

WASHINGTON *Calling*

A Weekly Sizeup by the Washington Staff of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers

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eastern Europe's foreign commerce can clear. Italy will lose Tyrol to Austria, to which country it really belongs, but Italy probably will go to Yugoslavia.

The 18 lesser nations will be permitted to sit in on what is to be called a "world peace conference," probably starting about May 1. But major decisions of the Big Three will not be greatly changed.

Finally, U. S. will almost certainly clear out of both Germany and Japan much sooner than most people now realize.

Anti-Trust Division Eyes Building

NEW JUSTICE DEPARTMENT campaign to reduce building costs may be in making. Anti-trust division is re-examining industry to determine whether restrictive practices it found before the war are still widespread. Attorney General Clark is ready to give go-ahead if investigation turns up enough evidence.

Three cases are still hanging over from anti-trust war started in 1939-40 by Thurman Arnold: Suit against San Francisco Millwork Manufacturers and Carpenters' union for excluding outside products (scheduled for re-argument before the supreme court); another against national wide plumbing groups, to be tried in Cleveland this fall; third in District of Columbia against gypsum board manufacturers.

House judiciary committee is planning hearings on Monroney bill to make anti-trust laws applicable to unions. Passage would give justice department new weapon against "make-work" union rules and other restrictive practices.

It's intended to offset supreme court decision which excluded unions from anti-trust action and partly wrecked Arnold campaign.

Axis in South America

SPRUELL BRADEN, assistant secretary of state, probably will testify before senate's Kilgore committee late this month on axis penetration in South America, and what's being done about it.

A little later committee probably will hear from Russell Nixon, formerly U. S. member of German external property commission, created in Berlin by allied control council.

Mr. Nixon, before leaving Germany, criticized state department so severely for its alleged "protection" of German external assets that the department issued a long denial.

Locks and Oil Reserves

SENATE hears that Secretary Ickes has asked President Truman to give interior department entire control of government oil reserves and leases when he resigns. It probably will be debated when Pauley nomination to be undersecretary of navy is up for confirmation. Navy now shares interior's authority.

NOTE: Senate filibuster on Fair employment practices bill prevented Pauley nomination and others from being referred to committee, may cause considerable delay.

APPLICATIONS for priorities under new homes-for-veterans program show lower cost estimates than some officials had expected.

Out of first 6500 applications, nearly half were for homes to sell at \$7500 or less, or to rent for \$60 a month or less.

And these first reports came mostly from large cities where costs are generally higher.

Market Speculation

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD'S hope of tougher tax policy to keep speculators out of stock markets and real estate has little chance.

What's really needed, board thinks, is increase in capital gains tax or in the period an investment must be kept before profits are taxed at low capital gains rate.

It works this way: If you buy a stock and hold it six months, you pay a 25 per cent capital gains tax on your profits. If you sell before six months, you pay

thinks he's Dillinger off the screen, too. He waited for me outside and then jumped me."

After the Kent-Tierney scuffle, Miss Robinson said, Tierney took a poke at Colt.

"I got furious when I saw Sammy covered with blood," said Miss Barrymore.

Louisiana Politics

LOUISIANA "Reformers," who took state government control from Huey Long machine but never have been able to win in New Orleans, will try to elect Mayor Bob Maestri in city election Tuesday.

Their candidate is a young world war II veteran, Deleseppe Morrison. "Old regular" Democratic city organization, which Mr. Maestri heads, has not lost a municipal election in a generation. It fought Long for years, then joined forces with him, and in recent years has been nucleus of Long faction in state politics.

"Old regulars" have played ball with New Deal in national politics. They helped quash southern "electoral revolt" against Mr. Roosevelt last fall.

If Mayor Maestri is defeated, it will boost chances of conservative ex-Governor Sam Jones for the U. S. senate. He would like to oppose Senator Ellender, veteran Huey Long lieutenant, in 1948.

Some Left Early

"There are fights around here all the time, almost every night," Host Decker said. "Certainly there was drinking. What would a party be like without drinking? We had a nice party."

