

News Review of Current Events

GREEN SHAPES WAGE BILL

Dictates House Amendments . . . Thousands Flee China, Expecting War . . . Housing Measure Stirs Up Senate

Edward W. Pickard

SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK

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Where Was John Lewis?

WILLIAM GREEN, president of the American Federation of Labor, emerged as the administration's favorite son in matters affecting labor as he was permitted virtually to write his own amendments to the house version of the wages and hours bill. The senate had passed the bill, 56 to 23, only after President Roosevelt had called Green to the White House and persuaded him to give lukewarm approval to the measure, with the understanding that the house would amend it.



A. F. of L's WILLIAM GREEN . . . leaves White House with a smile.

Southern Democrats in the senate, led by Pat Harrison of Mississippi, bitterly opposed the bill, but their motion to recommit it to committee was defeated, 48 to 36. The same vigorous opposition was expected from Dixie's representatives in the house labor committee, but the "Green amendments" (so called because of the federation president's complete domination of the committee meeting) patched up the essential differences.

The bill, as passed by the senate, would create a labor standards board empowered to set minimum wages up to 40 cents an hour and maximum work weeks down to 40 hours. The house committee had intended to extend the limits to permit the board to set wages at 70 cents and hours as low as 35. Under Green's influence the house committee decided to accept the senate provisions on this part of the measure, but the scope of the board was greatly curtailed by an amendment which would permit it to deal only with employers who maintain "sweatshops" and "starvation wages" through fake collective bargaining agencies.

The "Green amendments" in brief are:

1. Board jurisdiction over wages and hours in any industry only if it finds that collective bargaining agreements do not cover a sufficient number of employees or facilities for collective bargaining are ineffective.
2. Acceptance of wage-hour standards established by collective bargaining in any occupation as prima facie evidence of appropriate standards in that occupation.
3. Board cannot alter wage-hour standards already prevailing in occupation in community considered, or establish classification in any community which affects adversely the prevailing standard in the same or other communities.
4. Industries are protected against prison-made goods.
5. "Label provision" of original act is eliminated to protect industry from what is considered a nuisance.
6. Government work is removed from the board's control and placed under the Walsh-Healey act.

Chairman Mary T. Norton (D., N. J.) of the labor committee indicated the bill would be brought up in the house under a special rule and speedily passed.

\$700,000,000 for Housing

HAVING disposed of wages and hours legislation, the senate took up the Wagner-Steagall low-cost housing bill. This would authorize the flotation of a \$700,000,000 bond issue by a United States housing authority. To meet operating expenses of the program's first year, \$26,000,000 would be appropriated immediately. The proposed bond issue was cut from \$1,000,000,000 as a compromise with the Treasury department, which objected to so high a figure.



Sen. Wagner

The bill would aid low-cost housing projects in two ways. It would make loans to the full amount of contracted projects, aiding the repayment of the loans by direct grants if the sponsors kept rents sufficiently low; or it would make direct grants not to exceed 25 per cent of the cost of a project. Under this latter method, the President would be authorized to make an additional 15 per cent grant from relief funds, to be used only for the employment of labor. Sponsors would be required to contribute at least 20 per cent of the cost.

The housing authority would also be permitted to spend \$25,000,000 on demonstration projects to illustrate to communities the benefits of eliminating slums and providing adequate housing at low cost. The projects would be sold "as soon as practical" to local housing agencies.

Over the protest of administration leaders, including Senator Wagner and Majority Leader Barkley, the senate adopted an amendment by Harry F. Byrd (D., Va.) limiting the cost of the housing projects to \$4,000 a family or \$1,000 a room. Wagner objected, principally on the grounds that this would not be sufficient for projects in New York city, where it is believed much of the money will be spent.

U. S. Keeps Naval Pace

INDICATIONS were that both the United States and Great Britain would embark upon unusually large peacetime naval building programs in 1938.

Britain, according to reports in London, will lay the keels for from three to five battleships, six or seven cruisers and a proportionate quota of destroyers, submarines and smaller craft, to surpass the 1937 total of 664,000 tons, a peacetime record. It was also reported that personnel would be increased ultimately by 125,000.

With the placing of additional 1937 contracts, Britain will soon have 110 vessels under construction. These will include: 5 battleships of 35,000 tons, 5 aircraft carriers, 8 cruisers of 9,000 to 10,000 tons, 5 cruisers of 8,000 tons, 7 cruisers of 5,300 tons, 16 superdestroyers of 1,650 tons, 12 submarines of from 540 to 1,520 tons, 12 sloops and 10 motor torpedo boats.

Armament of the five new battleships will include 10 or 12 new type 14-inch guns, 12 to 16 4- or 4.7-inch anti-aircraft guns and numerous light machine guns. Upper deck armor will be specially strengthened against airplane bombs and bridges and turrets will be gas-proof.

Admiral William D. Leahy, chief of American naval operations and acting secretary of Uncle Sam's navy, said in Washington that congress will be asked to provide funds for the construction of two battleships and two cruisers in the 1938 fiscal year. The admiral inferred in a press conference that the United States expects to keep pace with other nations which are planning extensive naval building. The four new ships will cost \$170,000,000 and will be ready in 1942. Construction is about to begin on two other battleships, which will cost approximately \$60,000,000.

