

News Review of Current Events the World Over

President Names Board to Investigate Growing Textile Strike—Senator Lewis Says Democrats Don't Support Sinclair's Socialistic Views.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT took a hand in the textile strike by appointing a board of inquiry. The members he named are Gov. John G. Wigant of New Hampshire, Marlon Smith of Atlanta, Ga., and Raymond V. Ingersoll, borough president of Brooklyn, N. Y.

1. To inquire into the general character and extent of the complaints of workers in the cotton, textile, wool, rayon, silk and allied industries. 2. Inquire into problems confronting the employers in said industries.

Starting immediately after Labor day, the strike spread rapidly and within a short time about 336,000 workers had quit their jobs. This would indicate the walkout was approximately 50 per cent effective over the entire cotton, woolen and silk industry.

Leaders of the strike claimed that 450,000 had quit at that time and that more were joining the walkout daily. Predictions of violence were fulfilled, for there were bloody riots around the mills in New England, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

GEOFFREY A. SLOAN, president of Cotton Textile Institute, who at first claimed that two-thirds of the workers had refused to join the strike, later admitted that he was wrong and said: "This thing is getting worse by the hour."

"I am deeply distressed to learn that blood has been shed in Georgia. These sad events make it plain that the forces unleashed by the strike leaders are now out of their control."

"This is no longer to be viewed as the ordinary industrial warfare which the term 'strike' implies in America. It is not a matter of leaving work and of peaceful picketing."

"The strike call was an appeal for confidence. The appeal was denied by a vast majority of our workers."

"Now lawless bands of misled people, thousands in number, move across wide areas, against whole communities, smash mill doors, drag men and women from work they wish to perform, and threaten with violence all who do not yield. This is an assault on fundamental American rights."

Francis J. Gorman, director of the strike, announced that he would not revoke the strike call until the employers had accepted these demands:

- 1. Recognition of the United Textile Workers. 2. Reduction of working hours to 30 per week. 3. Machine load limit and wage scale yet to be determined. 4. Promise by the companies not to interfere with union activities. 5. Provision for a mediation board within the industry to adjust disputes between employer and employee. 6. Promise by the workers and employers that there shall be no strikes nor lockouts during the life of the agreement. 7. An understanding by both parties on the length of time the agreement shall be effective.

Frank Schweitzer, general secretary of the American Federation of Silk Workers, announced that with the walkout of 17,000 silk workers in the Paterson (N. J.) district and with mills closing in other sections, the silk industry was approximately 90 per cent shut down.

The belief of the strikers that the government would indirectly finance their walkout is partially justified by Relief Administrator Hopkins. He said the government took no sides in the matter and that relief would be given to strikers as to other individuals when it appeared they were destitute.

NRA was dealt a severe blow when the Retail Coal Code authority resigned in a body in protest against the way the NRA is handling the code. The seven members, who were the ruling body under the Blue Eagle for 80,000 retail coal dealers, are: Roderick Stephens, New York, chairman; Milton E. Robinson, Jr., Chicago, vice chairman; Clarence V. Beck, St. Louis; William A. Clark, Boston; Charles M. Farrar, Raleigh, N. C.; Edward B. Jacobs, Reading, Pa.; and John McLachlan, Pullman, Ill. Their resignation was due to the NRA's claim that it can revise any code at any time without giving notice to the industry involved.

"As now emasculated by the NRA, the code is a futile and unworkable thing, while as originally agreed upon it represented a constructive basis for improvement of conditions in this industry," the members told General Johnson.

EIGHT thousand, seven hundred employees of the Aluminum Company of America, who had been on strike for a month, were ordered by their union to return to their jobs when an agreement ending the walkout was signed. Both the company and the workers accepted concessions through the efforts of Fred Keightley, labor department conciliator.

AFTER Upton Sinclair, ex-Socialist who obtained the Democratic nomination for governor of California, had called on President Roosevelt at Hyde Park, he jubilantly asserted that his plan to "End Poverty in California" was identical with the New Deal.

Then he went to Washington and sought the support of administration leaders for his campaign. Mr. Roosevelt had said nothing publicly concerning Mr. Sinclair, but Senator James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois, chairman of the Democratic senatorial campaign committee, made some pungent comments about the California nominations.

