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A. B. C. Settlement Reached

Liner Crash In Virginia Claims 27

Florida Bound Private Airship Met Low Ceiling

Richmond, Va., May 16—(UP)—A private airliner crashed and burned about five miles from here early today, killing at least 27 persons including three women and three children.

The big ship, reported en route from New York to Miami, Fla., crashed on the farm of William Walton, transmitter operator of Richmond Radio Station WRVA. Walton said he counted 6 bodies, including three women and three children.

All of the bodies were thrown clear of the twisted and fire-blackened fuselage by the force of the crash, he asserted.

Walton said he was awakened about 1 A. M. by the sound of an airplane passing low over his house. He said the motors sounded very unsteady. Then there was a crash and a terrific explosion.

Walton got to the scene as quickly as he could and counted the bodies. He said the plane was a two-motored gray machine with red markings of the Viking Airlines of Glendale, Cal.

The plane, said to be a DC3 twin-engined transport, took off from the Newark, N. J., airport at 8:37 P. M. EDT. last night. First reports received by the Civil Aeronautics Board in New York said 5 passengers and two crewmen were on the flight.

One of the first to arrive at the scene of the crash was Sgt. H. W. Henshaw of the Henrico County, Va., police department. He said the bodies were burned so badly it was impossible for him to make an accurate count.

A report from the Richmond Municipal Airport said the plane had taken off from the airport after discharging two passengers and was attempting to make an instrument approach back to the field because of poor visibility.

Ceiling and visibility at the time of the accident were said by air officials to be zero-zero.

Comptroller Dowe Dies

State Official Stricken at Work

Danielson, May 16—(UP)—Funeral services will be held 2 P. M. Saturday at Westfield Congregational Church for State Comptroller John M. Dowe, 49, who died at Hartford last night after being stricken ill while at work at the Capitol.

Dowe had come to work yesterday despite the fact that he wasn't feeling well. His condition grew worse and he was taken to St. Francis' Hospital where he died. Burial will be at Westfield Cemetery.

"The news of the death came as a very grievous shock to me," Gov. R. E. Baldwin said. "He was an able and faithful public official and devoted long hours and hard work to his office. His many friends and associates will feel a very deep sorrow at his passing."

Dowe served as deputy State Comptroller from 1935 to 1939. He became comptroller in 1940, was defeated in 1942, but was returned to office in 1944. He was State Democratic chairman from 1942 to 1944.

The death posed a legal problem since the statutes provide that a successor shall be named by the Governor, unless the Legislature is in session. Observers pointed out that with the Republicans controlling the House and the Democrats the Senate an agreement on a successor is problematical. Deputy Comptroller Raymond S. Thatcher meanwhile assumed the duties.

Henniker, N. H., Pleads to OPA For Proper Diet

Henniker, N. H., May 16—(UP)—Henniker's 1,300 citizens today hopefully awaited word from the OPA in response to their plea for "sufficient meats, fats and oils to provide a proper diet."

In a message to OPA officials in Washington, the town board of selectmen said that the only meats available in Henniker are sausages and frankfurters.

"We would be only too happy to exchange our diet of frankfurters and sausages and the one-half pound of butter which some of us are lucky enough to obtain once every six weeks for the prime ribs of beef and the filet mignon that are prevalent in black markets flourishing throughout the country," the message said.

The appeal also stated that residents would like to conserve meat for less-fortunate Europeans, but their own "meager allotment . . . is not sufficient to provide a proper diet either for our children or ourselves."

SHOTS FIRED AT TRAIN

Frankfurt, May 16 — (UP) — U. S. Headquarters announced tonight that two shots were fired at a train carrying American Army dependents from Bremerhaven to Frankfurt last night. No one was injured.

