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THE STEEL SEIZURE

The Government's seizure of the steel industry is not, as critics already are shouting, the end of stabilization, the end of collective bargaining, the end of free enterprise.

A strike in steel now would have not only seriously impaired national defense. It would, if continued long, diminish the profits of the steel company to a point where they could not meet any of labor's wage demands.

A great debate will now surely flow from Washington on the legality of the seizure. At this time, while the opposing lawyers are preparing their learned and weighty briefs, we would like to make two points.

TIE IT UP BETTER, JUDGE

WE'D BEEN a little worried about the North Carolina gubernatorial contest. The Olive and Umstead candidates voiced similar generalities; the candidates didn't differ.

The campaign, as Mr. Olive sees it, is between "the people" and the "privileged," the latter including Duke Power Co., the Utilities Commission, and practically every hired lobbyist for special interests in North Carolina.

Three Utilities Commissioners support Mr. Umstead, which law firm clients include Duke Power Co., over the objection of the other two Commissioners. These three, Olive flatly predicts, will raise the Duke rates. Then they'll raise the Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Co. in the eastern part of the state.

FOR HUMAN BETTERMENT

THE worthiness of the goal sought by the North Carolina Conference for Social Service, which adjourned its annual meeting here yesterday, strikes home when read alongside a recent report of the State Prisons Department and Paroles Commission.

The Conference for Social Service seeks legislation for enforcement of a compulsory school attendance law by employment and central supervision of attendance officers.

THIS BARKLEY LAD

THE Hon. Alben Barkley, first citizen of Paducah, Ky., and Vice-President of the U. S., has been down an injustice. He, like many of his Democratic colleagues, has heard unmistakable rumblings from the grass roots since the President announced his decision to run.

Mr. Barkley is one of the nation's most affable citizens, which does not necessarily mean he is never parsimonious. He is a political leader who has been counted on just because they've passed three score and ten, some good men would be lost.

It seems a good rule to put relatively young men in office. But there are exceptions.

For example, West Germany's Chancellor

From The State

A LANGUAGE ALL OUR OWN

IF A RESIDENT of the Tar Heel State were to confine his conversation largely to local idioms, an outsider might have a rather difficult time trying to understand him.

"For several weeks I fell sort o' shackling, but recently I've been right bright, so I reckon I've got me no more no mind."

"John don't help me no more, because he's been a-savin'." I don't fault him none. And then, to add to my troubles, the baby swallowed a latch pin. He's the one that inhibits his father so much. Let's pretend that a scorpion is jumping bristles and they made him sick. I get just such a sweet some-

time enterprise is still booming along in the industry; they aren't being socialized as some of the steel men now fear their industry will be.

The decision to take over the steel industry was made only after a crippling strike appeared imminent, only after week after week of negotiation. Clearly the Government has no intent to stay in the steel business—and even if it wanted to Congress would short-circuit it.

In the spill milk department we still think a settlement could have been achieved, somewhere in the six-per-cent wage boost plus benefits area, had not the Wage Stabilization Board, later backed by the President, suggested as much as 20 cents. That extra dime was gravy the union didn't really expect, and there's more politics than economics in the President's firm espousal of the labor position, and blast at the companies. Now that the President has done his good deed and simultaneously got a fine political speech off his chest it's time to put Government into its proper role as mediator, thus to more quickly resolve the dispute and allow the steel companies to carry over as liberally as they can for the Government to relinquish its technical control of the railroads.

PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA

people of North Carolina," said Judge Olive, "the people of North Carolina will know beyond any doubt that I am giving them good, hard facts."

The cold, hard fact then, is that utility rates are going up—which in times of inflation is not surprising. But just because the Utilities Commission signed the guest book of Mr. Umstead, whose law firm represents a utility certainly does not incriminate Mr. Umstead. You've got a vote-worthy bundle there, Judge, and you're going to have to tie it up lots better before we buy it.

