

Labor Peace Seen In '48

WASHINGTON — AP — The government's top labor peace-maker said yesterday he is "very optimistic" that employers and workers will settle their disputes during 1948 without crippling strikes.

Cyrus S. Ching told a reporter he may be sticking his neck out, but he believes labor and management have reached a new level of understanding of each other's problems and their responsibility to the public.

Ching said he recognizes that serious controversies are just ahead, with many unions already planning "third round" postwar wage increase demands.

He is not daunted or shaken in his optimism by the fact that contracts either expire or may be reopened this Spring for wage changes in the steel, automobile, electrical manufacturing, aluminum, rubber and telephone industries.

The coal contract held by John L. Lewis' miners union expires next June. James C. Petrillo's musicians union has called for a permanent ban against making recordings after next Wednesday.

Government figures show work stoppages for the first 11 months of 1947 totaled an estimated 3,475, affecting approximately 2,200,000 workers.

Symphony Chorus Rehearses Today

The Trenton Symphony Chorus of 40 women's voices will hold its first rehearsal this afternoon at 8 o'clock at the War Memorial Building.

Joseph D'Annunzio, vice president of the Trenton Symphony Association, urges all those wishing to sing with the chorus to report this afternoon.

Guest artist at the concert will be Ignazio Perricone, young New Jersey pianist. As part of the program for the concert Perricone will play the Gerwin "Rhapsody in Blue."

Dr. Lewis Next Rotary Speaker

Because of Christmas and New Year's falling on Thursdays, the Trenton Rotary Club will meet again until January 8.

