

## TRUMAN WAGE PLAN REJECTED

U. S. Steel Turns Down Wage Proposal.

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and representatives of nearly 300,000 striking packhouse workers. The panel will begin formal hearings in Chicago next Tuesday.

At the first of a scheduled series of conferences with Labor Secretary Lewis B. Schwellenbach, the unions indicated they were standing pat on wage demands.

A company-wide strike against Western Electric Co., manufacturing subsidiary of American Telephone and Telegraph, appeared inevitable. Leaders of the independent union said it was a foregone conclusion that the company's 50,000 non-striking employees would vote for a strike within the next two days.

Washington Phones Are Back

In another telephone dispute, a strike of 3000 Washington operators was settled last night and normal service resumed today. The work stoppage had been called to protest what operators called "sweatshop" working conditions.

Ford Motor Co. officials disclosed yesterday that the company was bettering its 1946 production schedules giving rise to the belief that a settlement might come soon between Ford and the C. I. O. auto workers.

Union and Ford representatives met yesterday in an amicable, two-hour session and a U. A. W. spokesman revealed that a "top drawer secret" concerning wages had been discussed.

Vote Set for Tuesday

Meanwhile, the house labor committee agreed to vote by next Tuesday on President Truman's bill to legalize fact-finding boards in labor disputes. Senator James O. Eastland (D. Miss.), introduced a resolution whereby the senate would begin immediate consideration of a companion measure.

In Cleveland the pressmen's strike which has left the city without daily newspapers for two weeks appeared no nearer solution today than when it started Jan. 5.

Meanwhile Emil Rieve, president of the C. I. O. Textile Workers Union, announced that some 22,000 textile workers in eight states will receive an over-all wage increase of 17.5 per cent. A contract between the textile workers union and the American Woolen Co. has been signed. Mr. Rieve announced.

23 Pickets Arraigned

In Los Angeles, 23 C. I. O. pickets arrested in a bloody battle at U. S. Motors, Inc., among 100 police and 1500 striking electrical workers will be arraigned today on charges of rioting and inciting to riot.

Police used tear gas and night sticks to disperse the pickets yesterday after they failed to head a court order limiting pickets to four at each gate and refused to open the line for 50 police workers.

Meanwhile the Screen Employees Guild voted today to set up picket lines around six movie studios which it said have refused since the eight-month movie strike ended last fall to recognize it as bargaining agent for office employees.

Guild officers said that they hadn't decided when or where the picket lines would be formed.

For the second straight day members of the Independent Packinghouse Workers union were escorted through a C. I. O. picket line into the Swift & Co. plant at Kansas City, Kas., today.

## OPA KEEPS CHECK ON MEAT PRICES

The possibility of overcharges for meats during the threatened shortage is being checked by OPA representatives throughout the state.

Persons in Marion county or Indianapolis who think they are being overcharged for meats should report the suspected violation to the Marion county price control board, 47 S. Pennsylvania st. In other parts of the state suspected violations should be reported to the price control boards in the respective areas.

Addison M. Dowling, chief OPA enforcement attorney for the Indiana district, pointed out that the penalty for selling meat at over-charging prices may be three times the amount of the overcharge or \$50 whichever is the larger.

## PLAN POST-WAR UNIT OF INDIANA C. A. P.

Although federal funds will be exhausted March 31, the Indiana wing of the civil air patrol will continue a post-war organization to preach the gospel of air power as a first line of defense.

Wing Commander Walker W. Winslow today outlined to unit commanders results of a recent Washington conference of the 48 wing commanders. The group met with Generals Carl Spaatz and H. H. Arnold of the army air forces. Both urged C. A. P. wings throughout the nation to "continue the vital missions they have provided during the war years."

Col. Winslow was appointed a member of a national planning committee to study post-war C. A. P. activities and report to the army forces.

## MINISTER'S RITES HELD

WARSAW, Ind., Jan. 18 (U. P.)—Funeral services were held today for the Rev. V. Hammer, pastor of the Evangelical church at Syracuse from 1941 to 1943. Rev. Hammer resigned from the pastorate to enter the army as a chaplain.

## Speakers at Housing Conference



Speakers seeking a solution to the housing shortage at the state housing conference (left to right) Henry E. Selbmann, state commander of the American Legion; Rep. Earl B. Teckmeyer, representing the building industry; George C. Wright, representing civil development.

## U. S. HOUSING CONTROL HIT

Take Lid Off Prices' One Spokesman Says.

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The housing situation is worse than at any time during the war.

Mr. Teckmeyer, who represented the Indianapolis Home Builders association, said the detrimental factors in the crisis were: Thousands of homes removed from rental market because of unjustly low rent ceilings; share-the-house program has fallen down because of OPA's fixing rents unreasonably low; remodeling of old properties halted because those who tried it found venture unprofitable as result of OPA controls.

The principal speaker at the luncheon in the Claypool hotel was Clarence Farrier, technical director of the national housing agency. Other speakers were Mayor F. Kenneth Dempsey of South Bend and John Acker, secretary of the state federation of labor.

State Will Aid

At the session opened, Governor Gates declared:

"The state of Indiana is not going to provide homes to solve the critical housing shortage . . . but will go all out in an effort to find a solution to the problem."

"This conference is just another effort on behalf of the state to provide the research, the planning and the scientific knowledge which will help local communities to accomplish their ends."

He described the meeting as "purely exploratory" and warned against hopes for any immediate solution to the No. 1 post-war problem.

Individuals were invited to "speak up" on their problems at the afternoon panel discussion.

## Pfc. Ferguson Is At Parents' Home

JOHN LAWRENCE FERGUSON has been discharged from the army after overseas service and is at home with his parents, Dr. John B. Ferguson and Mrs. Ferguson.

