SCANNING THE WEEK'S NEWS
of Main Street and the World

Labor's Recent Revolt Called Open Warfare on Truman Administration

LABOR IN REVOLT—The Truman administration has had many and varied difficulties in its history, but few of them ever approached the seriousness of labor's recent revolt against the government's mobilization effort. The decision of labor to withdraw from the wage stabilization board and other government agencies amounted to a declaration of war on the Truman administration.

The united labor policy committee, composed of 14 top officials of the C.I.O. and A.F.L., ordered the withdrawal. As a result, labor men resigned from 24 advisory posts and other positions in defense agencies including the military.

A MAIN STREET FEATURE

Labor made it clear that it felt "big business" dominated the mobilization effort, and that the several labor men in top federal jobs were used merely as "window dressing." The charge of "big business" was directed at Charles E. Wilson, director of the office of defense mobilization, who ignored labor when he first took office.

Labor was especially bitter about the 10 per cent wage formula as recommended by economic stabilizer Eric Johnston. The union leaders were not pacified when Johnston exempted from the wage ceiling all cost-of-living escalator clauses in union contracts written before January 25.

These grievances were serious enough in themselves, but there seemed to be other motivating facts behind labor's revolt. Hidden behind the curtains of petty disagreements was the fear of a labor draft during the present crisis, the same fear that labor struggled against during World War II.

In the interest of mobilization and the well-being of the nation, peace between the administration and labor has become a pressing, desperate need.

HOUSEWIVES' DISTASTE—It has been said by critics of this country that the United States is ruled by women, that our economy and way of life centers around the wives, sweethearts, daughters, sisters and mothers of the nation.

An example of the woman's influence on the nation's economy was reflected in the meat markets of the nation when housewives' distaste of costly cuts of beef caused some real price roll-backs.

A nation-wide canvas revealed that prices were cut from 10 to 25 per cent on the more expensive cuts of meat. And in every case, the price-cutters declared housewives' lack of relish for high red meat prices was the main reason for their action. There was evidence, too, that this trend might continue since meat supplies are abundant and getting more so. The agricultural department is on record as saying "prospects are for a larger meat production in 1951 than in 1950."

Meanwhile, the agriculture department had other interesting statistics for the general public, namely, farm-product prices climbed to a record level in February. The figures revealed that prices paid farmers for all their commodities was 2.25 per cent higher than the old record set in January, 1948, and about 26 per cent above the level prevailing before the Korean war.

However, despite the high level of the farm commodity market, only nine major products were selling at or above parity—the price standard declared by law to be equally fair to farmers and those who buy their products. The products above parity [illegible] calves, lambs, sheep, cotton, cotton seed, [illegible] products as wheat, corn, peanuts, potatoes, [illegible] flaxseed, grain sorghums, dry be[illegible] [illegible]oes, chickens, and eggs were brin[illegible]

[illegible]ASUALTIES TOTAL 50,675—The [illegible] crossroads of the nation were be[illegible] [illegible]n conflict. Every day familie[illegible] [illegible] being notified of casu[illegible]s of war. The latest [illegible]mary [illegible] 50,675 [illegible]nded, [illegible] or killed [illegible]actio[illegible] [illegible]otal, 7,639 [illegible]ed, 33,041 [illegible]

[illegible] beside U.S. and [illegible] Korean troops re[illegible]ted casualties totaling [illegible]2,813. The breakdown showed Australia with 48 killed, 209 wounded, 6 missing, 2 prisoners; France with 44 killed, 201 wounded, 3 missing; Greece, 20 killed, 45 wounded, 1 missing; Netherlands, 24 killed, 76 wounded, 2 missing; Philippines, 150 casualties (not broken down into categories); United Kingdom, 145 killed, 442 wounded, 244 missing, 61 prisoners.

WATCHFUL WORLD—As deputy foreign ministers of France, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States met in Paris in an attempt to work out an agenda for a big-four conference, a watchful, but pessimistic world waited for announcement of first results.

Considerable doubt existed as to whether or not even an agreement on an agenda could be reached among the four nations. The Soviet Union indicated it would stress the German problem and charge the western powers with rearming western Germany. On the other hand, the United States announced it would direct the discussion to the vast build-up of arms in the Soviet Union and its eastern European satellites, and argue that those arms are the basic cause of the world's ills.

It was believed doubtful, therefore, that the big four could even agree on a list of subjects about which the big-four could talk with any hope of success.

It was also reported the United States would try to put the settlement of an Austrian peace treaty on the agenda, an achievement long sought by this government, but continually blocked by the Soviet Union.

Even if the deputy foreign ministers could reach agreement on an agenda, there exists little hope that the big-four can reach any settlement of the world's ills that will materially decrease the possibility of open conflict in the immediate future.

SPRING OFFENSIVE—The threat of a big spring counteroffensive by the Chinese Communists still hung over the Korean front as United Nations troops continued their push northward. Heavy movements of troops were reported at several points behind the Red lines.

