

White House Cool to Schricker's Plea for Action

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Given to Steelman
The message from the Indiana Governor was turned over to Dr. John Steelman, assistant to the President. He commented that he didn't know if President Truman would care to answer it or not.

"The President usually doesn't answer such messages when they are given out to the press and public before they are received here," Dr. Steelman said.

"I know Gov. Schricker is usually in a hurry. Right now his labor commissioner, Tom Hutson, has a long distance call in here from Indianapolis for me. So I guess what we say in that call will cover the matter, whenever I get time to phone him back."

"The politics involved would be the pressures being brought to have the President act under the Taft-Hartley law and thus give supporters of the law a new chance to cite its sufficiency."

President Truman, who wants the law repealed, has used it in

previous strikes. So far, however, he has sought to avoid invoking it in the steel and coal controversies.

Week's Supply

Indianapolis General Hospital had a week's supply of coal in stock, was receiving additional supplies from the Morgan mine near Attica. Most other city buildings were on steam heat supplied by Indianapolis Power & Light Co., which reported it had supplies to operate for about 60 days.

The four-Marion County institutions, Julietta, Sunnyside, the Juvenile Center and the Guardian's Home, had a three-week supply of coal according to maintenance superintendent Clifford E. Keen.

The city of Alexandria provided cheering news when it set up rationing of coal to homes and found it was better off than it had thought. There were no coal emergency calls on the first day of rationing.

Columbus municipal water works averted threat of shutdown within 24 hours by borrowing a month's supply from a tannery.

"Bottom of Barrel"

Meanwhile, coal dealers were looking at the bottom of the barrel.

All but the big yards were cleared of lump and egg for furnaces. But most dealers had coke at \$17.75 a ton. Others were mixing screenings with lump and egg to make "mine run," stretching supply.

Stephen Weber, executive secretary of the Indiana Coal Merchants Association, reported that in Wabash and Goshen dealers were selling wood to heat homes. "At Goshen," he said, "one company is cutting a stand of wood to keep customers warm."

Trucking From Mine

Dealers in Vincennes and Brazil were reported trucking coal direct from piles at the mines.

But most of the little dealers in Central Indiana were nipping hard at the city's coal supply bringing trucks and signed checks to the big yards.

By today dealers who have been rationing customers to one or two tons were tightening up. Borrowing between dealers had practically disappeared.

There was a little slack around with few takers. It was hard to burn. And consumers were afraid coke would not burn in their furnaces.

Shy at Coke

Coke seemed to be the answer. Dealers were telling customers, "If I were cold, I'd burn something in the furnace." But buyers shied away. They weren't that hot yet.

If the coal situation gets down to wearing overcoats in the house, there may be a "run" on electrical heating equipment. The four big power companies serving the state looked ahead to 52 to 57 days of power production.

But the little municipalities were hard hit. They went into the coal strike with lean inventories and their yards were getting empty. The Southern Indiana Gas & Electric Co. at Evansville was helping out three power plants at Tell City, Bogsville and Rockport.

But the picture at large was getting darker by the hour, and dealers were beginning to recommend lower household temperatures, 60 to 65 degrees.

The word to home coal users was "save it or suffer."

Little Towns Suffer

Little towns were hardest hit. Dealers bringing trucks to Indianapolis for "ton or two," but they are getting little help. Reported out of coal: Zionsville, Noblesville, Danville, Coatesville, Lebanon, Delphi, Liston, Pittsburg, Brownsburg, Plainfield, Claytown and Mooresville. They are being offered coke. Some take it.

From Greencastle Mayor Harold Stewart reported more than 300 families without coal. The high school there had only a three-day supply. The mayor, himself, had to borrow coal from neighbors. He said if the situation became worse it might become necessary for the city to confiscate DePauw University's supply to pass out among desperate families.

On the power front, the four companies serving most of Indiana have from 52 to 57 days supply of coal. Indianapolis Power & Light Co. has 57 days with 105,000 customers in Marion County. Public Service Co. of

CIO Expects Steel To Line Up Fast

Jones & Laughlin Works on Contract

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ment provides no pattern for settling the strike of its 14,000 workers.

