

M.E.S.A. EDUCATOR

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UAW Convention

We were very interested to receive reports from President George White and Representative Jerry Raymond on their return from the U.A.W.-C.I.O. Convention in Atlantic City. These reports were a change from the monotonous newspaper scribbles who all wrote of "Walter Reuther the fiery red-headed dynamo who defeated R. J. Thomas for the presidency of the world's largest labor union." Our two operatives brought back descriptions made from two different vantage points, one from the press table and the other from the guest's gallery. In addition to lurid pictures of what really occurred at a five-day election of officers, the M.E.S.A. observers brought back the official news releases, the reports of the various U.A.W. Officers of their own departments and, last but not least, copies of the modest handbills put out by the candidates prior to the long-winded voting. R. J. issued a beaming aiming to prove that Reuther was the most undesirable person to be President of the U.A.W. and further that Walter loused up the G.M. strike. Reuther replied with vari-colored handbills the import of which was that Thomas was slow, stodgy, and totally unfit for re-election at least while Walter Reuther was available.

Everybody Promised Everything

Of course, the usual, well organized, spontaneous "demonstrations" were staged by the guys who wanted to stay on the Thomas payroll or enthusiasts who failed to make "R.J.'s" staff and hoped to be hired by Reuther if they could get their candidate elected. The daily and nightly fight of the pie-card artists carried on at interminable caucuses served the purpose of diverting the delegates' attention from the consideration of important convention business having to do with changes in the By-laws and the improvement of negotiating machinery so long overdue.

At every caucus, the candidates promised local delegations this and that in return for votes. Some of the leaders of the local delegations became quite confused by the glowing promises of the aspirants for office and switched from side to side until even the experts at the press table refused to guess as to whether Tommy or Walter would be the next president of the U.A.W. Many large war-time locals, carrying huge blocks of votes, were actually voting more votes than they had members, after the mass layoffs caused by the end of the war.

The floorleaders of R. J. and Reuther could, under these circumstances, not be blamed for issuing confident statements predicting the easy election of their candidates.

Addes in Control

Reuther won because the local leaders wanting jobs on the International Union payroll controlled a few more votes than the switch leaders who wanted Tommy's pie-card list. One really has to earn a job in the U.A.W.-C.I.O. for six days and nights you must be all things to all men, making pledges that can't be kept, being pleasant to members you loathe and in general behaving like a first-class heel. In a hundred corners of the hotel lobby or adjacent saloons, you saw the union leaders. They would talk about solidarity until the very word sickens you; you exhort, implore, plead, cajole and otherwise make a nuisance of yourself in the name of democracy; in passionate tones you tell everyone who will listen that the salary of the job is of no interest to you and that your only thought is "That the Union must be Preserved." Our operatives tell us that Secretary Addes, the guy who is claimed (believe it or not) by both the Commies and the Catholics, was easily the most impressive person at the Convention and, apparently the only man capable of restoring something like order in the Convention. Understandably, a good trick—a line of switches controlling all the evenly spaced microphones in the body of the auditorium. Should some delegates talk too long or become too explicit in his description of some of the U.A.W. Officers, then off would go the switch controlling the microphone. Reuther's voice would fade out completely. On one occasion, Secretary Addes left the platform to settle a battle royal being staged by a few fervent delegates. Addes was declared the winner and still Champ of the Vote-Getters in the U.A.W.

Walter Just Overestimated

Anyhow, when the tumult and the shouting died, poor R. J. Thomas had cried piteously on being fired from his president's job but smiles replaced his tears when he staggered back on to the U.A.W. payroll as a vice-president. Walter Reuther had been made President of certainly the world's noisiest union and was adjusting himself to doing just what Addes tells him for the next eighteen months.

Some of the simply representing the press wrote of the nation-shattering events that would inevitably follow the election of Walter. As for us, we believe that Reuther wanted this so badly that to keep it he will tag along doing as he is ordered by Addes or the Executive Board and, in most cases, avoiding any clashes of a major nature with the auto manufacturers. Any guy that boasts that "he is a Socialist in private but a supporter of 'free enterprise' in public" will never be dangerous to anyone. Walter is overestimated as much as Tommy was underestimated. Thomas never had the ability to give full expression to his thoughts and Walter is long on expression and short on thoughts worthy of expression.

The fierce internal stresses and strains set up by the Atlantic City Convention will probably result in a severe diminution of the power of the U.A.W.-C.I.O. and if this takes place we wonder if anyone will care

For the Record

"On Friday, Nov. 7 (1941), we had the usual weekly Cabinet meeting. The President undertook to cast an informal vote of the Cabinet as to whether it was thought the American people would back us up if it became necessary to strike at Japan, in case she should attack England in Malaya or the Dutch in the East Indies. The Cabinet was unanimous in the feeling that the country would support such a move."

Testimony of former Secretary of War Stimson, before the Pearl Harbor Investigating Committee.

Strikes are Over--Now What?

The steel, auto, and electric strikes are now things of the past and all the settlements were based on so-called fact-finding committees appointed by the U. S. Government.

The wage increments were around 18 cents an hour with price relief pending that will be more than cover the wage changes. From the superficial point of view, one would think that the employers had won a victory and that the strikers just preserved the status quo as far as workers' purchasing power was concerned. This easy view is not the whole story because things have taken place that may affect the fundamental economy of the United States. More than two million people were on strike during the same 30-day period and the scabbing was confined to small plants. The only reason that the ranks of the strikers did not reach the 10,000,000 mark was because strike leaders foolishly thought they could play off one company against another when it is common knowledge that all the major corporations have the same group of investors as stockholders. When the meager results of the strikes are studied it is inevitable that either bigger strikes will be planned or there will be a switch to political action to replace or supplement strike action by the unions.

One unique factor in the recent strikes was that the issues involved were initiated by the union leaders and that the workers should fight for and make part of their contracts with the employers. Most of these union demands have been sidetracked and the only gain a wage change

weak contracts and how. Maybe the victims now returning to their jobs will start wondering why a relatively small group of people called "bosses" can separate them from their pay checks and even have the gall to confer on when work shall be resumed.

