immunity for having given perjured testimony during the course of her divorce action in court here, if she would testify against the defendants. The witness emphatically denied that such was the case.

NO PROMISES

"They (she referred to Catling, Cannon and Sedberry) said there were no indictments against me, but that I could be brought in. They did not promise me anything," she said.

The next witness was J. B. Slagle of Rock Hill who said he saw Blanton at Evelyn Barr's home and that he was accompanied by a woman and child.

"Blanton told me to tell Evelyn not to mention to anyone

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Trieste 'Dagger'

Potential Threat To Slavs Cited

PARIS—(AP)—Yugoslav Spokesman Ales Bebler accused the western powers today of seeking to establish a bridgehead in the free city of Trieste for future military action against Yugoslavia.

Opening the Slavic bloc's attack upon the proposed boundaries of the free territory, Bebler told a Peace Conference commission the only reason these were expanded beyond the Trieste city limits was to "allow space for the deployment of armed forces."

Bebler referred to the governor's powers in the free state as envisaged by Western nations, and said they could be explained only by consideration of power politics.

"He can even call in foreign troops," said Bebler. "But against whom? The object of their action is never named but is always implied—Yugoslavia."

Bebler spoke as statesmen lined up once again in the Italian Political and Territorial Commission on opposing sides of the Trieste issue—this time in connection with the frontiers of the projected free area.

Bebler urged the adoption of a Yugoslav amendment which would push the boundaries back to the city proper, a proposal paralleled by a White Russian amendment and contested by South African and Australian amendments which would extend the free state south in Istria to include Pola and other Italian coastal communities.

The Military Commission adopted without comment provisions for division of surplus Italian fleet units among the United States, Britain, France and Russia.

The vessels include the battleships Cesare, Italia and Vittorio Veneto, five cruisers, seven destroyers, one sloop, six torpedo boats, eight submarines and a host of minor craft and auxiliaries.

Pepper Hits 'Reaction'

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.—(AP)—Senator Claude Pepper of Florida today said he "did not like reactionaries within the Democratic Party"—and said if necessary "even the parties must divide" to carry on the fight for Labor.

Addressing the 26th convention of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, Pepper said:

"I am a Roosevelt Democrat and I don't like reactionaries within the Democratic Party any more than within the Republican Party. When you begin to clean house, do a good job."

STRIKE DISCUSSED

He discussed the Railway Brotherhood strike which collapsed last May, and declared:

"This is the cause of all men in America who earn their living. We must all join the fight. We must stand together, crossing the lines of parties if necessary."

Mr. Truman, the Florida Democrat said, established "a policy of seething propaganda" against the Trainmen's strike. He declared that A. F. Whitney, president of the Trainmen's union, wrote a letter offering conciliation while the government settled the strike but that the offer was scorned.

Whitney personally introduced Pepper, whom he previously had publicly endorsed as acceptable presidential timber.

In his own speech, Whitney referred to Mr. Truman as one who had encouraged fascism in the United States.

Government Moves

Coast Guard Gets Gambling Vessel

LONG BEACH, Calif.—(AP)—The Coast Guard seized Tony Cornero Stralla's gambling ship, the Bunker Hill, today as the Federal Government moved for the first time to halt operation of the vessel already determined by a California court to be outside the state's jurisdiction.

The Coast Guard seizure was described by U. S. District Attorney James M. Carter as a move to halt what he called a license violation.

"A section of the shipping code provides for forfeiture of a ship if it is used for activities outside its license," Carter said. "The Bunker Hill is licensed for coastwise trade. We do not believe it is engaged in coastwise trade."

Neither the Coast Guard nor Collector of Customs William Jennings Bryan Jr. could say when or where the vessel would be impounded, or how long the action would take. Bryan said "it may be tomorrow before it's brought into port," explaining that tugs will be necessary to move the converted Navy minelayer.

How many patrons might be aboard could not be immediately determined, although the ship, also known as the Lux, has been drawing near-capacity crowds daily since it reopened after State authorities closed it down last month.

In a formal statement later, Carter said:

"In view of the inability of State authorities to successfully terminate the operation of the Lux, it has been determined by Attorney General Tom C. Clark and myself to invoke the admiralty jurisdiction of the district court and to proceed against the vessel for condemnation.