Increasing numbers of Communist trucks were reported moving south into Seoul and the Reds stepped up night mortar and artillery fire from the old South Korean capital. There were also indications that a new Chinese division may have been moved into Korea in preparation for the expected offensive.

Frontline observers pointed out that the Chinese have switched from night to day operations, usually a sign of desperation. There was no indication, however, that either side could chop out a clear-cut victory that might terminate hostilities. It remains a battle of Chinese manpower vs American firepower.

REDS DECLINE IN EUROPE—An indication that the Communists are losing the battle to take over western Europe by boring from within was revealed in a state department report that said the party had lost a third—1,295,000—of its members in the west since World War II.

The report said there were 1,673,002 Communist party members in western Europe (except Italy) in 1946, and 2,300,000 in Italy in 1948—a total of 3,973,000. The number dropped to 2,678,000 in 1950.

ATOMIC BOMB

Scientist Says It Could Destroy Russia

The often questioned power of the atomic bomb was given a shot in the arm by one of the nation's leading scientists recently when he asserted that American atomic bombs "would destroy Russia" if the Soviets started war in Europe now.

Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of Carnegie Institute of Washington, one of the codevelopers of the atom bomb, said: "We could destroy not only the key centers from which her (Russia) armies would be supplied, but also political centers and the communications of her armies on the march. Initially equipped with weapons and supplies, those armies might keep rolling for a time, but there would be no Soviet Union behind them as we know it at the present time."

THE READER'S DATE BOOK

It's Time to Take Advantage Of Special Days and Weeks

This typically American institution of special "weeks" and "days" is undoubtedly here to stay. It is a natural outgrowth of the kind of national economy we have and the kind of salesmanship and marketing efforts we use to keep the economy operating at a prosperous level.

The modern device of special days and weeks is a sound one. Its avowed purpose is to sell more goods to the consumer, and it achieves that purpose.

A MAIN STREET FEATURE

Of course, the original concept of special days set aside for some particular celebration or observance is very nearly as old as civilization itself. It originated in the idea of public holidays established to perpetuate the memories of great religious, military and social events.

Such ancient civilizations as those of Egypt, Greece and Rome placed great stress on their annual festivals of one kind or another.

We in this country have our universal celebrations of Easter, Christmas and New Year's, and the legal or public holidays like Independence Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day and the rest.

Every one of these holidays is of great significance to our newspapers, particularly to the small town weekly papers. And, traditionally, the big majority gives them journalistic treatment in proportion to their significance.

The feature, "The Reader's Date Book," that will occupy this space in your paper during the weeks to come proposes to utilize the newspaper "holiday treatment" by expanding it to cover the more important social and commercial "days" and "weeks."

The position that "The Reader's Date Book" will take in this matter is that arranged events like National Pickle Week, National Noise Abatement Week, National Restaurant Week, and all the rest of them are, in the aggregate, quite important to our economic and material welfare, and that they are analagous to the spiritual and psychological importance that Christmas, Easter and Independence Day hold for everyone.

[illegible] can say for certain when [illegible]tion expert [illegible]ed the [illegible] en[illegible]ub[illegible]i[illegible] [illegible]ance [illegible] somewhat [illegible] and boisterous sales institution.

As was suggested above, what business is doing in this proclaiming of "days" and "weeks" is simply an effort to channel off some of the normal public exuberance in holidays into constructive commercial selling. It is, in the final analysis, another advertising medium.

America's home town newspapers have shared widely, and stand to share still more, in the selection of advertising space which most of the "weeks" naturally require to put their campaign messages across.

"The Reader's Date Book," by itself, has nothing to sell. It should not be construed as an advertisement in any sense of the word—no matter whether the subject matter in a particular edition deals with St. Patrick's Day, Palm Sunday, National Boy Scout Week, National Tie Week or National Peanut Week.

This column is, rather, a unique attempt to bring together on a common stage of action the newspaper reader, the publisher, the advertiser and the manufacturer. Each one of these need not pursue his life in his own hard and fast compartment. It is better for them to get together, for the common good. "The Reader's Date Book" will try to provide them with an adequate forum for that purpose.

What may you expect to find in this column during a typical month? Taking May as an example, here is a list of the occurrences on which you might reasonably expect coverage in the form of stories and pictures:

May 1-31	Milk for Life Month.
1	May Day Child Health Day
1-6	National Home Demonstration Week
6	Humane Sunday
6-12	National Cutlery Week Be Kind to Animals Week National Hearing Week National and Inter-American Music Week
6-13	National Family Week
7-13	National Restaurant Week
8	VE-Day
12	National Hospital Day
13	Mother's Day
15	Straw Hat Day
18-27	National Pickle Week
19	Armed Forces Day
19-26	National Foot Health Week V.F.W. "Buddy" Poppy Week
20	I Am an American Day
20-26	World Trade Week
30	Memorial Day

Judging from the size and scope of the above list, it is patently impossible, in the space at hand, to give thorough and complete coverage to each one of the events. Coverage will be based on the importance any given week or event has for the merchants and consumers in the small community.

