

NEWS & LETTERS

"This Paper Belongs to the People Who Read It and Write for It"

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TUESDAY, MAY 14, 1957

10c A Copy

WORKER'S JOURNAL

By CHARLES DENBY

Political Opportunists & Uncle Toms

Negro leaders and politicians of Detroit are ready to make a big splash about civil rights in preparation for their journey to Washington, D. C. A thousand or more Negroes are expected to go, but any worker knows what class of people they are asking—middle class and small business types.

It is sponsored by the NAACP, the branch here that recently held a \$100 a plate dinner for its membership drive. What worker can take part in that kind of affair? That organization is supposed to be the vanguard for Negro rights, but many wonder why it cannot do anything on civil rights for the lowest layers of rank and file Negroes.

WHERE WAS OLIVER?

The daily paper mentions William Oliver, chairman of the UAW's FEPC, as one of the leaders of the trip to Washington. Many wonder where he was when 2 white delegates at the recent UAW convention, from the International Harvesters Union from Memphis, Tennessee, refused to let the convention seat a Negro delegate, George Hallway, from their same local 988. Not one Negro leader, especially those that support Reuther, could utter one word against it.

Many people are talking about the KKK-man that appeared on TV from New York on Sunday, May 6. His attack against the American Negroes was in the crudest form, and he did not separate Negro leaders, professionals, middle classes, from the Negro worker and rank and file. We feel pretty sure if that same hooded individual should run on the Democratic ticket, or for a leading position in the union or Reuther slate, Negroes would be told to support him by many of the same leaders who are in Washington supposedly fighting for our rights.

There are cases here of police brutality against Negroes. In most cases the NAACP is as quiet as a lamb.

WHO IS A "COMMUNIST"?

Several years ago these Negro leaders were in the forefront of red-baiting any progressive movement that they could not control, calling individuals in it Communists. Today the KKK and White Citizens Councils are calling the NAACP and its membership Communist for the same reasons.

But they cannot control and stop the forward movement of the Negro ranks in their struggle for their rights.

These Negro leaders have no defense against the KKK attack, so powerful and confident is the Klan. The Klan is now moving on an international scale. They have recently opened up headquarters in England. In America they are protected by leaders, posing as good Democrats or good Republicans, who were put into office by Negro votes. They use the word "democracy," which has become as a big a joke as the words "civil rights," and "freedom for all."

The only freedom, democracy, or rights the workers and Negroes will get is when they unite in a common struggle against all these reactionary and "fool-proof" leaders, and when they achieve something by their own struggle and determination.

UNCLE TOMS ON OUR BACK

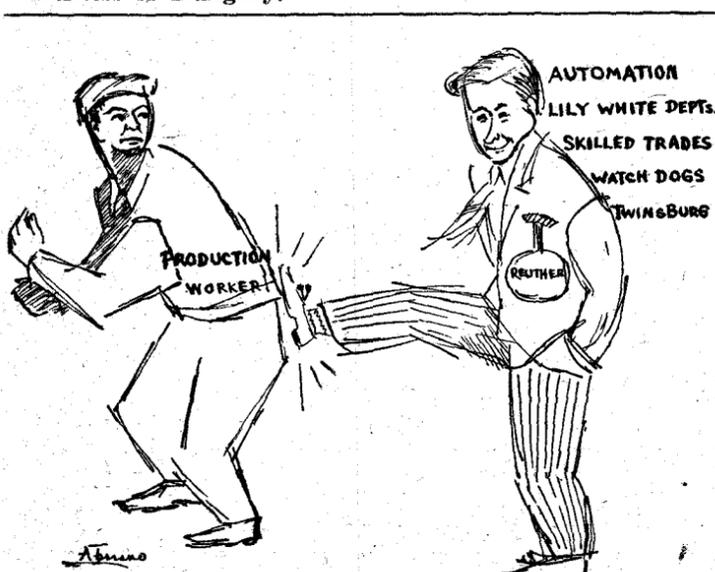
The Southern Negroes have made tremendous gains along the lines of civil rights in recent periods. That is because they were only confronted with the Uncle Toms. But we in the North have on our backs the political opportunists, political Uncle Toms, liberal opportunists, and those who are out to control or wreck our struggles. The orders are given by some politico who directs our struggles in a certain direction where it will be of the most benefit to him politically.

Many Southern Negroes can point with glee and pride to their achievement and in the same breath ask, "What are the Northern Negroes doing with all their so-called freedom and civil rights?"

This question has been asked for years but never a concrete answer has come from these Northern Negro leaders. How can they have an answer?

THE BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

The Middle East is the skirmishing grounds where Russia and America are jockeying for position against the terrible day when the cold war becomes transformed into nuclear destruction. Not only can the Middle East be the spark that sets off World War III, it is the bridge to all of Africa and back to Europe itself. Each state capitalist giant, U.S. and Russia, is trying to harness the African struggles for human freedom to its own global, imperialist designs. It is here that Russia is trying to hide its totalitarian tyranny, and the unrest which threatens it in Europe. It is in Africa, also, that America is trying to pretend that the old colonial ruthlessness of the Western powers has given way to "kindness" and "understanding." But the resistance of the Algerians has been echoed by mass protest in France which has brought the French government to the brink of collapse. And the ruthlessness of the South African white government has exposed the identity between the policies of the British Commonwealth and Russia's ruthlessness in Hungary.



CHRYSLER WORKER ASKS:

The \$5 Million Question

DETROIT — The green slate leadership of Chrysler Local 212 put out a leaflet at the plant last Tuesday, May 7, asking for the strike vote which we gave them the next day almost 100 per cent, as we always do and they never use.

The leaflet said: SAVE YOUR JOB. Vote "yes" Wednesday.

I voted "yes" but I don't know whose jobs they mean to save. I'm sure it isn't the jobs of us production workers. They're only talking about office workers and engineers.

Chrysler turned around and said they came to an agreement with the International on Feb. 15, which I believe they did—behind the back of the production workers and against us—because the Union isn't talking about us, and the Company says no issue is involved with white collar workers.

The same week the Union was telling us not to let the Company ship dies to Ohio, the shop committeeman, who worked his way up to Reutherite machine from my department, came around and told us if we didn't have a lot of seniority we'd better sign to move or we'd be out of luck in Detroit. The Company only gave us 14 days to decide.

I haven't but six years seniority so I went to the office for a card and this is what it says:

APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER TO THE OHIO STAMPING PLANT

"In accordance with the

terms of the agreement between the Chrysler Corporation and the International Union, UAW, and its Local 212, concerning the movement of the work to the Ohio Stamping Plant, Twinsburg, Ohio, I hereby make application to transfer to that plant.

"I understand that if I am transferred to the Ohio Stamping Plant that I shall carry with me my seniority and have all the rights under the UAW Chrysler National Agreement but that I shall not retain my seniority in Detroit. I also understand that if I am selected I will be given at least one week's notice of the date on which I am to report for work at the Ohio Stamping Plant."

I don't know what the UAW Chrysler National Agreement means. All I know is that the Company forced me to decide in two weeks to give up my home and move, and the Union committeeman said I'd better.

I don't know if they'll pick me to move, but if they do, they'll be big about it and give me "at least one week's notice" to sell out, move, and punch in at Twinsburg.

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This is what an Algerian rebel recently said to a British reporter: "You have only to think what sort of men they are at the head of our movement. Most of them are men who were industrial workers or landless peasants. Many have known hunger. To them the revolution they are fighting for isn't simply a matter of national independence - though that is big in our minds. It's also a matter of changing a system that is quite incapable of supporting and feeding our people."

The system that this Algerian is talking about was brought to Africa by the colony-owning powers of Europe. The pattern was to drive the African off his land so he couldn't support himself: tax him oppressively so he had need for money; keep his wages and living standards down with the use of race discrimination; restrict his free movement by means of police control; and make of the African an unfree man compelled to sell his labor to the mine, plantation and factory owners.

Despite all the propaganda the terror is not of Africans against Europeans but vice-versa. In Algeria, for example, it was recently exposed that the French troops are mutilating and torturing the people. That this is not just propaganda is shown by the fact that a high French officer, a Grand Officer of the Legion of Honor, has asked to be relieved of his command because the charges are true and he wants no part of it.

