The Daily Herald (Biloxi, Mississippi) · Thu, Jan 29, 1981 · Page 29
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Moderates try to stem Polish strikes

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Both the government and moderate leaders of Poland's independent labor movement sought today to stem a growing rash of wildcat strikes taking millions of workers from their jobs and raising new fears of Soviet intervention.

The government sent a negotiating delegation to one major center of labor unrest, the the southeastern city of Rzeszow, where some 300 peasants and workers have been occupying the official trade union's former headquarters since Jan. 3 demanding talks on the delay in granting a charter to an independent farmers' union and other grievances.

A union leader in Rzeszow said Lech Walesa, the national chief of Solidarity, and the other 10 members of the big independent labor federation's presidium would negotiate for the peasants and workers while Stanislaw Ciosek, the minister of trade union affairs, headed the government team.

Local labor leaders called a general strike Wednesday in the Rzeszow and nearby Jaroslow areas, and Warsaw Radio said millions of workers there and elsewhere stayed off the jobs. With the wildcat strikes threatening to get out of control, Walesa and other moderate Solidarity leaders launched a two-prong campaign to try to regain control.

To appease their 10 million union members, they called a nationwide one-hour warning strike next Tuesday and threatened a general strike if the warning did not get results. They also blamed the current strikes on the government, accusing it of failing to carry out the promises it made to end the strike wave last summer.

However, Solidarity's national leaders also called on the local unions to stop the wildcat strikes immediately. It said they "deepen the social and economic chaos and are dispersing the power of the unions."

Meanwhile, about 10,000 students continued occupying university buildings in Lodz, Poland's second largest city, demanding an end to compulsory courses in Marxism, relaxation of censorship, access to printing facilities and release of political prisoners.

The current strike wave started with national Saturday work boycotts called by Solidarity in support of its demand for the five-day week promised after the strikes last summer. A commentary on Warsaw Television said this was a "weak reason for calling strikes" and questioned whether "the underlying aim of the intensification of the conflict is to gradually erode the power of the state."

The effect of that, it warned, would be the destruction of the Gdansk agreement that established the legality of trade unions independent of the Communist Party for the first time in the Soviet bloc and promised a number of other political and economic reforms.

"The writers of history will have to decide whether those who first created and then destroyed a great chance for Poland in 1980 and in 1981 took into account the conceivable results of their actions, or whether they pushed forward driven by good intentions with fatal results," the commentator said.

The government contends that it must postpone the introduction of the five-day week because the desperate state of the Polish economy and a foreign debt to Western countries totaling $23 billion requires maximum production.

Listen to those voices

CARSON, Calif. (AP) — Forget flashing lights, warning beeps and angry buzzers. Safety reminders in the car of the future are more likely to be soothing human voices — and one such vocal memory jogger is already on the market.

The new Datsun 810 features a soft female voice that says "Please turn off the lights" when the driver's door opens and the lights are still on.

Datsun's national product development manager, Peter Harris, predicts we'll soon be hearing more from our cars.

But not too much more, he says.

"Our feeling would be that we want to restrict this kind of thing to safety-oriented things," Harris said, adding that voiced warnings might also be useful for such security reminders as "Please take the keys."

Harris says Datsun doesn't want its cars to chatter. He cites a conversation with a psychiatrist friend who wasn't exactly thrilled at the new feature.

"He expressed some horror at first ... his advice was that one has to be very careful how the cars talks to you," Harris said.

"He feels the car is one of last bastions of solitude where somebody can go and escape from other people. For example, if you had a fight with your lady that morning, you certainly don't want to jump in your car and have that nagging you as well," he said.

"You have to tailor this to be informative. In general terms, the car should not tell you what to do, but should tell you what happened so you can react in whatever way need be."

Roy Irons installed

ROY L. IRONS

Dr. Roy L. Irons, 1 Crestwood Drive, Gulfport has been installed as Worshipful Master of Rectitude Lodge No. 323 of Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons in Gulfport.

The 30-year-old dentist, who is president of the Mississippi Dental Society, is the youngest man ever to hold this position in Rectitude Lodge.

The installation ceremony was held Sunday, Jan. 25, at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in DeLisle, with Worshipful Master Taylor Howard of Biloxi as installing officer.

Irons replaced John W. D. Young Sr. as Worshipful Master of Rectitude Lodge.

Other officers installed were Alfred Young, senior warden; Frank Curtis, junior warden; Danny Monroe, secretary; and Boyd James III, treasurer.

Active in community and civic affairs, Irons became affiliated with Rectitude Lodge in 1976. He is a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner.

In 1978 the lodge presented him its Master Mason Award for outstanding service. Prior to his election as Worshipful Master, he was the lodge's senior warden.

The Corinth native and Navy lieutenant, who currently serves as a dental officer with the Naval Reserve in addition to his private practice, is a graduate of Tougaloo College and the University of Iowa School of Dentistry.

He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, scoutmaster of Troop 305, Pine Burr Area Council, and is on the board of trustees at St. Mark United Methodist Church in Gulfport.

He is married to the former Catherine Adams of Jackson, and they have two children, Shunda, 6, and Roy II, 4.

Taylor gets post in Joppa Shrine

WILLIAM TAYLOR

William Robert Taylor Jr. of Hattiesburg was recently elected Potentate of Joppa Shrine Temple as over 200 members participated in the annual election of officers for 1981.

He succeeds Gabe T. Churchwell III of Leakesville.

Taylor, a native of Hattiesburg, is believed to be the youngest Noble in the state to hold the position of Potentate. A practicing attorney in Hattiesburg, he graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi, USM School of Law and Boston University School of Law.

Taylor announced an active schedule for 1981, beginning with the Shrine Circus, set for March 13 in the Mississippi Coast Coliseum, with W.H. "Winky" Yarbrough as circus chairman.

The event will be presented annually to help support the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children and three Shriners' Burn Institutes.

Members of the divan headed by Taylor are Curtis Seymour, Ocean Springs, Chief Rabban; Cecil Woodruff, Biloxi, Assistant Rabban; James M. Carter, Pascagoula, High Priest and Prophet; W.H. Yarbrough, Oriental Guide; Jesse Blackwell, Wiggins, Treasurer, and Robert H. Coleman, Bay St. Louis, Recorder.

Roy Parker is Chief Aide.

New officers to be installed

Installation of new officers of the Ocean Springs Genealogy Society will be Thursday, Feb. 5, at the Ocean Springs Public Library meeting room. Guests are welcome to attend the meeting.

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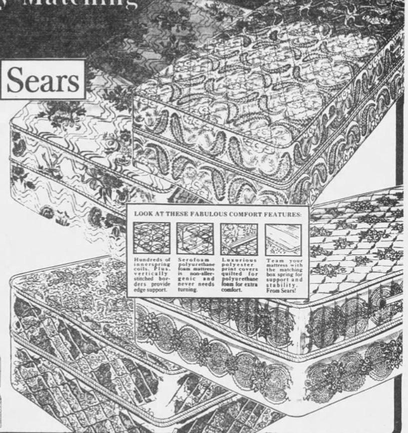

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