Mr. Ferguson was awarded three bronze stars, was with Gen. Douglas MacArthur in the Leyte Invasion and also was on New



Mr. Ferguson

Guinea. He returned home from private first class. Dr. Ferguson is pastor of the Irvington Presbyterian church and the family residence is at 312 N. Ritter ave.

Other speakers were Mrs. Louis R. Markun, Mrs. Anna Bobbinger and Mrs. Elias C. Atkins.

## ROAD 158 CLOSED FOR BRIDGE REPAIR

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Closing of road 158 west of Bedford for bridge repair was the only change in the detour picture in the state, the highway commission reported today. A detour on road 46 on the west outskirts of Greensburg was lifted after completion of repairs to the railroad crossing there.

Roads currently closed on account of construction are:

Ind. 1—Closed 1 mile south of Penns Valley, 12 miles west of 26, 303 and 22.

Ind. 128—Closed from Oct. 13 to Oct. 5; detour over 13, 20 and 5.

Ind. 158—Closed 1 mile west of Bedford for bridge repair; detour 6.7 miles over 450 and county road.

Ind. 163 and 164—Closed just east of Ind. 158—Bridge out; detour 30 miles over 45, 84 and 145.

Ind. 258—Closed 1 mile west of Seymour for bridge repair; detour 4 miles over county gravel roads.

29.50\*

\*plus 20% excise tax

Handbags, Street Floor

## STRIKE LOSSES \$60 MILLION DAY

### Estimate Covers Industries Hit or Threatened.

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on the way to 375,000 men to be employed at high level production. All 375,000 had been eligible to vote in the G. M. strike poll, but a large number had been laid off temporarily while plants were being reconverted.

Estimates of the wage loss have run \$8 million to \$9 million a week—a \$75 million or so total by now.

But the economic loss goes further. Among workers it means not merely wages discontinued but a dip into savings—savings which in turn might have been going to buy new autos, washing machines, radios, etc.

It also means losses of jobs for a vast number of salesmen and other members of the distributing organization, and loss in volume of transportation by rail or truck. And economists say it means also losses in the supplies and parts industries—that so interdependent are the various segments of industry today that dropping a pebble in the pool starts a flow of ripples which spreads far.

Steel Industry Losses

The production loss in steel—if a strike is not prevented—would be much greater than the G. M. loss and would be more disturbing to the nation, economists say. Many steel fabricating industries, which do not carry more than a 30-day backlog of supplies, would be pinched within that time, steel people assert.

The 1944 steel output was priced at nearly \$6.8 billion. That's about \$550 million per month or \$21 million worth of steel turned out each working day. The steel industry's wage bill is about \$100 million a month, spread over 400 plants of 275 steel companies. Annual steel capacity is about 95.5 million tons. November production was 6.2 million tons. The finished steel price per pound in December was 2.4 cents.

The average hourly earning for about 450,000 employees in steel is \$1.12.

Packing Industry

America's packing industry, now on strike, turns out an annual product worth \$5.5 to \$6 billion—not far from the dollar value of the steel output. About 75 per cent of this money goes back to the farmer who supplies the cattle, hogs and sheep, and who today must keep his stock, on the range or in feeding pens because the big packing houses cannot take his shipments.

"I may be sticking my neck out," the chaplain said, "but one of the spokesmen in the Pacific for demobilization was a 28-pointer."

Only with a strong occupational clause in the Pacific and in Europe can peace be established, he emphasized.

The men who served their country have returned to strikes, a generally bad political situation and confusion that they did not expect. The same prejudices exist and the outcome of this battle for peace can be found only in more tolerance and understanding, Chaplain Hughes told the audience.

The federation will support the Marion County Tuberculosis association's drive for new buildings, and also will endorse a bureau of air pollution control to rid the city of smoke, dust and ashes. Governor Gates' proposal to turn Bunker Hill over to the establishment of a children's institution also was backed by the group.

Other speakers were Mrs. Louis R. Markun, Mrs. Anna Bobbinger and Mrs. Elias C. Atkins.

REQUEST TO CALL CHURCHILL REJECTED

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parallel U. S. and British warnings to Japan against further aggression.

Rep. John W. Murphy (D. Pa.) protested that "it ill behoves" the committee not to let Mr. Churchill have the rest for which he came to the United States.

Senator Scott W. Lucas (D. Ill.) said he didn't think it was "fair" to call a citizen of another country.

"The Republicans have utterly failed to find what they set out to find and now they're on a fishing expedition," he said. "They're looking for headlines."

Rep. Murphy told reporters he didn't think that questioning of Mr. Churchill about the Atlantic conference could contribute anything to the Pearl Harbor inquiry.

He pointed out that the committee already has heard former Secretary of State Cordell Hull and others who were at the Atlantic conference.

Remote Possibility

Mr. Barkley interrupted examination of Adm. Husband E. Kimmel, commander of the Pacific fleet at the time of the Pearl Harbor attack, to take the vote on calling Churchill.

Adm. Kimmel, testifying for the fourth consecutive day, repeated his statement that as of Dec. 7, 1941, he didn't think a Japanese attack on any United States possession was more than "a remote possibility."

He said that as time went on after receipt of a war warning message from Washington on Nov. 27 he thought the possibility of Japanese aggression was growing less likely.

Even if war did come, he thought it would be in the Far East rather than in the Hawaiian area.

THE ASSISTANT street commissioners believes his department needs "at least" 10 trucks, three new truck chassis, two more power sweepers, three more flushers (two are already on order), 15 additional laborers.

Some of the cleaners, idling around the shops yesterday, charged garbage and ashes spilled from city collection trucks, complicated their tasks.

WARMTH

WARMTH