"There has been no California Democratic nomination for governor," Senator Lewis said. "The nomination was made by Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Kansas and Nebraska Republicans who had moved to southern California. It was Republicans from these states who nominated Mr. Sinclair, not the Democrats nor the Republicans of California. This gentleman's nomination can be charged to that class of Republicans in Los Angeles as a general protest against conditions."

"Senator Johnson came out for the whole of the Roosevelt policies, and was nominated by all parties. We rank him as a Democrat. "President Roosevelt is not being disturbed by any presumption that he is endorsing the individual views of Candidate Sinclair. The President, in fact, expects very shortly before the congressional elections to make an address to America, in which he will express the Roosevelt policy and wherein the real democracy he represents offers remedies which prevent the radicalism of Socialism and the destruction of Communism."

"We under the name of democracy can never advocate or endorse a system which appropriates and confiscates honest property, whether it be the wealth of the millionaires or the weekly wages of millions of toilers."

DONALD RICHBERG, secretary of the executive council, made another report to the President on the New Deal efforts to relieve financial pressure, showing the government has loaned more than seven billion dollars to save businesses and homes. Here are the high lights of his report:

- 1. RFC actually has disbursed \$5,853,000,000. 2. The Home Owners' Loan corporation has advanced \$1,250,445,000, ending a real estate panic and saving the homes of 432,000 families from foreclosure. 3. Five banks insured by the FDIC have failed. 4. Federal home loan bank system loans are far below capacity because of faults now being corrected.

HUEY LONG's plans to control the primary in Louisiana were curbed by two injunctions issued by a federal and a state court, but his exposure of the administration of New Orleans by Mayor Walmley and his friends went on unhindered. Also the "dictatorship" laws passed by the senator's legislature became binding and put an end to much of the gay life in New Orleans, for the "old regular" machine which has ruled the city for years was helpless. Governor Allen, Long's henchman, has full power to enforce the new laws through the state police or the militia. Dissemination of horse-race news being now unlawful, the publications specializing in such information planned to leave the city.

REICHSFUEHRER HITLER of Germany renewed his warfare on Jews and also declared all other elements opposing his regime must be suppressed. The chancellor, addressing the annual convention of the Nazi party in Nuremberg, made a slashing attack against "Jewish influence" on German life. He was cheered frequently during his impassioned address, clarifying again his anti-Jewish, Pan-German philosophy of political and social science as the essence of his national-socialistic doctrines for ruling Germanic races.

Earlier, a proclamation by him was read to the delegates, warning that those who defied oppose the Nazi state under his rule would be ruthlessly dealt with, and outlining his achievements as head of the third reich.

Combined with Hitler's attack on the Jews came a bitter denunciation of those "sensation-hungry correspondents interested only in external symptoms." Hitler declared they were responsible for a misconception of Germany abroad, insisted that Nazism was here to stay, and added violence and revolutions were ended.

ON THE advice of Sol Rosenblatt, divisional administrator, the NRA has indefinitely suspended the provisions of the motion picture industry code designed to limit salaries of stars and executives and to eliminate alleged unfair competitive methods in bidding for stars under contract with another company. Mr. Rosenblatt made an investigation and in his report said: "A star or executive is worth as much as the public can be led to think he is worth by paying to see his offerings. If individual producers find it difficult to gauge in advance the possible value of these services, it is patently impossible for a code authority to exercise any more effective judgment in the matter."

RUSSIA'S ambition to be given a seat as a permanent member of the League of Nations council, favored by France and Great Britain, is opposed by Switzerland, whose delegates have been instructed to vote "no" when the question comes up. Turkey has applied for a nonpayment seat in the council, stating she seeks the place of China, whose term is expiring.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE WALLACE thinks it may be necessary to guarantee the price of corn fodder in order to keep available supplies on farms in the drought area for relief purposes. The farm administration is to set up an office in Kansas City for the purpose of making a survey and locating all types of animal feed. The office also will assist county drouth committees in arranging pools of individual farmers to make purchases. The government will not buy any feed itself for distribution.

