

No Solution in Sight in Manpower Fight

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON, March 15—(AP)— Labor leaders are in a running fight with Charles E. Wilson, big boss of the defense program, over several things. One of them is the handling of manpower.

There's no shortage of workers for defense plants now but there may be in another nine months when defense production really is rolling. It will mean getting workers for jobs, training them, maybe even shifting them around.

If the problem gets serious the government will face this choice: trying to work it out through the voluntary cooperation of labor and management or slapping on government controls, telling workers and employers what to do.

Labor Likes Volunteering

Labor leaders want the voluntary method. In their fight with Wilson they are looking forward to the long-range problem and the steps which the government may take, or want to take, to fill manpower needs.

And the labor leaders want some say-so in what's done. But as time passes this whole squabble tends to get lost in a fog of words. This is a brief attempt to explain what's happened and what the situation is now.

On Sept. 9, 1950 President Truman issued a general order to get the defense program going. He assigned various jobs to government officials. One of these was secretary of Labor Tobin.

He told Tobin to do what he could to meet manpower needs which would arise, including the making of plans and policies. The word "policies" is important in all this. It really means deciding what shall be done and how.

And Tobin appointed Robert C. Goodwin, a Labor Department official, to run the job of setting up a program that would help get men where they were needed in defense plants and all the millions of details connected with such a job.

Plagues Labor

In addition, Tobin did something else which pleased labor very much. He set up an advisory committee composed of representatives of labor and management. Actually, this would amount to a policy committee.

Goodwin, knowing the manpower problem everywhere, would decide what steps he thought should be taken to solve these problems. He'd recommend what he thought should be done to the Tobin labor-management committee.

It would approve or disapprove and so advise Tobin. Whatever it decided would be pretty much the government policy on manpower since Tobin could be expected to follow the views of his own labor-management committee.

Authority Argued

But the people in Wilson's office say Tobin could set policy only in so far as the work of his own labor department's activities in manpower were concerned but lacked any authority to determine manpower policies for the whole government and all the country. Why?

You'll have to go back for a moment. On Dec. 16 President Truman appointed Wilson as supreme boss of the whole defense program. This was a little more than three months after he had had told Tobin to handle manpower.

Wilson Over Tobin

In his Dec. 16 order, setting up Wilson's job, Mr. Truman told the latter he would control the whole defense effort, including manpower problems. This clearly made Wilson boss over Tobin where manpower is concerned.

So Tobin who was made—or seemed to be made—manpower boss by one presidential order on Sept. 9 lost the power to Wilson by another presidential order on Dec. 16.

But everything rocked along until Feb. 9 when Wilson forcefully stepped into the manpower picture by setting up, inside his own office, a manpower committee of his own. There were no labor-management people on it.

Member Restricted

Instead, its membership was strictly limited to representatives of government departments or agencies which have a deep interest in manpower. This committee included:

A representative of the Defense Department, of Selective Service, of the Agriculture Department (farm workers) and the Civil Service Commission (government workers). And Wilson said a representative of Tobin's Labor Department would be on his committee.

This changed the picture around a bit. Under Tobin's arrangement, this is what would happen: Goodwin would make a recommendation to the labor-management committee which in turn would make a recommendation (really a policy) to Tobin who'd put the policy into effect.

But under the Wilson arrangement, this would happen: Tobin's outfit could make policy in whatever activities concerned the Labor Department but when the whole country and the government were involved then—

The big policy decisions would be made by Wilson's committee which, in the end, would mean Wilson since he'd have final say as top boss. The labor people complained this made them too remote from a final policy decision.

This is why: Goodwin would recommend to them; they'd recommend to Tobin; Tobin would have to content himself with expressing his views to Wilson's committee.

tee through his representative on that committee; the Wilson committee through his representative on that committee; the Wilson

committee could decide on a contrary policy; and Wilson could charge that. Labor isn't demanding a place

on Wilson's committee. But it He asked labor to name someone complained there is not even one to work with him. Labor hasn't representative on Wilson's own done so yet. And there the whole personal staff of top labor people. case stands.

Thinking Not Wanted Here...

FIFTY-SECOND Conference of the Texas Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, March 10, 1951.

President: Dahlings, let's call this meeting to order. We have some very, very important business. Girls, we must never forget the glorious opportunity and tremendous obligation given us by the nineteenth amendment.

Mrs. Smythe-Jones: Madame President, your new hat is positively stunning. Did you get it at a bargain sale?

President: Thanks, Mrs. Smythe. It's just a little trifle I picked up at Neiman-Marcus for \$150. But as I said we have business to attend to. I feel that we should write some of our public servants and tell them how we feel about that horrible United Nations.

Mrs. Lamebrain: Madame President, someone told me that they even allow foreigners in that filthy organization. Are we, as

real red-blooded Americans, going to let such an organization flourish in this country?

Mrs. Phew: No, we must not. If we don't watch out, the Loyalist Tories will be running our government.

President: I have here a telegram which we should send to our governor, Speaker of the House, and President of the Senate:

"The Texas DAR State Conference of delegates representing six thousand members request the State Legislature to vote against and oppose all bills favoring an Atlantic Union and any form of a world government."

Let's vote whether we should send it. (At this time, rich old Mrs. Gothedough enters; welcoming greetings and flattering exclamations about her new dress are heard from all the members.)

President: The ayes have it. We will send the telegrams.

Handwriting on Siberian Walls...

WHILE AMERICANS can remain somewhat detached, Europeans are living in fear of Russia's ever increasing power. There is good reason for this fear if we assume that Russia has designs upon the rest of the continent. Unless their methods have changed, the Russians could not be counted upon to preserve the autonomy of each invaded country.

