

# U. S. Considers Army as Strip Mine Operators

## Repercussion Fears Slow Decision

By PAUL R. LEACH  
Times Special Writer  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—Gov-  
ernment heads are considering  
having the army operate strip coal  
mines, but only as an absolute last  
resort.

Army engineers could keep the  
strip mines going,  
as do the present  
owners, by using  
larger power  
equipment and beam  
breakers. Strip  
mines are those  
in which coal is  
close to the sur-  
face. Shafts, tun-  
nels, deep mining  
experience, are  
not essential.

The big ques-  
tion back of any such employment  
of government operation is whether  
it would provoke a sympathetic  
transportation strike, if not a gen-  
eral walkout of organized labor.

Combined with coal from pit  
mines that are not struck, it is es-  
timated that with army strip min-  
ing help, 550,000 tons a day, much  
of it low grade, could be produced.

The pre-strike average of soft  
coal production was about two mil-  
lion tons daily.

### Hair Turns Grey

This emergency coal would, with  
the help of oil and gas, give the  
coal-using parts of the country  
minimum relief from freezing, but  
there would be little left for in-  
dustry.

There is where the government  
hair begins to turn grey. The prob-  
lems are physical as well as po-  
litical.

Some of the strip-mined coal  
could be hauled by army trucks.  
But the army lacks sufficient driv-  
ers and maintenance mechanics for  
any long range or sustained haul-  
ing.

Would union truck drivers haul  
the army-mined coal, or walk off  
their jobs?

### Rumors of Help

A. F. Whitney, president of the  
brotherhood of railway trainmen,  
is a sworn enemy of the Truman  
administration.

It is doubtful Mr. Whitney would  
permit his railroaders to haul  
army-mined coal.

There have rumors here that  
Philip Murray's C. I. O. unions  
might try to clear up the coal strike,  
thereby aiding the government. In  
the recent C. I. O. convention, Mr.  
Murray's people joined the A. F.  
of L. and the mine workers in con-  
demning court injunctions.

The C. I. O. also is seeking to join  
in Mr. Lewis' appeal against the in-  
junction, but that is as far as the  
C. I. O. has gone in backing up the  
strike.

### Workers Laid Off

Meanwhile, during the 14-day  
coal strike, C. I. O. workmen in big  
and little industries have been laid  
off in increasingly large numbers.  
They are being hurt individually,  
because steel and automobiles can-  
not be made without coal. Their  
unions are losing dues and revenue.

But would the C. I. O. unions sup-  
port the government if it sought to  
break the U. M. W. by using the  
army?

Another angle of worry for the  
government in considering army  
mining, is the possibility of sym-  
pathetic strikes by oil field and  
refinery workers.

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and The Chicago Daily News, Inc.

# Minnesota Double Slaying Bared

NEW ULM, Minn., Dec. 6 (U. P.).  
—Watonwan County Sheriff I. M.  
Berg has returned to St. James,  
Minn., with Edgerton Johnson, 38,  
who, police said, admitted the shot-  
gun slayings of his brother and 75-  
year-old aunt.

The bodies of Mrs. Mary Uhlhorn  
and John Johnson, 37, were found  
earlier today on the Uhlhorn farm,  
after Keith Thompson, a neighbor,  
investigated the lack of activity  
around the place.

Mr. Thompson found the body of  
John in a milkhouse, and called  
Constable William Juhnke of Dar-  
fur to investigate with him. They  
entered the farmhouse and found  
the body of Mrs. Uhlhorn.

Both had been shot with a shot-  
gun.

## U. S.-Australia Flights Planned

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 6 (U. P.).  
—Pan-American World Airways an-  
nounced today it is drawing up  
tentative schedules, fares and flight  
frequencies for direct, one-carrier  
service between the United States  
and Australia.

The new service will operate be-  
tween San Francisco and Sydney  
via Honolulu.

### 1948 ORDERS CANCELLED

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 6 (U. P.).  
—Charles E. Wilson, president of  
General Motors, said today he was  
"fed up with Reuther-Lewis Chris-  
tians" and announced cancellation  
of G. M. orders for dies for 1948  
Chevrolets, Oldsmobiles and Pontiac  
models.

### WISCONSIN BANK ROBBED

WITHEE, Wis., Dec. 6 (U. P.).  
—A gunman with his face swathed  
in bandages held up the state bank  
of Withee during the lunch hour  
yesterday, and bank officials said  
he escaped with at least \$3000 in  
cash.