Education Officials Survey City School Program

Education officials from all parts of the State gathered in Waterbury today to begin an extensive survey of the Waterbury public education program. "The "evaluators", pictured above with several local school officials, started their task at Wilby High School, where they will work for two days before going to Crosby and Leavenworth High Schools. School superintendents, principals and university faculty members, are included in the group of experts, who were assigned here by the State Department of Education. The group above is composed of: Left to right, seated, Palmer Howard, Harold J. Mahoney, Carl Magnuson, Raymond Lumley, Clarence Tappin, supervisor of local secondary schools; James E. Moran, Wilby principal; Dr. John G. Gilmartin, local superintendent of schools, Daniel J. Hafferhan and John Squires; standing, Wesley Kelcham, Miss Helen Doran, dean of girls at Wilby; Ethyl Francis, Rheta Clark, Paul D. Collier, chairman of the evaluation committee; W. R. Cook, Reymond E. Claflin, Clifford A. Holleran, Frank Regan, principal of Leavenworth High School; Edward L. Kehoe, and Anthony A. Pupilli.

Flood Here For Hearing On Reward

Chicago Patrolman Vies with Palmer For $3,000 Claim

Patrolman Joseph J. Flood of Chicago arrived in Waterbury today to prepare for a personal appearance tomorrow in Superior Court, where he will claim the $3,000 reward offered by the State of Connecticut for the apprehension of Daniel J. Leary, former city comptroller and now an inmate at the State Prison at Wethersfield.

No disclosure has been made whether or not G. Edward Palmer of Chicago, the only other claimant to the reward money, will be present for the hearing, but reports have been prevalent for some weeks that Palmer did not wish to come here.

Flood will be represented by Attorney Frank T. Healey, while Attorney J. Warren Upson will appear for Palmer.

Special State's Attorney Hugh M. Alcorn, Sr., of Hartford, who prosecuted the Waterbury conspiracy case and secured Leary's conviction, will represent the State at the hearing, slated for 11:30 A. M. before Judge Edward J. Quinlan.

Flood arrived in Hartford yesterday, it was learned, and was believed to have conferred with State authorities on tomorrow's hearing. Attorney Alcorn was reported by his office today to be "in conference," and was not available for comment.

Palmer claims the reward for supplying the information which led to Leary's arrest in Chicago Feb. 26, while the policeman, an ex-serviceman, claims the reward on the ground that he made the arrest and prevented an alleged later attempt by Leary to escape.

Court last convened to hear phases of the conspiracy trial here Nov. 17, 1942, when Enoch Borgnaes was arraigned belatedly on a conspiracy count. Borgnaes, who fled to Europe during the grand jury investigation, was sentenced to jail on a plea of nolo contendere.

Leary, who fled the day the State Supreme Court of Errors upheld his conviction, had been a fugitive from justice for nearly five years. He is now serving a 10 to 15 year term.

Police Offer 'Dimout' Aid To Assist C.L.&P. In Enforcements

Police will assist the Connecticut Light & Power Company in enforcing the 'brownout" orders of the State Public Utilities Commission, Superintendent William J. Roach announced today.

Forty violations of the regulations promulgated to conserve electric power during the coal crisis were noted during the test survey last night, Superintendent Roach said.

Beginning tonight, he said, members of the department will report all violations noted during their tours of duty.

Names of violators are being turned over to the Connecticut Light & Power Company which, in turn, will report to the PUC the names of persistent violators. The commission has the power to direct any utility to shut off the current of those guilty of repeated violations.

The conservation regulations direct the curtailment of electric lighting for advertising and display signs, show windows, ornamental purposes, etc. They will be in force for the duration of the soft coal crisis.

Reduction of the use of gas by industrial and home users has also been ordered by the commission.

MAGUIRE SETTLES

Bridgeport, May 16—(UP)—Settlement of a wage dispute at the Maguire Industries, Inc., brought an 18 1-2 cents an hour wage increase today to 600 members of the C.I.O. United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

Look for Defects

State Unit Starts Evaluation of Wilby Education System

Evaluation of the education system at Wilby High School was started today by a group of experts assigned here by the State Department of Education, which seeks information on possible defects or "weak spots" in the local program. The survey, which has been planned in co-operation with officials of the University of Connecticut, will be extended to Crosby and Leavenworth high schools next week, and will be made in grammar schools in the Fall.

