

Landlords Here Join Demand For Rent Ceiling Increase

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Rent Administrator Ivan D. Carson are to appear before the house committee later this week in opposition to the demands for rent increases. They plan also to oppose hotel owners' appeal for a 15 per cent boost in room rate ceilings.

Rents of between 14,000 and 15,000 tenants are now protected by "freeze" orders. With a single exception, controls are now in operation in every urban area of 50,000 or more population. More than 70 per cent of the urban population is included in the 479 control areas.

A 15 per cent increase, it is estimated, would add in excess of \$60,000,000 a month to the nation's rent bill if applied to all units under OPA control.

Opposition to a general increase appeared to predominate in the house committee and some members viewed the demands as bargaining grounds for other concessions being sought by the owners' organizations.

"The real estate boards are seeking legalization of the present advisory committee on rent control, liberalization of the act's provisions governing 'hardship' cases, recognition of deferred maintenance and

accelerated depreciation in computing operating costs and leeway for the equalization of rents in apartment buildings.

Food Up 45 Per Cent

The boards withheld their demand while the OPA bill was before the senate banking committee, explaining that they did not wish to disturb controls until after V-E day. OPA said President James C. Downes of Chicago, has "ignored the purposes" of eight liberalizing amendments written into the price act last year.

The Apartment House Owners' association justified its proposal for a general 15 per cent increase on the grounds that rents have lagged behind the economic trend. While building prices have advanced more than 30 per cent, rents have increased only 3 per cent since 1939 and actually are under their 1942 level, the association asserted.

Since 1939, the association added, food has advanced 45 per cent, clothing 41 per cent, house furnishings 39 per cent and weekly earnings 75 per cent.

The organization told the committee that OPA has resorted to "half-truth propaganda" in quoting net operating figures to support its claim that "the vast majority of landlords have prospered under rent control."

Anti-Closed Shop Decision Serious Threat to Unions

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first time the closed-shop issue has come up for final determination, and "the closed shop is the main objective of any labor union."

He described the case as the most vital to organized labor since guarantees of free speech were upheld. Victories so far won, he said, involved less sweeping questions.

Another factor heightening the importance of this case is that it involves an amendment to a state constitution, regularly adopted by Florida voters last fall. Most of the instances in which the supreme court has knocked down anti-union laws have involved acts by state legislatures, which are not regarded as having the force of amendments passed on by the electorate.

The Florida amendment provides that no man must belong to a labor union for the right to work, and it prohibits employers from making union affiliation, or the lack of it, a condition of employment.

Similar laws have been proposed in other states, but an anti-closed shop statute is on the books only in South Dakota. There, accord-

ing to Mr. Thatcher, no effort has been made to enforce it.

Labor spokesmen contend, however, that the Florida law may encourage similar efforts in other states, especially if the Tampa court should be upheld by the supreme court.

Federal administrators have shied away from this dynamite-laden question, although the late President Roosevelt once said the government would never force a man to join a labor organization. However, federal policies have encouraged rather than retarded the closed shop.

WLB Sidestepped Issue

The war labor board has sidestepped the issue by granting maintenance of membership to unions during the emergency. Under this system union members must continue to pay dues during the life of a labor contract unless they take advantage of a brief "escape period" at its inception.

The Florida case was argued by Padway and Thatcher. The C.I.O. filed a supporting brief.

The A. F. of L. lawyers argued that the closed shop is necessary for protection of union security against discrimination, for achievement of bargaining equality with employers, for maintenance of working standards and protection of benefits won through collective bargaining, for promotion of labor-management co-operation, for increase of union responsibility, and for elimination of jurisdictional strife with other unions.

JUDGE BRILL DIES IN DANVILLE HOME

DANVILLE, Ind., June 13 (U.P.)—Former Circuit Judge George W. Brill, 85, widely known Democratic jurist and attorney, died in his home last night.

Brill, who retired 18 years ago because of ill health, served as fifth judicial circuit judge from 1913 to 1919. He was born in Hendricks county Dec. 15, 1859, and was educated in public schools and Central Normal college.

