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WORKER'S JOURNAL

By CHARLES DENBY

Changing Relations in The Shop

Since the end of World War II, and continuing to this day, the company has made changes in the shop with the help of the workers' representatives—the stewards, committeemen and union officers.

After the UAW was organized, one of the worst crimes a union representative could commit was to be friendly to a foreman. I have known stewards to lose their position for being friendly with a foreman. There was a clear and decisive line drawn between the workers and the company. Any worker would have a tough time if he or she talked or kidded around with the foreman. They would be labeled a company stooge.

BEFORE: STEWARD DEFENDED WORKERS

In those early days, if a worker had an argument with the foreman, the foreman would try his best to settle it. The foreman never wanted the worker to call the steward. He knew the steward would defend the worker.

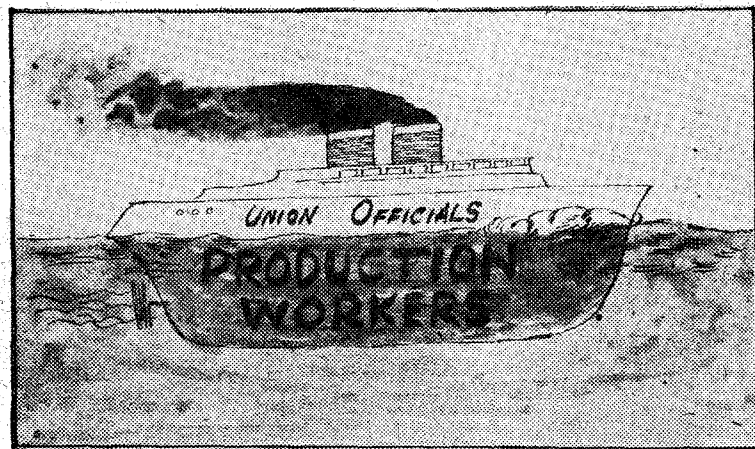
The workers used their strength against the company even if it meant going out on strike. The union leaders were forced to go along with them. They depended on the strength of the workers. The feeling of solidarity was close and felt by the average worker.

In the past five or six years there has been agitation by the union officials that the company is not too bad and that the workers who cause strikes want to starve the other workers and their families. Labor and management, say the leaders, can live peacefully side by side.

NOW: UNION DEFENDS MANAGEMENT

The labor leaders threaten workers who "cause strikes". Hundreds of workers have been fired by the company for taking strike action with the approval of the union. The other workers have been frightened by what they have seen happen. This has also tended to weaken the close relations the workers had toward each other.

Today, the steward spends practically all of his time in the office of supervision, or walking around with his arm around company officials. They have hardly any time to talk to the workers unless it is election time. They agree with the company on most of the differences between the workers and management.



When a worker has a difference with the foreman today, the foreman will say, "Call the committeeman." He knows how they will act. In many instances the foreman will go get the steward. He uses these against the workers.

Not so long ago in my plant, the company took a worker off an operation where there were three workers doing the same type of operation. These workers put up a howl. The superintendent came up and said, "If you don't do it, I will call the committeeman and you will have to do it anyway."

NEW SOLIDARITY

A new sense of solidarity is beginning to show itself again among the workers. Under the accumulated grievances piled upon them and under the pressure of both the company and the union officials, workers in the shop are drawing closer together again. It is becoming clearer every day that in order to defend their rights they can only rely upon themselves and each other.

What Future Belongs to Youth?

An interviewer reported to his superior that he had a high school graduate that was applying for the job of apprentice tool and die maker. The interviewer was asked the age of the applicant who turned out to be 18. When the boss heard that he replied, "The only jobs to offer 18-year-olds are messenger jobs."

Such was the conversation a friend of NEWS & LETTERS overheard in a Detroit employment office. It summarizes what those who are not returning to school this fall have to look forward to.

Wildcat Rips General Motors Over Old Grievances

DETROIT—The unrest that has existed at the Fisher Body Livonia plant prior to the signing of the UAW-General Motors union contract, has flared out into another wildcat strike.

None of the issues are new. They are the same ones that the company and bargaining committee had agreed to settle two weeks after the wildcat strike in June.

UNSETTLED GRIEVANCES

Among the issues are: 1) payment of retroactive pay dating back to May 29th; 2) seniority clause giving shift preference; 3) equalization of hours; 4) foreman's abusive method in trying to get production; 5) foreman working; 6) foreman trying to use stock boys to do a foreman's job. There are many more.

Rumors of strike had gone through the plant for two days before it actually took place. The first to leave were the cutters on the afternoon shift. Within one hour production had ceased. Many foremen took the badge numbers of employees as they left their departments, but it didn't stop them from leaving.

The midnight shift remained out and so did the day shift. A meeting was called for 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The picketing continued.

At 2 o'clock, about one thousand members were at the union hall. At 2:30, the plant chairman arrived with three UAW International representatives. The chairman asked that they be allowed to speak. She was answered with boos. They did speak,

each with a plea for us to return to work and call a legal strike in 30 days. They promised that nobody would be disciplined if we went back to work now. Nobody wanted to go back to work.

'DON'T KNOW, BUT . . .'

One of the Hi-Lo drivers spoke after they had finished. He said, "The last time we were on strike, three men from the International spoke at our meeting. Each one began, 'I don't know what the issues are, but . . .'. Now here again we hear three more speak and they began with the same phrases after having three months to learn about the situation in our plant. They're just not interested. Let's face it."

The chairman said she had contacted the company and they refused to discuss any issues as long as there was a picket line at the plant gate. She asked us to return to work immediately.

BROKEN PROMISES

A sewing machine operator expressed the sentiment of the group when she said, "We had these grievances three months ago when we went on strike and we went back to work on a promise. This time we will stay out until they are settled. Management will meet in time. We'll give them time."

During the second day of the wildcat, the company "leaked" the information through the union that a notice was posted on the bulletin board correcting the seniority and retroactive pay grievances.

We went back to work, but the tension is still there.

Nobody wants to hire "draft bait." A 1A classification is a serious disability. Even without that disability, jobs for the young and inexperienced are few and far between. To verify the fact check the employment ads of any newspaper, talk to any young people of your acquaintance.

Specialized training is becoming increasingly important for young people who hope to find jobs. Many youths who begin to realize this join the armed forces as the logical place to learn a trade. Others see that as one returning soldier put it, "The Army prepares men for a career in later life—especially if you reenlist."

CAN'T PREPARE FOR LATER LIFE

Schools are wholly inadequate in preparing youth for later life. They don't satisfy educators and more important they don't satisfy the kids themselves. Over 50 per cent of the students who enter high school don't stay to graduate.

The ones who finish high school and want to find a place in the world, but can't, frequently continue on to college only to face the same problem in modified form four years later. Those who are unable to afford college and choose the Army do so in hopes of finding something to fill the emptiness, the dreadful gap in their lives when there doesn't seem to be anything to do anymore.

With youth so frustrated is there any wonder that juvenile delinquency across the nation increases steadily year after year. The most popular answer officialdom has to this problem is bigger jails or more social workers. The President is apparently in general agreement with this attitude. Less than two weeks ago he suggested that the school year be lengthened for being a good citizen is becoming a more complicated task than it ever was before and requires more study.

The official adult world desperately looks to keep youth penned up as much as possible, terrified of what they do when they run free,

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A DOCTOR SPEAKS

BY M.D.

