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Rail Strike Averted

GOVERNMENT seizure and a federal court injunction have averted a railway strike that threatened to paralyze the country.

For that we are thankful. And the railroad workers ought to be.

It never should have been made necessary—as it was—for President Truman to order the Army to take over the railroads, and the Justice Department to get the injunction against the unions of engineers, firemen and switchmen.

Officers of the three unions should have had judgment enough to recognize from the first these obvious truths:

ONE: That public opinion would not tolerate such a strike. Especially when its object was to enforce demands for concessions exceeding those recommended by a Railway Labor Act Fact-Finding Board—and accepted by 19 other unions representing more than nine-tenths of the railroad employees.

TWO: That the government would have to act to prevent the strike or to stop it if it started.

The government did act. The seizure was ordered under a law passed in 1916. The injunction seems to be based mainly on the theory that, in the absence of specific law, the government has constitutional power to maintain itself, "insure domestic tranquility" and "promote the general welfare."

CERTAINLY the threatened strike soon would have become a national disaster, wrecking domestic tranquility and general welfare—causing untold danger, loss and suffering. And challenging the integrity of government itself.

We are glad that, almost at the last moment, the union officers found sense enough to obey the injunction. But the injunction is temporary. There is no assurance that it will be made permanent.

And so the country's escape from this strike, and its safety from other similar perils, also may be only temporary.

The time has come, we think, when Congress must give the country lasting protection in specific law against man-made calamities such as this strike would have been. No combination of owners and managers should be permitted to shut down the nation's railroads. No combination of workers should be permitted to do that. In this industry, and a few others, strikes are in fact intolerable.

Congress should face that fact now; should require that, by the fairest methods possible to devise, labor-management controversies in these vital industries must be settled without strikes.

Manual... And E. H. Kemper McComb

OF course E. H. Kemper McComb really believes, for the moment, that he is about to retire completely from Manual Training High School, as his announcement said the other day. But somehow we doubt if he makes it.

He can divorce himself from the Class of 1950, maybe. Or 1960. But hardly from the Class of 1904. Or 1920.

To a good many hundreds of Manual Graduates... some of them greying and middle-aged and famous in fields of their own, now... Manual and the man who has guided it for so many years are forever inseparable. Likely as not they'll go on, as they always have, seeking him out whenever their paths turn homeward again, keeping an ear primed for his shrewd and kindly appraisal of what they've done with the training he gave them, and never once admitting that Manual isn't exactly as they left it.

He may, indeed, retire from Manual's future. But not from its cherished past. The 48 graduating classes he has seen on their way on 48 commencement days are still going to be his... and the imprint of his personality and his ideals they have taken with them will endure long beyond the day when he closes his desk and hands the keys over to someone else.

For such retirement as this may be we join with his alumni in the wish that the years before him may be many and happy.

Merle Sidener

MERLE SIDENER was a successful businessman, and before that a successful journalist in much more than a purely local sense. But, at the end of a busy career, his enduring monument is built on neither his business nor his professional attainments, substantial though they were.

Rather he is going to be remembered for what he did entirely outside those fields... did just because he wanted to do it... and because he loved people and sought, tirelessly, to serve them.

Religion, to Merle Sidener, wasn't a cloak to be put on of a Sunday, and laid aside the rest of the time. It was an integral part of his daily life... to be lived, and practiced and shared with others all day, every day. To the largest men's Bible class in the nation... built by his own enthusiasm and sincerity... he translated each week for years, his own clear conception of faith into terms of common experience and common understanding... and thousands found it a language of inspiration.

His influence reached into every phase of the community's life. He gave, without stint, of his talents to every cause he believed would make Indianapolis a better city, and would make life richer for the hundreds of thousands of men and women he considered his neighbors.

He has made the world a little brighter because he passed this way.

A New Twist In U. S. Labor Injunctions

By FRED W. PERKINS, Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, May 11.—"Government by injunction" took a new twist in efforts to avert the railroad strike. Some Senators are frankly dubious about it.

Because the Railway Labor Act stops short of the injunctive procedure, the Department of Justice depends in the railroad case on an old section of the judicial code pertaining to the power of the government to maintain itself.

THIS, IT WAS ARGUED, applied to a situation in which the President had seized the railroads—and got no immediate response from an appeal to their workers to stay on the job.