The evaluation group, which includes school superintendents and principals from other parts of the State and faculty members from the University of Connecticut, was broken into committees today and each unit was assigned to study a specific phase of the Wilby program.

Reports will be secured by the "investigators" on the aims and objectives of the school, on the make-up of the pupil population, on the pupils' activities, on courses of study and methods of instruction, and on results of the educational program. The group will present findings on its investigations of the staff, the school plant, the administration, and the library.

Dr. John G. Gilmartin, superintendent of schools, has pointed out that the survey was requested by the Board of Education, and did not stem from any "forced" program of the Hartford office. A similar survey was recently conducted in Naugatuck.

Wilby teachers will have an opportunity to hear an analysis by the experts tomorrow at 1:15 P. M., when the first report session will be held. The survey at the commercial high school will be concluded tomorrow afternoon.

The various units of investigators visited class rooms today.

One major phase of the survey involved teaching methods, and teachers were asked to fill out questionnaires to aid in obtaining the desired information. An analysis of the teaching personnel will be included in the final reports.

The Crosby survey will be conducted Monday and Tuesday, while the staff will meet at Leavenworth Thursday and Friday.

F. P. Brett, 77, Dies in Sleep

Civic Personality Practiced Law

Francis P. Brett, 77, retired attorney and former Democratic Town Clerk of Waterbury and member of the House of Representatives, died in his sleep this morning at his 26 Chapman Avenue residence.

Mr. Brett, one of the city's prominent personalities, served as Town Clerk from 1900 to 1904, when he was defeated by John Blair. He subsequently defeated Blair and again served two consecutive terms from 1906 to 1909 when he was defeated by Robert Palmer.

Avidly interested in civic and political affairs, he was an active member of the Waterbury Lodge of Elks, of which he was a charter member; the Knights of Columbus, the Waterbury Concordia Singing Society, the Waterbury Chapter of the Red Cross and the Historical Society of New York.

He was born in the south end section of Waterbury, Dec. 13, 1869, the son of the late Patrick and Elizabeth (Slater) Brett. He was a graduate of Crosby High School and the Yale School of Law.

His mother was one of five sisters all of whom taught school in Waterbury in the old St. Patrick's Auditorium on East Main Street. They were the first Catholic teachers in the city. Mr. Brett was a communicant of St. Margaret's Church.

Survivors include a nephew, Superior Court Judge Patrick B. O'Sullivan of Orange, Conn.; niece, Mrs. Andrew J. Haire, New York City; two cousins, who resided with him, Miss Lucy Minahan, assistant Town Clerk of Waterbury, and Miss Mary H. Minahan.

The funeral will be held from the Bergin Funeral Home, 290 East Main Street, Saturday morning to St. Margaret's Church. The time will be announced later. Friends may call at the funeral home tomorrow afternoon and evening. Relatives ask that flowers be omitted.

Leahy to Talk With Britons

London, May 16—(UP)—Admiral William Leahy, President Truman's Chief of Staff, arrived at Bovingdon Airport outside London today for a conference with British chiefs of staff.

There was lively speculation on the reasons for Leahy's visit. British official spokesmen professed ignorance. The Washington announcement of his plans said he would consult the British service chiefs on withdrawal of American troops and repatriation of the Japanese from Pacific areas under British command.

Speculation revolved around the possibility that his visit was connected with American efforts to obtain sovereignty over strategic British Pacific Islands.

Leahy was met by Admiral H. K. Hewitt, commander of U. S. Naval Forces in Europe, and Paul Walburg, personal assistant to Ambassador W. Averell Harriman. He was to see Harriman during the afternoon.

U.S. Time Hearing Set Tomorrow

Middlebury Units To Ask Corrections In Pleadings

A preliminary hearing in the U. S. Time Corporation's action against the Middlebury Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals has been scheduled in Superior Court for tomorrow, when the defendants will ask the court to order corrections in the plaintiff's pleadings.