THE PROBLEM OF PSYCHOSOMATIC DISEASE

Many people complain that the physician is unable to do them any good. This situation often stems from the physician's inability to treat the multitude of psychosomatic problems. What are psychosomatic diseases?

Today, if you were to listen in on consultations in the office of the average doctor of medicine, you would hear the patients' complaints and learn of his symptoms referable to various parts of his anatomy; of pain in the belly; weakness in the legs; pressure in the chest; etc. Then you would follow through the diagnostic studies, the laboratory tests, x-rays, blood counts, etc. You would learn that in eight out of 10 patients no organic disease is found to account for the patients' complaints.

SYMPTOMS ARE REAL

You would see then that the doctor concludes that the patient has a functional condition. The various organs of the body are normal in the light of the best tests available and still they are not functioning right. The patient has symptoms. These symptoms are not imaginary. We are not talking about hysterical or psychotic individuals.

It is the amazing growth of psychosomatic diseases, the malfunction of an organ like the stomach or heart or colon, that is disturbing to the doctor and his inability to handle them is frustrating. These diseases are brought about by impulses from the higher nerve centers in the brain. The functioning of an internal organ is closely geared to our emotions, our fears, hates and joys.

BEYOND PHYSICIAN'S SKILL

Today, Americans living in a society undergoing a crisis, experiencing depressions, global wars atomic bombs, become filled with anxiety and tensions. The impulses generated by these sensations, like electrical energy, overflow from the brain through the nervous pathways to the end organs, like the stomach, and interfere with their normal movements. When this abnormal stimulation continues, we may develop ulcers of the stomach, colitis and even asthma.

These conditions cannot be prevented by the old methods. The basic cure lies not in the hands of the physician or the surgeon but in bringing about such changes in our society that will do away with the chronic tensions that are responsible for them.

Experiences and Expectations

BOSTON, Mass.—Graduating from High School in 1930, I was rudely awakened by the advent of the Depression. Nothing in my training in the public school system had prepared me for the event. I lacked the faintest conception of what a depression was or how it would affect my life. I had been led to believe that any young man, if he was reasonably bright and applied himself well to his tasks could get along in the world and have nothing to worry about.

FIRST SHOCK

My first shock came after applying, time after time, for the office boy's job, which was to be the first step in my career, only to find the leading architects of Boston sitting in empty offices doing nothing. Their draftsmen were laid off. Their clients vanished at the first storm warnings and the distinguished gentlemen themselves were on the verge of bankruptcy.

As best I could I pursued my educational aims. I took a job as a clerk in a large food store, working Fridays and Saturdays to finance my schooling.

While on the job I met a young man of my own age who was faced with problems similar to my own. His father was a German Social Democrat. Our groping and searching for the answers to the problems of our age soon led us to Socialism and to our joining the Socialist Party. Our friends laughed at us but it was there that

our ideas began to develop and I made my first contact with the trade union movement.

I UNDERSTAND MY FATHER

Yet the trade union was nothing new to me. I had not yet personally belonged to a union, but I had heard my father talk about unions. He had worked in the same shop of the General Electric Co. for 36 years on the same job. Before him, my grandfather was employed there, first as a worker then as a foreman. I later worked in the same plant as an engineer, the third generation of the same family to devote their lives to the Company.

UNION MEANT THE MEN

Reports of what took place in the factory were served up at every meal in my home all the time I lived there. The relations of the bosses to the workers, the details of their daily lives, their joys and sorrows were as much a part of my existence as if I had been in the shop.

In 1918 my father had joined the International Association of Machinists. He went through a long strike which was lost. I personally cannot remember it, but I do remember what we suffered during that period and I recall that he kept his Union Card in his drawer for years afterwards as a matter of pride. He often said what he thought about that strike, its strength and its weaknesses. He remarked about the shortcomings of the craft form of

COAL AND ITS PEOPLE

Miners Get New Contract

MORGANTOWN, W. Va. — In the middle of August an announcement was made that John L. Lewis and the Northern Coal Operators had reached an agreement on terms for a new contract for the coal miners. As was suspected in many circles, Lewis and the coal operators had negotiated the contract in secret sessions and gave out the news when the agreement was reached. Thus, Lewis followed the same pattern he had set in 1953 and presented the miners with a contract already agreed upon.

CONTRACT CHANGES

The contract terms are to be effective as of September 1 and have these significant changes:

a. Wage Scale — Effective September 1, an increase of 15 cents an hour. On April 1, an additional 10 cents an hour to be added making a total of 25 cents an hour or two dollars a day.

b. Saturday and Sunday Work — All work done on Saturday to be paid time and a half; all work done on Sunday to be paid double time. Previously work on Saturday was paid time and a half if it was the sixth consecutive

work day; work on Sundays was paid double time if it was the seventh consecutive work day. Otherwise it was paid at straight time. Now the higher rate will be paid regardless of how much a miner works during the week.

c. Vacation Time and Pay — Vacation time will be 14 days and vacation pay will be 140 dollars. Under the old contract, vacation time was 10 days and vacation pay was \$100.

UNENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE

In previous years, the news of a contract settlement was cause for much excitement and celebration among the miners. There would be talk for days on end on the new contract and many words of praise for John L. Lewis and the United Mine Workers. The news of the new contract was received with less enthusiasm by the miners than any contract they have gotten in recent decades. There was a general feeling of having been left out of an important part of their lives. There was no sign of battle, no sign of anything. They

just woke up one morning and were told, "Here it is."

RESPONSE TO TERMS

Almost to a man the miners said the same thing. The raise was unimportant. They would much rather have had a shorter work day, seven hours would have been fine and six hours much better. That would have been something. With the raise, taxes and an increase in the cost of living will eat all that up or more. But shorter hours that would be different. Not only would they have more time for themselves, but miners out of work would be put back. There was something to fight for. As one miner who is the father of three children and is buying a new home and car put it, "For a six or seven hour day, I'd go on strike in a minute. I wouldn't care if I lost everything I have and had to beg to keep alive. That would be worth it."

The new terms for Saturday and Sunday work came as a long looked-for relief. This has been a sore spot for the miners for years. NEWS & LETTERS has carried several articles dealing with recent disputes, both local and national, centering around the the miners' hospitality to the old terms. This provision received the most enthusiastic response of all the new terms.

As for the new vacation benefits, the miners were happy to get the extra days. They were long overdue. But the general feeling about the extra money was that it was hardly enough. After taxes there wouldn't be enough left really to enjoy a vacation. They could make out all right with ordinary living expenses, but for the expense involved in a vacation, it fell far short of what was wanted.

How Not to Use Miner's Head Light

PURSGLOVE, W. Va. — One Saturday afternoon a miner that I work with and I were talking about mining in general. He had been laid off the same as I had been and we were recounting some of the experiences we had had. He had worked in several mines, whereas I had put most of my time in only one mine. The more he talked, the more I became convinced that this man had an education that no amount of books could teach, and one that more people should know about.

BOSS SHINES LIGHT

One of the stories he told was about one of the bosses he had. He was a typical slave driver, but was something of a joker besides. My friend was running a loading machine at the time and the boss would come around to where he was working and stand near him, shining his headlight in my friend's eyes while he was working.

As any miner knows, this light is a blinding one. My friend told the boss time and again not to shine the light in his eyes. The boss would just laugh at him and keep on shining the light in his eyes.