BECAUSE of his unwavering opposition to what he considered the extravagant expenditures of the government and to its inflationary monetary policies, Lewis Douglas has resigned as director of the budget. He had long been fighting against certain of the administration's policies, without avail. The two-year budget plan with its prospective deficit of seven billion dollars, presented to congress last January, did not have his approval; nor had the billion dollar deficiency appropriation bill and the schemes for the purchase of gold and silver. It was said his resignation was finally brought about by the announcement of Secretary Morgenthau that the so-called profit of two billion eight hundred million dollars resulting from the devaluation of the gold dollar would be used to curtail the public debt incurred by the New Deal. Since currency is ultimately to be issued against this "profit," and since there is only about five billion dollars of currency now in circulation, the Morgenthau plan contemplates a 50 per cent inflation.

The President appointed as acting budget director Daniel W. Bell, a permanent employee of the treasury. It was understood in Washington that there would be a general rearrangement in the Treasury department which would concentrate all fiscal powers in the hands of Secretary Morgenthau. Several officials who are not in full sympathy with the New Deal will be weeded out.

MANY of the dairy cattle bought by the government in drouth areas are of high breed and so will not be slaughtered. The federal relief administration gave out a statement saying: "It is planned to either exchange some of these high breed drouth cattle for scrub cattle now in the possession of relief or rural rehabilitation families, or to issue them to such families where the need has been determined. Under this program the low-grade scrub cattle would be slaughtered where exchanges were made. The exchanges, or issuance of cattle without exchange, would be made upon recommendation of the various county relief administrations and county rural rehabilitation supervisors."

AFTER five days of deliberation, the high council of the Salvation Army, sitting in London, elected Commander Evangelina Booth general of the army. Thus the supreme command of the organization is returned to the Booth family after a break of five years. Miss Booth, who is sixty-eight years old, is the only daughter of Gen. William Booth, founder of the army. For thirty years she has been at the head of the army in America.

Washington Digest National Topics Interpreted by William Bruckart

Washington.—The political situation was warmer. It is seldom in our history where the records disclose so much heat in the campaign fights as has already been developed. It may die down some, but the wisecracks in politics are predicting red hot battles over the issues and mud-slinging and muck raking among individuals.

Campaign "Material"

There is the speech by Secretary Morgenthau of the treasury, an attempt to show that the New Deal has not been so costly as critics of the administration claim; there is the victory of the Socialist, Upton Sinclair, who captured the Democratic nomination for governor of California, and there is a growing list of social reform proposals among administration advisers which provide meat and drink for the politicians on the opposing team.

One can mention also the row among cabinet and emergency officials over the future course of NRA and the test that is being made in the District of Columbia courts to determine whether a business firm can be made to comply with a code which it has definitely and continuously refused to sign. There is the speakership fight among the Democrats of the house of representatives, and the bitter attacks that are being leveled at the treasury by some of the senators and representatives from agricultural areas on account of administration management of processing taxes. Efforts of the American Liberty league for protection of constitutional rights are being expanded. All the while New Deal planners are engaged in development of new schemes such as a program designed to result in federal ownership of the railroads.

To say that the situation is confusing is to use the mildest sort of language. Observers in Washington who have watched political maneuvers for a quarter of a century and more insist that at no time in their recollection have they seen anything similar to present conditions. Take the Upton Sinclair victory itself, as an example. I am told that few times in modern politics has it occurred that a man so long affiliated with another partisan group has bored his way in and seized titular control of a major political party. The observers insist that the result of the California primaries has placed the Roosevelt administration on a decidedly hot spot unless, as it has been charged, President Roosevelt is willing to commit the Democratic party which he heads to the Socialist doctrines publicized for a quarter of a century by Mr. Sinclair.

Some political leaders here are whispering that the Sinclair victory will strengthen the hand of the American Liberty league and enable the sponsors—Al Smith, J. P. J. Shouse, John W. Davis, former Senator Wadsworth and others—to go about the country and obtain recruits for their defense of constitutional rights. Active efforts of this kind, of course, are likely to catalog the league as definitely anti-administration, but league leaders apparently do not entertain such a fear at this time.

