



Starting on the comeback road after the Texas City, Tex., blast disaster of April 16, 1947, the Monsanto Chemical Plant is constructing a new brick building on its totally wrecked waterfront property. The flag once again flies over the charred skeleton of scientific structures, grim reminders of the shattering chain of explosions.

## Devastated Texas City Rebuilds for Comeback

COLUMBUS, O.—(P)—Senators set out today to redraft the Van Aken union-regulation bill in an attempt to meet Gov. Thomas J. Herbert's objection and placate ruffled representatives who passed it Tuesday.

Sen. Roscoe R. Walcott (R-Franklin) called his commerce and labor committee together only two days before the current legislative session was scheduled to end and observed:

"We will carefully consider the bill as submitted and redraft such portions as might be necessary in the judgment of the committee to meet the public need.

Reports that the caucus had ordered the committee to block the Van Aken bill and the Veach resolution to outlaw the closed shop had caused the house to threaten defeat of all pending senate measures.

Representatives relented after Speaker C. William O'Neill (R-Washington) urged consideration of bills "on their merits" and prospects had brightened for the labor bills to reach the senate floor.

Herbert expressed the hope that all general labor legislation would be delayed until after a federal program had been decided, but apparently yielded to demands for action on the Van Aken bill.

During the turmoil, the senate passed the Kowalk measure to ease restrictions on the working hours of women and minors, and rejected house modifications in the Ferguson proposal to ban strikes by public employees.

The measure by Rep. John H. Kowalk (R-Sandusky) underwent considerable change before it passed the senate by a vote of 21 to 14 and was returned to the house for conference in amendments.

The changes included exclusion of women from jobs as taxi drivers, freight elevator operators, and gas and electric meter readers.

The bill would permit women to work nine hours two days a week in manufacturing plants to a maximum of 45 hours weekly.

Sen. Carl D. Sheppard (R-Summit) offered an amendment to prevent women from working more than eight hours in any one day, but it was defeated.

Senators said house changes in the bill by Sen. David MCK Ferguson (R-Guernsey) to require discharge of striking public workers, including school teachers, were too liberal.

They would reduce from five years to one the probation period for strikers who were rehired, and cut from three years to six months the time during which reemployed strikers could not receive pay increases.

The measure bore the approval of Herbert as it passed the house.

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## Labor Experts Say Taft Bill Not Workable

Won't Stop Coal Strike, Claim After Analysis

WASHINGTON—(P)—Government labor experts who have been analyzing the Taft-Hartley bill will advise President Truman that the measure is "unworkable" and will not stop a coal strike.

This was learned today from officials who have seen the analysis but who asked that their names not be used.

There have been equally reliable reports, however, that some other presidential advisers are urging Mr. Truman to sign the measure.

This group is said to contend (a) that the bill does give the government some means of dealing with the threat of a new coal strike next month and (b) that congress is virtually certain to enact it into law in any event.

The labor experts are reported to have concluded, among other things, that the measure awaiting Mr. Truman's decision follows more nearly the original version introduced by Rep. Hartley (R-NJ) than what they called the less

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# TRIMMING OF U.S. BUDGET CONTINUES

Luxury, Hmph! Purse Is Necessary



Starting her own private-war between the sexes, Mrs. Frederick L. Wakeman, of the New York Federation of Women's Clubs, empties her handbag on the table with a crash in her testimony protesting the "silly" 20 per cent tax law on women's purses. "A man has at least 20 pockets, including his overcoat," she cried. Women have none and must have something in which to carry their plunder, she insisted. But the all-male committee found no laws prohibiting women from having pockets, too.

## Strikes Tie up Transportation In St. Louis and California Cities

ST. LOUIS — (P) — Virtually everything on wheels that would run was pressed into service today as thousands of St. Louisans sought a way to get to their jobs after an early morning strike of street car and bus operators tied up public transportation in the St. Louis area of more than 1,000,000 population.

Absenteeism ran high during the first hours of the strike, which became 100 per cent effective with such suddenness that most individuals and firms were totally unprepared.

Hardly a single vehicle reached its destination without picking up a maximum load and many had passengers riding running boards.

LONG BEACH, Calif. — (P) — Buses ordinarily carrying 85,000 passengers a day in Long Beach and adjacent territory were parked in terminal garages today as AFL union drivers began a strike in support of wage increase demands.

The drivers left their jobs following failure of efforts by a citizens committee to avert a walkout. There were 355 drivers and 154 vehicles involved.

The AFL Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employers union demanded \$1.50 an hour for a 40-hour week or \$1.50 for a 48-hour week. They have been paid \$1.21 an hour for a 48-hour week.

Strike deadlocks continued.

meanwhile, in Glendale and Pasadena, where 22,000 and 55,000 daily riders, respectively, have been without bus service for a week. Wage disputes were involved there, too, the drivers belonging to the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

DETROIT — (P) — State Attorney General Eugene F. Black disclosed today that with state police aid he has begun an investigation of the sale of new automobiles by used car dealers.