BOSS STOPS SHINING LIGHT

One day the boss was standing behind the machine with his hands on a bar that had been set several feet behind the machine. My friend was moving the machine, getting set for the next car that was to be loaded. He told the organizations, said it was no good. What we need, he said, is one big union with all the workers in it. He was no radical but a conservative Catholic.

boss to move his hands, that the boom of the machine might hit them. The boss told him to go on with his work and shined the light in his eyes.

"I knew just what I was going to do then," my friend said. "I threw the machine into reverse and gave it full power. I heard a big yell. I shut the machine off and saw the boss standing there, yelling his head off, his hands pinned between the bar and the boom of the machine. Both of his hands were mashed. When that boss was able to come back to work, he never bothered me again."

Efficient Mine Management

CASSVILLE, W. VA.—We were supposed to move to a new section. The plans had already been made a couple of weeks in advance by the mine management. During the supposed last week on our section, machinery was moved to what was to be our new section. On our section we had three shuttle buggies, two loading machines, two cutting machines and two pin machines.

MACHINERY MOVED

Since we were to move, the machinery on our section was cut down. Men worked extra days, extra men were put on the job of moving during the week. We were left with one unit of machinery — one loader, cutter, pinner and buggy — to finish the week out.

PLANS CHANGED

We went to work the next week. But whoops! Plans changed. We were to work our old section for a couple of more days and then move. The middle of the week was

moving time. So we worked the couple of days. And then? Yep, plans changed again. We weren't going to move at all. It was two other sections that were going to move. So these two other sections were split up and shifted around from one section to another. You see, they didn't exactly have the two sections ready for these men to start working right away. But they will get them all right.

BACK WHERE WE STARTED

There still was the problem of our section which was to be moved and wasn't. We didn't have enough machinery to take care of us. But this problem was solved quickly. They brought machinery from other sections to ours and now we have what we started with. Two cutting machines, two loading machines, two pin machines and three buggies. It all came out even after all. Never let it be said that mine management isn't efficient.

LABOR

Automation In Steel

PITTSBURGH Pa. — With the new method of producing steel, many men are feeling the effects. Not only is the automation that is coming in causing the lay-off of men. Many men who had positions of responsibility and had to use their minds in making judgments are being reduced to mere figureheads.

MORE MACHINES, LESS MEN

The making of steel has changed a great deal over the past several years. It is nothing like it used to be before the machines took over. Before, there was the three and three set-up on a wheeler gang on a furnace. There were 12 men involved in this, three wheelers on each of the four sides. Now, at the most, there are nine; sometimes there are seven or eight.

Now there are buggies that wheel the bricks in to the gang working on an oven. Before, the men had to make the trips to the brick pile when they were building a new lining. Now they don't have to do it. Everything is geared up for more and more production with the use of less men and more machinery.

Cleaning out of a furnace for the structural is the first thing that is done to prepare for a new heat. Before machinery came in, it took from a week to ten days to get it cleaned up. With the new machine they have, it takes about four days.

METAL FOREMAN MAKES DECISIONS

The first helper on a furnace used to make decisions. Now, he is just a figurehead. He knows all the ingredients that go into the furnace. It's like a cake recipe in that there are so much of different things that go together to make the steel. So much hot metal, cold metal, ore, magnesium and so on. Before, the first helper could work it up, test up and determine when it could be tapped. Now, the metal foreman makes all the decisions.

To tap a heat, a metal plug has to be removed from the bottom of the furnace. Before, the plug was dug out. Sometimes it would come out quickly. At other times, it would take some time to dig it out. This meant a delay. Now it is shot out with a charge. This does the trick. And the metal foreman is the one who does all the supervising of all these operations.

SPEED UP REDUCES MEN

Before a heat is tapped, it has to be just right. This is determined by testing the temperature of the metal and making laboratory tests on samples to make sure it doesn't come out too brittle or hard. Whereas before you would have maybe one heat on a furnace during a shift, now there are three or four. Every time you turn around, you see men running back and forth testing the heats. The speed-up makes for more

Chrysler Workers Ratify New Contract But Don't Like It

DETROIT — After the UAW-Chrysler contract was ratified last Sunday, so far as the union leaders are concerned the last of the big three was wrapped up in the fold for at least another three years. "The big progress," as one leader said, "was made without a strike," and as a worker yelled from the floor, "With 25 million dollars of our money tucked away in your pocket to play politics and have a good time with."

UAW vice-president, Emil Mazey, gave the report of the so-called economic gains, separating the office and skilled workers in one category and the production workers in another.

Only one point seemed to bring full enthusiastic applause from the workers. That was the elimination of super-seniority for foremen and chief stewards. They say they are defeated they now go back to work on their regular seniority. They used to have super-seniority for a year.

After the report, the floor was opened for discussion. A worker asked Mazey how was it possible to vote on the contract when it was handed out after the workers entered the hall and it was half as thick as Webster's dictionary.

WHAT ARE THE GAINS?

He said, "From what I get from your report, you only made some gains for the high skilled and office workers. For the past year this union has called on the production workers to take strike votes. In every instance it was used to get something for the skilled or office workers, all the time saying it is to be used to settle our grievances. When you get what you want for them, you say that our grievances, the production workers', will be settled later through grievance machinery. That is always the end."

"What happened here is that after Ford and GM workers rejected the contract by strike action, the skilled workers yelled you didn't get anything for them. They work the whole year round anyway and, truthfully, they did not gain anything. The International could not call them Communists or Communist-led because they're all with you.

"Now you had to try to keep the skilled workers quiet here so they are getting a few pennies raise. The higher the classification of work the more he gets in a raise. The production workers are only getting 1c raise."

The worker said, "I am not opposed to skilled and office

workers as such, but I am mad as hell about the way you are using our strength to please them and sell us out. Are we a craft union? If so, say it. Every meeting is separate for skilled and production workers.

WORTH MORE DEAD

"I notice very carefully in this contract that the office workers get twice as much as we do when they are off sick. Twice as much when one dies. I think that is the worst of all. The office and skilled workers worth more dead than a production worker and the production worker worth more dead than the janitors and laborers.

"That's where you and the union are going; not to make gains for the worker in his day-to-day life, but after it is all over. What worker wants that?"

NOT PRIVATE

Mazey said he could understand this worker feeling that way, but he would like to talk with him alone and discuss it.

The worker said this wasn't a private matter between him and Mazey. Anything he had to say, he'd say on the floor because it's what all the workers in his department were saying.

So They Say . . .

There's one basic and highly interesting trend in American industry that you are apt to overlook if you are taking a quick look at the country, as the Russian farm delegation is. In fact, it's easy for even the historians and economists to overlook.

Pres. Leland I. Doan of Dow Chemical put it into words when he was considering profit sharing plans, vacations, pleasant working surroundings, and noise abatement in plants. "While the rise in the American standard of living has received much attention," he said, "we have been less conscious of the parallel rise in our standard of working."

"You might say," he declared, "that as a society we have taken a vote and decided that we want to spend part of the fruits of our productive efforts in such a way that work becomes a more satisfying and pleasant experience . . . It is an indication that we are becoming more civilized economically and industrially as well as socially."