## Vincennes Teachers Promised \$50 Bonus

VINCENNES, Ind., Dec. 6 (U. P.).  
—School teachers in Vincennes  
public schools will receive a \$50  
bonus in lieu of immediate salary  
increases.

The teachers petitioned the city  
school board to put salary boosts  
which are scheduled to go into ef-  
fect next year into their checks  
Jan. 1, 1947.

Supt. Ralph Banks said it was  
impossible to make sudden pay in-  
creases. He said the \$50 bonus at  
the end of the school year would be  
given each teacher instead.

## Friends Respond In Fire Tragedy

KOKOMO, Ind., Dec. 6 (U. P.).  
—Money, clothing, furniture and the  
free services of the city's construc-  
tion workers were promised Paul  
Abney and his wife today. The  
promise was made by warm-hearted  
neighbors planning to replace the  
couple's burned out home, with a  
four-room bungalow.

The Abneys lost their two chil-  
dren, Sandra Lee, 2, and Paul Jr.,  
one month, in a fire Tuesday which

levelled the tar-paper shack in  
which they lived.

Only the selection of a site and  
materials holds up the building pro-  
gram, Everett McClain, chairman  
of the arrangements committee,  
said yesterday.

More than \$800 in cash has been  
donated for the Abney's use, plus  
numerous gifts of furniture and  
clothing. The Kokomo Building  
Trades Council and the Fraternal  
Order of Police have volunteered  
their services for the construction  
work.

Mr. Abney, a foundry worker, and  
his wife now are living with his  
parents.

## Griffith Urges U. S. 'Realism'

National Commander Paul Grif-  
fith of the American Legion said  
today that America must perma-  
nently rid itself of its "traditional  
innocence in international affairs."  
In a statement issued from Amer-  
ican Legion national headquarters  
as the fifth anniversary of Pearl  
Harbor neared, Mr. Griffith at-  
tacked what he called America's

"innocent belief that goodness be-  
gets goodness."

"From now on we must be grimly  
realistic," the Legion commander  
said. "We must never again be  
naive enough not to be prepared  
for the worst. Just because we  
never plot to attack other nations  
is no guarantee that others are  
filled with this same spirit of good  
neighborliness."

Mr. Griffith said young American  
men must be trained for defense in  
advance and that the nation must  
hold on to strategic defense bases.  
"Until a world security organiza-  
tion has proved itself effective in  
preventing major wars, we must  
place our dependence in our own  
strength," he said.

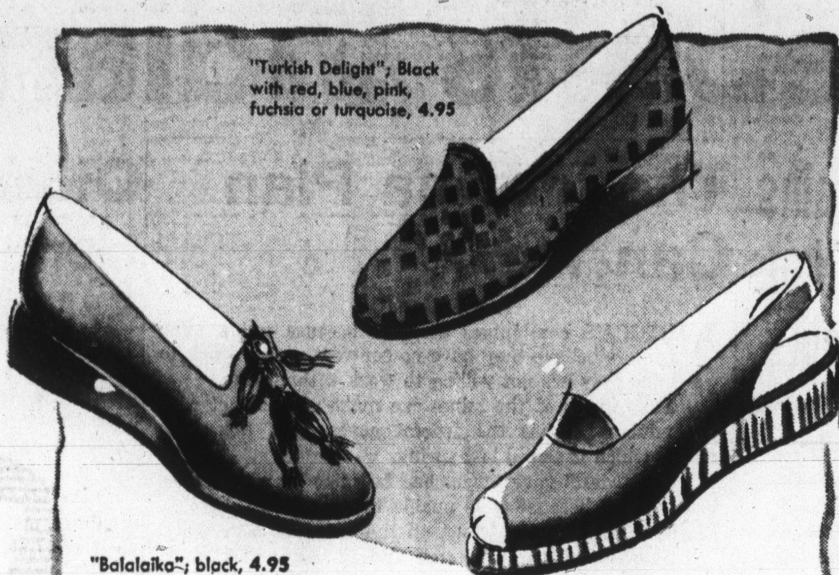
## Girl, 17, Freed In Boy's Death

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 6 (U.  
P.).—Katherine Wanstreet, 17, con-  
sidered re-enrolling in school today  
after being freed of murder charges  
in connection with the drowning of  
an 8-year-old crippled boy.  
The girl originally told police  
that she pulled Ross Key Jr., a  
neighbor, into the Blue river Nov.  
4 and drowned him after he had  
thrown rocks into her basket of  
clean laundry. When the boy's body  
was recovered three weeks later she

told reporters it proved she "wasn't  
a liar."

