

WAGES MUST BE RAISED --- HARRY TRUMAN

Wires President Truman

Two Small Plants Grant Raises; Big Ones Could Do More, Says Perkins

Only a few hours negotiations were required by the union to win raises for employees of two plants, the ice cream division of Arctic Dairy, Lansing, and the John Wyeth Co. in Mason, manufacturers of canned dairy products.

Previous raises had also been agreed to a few months before by each plant, bringing the total increase won by previous and present negotiations up to about 18 percent, according to Clyde Perkins, president of Local 93 of the United Retail, Wholesale and Dept. Store Employees, CIO, which handled negotiations for the employees.

"Their reasonable willingness to discuss facts and figures and act fairly on the basis of findings could be followed as well by large corporations if they were sincere in their claims to be interested in the welfare of their employees and the public," said Perkins, who is also president of the Lansing CIO Council.

He called this to the attention of President Truman Tuesday with a telegram as follows:

HONORABLE HARRY S. TRUMAN, PRESIDENT
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DEAR SIR:

ON OCTOBER 17, 1945 JOHN WYETH CORPORATION OF MASON, MICHIGAN, A SUBSIDIARY OF AMERICAN HOME PRODUCTS CORPORATION, GRANTED ALL EMPLOYEES AN AVERAGE 14% WAGE INCREASE. ON OCTOBER 26, 1945 ARCTIC ICE CREAM COMPANY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, GRANTED ALL EMPLOYEES AN AVERAGE 15% INCREASE. BOTH HAD GRANTED SMALLER PER CENT INCREASES LESS THAN SIX MONTHS AGO.

NEITHER COMPANY HAS THE POSSIBILITIES OF GREATLY INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY PER EMPLOYEE NOR THE CHANCE OF GREAT TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES. BOTH ARE PRODUCING ON A SMALL MARGIN OF PROFIT PER MANUFACTURED UNIT. NO PRICE RELIEF IS REQUESTED IN EITHER CASE. THESE EXAMPLES ARE FACTS AND MAY BE SUBSTANTIATED BY THE COMPANIES INVOLVED. IF THESE INDUSTRIES CAN DO THIS, CERTAINLY LARGER INDUSTRIES CAN DO AS WELL OR BETTER.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS,
CLYDE E. PERKINS,
PRESIDENT
AMALGAMATED LOCAL NO. 93, CIO

Experts Tell Why Cost Of Living Jumped

WASHINGTON (FP) — A group of 15 top-flight government economists queried by a weekly news magazine on causes of the rise in living costs during the war placed chief blame on the inadequacy of government controls on prices.

This same group of experts named excessive profits as a secondary cause, and said they believed that wartime wage increases accounted for 10% less of the boost in living costs.

WESTERN UNION

WASHINGTON (FP) — Western Union Telegraph Company has asked for an exemption from minimum wage laws of any sort in its employment of 11,000 messengers.

VISITS HOME

Pvt. Chester L. Spinney, 1402 Knollwood, is home on furlough with his wife, Cora Spinney, from Fort Lewis, Washington.

He was employed at the Reo before going into service and is due back to his base November 6, 1945.

BUY VICTORY BONDS

Fisher Auxilliary To Meet Nov. 13

Next meeting of Fisher Auxiliary 202 will be Nov. 13 at the home of Mrs. Dorothy McCurdy, it is announced.

Officers asked the Labor News to express their thanks to the many who cooperated in making their Halloween party at the CIO Council Hall Saturday night a success.

UNEXCITING ELECTION SEEN HERE

The city election next Tuesday will be a tame affair.

In only two wards will there be any opposition: the fourth, where William R. C. Smith is opposed by Harry Frisasky, and the eighth ward, where Henry E. Fink is opposed by John Turner.

In the other wards the present aldermen have no opposition. In the assessors' race Lawrence Heller is opposed by David Lord.

Lansing has not officially endorsed any candidates.

WWJ Blocks Frankenstein Broadcasts

DETROIT (FP) — The closing week of the hot Detroit mayoral campaign opened with a denial of the air by WWJ, the Detroit News radio station, to Candidate Richard T. Frankenstein for 30 carefully prepared spot announcements. The News is the most ardent supporter Mayor Jeffries has for reelection.

Frankenstein immediately appealed to the federal communications commission against this political favoritism by the News station but the decision will come too late to help in the election as voting takes place in Detroit Nov. 6.

The station's hasty alibi was that the announcements of Jeffries' rival, who led him by 20 percent in the primary, were "poorly written, in poor taste and not up to the standards of the station," according to Manager Harry R. Bannister of WWJ.

