

Let liars fear, let cowards shrink,
Let traitors turn away,
Whatever we have dared
to think
That dare we also say
—James Russel Lowell



We pledge ourselves to organize and unite the workers in the automobile, metal and allied industries, in the struggle to increase their power in the national economic life. Our immediate objectives are higher wages, shorter hours, better working conditions and the enactment of adequate workers.

VOL. 6

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SECOND EDITION, MAY, 1944

No. 13

N.E.S.A. JOINS N.L.R.B. Board Proposal is Attack on Labor

BULLETIN

NATIONAL SUPPLY WORKERS JOIN M.E.S.A.
Harry Dreyer, National Representative in the Toledo area, reported that 1000 production workers at the National Supply Co., had joined the M.E.S.A. and that he had filed for an election with the National Labor Relations Board.

LABOR CLUB DRIVE
The drive for memberships in the M.E.S.A. Labor Club is going on. M.E.S.A. members in the Detroit area are determined to have a building of their own.

KELVINATOR STEWARD REINSTATED WITH PAY
An attempt to fire a steward at the Kelvinator plant was made. The committee decided to get rid of the foreman who ordered his discharge. The steward was reinstated with back pay. No Stewards fired in M.E.S.A. shops.

M.E.S.A. BASEBALL SEASON OPENS
Several M.E.S.A. shops have opened their ball seasons. An elimination contest to find the Champs of the M.E.S.A. is planned.

Detroit Locals Plan M.E.S.A. Labor Center

M.E.S.A. Labor Club Organized to Provide Union Offices and Recreation Facilities for Members

Have you joined the Labor Club? Detroit members of the M.E.S.A. are planning to purchase a building of their own to be used as a recreation center and for business offices for the locals in the area. At the present time, M.E.S.A. local in Detroit have no "Home" of their own. Thousands of dollars of dues money paid in by the members of the organization are used to pay rentals on halls and office space. Does money paid in supposed to be used to support the fight of the workers for better working conditions and higher wages, not to support some private landlords who are getting rich by renting dingy, stuffy, meeting halls to us stuck away at some inconvenient part of the City.

Members of the M.E.S.A. in Detroit need a place that they can call home. They need a library and a recreation room. Under the present setup it is impossible to conduct a well planned social program. Have you joined the Labor Club? The M.E.S.A. Labor Club is a non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the State of Michigan, with the purpose of providing these necessary facilities to you members of the M.E.S.A. In order to finance this project, a voluntary membership plan has been adopted. Members of the M.E.S.A. and their families can become members of the Labor Club by purchasing a Labor Club certificate. These certificates cost five dollars and cover membership in the club for the entire family.

Where this building will be located is up to those members of the M.E.S.A. who have become members of the Labor Club. What recreational activities, what kind of a social program and what kind of social events are all matters to be decided by the members. The Labor Center will have a gymnasium, bowling

Strikes by the Boss Are O.K.

Strikes by some of the biggest commercial enterprises have been going on all during the war, but the daily newspapers have carefully avoided reporting them. At Los Angeles, California, the Government gave the Metropolitan Insurance Company priorities to build a big housing project for war workers at low rentals. The National Housing Authority, the government agency that corresponds to the War Labor Board but operating in the housing field, established a rental range of from \$42 to \$68 per month for each apartment. The Metropolitan Insurance Company, refusing to accept this ruling, struck and refused to rent the apartments to the workers they were built for.

N.A.C. Meets Cleveland, Ohio

The National Administrative Committee of the M.E.S.A. will meet in Cleveland, Ohio, Sunday, May 28. Sessions of the meeting will be held at Cleveland Public Auditorium. The National Administrative Committee (N.A.C.) is the highest body of authority in the Union. It is composed of delegates from various locals of the organization. In order to be a delegate to the N.A.C., a worker must work at the tools of the trade. This means that all N.A.C. delegates are workers from the shops. No full time official of the M.E.S.A. can serve as a delegate to the N.A.C. This policy keeps control of the union in the hands of the workers. It is a setup which has driven control from the workers and into the hands of the leaders rather than the other way around.

The daily press has not carried this story, because Metropolitan is not only in the insurance business and not estate game, but her directors have their talents in the newspaper game as well. Compare this action with the strike that is raised when a group of workers ask for an increase in wages. Now don't get excited; it's been going on for years and years.

Kelvinator Reconversion Planned by Committee

M.E.S.A. Members on Advisory Board

The following report is given by Brothers Alfred Smith and Brother Reginald Greenham, M.E.S.A. members of the War Production Board Domestic Mechanical Refrigeration Labor Advisory Committee, and Brothers Peter Retchick and Harry Best, President and Secretary of M.E.S.A. Local #9, the refrigeration local of the M.E.S.A.