The Wrong Side of the Tracks



"It's here that over eatin' and too much sweat is what makes pain in the stomach. Now ya understand Timmy!"

their union leaders but now that the strike settlements are being analyzed these same workers may get good and mad to the extent of stirring their leaders into a more drastic action. The employers could have done too good a job in their blithe insistence on company security and the general watering down of what were pretty

two groups of workers can conceivably have the difference of opinion as to who shall do which jobs and what shall be the rewards for doing such and such jobs but howling does a group of non-workers (parasites if you like) get into this allocation and price of labor? The right to bargain collectively should mean the

right to bargain with other representatives of bona-fide groups but people who don't make any economic contribution to the Nation's needs should have no bargaining rights. There is quite a lot of talk about changing the Wagner Act—maybe this disenfranchisement of the boss class is the only remedy presently required to bring sanity into the bargaining chamber. Wilson, Anderson and Coen should make the most of their opportunities in their conferences with U.A.W. leaders—strike poses, read newspapers, make ribald remarks about the union representatives—have their fun while they may because we kick them right out of the conference room altogether. They only represent investors who have loaned their money to the G. M. money that was stolen in the form of interest from other workers in other companies. What makes these monkeys think the cause of kidnapping labor has any future? Every irksome clause in a contract is aiding in the disillusionment of more and more workers as to the value of discussing with labor leaders the wages and conditions of honest workers. These money-changers should be driven from the Temple of Labor until such time as they can prove themselves capable of doing their quota of the Nation's work. Why should Labor traffic with impostors? The day of emancipation is brought nearer by the insolence displayed by bosses in strike periods. To the G. M. bosses, we say, "Exit while you can—tomorrow you pass out of the picture."

"THE LONG RUN"

By JUDAH DROB

The opinions expressed in this column are unencumbered and do not necessarily represent the views of the M.E.S.A.

How much do you know about what goes on in the labor movement? Darn little, I'll bet. Whether you are a rank-and-filer who devotes his spare time to union affairs or a full-time union official, the chances are that most of the current happenings in the labor movement are not much more than hearsay and rumor.

The "news" published in the daily papers covers only the most spectacular phases of union activity, and even these seldom gives an accurate picture. To understand this you have to look back to the newspaper coverage of your own most recent strike.

Papers published by various international and local unions don't help much, either, in giving the average union activist an accurate picture of what goes on in his own movement. This is partly because one and one would hardly do suggest that union papers devote any less than their entire attention to their own unions' point of view and propaganda.

Yet, accurate and up-to-date information is essential. An intelligent union membership can't make the most reasonable decisions if it doesn't know what is going on in the labor movement. Union leaders, who have more time to try to keep in touch with what goes on in other sections of the movement, in order to be able to discuss with policy suggestions to their members, must depend on barroom gossip, one-sided stories from prejudiced partisans, and the thoroughly inaccurate stuff published in daily papers.

This information can only be provided by an independent labor newspaper, which owes no allegiance to any particular union or labor leader, and whose function it is to dig out the facts without bias. It is a labor movement that needs such a newspaper. It has been on the basis of saying, "This guy isn't quite as bad as that one, so we'll support him."

PARTY OF THEIR OWN

That short-run participation in politics hasn't gotten unions very much actual benefit. In most other countries unions learned long ago that the only way to get what they wanted was to be in politics on an all-out program of their own, and to seek political power for labor and for the groups in society that are actually productive and progressive.

In the United States that kind of politics is long overdue. Current disillusionment of union members and leaders with the floundering Truman administration, and the possible Republican policies, may lead to the formation of a new political party, in which labor will play a major role. This can only result, however, if the rank-and-file of labor insists that no matter what deal is made by labor leaders it will refuse to vote for the corrupt old politicians.

A long run program for unions and for a new political party that can support must propose workable means of distribution among our people the tremendous abundance of which our nation is capable. We've learned during the war that our productive capacity can be greatly expanded. We've also learned that modern technology requires a minimum time needed to produce the abundance our people need.

We know from experience that this abundance will be kept from our people if the old private enterprise system stays in the saddle. Economists of all shades of opinion, from extreme conservatism to extreme radical, predict a new depression within five or six years.

PREVENT DEPRESSION

A depression will not leave much of our present labor movement intact. A few tough and solid industries that will be least hit by a depression, may survive, but most of the last ten-year's gains will be wiped away. Only by heading off the depression can labor hope to maintain its present strength and influence.

Heading off the depression is a straight political job. No matter how good your contract may be, or how you have your own boss baffled, if it is not on the party's simple union field that the union can be defended against the storms ahead.

Not can the battle be won even on a national level. The workers of Britain have won their political battle, and have installed their Labour Party. But the workers are still not in complete control of their fate.

What happens in the private enterprise United States and on the distant shores of the Soviet Empire will affect them just as much as what they themselves do to solve their problems.

A forward-looking unionist must become active in terms of whether or not they move in the direction of long-range political action, based on a new political party supported by labor and designed to prevent a democratic economy, in cooperation with the labor movement of other countries.

Above all, he will use the rapid state of the depression as a lever, for he believes that nothing is worth while unless it is joined along with complete freedom of speech, of opinion, and of movement.

The Challenge of the Atom

By AARON LEVENSTEIN

When science smashed the atom it discovered for the first time the principle of annihilation. At the same time, by the very same principle, the atom has made it possible to transform nature into the servant of man, giving him food infinitely beyond the capacity of human appetite, clothing far more abundant than he can wear, homes for all to fill our streets with palaces. We face a world of potential superlatives.

Which will man choose—Annihilation or Abundance?

The choice is his. It was solemn day when the news came that atomic fission had reduced Hiroshima to vapors and radioactive ashes, leaving little trace of the 80,000 dead. Even the prospect that atomic energy was now in our hands for service to civilization could not overshadow the awful horror that we were given evidence of the new scientific triumph.

The first impulse of the human being is to turn from that fact in complete panic. Dr. Hardcastle, who spent years on the problem of splitting the atom, tells us in a few brief words what we face from now on: "A world

of vast fear and apprehension will be our lot and that of our children."

Here is the kernel of our thought: We cannot erase the atom bomb from the minds of men. Even if we were to destroy the blueprints of the Army engineers, raze Oak Ridge, Tenn., to the ground, hypnotize the atomic scientists into amnesia, others would rediscover the dread principles. But if we cannot neutralize the bomb itself, even we must immobilize the forces that can hurl the bomb and eliminate the motivations that inspire its use. In that course lies our only hope.