Indeed, these countries fear that their intellectuals would be killed, the able bodied men sent to Siberia, and their countries repopulated by Russians. If this were to take place, rescue would be absolutely fruitless. Even now there are thousands of German prisoners that Stalin does not account for in accordance with law and decency.

This re-affirms a view we have long held—the primary problem is the defense of Western Europe. A limit on the number of divisions that we can send to Europe would have severe consequences that we can ill afford. To leave the door wide open would be an invitation to Russia to make a quick grab with a high probability of success.

We cannot help entertaining suspicions about what lies behind the iron curtain. For the time being, Those who have had a good look apparently can't manage to get a round trip ticket, or maybe Russian trains just run one way.

In any case the farsighted Europeans can stand right where they are and read the handwriting on Siberian walls.

Highly Vulnerable

US Concentration of Vital Headquarters is Dangerous

By ELTON C. FAY AP Military Affairs Reporter

WASHINGTON, March 15—(AP)— The military, which preaches the merit of dispersion to private industry, is continuing to concentrate some of its most vital projects in a single, comparatively small area of the country.

The state of Maryland and the District of Columbia at its Southwest corner, provide a highly profitable target for any enemy bomber or airborne troop attack.

There exists within a few easy flying minutes, a complex of military research centers, command headquarters and airfields.

ing to those priority targets a new one of equal value, a wartime "second Pentagon" for use should Washington come under attack or immediate danger of attack.

It has chosen as the site for this alternate national command post Camp Ritchie, in Western Maryland North of Washington. The camp was used until recently by the Maryland National Guard. The location of that emergency military headquarters, with underground quarters and communication facilities, is within relatively short distance of another primary target, Camp Detrick.

Situated on the outskirts of Frederick, Md., Camp Detrick is the center of the military's germ

warfare production effort.

Fifteen minutes away from the modern fast bomber is Aberdeen, heart of the Army's ordnance research and development work and its chief proving ground. At Baltimore (where 2nd Army headquarters also is located) is the center for the Army's counter intelligence corps, the agency which seeks to ferret out and prevent sabotage and espionage.

Washington and the immediate vicinity would be an enemy bombardier's dream, even if it did not have the White House and seat of government.

Here, over the years, concentrated such top priority targets as the Pentagon (the whole military high command and all its operating staff in one building); headquarters of the Atomic Energy Commission (a civilian agency with a military mission); the Bureau of Standards which specializes in precision instrument development needed for weapons; a Naval gun factory, at three military air fields, two of them adjoining.

Moreover, the Maryland-District of Columbia concentration is close to the Atlantic Seaboard. There have been broad hints that intermediate range guided missiles, capable of launching from submarines or surface ships, are a reality or close to it.

While almost all these installations and centers were started in the days before the electronic era, most of them now would be simple for radar-equipped enemy bombers to find at night or in the stormiest weather.

Aberdeen, Baltimore, Washington are located on rivers or bays. Of all natural landmarks, these are the easiest for a radar to locate. The delineation of a bay or river or coastline or a radar scope conforms exactly to the picture presented on a map. No bombardier or pilot can mistake it. When long range, target-seeking guided missiles are ready, this could help them "home in" on the final phase of their flight.

Agricultural Jobs Open in Paraguay

Recommendations for seven agricultural positions in Paraguay have been asked by Dr. Ide P. Trotter, dean of the Graduate School by the Institute of Inter-American Affairs.

One Entomologist, one Plant Pathologist, one 4-H Club Specialist and four Vocational Agriculture Teachers are some of the positions included.

All interested persons should see Dr. Trotter at his office in the Administration building.



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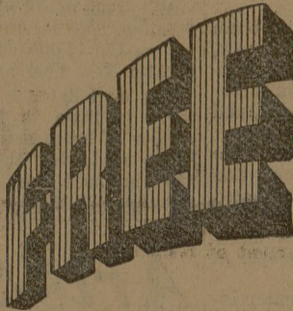
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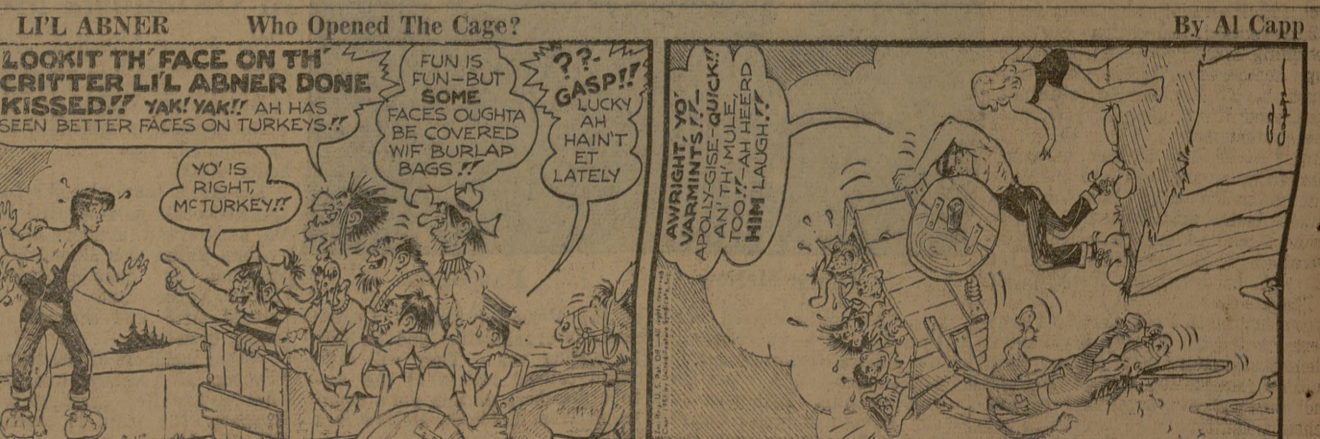
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