The purpose of this meeting was to set up a labor advisory board to deal with all problems that may arise out of the reconversion of the refrigeration industry such as reconverting plants from time production, is the least possible time. In order that the time lost by workers re-tooling from change over and re-tooling will be held to a minimum. And if possible begin the reconversion before the war ends so that the time spent on re-tooling and rearranging the plants would be well under way or possibly completed before cut backs and cancellations of war contracts takes place. Therefore cutting down the amount of lost plant will have from the plants at the end of war thus strengthening the economic situation as a whole in the post war area.

Measures, Clinton S. Golden, Vice Chairman, of Man Power Requirements and Joseph E. Keenan, Vice Chairman, of Labor Production spoke on the possibilities of starting this reconversion program as soon as the trend of the coming invasion is clear enough to determine the outcome of the war. And with the inevitable cut backs of war contracts and orders. The M.E.S.A. has a committee to coordinate the needs of civilian goods and materials and the employment problems that will occur when government contracts are finished or called or cut back. The necessity and urgent need of a workable program for the workers released from war plants back into civilian plants and domestic production. Messrs. Stanley Adams and Murray Rize, from the Consumers Durable Goods Industry Division, gave a complete analysis and outlook of the present situation. Fred Mitchell in charge of the

Matthew Smith Challenges N. L. R. B. Proposal As Favoring Employers

Matthew Smith, National Secretary of the Mechanics Educational Society, and President of the Confederated Union of America, attacked the proposed changes of procedure before the National Labor Relations Board at a public hearing called by the Board at Washington.

Representatives of many labor organizations and industry presented evidence and arguments on the board's proposal to grant employers the right to challenge the bargaining rights of unions whenever those unions might have a dispute case before the board.

M.E.S.A. Victory Morrison Mach. Patterson N.J.

The N.L.R.B. election held at the Morrison Machine Co. on May 11, resulted in a smashing victory for the M.E.S.A. In announcing the outcome of the election, Frank Slattery, M.E.S.A. representative in the Patterson area stated, "This is the sign for all metal workers on the East Coast to line up with the M.E.S.A. For several years these workers have been under the heel of domination by the CIO and company unions, whose aim it has been to collect dues and sign contracts just for the sake of signing contracts."

"In the past, wages and working conditions of workers in this area have been a disgrace. Now that the workers at Morrison are in the M.E.S.A., the benefits that 65,000 members of the M.E.S.A. have won will be introduced to Patterson," said brother Slattery. Under the M.E.S.A. Constitution, these workers will be represented on the National Administrative Committee of the M.E.S.A. (N.A.C.), the highest body of authority in the Union is made up of representatives of the men and women who work at the tools of the trade. All members of the N.A.C. must be full time workers at the tools of the trade. No full time official of the M.E.S.A. can serve as a member of the N.A.C. This keeps control of the union in the hands of the workers who compose the membership of the organization.

Foremen's Strike

The strike of foremen in several shops in Detroit calls for consideration of the logical result of such action. Under what was once the owner of a factory serving as personal overseer of the work, or direct representative of the owner, who hoped that some day he would be rewarded for his efforts by being given a chance to buy into the company.

In modern industry except for a few isolated cases, the owners of industry are a separate class of people. They are a group who make their living by clipping coupons between periods of clipping the workers. These owners, the stockholders of the company, draw dividends accumulated through the efforts of the people who work in the plant. Everyone at the plant, the manager, the supervisor, the foreman, the machine operator and the scrub woman contribute to the production of the products. These people are in a reality the working force of the company.

Owners of industry are represented by a professional management whose job it is to operate the company for the stockholders at a profit. These professional managers are usually paid a salary plus a bonus for holding down the cost-of-production. Not many years ago these managers were the actual owners of the industry but with the development of mass production methods, it became necessary to have a man who would operate the company and administer for the benefit of the stockholders owners in return for a substantial but fixed salary. Today the managers of industry from the foreman on up are part of the machine necessary to maintain profitable and efficient production. The foreman, the sucker, who in the past accepted a nice title and a pat on the back for doing the dirty work, has suddenly awakened to the fact that there is a difference between management and a social class. He has suddenly realized that there is just as much separating him from the owners of the company that

Do You Pay Your Dues When Due?

By Karl E. Pauli
Recently at the Magnesium Fabricators plant at Adrian, Mich., the Executive Board insisted on carrying to the membership meeting that all dues be collected before the first of the month for which the dues are for.

This created some minority opposition with different and varied motives. First of all, we had a few C.I.O. sympathizers, who really don't want to participate in the success of a legitimate union in the plant. Second, we still have a few workers in the plant who do not understand the value of labor organization and are inclined to naturally (or unnaturally) oppose any move to strengthen the Union. Third, we have a few members who sincerely feel that Union dues should be paid after the month is started, claiming that by paying

in advance, they are paying for "service not yet rendered."