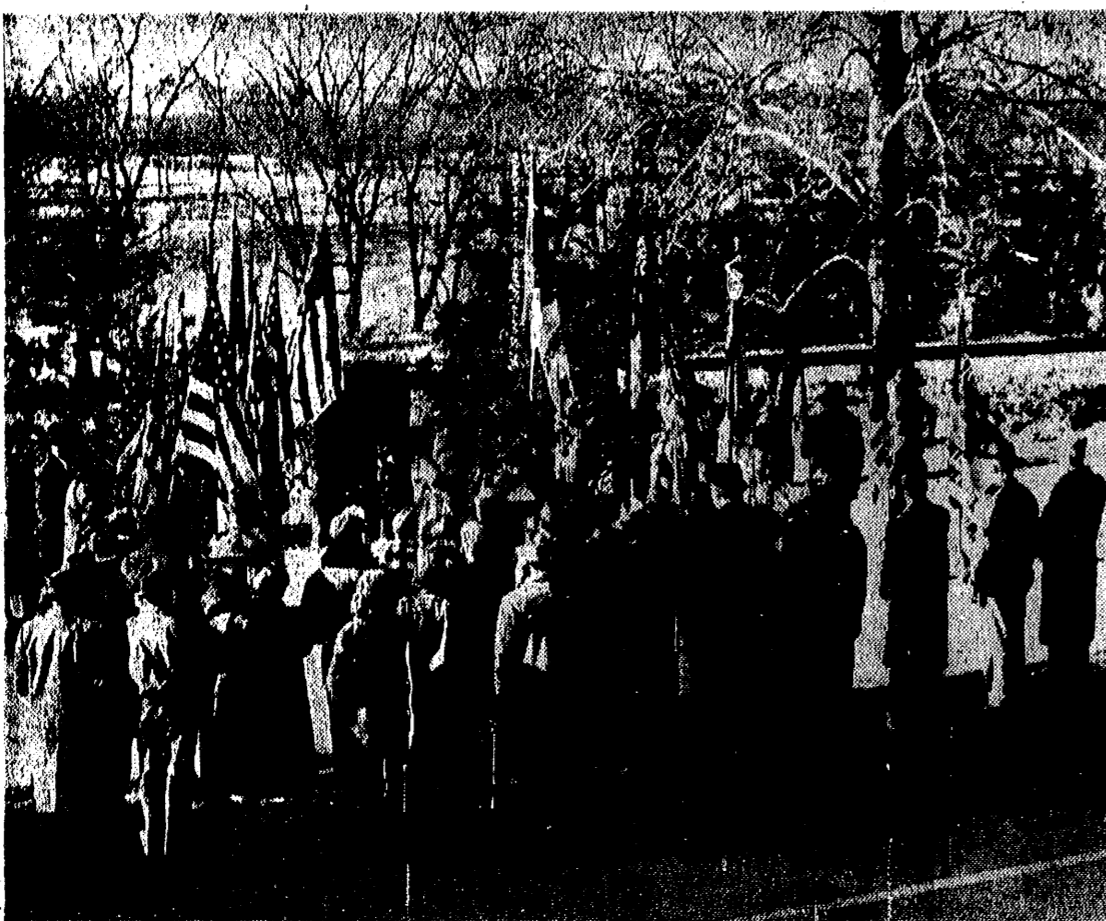
Girl For Deborah Kerr

HOLLYWOOD — AP — English actress Deborah Kerr gave birth yesterday to a seven-pound, 18-ounce girl at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital.

Freighter Under Tow

BUENOS AIRES — AP — Maritime sources said yesterday the North American freighter John Owen, which lost a propeller in South Atlantic waters the day before Christmas, had been reached by another United States freighter, the Lord Delaware.

Scouts Place Wreath At 'Crossing' Monument



Major Russell A. Snook of the State Police is shown addressing Boy Scouts of the George Washington Council on Christmas morning at Washington Crossing State Park.

Europe Reds May Sponsor March Revolt

PARIS — AP — Well-informed political sources said last night the Communists are preparing a new coordinated move against the Marshall Plan in France, Italy, Greece, Turkey and Austria.

The formation of a Communist state in Northern Greece was the preliminary move for more serious action coordinated by the Cominform, said this informant who is closely linked with the French Government.

The form the Communist drive will take was still a matter of conjecture, he added, but it may be a new widespread effort to tie up France and Italy especially with a new strike wave in an effort to hinder European recovery.

Preparing for the expected conflict with the Communists, Interior Minister Jules Moch was believed to have initiated a purge of police and administrative personnel this week when he appointed Jean Raymond director of personnel at the ministry.

Beaver Fells Pole, Jams Telephones

HOUGHTON, Mich. — AP — A busy beaver confronted telephone users in the Northern Michigan area.

Slep Wins Honors For Scholarship

John H. Slep, son of Mrs. Sara Jane Slep, 27 South Eastfield Avenue, has earned second academic honors for the past month at The Bolles School, Jacksonville, Fla.

Truman May Delay Picking Running Mate

WASHINGTON — AP — President Truman may wait until after the Republicans choose their presidential candidate next Summer before he picks his running mate on the 1948 Democratic ticket.

Democratic politicians in a position to know what is being discussed at the White House, said that Truman is looking over a large field but will not make his views on the No. 2 man known until he sizes up the GOP nominee.

The President will have time for a last minute decision of this sort because the Fourth of July holiday intervenes between the Republican convention, which begins June 21 in Philadelphia and the Democratic meeting in the same setting starting July 12.

At this point, more than six months in advance of any decision the President may make—which is likely to be the deciding factor—Democrats are discussing a round dozen possible candidates.

These include a scattering of senators, at least one representative, a couple of cabinet members, a Supreme Court justice and just about everybody who has raised his head among the common level of the Democratic party in the last few years.

The House member, Representative John McCormack of Massachusetts, stands out in early speculation largely because most Democrats think that the Republicans will go East, possibly to Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York or House Speaker Joe Martin of Massachusetts, for a Presidential nomination.

The theory among those who have a voice in Democratic party affairs is that Truman will try to match with his vice presidential nominee the Republicans' choice of a top man.

Thus, they argue, if the GOP picks Senator Taft, Ohio Republican, for its standard-bearer, the President might well decide that Senator Lucas, Illinois Democrat, would be the proper man to help him make the 1948 campaign.