(Business Week — Sept. 3, 1955)

heats and at the same time takes the responsibility and decisions from the first helper. This is all now in the hands of the metal foreman. The first helper just doesn't have time any more to do the things he did before,

BRIBING THE BOSS

LOS ANGELES — One of the owners of the business where I work was leaving for a year's vacation in Mexico. It was suggested by our supervisor that we chip in on a gift because he was leaving.

We had a lot of discussion over it as we worked. "How much shall we donate?" was our problem. There were suggestions of 25c, 5c, etc. We all shouted, "Bravo," when one girl said, "Let's put a half-hour more on our time cards!"

We suggested taking him across the street to lunch and charging it to his account there. But we all finally ended up chipping in 25c apiece just to keep peace in the family. None of us would have done it if it had been more.

Nut Head Says—



"What do you want to get so friendly with the guys in your department for? You can't better yourself that way."

A Reader From Ireland Writes:

I like your valuable paper. It gives to workers an opportunity to express their views on matters of common concern. Every good wish for its success.

P. A., North Ireland

Do Your Friends Read NEWS & LETTERS

Company Tries To Stifle Grievances-- Isolates Workers

By Jerry Kegg

Since the signing of the new company-union contract, General Motors has been faced with unrest among their employees. As is the general rule, they rely on mechanical measures to hold the workers down. In one of the GM plants that had a wildcat recently, the company used an isolationist policy. A strict time schedule was placed on everyone.

Each department began 15 minutes apart. Lunch hours were staggered every 15 minutes alternating between two cafeterias. This prevented departments from meeting even at lunch hour.

BUDDY-SYSTEM

More smoking areas were installed. Only two persons were allowed to occupy the area at one time.

Wherever possible the buddy-system was installed. The obvious then happens. You spend all of your breaks from the job with the buddy they assign for you.

The only means of communication through the plant was through the maintenance men.

The policy of isolation is the method the company is using instead of attempting to settle grievances that have accumulated over the last six months. This has only aggravated the situation.

Last night, a wildcat strike was staged and in one hour the plant was shut down.

HONOR ROLL

NEW YORK.—The funniest caste system is practiced by one of the large department stores here in New York. I'll never forget my first experience with the Honor Roll which is the company's way of rewarding all those employees who do not join the union.

I was told that all the elevators at the front of the store were for customers and Honor Roll (non-union) members. All other employees, that is all union members, had to use the elevators at the back of the store, which are about two blocks out of the way.

One day I came in late and figured if I rode the front elevators I'd just about make it on time. I rushed into the first elevator I came to. There were about a dozen customers and non-union members already in the car. Imagine my chagrin when the elevator operator looked me up and down with a frozen face said, "Madame, do you work here?"

At first I was glad she seemed to know me. I was new and I thought she would rush me up and I would be on time. "Yes," I said.

"Are you on the Honor Roll?" she asked.

"Honor Roll? Why No." So she kindly advised me in no uncertain terms to get off the elevator and stay off,

EDITORIALS

THE POINT OF NO RETURN

It would appear from press reports that a softer policy on questions of civil rights is in the process of formation. For the first time since the McCarthy reign of terror, government officials, Army brass and Navy big-wigs as well as the State Department passport division and the United States Senate are admitting that they might possibly have committed grave errors.

The Secretary of the Army has openly admitted the Army was wrong in labeling Professor Kelley of Wayne University a "Communist". Considering that the professor was in the forefront of clearing the campus of any grouping that might conceivably be called "subversive", this doesn't appear much of a victory for civil rights. And it isn't.

Nevertheless it is true that there has been a curtailment of the arbitrariness of the passport division in refusing passports to Americans wishing to travel abroad. And a Navy man was reinstated although he is still related to his mother whom they had designated as "Communist". They have established that the relationship there "hasn't been close for years now." But they still refuse him his civilian job.

The United States Senate is now expressing belated concern for the basic rights of "redress of grievances". Since the prospects of a national election are not far off, the senators are calling for a "bloodless revolution" to restore these rights. This has gone no further than pious wishing. In truth, the state of civil rights in America is such a national disgrace that it is openly referred to as "erosion of civil rights".

Nothing fundamental has changed because at this stage the country seems to have reached the point of no return on the question of civil liberties. Thus, Eisenhower approves the armed services "brain washing" training. 29,000 American young men have now undergone torture in Air Force training camps on the broad excuse that otherwise they will not be able to withstand "the brain washing" of Communist prison camps. LIFE this week depicts the torture training to which "Frogmen" are being subjected by the Navy. It is hard to distinguish on which side of the iron curtain one lives.

The greatest victims of all, as always, are the working people. Attorney General Brownell has not withdrawn his case against the unions whom he is trying to persecute with the use of "the Communist Control Act". The Taft-Hartley law remains as do the strike-breaking "right to work laws".

Hence the seeming indifference of the rank and file people to a) the "bloodless revolution" of highly-paid lawyers; b) the weeping of the daily press; and especially c) the righteous indignation of the United States Senate which has done nothing to change any of the laws it enacted which make wrongdoing in the civil rights field inevitable.

There is only one reason for the pretense of soft policy here as there is only one reason for the pretense in Moscow. Soft policy has at its root the fear that people will stand for no more inroads into their civil rights. Until the people have had their full say, the "erosion of civil rights" will reach bottom.

THERE IS AN UNDERCURRENT

In Readers' Views, there is a note from a West Virginia miner about the new coal contract for the miners. There is an undercurrent of feeling among the miners, he says, that deals not only with miners but workers everywhere. "Something is in the air, something big."

This tension and unrest is just below the surface and can be felt in any industrial community. In Detroit, the auto companies are pushing production with such ferocity it is as though more than just production is involved. It is as though they are pushing to beat a deadline—as though they are trying to get the production out before something happens.

Speak to almost any worker in Detroit and he says he wants overtime because he needs the money. Look at the time-card racks. See all the overtime that is being worked. And on the same time-cards see all the little red marks of absenteeism that goes hand in hand with the overtime.

An auto production worker says, "I've never felt anything like this before. The tension isn't only in the plant, it's there from the time you wake up to the time you go to sleep. The company keeps cracking down tighter and tighter. You feel like you're sitting on the edge of the volcano. When it erupts—"

STRIKES, CONTRACTS & CONDITIONS

When all those wildcats took place right after the Ford and GM contracts in June and July, the papers and the union both said they didn't mean a thing because they were just about local grievances which would be taken care of locally. They didn't take care of any grievances yet, locally or nationally. We just had a wildcat again about these old "local" grievances.

GM Worker Detroit

(Editor's Note: See article on page 1.)

The only time the union representatives try to act sympathetically to workers is around the time of local elections or negotiations. That's the only time they speak to every worker they can in the hopes to muscle some votes.

Packard Worker Detroit

A year or so ago, some guys said they didn't want their union dues deducted anymore. The company said O.K. and then the guys changed their mind because they didn't want to play into the hands of those S.O.B.'s. When they said S.O.B.'s I thought they meant the company. Now I'm sure they meant both the company and the union.

Auto Body Worker Detroit

Several men in my shop who have served in the Reuther caucus for ten years or more have broken away. They helped to destroy opposition to Reuther before but now they're just that disgusted.

Ford-Highland Park Detroit

I really liked your piece on caucus-builders (TWO WORLDS, Sept. 7). We know the foremen and the committeemen as our enemies. But these caucus-builders are the worst of all. They pretend to be our friends and to talk about our grievances and then they stab us in the back.