In 1890, he formed a law partnership with the late George C. Harvey. He gave up an \$18,000 yearly law practice to become circuit judge. Survivors include the widow, two sisters and a granddaughter, Maj. Louise Bain, former aide to Gen. James Doolittle with the 8th air force in England.

Funeral services will be held Friday.

JUDGE HAMMILL WILL ADDRESS G. O. P. CLUB

Judge Ralph Hammill of Marion county superior court will speak on "The American Way of Life," at 8 p. m. today at the monthly meeting of the Warren Township Republican club.

A moving picture of scenes from European battlefields will be shown.

U. S. REFUSES RED ARMY MOVE

Russ Kept Out of Czech Area Held by Yanks.

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back to the west bank of the Mulde river. The Russians moving in behind them yesterday took over about 320 square miles.

The occupation shift around Chemnitz went off without a hitch. But a 12th army group staff officer disclosed that if the allies had agreed on just how much American-held territory the Russians were to occupy, the word had not seeped down to this level yet.

Moved to Take Over The lack of understanding apparently accounted for the situation in western Czechoslovakia.

The Russians made a move to take over the area held by the Americans, but which is expected to be allocated to the Red army.

The Americans refused to permit them to send a trainload of troops to the western border of Czechoslovakia after Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's supreme headquarters denied the request and ordered the United States forces to continue the occupation of this sector.

The area in question is a relatively narrow corridor running north and south just inside Czechoslovakia.

Gen. George S. Patton's 3d army forces occupied it in the closing days of the European war.

Just how far the Russians are scheduled to move is unknown. There has been no definite announcement.

German civilians have been predicting that the Russians will take over most of central Germany, including Leipzig, Weimar, Erfurt and as far west as Kassel.

But the 12th army group staff officer said today there was absolutely no agreement known at this group level as to just how much the Russians will occupy.

In accordance with pre-arranged occupational plans, the Russians took over the area east of the Mulde yesterday. Spokesmen said no further occupation of American-held territory would take place immediately pending definite agreements between Russia and the United States.

Both the Russians and Americans have indicated they were ready to move in or out as the case might be, in keeping with government agreements. But until yesterday both sides had kept still for lack of orders and liaison.

The 12th army group staff officer said it was impossible to speculate on how long it would take the Russians to complete the occupation of their assigned territory because "we just haven't any idea here as to what the area will consist of."

IKE VISITS QUEEN MARY

LONDON, June 13 (U.P.)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower visited Queen Mother Mary at Marlborough house following his trip to Buckingham palace, it was announced today. He was her first official visitor since her return to London from the country.

EIGHT INDUCTED INTO SERVICE BY BOARD 3

Eight more registrants have been inducted into the armed forces through the county selective service board three. Seven entered the army and one was accepted for navy duty.

Taken into the army were Jay Valentine Schilling, 5835 N. Keystone ave.; Wallace Orison Lee Jr., 4826 Central ave.; Sidney William Maurer, 2931 N. Delaware st.; Charles Francis Dandorf, 3946 Cornelius ave.; Lawrence R. Hubbell, 3137 N. Park ave.; and Dean Thomas Burns Jr., 3635 N. Pennsylvania st.

Theodore Ralph LeMaster, 3254 Park ave., entered the navy.

U. S. SQUEEZES OKINAWA JAPS

Frantic Suicide Charge of Foe Smashed.

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the Gagayan valley north of Bagabag.

The air forces gave the attacking 37th division close and effective support, plastering enemy positions with 322 tons of bombs.

Liberators Join

B-24 Liberators joined in the attacks on Japan's homeland, for the first time. They teamed with navy privateers for raids on the island of Kozu, 100 miles south of Tokyo, and on ships in surrounding waters. Six cargo vessels were sunk or damaged in the raids off Kozu and off the southwest coast of Honshu.

The Japanese took a look at the general picture and said they'd have to fight harder. Premier Kantaro Suzuki promised a "drastic intensification" of the war effort after the diet gave the government dictatorial powers.

The Nippon Times, quoted by Radio Tokyo, said there could be "no thought of such a thing as unconditional surrender"—indicating again they certainly wished there was some alternative way of making peace.

