

THE LIMA NEWS

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CAPITAL LETTER

By JANE EADS

WASHINGTON—It is not socially necessary for the Chief Justice of the United States or his wife to accept invitations to parties, no matter by whom the function is given or where.

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson and his charming and witty wife, Roberta, can even turn down a White House invitation if they choose. Other Chief Justices sometimes availed themselves of the privilege.

But the Vinsons love parties. They go to every one that can squeeze into a busy week's program... luncheons, teas, cocktail parties, receptions, opening nights, balls and brunches.

"Once you get on the merry-go-round," Mrs. Vinson told me, "it's difficult to get off. Sometimes you don't want to."

The Vinsons have so many friends they get invited everywhere and are about the most popular couple in town. They came to Washington in 1923, six months after their wedding. He was a Democratic member of Congress from Kentucky then.

Having served in three branches of the government, they naturally have friends in every social circle in the capital.

Mrs. Vinson says she knows that sometimes they are invited to affairs because of her husband's official position, but mostly they are invited because folks like them. She says they have just as many Republican friends as Democratic ones.

"There are no party lines for the Vinsons," she says. However, with Mr. Vinson's appointment as Chief Justice, and the hard work which that position demands, the Vinsons are trying to cut down on their engagements.

Mrs. Stone, wife of the late Chief Justice Harlan Fiske Stone, and predecessor of Mr. Vinson, made a rule of attending only two parties a week—Tuesdays and Saturdays. Nobody could swerve the Stones from this program.

Mrs. Vinson says some weeks they get from a dozen to two dozen invitations for afternoon and evening functions and she attends a lot of luncheons.

When the Vinsons are ranking guests at evening affairs they have to leave at 10:30 p. m. It is protocol that no one else may leave before they do. This rule isn't so much adhered to now as in the old days. Now there are early morning business engagements to keep, night conferences, planes to catch and so on.

Mrs. Vinson sometimes takes a day off to look around for antiques or shop for a new bonnet. She loves pretty hats, and pretty clothes.

But despite the demands of her social life she says she is sticking to a few black dresses, which she varies with accessories and changes of jewelry.

She refuses to pay exorbitant prices for clothes and says it is every woman's obligation to do likewise.

She says she has to buy some formal gowns for the White House season and has started off with the purchase of what she calls "blue grass-green" crepe with short sleeves and draped up at the side. It is studded with green sequins and gold bugle beads, and she wears gold slippers and carries a gold evening bag with it.

BARBED LINES

By HAL COCHRAN

Once the politicians get wound up they do a lot of running down.

Mary had a little lamb—and the fellow who took her to dinner almost went broke.

A substance 4,000 times sweeter than sugar has been discovered by chemists. You'll probably hear more about it in popular songs.

It's almost time for auto drivers to hope the radiator won't freeze—until it finally does.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23—(NEA)—The announced policy of the government is that it will smash John L. Lewis. What does not seem to be realized is that in smashing John L. Lewis, the government can also smash the coal operators, shut down all business when the country needs full production, and cause the general public an awful lot of suffering.

A White House-approved decision made by Coal Mines Administrator J. A. Krug is that the only issue in today's coal crisis is to make John L. Lewis keep his contract with the government. So intent has the administration been on this one principle that it has apparently failed to get from Lewis a clear statement of his demands or what changes he wants in the existing Krug-Lewis contract.

This is utterly ridiculous. It should be apparent to even a third-grader that the first thing to do in any labor difficulty is to find out what the grievances are. Krug has refused to listen to them.

The second thing to do is to discuss the grievances, and bargain collectively. Krug has refused to bargain.

His position is that any changes in the contract must be taken up with the coal operators, the real owners of the mines.

Krug may be on firm ground in wanting to get the mines out from under government operation. But in this present instance, the mine operators are not even a party to the contract.

Perhaps the silliest aspect of this whole situation is that the real owners of the mines now sit helpless on the sidelines, caught in the strangle-hold deadlock between the government and Lewis.

New Negotiator
 That this line of action is heading the government into trouble should be fairly obvious. Cap away from the mines in wagons instead of hauling it out in cars and weighing it for royalty.

Lewis is perhaps as much to blame as the Coal Mines Administration for not publishing his wage demands. But as long as the government refuses to discuss them, Lewis is merely being smart in refusing to state them.