Auto Worker Detroit

The way things are now, we're faced with the whole apparatus of the union pushing on one side and with the whole apparatus of management pushing on the other side and both of them pushing together. I

Readers'

don't know how it's going to happen and I don't know when it's going to happen, but one day thousands and thousands of workers will just up and do something.

Buick Worker Flint

Outside of the fact that the miners have just got a new contract (See p. 2 this issue), there was another undercurrent of feeling. It dealt not only with miners but workers everywhere. The operators gave in too easily. Just like auto and steel. Something is in the air, something big. And that something isn't going to be good.

Miner Morgantown, W. Va.

When Kegg talks about brainwashing in American factories (Sept. 7), I think of the building trades because we are plagued with this problem. In these shops of 10 to 20 men there's always four or five key men who are strictly for the boss. They get special favors, pay for holidays, all the overtime and gravy jobs. The prosperity of the last 10 years has created a good minority of such people who are stooges for the boss' promises.

Construction Worker Los Angeles

When the skilled workers had their wildcat the other day over the Chrysler contract, two police kept walking back and forth around them. One of the workers said, "To be a cop today you have to be a mean so-and-so." Another worker said, "Yeah, you have to be like a cop if you want to be a union leader today."

Chrysler Auto Body Detroit

During the wildcat, a woman picket got the floor and the local chairman kept interrupting her till she burst out, "Who in the world are we fighting here? The company or the union? From now on I'm fighting both and I'm fighting my own battles." You should have heard the applause she got.

GM Worker Detroit

The papers reported that our wildcat was about overtime, that the night shift gets it all. The company always tries to divide workers and uses overtime

to pit them against each other. But that wasn't the cause of the wildcat. The papers are just looking for issues but it wasn't any one issue. We're still furious over the contract and what the company and union are doing. That's why we went out.

GM Worker Detroit

WAR & PEACE

I never saw a bubble break so fast in my life. They were just saying at Geneva, "Hurry! Peace is here." And now? Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, Morocco, France. I could go on, but what's the use.

Cartoonist Chicago

Right after they had that uprising in Morocco, a fellow on the line said to me, "I don't care what they call me. I'm for them. I'm with the Mau Mau."

Chrysler Worker Detroit

This is a sign they stuck up in my shop: "If you are not hysterical like everyone else here, perhaps you haven't quite grasped the situation."

Machinist Los Angeles

NEGRO AMERICANS

Everybody down here is up in arms about the lynching of that little boy in Mississippi. How do the people up North feel about it?

Reader Alabama

Why do you have a separate page called "Negro News"? You can have the same articles on the same page, but just drop the caption. I know better, but some people can think that you're segregating Negroes on that page and the rest of the paper is for whites only. I suffer in this country because I'm an American Negro. It upsets them that I'm an American.

Negro Auto Worker Detroit

Things have got so bad now, they're threatening to fire any teacher who belongs to the NAACP as a subversive.

Teacher South Carolina

I took off from work just to stay tuned in on the radio all day long to

Views

ar if they would broad-
st that lynch case from
Mississippi.

Ford Worker
Detroit

* * *

Diggs got on the radio
and pledged \$2,500 as de-
ense money in the Till
maching case. He asked
for contributions to make
\$5,000 for the case.
People lined up five or six
blocks long to give money
to make up that \$2,500
more.

Chrysler Worker
Detroit

* * *

I like what Diggs said,
except they just keep
dealing with money to
fight the case. Diggs and
these will go up to that
point and quit. I think
there should be a mass
march down to Missis-
sippi and show those peo-
ple there. An old man
told me that old as he is
that's the only way he'd
want to die.

Housewife
Detroit

* * *

In church they talk
about Heaven and Hell.
They don't talk about
one Heaven or Hell for
whites and another for
colored. But there are
plenty of people who go
to church who don't
seem to understand what
it's all about.

The minister of one
church invited the col-
ored to come. Some of
us did, but all during
the service, some of the
people kept turning
around and staring at
us. We never went back.

A white woman got
up in another big church
in town and said that
she would liek to see
every other face white
and colored. The woman
I worked for was in
church that day, and
told me about it—what
a shocking thing the
woman had preached!
She said, "Now wouldn't
you feel strange in that
church with us?"

I looked her in the
eye and said I'd feel all
right with some of the
whites, but with some—
like her—I'd feel mighty
strange.

It isn't because folks
are white that you'd
feel strange — it's be-
cause of the attitude of
some of them that of

course I would rather be
with my own folks.

We'd feel fine if ev-
erybody's attitude was
what they preach.

Working Woman
West Virginia

* * *

I've been able to ob-
serve that a person's at-
titude toward the Negro
in the shop gives a good
indication of his attitude
to the boss. If he's prej-
udiced, he's almost sure to
be a company stooge and
vice versa.

Machinist
Los Angeles

* * *

Recently I heard of the
risks and chances colored
take when they drive down
South to visit, and I un-
derstand, and I know it
isn't as tough with me.

When I was in the Mer-
chant Marine, I was doing
35 miles an hour in a 30
mile per hour zone. I was
driving in Dutchess Coun-
ty, New York. The county
cop took me to the court
house and jail house, and
the judge was there. I told
him I had to make my ship
that night. He said he
couldn't try me until Mon-
day, but that my fine
would be \$20 tomorrow,
but to let me out now, it
would cost me \$50 for a
bond. I didn't want to miss
my boat, so I posted the
\$50 and they made an ex-
tra \$30.

Ex-Seaman
Detroit

WOMEN

The girls where I work
were discussing women's
attitude to marriage in
America in contrast to
that in Asia and Europe.
Just then a friendly in-
spector came by. After
listening to just a little of
our conversation as we
worked, he commented
that American women
didn't have the mental at-
titude to marriage and to
their husbands that Euro-
pean women have.

The girls just jumped
all over him. One girl said,
"We'll bring in their slip-
pers and coffee, but we
draw the line at sitting
on a pillow at their feet
and admiring them."

We all understood what
he wanted ina wife. And
we know that he wouldn't
respect her if he got it.

Working Mother
Los Angeles

Married people can't
both be independent. If two
people weren't dependent
on each other, they would
not get married in the first
place. And being dependent
means more than needing
each other just for phys-
ical reasons.

For a man and woman
to both try to be indepen-
dent would be worse than
if one of them was wholly
dependent on the other, as
bad as that is. Two inde-
pendent people would just
be two independent people.
It certainly wouldn't be a
marriage.

Male Reader
West Virginia

* * *

Seven girls were painting
a mental picture, as we
worked on a very hot day,
of where we'd rather be.
We all pictured a cool gar-
den, lounge chair, sprin-
klers going and a tall cool
drink nearby. Then one girl
said, "Don't forget the flies
and the bees." Another
added, "And the children
running in and out." We
each added something, a
load of ironing undone, the
house in a mess, the kids
needing baths. We finally
agreed that we were better
off working.

Working Mother
Los Angeles

* * *

MISCELLANEOUS

There is something
about the Davy Crockett
ballad that I like. It has
an easy swing and gener-
ous words and from all ap-
pearances a lot of other
grownups like it as well.

Now, there seems to be
a debunking process going
on. Certain persons, stick-
lers for accuracy, have
done a little research into
American history and in-
form us that Davy wasn't
all heis cracked upto be.
In fact, he may even have
been a bit ofa scoundral.

