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## Congressional Record re: Copper Strike

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gaining and a settlement of the strike. Cc like Butte and Anaconda there is no oth-Mike Mansfield, cc Lee Metcalf.

JOSEPH P. MOLONY, Chairman, Nonferorus Strike Coordinating Committee.

We also received a telegram from C. Jay Parkinson, president of the Anaconda Co., in response to our joint telegram to him, and his telegram reads as follows:

I am generally in agreement with your telegram and am pleased to advise you that each company negotiating team in the bargaining units on strike have been alerted and will be ready to receive the negotiating group from the appropriate unions on Monday morning, March 4, at 10:00 a.m. at the respective company offices to start negotiations from the beginning without any preconditions or concessions and that all differences whether economic or otherwise that are properly negotiable will be discussed and deliberated, and I hope settled. You will notice I have used your phrasing in the foregoing to avoid any misunderstanding.

Kindest personal regards.

C. JAY PARKINSON, President, The Anaconda Co.

I also have a copy of a telegram sent by Mr. Molony of the Steel Workers to Mr. Simpkins, Chief of the Mediation and Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor. The telegram reads as follows:

The unions involved in the Copper Strike have received a number of telegrams from members of Congress urging immediate resumption of collective bargaining with each company to achieve a settlement of the strike. The unions are prepared to resume collective bargaining with each company without pre-conditions. We urge that you arrange bargaining meetings with each company in New York City at any time next week starting March 6. Unions will have the necessary personnel present.

(Signed) MOLONY.

Mr. President, this is a slight sign of progress. We will only know that the unions and companies mean business when they meet on either March 4 or March 6, and that is too long a time to wait, in my judgment, to sit down around the table to try to work out differences that keep them apart at the present time.

The strike itself has had a deadening effect on the five Western copper-producing States and has crippled their economies drastically. It has worsened the Nation's balance-of-payments deficit, and it has driven up the cost of many articles because of the high cost we pay for copper at the present time.

All in all, the strike has had a very debilitating effect, not only on the individuals concerned but on the economies in general of the States of Montana, Utab, Nevada, Arizona, and New Mexico.

I repeat that the time for these folks to get together is long overdue and I would hope they would get away from this ballyragging which has been going on for so long, and that they would get down to negotiations—and I refer to both officials of the unions and the companies—to see what they can do to bring about some alleviation of the terrible economic plight which faces the miners and the smeltermen throughout the Western States.

I wish they would realize how much copper means in our economies. In cities

like Butte and Anaconda there is no other commodity on which people can turn for a livelihood. It is too bad they must depend on one product for their livelihood, but there is no other business to which they can turn in which they can find work from which they can make a living.

I join all of my colleagues from the Rock Mountain States, as well as those from the fabricating States, in urging that as soon as possible the unions and the companies get together and really get down to bedrock in this matter of negotiations.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record an editorial entitled "Copper Boycott," which was published in the New York Times on yesterday.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

COPPER BOYCOTT

The unions involved in the marathon copper strike seem bent on compelling President Johnson to do the thing they profess to want least: obtain an eighty-day injunction under the national emergency provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act.

The Administration provided both the unions and the Big Four copper companies with an honorable basis for ending the conflict over companywide bargaining that has cut off the great bulk of American mining for more than seven months. The unions refused even to test the peace plan.

Then the International Longshoremen's Association clamped a short-lived boycott on copper imports from South America and Africa. These imports have kept military suppliers and other copper-dependent industries from having to shut down during the long tie-up. The I.L.A., warned by its lawyers of possible damage suits, decided to lift its embargo pending a fuller exploration of all the legal aspects. But now the maritime unions have, in effect, called on the strikers to set up selective picket lines as a means of blocking off everything except defense shipments. "Not one pound of copper will move," they say. Several fabricating plants already have been obliged to shut down for lack of metal, and the idleness will undoubtedly spread swiftly.

