

Substitutes threatened, harassed

Some teachers still on strike

United Press International
A bomb threat forced grade school children taught by non-union teachers to evacuate a school in southeast Ohio — where substitute teachers are dodging other harassment attempts in this most explosive of strikes by 6,800 teachers in five states.

The strikes are affecting almost 150,000 students.

Agreements were reached Wednesday in several of the nation's largest districts, including Philadelphia, Flint, Mich., and Providence, R.I. But teachers in Detroit, St. Louis, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and hundreds of

other districts were still without contracts.

The Ohio dispute flared in New Matamoras, where the Wednesday morning bomb threat cleared an elementary school taught by non-union teachers. A teacher was arrested in the same county Tuesday and charged with disorderly conduct.

Police said substitute teachers were harassed while going to class and tires on a car belonging to one was slashed and windows smashed in others. A judge later issued a restraining order, limiting pickets to two per school.

In all, Ohio had 500 teachers

on strike at schools with 9,600 students.

Strikes also affected 2,000 teachers and 61,000 students in Pennsylvania; 2,800 teachers and 48,500 students in Illinois; 1,000 teachers and 20,000 students in Michigan; and 500 teachers and 6,800 students in Montana.

Pay and the number of students per classroom are factors in most of the strikes.

By an 4-1 vote Wednesday, the Philadelphia Board of Education approved a three-year contract with unionized teachers calling for an 18 percent raise in pay.

Nearly 34,000 students in Flint, Mich., were told to return to classes today after teachers agreed to a new pact also calling for 18 percent pay increases over three years.

But Detroit, a district with 200,000 students and 11,000 unionized teachers, moved closer to a strike as teachers resisted demands for concessions of up to \$2,300 per teacher.

"The closer we get to opening date (Wednesday), the more likely it is there will be a strike," said John Elliott, union president. Contracts also remained unsettled in Grand Rapids, Pontiac and about 250 other Michi-

gan districts.

In East St. Louis, Ill., officials tried to open school but only one of 1,300 teachers showed up for work. Teachers are asking for a 25 percent raise over two years in the 20,000-student district.

In Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where a brief strike earlier this week delayed the opening of school, negotiators were at an impasse but schools remained open.

"We're just sitting and waiting," Cathy Wheeler, a union executive said. Fort Lauderdale is the nation's ninth largest district, with 124,000 students and 4,500 teachers.

Two drugs may cause jitters, but they stop flu, study says

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Two related drugs, taken in pill form twice a day, can prevent the most common kind of flu in most people, a study in Vermont indicates.

The influenza program officer at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases said the study erased doubts ab-

out the drugs warding off influenza.

Dr. John LaMontagne said one of the drugs, amantadine (Symmetrel), is available commercially but has not been widely used, partly because of concern about such side effects as insomnia, nervousness and difficulty in concentrating.

The other drug, rimantadine, is still experimental and has not been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for general use in the United States. The drug is used in the Soviet Union.

LaMontagne said the study, conducted by scientists at the University of Vermont and reported in the New England

Journal of Medicine, also found rimantadine had fewer adverse reactions than the other drugs.

As a result, the institute, announcing the study results Wednesday, said rimantadine appears to be the best for preventing type A influenza. Type A is the most common influenza and includes Russian and Hong Kong flu.

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Fly-away cost of airplanes angers U.S. Navy secretary

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Navy Secretary John Lehman is demanding that the major builder of carrier-based FA-18 Hornet planes lower its price or lose its \$40 billion contract with the Navy.

"The price must come down or we're not going to buy it," Lehman told The Washington Post.

The supplier, the McDonnell Douglas Corp. of St. Louis, set the price of the Navy's newest jet at \$22.5 million each for fiscal 1984.

Lehman was not available for comment, but Navy spokesmen said he is concerned about the cost increase.

"He feels the Navy has alternatives and is prepared to accept alternatives if we do not get an acceptable price," a spokesman said.

The alternative is to buy more F-14 Tomcat fighters and A-6E Intruder attack planes, both built by Grumman of Bethpage, N.Y.

The Hornet, which can fly

both as a fighter and an attack craft, is designed to complement both of these while replacing the older McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom and Vought A-7 Corsair.

In a statement, McDonnell Douglas said the company sub-

mitted a price proposal to the Navy in April. The statement did not cite a price or say whether the proposal was drawn at Lehman's request.

The statement also said the firm "is making an unusually small profit" on the program.

ATTENTION AGGIELAND STAFF MEMBERS

The first staff meeting will be Thursday September 2 in the Aggieland office at 7 p.m. Staff members are also urged to call the Aggieland office as soon as possible to inform us of any new phone number. Aggieland office 845-2681, 845-2682.

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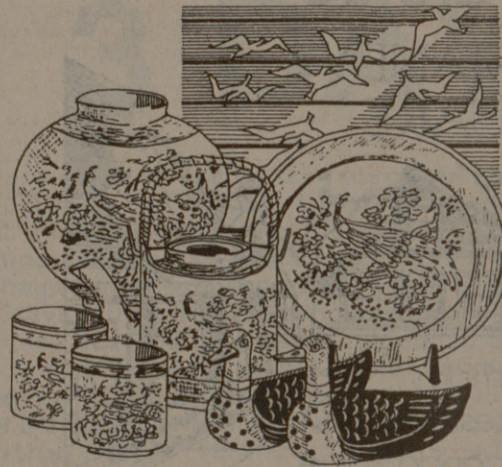
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