

# Steel Affair In Deadlock

WASHINGTON, May 5 (AP)—The big steel labor dispute remained stuck on dead center today with negotiations suspended and a solution apparently as far off as ever.

All sides seemed to be waiting for an eventual Supreme Court ruling on the questioned legality of President Truman's steel in-

## Compromise Could Settle Oil Strike

DENVER, May 5 (AP)—The leader of a striking oil union dropped a broad hint today that the strike could be settled on wage terms well below the union coalition's initial demands.

O. A. Knight, president of the CIO Oil Workers International, which has its headquarters in Denver, said in a statement: "Anytime an oil company will offer us 18½ cents in cash, the strike at that company's plant would undoubtedly end in a short time."

### 18½ Cents Benefits

The strike was ordered to back up the union's demands for a wage increase of 25 cents per hour plus higher extra pay for night work. The current scale averages \$2 to \$2.10 per hour.

The Los Angeles agreement between the Independent Union of Petroleum Workers and Standard Oil of California included benefits worth 18½ cents an hour, a union spokesman said.

But at San Francisco, a company official said they figured it amounts to a 15-cent boost.

The Standard Oil Agreement covers 5000 employees in oil fields, refineries and offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Bakersfield, Calif. The union had not been on strike.

### Chapman 'Hopeful'

Meanwhile, Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman said the government is not planning on nationwide rationing of automobile gasoline despite shortages here and there. Chapman told reporters at New York he was "hopeful of a settlement being reached in a few days. The situation is very serious."

## Flood Insurance Urged by Truman

WASHINGTON, May 5 (AP)—A system of government insurance against flood damage, backed by a 1½-billion-dollar fund, was urged upon Congress today by President Truman.

Proposed legislation which Truman sent to Capitol Hill would allow the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to issue such insurance directly or to reinsure policies written by private companies.

Speeding on U.S. streets and highways last year injured 475,500 men, women, and children.

court decides the case. Its hearings start next Monday.

The steel industry, meantime, slowly returned to full production of the vital metal after last week's three-day strike. Even though negotiations have collapsed, the men remained at work as their union president, Phillip Murray, had promised.

Thirteen Republican senators introduced legislation to direct Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer, government boss of the seized industry, to give up the steel plants and return them to their private owners.

### Grumbling Heard

Sen. Hugh Butler (R-Neb.), one of the sponsors, urged early Senate consideration, telling his colleagues the bill "sets forth an expedient method of overcoming the arbitrary seizure of the steel industry." It seemed unlikely, however, that the Senate would act while the issue is before the Supreme Court.

Some grumbling was heard in the mill towns about lack of a wage settlement after more than five months of negotiations with the government and industry.

Julian Bruce, union international representative, said at Buffalo, N.Y., that some workers were talking of "ignoring government seizure and shutting down the plants."

### No Strike Expected

At Pueblo, Colo., Michael J. Soldren, a union subdistrict director, said the men "may" conduct a local slowdown governing production to the rate of pay received.

But Walter Klis, president of Local 1272 at the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company's Pittsburgh plant, said he didn't expect any strike or slow-down.

Any strike now with seizure still legally in effect, could be enjoined by the courts, since the workers are technically government employees and as such are barred from striking.

## Salesman Kills Family, Self

UNIONTOWN, Pa., May 5 (AP)—Richard W. Laclair took a .22 pump gun and marched from bed to bed in his home, killing his wife and three children with successive shots. Then he turned the gun on himself and took his own life.

Only a half-starved mongrel puppy remained alive in the home of the Uniontown salesman over the weekend. Late yesterday, the family's landlord became alarmed at the absence of the Laclairs and gave the alarm.

Coroner W. Ralton McGee said Laclair shot his family as they slept.

## Pittsburgh Strikes Bring Scarcity Of Bread, Beer

PITTSBURGH, May 5 (AP)—Bread and beer were getting a little scarce in Pittsburgh today.

Local production of both commodities has been interrupted by strikes of brewery workers and bakery drivers.

The bread shortage was called serious. The walkout of 1800 bakery workers cut output two thirds in Pittsburgh and five adjacent counties.

Demand is reported exceeding supply for out-of-town bread and beer still available.

Bread runs developed on neighborhood stores and chain outlets unaffected by the strike of the AFL Bakery and Confectionery workers, which started Saturday.

The union is making emergency deliveries of bread to hospitals, orphanages and similar institutions.