Frankenstein released a typical spot announcement to the press. It read:

"ANNOUNCER: What's Jeffries done about the transit system? Nothing! What about housing? Nothing! Unemployment? Nothing! The airport? Nothing! Enough of Do-Nothin' Jeff—Elect Frankenstein mayor of Detroit Nov. 6!"

Prize Winning Costumes



Mrs. Louis A. Gray, costumed as "Little Bo Peep", and Steve Mazel of Fisher Local 602 who wore ragged work clothes labeled "Over-Paid Auto Worker", won first prizes for the best men's and women's costumes at the Halloween party in the CIO Council Hall last Saturday night.

The International office didn't do so badly at winning, either. Don Falor, sub-regional director, and "Rocky" Stone won prizes in a raffle. F. P. Baker won a blue wool blanket which he can have by phoning 59956 before Nov. 6. After that another name will be drawn.

A big time was had by the crowd, whose varied costumes got much attention. Even the dancing was varied, with something for every taste. Square dances were called by Louie Gray.

The event was sponsored by Fisher Auxiliary 202.



WASHINGTON (FP) — There is a solid piece of advice in the letter to Pres. Harry S. Truman from the leaders of the AFL, CIO, Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers and U. S. Chamber of Commerce cautioning against expecting too much from the national labor-management conference starting Nov. 5.

Called to hunt for a program to promote industrial peace, the conference includes all factions of organized labor, industry and management representatives, and is faced with an agenda that is filled with ticklish problems.

Can't Settle All Problems

The letter to Truman contained this word of caution, "While it is probable that many important decisions will be made by this conference, it must be borne in mind that no conference can possibly completely clean the slate of all present and potential sources of friction in the highly complicated American economy."

One of the difficulties will be sure to come in the second point in the agenda, which asks consideration of "the extent to which industrial disputes can be minimized by a full acceptance by organized labor of the inherent right and responsibilities of management to direct the operation of an enterprise."

This is paraphrased in the naming of a committee to deal with the subject and the official conference document lists its title as "Management's Right to Manage."

What About Foremen's Unions?

The bug in this, of course, is the organization of foremen and supervisors. Both Pres. John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers (unaffiliated) and Pres. Philip Murray of the United Steelworkers (CIO) are vitally interested in the organization of these supervisory employees. Foremen affiliated with the UMW's District 50 recently returned to work after a strike that nearly paralyzed the soft coal industry — with a promise from Lewis that he'd have a try at gaining recognition for their union another day.

Hovering in the background of this tough issue is the Foremen's Assn. of America, an unaffiliated union that has flirted with both CIO and UMW — to the concern of the NLRB, which would have to decide an embarrassing question should the NFA move into the UMW and have a case come up of a UMW foreman firing a CIO worker.

Price and Profit Angle Shocks GM

Another potential trouble spot in the same general line looms from labor's new demands to consider prices and profits in negotiating wage contracts. This is a

See WASHINGTON, Page 2

Labor Will Aid Local Blood Bank

The Lansing CIO is cooperating in a drive to replenish Ingham County's blood bank, which is becoming dangerously depleted.

During the first nine months of this year 294 people were treated with blood plasma in the county, principally due to operations and accidents. Many lives were saved because the blood bank was available.

"Labor will be right at the front in this drive as it has in other community programs," said Lyle "Rocky" Stone, who with George Nader are contacting the locals for the Red Cross, which is sponsoring the drive. Both are local International UAW - CIO representatives.

Pointing out that it takes only a few minutes to donate a pint of blood, Stone said stewards and committeemen in the shops would be supplied with appointment cards on which donors would indicate what time they could be at Red Cross headquarters, 426 S. Washington. In this way practically no time would be lost.

The following periods have been set aside for CIO donors who sign the pledges:

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 14 — 10 to 11:30 a.m., 5 to 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, Nov. 15 — 10 to 11:30 a.m., 5 to 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, Nov. 16 — 9 to 10:30 a.m., 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Mitchell at Red Cross headquarters said 15 could be handled each half hour.

Loans to Russia

MOSCOW (FP) — Ending a 7-day visit to Moscow and Leningrad, the CIO delegation here said it would oppose any further delay in making U. S. loans to the Soviet Union, needed "to raise the Soviet standard of living."

Price Increases Are Unnecessary

President Truman has unconditionally supported labor's demands for wage increases to meet rising living costs and make up for the drastic slashes in take-home pay since V-J day.

