

Dimout Ordered Extended Monday To All Areas Of U.S.

End Priority On Iron, Steel In Coal Crisis

Non-Union Strip Mines Offered Federal Aid

By EULALIE McDOWELL
United Press Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (U. P.).—Coal-saving restrictions pinched tighter throughout the nation today. The government pushed harder its program to conserve fast-dwindling coal stocks for the essentials of living.

With the country already under a freight embargo and other tight restrictions, the government yesterday took these further conservation steps:

ONE: Announced that the dimout of non-essential lighting would be extended on Monday to all areas of the country depending on coal-burning utilities.

TWO: Halted iron and steel priorities because of reduced supplies. This will hit the housing program hardest.

THREE: Commanded the bituminous coke supply for the most essential uses.

FOUR: Offered special assistance to strip mine operators in obtaining government-owned surplus mining equipment. Some non-union strip mines are still operating and it was hoped additional equipment would increase their production.

FIVE: Prohibited suppliers of electricity from using or disposing of any coal in excess of a 60 days supply.

SIX: Directed the army to turn over 250,000 tons of coal for civilian use.

Dimout Extended to All States
The dimout now applies in 21 states and the District of Columbia. The new order will extend it to every state in the nation.

There are about 12 states which use fuel other than coal for power and these will not be affected appreciably. But even in these states, any isolated areas which have coal-burning utilities will be placed under dimout restrictions.

The extension mainly will affect the southeastern states, which have been free of restrictions heretofore because of the hydro-electric facilities which supplement coal-generated power plants in those areas.

Now, however, hydro-electric power will be siphoned from the southeast to the northern coastal states and the southeast will go on short power rations.

'Mother Kneel With Children'

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Girls in Blue and "Song of the South" at nearby movie houses. A gala world premiere of "Song of the South" was held here a few weeks ago.

Cotton mattresses smoldered. But some curtains still fluttered unscathed out the paneless windows.

Every wall was burned off to the tile base. Every mirror had shattered under the heat. Water ran ankle deep through every corridor. Stalled elevators hung at crazy angles.

And the starkest tragedy of them all—a woman and her three small children in a bathroom. She had knelt in final prayer with her children clutching at her nightgown. They could have been asphyxiated.

Four bobby-sox girls were found in a single room. The only mark on them was the horror on their faces.

Pitiful evidence of somebody's temporary residence was found in every room. A pair of nylon slippers under a dresser. A box full of children's Christmas playthings and the little toy soldiers were covered with soot.

INDIANAPOLIS CLEARING HOUSE
Clearings—Per the Day—\$ 7,012,000
Debits—18,159,000
Clearings—Per the Week—\$45,872,000
Debits—129,760,000

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PRESCRIPTIONS

"Say it with Flowers"
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TWO PROMOTED — Promotion of two top executives of RCA Victor division was announced today. Robert Erickson, above, was named plant manager of the Home Instrument department. Harold M. Emlein, below, was appointed local plant manager.

Packard Plant Here to Close

Coal Crisis Forces 2d Major Shutdown

(Continued From Page One)

plant security director in Indianapolis, appealed for extra typists, clerks and business machine operators to process an anticipated wave of unemployment compensation claims. The agency's weekly average of 3100 claimants already has been double by local layoffs.

THREE: Curtailment of evening activities in the public schools will close two hours earlier the libraries at Crispus Attucks high school and at public schools 26 and 87.

FOUR: The Indianapolis Power & Light Co. reported that revisions in the civilian production administration's curtailment order will enable it to continue current service until Dec. 29. After that, further reductions in service must be made, affecting principally reductions in lighting, elevator service and industrial and commercial power.

Mayor Tyndall, meanwhile, said he would be informed Monday whether the army would let the city have the coal pile at Camp Atterbury.

The mayor made the plea personally this morning to Lt. Gen. Manton S. Eddy, U. S. 2d army commander over long-distance telephone to Baltimore. Gen. Eddy told the mayor he would see what could be done.