In all claims for compensation for hernia, or rupture, resulting from injury by accident arising out of and in the course of, the employee's employment, it must be definitely proven to the satisfaction of the Industrial Commission:

- 1. That there was an injury resulting in hernia, or rupture.
2. That the hernia, or rupture, appeared suddenly.
3. That it was occasioned by an accident.
4. That the hernia, or rupture, immediately followed an accident.
5. It must be proven that hernia, or rupture, did not exist prior to the accident.

The law says in effect, any person who suffers injury resulting in hernia, or rupture, while employed in our industries shall be required to prove by witnesses with X-ray eyes who happened to be present and saw the rupture within him as it happened that whatever cause.

Further, the employee required by this act to prove that his hernia, or rupture, is accompanied by pain. Anyone who has had this experience knows that pain does not accompany hernia. This is the very reason why the carrier's agent, "Did you have pain?" If the employee's reply is "Yes," he perjures himself because there isn't any pain.

- 1. Because he is just a plain honest Tar Heel who doesn't lie as the law dictates.
2. He loves his wife, perhaps, and like the law itself, he has overdone it; hence, the hernia.
3. It is impossible to produce the necessary proof

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THIS column has obtained a copy of the so-called "Newbold Morris" questionnaire which caused one Cabinet member to be kicked out, one cleanup man to be fired, and generally created more furor than Washington has ever known.

The questionnaire is similar to that sent to the Washington D. C. police and the New York police. It was given to the President. Nevertheless, most of the Cabinet demurred against filling it out—two of them, Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Treasury.

Furthermore, Attorney General McGrath, at the next to the last Cabinet meeting, asked the questionnaire of his cabinet members and the questionnaire was junked.

"I'm still holding that stack of questionnaires Newbold Morris wants to see," McGrath said in substance. "I don't think he should send them out. They're an insult to everyone in Government."

The President suggested that McGrath wait until the following week and take the matter up with him direct. Truman did not say so, but Morris had brought the questionnaire over for his personal inspection, and the President gave it his blessing.

Following the Cabinet meeting, and without conferring with the President, McGrath called on the New York committee that he himself might not sign the questionnaire.

Newbold's Quiz Program

THE Newbold Morris quiz-sheet which caused McGrath's exit from the Cabinet starts out with some innocuous questions about names of wife, children, amount earned by wife, amount earned by children. Then question 9 begins to get down to brass tacks. It asks for a list of assets on the date the official entered the Government, with a list of assets today.

New Broomstick



HER BLOCK HERE THE UNWARRANTED POSITION OF

People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writers name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

Compensation Difficulties

AS A victim of the Workman's Compensation Act, I may be granted space in your paper to discuss some of the unfair and impossible terms of this law.

This Act, known to thousands of industrial workers as the "Cabbage Cutters," is administered by our State Industrial Commission which, in event of dispute between employer and employee, is vested with power to deny or award compensation in accordance with this Act.

In the event of major injury which might result in hospitalization, expensive surgery to repair the injury, plus compensation for much loss of employability, we cite Paragraph Section 10 of the definition of hernia, the requirement of proof, etc., as written:

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Steel Caught In Tremendous Pressure From Three Sides

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON President Truman has put the steel industry in a triple squeeze which now makes it tough for it to back the Government.

The Public opinion, this nation's wage talk last night, explaining why he demanded the union's wage demands. And he condemned, 100 per cent, the companies' demands for permission to boost prices if they raise wages.

The President said the industry is making so much money it can afford to increase wages without increasing prices.

Now a company spokesman, if he tries to present the industry's side, can't hope to compete with the President for public attention.

BATTLE BEGINS The legal fight, the companies will fight through the courts. The court battle already has begun.

To go all the way up to the Supreme Court might take a year. By that time the dispute should be over.

The industry will have to start asking for an order telling the government to abandon seizure.

Irreparable Harm May Come In Ten Months Of Inaction

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON UNDER a parliamentary system of government, the Truman administration would at this time be near collapse.

Under the American system, with its fixed term of four years for the Chief Executive, we shall go for nearly ten months with virtually no government.

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