The public, however, has a right to know. Then it has the right to expect its servants, the responsible government officials, to sit down and bargain.

When the government decides to lick John L. Lewis, it must be prepared for a six-months' strike. It is not prepared for that now. Next spring might be different.

In Hollywood

By GENE HANDSAKER

HOLLYWOOD—This one grew like Topsy or mushrooms on a May morning after a chat with Niven Busch, a handsome chap with a sharp nose, a facile brain, and a beautiful wife.

Busch, the author of "Duel in the Sun" as well as other novels, screen plays, and magazine articles, is married to actress Teresa Wright. He wrote the movie, "Pursued," starring her and Robert Mitchell, and hunted the set during production.

"Seeing so much of one another, I suppose you fought all the time," I remarked.

"No," said Niven, "as a matter of fact, it's a lot of fun to work with somebody you're close to."

Teresa would be putting up her hair or taking a shower at bedtime, and Niven, script in hand, would feed her lines to her. Sometimes on awaking next morning, one or the other would think of an improvement in dialogue or action. On the set they'd decide on changes in lines. Busch interceded with the director when his wife wanted more time for rehearsal.

All in all, Busch testified, marriage is a happy state even when both partners are engaged in the nerve-racking, competitive, tempestuous movie business. With visions of breakfast table quarrels, amid cries of "You stole my close-up!" I decided to check further. For partnerships in pictures, by partners in marriage, are decidedly on the increase.

Cornel Wilde reports that "I've never played a scene that Pat hasn't helped me with." That's Patricia Knight, his wife. "If she hadn't had faith in me, I'd have given up the movies at one time."

Susan Hayward told me: "Suppose I were married to an attorney, say, or an advertising man. I get up at 5:30 a. m. and drag home about 6:30 p. m., dead tired. He'd have worked from nine to five and would want to go out. As it is, if I'm nasty or upset, Jess understands that something went wrong." Her husband is actor Jess Barker.

Burgess Meredith and Paulette Goddard not long ago were getting out of bed at home, driving to a studio, and getting back into bed for a hoiday scene in a picture costarring them. Burgess was co-producer, and Paulette remarked that, being his wife, "I can't talk back to the producer—not till I get him home."

Says Maureen O'Hara, wife of Dialogue Director Will Price: "We have the evenings together

tion in the least. While the President's press secretary is putting out from Key West courageous statements that the President is in full command of the situation, in this case the headquarters are so far from the front line they don't know what's going on.

What the President may or may not realize is that he can be the worst sufferer since a coal strike has developed. First the operators will blame him because their properties are shut down and they start losing money. Then the public will blame him when it starts getting cold. If the government puts John L. in jail, or penalizes him in any other way, union labor will back him up to a man.

There is still time to save this situation if a little common sense is used. One proposed solution that deserves some consideration is that the government now make a revised contract with the miners, effective to Mar. 31, 1947. A provision in this contract could be a clause that the contract going into effect after next Apr. 1 must be negotiated between Lewis and the operators.

Rather than have their properties continue to be shut down, the mine operators could reasonably be expected to prefer having the government grant some wage concessions to Lewis, then boosting the price of coal to cover the difference.

What Lewis Wants
 The real truth of the matter is that Lewis's demands may not be as exorbitant as they have been rumored to be. He is known to want a shorter work week. He wants the right to discuss the meaning of the contract, instead of being subjected to unavailing impositions handed down by the government.

He wants some of the chiseling operators to quit robbing his welfare fund by bootlegging coal away from the mines in wagons instead of hauling it out in cars and weighing it for royalty.

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The public, however, has a right to know. Then it has the right to expect its servants, the responsible government officials, to sit down and bargain.

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to talk shop." And Veronica Lake, married to Director Andre de Toth, finds this advantage: "You can drive to work with your husband."

These dismissals, in line with the OPA liquidation order effective Nov. 12, will reduce personnel of the regional office to about 250 and the district office to about 330.

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Wagner's Opera, 'Lohengrin,' Stars Marion Claire as 'Elsa'

Marion Claire, soprano prima donna of the "Chicago Theatre of the Air" series, will be starred as Elsa in the production of Wagner's operatic masterpiece, "Lohengrin," to be presented over Mutual, Saturday at 10 p. m. Morton Howe, Metropolitan Opera tenor, will be co-starred in the title role.