In his broadcast Tuesday night he made clear—just as Walter P. Reuther has contended about General Motors—that this could be done in most cases without increasing prices. Nor were these idle words, for the President has had a staff of experts investigating the whole wage - price structure of our national economy.

Reuther, UAW-CIO vice president, has made a similar and perhaps even more detailed study of General Motors economy — their past record of production, profits, prices and wages, along with a pretty accurate estimate of what they can do in the coming year.

Reuther has learned and is making public the figures which show that General Motors even before the war could have raised wages 30 percent without decreasing their average of yearly profits since 1935—and COULD HAVE CUT CAR PRICES BESIDES.

His detailed briefs presented to the corporation show in plain figures that what they could have done before the war they are even better able to do today for the immediate future.

GM CAN RAISE WAGES 30 PERCENT. CUT PRE-WAR PRICES — AND STILL MAKE MORE PROFITS THAN THEY MADE BEFORE THE WAR!

He challenges the corporation to refute his figures publicly, but their only answer is to buy large advertisements which deal in vague platitudes about producing more and having more — without a single specific statement of just when they propose to pay more than they are paying now, for even their apparent proposal of a six percent increase turns out to be no such thing when the qualifications are analyzed.

So Reuther says labor—and the public—will have to be shown.

President Truman said the same thing Tuesday when he said wages must be increased and if it was found after six months that industry couldn't stand it, price raises would be considered.

CIO Auxiliaries Present Radios To Percy Jones

CIO Auxiliaries from Lansing, Jackson, Battle Creek and Flint recently visited Percy Jones Hospital in Battle Creek to present radios, records and holders to the hospital.

The group was told that the table radios were especially

appreciated, as there are not enough to go around for the men who cannot get out of bed.

Auxiliary members inspected the music room, library, dining room and chapel. After leaving the hospital they visited the museum of science. They were dinner guests of the Battle Creek Auxiliary.

YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU BOUGHT THOSE VICTORY BONDS

GENERAL MOTORS GENEROSITY

Raise of Four Tenths of 1% Offered Dollar an Hour Men

One of the most astounding misrepresentations ever to appear in the daily newspapers was perpetrated by C. E. Wilson, president of General Motors, who in newspaper stories and in large advertisements bought by the corporation this week appeared to be offering workers a six percent increase through a plan adopting a 45-hour week.

Twenty Cents a Week

Analysis of Wilson's plan and figures reveals that a worker whose rate is a dollar an hour would make exactly twenty cents more per week than he would now on a 45-hour week.

This means that the so-called six percent is not six percent at all. In the case of the dollar an hour worker on the 45-hour week —

IT IS A RAISE OF FOUR-TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT.

But that doesn't present the entire picture of General Motors' generosity. Mr. Wilson points out that his proposed 45-hour week would increase production:

"We would produce nine cars where we would otherwise have produced only eight."

THIS MEANS A 12 1/2 PERCENT INCREASE IN PRODUCTION — FOR WHICH MR. WILSON WOULD HAVE GENERAL MOTORS INCREASE WAGES, FOUR-TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT.

His statements about a 40-hour week before the war, a 48-hour week during the war and now a proposed 45-hour week to split the difference during reconversion misrepresent further the facts.

That 45 Hour Week Nonsense

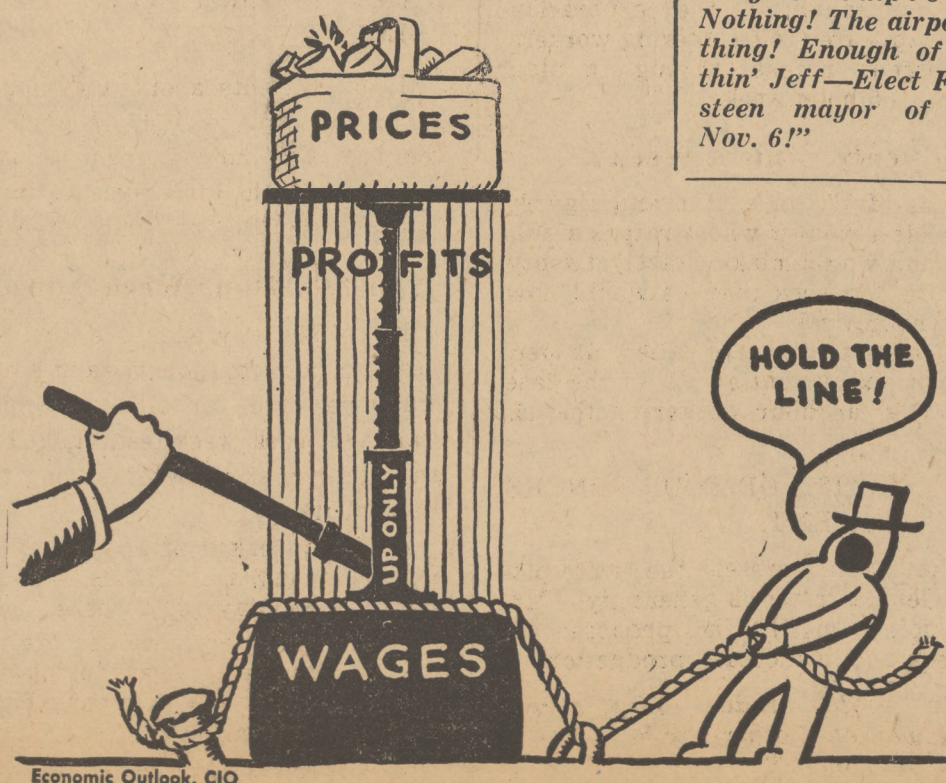
There has only been one kind of work week for the auto industry and most other industries and for all war work. The standard work week, established by law and never changed, even during the war, is 40 hours.