Justice Samuel Hayden dismissed  
the charges after hearing a witness  
testify that strong currents would  
have prevented Katherine from  
leading the boy into the river and  
getting out safely herself, as she  
related. Other witnesses told of  
being with Katherine, far from the  
river, at the time the boy disap-  
peared.

"I feel like I inherited five million  
dollars," she said after hearing the  
judge's decision. She had pleaded  
innocent. She said she might en-  
roll in a school and continue her  
education which was interrupted  
after the seventh grade.



## Gift-Minded Slippers by Joyce

Here are three gay ways to say "Merry  
Christmas" in a manner long to be remembered!  
From our large collection of slippers styled to  
match her lounging costume... her holiday mood!

Slippers, Second Floor

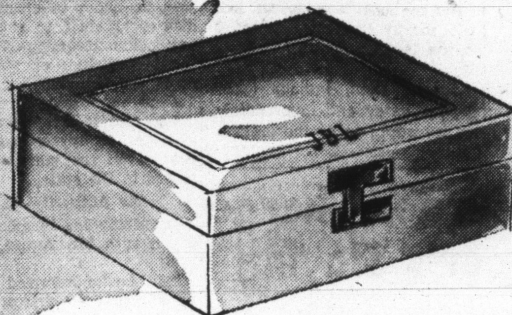


## White Tunic for Her Suit

5.95

Blouse by Rojay—to give her suit a special  
occasion look; to party-fy her separate skirt.  
In frost-fine white rayon sheer with delicate  
tuckings and lace accents. Misses' sizes.

Neckwear, Street Floor



## Genuine Leather Jewel Boxes

Complete with Initials, 4.95

College girl's delight! Complete with lock and  
key. Shelf-tray top; felt-lined. Initialing done  
while you wait without charge. In ivory, red,  
brown, rose or blue with gilt band.

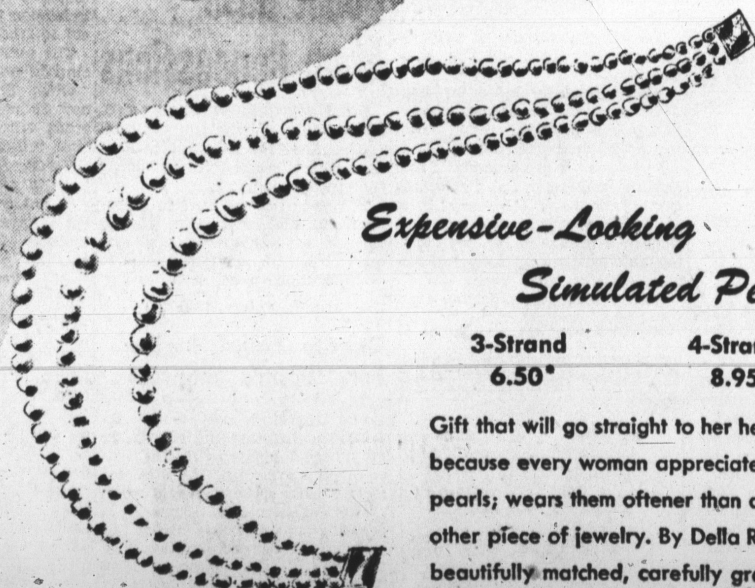
Leather Goods, Street Floor



## Creations by Yodthcraft

Skillfully styled in lastex to mould the junior  
figure in young and lovely lines. White, light  
blue or black in small, medium and large sizes.  
Panty girdle, 5.50; Girdle (not sketched) 5.00;  
Nylon brassiere, 2.00

Tiptoe Lingerie, Second Floor



## Expensive-Looking Simulated Pearls

3-Strand  
6.50\*

4-Strand  
8.95\*

Gift that will go straight to her heart  
because every woman appreciates  
pearls; wears them oftener than any  
other piece of jewelry. By Della Robbia;  
beautifully matched, carefully graduated.

\*Plus 20% Tax Costume Jewelry, Street Floor

L. S. Ayres & Co.