Closing of Businesses Studied
The mayor said he planned to store what coal the city could borrow from the army in one of 15 empty coal yards in town.

The coal committee considered the possibility of ordering closed non-essential places of business, but first decided to check with federal authorities to determine its powers to make the order stick.

The coal survey presented by the committee to the mayor showed 20,000 tons of coal and 2500 tons of coke held by 87 dealers. This will be supplied to householders with less than 10 days' supply in their basement bins at the rate of one ton per customer.

War-time Curbs Come Back
As coal stocks dwindled in Indianapolis emergency measures reminiscent of wartime were imposed on thousands of Hoosiers.

Three neighboring cities—South Bend, Mishawaka and Elkhart—went under emergency orders banning non-essential activities as their

Terre Haute Conferences On Indiana Plan Fruitless

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level. He had no comment on a suggestion by Mr. Kern that he ask national union heads for such authority and it was inferred he had refused to take such action.

Mr. Cartwright had no statement to make on any possible stand by operators on the Indiana plan. It appeared Mr. Cartwright might have taken the attitude no commitment was necessary in view of the union's adamant stand.

Mr. Kern said he would report the outcome of today's session to Governor Gates as soon as the governor returned from Washington. D. C. He indicated he would add to his own appraisal of the plan's chance of success at that time.

Efforts to Continue
Although Mr. Kern did not enlarge on what his appraisal would be and said he would "continue to explore" the situation, his attitude appeared to be one of hopelessness. He returned to Indianapolis without attempting to confer with other union or management officials in this heart of Indiana's mining district.

The Indiana Plan was designed to renew coal production in Indiana independently of the status of national negotiations.

The plan was approved Thursday by Washington officials of the department of the interior and by spokesmen for the solid fuels administration. Key to the entire plan was agreement by the federal government to relinquish control of Indiana mines and return them to their owners if the governor's plan shows signs of success.

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Lewis Orders Miners Back To Job Monday

Hints New Strike Possible on March 31

(Continued From Page One)

tative production of coal during such period."

The supreme court met in private conference to consider the government request for a swift review of the Lewis contempt case.

This conference of the justices followed an extraordinary 75-minute meeting of Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson with government and United Mine Workers (A. F. of L.) lawyers.

Attorney General Tom C. Clark, one of those who conferred with Chief Justice Vinson, requested a quick legal showdown because the nation is threatened with "irreparable injury" by the national coal strike.

The court may announce its decision on the government request later today. If not, the decision is expected to be announced Monday.

The decision will be whether the supreme court will accept the appeal directly from the district court without action by the court of appeals.

The meeting of the full court followed by 15 minutes the conference in Chief Justice Vinson's chambers. Conferees included Mr. Clark, Assistant Attorney General John F. Sonnett, A. F. of L. Chief Counsel Joseph A. Padway and U. M. W. Attorney Welly K. Hopkins. They refused to reveal what was discussed at the conference.

The government had emphasized that speed was imperative because the strike was dragging the nation's economy to the brink of disaster.

Backing up the government's urgent request was a commerce department report made public today warning that a 90-day strike would "virtually paralyze" all major manufacturing industries, and do "irreparable damage" to the nation's welfare.

The report said about 10 million workers would be idled if the strike lasted as long as three months.

Great segments of American industry were already idle today in the 17-day-old strike. The crippling government embargo on freight shipments threatened to close thousands of plants across the nation.

Industry had no means of shipping raw materials in or finished products out. The jobless figure today was 850,000. Senator Homer Capehart (R. Ind.) predicted in New York that "millions" would be thrown out of work if the coal strike lasts 30 days. He urged President Truman and United Mine Workers Chief John L. Lewis to "sit down immediately" in an effort to settle the strike.

mayors found coal supplies almost gone.

Production in big and little industries was curtailed to save coal and many plants planned to close down completely until the crisis ended.

Some schools called off athletic events, reduced class hours and outlawed night activities. Some planned to close early for the Christmas holidays and remain shut until the fuel situation improved.