The Middlebury units will ask the industrial corporation to present more specific information on its claims that it had believed its industrial premises in Middlebury could be changed and extended and its buildings enlarged. The corporation will be asked on what facts it based such beliefs.

A request, also will be made by the defendants for information as to whether the firm plans to erect other buildings, and, if so, what they will be.

Holding that certain portions of the complaint are unnecessary and irrelevant, the defendants will ask the court to expunge them. Included in that request is the claim of the corporation that no building ordnance existed in Middlebury at the time it first set up its industrial plant there. References to war production and postwar plans are among others which the defendants ask the court to expunge.

The corporation's suit was filed after the Middlebury zoning units denied its request for a permit to erect a second story to its plant. In the action, the firm asks for declaratory judgments, setting forth whether the Zoning Commission was legally created, whether the zoning ordnance was valid, and what its rights are in regard to expansion.

Willie Francis To Go to Chair

New Iberia, La., May 16—(UP)—Willie Francis put his faith today in the Lord "to save me again" after the Louisiana Supreme Court ruled that he must go to the electric chiar for the second time.

The 17-year-old Negro who was only "tickled" the first time he sat in the State's portable chair for the slaying of a St. Martinville, La., druggist, learned the Supreme Court's decision with calmness late yesterday.

"Things look pretty bad, all right," he sadi. "But maybe the Lord will save me again. However, I'm not afraid to die. I've never been afraid to die. When I pray, I don't pray to be saved. I just pray for courage."

Reward Offered In Willis Case

Hartford, May 16—(UP)—A $3,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who tried to assassinate Fairfield County State's Attorney Lorin W. Willis at his home at Nichols May 9 was authorized today by Gov. R. E. Baldwin.

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Hopes for Cure

Bataan Survivor, 65, Wants to Live With Leper-wife

San Francisco, May 16—(UP)—Maj. Hans Hornbostel, 65, and his 55-year-old wife, Gertrude, began their months of waiting and hoping today—determined to spend the rest of their hours together.

Hornbostel, a survivor of the Bataan Death March, awaited an answer to his request for permission to enter a leper colony with his disease-stricken wife.

Together they hoped for a wonder drug to cure her, although doctors said she hadn't "the chance of a snowball in Hell" of being cured.

The Major said simply: I'm 65. I've had my fling. I just want one other thing in life—to spend the rest of it with my wife."

He appealed to the Surgeon General of the United States for permission to enter the Carville, La., Leprosarium with his wife.

At Washington, Dr. Otis Anderson of the U. S. Public Health Service said it was against regulations to admit a non-leper to a leper colony but added that an "equitable arrangement"—probably on a "visiting basis"—might be arranged.

At Carville, La., Leprosarium officials were reluctant to discuss the appeal, but indicated it would be denied. A spokesman said no formal application for entrance had been received from Hornbostel.

"But if an application comes," the spokesman said, "I'm afraid we'll have to turn it down."

The tall, grey-haired, tanned veteran, who is being allowed to visit his wife in her isolation ward here "because he has already been through so much hell," was persistent in his appeal.

Mrs. Hornbostel, the nerves in her hands already partially destroyed by the disease, was in isolation at San Francisco Hospital.

"I want him to come with me," she told reporters.

Mrs. Hornbostel, plump, grey-haired mother of three, said she believed she contracted the disease while in the Japanese prison camp at Santo Tomas, in the Philippines.

She held faint hope that the new wonder drug streptomycin might be used to cure her, but doctors said nothing has been found that will completely cure leprosy—that it merely could be arrested after a year to 18 months of treatment.

Dr. Harvey Hendrickson, attached to San Francisco Hospital staff, said Mrs. Hornbostel would be released from the leprosarium on parole if the arresting treatment is successful.

She hasn't "the chance of a snowball in Hell" to recover completely, Hendrickson said. "There is no recovery—only relief."