Union leaders, who have fought for years against use of court injunctions to prevent strikes, saw their defenses crumbling in 1946 when John L. Lewis and the United Mine Workers were enjoined on the ground that they had broken a contract with the government.

They took a further beating in enactment of the Taft-Hartley Law, which provides for court injunctions in labor disputes threatening the national safety or welfare.

The Norris-La Guardia Act, which was intended to remove the evils of court injunctions sought by private parties, is now a dead statute so far as government suits to protect itself are concerned.

SEN. WILLIAM F. KNOWLAND (R. Cal.) said that a bill he introduced yesterday would dispel the doubt about injunctive powers in railway labor disputes. It would remove the exemption of railway labor from the injunction processes of the Taft-Hartley law in national emergencies.

Some Senators Think Specific Law Needed in Rail Disputes

concerned. A majority of the Supreme Court has decided that way.

But there is still uncertainty how far the government can go in getting court orders to enforce its will against such associations as the three railway labor unions which had threatened to tie up rail transportation this morning.

"We should have specific law applying to the railway unions as well as all other labor organizations," said Sen. Joseph H. Ball (R. Minn.), chairman of the Congressional Joint Committee on labor-management relations. "I am dubious about enjoining a strike on the apparently uncertain basis that has been used in this case."

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"Congress should not adjourn without acting on the bill because the same situation may arise again," the Senator said.

Sen. Ball said he didn't think the Knowland proposal was "the right answer." He pointed out that under the Railway Labor Act railroad workers must go through at least several months of cooling off before they can actually go on strike. And he said it might be unfair to impose a further wait under the Taft-Hartley act. He inclined toward a plan of compulsory arbitration in railway disputes.

SEN. ROBERT A. TAFT (R. O.), chairman of the Senate Labor Committee, also approached the subject cautiously. He said that if anything were done it should be within the framework of the Railway Labor Act.

This would mean that the injunctive procedures of the Taft-Hartley Act would be written into the Railway Labor Act, rather than making railroad workers subject to two laws which differ greatly in their details of trying to avert industrial disturbances.

It is pointed out that the three railway unions now concerned are in a different position from that of the Lewis mine workers in 1946.

The miners' union had signed a contract with the government under federal operation of the mines. The railway unions have signed no such contract.

In Tune With the Times

A TOAST TO DAUGHTERS

Now listen, kind folk, and you shall hear 'Bout the ones we feel, to us, are so dear. You were sent to us from Heaven above To care for and teach, and to give of our love. We were blessed with your coming, and want you to know—

We'll do our best to help you grow Strong in body and soul for a richer life. To make some boy the right kind of wife.

You can search this world, north, south, east and west, And I know you'll find daughters, but ours are the best.

They are loyal to their family, and to Christian and American flag. Their duties are done promptly and in service do not lag.

If you want someone to help you, who will always be your friend, Count on daughters, everytime—they'll be with you to the end.

We're proud of your deeds, girls—whether great or small, And remember, Mother stands by—at your beck and call.

We want you to know we love all of you, And our prayers are with you whatever you do. May God bless our daughters and keep them from sorrow.

Truthfully speaking—they're the Mothers of tomorrow.

—MRS. CHESTER KELLEH.

Ma'am an' Myrt, our singin' Walters sisters, hev takin' their guitar an' gone to the city for an audiyon' at a radio station. Good luck, gals!

CATTISH PETE.

PLAYMATES

Our little kiddies have imaginary playmates, you see. They're called Mr. Wordy and Mr. Gee.

They're very handy when something's done wrong; Wordy and Gee have broad shoulders, very strong.

—MRS. SHUSH.

The husband who misses his regular bus home is very likely to catch it.

TANTALIZED

I'm just a martyr, Gazing at you, Desiring your love, Wanting to woo.

I'd like to shoplift A kiss or two, Dimpling your smiles, Displayed to view.

—JOSEPHINE BUCK.

Picnics are where keys break off when you start opening a can of sardines.

HOW DO I KNOW?

How do I know Spring is now? Why—by the furry ears on the willow's bough—

By the whist of the winds as they stem the plough.

How do I know that Spring is this? Why—by the trembling chirp of the robin's bliss.

At the cherry-bud's first fragrant kiss.

How do I know that Spring is here? Why—by the sweet tears on the tulip's brim.

By the fresh, dewy tune of the Spring-child's hymn.

—DIANNE W.

Only people carrying a spare head should dive into strange swimming places.