The great majority have subscribed to this provision after being voted for it in a regular membership meeting. I feel that the first two classified minorities of intelligent will eventually see the sense and serious value of the M.E.S.A. just as most M.E.S.A. members have come to the realization that a labor union must be controlled by its own membership, by democratic means such as are employed by the M.E.S.A.

Those workers whose intellect is too low to understand their own interests will eventually eliminate themselves. The members in the third classification are entitled to be paid in the pay envelope of the individual workers and in the working conditions in the shop or plant in which they work.

To carry on, the workers get together to defray the expenses involved in forming their "business" institution, the labor Union. In order to maintain the labor Union, funds, so when a labor Union is formed, each member is expected to contribute his share of the funds before the Union can become effective.

Actually, the Union belongs to those who make and pay their share (dues), not to those who intend to do so some time in the future. Dues is not money paid out to someone else. Dues money is still your money. You still own it, you have only placed it in a fund (along with others) for the purpose of spending it later, collectively for your own interests.

This calls for attendance at meetings to vote on the expenditure of your money. This is the strength of your labor Union, dues money and democratic control in the M.E.S.A.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

+ BOOK REVIEW +

America's Aristotle

By MAX OTTO
NEW LEADER

This collection of Jefferson's writings, newly assembled by Saul K. Padover, shows again what abundant food is still to be found there by those who hunger and thirst after democratic righteousness.

There is a hurdle, though, before you start. It's the title. Why call a collection "The Complete Jefferson" when it represents only about a fifth of his extant writings? Why not call it "Twenty Per Cent Jefferson and Why," or "The Gist of the Best of Jefferson"? Or, if that is too long a title, then "Gist of the Best of Jefferson." Seriously, what sensible reason is there for saying, "Here, then, is Jefferson in his fullness," when in the subtitle and the introduction you are going to inform the public that quite a little has been left out? Almost all the letters, for example. Is there some peculiar advantage in starting the reader off with a feeling of being gypped?

Once you get into the book, "you've got something," and something superbly fine. Mr. Padover is right: "In one sense, this is not a book; it is an arsenal." Here are all, or if not all, at least almost all "the great ideas of democracy—the most articulate champion. Here are the fundamental State papers of the architect of American liberty. Here are the basic arguments of the philosopher who had sworn upon the altar of God, eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man." And he is right, too, when he concludes: "The Jefferson who emerges from these pages is really incredible."

Perhaps one should be ashamed to confess it, but the parts of the collection which interested me most were not reprinted state papers or discussions of problems of political government, international relations, economics, education, religion, philosophy, and the like. Jefferson's ideas on any subject are always worthy of more than ordinary attention, for he is invariably the master of insight, urbanity, and wide experience, and he always expresses himself with remarkable skill and felicity, whether the discourse is on trivial affairs—political liberty, statesmanship, coinage reform, agriculture, labor-saving devices, linguistics, scientific knowledge, or method—or has to do with moral, cultural, or spiritual values. Yet for some reason writers which Jefferson would doubtless have considered as casual or trivia made the most refreshing and stimulating impressions upon me. Chief among these are such chapters as "Addresses to Indians" and "Biological Sketches."

Sixty-five pages are given to conferences with Indian chiefs. They follow one pattern. Friendly greeting by the Great Father to his Children, promises of protection and friendship: "Let us come together as friends and explain to each other what is misapprehended or misunderstood, the clouds will fly away like morning fog, and the sun of friendship appear and shine forth ever bright and clear." Then, in the guise of firm warnings, words "intended to warn you beforehand of the ruin into which those will rush, who shall once break the ties of friendship with us," and a final word of assurance and farewell. "My children, these are my words, carry them to your nation, keep them in your memories, and our friendship in your hearts, and may the Great Spirit look down upon us and be with the mantle of his love."

And there are moving pages by Indians, man and women, the more touching to a modern reader who knows how dead to those pleas the westward urge of the white man was to be:

"Father, I am about to open to you my heart. I salute first the Great Spirit, the Master of life, and then you. . . .
"Your people of Kentucky are like mosquitoes, and try to destroy the red men. The red men are like mosquitoes also, and try to injure the people of Kentucky. But I look to you as to a good being. Order your people to be just. They are always trying to get our lands. They come on our lands, they hunt on them; kill our game, and kill us. . . .
"Lately, father, to what we say, and protest the nations of the Wash and Mississippi in these lands. The English have often spoken to me, but I shut my ears on them. I despise their money, it is nothing to me. I am attached to my lands. I love to eat in tranquillity, and not like a bird on a bough."