Although it is known that leprosy is not communicable on short contact, Hendrickson said, "there is a 100 percent chance of infection for Major Hornbostel if he continues to live with her."

"His only chance is that he is one of those persons of great resistance who apparently are immune to its infection," Hendrickson said.

Hornbostel was a sergeant in the Marine Corps when they were married at Guam in 1914 in a secret ceremony after her father, a former Prussian Army officer, had refused to permit his daughter to marry an enlisted man.

Assembly Honors Dowe

Validating Bill Further Delayed

State Capitol, Hartford, May 16—No action was taken on Waterbury's Validating Act today as the General Assembly convened in honor of the late John M. Dowe, Democratic State Comptroller, who died suddenly last night, and then adjourned all business for the day in final tribute to him.

The city administration's Validating Act, which is taking a tossing in the House for various reasons, is said to be definitely slated for passage by the House despite its experiences. The delay, revealed yesterday when the House failed to act on the measure despite unanimous passage by the Senate, is viewed as purely political.

Embarrassment of Waterbury legislators is one reason for the action by the GOP-controlled House to the Democratic-sponsored bill; "token courtesy" to former Republican State tax commissioner Attorney William Blodgett is said to be another factor. Attorney Blodgett served as legislative representative for the unsuccessful attempt of the Waterbury Council of Community Clubs to defeat the administration bill by means of a substitute measure; and use of the Validating Act as a threat to insure passage of GOP-sponsored bills in the Democratic-controlled Senate.

One prominent GOP House member yesterday said unofficially that the city's act will "definitely be passed." It may wind up at the bottom of the agenda however.

Bulletins

AUSTRALIA OPPOSES MEMBERSHIP ENTRY

New York, May 16—(UP)—Australia proposed today that the whole question of admitting new members to the United Nations should be left for the UN General Assembly to settle, and opposed a Security Council plan to screen membership applications in secret.

TRUMAN ASKS MINERS TO ARBITRATE

Washington, May 16—(UP)—President Truman today asked the deadlocked miners and soft coal operators to submit their dispute to arbitration.

Rail Strike to Cripple City's Industries and All Home Life

Should the railroad strike begin as scheduled Saturday, Waterbury's industrial and commercial activity would suffer a tremendous blow, a survey showed today. The strike's effect would be felt almost immediately in every home in the city.

Industry here, still struggling with the coal shortage and just beginning to recover from the tie-up threat offered by the short-lived embargo, would face the gravest situation yet should a rail strike halt shipments and deliveries. Stores would be unable to get stocks beyond those on hand except by motor truck.

"We'll just have to throw up our hands if the railroad men strike," said one prominent industrialist today. "We thought we'd fought our way out of a series of crises but this would be the worst of them all."

A national survey by the United Press today disclosed that the start of a railroad strike Saturday would mean a critical food shortage and the worst industrial collapse in the country's history, and "the blow to the country's economy might reach the proportions of a national disaster."

The rail walkout would, within a matter of days, hit every factory, every business, and every home in Waterbury. Farmers and residents of suburban areas might not feel severe effects for two weeks or more but then they too, would find the rail strike's impact on their daily lives.

"It can be a dreadful situation for Waterbury," said Secretary Frank J. Green of the Chamber of Commerce." Our factories could not get their raw materials or send out their finished products, and employment would be directly and seriously affected. The mercantile trade would also suffer tremendously."

The United Press reports further on the possible crisis resulting from the rail strike as follows:

Spokesmen for the meat packing industry said there would be "no meat shortage to worry about," because there would be no meat. Almost all of the meat distributed by major packing houses is shipped by rail, and most of the cattle they buy comes in by rail.

If the strike continued public utilities would be forced to cut the supply of power to meet only emergency needs. Power restrictions, it was believed, would be much more drastic than the brownouts imposed during the recent coal strike.

Aggravating the situation was the coal strike itself, which left the nation's coal reserves almost depleted. This fact, industrial experts believed, would hasten the collapse of basic industries.