Meanwhile, President John L. Lewis called the national policy committee of his United Mine Workers to a session Monday at Chicago.

Rumors Denied

There have been rumors that Illinois coal mine owners might seek a separate peace. The rumors were denied by company and union sources but the choice of Chicago as the meeting place for the committee raised hopes that they might be true.

Government mediators were giving Mr. Lewis and the operators "a day or two" to study the Bethlehem steel settlement.

A cool wave swept the East as far south as Georgia. Officials feared that it would wipe out all coal piles.

"Borrowed Coal"

At Joliet, Ill., officials "borrowed" coal from the strike-bound Carnegie-Illinois steel plant at Gary, Ind., for city schools. And in Fairbury, Ill., the First Baptist Church asked parishioners to bring baskets of coal to church.

Several coal companies in Louisville, where rationing was in progress, wouldn't even answer their telephones. A dealer at Cairo, Ill., said he was burning old inner tubes and wood to keep warm.

Virginia used emergency powers to seize a coal mine and Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, appointed an emergency commission to check coal supplies.

At Rome, Ga., the city auditorium was kept heated and thrown open to householders caught without coal. Officials at Wilson, N. C., turned off the city power plant this week due to a lack of fuel.

Indiana, Inc., serves 70 out of 92 counties, has at least 30 days supply for 287,000 customers.

Northern Indiana Public Service Co., serves 29 northern counties with 315,000 customers, has 32 days supply. Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Co., Evansville, serves eight counties and 35,000 customers, has 55 days' supply.

The municipal plants are hit hardest because of lower inventory of coal. Anderson has a brownout, and Logansport and Rensselaer are pinched for supply.

THE SUNDAY TIMES ADDS PARADE MAGAZINE... Nov. 13

Lewis to Seek Indiana Pact

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Lewis did not care to go further with the state's idea of having operators turn mines over to the state voluntarily with the state calling on the UMW for miners.

Mr. Lewis told Gov. Schricker that steel plants and other manufacturing units are "hoarding" 1 million tons more than they need of high grade coal in Indiana.

He said Gov. Schricker's emergency state coal committee should arrange to distribute that "hoarded and excess fuel" to tide over the emergency.

In his telegram yesterday Gov. Schricker said a meeting of public officials and representative citizens found that public utilities, hospitals and many schools will be forced to suspend operations unless dwindling stock piles are replenished.

"Untold Suffering"

"This will result in untold suffering and hardships for all of our people," Gov. Schricker wired the unions' chief.

It was agreed that I should appeal to you for an immediate settlement of the controversy between the operators and miners in order that this tragedy and suffering might be averted.

"Your co-operation to this end is the only effective answer to our needs."

Government experts hoped Mr. Lewis' call for the Chicago meeting of his policy committee shadowed an early break in the strike.

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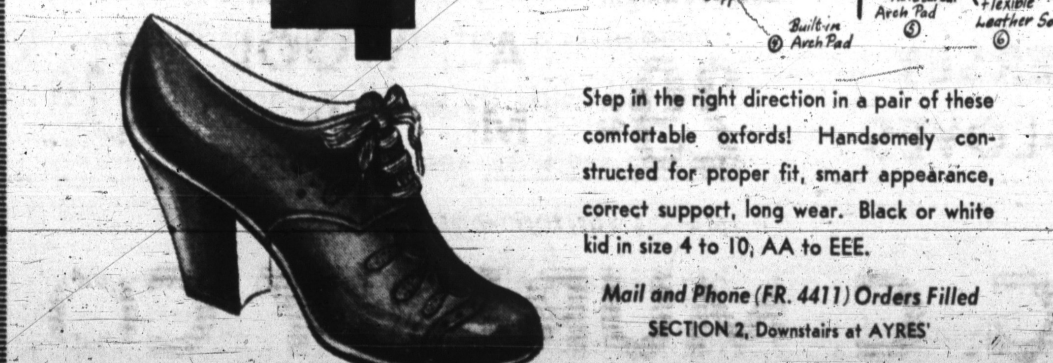
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