Jefferson, as is well known, was more democratic in his leanings than his friend, John Adams. Still, Andrew Jackson was too much for him. The Jackson paragraph in the biographical sketches is the record of a conversation with Daniel Webster who had his own reasons for agreeing with the characterization: "I feel much alarmed at the prospect of seeing General Jackson President. He is one of those place-men who had very little respect for laws or constitutions, and

is, in fact, an able military chief. His passions are terrible. When I was President of the Senate he was a Senator; and he could never speak on account of the rashness of his feelings. I have seen him attempt it repeatedly, and as often choke with rage. His passions are no doubt under control now; he has been much tried since I knew him, but he is a dangerous man."

The period of Jefferson's life was one of unusual expansion in natural history. Highly gifted naturalists were collecting and arranging plants and animals, both living and fossil, on a scale heretofore unknown. It was the time of such pioneers as Linnaeus, Buffon, Cuvier, de Lamarck. Jefferson was keenly interested in this developing acquaintance with man's natural environment and all that it implied. Living as he did in a country extraordinarily rich in flora and fauna, and not blind like most men to the whole panorama of life, he acquired an extraordinary amount of information which he used to correct statements made by the foremost naturalists of the day.

Who, as a rule, were ignorant of the American continent. Looking over the prospect of this extraordinary man's activities, perhaps the most striking fact is his imperviousness to the early theories of biological evolution. He was making their appearance. For example, he seems actually ignorant of this idea of Buffon's work, although it was to Buffon he wrote as being the one to whom nature had given the key to her treasures. Jefferson's attitude was not one of any moral or religious scruple. If ever a man was ready to follow the trail of fact it was Jefferson. It was due to his admiration for the splendid work which was being done to bring order into the plant, animal, and mineral world.

Thus he says in reference to natural history classification: "I am not myself apt to be alarmed at innovations recommended by reason. That dread belongs to those whose interests or prejudices shrink from the advance of truth and science. My reluctance is to give universal language of which we are in possession, without an assurance of general consent to receive another." He knew that the Linnaean system was not perfect, but it was better than novel systems which would only introduce confusion. He was the answer to the problem which even the trained naturalist of the time could not solve, namely, what, after all, constitutes a species? The great debate in Paris on special creation versus evolution, which was to impress Goethe, was not to take place until two or three years after Jefferson's death, and Charles Darwin was still a young medical student, five years removed from the voyage of the *Beagle* which was to be the prelude to the doctrine of Natural Selection, greatest revolution in the history of thought.

Here we must conclude the review of this new collection of Jefferson's writings. Perhaps we have a right to assume that we have touched upon a small fraction of the wealth of ideas contained in it. What he says may not be "timeless," as Mr. Padover asserts, but the book does provide a veritable library bearing upon Jefferson's mind and personality and upon the expansive age to the glory of which he made a many-sided contribution.

In these days when we are urged to return to the Greek Aristotle, who lived many centuries before the modern world had taken shape, let us rather acquaint ourselves with the American Aristotle who, like his ancient prototype, ranged over the wide field of knowledge, seeking to know what could be known, but who was native to one conditions which are still largely ours, whose democratic spirit is our spirit, whom ours is in his best.



WORKERS' SONG OF SPRINGTIDE

We have heard that the spring is lovely,
That the whole earth leaps with glee
When the young May brings to the woodlands
The rapture of being free.
But we know when the springtime cometh
Though we cannot see its grace,
For our prisoning walls grow closer
With the sun's glare in our face.

For us, in the spring, not the singing
Of birds, but the whirling of wheels,
And the shrieking of noisy engines
Till our hearts with discord reek;
And the stifling air of our work cells
Grow hotter and fiercer far:
Oh, curse the sultry springtide
Where pests and bot fever are.

We have heard of the happy forests
Where the gurgling streamlets play,
And the merry flowers listen
To the song of the birds all day.
But for us in our homes in slumland
What beauty is there at all,
Where the very skies above us
Are black with the smoke's cursed pall.

We know there are some with leisure,
Who roam where the world is sweet,
But we to our factory prisons,
Are chained by the hands and feet:
For the cry of our babes is sounding
Forever within our ear,
And we toil for the bread to feed them
With a toil that is full of fear.

We build the homes of our masters,
Where always at ease they dwell;
And the sound of music greets them,
'Midst the comfort they love so well.
But we know that they're ease is built
On the hunger and pain we bear,
Their pleasure upon our toiling,
Their hope upon our despair.

The song of the merry springtide
Is sweet to them indeed,
These wealthy whom we are clothing,
Whose little ones we feed.
But to us the sun is a furnace,
The spring but a scorching hell;
The sky, the sky, but a dirty ceiling,
Our spring in a factory cell.

—Fred Henderson.

WELFARE SONG

Sing a song of Welfare
A pocket full of tricks
To soothe the young worker
When he groans or kicks.

If he asks for shorter hours
Or for better pay
Little stunts of Welfare
Turn his thoughts away.