Well, perhaps these in-
vestigators are right, but
its what everyone thinks
about him now that
counts. It seems to me,
that what people see in
Davy Crocket, is an active
resourceful and indeyend-
ent man. They go for
these traits, precisely be-
cause these are what mod-
ern living tends to deprive
them of. I think that a
longing to be complete all-
round men, capable and
free draws them to Davy
Crockett.

Observer
Los Angeles

Notes from a Diary

TWO WORLDS

TENSIONS WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION

Russia has suddenly become the most popular tourist attraction for traveling U.S. Senators. Among the most recent tourists have been: Sen. Estes Kefauver, Democrat from Tennessee; Sen. John J. Sparkman, Democrat from Alabama; and Sen. George W. Malone, Republican from Nevada. They have lost no time in giving their expert impressions.

Sen. Malone stated that he found "no evidence the people are going to rise against the Soviet regime." This ridiculous pretentiousness insults the intelligence of the American people and slanders the Russians' unceasing struggle against their totalitarian regime. The truth is: **CONTINUOUS REVOLT BY RUSSIAN WORKERS 1928 TO 1938**

1) Throughout the First and Second Five-Year Plans (1928-1938) workers left the plants and returned to their farms with a disrespect for capitalist routines very similar to the Southern production workers in Northern United States.

2) The passport system accomplished as little in discipling the workers as had the 1932 laws which authorized the factory director to fire a worker for absenteeism and even to deprive him of his food card and living quarters owned by the factory.

3) It was impossible to decree slavery. The Russian worker, like the American worker, knows how to handle his job. Where he is forbidden to strike, he slows down. The Senators and scholars speak of "low labor productivity" in Russia as if that means the Russian workers are backward. Like the economists in the United States in relation to American workers, however, the Russian intelligentsia recognizes low productivity for what it is: a sign of revolt against the conditions of production. Figures show that to complete the First Plan, even in half-way fashion, 22.8 million workers were used where the Plan called for only 15.7 million. Labor turnover was no less than 152 per cent.

4) The totalitarian rulers have more power than any other government in history. Nevertheless, they did not feel capable of disciplining this rebellious labor force. They decided instead to divide it by finding some social basis in the factory among a special section of the workers. American workers who have seen Reuther operating with the skilled trades will have no difficulty in understanding what Stalin was aiming at.

As early as 1931, Stalin called for the "liquidation of depersonalization." This was a very fancy phrase for a very ugly truth. He had no factory personalities to defend his regime. To get them, he decided to give the skilled worker a personality and a wage to go with it and at the same time transform the skilled worker into a speed demon for one day. This man set the rate of speed, through especially good machines and plenty of help, at a pace which he knew he would have to keep up for only a single day. This time-study then became the rate for the rest of the workers to produce every day.

This speed-up movement met with such resistance that it was not unusual for Stakhanovites to find themselves murdered in the dark of night. **1940 TO 1950**

At the start of World War II, the laws of June 26 and October 2, 1940, forbade a worker to leave his job and punished 15 minutes lateness with six months "corrective labor"—labor in the factory with 25 per cent reduction in pay.

Yet, after six months of operation of these laws, PRAVDA reported that truancies were greater than in the months prior to it. Martial law was declared on the railroads similar to Truman's proposal to draft railroad workers to prevent their strike in 1946.

In 1943, the conveyor belt system was first introduced. On the basis of assembly line discipline, the State introduced competition by factories. This means that Factory Stalin is ordered to challenge Factory Molotov. Factory Molotov must take up the challenge "to fulfill and over-fulfill" its quarterly plan by 10 per cent. All workers in both factories must pitch into this back-breaking State-ordered plan. This is called "socialist emulation". **IN 1953: VORKUTA**

Finally, in 1953, what had been going on continuously under the surface for years, exploded into the open with the revolt of prisoners in the slave labor camps at Vorkuta. (See TWO WORLDS, July 8, 1955.) Despite total censorship, workers in far-off Leningrad knew of the revolt at once and applauded it.

Day in and day out, for 20 solid years, the Russian worker has been unyielding in his resistance. Had the revolt not been so continuous, the terror would not have been so violent. The millions in forced labor camps are a true measure of the never-ending resistance of the Russian workers to their oppressors.

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NEGRO NEWS

South and North Must Answer

By Ethel Dunbar

The recent murder and lynching of Negroes in Mississippi showed how this so-called real democracy works in regards to colored people in America.

It is not enough to say it is a shame how the 14-year-old colored boy from Chicago was lynched, but to ask every colored woman who has a son how would she feel if it was her child. Take these remarks, drop them in the hands of Negro leaders and of national Congressmen and Senators and say, "This is what women of America think about the democracy you have been telling the world about."

HORRIBLE AND INHUMAN

I was glad that the mother of the lynched boy left his body as it was discovered. As she said, to let the world see it and to let the world see how horrible and inhuman the white South can be to an American Negro citizen.

I have heard that many protests, by some white and many Negro citizens have been sent to leading State and Government officials.

NATIONAL SHAME

The F.B.I. said they cannot intervene because it is a State problem. I feel if Negroes had committed similar crimes against a white, the F.B.I. and all other Government officials would have intervened.

When other countries make statements about the treatment of Negroes in the United States, what person can say it is not true?

The recent lynching is living truth for which not only the South, but the North as well, has to answer.

Segregated Fires?

LOS ANGELES. — The question of racial segregation in the Los Angeles Fire Department has been a front page topic in the West Coast newspapers for many months. The issue is that Negro firemen have been restricted to several station houses while the majority of station houses have been lily-white. Also the Negroes are discriminated against in not receiving equal opportunities to advance in the Fire Department by unfair grading in the oral tests they take before prejudiced superiors. The City Fire Chief has been a consistent and outspoken defender of this undemocratic procedure.

"TEST STATIONS"

After many months, a few Negroes have been admitted to several formerly lily-white station houses. Many white men in these "test" stations have joined in a campaign of abuse against the Negroes. The whites do not stand near the Negroes in company line-ups, openly curse and

An Editorial

The Wheel of Time Moves Forward

The forces of reaction in the South are mounting day by day against Negroes. The continued murdering and lynching of Negroes has aroused the tension of many Americans to a feeling of outburst. Never before has there been so much said and with such expression of hate as about the recent lynching of the 14-year-old colored boy in Mississippi.

Many leading Negro organizations are saying things from the point of politics. Negro Congressmen are speaking harshly about it but at the same time saying it happened under the Republican Administration, when everyone knows the same can happen and has happened under the Democratic Administration. This is their way of getting off the hook and hoping to pacify the feeling of the majority of the American Negroes.

When the Communist Party was active, this case would have been their attack weapon. Although for their own political interests, they were dealing some severe blows on the question of the Negro people. Since the Communist Party has taken cover and since President Ike and Khrushchev came out of the Summit Conference in Geneva as friends, the Communist Party has dropped the question of Negroes like a hot potato.

The much looked-at union movement, which could deal a death blow against this brutality in the South, has always been as silent as possible on these issues. When the labor leaders are forced to, they will give lip-service to it. With hundreds of Negroes on the union staffs, some even designated to look after the special interests of Negroes through the so-called fair practices department, they have made no move against this lynching and have made no demands.

AMERICANS ASK WHY

Many Americans have asked why Negroes have such deep hate for whites and do not trust their own Negro leaders. Take a look at the face of the lynched boy in the little magazine JET and ask what are Negroes in high positions doing about it.