FOSTER'S FOLLIES

("EAST ORANGE, N. J.—Free baby slitters to let mothers vote.")

Mothers, may we help you, maybe? We'll be glad to volunteer.

We will come and sit with baby Any evening of the year.

While this won't cost you a cent, we Just want one thing specified:

Only babies who are twenty, And are on the distaff side!

Side Glances—By Galbraith



"What are you singing the blues about, Eddie? Another month and we'll get our diplomas and all your worries will be over!"

Southern Exposure



'Preserving Our Land for Future'

AMERICA'S basic resource is its land. Our generation has a primary responsibility to see that this resource is protected and preserved for the many generations to come.

A piece of legislation looking far into the future has been introduced in Congress by Rep. Clifford R. Hope (Kas.), chairman of the House Agriculture Committee.

This bill grew out of nationwide hearings by the committee, and has the approval of all its 27 members.

RECOGNIZING that preservation of irreplaceable land resources is vital to national life and security, now and henceforward, the bill would consolidate the government's many land conservation functions in a single Agricultural Resources Administration.

The new administration would be in the Agriculture Department. Under it would be an Agricultural Land Service, the Forest Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

THE FIRST of these would combine the present Soil Conservation Service and all other conservation activities now in the Agriculture and Interior Departments.

The Forest Service is already in Agriculture. The Fish and Wildlife Service is now in Interior.

The Hope bill would establish conservation and orderly development of agricultural land and water resources as a basic Government policy.

Knowledge of conservation is specified as a prerequisite for the head of the proposed ARA.

THE ARA would give technical assistance to farmers through soil-conservation districts. That is highly important, for all 48 states have soil-conservation district laws and such districts are now doing so far the biggest conservation job in the country.

The Hope bill would not destroy the basis of the fire work already being done by the present Soil Conservation Service.

THE essential keys to progress in this field are local units through their own democratic, self-organized conservation districts.

The bill calls for a nationwide soil survey. It provides, in the Federal conservation-payments program, that districts first must certify that work done is satisfactory—a commendable tightening up. It would establish a National Agricultural Resources Advisory Board and county advisory boards.

THE HOPE bill is bi-partisan—or, better still, non-partisan. It would tie nationwide conservation work into a tighter, more economical package, preserve the Federal activities that count, and gear conservation to future national needs. It holds the promise of more efficiency, more economy, and better results.

Congress would do well to look to it as a basis for prompt action.

approximately the same—40 per cent.

After stories about the Marshall Plan had been appearing on the front pages for weeks, and radio debates about it were numerous, a poll showed that 61 per cent of the American people had neither read nor heard of it.

Not long ago a couple of novel plots were taken to test the extent of public information.

IN THE FIRST, pictures of some of America's best-known faces which had appeared over and over again in newspapers, magazines and news reels—were shown to a national cross-section of citizens.

Seven per cent did not recognize President Truman. Gen. Eisenhower's face was unknown to 17 per cent. Gen. MacArthur's to 24 per cent. Henry Wallace's to 35 per cent. Jim Farley's to 49 per cent.

And 39 per cent could not identify Speaker Joe Martin, the man who would be President tomorrow, if Mr. Truman were to pass away tonight.

IN A SECOND test, those questioned were shown an outlined map of Europe. Only one

Hoosier Forum

"I do not agree with a word that you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

Why Must Politics Be a Circus?

By C. D. C.

It won't be long now until the American people will be given a free treat to the Quadrennial Political Circus. There will be Twiddle-dee-dee, Republican, Twiddle-dee-dee, Democrat—and, this time, Twiddle-dee-dee, Progressive.

We all know that Henry Wallace will head Twiddle-dee-dee-winks. And it is not at all improbable that certain gentlemen who make presidents could tell you, if they wished, who would head Twiddle-dee-dee and Twiddle-dee-dee.

The show and preliminaries will be all about the same, however. Twiddle-dee-dee will stress Lincoln. Twiddle-dee-dee will finish up on Franklin Roosevelt—and then bedlam will break loose.

Twiddle-dee-dee will stress both Lincoln and Franklin Roosevelt and then you can expect "We want Wallace" to break loose.

The party bosses will pick the candidates by a system of horse trading in some smoke-filled hotel room. It is quite probable, of course, that bosses of both parties have already decided on a dark horse but, be sure of one thing, the bosses will get their man.

Mrs. Roosevelt, of course, can be expected to be on hand to give her blessing to Twiddle-dee-dee, and probably Herbert Hoover and the rest of the old guard to Twiddle-dee-dee.

