

**DEPARTMENTAL INDEX**

Amusements	10
Classified	29-33
Comics	16
Editorial	8
Financial	25
Marine	33
Radio-TV	11
Society	23-24
Sports	17-18
Woman's Page	22

# The Times-Picayune

**WARMER**  
and clear to partly cloudy; gentle to moderate variable winds in the United States weather bureau forecast. Highest temperature Monday, 78 degrees, lowest 57; same day last year, highest 70, lowest 65.

116th YEAR—No. 110 Associated Press (AP), International News (IN), United Press (UP), Wirephoto (WP) NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1952 Entered N. O. Post Office as Second-Class Matter Under Act of March 3, 1879 SINGLE COPY 5 CENTS

## JOINT CHIEFS ASK CLARIFICATION OF KOJE CONDITIONS

### Far East Command Ordered to Report at Once

Another story on Kojé, incidents on Page 4.

By G. YATES M'DANIEL  
WASHINGTON, May 12 (AP)—The joint chiefs of staff have asked the Far East Command for an immediate clarifying report on the explosive situation at the Kojé Island prison camp off Korea.

A spokesman said that Gen. Omar Bradley and the chiefs of the armed services expressed serious concern in messages to the US and United Nations commander in Tokyo, Gen. Mark W. Clark.

It was learned that Clark was asked for full clarification of the circumstances leading to the prison camp commander's capture by the Reds and the manner in which he was released. The Far East commander was instructed to submit such a report based upon his preliminary investigations "by the fastest means possible."

Defense officials were known to have taken particular exception to the wording of the acceptance of the Red prisoners' demands by Brig. Gen. Charles F. Colson, who was appointed prison camp commander immediately after Brig. Gen. Francis T. Dodd was seized by the Reds and manhandled in the camp stockade.

Reds Caused Riots  
Colson was said to have told the Reds that there had been instances of bloodshed where "many prisoners of war have been killed and wounded by UN forces." Colson went on to assure the prisoners that they could expect "humane treatment in the future." He added that he would hold himself responsible for any violence and bloodshed.

Defense officials noted that the loss of life in two riots at the Kojé Island camp containing some 6000 Reds earlier this year was the direct result of acts of violence by the prisoners themselves, which caused the death or injury of UN guards.

These officials also noted frequent statements by the UN command that all of its prisoners were being treated in the letter and spirit of international agreements and that Red Cross and other neutral agencies had been given "free and frequent access to the camps to check up on conditions."

Colson was also quoted as telling the Reds there would be "no more forcible screening or any rearming of prisoners of war" after Gen. Dodd had been released unharmed.

A high military official, asking not to be named, told a reporter that at least two weeks ago Gen. Matthew Ridgway, then Far East commander, had been instructed by Washington to discontinue the screening of prisoners. "This was the process of separating those who would resist any attempt to force their return to Red territory after an armistice had been reached in Korea. This decision, moreover, was publicly announced to the Communist leaders, the official stated.

As to the arming of prisoners, the defense department and the joint chiefs of staff said through their spokesman that they had heard of no such thing and had asked the Far East command for a full report on what Gen. Colson was taking about.

## Two Strikes End, Others Still On

### Western Union, Celotex Disputes Settled

Although two strikes were settled Monday, two others plagued the New Orleans area.

The Western Union strike ended, and more than 500 workers returned to work. And the nine-week long strike of the Celotex Corporation was also resolved. About 2300 striking employes plan to return to their jobs "sometime next week."

Meanwhile, the strike of 12 American Federation Locals in the Building and Construction Trades Council continued with no signs of accord. Officials of both sides said there are no joint negotiations scheduled and none planned. The strike has tied up millions of dollars worth of projects in the city.

A new strike got under way Monday when 350 members of Local 447, CIO Oil Workers International Union, quit their jobs after negotiations for a wage increase bogged down at the Pan-Am Southern Corporation's refinery at Destrehan.

A skeleton crew stayed on the job until 4 p. m. to carry out the refinery's closure "in an orderly manner." Henry A. Heiss, refinery manager, said the strike was the first in the plant's 35-year history.