Bulldozers Blaze Path

The type of fighting now raging in Okinawa was unlike Borneo, where the Australians still had to meet any kind of organized resistance. Bulldozers were blazing a path through the jungle toward Brunel town, and it was slow work.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur visited the front line on the mainland yesterday—a front in a garden setting of lush, tropical vegetation. The sultan of little Brunel was reported hiding in the interior hills with his harem, awaiting the favorable moment to return to his reign.

PLANE STRIKES TREE, MARION MAN INJURED

CONNERSVILLE, Ind., June 13 (U.P.)—A forced landing on a golf course yesterday resulted in minor injuries to Everett Rider, 38, Marion, when his plane crashed into some trees.

Rider, a member of the Marion Aviation Club, was on a flight alone when engine trouble forced him to make a crash landing.

VETERAN OF '98 RECALLS JAPS

They Were Sneaks in Our War Then, He Says.

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on Panay. Nothing much happened. A few "bushwacking" skirmishes flared between guerrillas and what former Sgt. Merritt chose to call "detachments sent out into the woods." Occasionally, a sniper shot a pot-shot.

It was 1900 and the Philippine-American war was on. Only it was on mostly up around Luzon island, in the Manila district. The U. S. had subdued Spain and paid her \$20,000,000 for the Philippines. In those days, they apparently figured you should pay for things you took.

Philippines Rose Up However, the deal didn't click with certain Filipino revolutionaries under Aguinaldo, who quickly declared their independence of any outside nation, be it Spain or the U. S.

Other Filipinos, less independent, evidently didn't give a darn. Anyway, Sgt. Merritt and a lot of other Yanks sat around on Panay, holding it down, until late in 1901.

Among others who didn't relish the American occupation were Japs, said Mr. Merritt.

"They were just as sneaky then as they are now, if not sneakier," said the ex-color sergeant. "They thought they ran the Philippines and instigated a lot of trouble."

The testy 76-year-old veteran said he didn't think he ever managed to pick off a Jap, "but if I didn't it wasn't my fault."

Last Man's Club Mr. Merritt said he certainly would like to revisit Panay, but points out it might be embarrassing at this time. Yanks haven't conquered that particular island yet, he says. "I've been following 'em pretty close on the map."

All this is by way of leading up to a new item announcing the annual meeting of the "Last Man's Club" of Co. D of the 158th Indiana Infantry, United States Volunteers. Mr. Merritt is president.

This unit originally was the famous "Indianapolis Light Infantry" long noted as one of the best drill outfits in the nation. Dressed smartly in light blue trousers and dark blue coats, the blades of the light infantry flashed their vim and snap in just about every Gay 90's parade ever held in this city.

Smallest in Unit They practiced at the old Masonic hall at Capitol ave. and Washington sts. Mr. Merritt was nicknamed "Runt" because he was the smallest man in the entire unit. "That was the West Point of Indiana," reminisced Mr. Merritt, biting off a chew of rough-cut.

"We've got only 46 out of 109 left. Not more than a dozen show up at our reunions anymore. They're scattered all over the country."

The boys are meeting for a basket dinner at 1 p. m. Sunday at the home of Fred Rubins, 5825 Oak ave. Roll call will be at 2 p. m. then a get-together featuring "talk of the Gay 90's."

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war in 1898, the Indianapolis light infantry enlisted as a unit. But they never saw action

Sydney Girls Are Clever, Yanks Are Never Lonely

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illustrative. The lieutenant was sitting alone in a restaurant when the waiter brought him a note. It read: "Dear lieutenant: You look lonely. I am lonely, too. Why can't we be lonely together?"

Too, the girls down here can perform the impossible. A friend of your correspondent's happens to be fond of wild duck. His girl found

in that conflict. The outfit had drilled painstakingly for 21 years, but it sweated out the Spanish-American war guarding Tennessee peaches in a Southern training camp at Chickamauga.

Three times they were told they had been ordered to Cuba, but each report proved a false alarm. Meanwhile peach stealing complaints had rolled in and peach details were formed. By the time they were ready to go, the Cuban campaign had been wiped up.