UNO CONTROL

The suggestion has been made that the bomb be turned over immediately to the United Nations Organization and thus disposed of. As things stand now, it is hard to believe that this simple transfer of title will make the world breathe easier. For the United Nations Organization

today is still a mere forum for nations. Any one of five nations can halt a decision by UNO on the issues that are most likely to lead to war.

The only effect of handing over the bomb to UNO would be to remove it from the possession of one potential marauder and place it in the hands of several. In your local community you do not solve the problem of the armed outlaw by permitting every individual to carry a revolver. Already the armament race is under way. Russia has mobilized only a small portion of its armies—some reports declare that it still keeps 6,000,000 men under arms. Both England and the U. S. are demobilizing reluctantly as slowly as the popular will permits. In the United States, the Administration presses vigorously for peacetime conscription. One would have imagined that the first resolution on the UNO's agenda would have been a resolution

outlawing conscription from the face of the earth.

We will not solve the problem of conflict between nations by a mechanism which merely handles disputes after they arise. The only lasting way to eliminate the causes of conflict.

CIVIL WAR TEST

The history of our own United States illustrates this truth. The colonies set up a loose confederation, a central republic—but that did not prevent a civil war, the bloodiest struggle in this hemisphere. Similarly, it would be unwise to build a world government and eliminate international war, only to produce a civil war between the member nations.

The United States could survive its civil war, but in the atomic age any international organization will not survive even one civil war between its member-states. Nor will the world.

Just as surely as our civil war was a conflict between rival economic interests, so too a world alliance must be an economic rivalry between its members. Of greater importance than the proper machinery for handling disputes is the reorganization of the world to eliminate the reasons for disputes—the hunger for raw materials, the desire to solve unemployment through the planned economy of war mobilization, the race for foreign markets, the feeding of one people by snatching the bread from the mouths of others.

One who has said that the history of mankind can be written under the title, "From Adam to Atom." Not yet. We can escape that summary of the desperate struggle that has waged with nature and with himself if we can find the solution to our economic difficulties.

One of the things the selfsame bomb that has brought us to the abyss has given us hope of a Promised Land beyond. For in the atom, we have also the answer to hunger and human wants.

The Call

Will History Repeat?

(Continued from Page 1)

Johnny, well, you won't worry about prices any more. You want to know? Where do you want to go? I tell you, Johnny, you're either going in that direction or you can figure on another name for one of those things that happened in '21, '28, and again in '38. It's up to you, feller, what are YOU going to do about it?

"Of course," he said, "only had Churchill in mind, but who were you thinking of?"

Guilty Conscience

A comedian came on the stage in Berlin weeping and ejaculating.

"We are deprived of this and of that, no butter, no coffee, no soap, and on account of that!"

During the shocked silence that followed in rushed the Gestapo and hustled him off to the nearest police station.

The comedian protested violently and said the police had made a mistake.

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Day by day and every way it is getting clearer and clearer that a political upheaval is in the making in the United States. The past year has seen a definite line developing between groups of opposing ideologies. Today there aren't two people who will agree on what the Republican Party stands for, and it's even harder to figure out if the old Democratic Party is still in existence.

Labor organizations, which for the most part, served as the tools of the two major political organizations, have of late been raising a little bit about what is going on. In some instances, the H— raising has developed into talk of Independent Political Action.

For a long time labor has thrown its support to whichever Party made the best promises. During the "Reign of Franklin," the sweetest crumbs were handed out to the Democrats. There is no question but that a good deal of liberal legislation was enacted under the Roosevelt Administration. Due to an act beyond man's control, the standard bearer of the liberal Democratic Party was taken from the scene. Today, most unionists find themselves on the outside looking in. We

have contended for a long time that if labor is to have favorable political over an extended period, it will be necessary to build a political organization to do the job.

Depending on an individual to deliver labor from its sufferings, is Utopian and super-democratic.

While some are discouraged by developments in Washington, we are heartened, and it is evident to us that a new political alignment is in the making. A political alignment that is based on principles rather than on what a swell guy is Oscar Doodleheffer.

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Lighter WEIN

+ BOOK REVIEW +

The Experiences of A Slave Laborer

Review by CHRISTINE GAULLE
 Bound With Two Chains. By Alexander Janta. Roy Publishers, New York, 231 pages, \$1.50.

Alexander Janta is a young Polish writer who published several books before the war. Among others, a very interesting book about India where he spent several months and talked with Gandhi and other leaders of the Indian freedom movement.

At the outbreak of the war, Janta was in France, where he joined the Polish army. After the collapse of France in 1940, he was captured by the Germans. Thinking it might make it easier for him to escape, he changed into the uniform of a French soldier. He could speak French well enough to hide his Polish identity.

In Bound With Two Chains Janta tells of his experiences in Germany as a slave laborer and of the things he saw there. He saw Germany from the inside, working in various factories and coming into contact with men of different social groups. His knowledge of German helped him considerably all the time.

The attitude of the Nazi officials towards the French prisoners of war was a lot better than that to the other nationals. According to what Janta was told by high-ranking Nazis, they really thought that Laval would have the

following of the majority of Frenchmen. A doctor from the S. S. once told Janta that France will have to end up by collaboration with Germany, and if Germany were to lose the war, the Nazis would erase France from the surface of the earth before that killing millions of Frenchmen as they did in Poland.

It seems that war books are not very popular at the moment. People probably want to forget the war as rapidly as possible. The same thing could be observed after World War I.

This is certainly a handicap for Janta's book, and it is a pity. For Bound With Two Chains is full of interesting observations and valuable material, helping to understand the psychology of the German people during the war. It also makes it easier to understand many things which happen in Germany today.

Janta escaped from Germany and came to England while the war was still on. He tells us in his book that it wasn't easy. He had to be operated on—quite unnecessarily—by a Polish doctor, who staked his life on the possibility for Janta to escape. Only after the operation the Nazi doctors recognized Janta as incurably ill.