All time worked after 40 hours is paid for at time and a half rates — or more, in case of seven day work weeks.

That is the way it was before the war, that is the way it was during the war and that is the way it is now. There never was any change.

And there is not likely to be any.

Diagram Of GM's Plan



Economic Outlook, CIO

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RICHARDSON SAYS

President Truman Talks For the Imperialists

By R. E. RICHARDSON
President Olds Local 652

Last Saturday the American people witnessed a spectacle of the further deterioration of Big Three unity following the crushing of Rome-Berlin-Tokio Axis when President Harry S. Truman announced his 12-point policy.

The reactionry, Hearst-owned, anti-Soviet Detroit Times caught on to the President's line readily when it proclaimed Truman's big stick policy by announcing "Truman Tells the World: U. S. WILL ENFORCE PEACE." The State Journal declared; "U. S. Military Might to Back Foreign Moves, President Truman Tells World This Nation Intends to Preserve Peace With Power, Until Atom Bomb Is Out-lawed."

Scientists vs. Imperialists

In America today there are two camps: the scientists who insist that it is utterly foolish and dangerous to be secretive about the atom-bomb; and the rank imperialists who look upon the world as the private hunting grounds for those seeking markets for American manufactured goods.

The scientists tell us that we should exchange our information about the atom and look forward to a peaceful co-operative development of atomic energy for the good of man.

The imperialists, including the DuPonts, Rockefellers, General Motors, National Association of Manufacturers and other questionable groups want to use the atom bomb to win a quick and decisive victory in World War III.

Who is the enemy?

They point a palsied hand at the Soviet Union and in their sweep they include the American trade union movement, especially the C. I. O.

Truman Spoke for Imperialists

When Truman spoke, he was speaking the language of the imperialist. He handed out some high sounding phrases which do not stand the test as measured in terms of facts. Was it not the U. S. that opened the door for fascist Argentina at San Francisco? Did not Churchill seek to curb our imperialism in the past by co-operating with the U. S. S. R.? Have not those who are in power in the British Labor Party demonstrated that they are the tools of British imperialism, willing to support U. S. imperialists in the building of an anti-Soviet Western European bloc to isolate the U. S. S. R. in exchange for the five billion dollar loan from the U. S.?

Not Like Roosevelt Days

In the light of President Truman's atom-bomb-rattling speech labor is faced with a markedly different Democratic Party and national administration than we had a year ago under the late President Roosevelt. The Truman administration has witnessed one reactionary victory after another in the course of its abandonment of the foreign and domestic policies of Roosevelt. In its wake we are witnessing a resurrection of fascism at home and abroad.

In the light of the changed situation labor must re-evaluate its role in the world and domestic situation.

That Military Training Plan

A case at point is Truman's plan for compulsory military training. Elmer A. Benson, chairman of the executive council of the National Citizens Political Action Committee says:

"President Truman's plea for universal military training is an invitation to an armament race. It's utterly false assumption that the only safeguard to our hard-won liberties is military strength reveals that we are embarked on a program of power politics . . . only an international policy based on genuine desire for policy designed to meet our people's needs will give us real protection against future war . . . our national leadership has not awakened to the real implications of the atomic age."

Industry Sitdown Subsidized

In face of this dangerous international situation which Truman's bomb rattling has made more critical, we have, on the domestic scene, a crisis developing wherein big business is seeking the greatest possible private gain at the expense of the workers. The government has virtually subsidized a two year sit down strike on the part of industry by guaranteeing profits. It is also a subsidization of a refusal to reconvert.