The "days" or "weeks" not treated in detail will be listed, however, in advance of their occurrence so that if local preparations are called for there will be time for them to be made. As a matter of fact, all coverage will be in advance of the actual dates.

Also, you may note from the list of May events that this column will not confine itself strictly to commercial observances. All the major holidays and many of the minor ones will be given detailed attention—Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Independence Day, Christmas, Hallowe'en, Armistice Day and the others.

"The Reader's Date Book" will devote space to such worthy efforts as National 4-H Club Week, National Boy Scout Week, National Girl Scout Week, National Camp Fire Girl Birthday Week, National Boys Club Week and similar social institutions.

Finally, the column intends to cover the traditional nation-wide philanthropic campaigns on behalf of victims of uberculosis, heart disease, cancer, rheumatism and arthritis, cerebral palsy, infantile paralysis and the other crippling diseases which can only be controlled and eradicated through the support and cooperation of the entire American people.

In short, "The Reader's Date Book" wants to help all it can everywhere it is able.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

Prevention, Protection Stressed At Community Health Confab

How to get rural people to cooperate with townspeople to discover what their real health needs are, and what they themselves can do to expand and improve important health services, was the subject of a national conference on community health held recently at Memphis, Tenn. Approximately 600 doctors, health workers and farm leaders attended.

Dr. F. S. Irockett of Lafayette, Ind., chairman of the rural health committee of the American Medical association, which sponsored the conference, reported one of the main conclusions of the meeting was that "the problem of improving rural health in America is a lot broader than just providing more country doctors and hospitals.

The really good health program, directed by a community council, must work for ways in which health can be improved and protected. This is the concern of laymen quite as much as that of the physician.

State and county health councils have proved to be the most effective means through which lay and professional people can co-operate. On the county level, councils should be composed of leaders and representatives of all groups concerned with public health and sanitation.

Some rural communities that have been clamoring for a local hospital or doctor are simply not able to support them. In many smaller communities, the country doctor may never return. These are the communities that should form councils to promote local health.

Councils at Work

The Madison county, Kentucky, health council was cited for its excellent work in the field of rural health. The unit took health information to mountain families, got them interested in pure water, balanced diet and improved schoolhouses. The volunteers even popularized tooth brushes, which many mountain children had never seen before.

Pretty Party Dress Comes in Many Sizes

A Party Dress

A PRETTY school or party dress for young girls that will be lovely in a crisp striped fabric with white collar edged in narrow ruffling. Edge pockets with ruffling, too.

• • •

Pattern No. 8494 is a sew-rite perforated pattern in sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. Size 6, 2-3/8 yards of 39-inch; ¼ yard contrast.

• • •

Slim Princess Lines Featured by Sundress

Youthful Sundress

SLIM PRINCESS lines make this youthful sundress delightful sewing. For cover-up, there's a dashing, brief cape that buttons on to make in the same or contrasting fabric.

• • •

Pattern No. 8559 is a sew-rite perforated pattern in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20; 40, 42. Size 14, dress, 3⅝ yards of 39-inch; cape, 1⅛ yards.

• • •

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Sarcastic Caddy

A pompous businessman strode out to the starting tee on the golf course, selected his driver with deliberation, measured the distance to the first hole with great care, took numerous practice swings, and, finally, after much flourishing of his club, drove the ball about twenty feet. After going through the same procedure repeatedly, he remarked to the caddy that the course was really a difficult one to play. The caddy, in exasperation, replied, "I don't really think you can judge yet—you haven't begun to play you know."

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"World's best-tasting Cough Medication!"
SMITH BROTHERS WILD CHERRY COUGH DROPS
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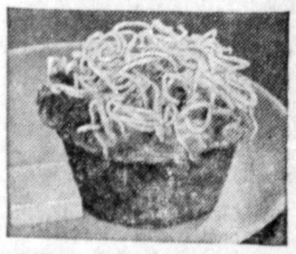

COCONUT ALL-BRAN MUFFINS
No creaming, no egg-beating—one easy mixing this Kellogg-quick way!
1 cup Kellogg's All-Bran
¾ cup milk
1 cup sifted flour
2½ teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
¼ cup sugar
1 egg
2 tablespoons soft shortening
¾ cup shredded coconut
1. Combine All-Bran and milk in mixing bowl.
2. Sift together flour, baking powder and salt into same bowl; add sugar, egg, shortening and ½ cup coconut. Stir *only until combined.*
3. Fill greased muffin pans ⅔ full; sprinkle with remaining coconut. Bake in preheated moderately hot oven (400°F.) about 25 minutes.
Yield: 10 medium muffins, 2½ inches in diameter.
America's most famous natural laxative cereal for diets of insufficient bulk — try a bowlful today!
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You need to rub on stimulating, pain-relieving Musterole. It not only brings fast, long-lasting relief but actually helps check the irritation and break up local congestion. Buy Musterole!
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