RUSSIAN AND AMERICAN AIMS

The Russian and American governments are interested in Africa only because of its great and undeveloped

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Read . . .

"We Need A Clean, Clean Sweep"

. . . Page 5

COAL AND ITS PEOPLE

It's The Same All Over:

Business Agents, Not Fighting Men, Lead UMW

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—At the last convention of the UMW, John L. Lewis spelled out some of his requirements for a District official in the discussion on autonomy which many locals requested in resolution form. District autonomy is the right of the membership to elect their representatives, which Lewis opposes.

Lewis said, "... the President and Secretary of the District, who disburse the finances of the District, become in truth and in fact fiscal agents of the International Union and the custodians of money coming from other members of our organization in other districts. So, naturally, there must be some discretion in the selection of fiscal agents... There are many men, well meaning but without that experience, without that knowledge, whose limitations were such that they could not carry out the policies of this Union and protect the men who were their members."

So the District officers should be more than book keepers. They also have a far greater responsibility to the membership. Many men in District 31 have become convinced through bitter experience that what they have is some business agents, not fighting men. And what they want is men who will fight for their rights, rights to which they are entitled.

ORGANIZING DRIVE FLOPS

Even according to Lewis' own words, these would-be representatives leave much to be desired.

Thousands of dollars were thrown into an effort to organize a notoriously scab region; miners were working under miserable working conditions for miserable wages.

Previous attempts to organize this area, Preston County, had ended in failure. One of the results was a court injunction against the union to try to organize this area.

But this time, there was going to be success, so the District said. Money by the thousands was thrown into the project. Strikes were called and carried out. Pickets from that same area roved about, often endangering life and limb. Food lines were set up and mass meetings were held. The net result was the organizing of one funeral home. There may have been a couple of mines organized, but apparently only the District officers in charge of the organizing

drive know what mines these are. Certainly, the achievements did not show a good return for the money invested by these "fiscal agents".

A WORSE DISGRACE

While this coal field has always been tough to crack, there are hundreds of miners working in other areas in small coal mines—scab mines. The District knows about these but has done nothing about many of them. And what is even worse, some of the mines are supposed to be unionized and the men working there get scab wages. The operators of these "union" mines pay the royalty from the coal produced into the Welfare Fund and deals are made to pay the men scab wages. This can hardly be said to be the policy of the UMW, where all members are supposed to be entitled to all rights and privileges of the organization. These are dues-paying miners. This is something other than the Preston field

and about which the miners everywhere are very bitter.

PROTECT MEMBERSHIP?

As for protecting the membership, a list of particular grievances an arm long could be drawn up by the miners showing the District misrepresentations of what they wanted. It is enough to say that many miners today will refuse to make even a cut-and-dried grievance because "the company will just call the District down on the case, and you know what that means as far as any chance of winning is concerned."

Another policy of the union is not to discriminate because of race, creed or nationality. Yet District 31 is without a Negro representative, while there are thousands of Negroes employed in the mines in the District.

These District officers would seem to fall short even according to what Lewis wants, let alone what the men would like to have.

'Magic Lamp' That Burns Water

WEST VIRGINIA—I was talking with an old man who had worked in the mines in W. Va. during the turn of the century. He hadn't worked in them for a long time, but he talked about his experiences as if they had just happened yesterday.

One particular tale he told was very humorous. It dealt with his first introduction to the carbide light.

Before the carbide lights were used in the mines, the men used oil lamps to provide light during their work.

THE MARVELOUS LIGHT

It so happened that this miner was visiting some of his miner friends in southern Penna. They were discussing their work and one of his friends brought out his carbide light. As most people now know, the carbide lamp is composed primarily of a round reflector situated on top of a round, hollow base that holds the carbide. Water added to the carbide produces the fumes that come out at the center of the reflector and ignite when a spark is added to them.

At any rate, this was something new at the time. Something this miner had never heard of or seen before. His friend, knowing this, brought the lamp out, poured some water into it, struck the flint, and—marvel of marvels—there was a bright light.

"Now what kind of a light is that?" the "green" miner asked in wonder.

"Well," his Penna. friend said, "you saw what kind it is. You just pour some water in it, strike the flint, and there you have the light. Here, I'll show you again." He then proceeded to pour a little more water into the lamp, struck the flint, and sure enough, there was the light again.

"Now this is really something!" the W. Va. miner thought to himself. "You have the lamp and all you need is a little water. A water lamp, of all things. And water is plentiful. Why this is a much better light to use to work with than what we are using back home."

He chuckled as he recalled how he had been taken in by these miners who had wonderful "water" lamps—but who had neglected to tell him anything about the carbide.

FUN BACK HOME

His friends told him all about the carbide and the lamp before he left. The result was that he immediately bought two lamps and a 20 pound can of carbide to take back to W. Va. with him.

These men had had a good joke at his expense, but he was going to have his fun when he got back to W. Va.

He showed the men he worked with his wondrous new lamp with glee. He got more than his money's worth from the fun he had with the men and his "magic" water lamp.

Rank & File Miner Calls Leaders 'No Good'

SCOTT'S RUN, W. Va.—A union is people. I'll never say the union is no good. The union is what you make it. But anymore, it seems like the officers are nothing but politicians.

If we had officers in the District and International who would fight for us like Lewis used to do, it would be all right. But I'll never say the union is no good. It's the leadership that is no good now. If we had the kind of leadership we used to have, I'd say we were okay.

LIKE POLITICIANS

Without leadership in anything, you don't have anything. But you take the local union. When we elect guys into office, we think they're all right. But after they're in for a while, something happens. They start acting like politicians. Before they get in, they tell you all they're going to do for you. After they get in, what they do is for themselves.

SHOULD GO TO MEETINGS

Every man that works in the mine should go to the local union meetings. Then if there's something they don't like, they can vote it out. If something happens that the men don't like, they go to the mine—in the lamp house or in a cross-cut—and say, "I'm going to do this, or I'm going to do that." They can't do anything there. Where you can do something is at the meeting. The majority could rule anything, couldn't they? I quit asking anymore what went on at the meetings. I got ashamed. If I had gone, I wouldn't have to ask the others, I'd know. And I live practically right at the front door of the meeting place. So I don't have any excuse at all for not going. If I take the attitude that I'm

not going to the meeting, and you take the attitude you're not going, there'll be nobody going but the officers. And they can do anything they want to. Like they have been. It's one thing to talk at the mine, but to get something done, the place to do that is at the meeting.

* * *

Editor's Note: Mine locals, compared to other industrial local unions, are quite small. Whereas the locals in steel, auto, rubber and other industries number membership by the thousands, mine locals number in the hundreds. Officers in the large locals in other industries are typical bureaucrats and have full time union pork chop jobs. Officers of mine locals work in or around the mines full time and are more often than not under the same pressures as are the men at the point of production. Local union proceedings of miners are run democratically and the membership can exert control over the officers when they determine to do so.

From The Auto Workers—Who'll Save Our Jobs?

What's happened to the "Save Our Jobs" campaign Local 600 started over at Ford's Dearborn Engine Plant back in March? They're moving jobs out of town there just like they're moving jobs out of town here at Highland Park.

The Union's "campaign" started out with words and has ended up with dead silence. I hope the Chrysler workers make out better.

Ford-Highland Worker Detroit

The Snapper Must Be the Boss

SCOTT'S RUN, W. Va.—There was a tight curve in the track that went into our section. Every time the motor would go around it, it would jump the track. I was in the motor this morning when the motor jumped as it always did.

The only thing to do was to put some blocks under the wheels to get the motor back on the track. I had the blocks and a small piece of rail handy and was putting them in position to try to get the motor back on the track.

My arms were between the wheels and the track, and my body was in an awkward position as I tried to get the blocks and the piece of rail lined up. It was at this point that the section boss told the guy on the other motor to go ahead and pull up.

JUST MADE IT

I saw the motor start to move and pulled my arms out of the way as fast as I could. I just made it. But my glove was caught and I pulled my hand out of it just before the rail came down. It cut the glove completely in two.

I was plenty hot. I ran up

to the motorman on the other motor and grabbed him by the throat with one hand. I was ready to knock his block off.

"It's not my fault," he squealed. "I was just doing what the boss told me to do. I didn't know where you were."