Train schedules were cut to skeleton size and new restrictions for parcel post mailing became effective.

South Bend, third largest city in Indiana and one of the state's most highly developed industrial areas, faced the threat of a complete industrial shutdown, although most plants planned to remain in operation on a limited basis.

Logansport was under stringent dim-out orders. Monticello schools closed until further notice. Lafayette found coal rationing possible but not immediately.

Some Miss Safety Nets
Although several of the pleading occupants climbed out of their windows—and seemed to pretend to be about to jump in order to gain attention of the firemen with their self-control until flames reached them.

At the fire gained in size, occupants began to be forced by the flames out of one window after another. Firemen maneuvered a net into an alley at the hotel's rear, where rooms were first being wiped out. The net caught some, but missed others.

Service men in town for the weekend, were pressed into rescue service. A Red Cross disaster station was set up outside, as well as a coffee station for the firemen and their volunteer helpers.

Thousands Jam Streets
Thousands of persons jammed the streets. As dawn came the roped off streets caused tremendous jams as streetcar and bus lines normally flow into the city along Peachtree st.

Firemen ran hoses to the top of fashionable Davison-Paxon department store, directly across Ellis st. from the Wincoff, and played water on the flames.

Grady hospital, the city's municipal institution which is only eight blocks from the fire scene, called in every doctor, nurse and orderly for emergency detail. At least 50 persons were treated for burns, broken bones and shock at Grady, alone.

HARD-TO-GET ITEMS
ARE EASY TO GET AT
Electric Fan Heaters \$16.95
Coleman Gasoline Lanterns \$9.95
Sleep-On Garbage Cans \$3.49
Ironing Boards With Pad & Cover \$5.49
Barrett HARDWARE
1005 N. WASHINGTON

113 Trapped, Screaming Guests Killed As Fire Sweeps Through Atlanta Hotel

(Continued From Page One)

the window. Others stood at their windows and screamed until they fell back choking in the flames and smoke.

Firemen used war surplus navy baskets to remove some of the dead from upper floors. They built a platform from the top floor of the hotel to an adjoining building and shuttled the bodies across.

It was discovered by an elevator operator, Rosita, who smelled smoke and notified the night manager.

Blackened Ruins
Corridors and rooms of the fifth floor—first to be examined—were blackened ruins with plaster and wallpaper littering the floors. A child's doll lay in the ruins.

Several firemen were overcome by smoke and carried to the hospital.

Fireman W. B. McDuffie, who knew that his sister, Nell, 23, had a room on the 11th floor, fought without regard for personal safety, to get high into the burning building. But he was overcome by smoke and given oxygen before he could learn that she had been saved, although hurt.

Crude, Inadequate Ropes
As firemen advanced to the upper floors, they found mute evidence of attempts to escape in almost every room. Crude and inadequate ropes had been fashioned of blankets, sheets and towels. Some had never been used. Others were tied to windowpanes or to beds that had been pushed against the windows.

Clothing and personal possessions lay on bureau tops. Dresser drawers had been pulled to the floors as trapped guests attempted to take with them what of their valuables they could salvage. But most of their possessions—jewelry, clothing, Christmas packages—lay in the debris.

Woman Plunges 200 Feet
Early in the fire, a young woman appeared at a window on the ninth floor and let down a rope of sheets she had made. Firemen begged her to wait but she was frantic with fear.

She lowered herself to a window ledge where rescuers were placing someone down a ladder. But just a few feet from safety, the sheets parted and she dropped screaming—200 feet to her death.

An ambulance driver, H. E. Crawford, Atlanta, said a 4-year-old boy dropped from an upper story of the flaming hotel and was caught by a man on the sidewalk. The boy was believed to have been only slightly injured.

Bursts Into Flames
Another woman stepped to a window ledge on one of the top floors, paused there a moment with her nightgown shining white in front of the flames. Then the garment caught fire. She leaped toward a safety net. But she missed the net, landing instead astride overhead power wires that broke her fall. There, she hung in flames, until she finally broke loose and fell to the ground.