Sing a song of Welfare
Sound the horn and drum
Anything to keep the mind
Fixed on Kingdom come.

Welfare loots your pocket
While you dream and sing.
Welfare to your paycheck
Doesn't do a thing.

Sing a song of Welfare
Forty seven kinds
Elevate your morals
Cultivate your minds.

Kindergartens, nurses,
Bath tubs, books and flowers,
Anything but better pay
Or shorter working hours.

—Will Herford.

MECHANICAL PROGRESS—1939, no wood, 1940, no running boards, 1941, no gear shift, 1942, no car.

Darwin Was Wrong

Three monkeys sat in a coconut tree,
Discussing things as they're said to be.
Said one to the others, "Now listen you,
There's a certain rumor that can't be true."

That man descended from our noble race,
The very idea is a disgrace.
No monkey ever deserted his wife,
Starved her babies and ruined her life.

And you've never known a mother monkey,
To leave her babies with others to bunk.
Or pass them on from one to another,
Till they scarcely know who is their mother.

And another thing you'll never see
A monkey build a fence round a coconut tree,
Why if I'd put a fence around the tree,
Starvation would force you to steal from me.

Here's another thing a monkey won't do,
Go out at night and get on a stew,
Or use a gun or club or knife,
To take some other monkey's life.

Yes, Man descended, the onesy ones,
But Brother he didn't descend from us.

Labor

We have fed you all for a thousand years.

It marks the workers dead,
I have yielded the best to give you rest,
And you lie on crimson wool,
Or if blood be the price of all your wealth,
Good God we have paid in full.

There's never a mine blown skyward now

But we're buried alive for you.

There's never a wreck drifts shoreward now;

But we are its ghastly crew.

If blood be the price of all your wealth,

Good God we have paid it in full.

Go reason our dead by the forges red

And the factories where we spin.

We have fed you all for a thousand years.

For that was our doom, you know.

From the days that you chained us in the fields,

To the strike of a week ago.

You ha' eaten our lives and our babies and wives,

And we're told it your legal share:



But if blood be the price of your legal wealth,
Good God, we have bought it fair.

—Anonymous.

LADY — Doctor, do you think my operation scar will show?

DOCTOR—If it does, you will be arrested for indecent exposure.

"The Jobbing Shop Blues"

By A "SCOTTY" BRUCE,
Crescent Eng. Corp.

We got the "Jobbing Shop Blues" by gess,
All on account of a lousy wage freeze,
Before the freeze, we had a hell of a time,
We might get a nickel, but never a dime.

The committee goes in to ask for a raise,
They can't see the point on the issue, "PAYS."
The excuse is the same, it sure is a honey,
They're going out of business, They're losing money.

Now things are different, I don't know why,
They get the same cut for the very same pie,
They WOULD give a raise, they can't don't you see,
The thorn in the flesh is the W.L.B.

Because they can't do it, they would give their all,
They're for you, they're with you, they want to play ball,
Their sadness and sorrow I cannot endure,
Two words express it, "HORSE MANURE."

HELP WANTED

We want a man of forty for the job
One who has enjoyed his little fill of romance,
And suffered intermittent indigestion ever since.
One whose memories are sufficiently cold
Successfully to resist the embraces of tragedy.

To whom a mountain

Is a mere stone
bristling with multitudinous edges
to bark one's shins or break one's neck upon.

To whom a lake or river

Or other body of water,
no longer entices the search for one's likeness,
But is a place one might easily drown in,
one's muscles no longer quite what they were.

Who has achieved

That ultimate disillusionment:
not to be able to differentiate
the respective features, limbs or what not
of his whilom Graces or Glendaryns,
and if he could wouldn't want to,
would devote the rest of his days to a bench
piled high with jigs and fixtures:

Such a man would be certain to stick.
We want such a machine as "Podunk Tool."

LAUGH IT OFF

Have deductions devoured your pay?
Laugh it off!
Does the boss cheat you night and day?
Laugh it off!

Have you a pain your bottom don't
Laugh it off!

If you think you need more money,
Your thoughts are just plain funny,
When his sanity you offer,
The W.L.B. gives you laughter

Don't make tragedies of trifles,
Don't shoot butterflies with rifles
There's no recipe like laughter,
Laugh it off, "Sucker," Laugh it off.

—Hall.



As It Is

The farmer once was husking corn,
And the stalk contained five ears.
He'd hoed it hard, both night and morn,
'Twas the best he'd had for years.

He husked the first ear, and he eyed it
With joy and complacent content;
But the landlord was there and spied it
And said, "I'll take that for rent."

Then he husked the second with pleasure,
And smiled in his simple glee;
"That's interest on the mortgage,"
I'm the banker; "give that to me."

The railroad director stood near him,
Here the farmer began to whine;
"That's my profit on transportation,
That there ear is mine."