"When I'm snapping, I'm your boss," I yelled back at him. "You don't move until I blow for you to move. I don't care what anyone else tells you. You know that I'm the only one you have to listen to. I'm on the other end and I know what's going on."

HE GOT THE POINT

To this day, I don't know what it was that kept me from bashing him. I was sure mad enough to do it.

From that day, whenever I work with him, he has never moved anything—a trip of loads, empties or anything else—until the hears me give him the signal.

I guess it takes things like that to make a guy realize how easy it is either to get messed up himself or mess someone else up. When you have a close call you remember it for a long, long time.

Chrysler's Ohio Move Reminds "Old Timer" Of New England Runaway Plants

MASSACHUSETTS—The high-handed efforts of the Chrysler Corp. to move their operations from Detroit to Twinsburg, Ohio, without any regard for the welfare of the workers, remind me of the efforts of other companies to run out of town.

New England has long suffered from the problem of run-away plants. Years ago the textile mills packed up and ran off to the south to get cheap labor. The cities and towns they left behind suffered unemployment and an increased welfare and tax load. New Bedford, Mass., was a good example of this practice.

The shoe industry started running away from Lynn, Mass., in the early '30s. The first few to leave caused no alarm, but when it threatened to become serious, the

AUTOMATION IS A WHIP AGAINST WORKERS

LOS ANGELES—It's a fiction that when they bring in a new machine it makes your work easier. For one thing, even with the new machine you have to put in 8 hours a day. That's the thing that dominates your life, 8 hours keeping up with that machine.

In my trade they have introduced some new machines to bend metal into many different forms. Actually, it is easier to do it the old way. Physically, I mean, it is easier to go through the motions in the old fashioned way. Of course it takes longer and you don't produce as much.

All the union leaders, from John L. Lewis to Reuther, welcome all this new machinery as progress. In a certain sense automation is progress. It makes for more production.

However, it isn't progress for the men who have to work on these machines unless they benefit from the ability to produce more in terms of shorter hours, easier work and the elimination of the whip in the hands of the boss.

There is another side to the introduction of automatic machinery also. What of the smaller and older shop which doesn't have the capital to introduce the new machinery? They still have to compete and that's where the hell really comes in. They force their workers to produce at the fast rate of the new machinery WITH-OUT the new machinery.

—Sheet Metal Worker

workers organized a movement to prevent it.

The shoe workers union organized picket lines around the plant that was moving. They called upon the truck drivers union to refuse to move the machinery. They called upon the Mayor, the City Council, civic and business leaders

Engineers' Demands Rest on Production Workers' Strength

DETROIT — We took a strike vote recently in my small shop. The engineers, who had been working out of their classification, voted to strike. We did too.

Their organizer told us that their strength was based on the production workers. He said that even after voting, the engineers might cross the picket line. We decided to get our grievances settled at the same time.

They were excited about the Rank & File movement at Chrysler Local No. 212. We're too small to move alone. But the Chrysler workers give us strength. Just as the engineers need us, we need the Chrysler Rank & File.

—Assembler

How to Get a Raise

LOS ANGELES—I used to work at a Serve-Yourself Gas Station. At this place we never had any rest periods or lunch hour. We ate on the run and could only go to the rest room if someone took our place. If we were short when we turned in our money it was taken out of our pay checks. A lot of girls had \$5 or \$10 taken out of their check each week although they said they couldn't possibly make that large a mistake each week.

I asked the boss for a raise one day. He blew his top and said we got more than any place else paid their help.

GET A RAISE

The next time I asked him for a raise the place was really crowded. I told him that we were all prepared to walk out if he didn't give us a raise. Although he didn't know it the inter-communication system was on and all the people in the gas station heard what I said over the loudspeaker. Everyone started to laugh and clap their hands. The boss quickly shut off the inter-com and called me into his office. He was angry but he had to give us a raise because the rest of the girls were with me.

That proved to me that if workers would stick together for what they want, they wouldn't be pushed around by management.

to act to prevent the move. The collective effort was enough to prevent many firms from moving. Jobs were found for those thrown out of work.

I cannot but contrast this union effort with the present inactivity of the Reuther Leadership of the UAW. The workers are protesting the Chrysler movement out of Detroit. Forty thousand workers were out on strike this week in a wildcat to prevent the moving. All the UAW can talk about is finding jobs for Engineers and white collar workers.

—Old Unionist

'THEY ALL END UP IN THE DEAD SEA'

DETROIT — Before 1947, the year Reuther won complete control of the International and practically eliminated all opposition, workers were picked for important Local committees according to qualification and regardless of their beliefs. Husky, healthy workers were picked for the Flying Squad Committee; workers with athletic ability were picked for the Recreation committee, and so on.

After coming to power in Local 212, the Reutherites began to make every committee one of political importance that had to be controlled by Reuther's "green slate." Regardless of your special abilities, if you were not a machine supporter, there was no place for you on the Political Action Committee (PAC), Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC), Flying Squadron Committee (FSC), Recreation Committee (RC), etc. The committees were turned into their opposite.

As one worker said, "The complaints that go into the PAC, RC, FSC, and FEPC, all end up in the Dead Sea, a committee they should have added to the list of committees in the Local Unions."

—Chrysler Worker

The Working Day

By Angela Terrano

WILL DETROIT BE A GHOST TOWN?

All the women at work are saying Detroit will become a ghost town soon, with all these companies moving out. Everyone can tell of one relative or a friend whose job has been moved out of Detroit or is being threatened by such transfers.

We wonder how we are to live if there are no jobs. Nobody wants to pick up their families, leave their homes and relatives behind and go follow the company.

JUST LIKE RUSSIA

How different is it from the Communists moving the people in Russia and the satellite countries around wherever they want, from farm to farm, factory to factory?

People are given 14 days to make up their minds. And after that you can be given one week's notice to report to work in the new city. Even the army reserves give you a month's notice.

A relative of one of the girls had 26 years in at Chrysler and now his job is threatened. They want you to feel obligated to the company. They give you the "privilege" of working for them. All you give is 26 good years of your life.

You always hear over the radio and T.V. how free enterprise is concerned with the welfare of the individual. What bunk! Free enterprise in practice is concerned with production, nothing more or less.

TAXES OR UNION-BUSTING

Chrysler is moving departments from the two plants that don't take their speed-up and automation-machines so lightly. One of the girls at work repeated the propaganda that they are moving because of high taxes here in Detroit.

But, as soon as someone said, "No. It's because they want to break up what's left of the union," she said, "Yes!"

Her husband lost 12 years' seniority from one shop that moved. In a week or two she will be laid off and is wondering if her husband will be on the outside looking in at his new job of two year's standing.

So how are you to live? This is the land of plenty, but if you don't have money to pay for that plenty you land up with plenty of nothing.

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

HARD TIMES ON THE WAY

Praying time is beginning to come back to life again. Because, far as you can see and hear people talking, the only thing they can see is hard times on the way.

AN OLD PRAYER

In the old days, the French tenants used to pray for their landlords. This was their prayer:

"The earth, O Lord, is thine and all that is contained therein. We heartily pray thee to send thy Holy Spirit into the hearts of them that possess the grounds, pastures and dwelling places of the earth, that they remembering themselves to be thy tenants, may not rack and stretch out the rents of their houses and lands,

nor yet take up unreasonable fines and incomes after the manner of the covetous worldlings, but so let them out to others that the inhabitants thereof may both be able to pay the rents and also honestly to live, to nourish their families and to relieve the poor, and that the landlords may so behave themselves that after this life they may be received into everlasting dwelling places."

The Good Book says to pray whenever it is needed so God can answer your prayer. But the people knew that God has everything fixed so that if the poor people should starve and die, the rich people will starve and die too.

Chrysler Worker Asks \$5 Million Question

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LOSE EITHER WAY

I moved up to Detroit because I wanted to make my home here and I did. I bought my own house. I have a wife and three kids. I'm the only one working. Now I've got to give it all up or risk walking the streets. I lose either way.

I read in the papers where Chrysler says the Union gives them complete charge of running the workers. Then how can the Union turn around and say they're giving us job protection if the Company

can shove us around like travel orders in the army?