This child's battered and mangled face is a continuous reminder of what has happened to Negroes down through their history in America. Their crimes are far less than those which are charged against this child. There are statements that he only used correct English in speaking to a white woman, he refused to say "Yes, Ma'am," and "No, Ma'am." It is said that thousands and thousands of people viewed his body at a funeral home in Chicago. Many of no acquaintance came out screaming in hysterics. Some Negroes shouted, "That is no help. We must organize a group to go down to Mississippi and start to killing whites until we get killed." This is an expression of the feeling of the ranks of Negroes towards our democracy.

A Negro woman said she could not sleep for several nights after looking at the picture of the lynched boy. A man said, "They are going to lynch one Negro too many. They have no feeling or knowledge as to how much a human will bear."

DRIVE TOWARDS NEGRO RIGHTS

The drive towards Negro rights is forcing this violent reaction as in Mississippi. But these murders and lynching will not stop the forward drive of Negroes for the right to go to schools of their choosing, to vote, to participate in community affairs. Several adults were shot to death some months ago because, after repeated warnings by whites to remove their names from a ballot, they refused. This shows their forceful determination to get their just rights.

There is no fear of threat. There is no fear of mob violence, murdering and lynching. The wheel of time and space is moving forward. As it moves, so are the Negroes in America moving.

The silence of the union movement does not stop this forward movement. The dying and sell-out of the Communist Party do not stop it. The sealed lips of the Negroes in leading positions in the trade union won't stop a thing. The Negro politicians, who pose as representatives of Negroes and can only get on a platform and yell out things everyone knows all their lives, they cannot stop it.

They, all, will not slow or stop the progress of the mass of the American Negroes toward complete integration. —C. D.

abuse them to their faces, post signs reading "White Adults" on dining room doors and so forth. The persecution is so great that at least one Negro reportedly couldn't stand the abuse and was transferred back to an all Negro company by request after two weeks of terrorization.

Not all the whites have entered into this campaign

against the Negroes. It is even very possible that it is only a minority of the white firemen who are so noisily displaying their prejudices. But we do know of at least one fireman, who has so firmly demonstrated his conviction that Negroes should have the same rights as all other men, that he has been suspended and transferred from his old job in the Fire Department.

Police Abuse Mixed Couples

DETROIT.—This is an incident that happened to a white man and his Negro wife. It also involved a white man and his white wife who were with them.

They parked their car near downtown Detroit. The two men got out and went into a restaurant to get some food to take out. When they returned, two policemen were standing by their car talking to the women. They asked their names and identification.

The man who is married to the Negro woman, asked the police what was it all about. The police asked him who was driving the car and when he replied, "I am," they carried him and his friend to the squad car.

The driver of the car didn't have a registration as he had

borrowed the car from a friend for the evening. The police made him and his friend get into the squad car and another cop drove the car with the women to the precinct station house.

After getting to the station he tried to explain to the desk sergeant that he couldn't understand why they brought the women along since only he was involved and the women were his wife and the wife of his friend.

After they were released the women said that the cop who drove them over made all types of abusive passes at them and called them prostitutes. He also told them that even if they were not prostitutes, they had instructions to stop and question "any mixed couples of opposite sex" in that district.

INDIGNANT HEART

By Matthew Ward

(Editor's Note: INDIGNANT HEART was first published in 1952. This serial has been specially prepared for NEWS & LETTERS. Here is the fifth installment.)

NORTH TO DETROIT

The first time I went North was in 1924. My pal then was Hines, a young man about eighteen. He was from a farm in Texas. We were hoping we'd get to see the Mason-Dixon line. I thought in my mind, that it would look like the mark in the middle of the highway. We were hoping day would break before we got to the line. The train stopped in Covington, Kentucky just as the sun was rising. Someone said the bridge ahead was the Mason-Dixon line. We were North. We didn't have to worry about sitting in the back, we felt good. We walked around staring at all the buildings.

Hines and I met a boy from Columbus we had known in school. We agreed that if there was one white man on the train with a seat beside him, we'd sit there to see what he would do. All the things we'd heard before was like reading in the Bible. When I get to heaven I have milk and honey and pearly gates. I wanted to see was I there. We walked through the train feeling shaky. We thought any minute they would tell us to sit in the Negro coach. We found a seat for two. Hines and the boy from Columbus sat down. I continued to walk until I saw a seat by a white man. I was very uncomfortable for the first hour. Hines seemed very surprised that I continued to sit by the man. I relaxed some. He was reading a paper when he finished half, he pushed it to me and asked if I wanted to read. He wanted to know where I was going and said, "Detroit is a nice place." This was the most relaxing time I had.

When we reached Detroit

each of us had an address. the people where we would live.

I met a friend from home and asked him if he would ever go South again.

He said, "No, it's too many ups."

I asked, "What do you mean, it's too many ups?"

He said, "The first thing the morning, before day breaks, you have to wake up. Then you have to get up then you have to feed up gear up. You go to the field before the sun is up and hitch up, the first words you say to the mules is 'git up. And you start to bedding up. When night comes you look over how much of the ear you have turned up. After you plant up, you start getting ready to round up. When you're through rounding up you start chopping up. When you get through with that it's time to go to the hayfield and start baling up. When that is done you come back to the field and start gathering up. Then you start hauling up to the white man to have your settling up. After you don't get a damn thing in return, but a big mess up. No, I'm not telling a mule 'git up' no more, if he's sitting on my lap. I'm not planting any more cotton, and I'm not planting any more corn. If I see some mules running away with this world I'm going to tell them to keep going, 'git ahead on'."

(To Be Continued)

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YOUTH

Working For Independencia

By ANGELA TERRANO

In one place I worked there was a strike situation. A CIO local and the workers were on one side and an AFL local and the boss on the other. The boss hired goons and cabs, among them a group of youths who came to work together—and scabbed together.

YOUNG SCAB

There was one guy who was in the plant for at least a year and a half and also belonged to an outside youth club. He became a scab when the strike took place although he was supposedly with the workers. He was not on the line but worked as a stock boy. There was a certain antagonism between him and the women because, he had to supply workers with stock.

In another factory I worked in there were a number of youths who wore club jackets. But they worked on the line with the other workers and had a completely different attitude.

None of the youth who scabbed worked on the line. They were packers, stock boys and so forth. They worked alone. There was even a difference in dress.

YOUNG WORKER

The second place had two and three day lay-offs every week. The pay checks were prepared on Thursday. We got them on Friday. We were usually laid off before Friday and had to make extra trips to get our checks. One Thursday night, after work, a few workers asked the foreman to give them their checks. The foreman was in a good mood that night so he got the checks and was handing them out. One of the youths was waiting in line. He spoke very sarcastically about the foreman. He said, "They can't let a guy stop for five minutes and give out the checks during the day because that would disrupt production." He was quite clear whom he was against.

A GIRL'S VIEW

LOS ANGELES.—All I know is, I wouldn't want to get drafted. I wouldn't want to go around killing people or being pushed around either. But the Army can offer you a career in peace time. You can learn to be whatever you want, an engineer or an electrician or anything.

But I don't care to go up to the front lines to get my head bashed in for a few miles like in Korea. It was silly, they should have let North and South Korea figure it out for themselves.

I think Russia is just biding her time. They're hot for power.