If the striking railroad workers refuse to haul perishables, farming authorities said the effect on agriculture would be grave. Perishable crops would rot in the fields because they could not be shipped to market or to refrigeration plants. Livestock could be fed grain, but feed shipments to livestock raisers would be halted.

The two railroad brotherhoods which have threatened the strike announced, however, that they would continue to handle shipments of milk and hospital supplies. They also would carry troops and hospitalized veterans.

The strike would involve directly about 250,000 engineers and trainmen on all major roads. Railroad officials believed they might be able to operate a few trains by replacing strikers with members of other non-striking unions

Sides Agree On Buffalo And Detroit

Way Now Cleared To Official End Of Long Strike

Company and union negotiators in the American Brass Company strike today reached an agreement on Buffalo and Detroit settlement terms, thereby clearing the way for official ending of the A.B.C. strike in the Naugatuck Valley.

"The union and the company have reached an understanding on the Buffalo and Detroit situations, in the presence of representatives of the Detroit Local," said a statement by John J. Driscoll, C.I.O. spokesman.

American Brass Company officials and union representatives were closeted in a special conference at The Elton today seeking removal of remaining obstacles to a settlement of the 102-day old strike.

"It looks hopeful," was the only comment made by John J. Driscoll, State C. I. O. secretary and chairman of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union negotiating committee representing strikers in Waterbury, Torrington and Ansonia.

The special management-union session was resumed at 2 P. M. after a luncheon recess. The conferees had met at 10:45 A. M. and carried on their talks until 12:45.

The three C. I. O. locals, in meetings yesterday afternoon and last night, voted to continue their strike until the company offered satisfactory contract terms to workers in strike at A .B. C.'s Detroit and Buffalo plants. They also voted, however, to accept a new contract incorporating terms negotiated with the management by their committee for the Naugatuck Valley plants.

The paradox presented by the two votes was left unexplained by union leaders today.

"There are no differences over the contract terms for Connecticut plants," said John J. Mankowski, member of the M. M. S. W. executive board." It is mainly a question of getting the final draft into the proper words."

Mr. Mankowski said there had been some discussion over the submission by the company of a full list of those entitled to receive lump sum payments under the compensatory bonus settlement provided in the contract. He said completion of this list might be delayed, but declined to say whether this would necessarily hold up signing of the new contract. The company has agreed to a contract change setting June 7 as the date for payment of $489,000 in settlement for the bonus issue, in place of a previous clause providing for payment "as soon as conveniently possible."

Present with the union committee was Thomas Canter, chairman of the C.I.O.-United Auto Workers unit representing A.B.C. strikers in Detroit.

Mr. Mankowski said the vote in the three cities yesterday was "overwhelmingly" in favor of continuing the strike until suitable terms had been offered at Buffalo and Detroit. The question was placed before the membership at the three meetings after the strike strategy committee, in emergency session, had decided to make no specific recommendation but leave the decision to the rank and file.

U.S. Maps Rail Seizure

Washington, May 16—(UP)—Government officials today pushed plans for seizure of the nation's railroads to forestall a strike set for Saturday.

They hoped, however, for a break in today's negotiations between the carriers and Brotherhoods of Railroad Trainmen and Locomotive Engineers that would lead to a settlement of their wage dispute and cancellation of the walkout.

Trainmen President A. F. Whitney said that the railroads had promised an answer today on the unions' wage demand. He refused to confirm that the original request for a $2.50 a day increase had been lowered to $1.50. The unions have rejected a presidential fact-finding board's recommendation for a $1.26 daily boost as inadequate.

A source close to the negotiations said that the $2.50 demand had been reduced to $1.60 during the conferences which resumed here Tuesday.

The parties, which started negotiations again at the request of President Truman, have ben asked to report to him tomorrow at the latest. The walkout of 250,000 members of the trainmen and engineers is set for 5 P. M., E.D.T., Saturday on all railroads except the Illinois Central.