There is a certain atmosphere about Janta's book which makes its reading especially interesting. He mentions German captivity people from almost all the countries overrun by the Nazis. All these people had of course one thing in common: the hate of the Nazis. But there was also something else which united them. They all hoped for a better world after the war, they understood what a totalitarian regime means and they thought there wouldn't be any dictators left in any country after the defeat of Hitler and Mussolini.

Bound With Two Chains makes very interesting reading to all those who are not trying to live in a fool's paradise, where the things of the past have no connection whatever with the things to come.

A Novel on Italian Fascism

Review by Bryllion Fagin
 THE FINE TREE AND THE MOLE. By Edo Tadei. Translated from the Italian by Samuel Putnam. New York: The Dial Press, \$2.50.

This novel is not good enough for the magnitude of the events it undertakes to describe. The rise of Italian Fascism, the start of the first World War requires a greater talent than that of Tadei. Here we have poverty, sordidness, crime and prostitution, general and political confusion, and it will not have memorable fiction. The characters are indistinct, the mood is flat, and the style is undistinguished.

The book is dedicated to the Italian worker, who is urged to preserve his native land from the men of ill-will and the speakers of untruth. The advice is well-meant but there is nothing in this novel of post-war conditions in Livorno. Tadei's native city, to suggest to the Italian worker what he should do or whom he should follow is not a point of view described, even Socialism and Anarchism, are all opportunistic and the issues are unclear. Tadei, who spent his eight years in Mussolini's jail before coming to this country in 1938, is himself an Anarchist; his implications of the corrupting effect of political power leave the reader with no alternative, with no constructive hint for the organization of order out of the chaos described.

As a narrative of the novel suffers from the multiple thread style popularized by John Dos Passos. The novel is a heavily party-lined, slanted by her translations. She also credits Gorky with the authorship of Dead Souls. All told, I saw the Russian people as a "collective" in a book. That does not mean that it won't sell well. Any book on Russia sells these days. Mrs. Winter's title for chapter 18 reads: "For shame! Go Home and Put on Your Pioneer Tie!" We offer her the same advice.

American Aristocracy

Like all the other nations, we worship money and the possessors of it—they being our aristocracy, and we have to have one. We like to read about rich people in the papers; the papers know it, and they do their best to keep this appetite liberally fed. They even leave out a football game or a bull fight now and then to get room for all the particulars of how—according to the display heading—"Rich Woman Fell Down Cellar—Not Hurt." The falling down cellar is of no interest to us when the woman is not rich, but no rich woman can fall down a cellar and we not yearn to know all about it and wish it was us.

'Yaffie's Advice to the Ladies'

To the lady I would say, don't bother about getting any more new underclothes. It isn't necessary. I know how you feel. No woman can get attractive in stretched woollen stockings that are mended and wrinkled over the ankles, silks that have lost their bright surface. Psychologists tell why.

I know it makes all the difference in the world if you know that your clothes are just right. The feeling that you are attractive gives you assurance, poise, charm. It doesn't matter if you are dressed well in not a psychological fact, experts say. But I say to you, as I say to all women who come to me with their under-worries, that to be dressed well is not a matter of money at all. You can keep all your stockings and undies looking like new for months and months. Lux washes them safely. The why Lux washed fabrics simply last and last.

But I need not rub the moral in. No rubbing is needed with Lux. And I hope that any woman who has the good sense to be the wife of a gentleman and not of an unemployed bricklayer will always find, when she gets up before the judge that her lux in.

When

When wilt thou save the people?
 Oh God of Mercy, when?
 The people, Lord, the people.
 Not thrones and crowns, but men!
 —Ebenezer Elliott

S.S.S.S.S.S.

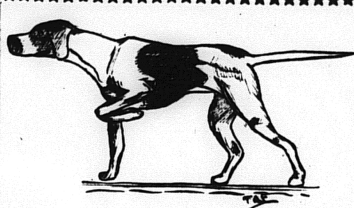
"The following 'S' poem is a curious illustration of what some people do when they have no one to hand: Sudden swallows, swiftly skimming, Sunset's slowly spreading shade, Silvery songsters sweetly singing, Summer's soothing serenade, Susan Simpson strolled serenely, Stifling sobs, suppressing sighs, Seeing Stephen Slocum state-ly, She stopped, showing some surprise, 'Say,' said Stephen, 'sweetest, sigher, Say, shall Stephen spouse-less stay?'"

Susan, seeming somewhat shy, Showed submissiveness straightaway, Susan's season slowly stretches, Susan Simpson Slocum she, So she signed some simple sketches, Six September seasons sweetly, Six autumn seasons snow sheltered, Susan sat in a sofa's shelter, Six small Slocums side by side.

—Author unknown

Mothers Day

My mother taught me to be good
 At least as good as I was able;
 Otherwise I think I could
 Dress in ermine, mink or sable.



If you don't like the way things are going on in Washington, don't blame Congress. After all what do you expect from representatives of organizations dedicated to the preservation of the cut throat system, we call capitalism.

"A LIBERAL EMPLOYER"

He slobbers over sentimental plays

And sniffles over sentimental songs.

He tells you often how he sadly longs

For the ideals of the dear old days.

In gathering he is the first to raise

His voice against "our country's shameful wrongs."

He storms at greed, His hard, flat tone pronounces

The hymns and mumbled platitudes of praise.

I heard him in his office Friday past.

"Look here," he said, "their talk is all a bluff:

You mark my words, this thing will never last.

Let them walk out—they'll come back quick enough.

WE'LL have all hands at work—and working fast!

How do they think we're running this—for love?"

The Magic Coupon

Do you yearn for boundless wealth?

Simply clip the coupon!

For a speedy route to health—

Simply clip the coupon!

Would you Samson's strength were thine?

Would you, scintillate and shine?

Right below the dotted line—

Simply clip the coupon!

Earn ten thousand bucks a year—

Simply clip the coupon!

Banish doubt and foolish fear—

Simply clip the coupon!

Would you join the Favored Few?

Would you make your dreams come true?

Anything is yours if you Simply clip the coupon!

—ANON.

QUIPS and CHIPS

The M.E.S.A. for a little side bet is willing to lay it on the line and prove that our new agreements are at least 20% better, financially and otherwise, than any recently signed by competitive unions.

The Organizers are whispering about how ironical it is for them to negotiate 18 1/2 cents an hour for all and sundry when their own wages are frozen, etc., etc.