Heiss said there was "only a narrow margin of difference" separating the workers' demands from management's offer. The corporation offered an increase in shift differentials, a 4.2 per cent wage boost, retroactive to Dec. 27, 1951, and other benefits to raise wages 15 cents an hour. The workers asked a boost of 18 cents an hour, he said, plus a bonus of \$100 and other financial benefits.

John C. Jackson, superintendent of the Western Union office here, declined to tell what was granted the workers. He said the offer "was satisfactory to everyone so obviously there was an increase."

Jackson said the agreement reached between striking employes—members of two AFL locals, No. 13 and No. 14, Commercial Telegraphers' Union, was "most unusual" because the national Western Union strike continues.

Harry L. Zebal, president of Local No. 179, CIO United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers, said union members would probably return to their jobs at the Marrero plant of the Celotex Corporation "sometime next week."

He said the workers accepted a six cents per hour raise, with three cents to be added to their pay immediately and the remaining three cents to be added in November.

## T-1B AN OIL STRIKE STUDIED

### Truman Action Expected If WSB Talks Fail

By NORMAN WALKER  
WASHINGTON, May 12 (AP)—President Truman was reported Monday to be ready to invoke the Taft-Hartley law's strike-stopping court injunction provisions unless the oil strike is settled soon.

Informed officials said the White House was awaiting the outcome of a meeting Tuesday between oil industry representatives and the striking unions before the wage stabilization board.

The oil strike of 90,000 workers, now in its 13th day, has caused curtailment of both military and civilian flying. Growing shortage of fuel at filling stations is inconveniencing motorists. However, record petroleum stocks before the strike began have kept strike effects to a minimum.

In Britain, the British European Airways cut passenger service to the continent. Both Britain and the United States asked all nations to conserve dwindling aviation gasoline supplies. Many countries depend on the US for plane fuel.

Awaiting WSB Action  
Truman was reported on the verge of invoking the T-1B emergency provisions last week, but was persuaded to see if the WSB, at its meeting Tuesday, can find some way to bring about settlement of the wage dispute.

Under the T-1B law, Truman would appoint a fact-finding board to give him a report on the dispute, without recommendations for settlement. On receiving the report that an emergency situation exists, the President could direct the justice department to seek an 80-day injunction to stop the strike.

About the only hope of an oil settlement, without using the T-1B law, was that the WSB, in acting on a handful of small oil industry settlements, may point the way for other agreements.

A number of agreements pending before the WSB for approval call for wage boosts of 15 to 18 cents an hour. Industry members of the WSB contend the workers are entitled to only a 10-cent hourly increase under stabilization rules.

Officials in touch with the situation said that if, in acting on the pending cases, the WSB pared down the wage raise nearer to the 10-cent figure, a rash of new settlements might be promoted, thereby ending the strike.

Proposal Rejected  
Tuesday's meeting of the WSB with oil industry and union representatives was for the stated purpose of getting a report on how the contract negotiations have been going. The striking unions rejected a WSB proposal to end their strike.

O. A. Knight of Denver, president of the CIO Oil Workers International Union, largest of the 22 striking unions, said on his arrival here for the meeting that the strike would continue until unions get the kind of contracts they want.

He indicated this calls for an 18 1/2-cent basic pay boost, plus increased shift differentials. Workers now average between \$2 and \$2.10 an hour in earnings.

Meanwhile, officials of Western states which rely heavily on vacationing motorists for their tourist trade expressed fears that a prolonged strike would cut sharply into their summer business. Joseph B. Brand, president of the Motor Hotel Association of New Mexico, said a loss of 25 to 50 million dollars is threatened with the tourist season just beginning.

## New Legislative Officers Take Over in Opening Session



Photos by The Times-Picayune. (The Times-Picayune Staff Correspondent) BATON ROUGE, La., May 12—Kennon forces were in complete charge of the new House of Representatives when it organized at noon Monday, and Rep. Clarence C. Aycock of St. Mary parish was elected speaker of the House without opposition.

## WIDGER GETS LIFE IN STERN'S DEATH

### Surprise Guilty Plea Precedes Sentencing

(Plured on Page 3)

Harry Widger, one of six men charged with murder in the 1950 robbery-slaying of a wealthy New Orleans used car dealer, Monday pleaded guilty without capital punishment and was sentenced to life imprisonment in Angola.