We gave them the strike vote to "save our jobs." What will we accomplish? Will we be faced with a "cooling off period?" Will we have white collar workers give us action on the line? Or are the Reutherites going to use this strike vote to win the Local 212 election for the green slate and hang the machine tighter around our necks?

"IMPARTIAL"?" "NEGOTIATE"?"

On top of everything, Reuther doesn't even seem to want to back his own boys in the Local. When Chrysler

slapped the \$5 million injunction against Local 212, it seemed to me that Reuther stepped in like an "impartial" judge to "negotiate" an agreement between his own Local president Pat Caruso and the Company.

Where does that leave us except sucking wind?

Chrysler Worker Department 90

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EDITORIALS

Worker's Security Is More Than Jobs

Workers are constantly discussing the transferring of jobs at Chrysler, from Detroit to other States, mainly Ohio and Delaware. One of the main concerns is that this transferring breaks up the feeling and relations of workers. Not only in the plant but in their communities, and their relations to people throughout the city.

Secondly, the worker knows if he is forced to move with his job it means the start of a new life, in a new State, in a new community.

The Union says they are fighting to protect his job with seniority rights. It also says the company should pay the expense of moving, and for the time lost in moving.

One worker said, "This sounds like when I was in the Army. They are trying to make us Soldiers and the company our Commanding General. And when they want us to move they give orders with a few days' notice. As if all we have to do is to pack our duffle bags and be ready when the convoy moves. The majority of us have families, obligations and responsibilities. We are not machines nor are our families. But that seems to be the thinking of the company and the Union leaders."

Another worker said he can now understand why mental cases rise each year. The pressure that has weighted on his mind since the company posted the notice is all he and his wife talk about when they get home from work and it has nearly caused him to have a break down. His wife is employed with another company. If she goes with him, she loses her job. If he stays here with her, he loses his. If the family is broken up by this decentralization, he feels they all may crack up.

If Automation means progress for a few, this is what it means and is doing to many workers' families who have made their lives in Detroit.

What do the big corporations care about working people? Many other auto companies have moved not only a few jobs but entire plants.

The International Union can only say it is bad. In some cases they try to blame the workers for it. This is much easier than putting the blame where it should be and fighting against it.

Chrysler workers are ready to fight against the transferring of jobs. Then want them here. Not just an agreement for skilled and white collar workers but security for production workers' jobs, families and communities.

This is the same pattern that the Communists have carried on against the Russian workers and that Britain and France have carried on against the working people in Africa.

Over the last few years, Ford and GM have been carrying out their "decentralization plans" and moving plants out of Detroit and out of Michigan. Despite the so-called "Save Our Jobs" campaigns by the Local Unions involved, Ford and GM workers have been thrown onto the pavements. But the disruptive effects of the Ford and GM policies have not been so sharply seen because Chrysler maintained most of its operations in and around Detroit.

With Chrysler's '57 changeover to Automation, however, the situation can no longer be hidden because thousands of auto workers are now permanently expelled from the industry as a whole, and thousands more are threatened by Chrysler's new runaway policy.

Not only is this a determined assault against the production workers by Big Business, it has forced hundreds and thousands of small businessmen into bankruptcy. Even Gov. Williams has had to complain about the Auto run-aways.

The only force which can combat the inhuman and ruthless policy of management are the production workers. They could again, as they did 20 years ago, rally the entire community around them to the benefit of the whole country. But this is the force that Reuther has shackled.

He prefers, instead, to go cap in hand begging the Big Four of Auto to "talk" with him about the shorter work-week. They have "politely" declined to "talk" because actions speak louder than words. Management are hard-boiled realists. They know they have nothing to worry about so long as Reuther's policy parallels theirs: to kick the production worker around. The spotlight is now on the production worker.

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Readers'

THE WORKING DAY

When it was announced that the aircraft plants were cutting out all overtime, those guys who had been working that overtime said they couldn't get by on 40 hours' pay. Despite all this talk about the shortening of the working day the facts of life therefore seem to be that there has actually been a lengthening of the working day. To get by you have to work more than eight hours or send your wife to work. Eight hours a day isn't a reality anymore.

Construction Worker
Los Angeles

* * *

What Reuther is after isn't really a four day week. Instead of overtime starting after eight hours it may start at the end of six hours. That's what he is after and not any lowering of the time. As a matter of fact, Reuther will probably be willing to accept, in 1958, just another paid holiday and maybe better vacation provisions.

Chrysler Worker
Los Angeles

* * *

White Collar Workers & Production Workers

Any company to stay in business has to have salesmen, estimators, office personnel to handle the books and tax records and insurance and fringe benefits. Somebody has to support these people. Any guy in the shop knows that those in the office aren't putting out anything in the way of goods that are going out the door to be sold. The guy in the shop just has to work harder to support those office people.

Sheet Metal Worker
Los Angeles

* * *

When I first started out in the machinist trade, over 30 years ago, a man learned the hard way to keep the tricks he learned through experience to himself. On one job I remember teaching a young apprentice to do a difficult job only to find myself fired when he learned what I taught him. After that experience I kept my knowledge to myself. But now that the union has established the principle of seniority and I am in no danger of losing my job, I always help a willing young worker as much as I can.

Machinist
Los Angeles

POLITICS

The big trouble with the Auto Workers Union is that there is no organized opposition to Reuther. He can get a way with anything he wants. That's why I was glad when the Republicans got into office even though I didn't vote for Eisenhower. The Democrats were in there too long and were becoming stale.

Skilled GM-Worker
Van Nuys, Calif.

* * *

I'm not interested in politics. I'm just interested in girls, and I'm for freedom for anyone who wants it.

Back home in Poland, some of my school friends were attracted to the Communist Party because they knew they could live better if they became members. They were more unfree than anyone else even with their special privileges. That is why I took the opportunity to leave several years ago when I could.

Polish-American
Worker
Los Angeles

* * *

THIS WHITE WORLD

One of my boy friends' brother-in-law is very prejudiced. One day he went to a restaurant and ordered some food. A Negro girl served it to him so he got up and walked out without paying. Isn't that stupid?

12-Year-Old
Detroit

* * *

In Birmingham, Alabama, a Negro man of 26 has been sentenced to death in the electric chair because of an accusation of burglary. He conducted his own defense in court. An all-white jury took slightly more than an hour to find him guilty.

In Detroit a Negro woman of 36 was beaten with blackjacks by four white policemen when they stopped her for a traffic violation. She suffered a split lip which required three stitches, and numerous bumps and bruises. She will sue the policemen for \$5,000.

And in England, Negro-haters have formed a branch of the Ku Klux Klan to terrorize West Indian immigrants. They are directly connected with a Klan organization in Waco, Texas.

Yet the "liberal" press can't stop talking about "moderation", and the "great strides" forward in "race relations."

White Reader
Detroit

WAR & PEACE

Leaders are going so wild these days trying to lead the people backward, until who knows how to straighten out the world?

Reuther can't straighten it. President Eisenhower can't straighten it. So let the big leaders alone and keep up the good work by fighting them. **The poor working people will know how to straighten it when the time comes.**

Negro Housewife
Detroit

* * *

The Unions had better keep their eyes peeled or they will wind up as impotent as the so-called Unions in Russia and her Satellite slave camps... If the Administration can pass laws to control the Unions they will install Satrap Labor Leaders, like the Satrap Kings and Princes in the Middle East... And any movement by the Unions to obtain their rights and freedom can be squelched right off the bat by the Administration threatening to prosecute the Union Leaders who will make a false show of fight and then "very reluctantly" give in to the power of "the law."

* * *

The rank and file must refuse to follow or to lead but walk in no other position with anybody except alongside!

When one follows a "leader" and that becomes a habit he and she will accept anybody who claims to be a "leader" and... the rank and file are kept in continuous confusion and misery... and are nothing but bodies carrying muscles to carry guns and shoot bullets at each other at the pleasure and command of these parasites.

The rank and file will never get out of their confusion and misery until they start from the bottom and go up and cease allowing themselves to be led from the top down.

Edgar Leslie
California

* * *

Why is Africa so important all of a sudden? What is happening there? Can Nixon really dare to speak to Africans about the advantages of being allied with the United States when the whole world knows about the oppression of the Negroes in the South?