The United Nations at the U.N.O. sessions in Hunter College New York sometimes appear to be as united as the United Auto Workers.

We are willing to wager that the National Secretary has an urgent meeting in Louisville on Derby Day.

Attorney Bill Brooker is standing first on one foot and then the other impatiently waiting for the opening day of baseball. A fan with such enthusiasm deserves to live in Detroit where he could see some major league ball.

We understand Reuther said if it wasn't for the \$9,000 of an artist—where! The clash of colors is so bizarre that you nearly keel over. The interior (or should it be inferior) decorators who planned it "that way" must have been trying to paint a hangover. Just a lost week end.

Brothers Kiser and Figg the "hot shots" of our Adrian, Michigan Local are looking for a good used fire escape for the local hall. Please mail with full postage.

Hank Dreyer, the erstwhile M.E.S.A. organizer, in the Toledo area, is now Chairman at the Auto-Lite Committee. Never a dull moment from now on.

We took a swift look at Toledo's very own new headquarters and while we don't claim to be imbued with the eyes of an artist—where! The clash of colors is so bizarre that you nearly keel over. The interior (or should it be inferior) decorators who planned it "that way" must have been trying to paint a hangover. Just a lost week end.

Local No. 5 election for local officers, with National Vice-President Emil Pettito in charge, is over. We wish the new officers lots of luck with their unruly brood. We will pray for them just a little too.

Organizer Dominic Cioli was prominent in the Eaton Local No. 21 negotiations. He used more figures than a routine master at a burlesque show.

Tor Cedervall in from Los Angeles, is now stationed at Cleveland, Ohio.

We learn that Karl Pauli is helping out the Interstate Metal Workers Union in Rome, New York.

Uncle Joe

Here is a story making the Diplomatic rounds: Truman Atlee and Stalin were having breakfast together at Potsdam. Smoking a cigarette after coffee, Truman leaned back and casually said:

"You know, I had a funny dream last night, I dreamt that God had appointed me President of the United Nations."

There was an embarrassed pause, and then Atlee coughed, and said: "You know, that's a strange coincidence. I had a dream too, and I dreamed that God had appointed me the Premier of the United Nations."

Stalin leaned back, unperturbed, took his pipe out of his mouth and said:

"You know, I had a dream too last night, but I don't remember appointing anyone to anything."

Or Send Her Back Where She Came From?

The next time you hear a bigot make fun of a foreigner here, remind him that the most wonderful gal in the U. S. is a foreigner from France. The Statue of Liberty.

Kidding Our Way To Coolidom

"It ought to be our aim," writes Eric Johnston in The New York Times Magazine, February 24, "to make it possible for every man to call himself a Capitalist."

Johnston believe "profit-sharing" will do the trick. It is the recipe for blissful delusion. Best of all, it makes it possible for every man to call himself a Capitalist—and remain a wage slave.

It Won't Be Long Now

I'm thankful that the shining stars Are far beyond our reach And that the rolling planets, too

Are deaf to human speech If they were not, I'm very sure Rich men would own the skies And manage the whole universe By private enterprise.

—Gerald Gould

She looks upon her sex as a sort of Trade Union whose objective is to keep up the price of femininity in the marriage market.

Shh!

A nurse in a mental hospital noticed a patient with his ear close to the wall, listening intently. The patient held up a finger as a warning to be quiet, then beckoned the nurse over and said, "Listen here."

The nurse listened for some time and then, said, "I can't hear anything."

"No," said the patient, "and it's been like that all day."

Thought

A thought conceived Engenders growth: Expressed, gives root to a plant. Which throws off seeds That too become plants. In turn becoming forests Of thought— A principle or ideal.

A thought unexpressed, Remaining suppressed In the mind of its master, Can never mature. Never become the plant Or seeds of a principle Or great ideal:— Only fertilizer.

—Rosina Raymond

An AMG man in Aachen, questioning Captains about their political beliefs, was assured that they were unanimously anti-Nazi and always had been. "That's strange," he said, "because the Nazis had quite a bit of popular support." "Nonsense!" replied the German spokesman. "That's just phlo-demic Jewish propaganda."

No normal woman would be a professional prostitute. If she could better herself by being respectable, nor marry for money if she could afford to marry for love.

Song of the Queen Bee

When the air is wine and the wind is free And the morning sits on the lovely lee And sunlight ripples on every tree, Then love-in-air is the thing for me— I'm a bee.

I'm a ravishing, rollicking, young queen bee, That's me.

I wish to state that I think it's great, Oh, it's simply rare in the upper air, It's the place to pair With a bee.

Let old genetics plot and plan, They're stuffy people, to a man; Let gossip whisper behind their fan, (Oh, she does? Buzz, buzz, buzz?)

My nuptial flight is sheer delight; I'm a giddy girl who likes to swirl, To fly and soar And fly some more, I'm a bee.

And I wish to state that I'll always mate With whatever drone I encounter.

There's a kind of a wild and glad elation In the natural way of insemination: Who thinks that love is a handicap Is a fuddydud and a common sap. For I am a queen and I am a bee, I'm devil-may-care and I'm fancy-free, The test tube doesn't appeal to me, Not me, I'm a bee.

And I'm here to state that I'll always mate With whatever drone I encounter.

Let mare and cows by calculating, Improve themselves with loveless mating, Let groundlings breed in the modern fashion, I'll stick to the air and I'll just a bee, I may be small and I'm just a bee, But I won't have Science improving me, Not me, I'm a bee.

On a day that's fair with a wind that's free, Any old drone is the lad for me.

I have no flair for love moderne, It's far too tedious, far too stern, I'm just a bee—I'm wild, I'm free, That's me.

I can't afford to be too choosy: In every queen there's a touch of floozy, And it's simply rare In the upper air And I wish to state That I'll always mate With whatever drone I encounter.

Man is a fool for the latest movement, He broods and broods on race improvement; What boots it to improve a bee? If it means the end of ecstasy? (He ought to be there On a day that's fair, Oh, it's simply rare For a bee!)