Processing Troubles

The processing tax question is another that political observers insist is due to cause trouble for the President. They point out that heretofore such criticisms as have come of the processing taxes have centered on Secretary Wallace and the Agricultural Adjustment administration. Now, however, the attacks are being leveled at the bureau of internal revenue, which is a part of the treasury and, therefore, the fire has swerved from one department to the other. It is to be remembered that both Secretary Morgenthau and Commissioner Helvering of the bureau of internal revenue are personal appointments of the President. Republican campaigners are using this as a vehicle to carry their assault on the President himself.

Whatever the political implications may be, it remains a fact that such New Deal supporters as Senator James E. Pope of Idaho have taken Mr. Helvering to task for his administration of the processing taxes. Senator Pope has written to Mr. Helvering with particular respect to the processing tax on hogs, which he charged was being collected from farmers who slaughtered and sold pork produced on their own farms. The Idaho senator forced a bill through congress in the closing days of the last session which he believed would free the farmer of this tax and provide a refund of tax which he claimed was illegally collected. At this writing, Senator Pope reports, the bureau of internal revenue has not even drafted the forms upon which farmers may make application for refund of taxes already paid, and it amounts to approximately two and one-half cents per pound. It takes no stretch of the imagination to figure how much tax has been taken from farmers in this way.

There are other complaints about the processing taxes as well. These include a complaint that has become country wide among users of products

as well as the producers of products that compete with coconut oil. It will be recalled that there was something of a battle in congress when an import tax was laid on coconut oil. The industry felt it had gained a great victory. Developments since have shown just how wrong individuals can be.

Morgenthau Under Fire

Republican wheel-horses claim they now have ammunition in the shape of Mr. Morgenthau's speech on the cost of the New Deal, for which they long have awaited. The treasury secretary spoke over the radio. His purpose obviously was to get as wide distribution as possible for his conclusions that the New Deal thus far has cost only \$505,000,000, despite the fact that the treasury daily statements show an addition of approximately eight billion to the national debt. The secretary was able to show, to his way of thinking, that while the public debt has been increased by the amount stated, nearly all of these funds eventually will come back into the government's money chest. He admitted, however, that there may be losses sustained by some of the emergency agencies and that these losses naturally will affect the total as he had calculated it.

I talked with a Democratic senator concerning Mr. Morgenthau's speech and he told me of his intention later to make a similar speech on the subject. He was somewhat disturbed, however, as to how he could explain the receipt by the treasury of \$2,800,000,000, which is the amount of profit gained by the government as a result of devaluation of the dollar to the point where it is worth only 59c in gold. He appeared to be afraid that opposing campaigners were going to say that the federal government had no way of obtaining revenue or money of any kind other than by taxation and borrowing. He suggested that the profit of devaluation could hardly be described as money borrowed, nor could it properly be called receipts from taxation.

The Republicans are using Mr. Morgenthau's own figures in an argument that the assets of wholly government owned agencies such as the Reconstruction Finance Corporation are so far only bookkeeping items. It appears to be irrefutable that no one can foretell what the value of these assets are going to be one, two or three years hence. Therefore, without discussing the merits of the argument on either side, it can be said definitely that the Republicans will be doing a lot of figuring just as Mr. Morgenthau did figuring to reach the conclusions he wanted to reach and disseminate among the voters.

In some quarters I hear expressions of commendation for the pronouncements by Mr. Morgenthau. Strangely, these commendations do not relate to the total which he contended the New Deal had cost thus far, but to the fact that the administration was going to remain faithful to its pledge that the deficit would not exceed eight billion dollars in the period covered. Washington has received numerous reactions from business interests regarding this particular phase of the Morgenthau speech, and business seems to regard that much of it as reassuring.

Real Battle in Offing

As regards the controversy that is raging in the administration itself, observers believe there is every reason to expect an eventual explosion. General Johnson, the NRA administrator, on the one hand, and Miss Perkins, the secretary of labor, and Donald Richberg, secretary of the President's executive council, on the other, are all individuals of the temperamental makeup required as requisite to a real battle. Their differences grow out of the plans as to the future of the NRA, which, the President has said, is to continue as a permanent part of the New Deal structure. Washington has not quite made up its mind concerning the delimitations laid down by the two factions, but it is apparent even now that Miss Perkins and Mr. Richberg contend for expansion of the NRA control beyond the limits to which the bombastic General Johnson is willing to go. Also, it is made to appear that Miss Perkins and Mr. Richberg prefer to see NRA under the domination of an individual whose mental slants are in line with their own, which is to say, in the opinion of most observers, that they favor a radical tendency beyond General Johnson's program. The general, having been a business executive, seems to realize that it is better to proceed cautiously in expanding NRA supervision, and is holding out for that course.