Even without the deadening effect of these latest developments, the strike has crippled ethe economies of the five chief Western mining states, worsened the nation's balance-of-paymenets deficit by several hundred million dollars and driven up the cost of weapons for Vietnam by forcing reliance on high-priced foreign copper.

How much worse must the situation become before the President considers it a national emergency?

Mr. FANNIN. I wish to take this opportunity to commend our majority leader for the manner in which he has pushed for a settlement of the strike.

At this time I should like to inform my colleagues, and to advise the majority leader, that today it is expected that a 10-j (temporary) injunction cutting off the unions' insistence upon company-wide bargaining will be requested by the National Labor Relations Board against the steelworkers and other unions involved in the Kennecott case. I am further informed that the Board's petition for relief will include a demand that the unions cease insisting upon a common

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I am delighted that the distinguished Senator from Arizona has once again brought up the copper strike, which has now been plaguing five Western States, primarily, for 8 months.

It is my understanding that while I was in Salt Lake City last Wednesday, there was a meeting at the White House attended by Governors from copper-producing States in the Rocky Mountains and Members of the House and Senate from those States.

Mr. FANNIN. The Senator is correct. Mr. MANSFIELD. It is my further understanding that at that time the President indicated a deep personal interest in the copper strike and suggested that the Governors and the Members of the House and Senate contact both the companies and the unions to see if something could not be done to get them both down to hard day-to-day negotiations.

down to hard day-to-day negotiations.

Mr. FANNIN. The Senator is correct.

The President did request the Governors and the Members of Congress to help to bring this copper strike to a close.

I am sorry that the distinguished majority leader did not have the opportunity to be there. I know he would have certainly contributed greatly to that meeting.

Mr. MANSFIELD. I am sure the Governors and my colleagues in the House and Senate were aware of my feelings in this matter. I was in Salt Lake City that day, and being in the heart of the copper country I heard a great deal about copper. I was in touch with the White House later that evening so I was able to receive a fairly verbatim report of what happened.

As a result of that conference I know that the Senator and his colleague from Arizona [Mr. Hayden], the dean of this body, and others have sent telegrams and established contact with the companies and the unions in an attempt to get them together.

My junior colleague from Montana [Mr. Metcalf] and I did the same thing. We contacted the Anaconda Co. and the steelworkers.

I have before me an answer from Joseph P. Molony, chairman of the Nonferrous Strike Coordinating Committee, of the Steel Workers Union. The telegram is in answer to the telegram sent by Senator Metcalf and me. The telegram from Mr. Molony reads as follows:

The unions involved in the copper strike, in a meeting in Denver, Colo., have jointly and carefully considered your telegram of February 29. We want nothing more and nothing less than a fair settlement of our strikes at all locations of each company involved. We are prepared to resume negotiations with each company without any preconditions. If the companies are willing to negotiate without any preconditions, hopefully we can get on with collective bar-

expiration date for all contracts with the company.

I praise the distinguished majority leader for the effort he put forth in bring. ing this case to the attention of the administration and for the action that was taken immediately after he had done so.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Let me say to the Senator that he was the one who brought it to the attention of the Senate. All I did was to follow up his initiative. I agree with him that it took the National Labor Relations Board entirely too long to reach a decision on this particular matter, regardless of the merits involved.

Mr. FANNIN. I understand and I highly commend the majority leader for his graciousness. I also trust that there will be an early report from the National Labor Relations Board, on the Phelps Dodge case where a similar proceeding has been initiated.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Yes; I repeat, in my opinion, the best way to handle the strike is really not through Government interference, because the Government should be used only as a last resort-and when I say "Government," I mean Congress as well. The best thing to do is to get those people in a room, lock the door. throw away the key, not even give them a coffee break, and make them stay there until they finish.

One of the Montana newspapers, the Missoulian, stated that maybe something worthwhile could be achieved by locking them in a room and by starving or thirsting all of them until they came up with a settlement. While such a procedure would not be a love-in, it might bring results.