Twiddle-dee-dee, of course, will be in the unique position of being able to promise everybody everything without having to deliver anything.

Let's hope some day the American people will learn that government is not a circus—but the biggest business in the world.

Then competent men who have been elected by the people will sit quietly around a conference table—and select their presidential candidates in the same way a board of directors would select the president of a company for their stockholders.

'We Need Professional Men'

By L. E. J.

I wonder if anyone else is getting as dizzy as I am on things we are being told today.

We were led to believe a very short time ago—"We must send financial aid to Europe or Russia will take over and we will have to send our boys later." When the big-wigs put it like that, we naturally preferred to send anything they ask for.

Now, before the ink is hardly dry on the ERP bill, we are being told we must draft the boys to build up our forces! Why? Do we have to make Europe accept the ERP?

It seems to me if we must train men (boys) for our own protection, and not Europe's, we could train them in or immediately after high school. Why stop a young man's plan for a professional future by drafting him out of college?

No veteran, regardless, should have his life interrupted again. If our lawmakers will take a good look around they will see how short we really are on well trained, professional men. We had better look out for our own future—and not worry so much about everybody else. A military man can be trained far quicker than a scientist or doctor.

'Find Veterans Place to Live'

By One Who Knows

It sure is a shame that these American boys who risked their lives and the best part of their lives to fight for a peaceful place to live, can't even find a place to live.

Every time a veteran answers an ad in the paper for a place to live, it's the same answer every place he goes. "No children." "I don't want to rent to veterans with children."

Don't people who rent places ever remember they were kids once themselves?

They have a lot of vacant lots in this town to put these one-room huts on for the veterans to live in if nothing else.

It's tough on a veteran who went to fight. He thought his family would be all in one place when he got back. Then when he got back he found that they have to put one child here and one child there, so that they all might have a place to live.

Intelligence tests; abuses of them would be too easy. So democracy has to take a chance and hope for the best. But the best can only come if the electorate—that is, all the individual men and women who share intelligently in the government.

If they don't, they are apt to fall easy victims to unscrupulous leaders.

THIS OFTEN happens. As a result, voters are constantly being disappointed. They are led to hope for the impossible.

And there is always danger that they will be led to throw away their democracy—to give up their precious freedom—through lack of understanding.

Yet we have more schools, colleges, newspapers, magazines, radios, motion pictures, libraries, museums—more of every source of education and information—than any other country.

THIS IS the greatest single source of danger to our democracy. Greater than Russian aggression and Communist intrigue, for example—neither of which has any chance in an enlightened land.

Until more Americans are qualified for the responsibilities of freedom, it will always be in danger.

ITSC Roller (left) to International chapters, banquet, mentator, and Mrs. R.

The 20th and Indiana Veterans will be the DAR chapter, thur Medicot.

The business at 10 a. m. R. by Medames. A. Brown R. merly, Fred Joseph Barr Thomas Beal mis. F. Bates ter and John.

The nations programs for presented by Gerking, Ralph in, Steld, Be "Ringside at the topic of W at the luncheon photographic Energy in Pe connection with The aftern open with a re drive by Mrs. Mrs. Ransdel local trade ag games Medicot ough, Gerking report on the tion held recee 1ds, Mich.

The meeting with a genera shop on units.

Convention By State Le The Indiana Voters will h vention next T and Thursday Mrs. Harold A ton, will be She is nation Dr. Cha of the Indiana Health, will State officer he elected an read, Indiana will attend Arthur Med Greenough, C. Noling, C. O. King, C. B. B. Foster, John rance, Dorsey Mrs. Fuller is

School Annual Mrs. Horace Bruce C. Sava for the annu Orchard Scho event, to be a for scholarship ment. In charge, dames H. N. Kahl, Wilbur toe, Charles Hine, William kan, John Lo rton, George S ington, L. E. Halverson. Gordon Th rector, will be movies; Mr. Whittlesay arides, and R. "barker." M ment of the P sponsor of the

Temple S Meets at The Tenth hood held E brunch at E Club today. I ber planned sisted by Mr and Mrs. J The meetin Medames H Samuel Prage Ebner Blatt, Martin Wolm Albert Wolfe James.

Miss Bro Robert E. and Mrs. R take Miss H daughter of K. Brown, B on June 2 K in the R Kenneth Kun and apt of