Through one of his attorneys, G. Wray Gill, Widger entered the plea before selection of a jury to hear the case. Executive assistant district attorney George Guilotta said the state would not object to the plea.

Immediately after the surprise move, criminal district court Judge J. Bernard Cooke sentenced him to a mandatory life term, which will make Widger eligible for parole after serving 10 years and six months.

Widger, 43-year-old resident of Des Plaines, Ill., is the first of four men now in custody to go on trial for the fatal beating of Henry Stern, 76-year-old used car dealer. Stern died three days after he was attacked at his car lot and residence at 1115 N. Claiborne.

The robbery motive, police said, was \$72,000 in cash and a \$4000 ring that Stern reportedly had at his residence on the lot. Stern's wife, who was with him at the time of the beating and robbery, was bound and gagged before the robbers fled.

Another late development in the case was the arrest in Milwaukee last Thursday of Leo Rugendorf, 37-year-old former Chicago bondsman. Rugendorf, the fourth man arrested in connection with the killing, was seized by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents in a Milwaukee meat market where he had been employed for a short time.

Detective chief Harry Daniels questioned Rugendorf in the Wisconsin city over the week end. The district attorney's office has initiated extradition proceedings to return him here for trial.

Being sought nationwide in connection with the slaying are Joseph Bagnola and Anthony Maen, described by police as Chicago hoodlums.

Also facing trial for Stern's death are Hubert B. Toulon, 50, former Memphis, Tenn., used car dealer free under \$10,000 bond, and Hugh B. Carter, 41, 815 N. Broad, a former business associate of Stern.

## Nicholson Made Chairman, T-P Elects Tims President

### Justice Official Failed Bar Exam

By ROGER D. GREENE  
WASHINGTON, May 12 (AP)—House investigators disclosed Monday that deputy attorney general A. Devitt Vanech flunked at least three bar examinations before getting a Tennessee license to practice law in 1940.

Vanech himself, now the No. 2 man in the justice department, related the story of repeated failures under questioning at a closed-door hearing before a House Judiciary subcommittee several weeks ago.

His testimony was made public Monday.

Along with releasing the transcript of Vanech's testimony, the House group announced that Rep. Keating (R-N.Y.) has suggested that the case be brought to the attention of acting attorney general Philip B. Perlmutter and the attorney general-designate, Judge James P. McGranery.

Keating had previously questioned whether Vanech "committed a fraud" on the courts of Tennessee when he qualified for a license to hang out his shingle 12 years ago.

Phony Degree  
Keating noted that Tennessee laws require a candidate for the bar to certify that he is a resident of the state and intends to practice law there. Vanech, a native of New York, has been employed by the justice department since 1933.

In his closed-door testimony, Vanech said he failed bar exams two or three times in the District of Columbia, and at least once in Virginia before passing the test in Tennessee.

Vanech, who pronounces his name "Vanish," also testified that a statement in Who's Who in America cited him as holding a bachelor of science degree from Peekskill, N. Y., Military academy is incorrect. He said he was taking steps to correct it. The academy, a secondary school, grants only diplomas.

Who's Who in America also lists the 46-year-old justice department official as having won a bachelor of laws degree at Washington, D. C., College of Law in 1936 and a master of laws degree at Catholic University of America, in Washington, in 1944.

Vanech was not asked specifically about these two degrees, but he said he had never been able to go to college and "the only two degrees I have are the two law school degrees."

He said he had "never tried to trade" on the listing which showed him as having received a bachelor's degree from Peekskill.

## AINSWORTH GETS TOP SENATE POST

### Orleans Member Elected President Pro-Tem

By E. M. CLINTON  
(The Times-Picayune Staff Correspondent) BATON ROUGE, La., May 12—The Louisiana Senate Monday elected Sen. Robert A. Ainsworth Jr., New Orleans, president pro tempore of the state's highest legislative body in a well-oiled move that saw the Senate reorganized for business in less than half an hour.

It marked the first time in the memory of veteran legislative correspondents, going back at least 20 years, that an Orleansman has held the second highest post in the Senate, putting him third in line for the governorship.