Man's so wise he is growing foolish, Some of his schemes are downright ghoulish; He owns a bomb that'll end creation And he wants to change the sex relation, He thinks that love is a handicap, He's a fuddydud, he's a simple sap; Man is a meddler, man's a boob, He looks for love in the depths of a tube, His restless mind is forever ranging, He thinks he's advancing as long as he's changing, He cracks the atom, he racks his skull, Man is meddlesome, man is dull, Man is busy instead of idle, Man is alarmingly suicidal, Me, I'm a bee.

I am a bee and I simply love it, I am a bee and I'm darned glad of it, I am a bee, I know about love: You go upstairs, you go above, You do not pause to dine or sup, The sky won't wait—it's a long trip up: You rise, you soar, you take the blue, It's you and me, kid, me and you, It's everything, it's the nearest drone, It's never a thing you find alone, I'm a bee, I'm free.

If any old farmer can keep and hive me, Then any old drone may catch and wive me; I'm sorry for creatures who cannot pair On a gorgeous day in the upper air, I'm sorry for cows who have to boast Of affairs they've had by paled post, I'm sorry for man with his plots and guile, His test-tube manner, his test-tube smile; I'll multiply and I'll increase As I always have—by mere caprice: For I am a queen and I am a bee, I'm devil-may-care and I'm fancy-free, Love-in-the-air is the thing for me, Oh, it's simply rare In the beautiful air And I wish to state That I'll always mate With whatever drone I encounter.

—E. B. W.

Reprinted from Dec. 15, '45 issue, New Yorker Magazine.

Linguist

Byrnes Learns to Say "I Agree" and "No" in Russian—Newspaper headline.

It would appear the Secretary Has not a large vocabulary. The range is great, that's plain, surely.

With which "I agree" and "no" With only that to handle Uncle Joe, With heads he wins and tails he loses, A lot depends on which he chooses.

—Richard Aragon

Around the Shops

20 Cents at Am. Twist

Detroit: Twenty cents an hour will be added to the pay check of members of the M.E.S.A. employed at The American Twist Drill Co., in Detroit. A new contract has been negotiated providing substantial gains to the men and women who work in this shop.

A ten cent increase in wages is granted, effective immediately, with retroactive pay to January 1, 1946. An additional 10 cent increase is granted, to be effective on July 1.

The vacation plan calls for 20 hours pay for employees with six months seniority; 48 hours pay for those with one year; 72 hours pay for those employed two years; and 96 hours pay for all employees on the payroll for three years or more.

Double time is paid after 10 hours in any one day and eight hours on Saturday, and a bonus of 10 cents is paid to all employees on the second shift. No time period is stipulated relative to the increase in wages, leaving the Union free to negotiate additional increases at any time.

This fine settlement was made when it became clear that Chicago Boulevard in Detroit was about to get a solid picket line.

Members of the M.E.S.A. at American Twist, and in particular, members of the Shop Committee, are to be congratulated for the excellent results achieved.

20 Cents at Nat'l Supply

Toledo, Ohio: — M.E.S.A. members at the National Supply Co., here, have been granted a 20 cent an hour increase in wages. Under the plan negotiated with the Company, 17 cents an hour is paid as a general wage increase, and 3 cents per hour for each worker is distributed among the various classifications to eliminate inequities.

This compares with a 16 cent general raise and 1 cent for inequities granted to the C.I.O., which also has a contract with the Company.

Everyone is proud of the result.

Just Another Name for 'Opportunity'!

Believe it or not, but the August, 1945, issue of "Opinion and Comment," published by the College of Commerce attached to the University of Illinois, carried an article entitled

"We Need Those Depressions." And who wrote the article? None other than Ralph Blodgett, of the Menough Advertising Agency, Des Moines.

"It is to be hoped," wrote Blodgett, "that depressions are never abolished, for they have many desirable features. Those who learn to 'ride the business cycle' can find as many advantages in depressions as in bonanzas. That very name 'depression' is inappropriate. It is horribly full of gloom and foreboding, so full of splendid opportunity. Let us keep those periods but abolish only the name...."

Some economic research foundation might well offer prizes for suitable names and select the best one.

For our part, we're more concerned with finding a suitable name for Mr. Blodgett (profanity excluded). Should it be using an asbestos envelope. No prizes offered; the pleasure of deciding on a suitable name for this depression-lover is prize enough.

—PAUL ALEXANDER

C.U.A. President Resigns

Continued from Page 1

Eaton Axle Grants 18-1/2

A supplementary agreement covering wages, vacations with pay, and time allowances for Shop Committee members, was signed on April 6, 1946, after ratification by the membership. The day workers received 18 1/2 cent an hour across the board and the piece workers are benefited by fairly complicated rate adjustments that equal the day work increases.

The negotiations were protracted and both sides were tough, but eventually out of the heated debate was forged a settlement that, in our opinion, will stand comparison with any signed in a similar industry since V-J Day.

The Shop Committee, which in Local 21 is the Local Executive Board, is made up of representatives for union business. The vacation agreement, which is a percentage payment based on length of service, is now complete.

A plan giving veterans a minimum of one week's vacation or pay in lieu thereof, is being worked out by the Shop Committee and its management.

Eaton Axle Heater Div.

Bro. Frost and his co-negotiators are about to open conferences with the Eaton Heater management on a new contract including, of course, a flat 18 1/2 cent an hour increase. The Company has in mind the installation of a plant-wide incentive plan but as we have only the vague outlines available, no serious comment is possible.

General Industries Elyria, Ohio

The M.E.S.A. Locals No. 15 and 18, consisting of the Tool, Die and General Industries plant, finally settled for a general increase of 13c an hour.

A new contract was negotiated which is a decided improvement upon the one it replaces. The Shop Committee had a tough time keeping the boys at work during the negotiations and when the Company tried to slip a new piece work average into the Form No. 10 application, the plant did go down for a day but things were eventually straightened out.

Congratulations are in order for the officers of these two locals.

18 1/2 Raise At Packard Toledo Plant

Toledo — M.E.S.A. Local No. 4 has won an 18 1/2 cent increase in wages for all workers covered by its contract with the Packard Motor Car Company at Toledo, Ohio.

However, negotiations on several other matters in the contract are still under discussion.

The screwball of the Detroit Labor movement, "Gypsy Moon" Frankenstein, was slapped down recently by his fellow C.I.O.s. "Franky" decided that he'd like to be a bigwig in the Republican Party, but P.A.C. would for suitable names and select the best one.