"WE MUST BE CAREFUL....."



Labor is faced with two alternatives. We may adopt a go-it-alone policy, isolate ourselves in a struggle all our own, thereby exposing ourselves to American fascism and be crushed. On the other hand we can join hands with our non-labor potential allies, the independent merchant, small business, the farmers and the millions at home and abroad who are the victims of American imperialists such as G. M. and others. In such unity there is strength and hope. In the meantime may we ask, Mr. President, who wrote that speech for you?

Montg. Ward Strike Gets Union O. K.

NEW YORK (FP — Empowered to call a nationwide strike against Montgomery Ward & Co. if necessary, Pres. Samuel Wolchok of the United Retail Wholesale & Dept. Store Employees (CIO) prepared an attempt Oct. 26 to reopen contract negotiations with the mail order firm.

The strike was authorized by the union's executive board at an emergency meeting here, called after S. L. Avery, notorious anti-union

Canners Win
SAN FRANCISCO (FP) — Pres. Donald Henderson of Food Tobacco & Agricultural Workers (CIO) claimed a victory in the industry-wide NL RB election among northern California cannery workers.

board chairman of the company, refused to enter nation wide collective bargaining with the union, reneging on a promise to the union.

"Time for calling the strike has been placed in my hands," Wolchok announced. "I will call it at the most opportune time." He said the union was willing to submit all issues to arbitration before resorting to a walkout, which would affect some 75,000 workers.

United Press Vs. The A. P.

WASHINGTON (FP) — The United Press and its competitor, Associated Press, can't get together about Pres. John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers (unaffiliated.) UP reported Oct. 23 that "a high official of the AFL forecast the return of John L. Lewis and his UMW to the AFL on or before January, 1946."

Immediately afterwards, AP wires carried a story quoting AFL Press Director Philip Pearl as denying the report flatly, saying "no such statement has been issued and no such inference can be drawn from anything said or issued."

Lumber Strike
SAN DIEGO (FP) — A four weeks strike of AFL millmen and teamsters which tied up 34 lumber concerns ended here when the companies yielded to union demands for wage increases.

WASHINGTON SCENE

(Continued from Page 1)

novel idea to most managements and it has shocked General Motors into a hysterical silence. GM Pres. C. E. Wilson is a management delegate to the conference and is a sure fire bet to bring up the subject as one that is none of labor's business.

The GM executive is also due for a fight if he seeks to press his idea of scrapping the 40 hour week in order to increase take-home pay without digging into industry's pile of profits. Even Truman said he couldn't go along with Wilson on that one.

All in all, the outlook for the conference is none too bright, particularly if one side or the other feels the new Truman price-wage policy is too weak, or loaded for the opposite side of the table.

The end result may be that the conference will dodge the dangerous conflicts, which will not serve the interests of industrial peace too well, either, and may invite Congressional action on some new anti-labor bills.

Ford Hiring Ex-FBI Agents

Although the resignation of Harry H. Bennett from the Ford Motor Co.'s board after his removal as personnel director clear the air somewhat, Ford isn't going to straighten out and fly right. Bennett headed up the union-busting special service section for Ford and with his crowd of gun thugs being cleaned out, the company is replacing them with ex-FBI agents. So the difference is one of degree—a law school one.

Labor Editor Story Coming In Post

When a labor editor becomes the subject of a major article in a national magazine — its news.

Editor K. C. Adams of the United Mine Workers Journal is the subject of a 5,000 word piece in a forthcoming issue of the Saturday Evening Post. The author is Elsie Morrow, wife of a Philadelphia newspaperman and former Washington correspondent.

TELLS TRUMAN

WASHINGTON (FP) — An Alabama congressman, Rep. Carter Manasco (D.) visited the White House Oct. 26 to tell off the President of the U. S.

Manasco, chairman of the House committee on executive department expenditures, told newsmen afterwards he told Pres. Truman "there is little chance of passage of the type of full employment bill" desired by the chief executive.

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THE Story of Labor

WE SOMETIMES FORGET THE PIONEER FATHERS WERE IMMIGRANTS, AND THEY CAME LATE COMPARED TO THE CATHOLIC AND JEWISH SPANIARDS. COLUMBUS WAS AN ITALIAN, WHILE THE NEGROES HAVE BEEN HERE SINCE 1619... THOUGH THEY CAME UNWILLINGLY.