Ainsworth, who represents the Eighth Senatorial District, is starting his second session in the upper half. He was elected in 1950 to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of former Senator Alexander E. Rainold, who became a judge.

Practically the sole anti-administration senator from New Orleans in his first session, Ainsworth now heads what appears to be a solidly knit Orleans delegation and has been designated floor leader for the state administration of Governor-Elect Robert F. Kennon.

Ainsworth was a leader in the 1950 legislation which gained for New Orleans the right to rewrite its charter and has served as chairman of the charter committee.

He was nominated for the post by Sen. Charles E. Tooke Jr., Shreveport, who is scheduled to head the powerful Senate finance committee and assist Ainsworth with the floor leadership, and was elected by acclamation after the nomination was seconded by Sen. Laurence Eustis, serving his first term in the upper body after one term in the House of Representatives.

Taking the gavel from Lt. Gov. Under such a schedule, committee

## Gist of the News

- Tuesday, May 13, 1952—
- Allies accuse Communists of continuing Panmunjom meetings only for purposes "of false propaganda." —Page 4
- Communist POWs threatened to kill Gen. Dodd if rescue attempt was made during his seizure, Army discloses. —Page 4
- Kennon forces in control of first House session as Clarence Aycock is unanimously named speaker. —Page 1
- Joint chiefs of staff ask immediate clarifying report on explosive Kojé Island situation. —Page 1
- Sen. Ainsworth of New Orleans elected president pro-tempore as state Legislature meets. —Page 1
- House probes reveal deputy attorney general failed at least three bar examinations before getting Tennessee license. —Page 1
- 1-Mile-long parade to music of 91 hands will escort Kennon Tuesday down Baton Rouge's "Inauguration Walk." —Page 1
- Truman reported ready to invoke Taft-Hartley act in oil strike if WSB conference fails. —Page 1
- Arguments over President's authority to seize steel industry opens before United States supreme court. —Page 7
- Leonard K. Nicholson elected The Times-Picayune chairman, John Francis Tims becomes president; other changes announced. —Page 1
- Western Union, Celotex strikes settled, two other walkouts continue in New Orleans area. —Page 1
- Widger gets life sentence in death of Henry Stern, former New Orleans used car dealer. —Page 1
- Four-way auto collision near Shreveport kills former New Orleans woman, 27, and child, 3. —Page 5
- Economic union of Europe and increased trade are urged by The Netherlands government officials. —Page 9
- New Orleans Philharmonic-Symphony Society launches drive for \$100,000 maintenance fund for 1952-53 season. —Page 14
- Sen. Douglas of Illinois calls Sen. Kefauver the "best available Democrat for the presidency." —Page 14
- Operators of two Houma night spots charged with possession of marijuana; bonds \$5000 each. —Page 15
- Jayces president says some 30 light airplanes will leave May 23 to participate in 11th annual air tour. —Page 20

## One Man Killed in Gretna Crash

One man was killed and another injured in a collision of two automobiles about 4:15 p. m. on state Highway 31 about a mile outside of Gretna. Dead was Leray William Hebert, 41, 1012 Porter, Gretna.

Injured was Fred G. Hamilton, 36, Baton Rouge, who was transferred to Foundation hospital after emergency treatment at Charity hospital. He had fractures of the skull and left arm and lacerations of the scalp.

Jefferson parish deputy sheriff Angelo Peppone said both cars were heavily damaged on the driver's side.

He said Hebert was driving toward Belle Chasse and Hamilton toward Gretna. Each was alone in the car.

Hebert's wife said later that he was en route to a filling station to buy gas to take his three young sons for a ride. He was employed by the Texas Pacific-Missouri Pacific Railroad of New Orleans and worked in Goldsboro.

## Six-Month Term Is Given Conforto

Joseph Conforto, New Orleans barroom operator convicted of perjury in connection with his bonding operations in criminal district court, was sentenced Monday to a six-month term in Parish Prison.

Judge William J. O'Hara pronounced sentence after denying a motion for a new trial introduced by the defendant's attorney, Lloyd C. Hoffmann. The attorney later moved for an appeal and Conforto was released after putting up a \$1000 cash bond.

Conforto last week was found guilty of perjuring himself when he signed a bond on May 22, 1950, attesting that he owned immovable property at 213 Canal, which at the time he rented in the operation of a barroom.