David Niven and Akim Tamiroff, famous screen luminaries, will star on "This Is Hollywood," at 10:15 p. m. over CBS, when they appear in the world radio premiere of the exciting movie hit, "A Scandal in Paris."

Jimmy Dorsey, fabulous virtuoso on the saxophone and violin, comedy team that was formed in the heat of the Italian battlefront, will be Vaughn Monroe's guests on his musical-variety show at 7:30 p. m. on CBS.

Jimmy Carroll, silver voiced tenor, sings the memorable favorite, "Silver Threads among the Gold," as Ray Bloch's orchestra, "Mr. Intercolor," Cliff Hall and the "Gold and Silver Minstrels" salute the city of Savannah, Ga., in another half hour of old-fashioned fun and music at 9 p. m. over MBS.

George Enesco, distinguished Rumanian composer-conductor and one of the leading musicians of the world today, will conduct the Cleveland Symphony orchestra in his own "Symphony No. 1 in E"

flat Major," on the broadcast at 6 p. m. over Mutual.

Jean Sablon will sing "Le Petit Vin Blanc," a favorite of GIs stationed in France, on his new "Jean Sablon show" at 7:15 p. m. over CBS.

Arms Inventory Debate Planned
 LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., Nov. 23—(UP)—The United Nations political committee pushed toward climactic debate and a vote today on Russia's plan for an inventory of Allied bases and armed forces on foreign soil.

The United States, while tempted to play the role of mediator between Russia and Britain on the troops issue, possibly will formalize its heretofore informal request that the Soviet proposal be extended to troops at home as well as those abroad.

Britain planned to fight to the last to have the 54-nation political committee delay a decision on the Soviet proposal, and seek to couple it with the next item on the committee's calendar—the subject of world disarmament.

Diamond Hoard Found in Japan
 WASHINGTON, Nov. 23—(AP)—Hundreds of thousands of cut diamonds—probably the greatest assortment ever assembled in modern times—is in the hoard which American occupation forces uncovered in Japan.

Government officials said today the Japanese government collected the huge treasure from the Japanese people as a desperate war financing measure. Apparently the intention was to sell the gems for foreign exchange and purchase munitions and raw materials.

A war department announcement last night said the gems were valued at between \$20,000,000 and \$25,000,000. But gem experts with knowledge of the hoard said the Army undoubtedly was speaking conservatively and of the New York wholesale price. In settings and in the possession of individuals, they said, the value would be far greater.

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LA GUARDIA FOR GOVERNOR

WE were rather sorry to see that the citizens of Trieste, in a straw vote, picked Fiorenzo H. LaGuardia, out of all the world's possible candidates, as the man they should like to see become the first governor of the future Free State of Trieste.

There is nothing personal in our feeling. Mr. LaGuardia would probably be a good choice. He has experience, and he speaks Italian and at least one of the Yugoslavian dialects. But we're afraid his appointment might further slow up the snail's pace of international politics.

The Big Four foreign ministers have just finished a long drawn-out discussion of the relative powers of Trieste's future governor and police chief. It was a tangle that stalled the whole process of treaty-making. Now, if Mr. LaGuardia is chosen head man, the job will have to start all over again.

Who would get to denounce the tin-horns, the governor or the chief of police? What about traffic-escort priorities in getting to fires? Who would go after Trieste's bingo-playing housewives? How about free radio time?

Mr. LaGuardia settled all these questions in his own favor as mayor of New York. But New York isn't Trieste. We shudder to think what might happen when the demands of such a colorful and capricious administrator as Mr. LaGuardia got tossed in the laps of that equally capricious gathering known as the Big Four.

LEWIS AGAIN

JOHN L. LEWIS signed a contract with the United States government. He has broken that contract despite his pledge that it would be effective for the period of

government operation of the mines. Contentment action has been started.

The citizens are irate, and rightfully so. They are being deprived of the coal which provides heat, moves their trains, makes their steel, and lights their homes.

We repeat that strikes in industries directly affecting the public welfare must be outlawed. But in fairness, some other method of settling disputes must be found if strikes are to be forbidden.

President Truman and his government merely find themselves today in the spot in which private industry has been placed time after time. If the government is to be a private operator, it must expect to suffer the headaches of private operators.