ALL RACES, COLORS AND CREEDS HELPED WITH BRAIN AND BRAWN TO MAKE AMERICA THE MIGHTY NATION OF TODAY. THEY ARE AMERICA WISE STATESMEN LIKE WASHINGTON, JEFFERSON AND LINCOLN UNDERSTOOD THAT, SO DO OUR GREAT LABOR LEADERS NOW.

AMERICANS OF JEWISH FAITH, FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE BEEN HERE FROM EARLIEST TIMES, AND THEY CAME FROM MANY LANDS—SPAIN, PORTUGAL, HOLLAND, ENGLAND, RUSSIA, ETC. JEWISH WORKERS HAVE ALWAYS FOUGHT FOR UNIONISM, AND FURNISHED SOME OF ITS FINEST LEADERS. BESIDES SAM GOMPERZ THERE WERE MANY OTHERS.

THE FIRST WHITE MAN TO SET FOOT IN AMERICA WAS LUIS DE TORRES-A SPANISH JEW...

ASK THEM, FRIEND LUIS, IF THIS IS INDIA OR CHINA?

I'VE TRIED MANY LANGUAGES THEY SPEAK A STRANGE TONGUE!

AT FIRST THEY FOUND ONLY POVERTY AND SWEATSHOP CONDITIONS...

YOU'VE ALREADY WORKED 15 HOURS IT'S TIME TO SLEEP!

HOW CAN I? I GET ONLY A FEW PENNIES A GARMENT!

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-Labor In-
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CHINA'S GUERRILLAS WERE UNIONISTS

The heroic story of how industrial workers helped set up and maintain resistance bases behind Japanese lines in north, central and south China is told in a report just prepared by the Federation of Trade Unions of the China Liberated Areas, the labor organization which grew to amazing strength in the space of a few years.

Shen Chien-tu, Allied Labor News correspondent, gives the highlights of the report

in a dispatch from Yenan, capital of guerrilla China. It reveals that a total of 24,000 workers entered the Communist-led 8th Route Army in north China in 1938-39 alone. More than 10,000 workers of the famous Kai-lan mines, formerly a Sino-British concern, formed a guerrilla detachment after a revolt in which they captured the mines for some days and subsequently became the first regular column to invade Manchuria.

In central China, the New 4th Army has one brigade composed of workers from four industrial cities in which every man and every officer from the commander down is a unionist. Workers form half the enlisted personnel of this army south of the Yang-

tze and fully 80 percent of its strength in the Shanghai-Nanking area. Gen. Wang Chen, commanding all resistance troops in Hunan, is a former locomotive fireman.

Outside of these regular formations, miners, railwaymen and other workers in previously occupied territories organized themselves into no less than 26 guerrilla detachments of from 200 to 1,000 men each and 20 others of 100 men or less.

These workers not only fought the Japanese but produced an ever-increasing flow of arms, ammunition, clothing, medicine and food to keep the guerrilla bases alive in the face of a double economic blockade, by the Japanese on one side and Chiang Kai-shek's troops on the other.

During the war output of industry in the guerrilla regions increased many times, while the efficiency of individual plants in the last two years rose from 30 percent to 120 percent.

BUENOS AIRES PARADE

Half a million people marched through the streets of Buenos Aires, Argentine capital, Sept. 19 to demonstrate against the fascist Farrell-Peron regime.

It was the largest mass rally the country has ever seen but the government caught in the trap of its own democratic promises, was powerless to stop the demonstration. Col. Juan D. Peron, Argentine dictator, tried to head it off by warning that there might be fighting. His threats were ignored by the people, who called their parade the March of the Constitution and Freedom. All political parties participated without exception.

Some of the banners carried by the crowd read: Yes-

Condemns 'Witch-Hunting' Of Congress Committee

NEW YORK — Charging the House Committee on Un-American Activities with use of "the very methods of fascism" by "resumption of witch-hunting at this critical time", George Marshall, Chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, recently urged all members of the House of Representatives to "insist that the House Committee, having proved itself to be only a continuation of the discredited and dangerous Dies Committee, be abolished immediately."

Action by Mr. Marshall came after the announcement of service of subpoenas were also issued to a number of national leaders of the Communist Party, the alleged purpose

being to "look into current labor trouble."