## Investigators Find Fortune in Cash Crammed in Lingerie in Deposit Box

CHICAGO, May 12 (AP)—Investigators found a fortune in cash crammed into an assortment of ladies' pink bloomers and stockings Monday when they opened the safe deposit box of the late Mrs. Cora Drapier.

It took officials representing various public agencies all day to count the currency—in \$1 to \$500 bills—wadded into the garments.

They counted \$120,712 found in the bloomers and stockings. But a cash-filled pillow case was still to be totaled.

Mrs. Drapier died Dec. 9 at the age of 85. Friends said she had been widowed for about 60 years. The source of her fortune was not definitely known.

Her will, dated a few days before her death, named her attorney, Pierre J. Pelouquin, as beneficiary of virtually all of the estate—estimated to be worth about \$300,000. It is being contested.

The safe deposit box was rented by Mrs. Drapier in 1915. In addition to the currency, investigators discovered "stock" worth \$14,546 and a savings account book showing deposits of \$44,166.

## Thousands Throng Capital for Kennon Inauguration

BATON ROUGE, La., May 12 (AP)—A mile-long parade in step to the music of 91 hands, will escort Gov. Elect Robert F. Kennon down Third st. Tuesday, Baton Rouge's "Inauguration Walk."

Some 10,000 residents and visitors are expected to view the line of march and subsequent inaugural ceremonies, with every motor court, hotel and rooming house for miles around already sporting "No vacancy" signs.

For the past three days special trains and buses, a steady flow of automobiles and trucks—even a few planes and boats—have descended on the capital, disgorging a catarrh of tourists, all here to witness a small-town North Louisiana judge become the 51st governor of Louisiana since the state was admitted to the Union.

Gone are the tank cars of butter, milk, the high silk stovepipe topers, the gubernatorial survey drawn by a pair of prize prancers, the fireworks displays and open barbecues—symbols of another day in the place are some 40 floats and a host of charming queens representing the state's commerce and industry—emblems of modern Louisiana, which is changing from an agrarian to a highly industrial commonwealth.

Every one of the 64 parishes will take part in the 161-unit parade, each demonstrating the main feature of its economy by a float or queen. On hand will be the "Yam Queen," the "Maid of Cotton," the "Rice Queen," the "Sugar Queen" and even the "Shrimp Queen" and the "Domino Queen."

The parade will start at 10:15 a. m.

A white convertible will carry Robert and Eugenia Kennon, the new governor and first lady. By custom, the outgoing executive usually rides with his successor, but the Chamber of Commerce committee announced that "Gov. Earl Long definitely will not be in the procession." They said the governor gave no reason for his absence.

Sons in Parade  
Kennon's three boys, Robert Jr., Floyd and Kenwood, will be in the next car, followed by eight more convertibles bearing the incoming and outgoing elected state officials and their wives.

The new governor's guard of honor is Company D, 119th Infantry, Minden National Guard, a direct descendant of the National Guard unit that Kennon organized and first commanded.

The broad sweep of the capital's 48 steps, each representing a state, and ascending in the order in which that state entered the Union, will serve as a distinguished visitors' gallery for the inaugural ceremony scheduled for noon.

At high noon, Chief Justice John Fournet of the state supreme court will administer the oath of office to the Minden judge. At that moment, 19 field artillery 105-millimeter howitzers will fire the traditional salute on the east side of the Capitol.

C. E. Barham will be sworn in as Lt. Gov. by supreme court Justice Frank Hawthorne, and the ceremony will conclude with a prayer by the Rev. John W. Melton of Baton Rouge, and a benediction by Rabbi Nathaniel Share of New Orleans.

Throughout the remainder of the afternoon and night, the new governor will be whisked about town to officiate at a series of banquets, dances, ball games and parties.

High light of the night will be the inaugural ball at the LSU Coliseum, led by the new governor and first lady.

## 1 o'clock Saturday Sunday want ads—City Edition Only

For your want ad in ALL EDITIONS of the Sunday paper, the deadline continues the same—9 p. m. Friday. Always call early in the week for latest service.

Call TULANE 2411  
Just say "Charge It"