When mustered out, most of the men returned to civilian life, but about 25 re-enlisted for the Philippine war.

Mr. Merritt was one of these. The Panay occupation wasn't particularly boring, he said. Officers were lenient and fraternizing. "They'd play poker and shoot

out about it and determined to cook him a wild duck dinner.

Wild duck is rare here now and when they sat down to dinner my astonished friend asked where she had got it.

With only a slight blush she confessed she had lured it from the royal botanical gardens with bread crumbs.

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craps right with the enlisted men," he recalled, scoring a bulls-eye with a wad of tobacco into his front room cuspidor.

It took a couple of months to return to the states, he remembered, because the ship "foiled around from island to island." When Mr. Merritt got back to Indianapolis he entered the cleaning and dyeing business up in the 400 block of Massachusetts ave. Over his door was the sign:

"Some men live to die; but J. E. Merritt dyes to live."

TWO NAMED BY GOVERNOR

Governor Gates today named two appointees to the Indiana board of harbors and terminals. They are Harry W. Frey, Michigan City, and George A. Nelson, Valparaiso.

'THE LAST SUPPER' SAFE

GLENDAL, Cal., June 13 (U.P.)—Leonardo Da Vinci's famed painting of "The Last Supper" escaped damage from bombs which fell about it at Milan, Italy, Forest Lawn Memorial park officials learned today.

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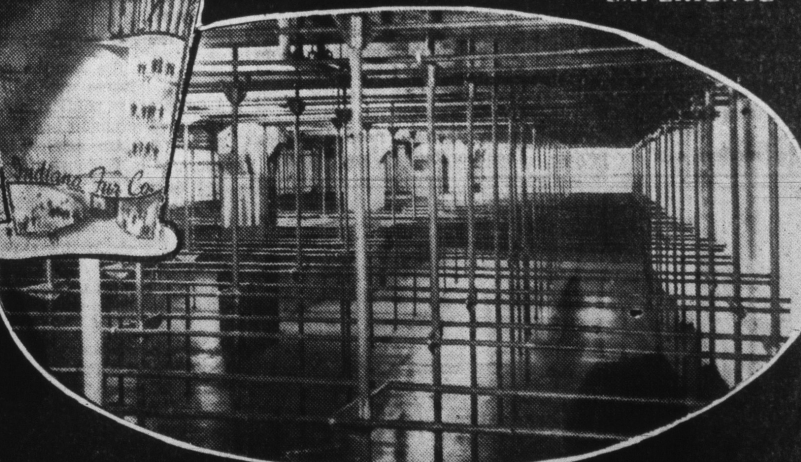
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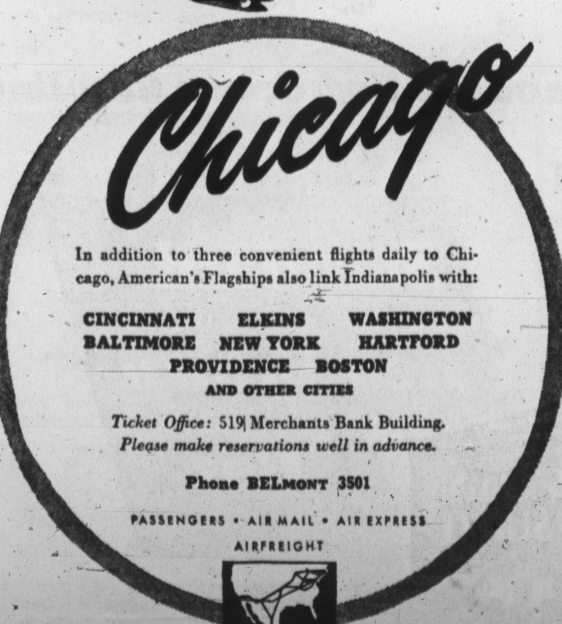
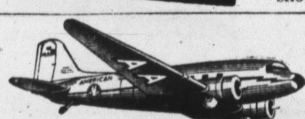


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