"The Government's case is simple. The ship was licensed for the coastwise trade and instead has operated as a gambling barge. The statute states that any vessel which operates in an employment other than that for which it is licensed is automatically forfeited to the Government."

Vote Partial Truck Work

NEW YORK — (AP) — AFL truck drivers, cheering and applauding the proposals of their leaders, today voted a partial resumption of trucking activities in New York City by operating under agreements with operators who would agree to proposals advanced by two trucking concerns.

The two companies were B. C. Bohack Company, grocery chain, and Daniels and Kennedy, newsprint truckers, who proposed a $7.50 a week increase in pay for the drivers and a work week reduction from 44 to 40 hours.

Four thousand members of the AFL Brotherhood of Teamsters took the action at a meeting. The proposals by the two companies were adopted by an almost unanimous voice vote.

However, operators claiming to represent 90 per cent of the city's trucking firms maintained a united front and pledged that they would not sign individual contracts or grant wage increases sought by the union.

Bowles Fails To Get Bid

HARTFORD, Conn. —(AP)— Lieut. Governor Wilbert Snow, Wesleyan University English professor, received the Democratic gubernatorial nomination today after a first ballot test gave him the lead over four rivals, among them Chester Bowles, wartime OPA chief.

Snow's total on the first ballot at the State Convention fell about 100 votes short of the 624 majority needed for nomination, but even while the result of the ballot was being tabulated, factional leader after factional leader jumped on the Snow bandwagon to give him the nomination.

The unofficial tabulation gave Snow 525 to 455 for Bowles on the first ballot.

Bowles himself, although not a delegate, came to the platform and moved that Snow be given the nomination by acclamation. The convention then gave Snow the nomination without a record vote in a burst of applause.

Shouts of "Bowles for Senator" came from the floor.

The lieutenant governor will oppose his former chief at Wesleyan, Dr. James L. McConaughy, in the November elections.

Dr. McConaughy, former president of Wesleyan, received the Republican gubernatorial nomination last week.

Qualified Promise

Enough Hose For Women Seen By CPA

WASHINGTON — (AP) — American women should have enough hosiery to meet all requirements this year unless poor distribution or "panicky buying" interferes, the Civilian Production Administration said today.

Herbert Rose, director of the CPA textile division, reported that nearly 350,000,000 pairs of women's stockings were produced in the first seven months of this year. Of these, 200,000,000 were nylon, 115,000,000 rayon, 2,500,000 silk and about 28,000,000 cotton and wool.

Production of about 50,000,000 pairs monthly is enough to supply one pair of hose per month for each woman and girl in the United States over the age of fourteen, he said.

A fifteen per cent reduction in nylon yarn deliveries to hosiery makers will not affect production until November, Rose said, adding manufacturers may have sufficient supplies on hand to avoid a fifteen per cent production cut.

Foster Mother Wins

Boy Settles Dispute Over His Custody

NEW YORK —(AP)— The kiss of redheaded two-year-old Gerald Olsen Jr., decided a custody case in Bronx Supreme Court.

His mother, Mrs. Lillian Olsen, two years ago entrusted the child to Mrs. Norma Orrico when Mrs. Olsen and her husband were estranged. Yesterday the mother sought to regain custody in a court suit.

Mrs. Orrico, also seeking custody of the child, said she had grown to love him as her own. Justice Benjamin Schreiber left it up to Gerald.

"Go to your mother and give her a kiss," Justice Schreiber said.

Gerald ran to Mrs. Orrico and won her the decision. The mother was told she could renew her application in six months if she had a home for Gerald.

Bulgarian King Goes Into Exile

SOFIA—(AP)—Nine-year-old Simeon II, deposed as king of Bulgaria by a plebiscite which turned this country into a republic, left his homeland today for a life of exile in Egypt.

The former King boarded a train for Istanbul accompanied by Queen Mother Ioanna, his 13-year-old sister Princess Marie Louise, and a small group of former court attendants. Queen Ioanna declined to permit newsmen to interview her son before they departed.

Greek Drive Shifts South

ATHENS — (AP) — Major operations by Greek troops and police against leftist bands have been shifted southward from Macedonia to the rich plain of Thessaly, which lies almost at the main communication lines between Athens and Salonika.

Authoritative sources said today the Government was considering a declaration of martial law in the troubled areas where the outlawed bands were strongest, especially Macedonia and Thessaly, and that it might be extended to the whole country if necessary.