Ex-GI
California

Views

THE SPOTLIGHT IS ON LOCAL 212

Last month, just before the convention, we had a Local membership meeting and president Pat Caruso said there was a chance the plant would move. He must have known it was a fact for at least 6 weeks, but that's the first we heard of it.

He said the big thing was to organize the Detroit merchants to cooperate in keeping the prices down so our 1c or 2c cost-of-living raise wouldn't be eaten up in 10c or 20c price raises. He said we'd read all about it in the papers.

Well, I've been reading plenty in the papers about moving to Ohio, but I haven't seen another word about getting the merchants to back us. This is one time I'm sure they would because they're losing out too.

That's some more of Pat's double talk.

Rank & Filer, 212
Detroit

* * *

Pat (Caruso) said if any of our men lost their job he would see they were reinstated with full back pay. There was about 8 fired in our walkout here, 2 chief stewards, one crane operator, and the rest of them production workers. The rest of us were warned by management not to interfere with moving dies.

The Company says and declares they have an understanding with the International and our Local. Why then do our Local officers holler for us to stay on the job, regardless of the amount of men that lose their job in regards to this, when they haven't been able before to settle any grievances for back pay?

Now, all of a sudden they say they'll get back pay. How do we know? Who are they if the workers on the production line and other rank and file workers in the shop don't back up these men? Where are their jobs going to be? This is the sentiment of all hourly-rate employees.

Chrysler-8 Mile
Detroit

* * *

We had over 250 grievances in '56 and everyone heard Pat Caruso say at a Local membership meeting we'd strike and wouldn't work a lick on the '57 model until every one of those grievances was settled.

We gave them the strike vote—which they never used—and the only grievance they settled, that I know of, was to get 4 men from the Trim shop reinstated—without back pay.

All the time these 4 men were out the workers in their department passed the can to help support them and their families.

One man carried a can into our department and the chief steward—a good Reutherite—threw a fit and wouldn't let us take a collection, which we did anyhow behind his back. The Reutherites hate the Trim shop because they never could control them.

Chrysler, Dept. 91

Detroit

* * *

Some fellows in the Rank & File caucus were telling me they're going to run Blackwell for Recording Secy. in the 212 elections. It's the first time in years a Negro worker has been nominated for such a high post and Blackwell stands a good chance to win.

The green slate also must think so because the way I hear it, they're trying to split the Negro vote by running another Negro, Monroe Jones (who used to be a pretty popular Reutherite) against Blackwell.

Here's where the squeeze play comes in. I hear that Swanson, a white man from Tool and Die, is also going to run for Recording Secy., as an independent. But I believe, in fact I'm pretty sure, Swanson is, body and soul, a Reutherite. I have seen him pass out green leaflets. That's who they'll really be pushing in the hopes he'll slide in between the two colored candidates.

Negro Worker, 212

Detroit

* * *

We had a Local 212 dance a couple of Saturdays ago that they called a Hillbilly dance. A green slate chief steward acted like they say hillbillies are supposed to. He told a white member of the Rank & File caucus that the Rank & File slate is a N—r slate.

A colored Rank & Filer was present when the remarks were made and he told the green slater he guessed he was the one talked about, and he like to have beat the living fire out of that man but we didn't want a ruckus.

It gives me a feeling of confidence in the Rank & File if the green slate is scared enough to try to bust up the white and colored like that. They're not going to be able to do it because the Negro workers are Union brothers like the rest of us and it's been too long since they've been recognized in this Local.

White Rank & Filer

Detroit

* * *

I believe the \$5 million suit gave Caruso a good excuse to state he would not run for re-election for Local president. I don't believe he would have run anyway.

Ever since he couldn't get elected as convention delegate, workers have been talking that the International would probably give him a job and not risk another defeat with him. I have even heard green slate men say this as though it was all settled weeks ago.

We've seen this happen many times. Whenever one of their leading men in the Local begins to lose popularity they give him a job in the International and run someone who isn't so well known. That's how they've been protecting their machine for so long, but I don't think it will work this time. I hope it doesn't.

Chrysler Production
Worker

Detroit

* * *

The Reutherites can do anything they want with parliamentary procedure. Their huge machine prepares for months before they try to push anything through.

In our Local we've had 4 membership meetings this last year—for 35,000 workers. Now the bureaucrats want to cut these out because they don't want us around at all and want to build a wall around us so they can do what they want.

They have just changed the procedure to where the ballot boxes are in the Union hall. We're supposed to come in during certain hours, show our cards, sign our names, vote and leave quickly. All the time the Union officers and their boys will be watching us.

Some workers are afraid the green slate will be able to manipulate the election that way. But I believe we can whip them if we don't let them scare us and turn out solid to sweep them out.

Trim Worker, 212

Detroit

TWO WORLDS

"We Need a Clean, Clean Sweep"

(Note: This week I am turning my column over to a letter we received from a Chrysler-Local 212 production worker which shows the tremendous gap that separates the Reutherites from the rank and file.—R.D.)

"Chrysler moving the Stamping Plant to Twinsburg, Ohio, has torn people up from one end to the other. People don't know if to sign up to move, or not to sign up. The Reutherites running this Local 212 say one thing and the company says another and they've got the production workers caught in the middle.

"WE'RE NOT DUMB"

"They think they're dealing with a bunch of dumb people, but we're not dumb. We've in this mess all day, we see it and we know it. We know something's got to be done now about what's going on, for after a while it'll be too late. **We're going to have to win this election from the Reutherite green slate if we're to have any chance at all.**

"At a Local membership meeting on Sunday, April 28, Pres. Pat Caruso told us not to let the company move dies until they settled these 4 issues: 1) men going to Ohio with the job to carry their full seniority with them; 2) housing projects to be ready in Twinsburg for the men when they got down there; 3) any money the men would lose in moving their homes would have to be met by Chrysler; 4) to bring back the cushion jobs that were lost here at the '57 changeover.

EMPTY PACKAGE

"This was the 'package' he offered and it sounded good over the mike, but the way he doubled his tongue up, when the package came down to us it was empty as usual.

"The following Tuesday, April 30, when we came into the shop the company had posted a bulletin on the clock that they had reached an agreement with the Union, and that we had 14 days to sign up if we wanted to move. Now, it seems they reached an agreement with the International back February 15. **We didn't know anything about it the way it was done behind our backs, and we still don't know anything about it the way they're explaining it.**

"I know on that same Tuesday, shop committeemen went back to the departments and urged the men to sign up for if they stayed in Detroit they'd be lost.

"How are they going to get the Company to make up what the men lose in moving their homes, if they couldn't even keep the cushion department in '56? And how are they going to make the company bring the cushion department back if they go around telling workers to move or they'll be lost?

"—AND NOTHING DONE ABOUT IT"

"This is how the shop has been going for at least the last 5 years and getting worse every year. Men getting fired and no effort to bring them back. Men walking the streets and nothing done about it. More of us are going to be unemployed and the Union does nothing. There's been plenty of grievances written and nothing done about them.

"The worst began in the '56 model. The Company cut manpower but ran the same production. Their alibi was that they were getting ready for automation. The chief stewards said the same. **After automation it was worse.** The workers would go to the chief steward—the afternoon chief steward would lay it on the day chief steward, the day chief steward would lay it on this, that and the other. **Nothing was done.**

"That is why I was heart and soul for the Rank & File at the last delegate election when we swept the green slate out. There was a new feeling of confidence among the production workers in the shop. I will admit that some confidence has been lost in the Rank & File since then because it's a fact that a few opportunists have worked themselves in. But they can't have any idea that they can stand alone without the workers, because they do not have a machine. We don't have to work anywhere as hard to get rid of a couple of bad apples as we would to get rid of the green slate machine if they got back.

"WE CAN GET RID OF THE MACHINE"

"We need a clean, clean sweep, and that is why I am going to vote the Rank & File slate again in the Local elections next week.

"We can get rid of the green slate machine and not let a new one be built. If we rank and file workers in the shop take our Local back, **we can make sure that the new slate knows they are nothing without the production workers.**

"They will have to give each and every man in the shop EQUAL consideration and work directly with the workers. They must not be allowed to promise one man a better job at another man's expense. They will have to take care of each man's problem as it comes up.