Flynn, who has figured in a number of other Hollywood fights, was not involved in this one. He and his wife, Nora Edgington, went home early.

Other party guests, gone by the time the flimflam fireworks started, included Ida Lupino, Paulette Goddard, Burgess Meredith, Merle Oberon, Jennifer Jones, David O. Selznick, Ben Hecht, Alan Mowbray and Harpo Marx.

5th Command Is Accused of 'Blunder' in Battle Order

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cross the Rapido to be made north of the village of Cassino, where the river was fordable and where a crossing later was made successfully by the 34th division.

Gen. Walker later said that the original plan was for the British to take heights on the left of the German position and the French the heights on the right. Neither the British nor the French succeeded.

"Then we were ordered to cross the Rapido anyway," Gen. Walker said.

A war department spokesman said that without the Rapido maneuver, the landing at Anzio Jan. 22, 1944, would have failed. The Anzio beachhead yielded eventually the capture of Rome and contributed to victory in Italy, he said.

The 5th army was ordered to make an assault, he said, and added: "The spearhead unit invariably suffers. In most instances its losses seem disproportionate. It is only in the over-all view that such losses assume their true perspective."

Over-All Plan

"The Rapido river operation was part of the over-all plan."

"At the same time the landing was being made at Anzio."

"At the same time also other elements of the 5th and 8th armies were engaged in operations designed to contain the Germans on the southern front in order, first, to prevent the diversion of troops to oppose the Anzio landing and, second, to destroy the German forces in the Liri valley."

"Possession by the enemy of the high ground on either side of the 36th division attack, the failure of the 10th corps in its crossing and the tenacious resistance which slowed down the French attack to the north were all factors in this failure to cross the Rapido."

Heavily Mined

The entire area across the river had been heavily mined. Barbed wire was thick and deep. Covering mortars and machine guns were supported by light and heavy artillery.

Patrols went out to bring in the wounded and never returned. Men in assault boats were mowed down. Hundreds were killed or wounded in the desperate crossing itself.

Some got across. But they were pinned down by fire. They had to return—those who could.

One surviving officer said: "I believe it is high time that responsibility for such ruthless sacrifices of human life be placed directly where it belongs—on the blunders of those who order such unsound attacks even after the information from troop commanders in position to know better than anyone points out their futility."

Most of the men of the 36th were Texans. Gen. Walker's home is at Columbus, O. After the capture of Rome he was transferred to Ft. Benning, Ga. He now is director of military training, army service forces, Washington.

IRAN-RUSS TIF SLATED FOR UNO

Iranian Delegate to Bring Up Court's First Case.

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Soviet news agency Tass as reporting a threat of a second rebellion in south-central Iran—a case resembling in many respects the uprising in the northern province of Azerbaijan around which the Russian-Iranian dispute revolved.

Moscow said Iranian tribesmen had protested to Tehran against the activity of their provincial governor, and had warned that it would not be rebellion if they should defend themselves with all the force at their command.

Earlier today, French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault announced that France was willing to study plans for placing her African mandates under UNO trusteeship, but failed to make an outright offer of trusteeship.

Proposes Transfer

Bidault gave the United Nations assembly only qualified French acceptance of proposals that nations holding old League of Nations mandates should turn them over to UNO trusteeship. Britain, New Zealand and Australia have already offered to surrender their mandates.

French mandates in Africa are French Cameroon and French Togoland, both former German colonies on the west African coast which were handed to France as class B mandates in 1922.

Before Bidault spoke, the Lebanon delegate, Hamid Bey Frangie, appealed for withdrawal of French and British troops from Syria and Lebanon. Both countries are former French mandates.

Kaiser Accepts Truman Steel Wage Plan, But Nation-Wide Walkout Is Under Way

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management can we ride the perilous seas ahead."

The steel walkout had begun at Pittsburgh where Jones & Laughlin, giant independent producer, was hit by a wildcat strike that was expected to affect some 9000 workers and shut down all operations by today.

The strike spread to the company's Allegheny works by mid-morning. No pickets appeared but the plant's 9300 workers left their tasks and the company reported all operations would be halted by 4 p. m.