On the other hand, if the Republicans cast their lot with a military hero—and General Dwight D. Eisenhower and General Douglas MacArthur are mentioned in this connection—the Democrats might go for Admiral Chester Nimitz or somebody in the same mold for their second man.

Defense Secretary Forrestal already has eliminated himself from the competition on this score, but at least two other cabinet members are represented by the Democratic officials as perfectly willing to run with Truman.

Included in this category is Secretary of Commerce Harrison, whose New York connections largely are with Wall Street and thus considered somewhat under par from a political standpoint.

The other cabinet member is Secretary of Agriculture Anderson. But he comes from sparsely populated New Mexico and hence has little chance in the view of the political dopesters, unless Truman thinks that November will be a walk-in.

Of the Supreme Court members, Justice William O. Douglas is regarded as willing, but not too highly favored by the party organization Douglas lists Washington as his State.

\$325,000 Loss In Me. Fires

PORTLAND, Me. — AP — Two fires, one of which threatened to explode stored chemicals, destroyed a big waterfront coal plant and a 250-foot stockyard stable yesterday in a howling North-east storm.

Four fishing vessels tied up alongside the Randall & McAllister Wholesale Coal Company wharf were damaged when a blazing, 400-ton loading tower crashed on them.

The blaze ignited nearby Merrill's Wharf and for a time threatened the surrounding waterfront area.

H. Kezar Libby, general manager, estimated the coal company's loss at more than \$300,000.

John F. Sullivan, manager of the F. J. O'Hara Fish Company, which owns three of the damaged boats, said his concern's loss was at least \$25,000.

The storm was responsible for the wharf fire, Fire Chief Oliver T. Sanborn reported. The wind, racing more than 30 miles an hour at the time, battered a high-tension wire against the side of the coal company building causing a short circuit, the chief said.

The chemicals were in 100-foot steel tanks set in a dozen-foot burning stable—used to shelter horses awaiting shipment to Europe's farmers after the war—in the freight yard of the Canadian National Railways. The chemicals were owned by the adjacent Portland Rendering Company.

Host to Workers



Richard J. Hughes

Democratic county chairman, Hughes will give a holiday party and reception for county committeemen and committee-women, election officers and party leaders at the Stacy-Trent Hotel Tuesday night.

He will pay particular honor to the successful Democratic candidates in the recent election, including Sheriff Sido L. Ridolfi, Freeholders Robert J. Costigan and Edward A. Thorne and Assemblyman J. Richard Kafes. Refreshments will be provided by various night clubs.

Board Issues Loyalty Code

WASHINGTON — UP — The Loyalty Review Board last night laid down rules for government agencies to follow in discharging Communist, Fascist, and fellow-travelers.

Board Chairman Seth Richardson told a press conference that the rules are designed to foster an effective Federal loyalty check and at the same time protect civil rights of the government's 2,000,000 civilian employees.

"I don't know if we have solved the problem," he said. "I don't know if the problem can be solved. But these rules have been carefully worked out. They represent our best efforts."

Richardson said he and the other 21 board members — the court of last resort in the loyalty check — have had "rather a hot potato handed to us." He said he had a "hatred of witch-hunts," but he defended the government's right to move against disloyal employees.

"No person has an inherent or constitutional right to public employment," the board said. "Public employment is a privilege, not a right."

Richardson laid down this yard-stick of disloyalty: "We consider any person disloyal only if he is engaged in activities looking forward to a change in our form of government through unconstitutional means—either by force or violence, or by allegiance to some foreign power."

He said that mere advocacy of a constitutional change—no matter how far-reaching—in the political or economic system would not be considered a disloyal activity.

President Truman launched the loyalty drive last March. The board was appointed last month to formulate rules and to act as a final appeals court for accused employees.

Twin Brides Wed Twin Bridegrooms

READING, Pa. — AP — Twin brides yesterday married twin bridegrooms.