"We know what the problems are because we've been living with them for too long. Now we have got to do something about it and we have got to start with a **clean sweep.**"

—Auto Body Worker

YOUTH

Thinking It Out

By Robert Ellery

"IT'S UP TO THE YOUNGER GUYS"

More than a few times, some older guys in the shop have said, "We organized the unions against all kinds of odds, to make better working conditions for all. Now it is up to the younger guys to carry on. The trouble with the union now is not enough guys take it seriously, they don't go to meetings," etc.

That there isn't much faith and support of the union bureaucracy is evident. Workers, young and old, speak about it the way they speak about the company. Just something they have no control over.

CONVENTION OLD STUFF

The U.A.W. local I belong to numbers about 1,000. At the last meeting there was to be a report of the U.A.W. convention in Atlantic City. The membership was ready to adjourn the meeting before the delegates finished their reports. Again the feeling was that nothing new happened at the convention so why hear about it. And they are right. The only thing that came out of that convention was the signal for

the companies to become more ferocious and attempt to do whatever they want.

LOOKING TOWARDS CHRYSLER WORKERS

Contrasted to the apathetic regard for the U.A.W. convention, there was great interest in the struggle of the Chrysler workers. Not only an interest but a looking towards the Chrysler workers. They not only feel that it is the rank and file worker that will bring unionism back but that the rank and file workers are the only ones that can stop the company from making a ghost town of Detroit, in its attempts to destroy the unions.

They have not brought automation into this shop, but there is a beginning. Nevertheless every working man, young and old, knows what it has done already and what it means to him. And I am sure that not only the men in this shop but in every shop in the city are looking towards the Chrysler workers and are watching to see what they can do.

TEEN CRITICISM STARTLES TEACHER

DETROIT—Our baby-sitter surprised me by saying that the most serious fault of her high-school teachers was straying from the subject for the purpose of "entertaining".

Her history teacher, she said, often tells long stories about his adventures in the Pacific during the war. Once he spent a class period telling about headhunters he had met. But the class was bored. And when he realized that TV offered better entertainment, he made an angry speech about risking his life fighting the enemy for the safety of ungrateful students. But they just laughed because they knew he had been drafted and had once admitted he was no hero.

Our baby-sitter said that in American history the students are not allowed to talk about other countries, and in World history they are not allowed to talk about America even when they have an important question. And because the teachers are trying to "entertain" the class, she said, she has learned very little about either subject.

One important thing she discovered on her own. She said she had always thought that the Presidents had studied and planned all their lives to be President, but after reading about them she realized that they were just like anybody else. But so far there just hasn't been class time to discuss this idea, which can't possibly be as important as the adventures of a dull—though heroic—teacher.

How seriously can we take ourselves anyhow?

—Teacher

12-Year Old Says Teachers Boss Kids, Don't Help Them

DETROIT—In my school there are some teachers that want the kids to get straight A's or B's but they don't do anything to help you. I think teachers try to boss the kids around.

They always say, "I'll send you to the office or counselor if you are bad", or "I'll hit you!"

I think they encourage you to be bad and then lecture you about growing up and becoming a big business man and not to grow up to become a bum.

—12 YEAR OLD

STUDENT BLAMES "FLUNKS" ON DELIBERATE POLICY

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—The grading in the Electrical Engineering Department at the University is really getting rough. A student was telling me the other day that they had too many in the school and had to flunk about 50 per cent of them. One of the instructors told him about this when he was "griping" about his grade on a test.

This instructor used to give credit for working part of a problem, but he only gives credit now for one that is completely finished. He says he's doing this because the department has to get rid of some of the extra electrical engineering students, and because it will also raise the "standards" at the University.

The students said that this was no way to educate engineers. If he was one of the 50 per cent he was really going to raise hell.

This same student worked in the mines last summer, and is from a miner's family. We were also discussing the corrupt Union politics of the U.M.W. He says the miners will never be able to do anything about the Union bureaucracy.

He thinks his raising hell will have some effect on the University, which I doubt. But I don't doubt the effect thousands of miners will have when they start raising hell about how "their" union is being run!

—University Student

Student W.V.U.

How Are Living Conditions In Twinsburg, Ohio?

DETROIT—A couple of Chrysler workers went to Twinsburg to see what kind of a place it is.

It's a little town off the highway. There are only two little stores. If they know you're from Detroit, they'll charge you 25c for a cup of coffee. They don't want city people moving in.

And where can we live there? These two workers had to pay \$34 a week just for a sleeping room. A half-acre of ground, with nothing on it, costs \$1,500. How many workers could pay that much and still build a shack on it?

Some workers are talking of commuting to Twinsburg from Akron, but it's already crowded. And you can bet your life they'll jack up the rents and all the prices to welcome us Detroiters.

—Chrysler Auto Body Worker

A Woman's Viewpoint

"MONEY-CRAZY" PEOPLE ARE CRAZY

WEST VIRGINIA—Some people put so much importance on money. A lot of men think that's the most important thing they have to provide in a marriage. It's a crazy way to look at life.

I don't think most women think that way. But there are a lot of women who are what I would call just money-crazy. They push their husbands off to work, and if their husbands get sick, all they worry about is whether he's going to have to take some time off. A woman should be concerned about her husband's health, not whether he's going to be able to go to work, but I've heard plenty of women come right out and say, "He'd better get out to work!"

One of my own neighbors is like that. She really drives that man. She pretends that she's not like that—maybe because she's ashamed of it. When he works extra shifts on Saturday or Sunday, she complains that she gets lonesome but she grins every time he gets a chance to work a little more. She saves all the time. Sometimes they don't even eat very well, not because they don't have the money, but because she's saving it. She wants a house in a "better" neighborhood. She probably thinks that's what will make her happy.

MEAL-TICKET MARRIAGE

I call a woman like that nothing better than a slave-driver. Their marriage is nothing more to her than a meal-ticket. I feel sure she married for "convenience" and nothing more.

I don't believe a woman acts like that, driving her man to work no matter what, because of "bills" or the ordinary financial worries everybody has. Most of the women like that, that I know,

don't have as many "bills" to worry about as I do. I believe it's something else, maybe their background. I've noticed that most of these "money-crazy" people, men and women both, used to have nothing. That's why some of the women married in the first place—for "convenience." As soon as they do get a little, they go crazy. The more they get, the more they want.

But it isn't "bills." Everybody has them, but everybody isn't a slave-driver. You can't help worrying about them. But you don't have to let them drive you. I used to worry myself almost sick about bills. I finally just quit it. I figured that if I had the money, I'd pay them, and if I didn't, it was no good just worrying about it. I figured that so long as my husband was healthy, and the kids were healthy we were okay. It might take a little longer to pay them off, but they'd get paid sooner or later.

HEALTH OR MONEY

When my husband isn't feeling good, and tells me he "can't afford" to take any time off, I tell him he's crazy. What has whether you can "afford it" got to do with your health?

And what, when you get right down to it, has money to do with real happiness? Money is for necessities, of course. But when you make money your whole world, you don't really understand what happiness is. Money can't make a marriage happy without love; but love can make a happy marriage without money. Nobody wants to be poor, and everyone needs enough money for the necessities. But money can never buy happiness.

—Miner's Wife

Can't Buy a Home on Production Worker's Pay

LOS ANGELES—My husband and I are expecting our first child in early June. When we first found out about our new addition to the family we decided that we'd like to buy a house on the G.I. loan.

We wanted a house with a yard and room where the baby and his or her future brothers or sisters could play, and where we could have more privacy than we have in our one bedroom apartment.

HIDDEN EXTRAS

We thought we could get a house with little or nothing down, and payments that we could afford on his paycheck. He brings home around \$70 a week and we figured out that we could pay \$75 to \$80 a month.

We went to tract after tract and the story was always the same. They advertised payments of \$75 a month or even less, but that didn't include taxes and insurance, which would be an

extra \$20, a total of \$95 a month. And of course you have to put in your own yards and fences, not counting all the other hidden costs you take on when you buy a new house.

We finally gave up and started looking for a two bedroom apartment instead.

SO LITTLE— BUT TOO MUCH

I'd like to know why a man who spent three years in the service, and one of those years overseas, can't get a decent home that he can afford under the G.I. Bill. He can if he's a skilled worker, but if he has to live on the wage of a production worker, he'll never get a home.