Perhaps the government and the public will see more clearly as a result of the coal crisis that changes are needed.

If so, Lewis will have done the country two favors.

He will have spotlighted the need for a new way to settle disputes affecting the public welfare.

And he will have proved conclusively that government has on place in private industry, either nationally or locally.

Government seems less able than private industry to sit down around a table with labor. In fact, Coal Mines Administrator Krug has refused to discuss grievances with Lewis or to bargain collectively.

If government is to be a private operator it must accept the responsibilities. If it is unwilling to take these responsibilities it must stay out of private industry.

Freedom lasts only where it is cherished, where it is respected and responsibly practiced by the whole people.

—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York.

History has proved too often and too recently that the nation which allows its military strength to decline invites attack.

—Fleet Adml. Chester W. Nimitz.

WHAT IT MEANS

GOP's Proposed Tax Slash

By ALEXANDER R. GEORGE
 WASHINGTON—(AP)—A 20 per cent reduction in individual income taxes, as promised by Republican leaders in congress, would mean a tidy savings for taxpayers in all income brackets.

The tax of a \$2,500 wage earner with a wife and two dependent children would be cut from \$95 to \$76 a year, a reduction of \$19. The tax of a married person with no dependents and an income of \$25,000 would be reduced from \$9,062 to \$7,265.60, a slash of \$1,816.40.

To many people \$19 is a puny savings. However, to a man or a widow supporting a family of four on \$2,500 a year in a time of high living costs, it probably means much more than a \$1,816 savings to the \$25,000-a-year taxpayer. The \$19 may be sorely needed for food, clothing, or medicine while the \$1,816 may mean only a second automobile or other luxury.

Rep. Martin of Massachusetts, slated to be speaker of the house in the new congress, has said that the proposed 20 per cent reduction will be "straight across the board." That would mean a 20 per cent cut for all individual taxpayers—(not corporations) in every income bracket from the lowest to the highest.

However, there may be considerable pressure in congress to give a larger measure of relief to low-income taxpayers than to those in the high brackets. That's how the reduction by congress a year ago worked out. Increase of the depend-

ent exemption allowance took 12 million small-income persons right off the federal tax rolls.

Some congressmen think there will be considerable backing in the house and senate for a graduated reduction, starting possibly at 20 per cent or more in the low-income brackets and tapering down to 15 or 10 per cent in the high brackets. The high prices of so many necessities will be a main argument of advocates of greater relief for small wage-earners, particularly those with several dependents.

A tax cut could be put into effect by reducing tax rates or increasing the amount of allowance for dependent exemptions, or by both methods. In 1915 congress changed the law to grant exemptions from both normal tax and surtax amounting to \$500 each for the taxpayer, his spouse, and his dependents. Under the old law, these exemptions were allowed only for the surtax.

Congress also reduced the tax rates in each surtax bracket, the changes applying to 1946 income.

Republican leaders have said that the proposed reduction would apply to all income received in 1947. Tax authorities believe that congress does proceed to cut taxes on 1947 income there will be considerable pressure for doing it quickly.

That's because employees will start withholding taxes under present rates from the pay of millions of employes on Jan. 1, two days before the new congress con-

venes. If taxes were withheld for a considerable time under present rates, many taxpayers would have a long wait for their excess payments refunded.

The government probably would not start making refunds until after Mar. 15, 1948, when final tax returns will be due on 1947 income. It might be midsummer of 1948 before most of the excess tax payments were refunded.

WHAT IT MAY MEAN TO YOU

Some samples of how 20 per cent cut in income taxes would reduce various tax bill of taxpayers in yearly brackets:

Man, Wife and Two Dependents	Net	Tax if Cut
Income 1916 Tax 20 per cent	\$ 2,500	\$ 95
	3,000	190
	4,000	380
	5,000	589
	6,000	798
	8,000	1,292
	10,000	1,882
Man, Wife and No Dependents	1,500	95
	2,000	190
	3,000	380
	10,000	2,185

(Net income means income after deductions have been taken for such items as certain taxes, interest, and extraordinary medical expenses, but before personal exemptions are taken.)

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK—(AP)—The subway wolf—that beast in human flesh who pinches pretty girls in crowded cars—is prowling and howling again. He's got the board of transportation so worried it is considering putting a "for women only" car on each express train during rush hours.

And what