"All right," said the farmer bland—
He was no great reflector—
As he plucked the fourth ear with his hand
It was snatched by the tax collector.

Then he shouldered his share—to a neighbor
Said he, "I'll take a walk—
Since me and my wife for our labor
B'gosh!—we've got the stalk."

—Solidarity P. SP.

The man who suggested this thing is a wag
Or boasts on humorous gift—
I put all my troubles inside my lit bag,
And now it's too heavy to lift.
—El. Wt'rs. World.

I Tell You Boys



"The W.L.B. Just Won't Let Me Do It!"

Local Reports

The burring, burring and burring, argument was settled by the Local 5 committee. A rate for all girls on burring jobs at the Graphe Bros. Co. in Cleveland was set at 90 cents an hour.

Editor spoke with Hank Mickelbrink, chief committeeman, Del Craig, President and Harold Donlon, Secretary of Local five. They all are enthusiastic about the new agreement.

Gairing Tool

Harland Langdon, President of Local 24, M.E.S.A. and Chief Steward, reports the shop working under a new agreement. Among the improvements included are a starting rate for learners of \$1.10 per hour, a vacation with pay of 48 hours for one year men and 36 hours for two year men has been agreed to by the company and is before the W.L.B. for approval. The merit raise plan approved by the board under order 31, calls for a percentage number of 10 cent an hour raises during the year. This plan will take effect July 1.

The regular annual picnic of Gairing works will be held in August. The M.E.S.A. softball team at Gairing Tool has been elected and hopes to get it over before long. He added, the M.E.S.A. is recognized as sole bargaining agent for all skilled workers in the plant at the present time.

Among other speakers at the meeting were Carl Fox, President of M.E.S.A. Local 4 and Clarence Peck, Chief Committeeman at Auto-Lite. Peck, speaking to reject the company's proposal on a vacation plan and instructed the committee to continue negotiations on the Union for six months vacation for those with 6 months seniority, 40 hrs. for one year men, 45 hours for those who have been with the company for eight months and 48 hours for two year men and an additional five hours vacation with pay for additional six months of employment.

The M.E.S.A. in Toledo will miss the help of Brother Jimmy Nickerson who was killed in an automobile accident last week. Brother Nickerson was one of those who helped make Auto-Lite a fighting M.E.S.A. Shop.

Etna Mach.

Etna Machine Co. Unit of the M.E.S.A. at Toledo, Ohio, reports a new contract went into effect on April 22. This shop maintains an apprentice program and a learners program. The shop is operating under a contract calling for raises as stipulated under order 31 by the W.L.B. Vincent Cholepek, Chairman of the M.E.S.A. shop committee at Etna, reported that the shop has established a sickness fund that is maintained by the men in the shop.

The boys at Local 21, Eaton Axle Co., Cleveland, Ohio, have settled down to tackling the company after having a bit of a dispute between the members of the Executive Board. The wage bracket plan is now before the W.L.B. for approval.

Editor's note — The Editor recognizes that some of these reports are scant and incomplete. This represents another demand of the nature of the reports officials to send in the regular report forms sent out by the Publicity Office.

Adrian News

M.E.S.A. Local 35, has just changed its headquarters, it is now located on the third floor of the Commercial Savings Bank Building, 308 South Main Street, Adrian, Mich.

All members are invited to look over their new headquarters. Although some decorating is still to be done, it is a nice hall and reception room.

The organizational setup recently inaugurated has resulted in more Union interest at the Magnesium Fabricator Plant and at the Bon-A-Aluminum Plant #13. This is evidenced by remarks by workers, such as, "I guess the Union really means business now." Greenleaf, another worker, said, "The new organization is taking care of rapidly. The one problem still being worked on is the shop committee is the important problem of a general raise or wage adjustment. This needs careful consideration before being presented to the W.L.B. as the company has refused to apply jointly on a form 10.

Carl Runklind, President of Local 41 is now under medical treatment, and will be out of the picture for several weeks. He's wishing him good luck and speedy recovery.

George Figg is the new Local Secretary and Chas. "Chuck" Hepler is the new treasurer. Both have promised to issue that monthly financial report.

The set ball team is shaping up with Tevash Products at Island Park. The game resulted in the set ballers indulging in some astronomical calculations. The final score showed that the M.E.S.A. boys won the game by one tenth of one percent of something or other. Anyway, Adrian has a good ball team and they are ready to show the stuff against other M.E.S.A. teams.

Meisel Co.

Another case of retroactive pay for workers in an M.E.S.A. shop was marked up when the W.L.B. at Toledo granted a \$1.65 rate for certain classifications at the Meisel Machine and Tool Co. and ordered the company to pay the workers retroactive pay to May 12, 1943.

M.E.S.A. Local #15 at Elyria, Ohio, reports the election of the following representatives to the M.E.S.A. Educator, Bro. Wm. Norgand was elected chairman of the Local Educator committee.