Demetrius Partsialides, secretary-general of the Communist-dominated EAM, declared more than 10,000 "freedom fighters" had been driven to the more inaccessible areas of Greece by excesses of the monarchist government which he contended was controlled by Britain.

The Governor-General of Macedonia declared two months ago that a "guerrilla civil war" was raging. Vigorous action by authorities caused a decline in leftist band attacks on villages and gendarmerie and military stations in Northern Greece.

Mopping up operations there continue.

Price Boosted On Linseed Oil

WASHINGTON—(AP)—OPA today authorized an increase of two cents a pound in producers' ceilings for linseed oil.

The increase, effective tomorrow, is being granted to compensate flaxseed crushers for a boost in prices for flaxseed, from which linseed oil is derived.

Volcanic Eruption On Pacific Isle

SUVA, Fiji Islands—(AP)—A violent volcanic eruption was reported today at the isolated island of Niuafoou in the Tonga group, some 450 miles east of Fiji.

Crime Rising In U. S. Zone

BERLIN — (AP) — The American Military Government says the U. S. Occupation Zone of Germany is being plagued by a rising wave of crime, with gang lawlessness and violence particularly heavy in Bavaria and Greater Hesse. Both Germans and displaced persons have been among the offenders.

Squatters Move In Australia

BRISBANE—(AP)—The "squatter" movement, launched recently in Britain, spread to Australia today when more than 100 families moved into vacant military camps in two Brisbane suburbs.

Differences Settled

Britain, Argentina Sign Trade Agreement

LONDON—(AP)—Britain and Argentina signed a trade and financial agreement today settling their differences on sterling payments, meat purchases and British-owned Argentine Railways and agreeing to continue an expired trade treaty until a new one can be negotiated, the British Government announced.

The agreement, signed in Buenos Aires, was published simultaneously in London by the British Central Office of Information. The agreement came after weeks-long conferences which several times were near a breakdown.

Britain agreed that Argentina could use the proceeds of current sterling transactions without restriction and that present sterling balances frozen in England could be used at the rate of 5,000,000 pounds ($20,000,000) a year for four years, after which new discussions on the remaining balance of approximately 125,000,000 pounds could be started.

Britain agreed that Argentina also could transfer to Brazil—if Brazil agrees — up to 10,000,000 pounds of the sterling balance and that Paraguayan sterling bought in the Banco Central De La Republica Argentina would henceforth be freely convertible into other currencies.

The two countries agreed that Britain could buy all Argentine surplus meat for a four-year period except small reserves for sale in other countries.

Dreamboat Flight Again Postponed

HONOLULU —(AP)— The top-of-the-world flight of the Superfortress Pacusan Dreamboat to Cairo, tentatively set to begin today, was postponed again last night by its commander, Col. C. S. Irvine, with the explanation that "we're not quite ready."

Weather reports from the Arctic had been more favorable yesterday and the test plane's navigator Maj. N. O. Hays, had announced a 50-50 chance for a takeoff early this morning.

The big plane carries sufficient gasoline for 43 hours, but there is virtually no margin for headwinds. Even without adverse weather, there would be little reserve fuel at the end of the 10,300-mile non-stop flight.

If Convicted At Nuernberg

Nazi Leaders May Be Beheaded Or Hanged

BERLIN—(AP)—A Berlin source said today a four-power controlled prison will be created in Berlin to house war criminals convicted in the Nuernberg trials.

This informant, who cannot be identified by name, also said the Allied Control Council had decided that any of the Nuernberg defendants sentenced to death would either be beheaded or hanged at Nuernberg.

The sentences would be carried out in private, without even the press present, this source said, although stressing that the International Military Tribunal at Nuernberg could alter these arrangements if it so desired.

It is planned to take photographs of the executions to prove beyond all doubt that those sentenced were executed, it was added.

The Allied Control Council was reported to have taken these decisions, but left the question open until after the verdicts are handed down at Nuernberg by the Tribunal, which has now postponed its decision until Sept. 30.

Members of the Tribunal will confer with representatives of the Control Council before the question is closed finally. The Allied Control Council has been designated as the sole source of appeal for the defendants after the verdicts.

WEATHER

Mostly cloudy, with scattered light to moderate rain, and continued cool today and tonight. Partly cloudy and Wednesday.

Temperature at 8:30 today: High and low last 24 hours.

Sunset today

Sunrise tomorrow