Mr. FANNIN. I say to the majority leader that I join him in the hope that this matter can be brought to an early conclusion. At the same time, I feel that a time does come when the President must take action under the existing laws. I feel that if something does not happen over the weekend, or the first part of next week, such action will be taken.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Let me say that, as the Senator knows, the invocation of Taft-Hartley is bound by certain specifics in the law before the President can invoke such a procedure calling for an 80-day suspension. It is my understanding that the President has discussed this matter with the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Commerce, and I believe and I am quite sure with the Attorney General as well. There are certain legal questions which have to be looked into. I would say that this is one of the things which the President may well have in the back of his head, if something is not done to bring about a settlement of the differences between the companies and the union. This strike has gone on entirely too long and it should have been settled a long time ago. In the meantime, many people are starving in my State, as well as in the Senator's State. Our people are undergoing great hardships because of the lack of revenue which the State must depend upon from the mining operations, income taxes, and the like. Therefore, I would hope that some way, somehow, both the companies and the union will wake up to reality in recognizing that something must be done and done shortly.

Mr. FANNIN. I certainly agree. The magnitude of the suffering of our people is almost unbelievable. I understand that the President has been sustained when 28 times the Taft-Hartley emergency provisions have been invoked. The court has never once turned down the President when he has invoked the emergency provisions of Taft-Hartley.

Thus, I am pleading with the majority leader to assist in bringing about this settlement and, if necessary, to request of the President that the emergency provisions of Taft-Hartley be invoked at an early date if settlement of the strike is

not forthcoming soon.

Mr. MANSFIELD. I hope that it will not be necessary to do that because I think the companies and the union themselves have the keys. If they would only use them and unlock the doors which are barring negotiations, they can go inside and get underway and discuss the matter face to face; and perhaps undergo a little sacrifice themselves in trying to bring about a satisfactory conclusion on behalf of the people whom they represent as stockholders, and those who represent the union as miners and smelters.

Mr. FANNIN. I certainly agree with the majority leader. But, in case that does not happen. I do not believe that the President can let this suffering continue. Not only are we concerned about the defense of the country but we are concerned about the many people in our Nation who have been brought almost to starvation conditions as a result of this

Mr. MANSFIELD. In my opinion, this is a rather late date and I doubt that Taft-Hartley would do too much good. and out of it might come a resumption of the strike at the end of the 80 days. But if the President is forced to do so. he will, of course, have to consider the only tools he has at his disposal. He has only two; namely, one, the invocation of Taft-Hartley and, two, the sending of legislation to Congress for its consideration, as happened in the case of the machinists in the railway shop union issue, the Senator will recall.

Mr. FANNIN. I do recall. If we do not have an early settlement of the strike. then I think it is mandatory that the President should take action.

Let me say this: Through a survey I made of editors of newspapers in small communities throughout Arizona, I received information that the miners do want to go back to work. If they could have voted to settle the strike, it would have been settled long ago. I do not feel there is any doubt that if they go back to work, they will continue to work. They are so close to settlement now so far as money is concerned. The problem issue is coalition bargaining.

Thus, I do not feel the strike should continue where the difference in money is so slight, and where the other issues are so unimportant so far as the men in the unions are concerned.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Let me say that Taft-Hartley is on the books. May I say, also, that there is one group of citizens whom we have not mentioned, and that is the small businessmen who have been

carrying a lot of "paper" in order to keep some of the strikers going. Some of them, at least in my part of the country, in the Butte and Anaconda areas, are getting pretty close to the edge of the precipice because they can only operate so long on a credit basis themselves.

Mr. FANNIN. That is also one of the great problems in Arizona where many small businesses are going out of business entirely. Many have lost their life savings

Mr. MANSFIELD. The sad thing is that great many of our good people are going into other parts of the country in order to find employment. They never come back. We will be the losers because of their leaving.

Mr. FANNIN. I agree with the Senator.