Great Lakes Stamping

Bank about a few weeks ago, the boys and girls of Great Lakes Stamping Co. couldn't find out who they were working for. The committee had enough confidence in the President was sick and he couldn't give them any authority. After meeting with a half dozen members of the M.E.S.A. at the plant, the committee finally got the matter straightened out. This necessitated a four day strike which was enjoyed by all. After getting a run around by the W.L.B. for a time the Union demands for the increase was finally granted to the women workers in the plant, with retroactive pay. The girls at Great Lakes have just completed their bowling season. No word records were broken.

Routine Local 9

A steward was fired at the Kelvintor plant. Under the contract with the M.E.S.A., a discharged worker must be paid for all time that elapses between his discharge and the re-employment meeting held to settle the case.

However, the Boys at Kelvintor decided that what was good for the steward was good for the foreman that ordered the discharge. They threatened to make the foreman pay the fence.

Routine result: Steward restored with back pay to his job and without a blemish to his character.

Auto-Lite

Tool Makers, machine repairmen and nurses won a 5% bonus on total earnings, retroactive to August 31, 1943, reports Brother Harold T. Wood, Educator representative at the Electric Auto-Lite Champion Plant in Toledo.

This victory was won over the objection of the company which made annual under the skillful bargaining, Brother Matt Smith.

A special meeting of Auto-Lite workers, held Sunday, May 21, at headquarters in Toledo, was addressed by Brother Matthew Smith, National Secretary of the Union. Brother Harry Dreyer, National representative in the Toledo area reported on the M.E.S.A. organizing drive among production workers at the National Supply Co. "1000 National Supply production workers have joined the M.E.S.A.," said Brother Dreyer. "This is more than a majority of the 1700 workers in the plant. We have held an election and hope to get it over before long," he added. The M.E.S.A. is recognized as sole bargaining agent for all skilled workers in the plant at the present time.

Among other speakers at the meeting were Carl Fox, President of M.E.S.A. Local 4 and Clarence Peck, Chief Committeeman at Auto-Lite. Peck, speaking to reject the company's proposal on a vacation plan and instructed the committee to continue negotiations on the Union for six months vacation for those with 6 months seniority, 40 hrs. for one year men, 45 hours for those who have been with the company for eight months and 48 hours for two year men and an additional five hours vacation with pay for additional six months of employment.

The M.E.S.A. in Toledo will miss the help of Brother Jimmy Nickerson who was killed in an automobile accident last week. Brother Nickerson was one of those who helped make Auto-Lite a fighting M.E.S.A. Shop.

What Price Glory!

The New York State Legislature has recently passed a bill which received the signature of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, giving preference to veterans when making appointments for peddlars.

This will give the soldiers who return from overseas a chance to sell fish and apples without going to jail.

SPO RTS

Some fifteen M.E.S.A. ball teams have recently opened their seasons. Several teams have entered leagues and teams to be headed for championships.

All Stokes Manager of the Kelvintor Local 9 team, reports that his boys are entered in the West Side Detroit Currier League. They are to open their season against the Toledo team on May 23. Although the team is entered in the league, they are open for no league games with other M.E.S.A. shops. This should go well with the boys of Local 35, Adrian, Michigan. Bohm Aluminum Plant, whose ball team is ready to take on all comers. Michigan Tool Come Gear and Gairing Tool have both entered the East Side Industrial League. The boys at the Tap Case Plant have organized a hard ball team and are ready for some stiff competition. If the team is as good as they look in their uniforms, we have the chance to win. All right—where's some news about the ball team from your shop. Any M.E.S.A. team that wants to take you on: how about it?

It has been suggested that all M.E.S.A. ball teams have an elimination match. Pick opponents out of a hat, and winners play winners until we have the champs of the M.E.S.A. What do you think of the idea?

O. K. boys and girls, let's get some more sport news in for the next edition. Box scores are welcome.

Walter McKay
Ted Rutkowski

Whistler, the artist, had a French poodle of which he was extravagantly fond. The poodle was seized by a dog thief on the street one day. Whistler had the audacity to send for the great throat specialist, Mackenzie.

When Mackenzie saw that he had been called to treat a dog, he felt incensed, but said nothing. He looked at Whistler, who was, indeed, a poodle, and drove away.

The next day, he sent posthaste for Whistler. And Whistler, thinking of the money on some matter connected with his beloved dog, dropped his work and rushed to the home of Mackenzie.

On his arrival, the great specialist said gravely, "How do you do, Whistler? How about painting my dog house?"

Local 4 social gatherings at Toledo, Ohio, have been entertained by the M.E.S.A. This shown above as they play away at a National Supply get-together, at M.E.S.A. headquarters. Reading from left, they are Brothers Earl Neimeyer, Bro. Wilson and L. A. Shanks.