They tell about the fat do-wager who decided the shipyard on the East Coast. She bent over to tie her shoe string, and before she could straighten up they broke a little of champagne over her stern and launched her.

Parliamentary Rule in Soviet Russia or You Can Fool Some of the People

The world has just witnessed an election in Soviet Russia of representatives to the "Supreme Soviet". This body is the highest legislative governing authority in all Russia.

The Supreme Soviet that just ended its term, was elected 8 years ago. During this period, this authoritative body, serving as the parliamentary representative of 180 million people, convened exactly 12 times each session lasting from one to seven days. Not once in the entire period of its existence was even a single voice raised in opposition or a single vote cast in dissent. Every bill was passed as proposed by "Uncle Joseph and the Royal Family".

There is unanimity of thought in Russia as evidenced by the results of sessions of the Supreme Soviet. Some of you may doubt that such a cord is possible. The trouble with you is, you don't have faith in Dictator Joe Stalin, or perhaps you've never heard of Siberia or the GPU. Any thing is possible in Russia.

G.M. Wilson Earns While He Snores

Probably no man in the United States ever has had his salary brought down into such fine details as did Charles E. Wilson, president of the General Motors Corp. But then there are few men in the United States who make as much money as does Wilson.

The man who performed the analysis is Representative Neely (Dem., W. Va.). He did it in the course of a House investigation. Here is what Neely said:

"A Treasury report released last June 25 for the year 1943—the last year for which relevant facts and figures are available—shows that G.M. paid Wilson for his service for that year a total of \$459,041.38.

This vast sum is more than \$7,000 greater than the combined salaries which the United States last year paid its President, Vice-President, all the members of the President's cabinet, the Chief Justice, the eight associate justices of the Supreme Court, the speaker of the House of Representatives and Gen. Eisenhower for winning the world's bloodiest war and saving all the free people of the earth from enslavement by the Axis powers.

"With every beat of his heart a penny and a quarter is added to his worldly wealth."

It's funny to the Upper Classes. When the objection was made to the salary of \$1,500-a-year municipal employees couldn't support a family, New York's Budget Director, Thomas J. Patterson, thought it was funny. His advice was that they shouldn't get married. When asked what to do about those who already are, the Budget Director laughed and replied facetiously, "Maybe I should put in travel expenses to Reno!"

Another shop in the Cleveland area has been organized into the M.E.S.A. The workers at the Red Star Products Company recently joined our Union and petitioned the C.I.O. to be recognized. When the Company suggested that they would insist on going through the long rigmarole of an N.L.R.B. election, the workers decided that the easiest way to prove their majority membership would be to shut the plant down and let the Company eat the cost of the strike.

As usual, this suggestion resulted in recognition of the M.E.S.A. as the bargaining agent at the plant. We are happy to welcome these workers into our Union.

Free Enterprise

Two weeks ago the Tokyo Brothel Keepers' Association decided to petition the U.S. from slavery-status contracts and permit them "the democratic right" of going into business in a dependent. From a Tokyo A.P. dispatch.

Circus

Continued from Page 1

parcel to an agreement to keep controversial issues off the convention floor for fear the members might get less than what was going on. Less than 2,500 individuals from all corners of the nation, at a cost far exceeding one million dollars, spent a week at Atlantic City electing national officials. Except for increasing their dues from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents per month, there was no other business transacted during the entire proceedings.

Representatives of the M.E.S.A. sat at the press table and witnessed scenes that at least were nauseating. Not once did any official of the union representing either faction, have the courage to give leadership and guidance to the assembled delegates. Not once did even one official from the more than five hundred paid professional union leaders, speak up with even the remotest suggestion for improving the conditions of the men and women who work in the shop.

Your correspondent had the pleasure of speaking with dozens of good rank and file union people who are sick and disgusted with the corruption and political wrangling that reigns in the C.I.O. For the most part, they agreed that the organization had drifted so far away from the workers on the job that it might as well be the International Union, rather than the boss.

NOTICE

O.K. baseball players, get your ball team info into our office. Does your shop have an M.E.S.A. team?

that interfered in their lives, to a better way of life. Common consent was given to the suggestion, that had the election been held by referendum vote, most of the elected officials would not have even been in the running. After twenty four hours of convention, an impression of rank and file control had been created, and our estimate of the C.I.O. was now to new heights. The deals, double deals and double crosses that followed from here on, were an insult to the very suggestion of democratic rank and file control.

Routher, Thomas, Addes, Leonard and the rest of the gang are all in the money and thrive on the phony setup that exists in the organization. Until the workers in the shop decide they are through with being kicked around and treated as political footballs, phony conventions will be held and a good time will be had by all. The outcome of the C.I.O. convention is factual evidence of the need for a complete constitutional reorganization of the U.A.W. Any setup that allows low events to occur as they did, and officers to be elected as they were, is what is known as a "helluva mess."

Local 5 Election

Final results in the hotly fought election at M.E.S.A. Local 5, Cleveland Graphite Bronze, brought a new slate of officers to that organization.

Robert Bosco was elected President of the Local, Wilson R. Keller was elected Secretary-Treasurer, Gene Scherbarth was elected Vice-President, and Frank Santo was elected Sergeant-at-Arms.

Elected to serve as members of the Executive Board were: Del Craig, Vincent Supancic, Albert Barnhart, Frank Fitzsimmons, Frank Ingledue, Elmer Kist, George Lucas, R. D. McCall, Edward Moffitt and Wm. A. Waters.

As Local 5 delegates to the N.A.C. the following Brothers were elected: Robert Bosco, John Andrews, Del Craig, Harold Donald, Sylvester Frank, Frank Fitzsimmons, Frank Ingledue, George Lucas, Henry Michelberg, Edward Moffitt and Frank Tanski.

At a recent meeting of the N.A.C. at a request presented from the membership of Local 5, to have the election conducted by a committee comprised of M.E.S.A. delegates from other locals in the Cleveland area.

National Vice President, Emil Pettito was chosen as chairman of the special election committee. Brother John Jusco of Local 21, Brother Alfred Salg of Local 28 and Brother Edwin Miller of Local 46 were chosen as committee members. The election was conducted as a referendum, first with primary ballots and then final election ballots mailed to each Local 5 member. Each member of the Committee is to be congratulated for the proficient manner in which the election was conducted.