Some 200 brewery workers tangled with police for the first time today during mass picketing in the two-week old brewery strike.

## Bombers Raid Red Railroads, Cut Supply Line

SEOUL, Korea, Tuesday, May 6 (AP)—Allied fighter-bombers ripped gaping holes in an important segment of the Communist rail system in Korea Monday. They used a new strategy of saturation bombing.

It is aimed at stopping the Communist rail supply to the front so that it stays stopped. By throwing thousands of laborers into the job, the Reds had been able to repair rail breaks in a matter of hours. The new method concentrates bomb craters in comparatively short and hard-to-reach sections.

The Fifth Air Force reported a mass flight of fighter-bombers—number undisclosed—blasted the stretch of track between Huichon and Kunu which runs diagonally toward Pyongyang from far north-central Korea. Huichon is 60 air miles south of the Manchurian border.

Pilots reported at least 80 cuts in the rail link.

U.S. Sabre Jets, patrolling south of the winding Yalu River, shielded the fighter-bombers but there were no MIGs to challenge them. One Sabre peeled off from the formation and shot up three Communist trucks.

### Clover Club to Meet

The Clover Club will meet at 7:30 tonight in 111 Plant Industries. Two films, "Research for People" and "The Weather," will be shown.

# Taft Backer Claims MacArthur Support

By the Associated Press

Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer claimed yesterday that Gen. Douglas MacArthur has thrown his support to Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio in the race for the Republican presidential nomination.

In New York, a MacArthur spokesman said the former Pacific commander knew of Wedemeyer's statement but had no immediate comment.

Wedemeyer told a news conference in Washington that MacArthur called him a week ago and urged him to accept the chairmanship of a national Taft-for-President Citizens' Committee "for the good of the country." He said that was "quite a clear indication" that MacArthur is supporting Taft.

Wedemeyer, who served as commander of U.S. forces in China late in World War II, said in announcing his acceptance of the committee chairmanship that he regards Taft as "definitely the best qualified by knowledge and experience" in the field of GOP candidates.

Meanwhile, the national spotlight turned to today's Florida "popularity" primary where Sen. Estes Kefauver collides with Sen. Richard B. Russell in a critical test of strength.

It is the first time the front-running Kefauver and the late-starting Russell have come to grips—and the only such test of their vote-pulling prowess in the South.

A victory for Kefauver would mean a big boost in his bid for the Democratic presidential nomination and a severe setback to the stop-Kefauver forces in the North.

Russell was generally rated the favorite, but there was speculation that Kefauver might score an upset with an eleventh-hour assist from former Sen. Claude Pepper. Pepper, a veteran "new deal" and "fair deal" stalwart, is still reckoned as a power in Florida politics.

## 'Ike' Pays Italy Farewell Visit

ROME, May 5 (AP)—Gen. Eisenhower flew into Rome tonight to say goodbye to government leaders, after a stop-off at Udine where he bade warm farewell to Italian forces of his SHAPE command. In this country the supreme commander holds the honorary rank of corporal.

Among those on hand to greet the supreme commander of North Atlantic Treaty nations were Rinaldo Pacciardi, Italian defense minister, and Gen. Efisio Marras, Italian chief of staff.

### Airport Debate Tonight

"Should State College Have an Airport or Not?", a debate sponsored by Delta Nu Alpha and Commerce 19, will be held at 7:30 tonight in 121 Sparks.

## UN Silence Hints Little Truce Hope

MUNSAN, Korea, Tuesday, May 6 (AP)—The United Nations Command today maintained its strict silence on the secret, top-level Korean armistice talks but it was apparent no progress had been made.

The only slender thread of hope seen by observers at this Allied

LONDON, May 5 (AP)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden told a questioner in the House of Commons today there is still an opportunity for reaching agreement in the Korean truce talks. He refused to discuss the situation in detail, adding that as foreign secretary he would not say anything which would make agreement less likely.

The negotiators met for only 11 minutes Monday. The chief Communist delegate, North Korean Gen. Nam Il, spoke from notes nine minutes and then proposed the recess.

The brevity of the meetings continued to indicate there had been no lessening of the crisis—a tight deadlock on the issues of prisoner exchange, Communist nomination of Russia as a truce observer and an Allied demand for restrictions on military airfield construction.

The Allies on April 28 proposed an overall solution to the issues. A three-day recess was taken so that the Reds could study it.

base camp was that both sides agreed to meet again today at Panmunjom, at 9 p.m., EST, Monday.

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