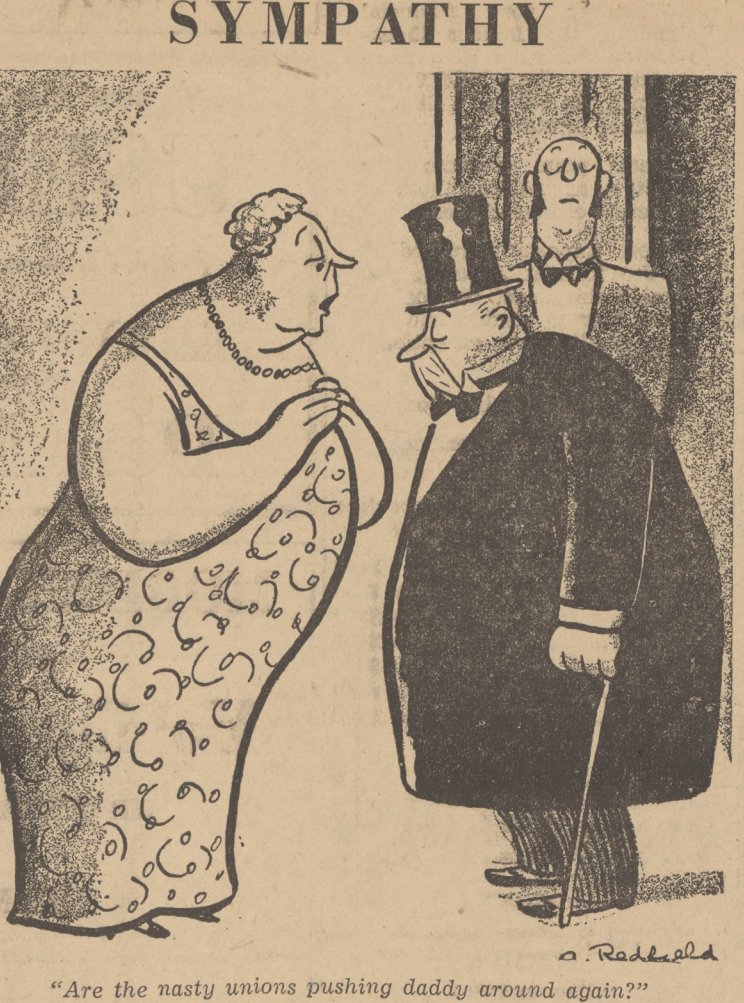
"These actions of the Committee, resuming the infamous red-baiting tactics of the old Dies Committee, are shocking to a nation of people who have not only repudiated the witch-hunting of Dies but have barely laid down arms after a long and bloody war against fascism abroad," Mr. Marshall wrote members of Congress.

"Resumption of witch-hunting at this critical time can only be interpreted as an effort on the part of the reactionary forces in this country to deny the people the democratic fruits of this military victory," he said.

Characterizing the proposed committee investigations as "a smokescreen", Mr. Marshall pointed to the significance of it being raised at a time when "democratic national unity is the key to solving major national problems." The labor movement will understand it as an effort to deny wage adjustments and reduce the standard of living and the Negro people have already recognized it as an attempt to isolate them and take from them gains won during the war, he told Congressmen.

OLDS AUXILIARY 76

Olds Auxiliary 76 will meet today, Thursday, Nov. 1, and on the first Thursday of each month hereafter, it is announced. The organization's executive board will meet on the third Monday of each month.



"Are the nasty unions pushing daddy around again?"

NIGERIAN STRIKE

Are colonial workers expected to starve quietly when their wages remain frozen at miserably low levels while living costs aim for the sky? That was the basic issue in the strike which swept Nigeria beginning June 21, developing into one of the longest and most widespread strikes of organized African workers yet to occur.

According to British officials the strike ended Aug. 5 but a cable to the Council on African Affairs dated Aug. 20 from Lagos said the strike was still unsettled and the workers had received no satisfaction on their demands for wage increases.

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Bennett Era Ends At Ford's

DEARBORN, Mich. (FP) —On the same day that Robert Ley, head of Hitler's labor front in Germany hanged himself in a prison cell, Harry Bennett, former head of Henry Ford's labor front in the Ford Motor Co., cut his last tie with the company by resigning from the board of directors. He had been previously fired as "director in charge of administration" a few weeks earlier when Henry Ford II succeeded old Henry as company president.

Bennett and two cronies have formed a firm of manufacturers representatives, something like the job that was found for Homer Martin, traitor-president of the United Auto Workers (CIO), after he got his walking papers from union affairs.

Under Bennett the notorious corps of Ford servicemen was formed, consisting in part of ex-convicts, plug-uglies, deposed police officers from various towns etc. They were stingingly denounced in government reports made to the Natl. Labor Relations Board and were let go when the UAW strike in 1941 brought Ford into the union column.

Profits Tax Repeal Seen

WASHINGTON (FP) — Outright repeal of the 85% tax on excess profits on Jan. 1 was voted by the Senate Oct. 24 as it passed a tax reduction bill carrying \$500 million more in relief than the measure adopted by the House.