The differences between these individuals are the first to reach proportions requiring White House intervention. Whether Mr. Roosevelt has salvaged the feelings of each is not completely established, although it seems now that General Johnson will continue to manage NRA and that Miss Perkins will, in effect, be sent back to her Department of Labor to give her attention to that job. Nevertheless, there is a growing belief here that this controversy is not dead but sleeping.

TRUE DETECTIVE STORY by Vance Wynn Public Ledger

The Bed That Was Not Occupied

SOME years ago Lemuel R. Boyce, an officer on the St. Louis police force, was murdered while trying to arrest a burglar. He was very popular among his associates, and there was an almost universal desire to find the man who had committed the deed and to give him the full penalty of the law.

But the difficulty was to get a clue upon which to hinge their investigations. It was learned that a number of colored men had been seen in the vicinity of the hotel where the officer was shot, but there was nothing to connect them with the crime.

Chief of Police Smith determined to comb the city in order to locate the known colored criminals. The job was well done, but it did not bring very practical results. Just about that time the chief learned that one of the men who had been seen loitering in the vicinity of Cardinal street on the night of the murder had been sent to the Missouri reformatory a week later on some minor charge.

He called upon the mother of the suspect and questioned her regarding his movements for the previous month. She admitted that he was wayward, but was positive that he could not have been the murderer of Policeman Boyce.

She was cross-examined, and as a result of that it was found that Frank White—for that was his name—had not slept at home on the night of March 31.

This was extremely important because that was the night the officer was shot. In addition to ascertaining this bit of information, the chief of police also came away with a bunch of pawn tickets.

One of them called for a revolver. The officer called on the pawnbroker and obtained the weapon. It was taken to headquarters, and it was found to be the caliber revolver with which Policeman Boyce had been shot.

The proof of this was discovered by means of the bullet that had been taken from the wound. Thus armed, the chief of police was in a position to confront the suspected man.

He took the train for Boonville and arrived at the reformatory late at night. In order to make doubly sure he took the mother of White with him. The superintendent was perfectly willing to have White interviewed, but thought it might be postponed until the next morning. Chief Smith did not agree with him.

On the contrary, he said there were several reasons why the meeting should take place that night. One of them was that the suspect would be confronted unexpectedly and without opportunity of manufacturing an alibi.

He was roused from a solid slumber and brought into the waiting room. By previous arrangement, the mother had been placed in an adjoining room.

White was surprised when confronted by the detective—but he was also defiant. He positively denied all knowledge of the Boyce murder and said that he was sleepy and wanted to go back to bed.

"Where did you spend the night of March 31?" asked Chief Smith suddenly. "At home in my bed—just where I should have spent it."

"But you did not sleep at home that night," replied the detective in his most positive manner. "How do you know that?" he asked, half tauntingly.

For reply his inquisitor opened a little window in the room and pointed to an adjoining apartment, where sat the mother of the accused man. Her unexpected presence shook his nerve.

What had she said to the police? How much of the truth had she revealed? He was troubled and in the end admitted that his bed had not been occupied that night.

A minute later, when confronted by the revolver which had been retrieved from the pawnshop, he broke down and confessed that he had killed Officer Boyce.

WNU Service. Deaf-Mutes' Language

Deaf-mutes seldom use the deaf-and-dumb alphabet, except when communicating names and dates that must be spelled, writes J. F. Regan, Lawrence, Mass., in Collier's Weekly. They employ an indicative sign or symbol language which is faster than speech and generally understood in many countries, hence mutes of different nationalities can sometimes converse without any knowledge of each other's written language.

Invented the Parachute The parachute has been known for centuries. In 1783 Sebastian Lenormand practically demonstrated the efficiency of a parachute by descending from the tower of Montpelier observatory. To J. P. Blanchard (1753-1800) is due the idea of using it as an adjunct to the balloon. The seat-pack type of parachute used by the army was developed by the army in 1918 and 1919.