No Premature Jumps
There was no evidence that premature jumps were made during the fire's early stages. At about 3:15 a. m., when ladders were placed for rescue from the lower windows, firemen and policemen on Ellis st. motioned and waved frantically to occupants above the flames.

These reassurances from the street appeared to forestall panic for a while. From almost the entire wall of the building, fourth floor to the 15th, came a chorus of cries for help.

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Bodies were sprawled in the hallways or in the rooms of the hotel. The legs of one body protruded from a second floor marquee overlooking Peachtree st. Firemen could not remove the remains because they feared the front wall of the building would collapse.

A milling crowd of curious spectators were driven back behind safety ropes by the police.

At 4:30 a. m. firemen turned a high pressure hose on an 11th floor room where four persons were calling for help. From the street the water appeared to be holding back the flames and protecting the quartet at least temporarily.

Survivors Given Coffee
Firemen arrived minutes after the first alarm. They brought every piece of equipment, including hooks and ladders, lower pressure pumps and rescue nets. This has been standard routine for every downtown alarm since a disastrous fire in the Cable Piano Co. here several years ago when a number of persons perished.

It was charged afterward that slowness in getting equipment to the scene caused the flames to get out of control.

Survivors were given coffee and shelter at adjoining hotels, the Ansley, Piedmont and Henry Grady. All within a two block area of the Wincoff.

Scores raced from the blazing brick structure in their night clothes in near freezing weather.

Two unidentified young women, about 18 and 20, were trapped on the 12th floor front of the building. Silhouetted by flames, they beckoned to the crowd below as if they were trying to make certain they were seen.

Baby Girl, 2, Saved
One man burned to death on the sixth floor while waiting for firemen to rescue him. One minute he was standing there watching and waiting. The next his clothing caught fire and he collapsed into the enveloping flames.

A couple on the fifth floor found their escape to the ground cut off by flames. In the bed with them was their curly-haired 2-year-old daughter. They scooped the child up and held her out the window, high over the street, protecting her from the heat. All of them were rescued.

Others were not so lucky. The first person to plunge to death was a girl of about 14.

Clothe-A-Child Donors Are Your Good Neighbors

(Continued From Page One)

which you can become a Clothe-A-Child patron.

ONE: Today mail a check or make a cash contribution to the Clothe-A-Child fund. Your money will be used by expert Times shoppers to buy substantial garments for needy children. Checks and contributions should be mailed to Clothe-A-Child at 214 W. Maryland st.

TWO: Make an appointment to clothe a child yourself. Call RI-5551 and set a date to take a child out to the stores and outfit him.

And, when you pass the Mile-O-Dimes in front of L. S. Ayres, put a shiny coin on the line. The fund will be used to outfit children whom Santa Claus forgets, but the Indianapolis Times Clothe-A-Child remembers.

Yesterday a slight, white-haired woman who looked like somebody's mother came to The Times Clothe-

A-Child office. She and her husband wanted to outfit a little boy on her husband's day off.

"I take to boys," she confided, "you see, I had five boys—but they're all gone now."

Another woman who took out a tow-headed youngster brought him back a new boy . . . his jagged jacket had turned into a new brown snowsuit and in a fur mitten he clutched a shiny airplane.

In her mind the woman, who preferred the listing anonymous, didn't outfit just any boy. She was re-living scenes some 20 years back when she had outfitted another tow-headed. Her tow-head had liked airplanes too . . . he had gone over Germany in a plane that didn't come back.

These are only three of the stories that lie behind the daily list of Times Clothe-A-Child donors. Some take out the children themselves, while others make contributions to a fund which is used by Times shoppers to outfit the children.

With Housing Expediter Wilson Wyatt discarded, government controls over housing will crumble rapidly. Officials say it's impossible to administer controls for a single industry.