I don't think it's too much to want a house of your own to raise a family in. I think anyone who has to work in a factory for the rest of his life, and make money for everyone but himself is entitled to at least that much.

—Expectant Mother

THE EARTH CRIES OUT

This night is lonely as an orphan child,
The rain weeps through the trees
And hope is on her knees.
There will be death in Kenya's hills tonight
And misery in lands too well beguiled
To rise in wrath
Against the greedy's ruthless, crushing might.
The aftermath
Of private pain is aching in my breast...
The Earth cries out; And I with all the rest.

But dawn shall shine as warm as mother-love,
Her smile shall dry the skies
And hope refreshed shall rise.
From tortured lands a soul-arousing chord
Is heard; the song of mankind on the move.
O men shall beat
The ploughshare from the tyrant's bloody sword,
All men shall eat
From larders they have filled. The promise grows
That Earth shall sing; A song my own heart knows.
—Tom Malcolm

You Can Make a Budget Work If You Don't Eat Enough

If anybody could help me with my budget, I'd appreciate it very much. But I've never met the person who could. I've wracked my head to figure it out, and we sure don't squander money, but it still amounts to having to pinch pennies to get along.

THE EXPERTS FIGURE

Experts have figured it all out, how much of your monthly income you "should" pay for rent, and for food, and so on. It's easy to say how much you "should" pay for this or that on a budget. But there's no person who can say how much this one's going to eat, or how much another one's going to need for something else, and have it all come out to the penny. Everybody has different needs.

Take our family. There's five of us, and feeding five takes a lot of money. I'd say that food is the highest item on any budget today. Children take an awful lot of feeding. And it takes a lot to feed them right. I'd say my children require almost three times as much as my husband and I do. And it's a crazy way to budget to cut down on food you need, in order to make a budget work out.

CASH AND CREDIT

What it amounts to is that after you pay for your food, your rent, your utilities, and your payments on things like your used car, or whatever else you're "paying on," you are behind already.

My husband is a miner, and they're supposed to be highly paid, but by the time we pay our necessary bills each pay day, they come to more than the pay-check, most of the time.

It's easy enough to say you "shouldn't" buy things

on credit, but only what you can "afford" to pay for outright. But most people today have to buy on credit, or they never would have anything. That's how you wind up never coming out even.

"RELIEF BUDGETS"

I'd like to be in a position where I could take some of those social service workers, who figure out how much people "should" have, and put them on a budget like they figure out for others! I have a feeling it would change their ideas about a lot of things.

I'd like to see the people who figure out "relief rolls" for example, live on the \$24 a month, that they give my friend's mother, who is a widow, to live on. How could anyone pay rent and utilities and buy food for herself on \$24 a month? But that's what she gets. And if she gets any day-work to help herself, and they find out about it, they deduct what she makes from the \$24! That's the kind of a budget the social service workers figure out!

That's what makes people mad when they hear about the thousands of dollars the government is sending overseas somewhere. Nobody objects to helping other people, but when you can see how much is needed right in your own country, you can't help believing that real "charity" begins right at home. Then it can spread abroad.

I don't have much confidence in the way the "experts" have things figured out. The day they start living themselves the way they have it figured out other people "should" live—that's the day they can start giving advice.

Miner's Wife
West Virginia

FOR THE INFORMATION OF OUR READERS:

Some among the labor bureaucracy have done their utmost to prevent this issue of NEWS & LETTERS from coming off the press. The worst they could do has been to delay our appearance by three days. Neither they, nor such as they, will ever be able to prevent us from appearing so long as the columns of NEWS & LETTERS print the facts of life as the rank and file workers report them.

Atomic Tests, Leukemia, & Bone Cancer

The more innocent people are sacrificed to the "security" of a government, the more dictatorial it is. In addition to the innocent Americans, Koreans, Chinese, Hungarians, Arabs, Jews, Cypriots, and Africans already slaughtered by the big governments in the "cold" war, we learn now that 10,000 more men, women, and children, who thought they were safe from the fighting, are dead or dying of leukemia (blood cancer) because of radiation from the atomic tests.

Linus Pauling, one of the top scientists urging their cessation, added that 1,000 more people will die as a result of the coming British test alone, and some British scientists estimate that 20,000 cases of bone cancer will result.

As if this weren't bad enough, we are told that the tests taken altogether will cause feeble-mindedness and deformities in 200,000 children each generation.

Our "leaders" are slowly killing us, deforming our children, and arrogantly demanding that we pay billions of dollars in return. It labels criticism "Communist." I'd say it's riding for a fall—not from Communists, who are busy killing and deforming their own people—but from the American people.

M.G.
Detroit



A DOCTOR SPEAKS

By M.D.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF ASSOCIATION

Last year, a physician in Oklahoma died of Leukemia at the age of 33. During remissions of the disease he recorded on tape some advice to his two children. These words have recently been published.

It is clear that this man loved his work to the degree that it was an ideal. One record he called, "On entering medicine." I would like to quote from it. "Medicine demands ten years of your life for the small slip of paper stating you are a Doctor." . . . "If you place personal problems ahead of the life of your patient, get out of medicine. . . . In your fellow practitioners of medicine you will see stupidity, avoidable mistakes, greed, and so on."

Most of us are interested in the thoughts of a man who knows he is soon to leave this life. We look for deeper wisdom. However these words of a dying physician disturbed me. Though I agreed with his observations, I felt there was something wrong in placing the physician on a pedestal, in making him a dedicated man.

More recently, I had a talk with the mother of a young man who is ill with Schizophrenia. This is a mental disturbance in which there is a separation of the mind from reality. The sick person lives in a world of his own, carrying on in a way that does not make sense. She was miserable as well as desperate over her inability to get necessary treatment for her son. The slender chance of restoring him to the existing world was slipping away. What was required was constant attention in a suitable environment for at least two years—something not possible in our crowded state mental institutions, which still are not much more than places of confinement. Care in a good private hospital requires thousands of dollars which she did not have. There was no thought however of giving up. She was dedicating her life to her son, and it seemed to me, destroying her own in the process.

SPLIT SOCIETY

One cannot cure Schizophrenia in a single person through martyrdom; nor can one approach the Schizophrenia of a whole society by individual dedication. I see all about me the close resemblance between the general working of the Schizophrenic mind and the crazy pattern by which society moves today.

To talk of throwing away ten years of one's life means that we are thinking of death instead of life. Does it make sense for a student to meet tremendous obstacles in obtaining a place in a good medical school or in receiving specialty training in hospitals? Is it necessary for physicians to be in competition with one another for patients as are wild animals for food? Should the quality and quantity of medical care vary with the social and economic status of the patient? Should institutions, hospitals, or anyone make profit from peoples' misfortunes? This is the psychotic environment in which we now live; the maker of perverted human relationships and abnormal people.

MORALITY NOT ENOUGH

We have put all kinds of difficulties today in the way of doing the right thing, and we make it easy and natural to do the wrong by conforming to an established pattern. This is what leads to the stupidity, greed, and avoidable mistakes, seen by the Missouri doctor. These things cannot disappear through individual dedication or a personal code of morality admirable as they may be. Consciously or unconsciously there is now something in all of us that is reaching out for a new, a different kind of association with people. But to reconstruct society on human values requires as a foundation the respect and appreciation of the labor of all men.

Danger to Life & Limbs Grows Worse with Auto Speed-Up

DETROIT—A foreman was killed in our plant a half hour after we started to work the other day. There is a kind of feeling that runs through you when you hear of someone who is healthy and well, talking one minute, and the next thing you know he is dead.

CRUSHED BY SPEED-UP

A hi-lo driver crushed him between two steel boxes. This thing can happen because of the rushing and drive by the company for more and more production.

The foreman could see the driver was backing up with a load, and that he could not see the foreman because he had to stack his stock so high on his truck.

SAFETY MEANS NOTHING

Safety means nothing in the plant. Sometimes you cannot walk the aisles, stock is piled so high up over your

head. If something serious happens the place will be a slaughter house. Many times, no one can get through the doors because they are blocked with stock head-high. Then, the foremen are in a hurry for their stock—afraid a worker might take a breather while waiting—so they rush the driver.