I. L. O. Report

Sen. Thomas Explains Program

Philadelphia.—The International Labor Conference, recently adjourned at Philadelphia, called upon the nations of the world to sign a treaty or agreement embodying some principles, including the effective recognition of the right of freedom of association and of collective bargaining.

In a resolution concerning social provisions in the settlement, the ILO recommended adoption as national policies and as international employment programs the fact that no one nation can close its boundaries and live into unity in peace and prosperity.

The governments voting for these recommendations and resolutions have undertaken moral commitments for which they will be held to account in every country. These recommendations and resolutions of these in Philadelphia," the senator said. "We are also recognizing in the ILO economic and employment programs the fact that no one nation can close its boundaries and live into unity in peace and prosperity."

"We at Philadelphia passed no laws, nor did we issue decrees," he said. "We exchanged ideas, made compromises, and worked out a statement of our common cause. Now that statement is going to the governments and the peoples, with the threat of impairment of national interests or sovereignty. Our recommendations can be put into effect and enforced only through the process of education and through the public opinion of our mightiest weapon."

"I am confident the job can be done," the Senator's address concluded.

Good Luck Joe Sykora

Brother Joe Sykora, active and prominent member of the M.E.S.A., Local 19, at Cleveland, Ohio, will temporarily drop out of M.E.S.A. activity to take a career as a seaman in the Navy.

Brother Sykora has served as a member of the National Administrative committee of the M.E.S.A. for several organizations. He has held several offices in National A.C.M., Local 19, and has been an active in the building the M.E.S.A.

Good Luck "JOE," we'll keep the ball rolling till you get back.

The text of the Comptroller's rulings follow: Included are (1) statement of the Board regarding the suggested situation of the N.L.R.B. and (3) the Comptroller's holding.

"Case 1. Union A starts to organize the employees of the X Manufacturing Company with a view to becoming their bargaining agent."

The authority of the Labor Relations Board to investigate the validity of collective bargaining contracts was further circumscribed by a new series of rulings by the Comptroller General on April 20 interpreting the "rider" to the N.L.R.B.'s Appropriations Act.

Important rulings laid down in effect from year to year by means of an automatic renewal clause cannot be challenged by the N.L.R.B. unless a charge is filed with the Board within three months of the date the contract was originally executed.

2. A charge which is filed too late to authorize investigation of a particular contract but which is filed prior to the execution of a new contract, separate contract negotiated after termination of the original contract, cannot serve to authorize the N.L.R.B. to challenge the validity of the new contract. The reason, the Comptroller declared, is that, since the charges were not for consideration when filed, the situation is the same as if no charges had been filed.

3. A timely charge of refusal to bargain filed under Section 8 (5) of the Wagner Act cannot operate to authorize investigation of a tardy charge of discrimination filed under Section 8 (3) of the Act. The amendment to the complaint, the Comptroller stated, rests on the introduction of a new and additional charge as to which a contract in existence more than three months is involved.

4. A timely charge withdrawn voluntarily to provide for the holding of a constant election does not constitute a charge of discrimination filed under Section 8 (3) of the Act. The amendment to the complaint, the Comptroller stated, rests on the introduction of a new and additional charge as to which a contract in existence more than three months is involved.

5. A charge filed with the N.L.R.B. more than three months after execution of a contract cannot authorize investigation of the contract subsequent entered into by an employer.

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New Rulings N.L.R.B. "Rider"

Comptroller General issues new interpretations of Wagner Act "rider," investigation of automatically renewed contract is barred in absence of timely challenge of original contract; timely charge may not be supplemented by later additions.

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A Letter to a Woman Worker

Dear Miss Jones:—

Today, yesterday, or perhaps a few months ago, you went into industry.

You and a million and a half other women. You and they have stepped into conditions which you do not remember—determined by the gods.

War has led you to the other side of the factory gates, perhaps for the first time. It may be that wild horses could not have dragged you that way in peace time. You had other work to do, how to live.

You preferred gentler work. You knew something of the physical wear and tear of the factory life. You had inhibitions about machinery and your own ability to cope with it. It was not in your line.

But the work was there and you needed it. Or some phrase in a broadcast appeal got you. Or the war suddenly touched you personally and brought you anger or sorrow. Your reaction and your escape was to go into war work.

Every time the Government makes a new Labor Law, every time it is examined by you as a woman from the angle of the worker. It is the subject of conferences between Union officials and your Government.

The Union is the rod and the staff which strengthens you. It is a rod and staff which you personally work. Their watch is a twenty-four hour one.

Thousands of you who have come into industry a little about this. You ought to. You should know your place in industry. Know where you stand and where you want to go. You should know your rights and the rights of your employers.

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M.E.S.A. LOCALS 3 & 4

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