Look for these developments: "Veterans' priority system will be scrapped. So will limitation on non-housing construction. Present ceiling of \$10,000 on new homes will be raised or more probably eliminated. Subsidy payments on materials will be stopped because price ceilings have been removed.

Foley May Take Over
National Housing agency, cover-all bureau headed by Mr. Wyatt, will be continued for the present but will be short-lived. Component agencies then will return to independent status.

Raymond M. Foley, federal housing administration commissioner, is best bet to take over remnants of Mr. Wyatt's NHA and expediting jobs. The industry always has preferred him to Mr. Wyatt. Other possibilities are lame-duck Senator James M. Mead (D. N. Y.) and Philip Klutznick, former fed-

eral public housing administration commissioner.

Job isn't attractive because Republican-controlled committees of both senate and house plan investigations of the whole housing program under Mr. Wyatt, centering chiefly on his subsidies, expenditures of \$440 million for temporary converted barracks, "super" priorities given federal projects, administration of guaranteed market program for prefabricators.

Mr. Truman will ask congress for legislation designed to spur rental housing, which has sagged badly. He will renew plea for Wagner-Elender-Taft general housing bill which, among other things, provides yield insurance for investors in large-scale projects. Also likely to be recommended: Wyatt plan to have RFO invest in second mortgages up to 10 per cent, which, with FHA 90 per cent insurance, would eliminate risk for developers. RFO has rejected this pending consideration by congress.

Far Behind Goal
Analysis of final Wyatt report supports claim of builders that thousands of houses are standing unfinished for want of materials.

His box-score looks like this:

	Started to	'46 Goal	Nov. 1
Conventional houses	700,000	600,700	
Factory built	250,000	30,300	
Temporary re-use	200,000	191,600	
Trailers	50,000	36,200	
Totals	1,200,000	858,800	

Conventional figure includes 51,100 reconversions, reducing number of starts to 549,600. Goal for factory-built homes was cut to 100,000 when program lagged.

Don't be surprised if the government soon announces withdrawal of all except token force of American troops in Philippines. Our forces there number around 60,000, and there's no longer good tactical reason for such a large establishment. There've been growing signs that due to lax discipline of our green troops their presence has done more to alienate Filipinos' affection than to enhance our prestige in the Orient.

Watch for President Truman soon to appoint a civilian committee, with church, school and women's groups represented, to examine army's case for universal military training—findings to be advisory to congress.

WASHINGTON Calling

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

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Coal strike is now a knock-down and drag-out showdown.

There's no sign of the oft-rumored, backstage negotiations between John L. Lewis and northern coal operators. They were the chief hope for a peaceful settlement.

Fuel shortage will get tighter hourly. Coal lack will do what no war ever did to U. S.—stop all major industry. And city populations are entirely dependent on complex industrial machine which runs largely on coal.

Can the country stand it? It cannot. Coal mines administration will try tactics of mine operators in past: Back-to-work movement with armed protection. It will work in some places, but with violence. Look for Smith-Connelly act prosecution of pickets.

Unless Lewis relents and chooses some face-saving out, he stands to lose his union as he did after 1927 strike—but at fantastic cost to U. S. Some segments of industry, chiefly northern, would be willing to settle with Lewis. He still holds out for his nation-wide contract. Southern operators are dead set against it.

Final outcome will determine government's future labor policy. If the coal strike is still on in January, the new congress will go to work with blood in its eye.

Truman's Dander Up
Look for President Truman's Sunday night talk to be tough. Recent White House visitors say Truman has his dander up. In response to a suggestion that he try to work out compromise with Mr. Lewis, the President pounded the table and told one visitor John L. had broken his personal word, given when the government signed coal contract. Mr. Truman shouted he had no intention of dealing with such unpredictable man.

"He (Truman) seemed about the maddest little man I ever saw," visitor said.

Mr. Truman's speech may disclose plan to give federal powers to state governors, by appointing them deputy fuel administrators. Governor Gates of Indiana, who already is trying to bring operators and miners together, thinks this additional power would help put over the "Indiana plan."

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