After the foreman passed at 9:40 A.M., all the safety people in the plant came running. There were photographers by the dozen flashing bulbs all around, and reporters asking questions.

One worker asked if they were blaming the driver for what happened. He was told, "No. It was an accident."

Another worker said, "He was one of the few half-decent foremen in this joint."

Another worker said, "Too bad it was not the superintendent instead."

PRODUCTION CONDITIONS

Another worker said, "Before Chrysler took Briggs over we had accidents, but rarely was anyone killed. In the two years since, workers have lost fingers, limbs, and are injured on a production scale."

And he said, "I know of five deaths already. Why do they use signs all over the place saying, 'Do It Safely,' if this is the record of the department on safety? A mark on the chart means nothing."

This time, the unfortunate accident happened to a foreman, so maybe management will pretend to do something about it for a little while. But these are the conditions under which production workers have to work every minute of every day they are on the job.

—Chrysler-Mack Worker

The Bridge to the Future

(Continued from Page 1)

economic resources and the strategic importance of military bases there. If we are to go only on the basis of the past records of oppression of small states by these two giants we can judge that domination of Africa by either one will result in increasing misery of the African peoples and the solution of none of their problems.

Nixon's recent trip to Africa is a demonstration of this. He did not visit any of the areas in which Africans are now fighting colonialism. He concentrated on meetings with tribal chiefs and heads of States in the independent countries.

He did not go to war-ridden Kenya, Algeria or the Union of South Africa. When he visited the British protectorate of Uganda, the only non-independent State on his time-table, he golfed and saw only those Africans recommended to him by the British. Even in Africa he separated himself from the real social problems of the African people.

His visits to newly independent Ghana, Morocco and Tunisia should not be interpreted as support to anti-colonialism because the old colonial powers still dominate the economies despite the political separation. Even the political separation is more symbolic than real with the former English and French colonial administrators still retaining high positions in the new governments.

WITH DIRTY HANDS

Neither Russia nor the United States goes into Africa with clean hands. The presence of Rev. King of Montgomery, Alabama, at the Independence ceremonies in Ghana, was a reminder to all Africa that the administration merely makes concessions to the Negro Americans when it has to.

Many examples could be given but only a few will show the pattern.

In Southern Rhodesia 25,000 Europeans own 50-million acres of good land (ten per cent of it is actually under cultivation) while 1,

700,000 Africans are limited to 36 million acres, much of it sandy and useless for farming. In Northern Rhodesia an African worker in a copper mine is paid less than one-twentieth of what a European is paid for doing similar work.

In Liberia the Firestone interests worked their Rubber plantation for many years with slave labor supplied by the American supported government. In Tunisia there are presently 700,000 unemployed out of a population of 3,600,000, including women and children. In Kenya and the Union of South Africa the land hunger is accompanied by brutal race discrimination and armed terror.

The recent experience in Hungary must make Russia repellent to Africans also.

THE FUTURE

Africa today is in the position that Asia occupied between the two World Wars. As in Asia, the colonial powers will use many economic and political tricks to maintain their control. As in Asia, there will be nationalist leaders like Nasser and Ben-Gurion who, unable to solve their own internal problems, get involved in imperialist intrigue and adventurism of their own and still try to act as leaders of freedom forces. As the China experience shows, the Russian brand of totalitarianism will try to make hay out of the miserable record of the old colonial powers only, if it can, to subject the people to a new dictatorship.

What Do They Mean—"No Challenge"?

They just issued some new election rules for the 1957 Local 212 General Elections. The Reutherite green slate boys have just added a new rule number 12: "There will be no challenged ballots."

What kind of trick are they trying to cover up with that rule? They give all kinds of "technical" explanations, but this is the first time I remember any such a rule, and I believe they stuck it in to try to steal the election if they can. Maybe they were hoping for a close election which they could "manipulate." The way the guys are talking today, there's going to be a clean sweep and the green slate will be whipped so bad that no little tricks like rule 12 can help them.

Chrysler Trim Shop
Detroit

McCARTHY IS DEAD

The copious tears being shed over the death of Senator Joseph McCarthy by some people find no sympathy here. McCarthy was the worst sort of demagogue, a man who rode rough shod over anyone who stood in his way. He never showed the slightest concern for getting at the truth of any question. His hit and run tactics permitted him to hurl reckless accusations at men who were unable to defend themselves, smear them and throw them under a cloud of suspicion and then take off on another expose.

Reliable newspapers have reported that he never succeeded during his entire reign of terror in proving a single government employee was a member of the Communist Party.

Yet, such was his influence before 1954, that the heads of many government agencies would discharge any employee on a telephone call from McCarthy. If they refused to back him up, he would go after them. His chief aids were Roy Cohn and David Schine, a couple of the most unsavory characters ever to be placed on a government payroll.

McCarthy was a man of one year's high school education who pushed his way into a Catholic Jesuit College and failed to get through even that. His military career was spotted by his persistence in overcoming the objections of superior officers in order to satisfy his own personal ambition for personal adventure. After scratching his leg on a hasty shipboard accident, for which he was responsible, he applied for, and was granted the honors of a man wounded in combat.

For his methods and his personal conduct in the Senate of the United States, he was voted a measure of censure in 1954 by the overwhelming vote of the Senate.

Since then his activities had been devoted to sniping attacks, for which he claimed his chief fame, against all from the President down.

An example is quoted, "I ask, in all gravity whether a man, so steeped in falsehood, who has had recourse to the lie whenever it suited his convenience, is fit to hold so exalted a place." These words were spoken of General George Marshall, whom no one, by any stretch of imagination can be called a communist.

Our Life and Times

By PETER MALLORY

McCarthy did more, in fact, to help the communists than he did to fight them. He, by employing their very methods, helped to make them popular. The method of the big lie, repeated often enough, helped them more than hurt them.

At the same time, he did more to undermine and to destroy constitutional liberties than any other elected official since the Civil War.

McCarthy may be dead, and those who praise his talk out of both sides of their mouth, but the phenomenon he created, McCarthyism, is not dead. It is the embryo of American Fascism and must be stamped out wherever it rears its head.

REUTHER and the UAW

While over 4,000 members of the union which he leads face the dim prospect of the loss of their jobs through the shift of stamping operations from Detroit to Twinsburg, Ohio, Walter Reuther is more concerned with enhancing his own reputation as a friend of the Senate Investigating Committee than he is in solving the problems of the membership of his own union.

To Reuther, 15 or more years membership in his union mean nothing. The fact that the worker owns a home and has friends in Detroit means nothing just as long as Reuther can play the big shot and associate on equal terms with his fellow big shots in the Chrysler Corporation.

COMMUNISTS IN INDIA

The communists have taken control of a single state in India during the recent free elections. They did so primarily as the result of the stupidity of the Congress Party of Prime Minister Nehru. His government there permitted such corruption and unemployment that the desperate population had little choice.

Their first measures were to decrease their own salaries and to increase those of other civil servants (by sums of five or six cents). The main task remains: to do more for the people of India

than either the British or Nehru have done. In this, they cannot provide human comforts for the masses.

SOUTH AFRICA

The Union of South Africa is the worst white-supremacy, Fascist state on the face of the globe. It is a terrible example of how European interests, in obtaining cheap labor, terrorize an entire country.

By law and brutality the Africans are restricted to Reserves on which they cannot earn any money but they are required to pay taxes. Therefore, while the women and children remain on the Reserves, the men are "recruited" for work in the gold mines.

It is estimated that in his lifetime, the average black African man in white South Africa is forced to work in the mines 14 times for about 8 months each time. In other words, for more than nine years out of his short life he is forced to work at slave labor in the white man's gold mines.

By means of forced labor in the gold fields, and of forced residence in the barren Reserves, the European whites try to prevent both the formation of a native African group productively settled on the land or a stable African working class.

The more desperate are the measures taken by the white supremacy government, to prevent organized resistance against them, the more highly organized do the African blacks become. The only way the government could break the recent 2-months old bus boycott in Johannesburg, was to eliminate the buses.

What the next form of resistance and revolt will be no one can say. It could not have been foretold that the passive Resistance Movement of 1952 would erupt in the form of a boycott in 1957.

The only thing that is sure is that the brutally suppressed Africans must and will revolt again against their white Afrikaander tyrants.

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