Approximately 2500 steelworkers had left their jobs at the Pittsburgh, Cal., plant of the Columbia Steel Co.

Another 400 Crucible Steel and 1200 Robertshaw workers were idle in Pennsylvania in unrelated strikes.

Prepare for Shutdown

Mills in the Chicago-Calumet area began banking their furnaces immediately following the breakdown in negotiations, laying off thousands of workers.

The Carnegie-Illinois plant at Gary, Ind., kept only two blast furnaces and two ovens operating to provide gas and power for commercial and residential use.

One Carnegie plant at South Chicago and two at Gary laid off 2500 workers yesterday and said 4000 more would follow today. Layoffs also were scheduled to start today at the Indiana Harbor plants of Inland Steel and Youngstown Sheet & Tube and at Republic Steel's South Chicago plant.

Urges Reconsideration

After the White House announced the company and union decisions yesterday, Mr. Truman issued a statement again urging the company to accept. Corporation representatives here did not know

whether there would be a formal reply. Little hope was held for acceptance, however.

Elsewhere on the stormy reconversion scene:

ONE: Hope for quick settlement of the meat strike faded as government-sponsored conferences ended in a deadlock. A fact-finding board prepared to begin public hearings in Chicago.

TWO: No attempt at negotiation was reported in the five-day strike of 200,000 C. I. O. electrical workers against General Electric, Westinghouse and General Motors' appliance division.

THREE: Picket line skirmishes were reported between strikers and non-strikers in Kansas City, Kas., Los Angeles and New York City.

Counted on Steel

Government labor leaders had hoped that a steel agreement might pave the way to settling mass walkouts in the electrical, automotive and meat packing industries. Instead, they faced a situation in which more than 1,600,000 U. S. workers would be idled by strikes within the next two days.

Administration leaders plainly were dismayed at the rebuff from U. S. Steel, pace-setter for the industry. Mr. Truman warned that a steel strike would "be felt in practically every major industry" in the country.

Its repercussions, he said, would be felt "for a long time to come."

Move to Conserve Steel

The civilian production administration, meanwhile, moved to conserve existing steel stockpiles for essential needs by setting up a voluntary rationing program.

Administrator John D. Small said that if the voluntary plan does not work, he will issue emergency rationings for vital industries and services. These include hospitals, pub-

lic utilities, transportation and food processing.

He emphasized that warehouse steel stocks would meet the country's demands for "a very short time."

Civilian meat supplies continued to dwindle rapidly, as nearly 300,000 A. F. of L. and C. I. O. packing-house workers struck for the fourth day over wage demands. A widespread meat blackmarket threatened.

Pickets Restrained

A temporary restraining order prohibiting C. I. O. picketing of the Swift & Co. plant in Kansas City, Kas., was issued last night after violence was reported. Similar court orders were issued against striking C. I. O. electrical workers in Cleveland and Western Union workers in Jersey City, N. J.

C. I. O. President Murray cited the industry's rejection of President Truman's wage plan as evidence of the "evil conspiracy among American big business."

He said the steel industry's action—combined with that taken by General Motors in refusing to comply with a recommendation of the President's fact-finding panel—"should clarify for the American people the issue which has been drawn."

Benjamin F. Fairless, president of U. S. Steel, said he had been forced to turn down the proposal because of the "injurious effect upon American industry of an unjustified wage increase in the steel industry."

Mr. Murray first had demanded a 35-cent hourly raise for his steelworkers, then scaled it down to 19½ cents. Mr. Fairless originally had offered 13½ cents, then boosted it to 15. They had been unable to bridge the final 4½-cent gap.

SATURDAY PROBE PLAIN

State and F Seek Dis

CHESHIRE, P.—A five-man jury launched today an Eastern trial which killed three crew mem-

Officials of a civil aviation state aviation country corner joined in disaster.

The two bound from Miami on the last leg, plummeted to the wooded section of the country's airway.

All of the occupants were burned but survived.

Hundreds

The plane was 1500 feet altitude when it was caught. It flew for a few seconds before it crashed.

Witnesses near the crash site said the plane was in a steep climb when it crashed.

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