A conference committee began studying the difference between the two versions of the bill Oct. 25, with most observers confident that the ad-

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The Truce Is Over



Following refusal of Sewell Avery to enter collective bargaining with Montgomery Ward workers as promised, members of the United Retail, Wholesale and Dept. Store Employees (CIO) begin passing out pamphlets to employees in stores in the larger cities.

Maybe You Can Figure The Answer!

RAHWAY, N. J. (FP) — The union contract calls for time and a half for the sixth and seventh days' work at the Merck & Co. chemical plant here, but the mathematicians in the front office have never let a contract stand in their way.

The company Oct. 19 announced without consulting its employees a plan whereby they would work seven consecutive days without overtime payment — except for one every four weeks. The trick is done by working seven, laying off two, so that no more than five days are worked in a calendar week, except every fourth week, when there is a sixth day worked in a calendar week.

Seven days' work five days' pay puzzled the 1,500 employees, members of Employees Organization of Merck & Co. (unaffiliated). They have quit work and are sitting down in front of the plant trying to figure it out.

A week has passed and the plant is still down.

Military Training
NEW YORK (FP) — Denouncing President Truman's plan for universal military training, the executive council of the Intl. Assn. of Machinist (AFL) said here its adoption would mean "that the U. S. is getting ready for another war."

Famous CIO Servicemen's Center Closed

SAN FRANCISCO (FP) — The CIO Servicemen's Center, after a highly successful 13 months of life, closed its doors with a big farewell party on Halloween. Noted particularly for its rigid no-discrimination policy, the center provided entertainment for thousands of service men and women, giving many of them their first contact with union activities and viewpoints.



Smith-Connally Law Author Is Against It Now

WASHINGTON (FP) — The man who dreamed up the War Labor Disputes act, more commonly known as the Smith-Connally law, has publicly disowned his brainchild. Rep. Howard Smith (D, Va.) presented the House military affairs committee Oct. 17 with a bill (RH3937) to repeal immediately the anti-strike act which he and Sen. Tom Connally (D, Tex.) jointly sponsored. Smith said he did not write the bill, but somehow his name got attached to it.

He argued that the bill was "passed purely for emergency purposes. It thought it was generally understood that when the shooting stopped the act would also stop."

Faced with "an almost impossible administrative job" the Labor Department has joined the NLRB in asking repeal of the Smith-Connally anti-strike act, with retention of certain sections.

Appearing before the House military affairs committee, Asst. Sec. of Labor Daniel Tracy asked especially repeal of Sec. 8. This section establishes the procedure for filing notices of labor disputes, holding secret strike vote and provisions for the so-called "cooling-off" period.

Instead of reducing labor disputes, the bill has, in effect, so increased the number of strikes that during the week ending Oct. 17, 123 notices were filed, as against 12 for the same period last year.

While advocating repeal of Sec. 8, Tracy asked that the seizure provision of the act be retained, as it "may prove useful in the event of emergency," promising that the power would "be used sparingly."

Foremen's Union Wins Victory

DETROIT (FP) — The Foreman's Ass'n of America (unaffiliated) won a signal victory Oct. 26 when an impartial umpire held that the Ford Motor Co. must reinstate with back pay two foremen who were demoted in violation of the union agreement. The contract gave them plantwide seniority so long as they remained plantwide union representatives.

CARTEL CHARGES

WASHINGTON (FP) — Charges of conspiring with German, British and Swiss manufacturers to fix prices against the big General Electric Co. and Westinghouse electrical goods were filed and allocate trade areas for Electric Corp. Oct. 9 by the U. S. Department of Justice.

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The war actually started in 1931, when Jap troops committed the first aggression by marching into Manchuria, where Chinese people were the first victims. Above, this family, typical of millions, is homeless as a result of battles that wiped out a city.

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Payrolls Are Down Nearly Fifty Percent

LANSING, Mich. (FP) — Average hourly earnings in Michigan manufacturing industry during September were \$1.178. Payrolls were 45.9 percent below September 1944. Employment was down 33.3 percent in the same period, reports the state department of labor and industry.

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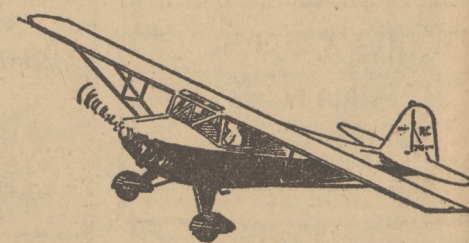
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