They Sure Learn Fast

We have just read an account of certain strike action undertaken by thousands of Japanese workers. After years of enslavement, the right to organize into free, democratic labor unions was given to the Japanese by the occupying forces. Don't think we're not taken advantage of.

Recognizing that a strike of public utilities would affect the general public while attacking the profits of the private companies, the union leaders in the labor movement simply refused to collect fees from the public for anything. Phone calls were put through without charge, street car conductors refused to collect fares, and in other ways, the strikers attacked, where the attack belonged, at the profit of the private companies.

At the Shibaura Electric Company in Tokyo, the workers evicted the owners of the plant, increased production and voted for a 500% increase in wages. In one Street Car Strike the conductors collected fares and then deducted their own wages at the in-house rate before turning in their collections.

More Money At Toledo

Money-Money-Money is the by-word at Toledo, Ohio. Members of the M.E.S.A. in Locals 3 and 4 have been negotiating with various companies in that area for some time. As we go to press, we learn that several of these plants have reached a final settlement and the workers all are quiet on those fronts.

General wage increases of 18 cents an hour have been granted to the following plants in the Toledo area: Ohio Tool and Die, Summit Roberts Company, Wayne Metal Co., Great Lakes Stamping Co., Great Lakes Stamping Co., Miami Industries, Reliable Machine, and Tool.

At the Toledo Steel Tube Co., an increase of 18 1/2 cents was granted, while at the Toledo Stamping Co., 15 cents was granted a couple of months ago with negotiations now going on for an additional five cents. It is hoped that plant up to twenty cents.

A Word From Our Readers

Had A Talk With Country Cousin

What started out to be a peaceful family dinner at the country cousin's Sunday, turned out to be a virtual knock-down and drag out verbal battle on the present strike situation, with yours truly right in there slugging the Union and country cousin, although stubborn saw the light from a different angle after the smoke had cleared.

The first point cousin led with was finances. The factory workers were making enough money and the Union were getting rich. Well as a Union man I couldn't take that so I took off from there. Listen cousin my Union dues cost me \$1.50 per month, to me it's worth several times that amount, in fact the best insurance that anyone can carry. As for the Union getting rich the books of our core open at the end of the month to members in good standing and furthermore I have a voice in spending that money.

As for wages, did the workers have a subsidy to hold up their wages after the war? Did we have a set weekly wage set up by the government? No, we were on a limb and even a decent wage was endangered by manufacturers having a fond feeling for the old sweat shop and profits that would curl your hair. Back to the days of Company dominated Unions, when a working man dare not open his mouth or get fired, take the wage the boss offered and be satisfied.

The American people have never been known to take a kicking laying down, they have a fight to the finish between labor and capital, which everyone knew was coming at the end of the war.

The boys came back from the service to this great country, the land of plenty, what do they find? First it is new clothes, you know the situation there. Come it because the excess profits tax was going off soon and the clothing manufacturers were clinging on to finished products instead of making more profits.

During the long dark days of the war we had labor, capital and government pulling towards the same object, here on the home front. We like to think that American production line of food and goods is going along a long way towards supplying our armed forces and also our Allies. Great things were done then, but after the war capital squeezed down on wages and hours. The man who wanted to make a living wage found himself at the small end of the stick. With capital able to draw on excess profits tax if they lose money, labor must draw on his savings to make ends meet and to pay taxes to keep the government going while capital is drawing on the U. S. treasury for funds to finance strikes they have forced.

To end my argument with cousin I showed him a clipping from a newspaper — it read—

Senator Harley M. Kilgore, West Virginia a Democrat urged Congress to repeal at

Let We Forget

8 1/2c raise just granted at Kelvintown, brings raises to 18 1/2c since Jan. 1, 1946. It is a common labor rate of \$1.24. Try and beat it!

once "the tax rebate provisions which permits U. S. Steel and General Motors to draw upon the treasury of the U. S. to finance their attacks upon American labor."

In a statement, Kilgore called it "the most important step Congress could make to restore production." "It is clear," he asserts, "that these and other large monopolies are deliberately creating a deadlock in which they hope to break the Unions."

"In this they are encouraged by the present tax law, whereby the Treasury of the U. S. will guarantee their profits even though their plants are idle."

In a statement it was the first time he had listened to the other side of the story and was convinced that labor was getting a tough break.

LOCAL 43 MEMBER

An Ex CIO'er States the Case

To the Editor: The way things have been going in the labor movement since V-J Day, makes it clear that even before that members of the M.E.S.A. really have an organization that works for their benefit.

The Brother who is in charge of taking an interim wage increase until March and then going after more at that time, may as well shut everything down and demanding 30%... but it puts more money in the workers' pockets where it belongs.

I have talked to a lot of workers who have been laid off from M.E.S.A. shops and have gone to work in C.I.O. shops. In every case the wages that they are now getting are 30 and 40 cents an hour less than what they paid in M.E.S.A. shops for the same work. It is very clear to those of us who have worked in an M.E.S.A. shop that as long as you let the Company know that you don't intend to let them get away with anything, you will have good conditions in the shop.

If those Unions that are now shouting about what the bosses are doing had been on the ball all during the war, instead of giving No Strike Pledges, the workers in those plants would have been getting raises all along. But in stead of acting like union officials, their leaders backed up the War Labor Board and had everyone who wanted to put up a fight, fired out of the plant.

Sooner or later, the rank and file of the CIO will be fed up with the kicking around that they have been getting and will do something about it. There are plenty of plants in this area that remain in the CIO only because there is a closed shop and a check-off. If the average worker in one of those shops wasn't afraid of being black-balled, he would get rid of the CIO quicker than you can say "Jack Robinson."

I have found that whenever a member from one of our shops gets laid off and then goes to work in a shop organized in another union, he really appreciates what it is to work in our plants when called back to work.

I have been a member of the M.E.S.A. for six years. Before that I was active in the CIO in Cleveland. I have served as an officer of both organizations and have come to the conclusion that what is needed by the G.M. strikers is a Union.

John Margolis

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FOR PRESENTATION AT AN EARLY DATE

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