"We all know that new cars are finding their way to used car lots and are being sold at inflated prices," Black said. "Such sales are illegal in that they violate the terms of used car dealers' licenses."

The attorney general said he planned a further inquiry as to whether a grand jury should inquire into the "bootlegging of new cars."

As a result of the state police survey 11 used car dealers face possible revocation of their licenses he added.

Black said state troopers went to used car lots and negotiated for car purchases. New cars, he added, were offered at far in excess of the list price.

"Some of the cars didn't even have license plates," he declared. "Most of them had factory wrap-ups. We have no proof but we suspect that a few new car dealers are turning recent models over to used car lots for sale at prices in excess of the list price."

Mrs. Mary Kiser, 67, died at 9:30 p. m. yesterday in her home, 121 Park av., following a lingering illness.

She was born Dec. 29, 1879, in Plainfield, a daughter of Charles and Katherine Cobi Poland. Her husband, Charles Tim Kiser, died July 13, 1937.

She was a member of the Plainfield Methodist church.

Surviving are two brothers, William and Fred Poland, Coshocton. Two sisters are deceased.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p. m. Sunday in the residence, with Rev. A. C. Shonkster, Evangelical United Brethren church, officiating. Burial will be made in Fairfield cemetery, West Lafayette.

Omission of flowers has been requested.

SRIOUSLY ILL  
Fielding M. "Pealy" Loos, 82, former Coshocton carpenter and contractor, is seriously ill at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. H. O. Young, 231 Wyoming st., Dayton. He has lived in that city for the past 11 years.

## Truman Returning To Act on Tax And Labor Bills

ABOARD PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S SPECIAL TRAIN, ENROUTE TO WASHINGTON.—(P)—President Truman sped toward Washington today to tackle such tough domestic problems as the tax and labor bills, after bidding farewell to Canada with a declaration that U. S. foreign policy has but one objective—peace in the world and friendship with every nation.

The president refused to give any hint as to how he intended to act on the income tax reduction measure or the Taft-Hartley labor bill.

Deadline for action on the tax measure is midnight Monday and for the labor bill midnight Friday.

DETROIT — (P) — Four non-striking Ford Motor Co. foremen were beaten on their way to work and a new walkout hit the Continental Motors Corp. today to mar an otherwise brighter auto industry labor scene.

Both developments came on the heels of a settlement involving 16,000 strikers and a new wage agreement.

Dearborn police said the foremen were dragged from their car and assaulted by three carloads of men while enroute to the Ford Rouge plant.

Some 3,700 Ford foremen, members of the Foreman's Association of America (Independent), have been on strike for 24 days in a contract dispute.

Continental Motors' 850 day shift workers set up picket lines this morning after 350 on the night shift, accused of a slowdown, were sent home early last night.

The walkout followed by a day a one-day sildown strike of Continental employees.

The Hudson Motor Car Co. set up production lines again after a two-day halt, announcing it had reached a "basis of settlement" with the CIO United Auto Workers on demand of 600 clerical employees whose picket lines had kept 15,000 production workers out of the plant.

Hudson's statement came on the heels of a Packard Motor Car Co. announcement that it had granted its 8,000 UAW-CIO workers a flat 15-cent hourly increase in return for the union's agreement to dismiss back pay claims of \$45,000,000.

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As a result of the state police survey 11 used car dealers face possible revocation of their licenses he added.

Black said state troopers went to used car lots and negotiated for car purchases. New cars, he added, were offered at far in excess of the list price.

"Some of the cars didn't even have license plates," he declared. "Most of them had factory wrap-ups. We have no proof but we suspect that a few new car dealers are turning recent models over to used car lots for sale at prices in excess of the list price."

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## VA Among 33 Agencies Cut

Reductions Made Thus Far Pass 3 1/2 Billions

WASHINGTON — (P) — The house appropriations committee trimmed \$130,884,220 from Veterans Administration funds today in approving an \$8,498,409,759 bill to finance 33 independent government agencies next year.

The total cut amounted to \$330,540,732, or 3.9 percent below the amount President Truman asked. This brought to approximately \$3,580,000,000 the claimed savings of house Republicans in their drive to chop \$6,000,000,000 from Mr. Truman's 1948 budget of \$37,500,000,000.

The Veterans Administration, however, was pared only 1.8 percent in getting \$8,944,557,080 for its work during the 12 months beginning July 1.

Among major recipients covered by the bill are office of the president, not cut at all; the atomic energy commission, reduced 30 percent; the civil service commission, cut less than one percent; the federal communications commission, trimmed 17 percent; the federal power commission, cut 12 percent; the federal trade commission, reduced almost one-third; the Federal Works Agency, cut 12 percent, and the interstate commerce commission, trimmed 10 percent.

The maritime commission drew a stern rebuke from the committee for its accounting and general administrative practices.

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