Mary Jane Hoffmaster, 23, became Mrs. Merrill R. Stoudt, and her twin, Fern, wed his twin, Melvin, 27, in a double-ring ceremony at St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

The Merrill R. Stoudts will occupy the first floor of an apartment building while the Melvin R. Stoudts will live on the floor above.

Caracas Plans Subway

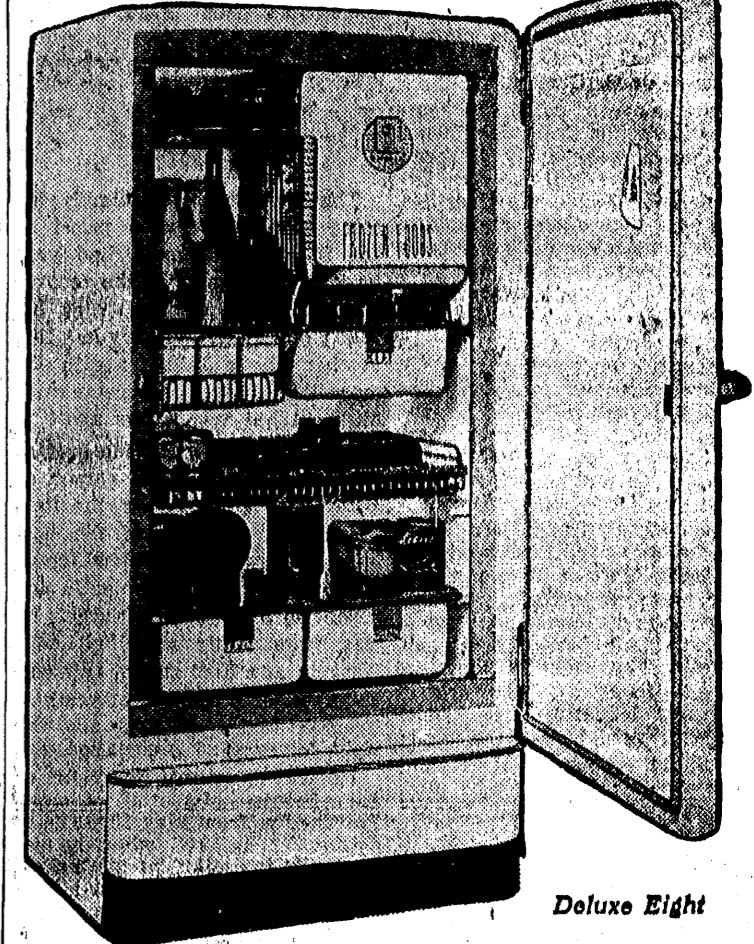
CARACAS, Venezuela — UP — Caracas, capital city of Venezuela, plans to spend \$15,000,000 for a subway. The proposed subway would carry 80,000,000 passengers a year.

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Random Note Wins British Family 'Wild West' Ranch

LONDON — UP — A London truck driver, his charwoman wife and their three young sons packed shabby belongings yesterday for a fabulous journey to the great Wild West where a random letter addressed to "a cowboy on a ranch in the U. S. A." had reached a town with a heart as big as Texas.

They are going to Lamarque, Tex., to live on their own piece of land donated by Mrs. Olga Weber, owner of the "Doodlebug Ranch." Passage will be paid for by the townspeople of Lamarque.

Fred, 11, Leonard, 9, and Dennis Payne, 8, who sought escape from their dingy, bomb-battered surroundings in neighborhood movies, wrote a letter weeks ago addressed simply: "A cowboy on a ranch in the U. S. A. Any ranch, please, postmaster."

"We would like to hear all about you," they wrote. "We like to see cowboys in pictures. Please write to us. We hope you are safe and there are no crooks there." Some how their letter found its way to the newspaper "Mainland Times," in Lamarque, a town of 7,000 population. Mrs. Weber, 32, mother of three children, read the letter. She answered it right away.

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