14 Lost in Flying Boat

IT WAS believed 14 persons were lost in the Caribbean sea when the Santa Maria, luxurious new flying boat of the Pan American-Grace Airways, crashed 20 miles off Cristobal, in the Canal Zone, after nearly completing a scheduled flight from Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Last radio reports from the pilot indicated he was trying to spiral down to the surface of the sea in a torrential rainstorm. Two United States submarines, cruising the area in the hope of picking up some survivors, found part of the airliner's shipment of mail, an engine casing, a few other parts and a bucket of ice cream floating in the water. It was feared the pilot, co-pilot, steward and 11 passengers, mostly Americans, were locked in the cabin and lying on the bottom of the sea, which at the point the wreckage was found reaches a depth of 1,000 feet.

Wedge to Split Loyalists

AS THE battle of Madrid continued to rage, Gen. Francisco Franco's eastern army was driving an ever-widening wedge into the territory near the junction of Teruel, Cuenca and Valencia provinces 100 miles east of Madrid. His object is to impose a barrier between Madrid and the loyalist government's capital at Valencia.

Government forces all along the line of advance were reported surrendering or fleeing. Insurgents claimed to have captured large numbers of automobiles and supplies of arms, munitions and clothing.

Latest news from the Madrid front indicated that a rebel attack in the Uxera sector southeast of the city had been repulsed by machine gunners and dynamiters.

El Caudillo Is the Boss

INSURGENT Spain has a "head man" and also has a name for him now. In Germany things are bossed by "Der Fuehrer," and Italians scurry to obey "Il Duce." Now Rebel Spain has dubbed Gen. Francisco Franco "El Caudillo." Throughout the realm on walls and fences are signs bearing the motto, "Homenaje al Caudillo"—"Obey the leader."—And the people salute him by raising the right arm.

Franco's followers are protesting that he is not a fascist, but he has never announced just what form of government he will propose for the nation. There is said to be a scheme afoot to shape it along the lines of Portugal's corporative government. Since he openly declared on July 19 that he believes the restoration of a monarchy is vital to cohesion of Spain, it is believed that this is what he will eventually effect. Prince Juan, third son of the former King Alfonso XIII, is the likely candidate for the crown.

Women Hear War Cry

ONE of China's chief agitators for war was Mme. Chiang Kai-shek, Wellesley-educated wife of the dictator. She urged women to fight Japan "according to their ability," citing the fashion in which the women of Spain are occupying the fighting lines.

"In the World war the women of every country gave their best," she declared. "The women of China are no less patriotic or capable of physical endurance. "China is facing the gravest crisis in its history. This means we must sacrifice many of our soldiers, masses of our innocent people, much of the nation's wealth and see ruthlessly destroyed the results of our reconstruction."

Ask Me? Another?

A Quiz With Answers Offering Information on Various Subjects

1. What causes leaves to change color in autumn?
2. Who said, "It is much easier to be critical than to be correct"?
3. Which are the lightest birds in proportion to their size that fly?
4. There were how many signers of the Declaration of Independence?
5. What is the total number of war medals that have been given to soldiers? Which medal was most widely distributed?
6. Are car colors restricted in Japan?

Answers

1. Gradual formation of cells at the stem of the leaf finally shuts off the supply of chlorophyll, or green coloring matter, and starts the formation of the gaudy autumnal colors.
2. The expression was used by Benjamin Disraeli in the house of commons on January 24, 1860.
3. The birds with great powers of flight, such as the sea-gull, are the lightest birds to fly. The common gull weighs only a quarter of a pound. Its bones are hollow and filled with air.
4. There were 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence.
5. The total of medals on record at the War department is 1,543,721. The Victory medal, issued after the World war, is the most widely distributed.
6. In Japan only imperial household cars may be painted maroon, and no cars except hearses may be painted yellow, which to the natives signifies mourning.

Smiles

In Line of Duty
Jones had occasion to reprimand his wife.
"I think," he said, soothingly, "that you fib a little occasionally."
"Well, I think it's a wife's duty. I spoke well of you."

Called upon at the wedding supper, the happy groom arose and said: "I'm—er—happy to say we've never—er—had a cross word in all our—er—married life."

Noble Cause
"Father," said Willie, "will you give me a penny for a poor man who is crying outside?"
"Certainly," replied father.
"What is he crying for?"
"He's crying: 'Ice cream—a penny each,'" said Willie, having got the penny.

Extra Safes



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4.75-20 9.85	6.00-16 13.95
5.00-19 10.30	6.25-16 15.65
5.25-17 11.00	6.50-16 17.25
5.25-18 11.40	7.00-16 18.70

DON'T RISK YOUR LIFE ON SMOOTH WORN TIRES DO YOU KNOW

THAT last year highway accidents cost the lives of more than 38,000 men, women and children? That a million more were injured? That more than 40,000 of these deaths and injuries were caused directly by punctures, blowouts and skidding due to unsafe tires?



At right is a section cut from a smooth, worn tire, with non-skid protection worn off. Tires in this condition are liable to punctures, blowouts and skidding.

At left is section cut from a new Firestone Tire. Note the thick, non-skid protection against skidding, blowouts and punctures. Come in and see a demonstration.

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4.40-21 \$5.65	4.75-19 \$6.70
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4.50-21 6.35	5.25-18 8.00

Firestone COURIER	
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4.50-21 6.03	5.00-19 6.87

Listens to the Voice of Firestone featuring Margaret Spinks. Monday evenings over Nationwide N. B. C. Red Network

JOIN THE Firestone Save a Life Campaign To-Day