I sure don't like to see my boy friends get drafted. But mostly I go out with older fellows who are out already. They have no use for the service either, especially the ones who didn't even get out of the country and spent the Korean war in some place like Texas.

—Eighteen

"Anything Is Better Than Hanging Around"

CHICAGO. — I graduated from high school last June and had to make up my mind what I was going to do. Many of the boys who graduated with me said they weren't going to fool around looking for jobs they couldn't get. They were going to enlist.

I thought I'd look around first and try to find a job so that even if I was drafted later on, I'd have some experience and something to go back to after I was discharged.

BEST IS NO GOOD

Well, I went out hunting. They wouldn't hire me at any job that meant anything. I could find a job as an errand-boy or a floor-sweeper. That was the best I could get. When you know you're going back to school you take anything for the summer. But this was it. After a while, I got so that all I did was hang around and look at the four

walls or go out once in a while. Anything is better than hanging around.

I finally made up my mind and enlisted. I'll be going in soon. I guess about a fourth of the fellows in my graduating class did the same. I hope they send me to a training school where I can learn a good trade for later life.

—June Graduate

Read

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&

LETTERS

WOMEN

Just A Housewife

By Mrs. Martha Hunt

(This week I'm turning my column over to a woman who can speak for herself.—M.H.)

The only reason a woman who works has to work eight hours a day is because you can't get a part-time job that pays enough to make it worthwhile to work. You have to work eight hours to make it worth the sacrifice of your time.

I've worked out since I've been married, plenty. But I'm not one of those women who wants to. I work for the money, nothing else. Working is good for the money, but no good for the home. After you work all day, you're too tired to do what has to be done at home. You get irritable, you can't enjoy anything.

But what gets me is the attitude of the rich people who hire you to do their work. They don't think that you have a home of your own and work to do there.

I worked for a doctor's wife once. She had me come in at 12 noon, and I had to stay until after 9 at night. The only reason I had to stay that late was because when her husband came home, they had highballs first—to relax. All she did all day long was work at relaxing. She had a nap every

day from 1 to 3. When she woke up she relaxed some more. She'd take a bath and comb her hair and watch TV. Then she'd come in and mess up the kitchen until her husband get home and they had their highballs.

He'd take an hour or so to play with their kids. So it was always 7:30 before they started to eat. By the time they were through, and I got the dishes washed, it was after nine. I used to try to get them to work it so I could get home earlier. I told her I had my own work after I get home. She told me I ought to be able to do that on Sunday. She considered Sunday a day of rest for her, but she didn't think I should have the same privilege.

Then after a while she wanted me to come in to cook and wash the dinner dishes on Sunday, too. I told her Sunday was the only day I could go out of town to see my little girl at my mother's. That's when she told me I ought to make arrangements to see her during the week! She said I was making good money, and she always thought I liked my job. She paid me \$20 a week.

I worked one Sunday and quit. It just isn't worth it.



"Madame, I am conducting a national poll. How do you spend your spare time?"

"Sticking Out" a Bad Marriage

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—I guess there are plenty of women like me, whose marriages aren't what they want—but who just make the best of it. When a marriage does not have anything more than just the sexual part of it, it's nothing. That's a necessary part, but only a part. I don't understand how that can be enough for a man, or rather, some men.

Things like kindness and consideration for each other are what really makes a marriage. These are things that come only if there is respect for each other. If you once lose respect for each other—everything else goes with it.

Working On a Good Marriage

I'm an English girl married to an American. A lot of girls in England married American GIs. But at the last minute a lot of the girls backed down and refused to come to the States with their husbands. Before we got married we talked about it. He told me that he wanted to come back to finish his education, and I agreed. I loved him enough to come with him.

He goes to school. He could get a job, but he wants to go so he can get a job that he likes after his education. And I want to help him for our future. I got a job

and I try to work with him.

What I think counts is that we have things in common. We both like to build model airplanes. We like picnicking, and being outdoors. We like to do things together. Sometimes he wants to go somewhere I don't, but I'll go with him anyway. Because there are also the times I want to do something he doesn't, and he'll do it for me. We don't pull different ways.

There are times he'll want to go somewhere alone, with the fellows from school. I don't mind because he doesn't mind when I go out alone with my friends. He doesn't stop me, anymore than I do him. That's what a give and take means.

We have our little tiffs. When I'm not working and home alone all day, I want to talk and do things when he gets home. He'll be tired and not want to do anything. So we have a tiff. But we understand what's behind it, and it blows right over.

I couldn't say what an "ideal marriage" is. I only know how ours is working out.

—Housewife

A WORLD PROBLEM

Youth aren't able to press their demands like workers in a union. No government agency or labor union is able to offer them meaningful jobs or help them. They aren't an organized group nor is it a question of a job or a grievance. It is a question of an entire generation whose natural energies and fresh enthusiasm are hemmed in. It is seen in little things, let alone in the big ones.

The U. S. Ambassador to Italy, Claire Boothe Luce, is now under fire for having banned the American movie, "Blackboard Jungle," from being shown in Italy. It isn't the Italian youth she was worried about. She didn't want to encourage the knowledge in Italy that our youth are as rebellious as theirs.

The Japanese have also

banned the picture because, as they explained, they didn't want any adverse criticism of their good friend the United States. It isn't America they're worried about. The Japanese officials are worried about their own youth who have been rebellious since the end of the war.

Nor is it just the Western world. The youth in Communist countries show the self-same restlessness in the self-same way. The Communist parties in France and Italy, the largest outside the Iron Curtain, officially complain that the youth spurn them.

On a global scale, while the official world tries somehow to patch things up a bit, the youth with their enormous reserve of untapped capacity are pressing somehow to find a new way out.

WORLD OUTLOOK

BLACK MAN'S JUSTICE WHITE MAN'S LAW

Although news from Kenya has died down to a trickle and what does come through tries to give the impression that the colonists have succeeded in pacifying, if not defeating, African resistance to British rule, the basic tension remains very much alive.

Early this month, the British periodical, *New Statesman & Nation*, carried as its front page story an account of the death of a Kikuyu. He had been accused of belonging to Mau Mau, of having committed crimes against the state. Steadfastly, he denied all charges of criminality. Two white police tortured him to extort a confession.

As a result of their unspeakable brutality the Kikuyu died, murdered by the law. The two killers continue on their way in immunity. Colonial justice shrugs its shoulders at the incident. To them it is fitting justice for the black man at the hands of the white man's law.

At the same time, occasional leaks in the British press indicate that Mau Mau continually shows up among tribesmen and in areas where it has not appeared before.

FOR THE GLORY OF FRANCE

Since the Moroccan uprising, the generals have in effect taken over the rule of France. In the last few weeks, some 200,000 French youth have been mobilized for military service. The French press has been flooded by letters of protest from conscripts who refuse to go. As a result, French papers both in North Africa and in France have been silenced by military censorship.

Hardly two weeks ago, about 600 soldiers under orders to move to North Africa staged a demonstration at the Paris railroad station and refused to go. They were forcibly subdued and subjected to what American soldiers have sometimes called "shanghai shipment." The violence that the military authorities have turned against North Africans is now also being turned against Frenchmen.

At the same time, and with no apparent connection, a new wave of strikes has broken out in France.

"WHY I AM FED UP"

A British miner writes to the *London Tribune* on why he is fed up:

"When the mines were nationalized, the men thought a new era had begun and were happy in the thought that the mines belonged to them. But they were in time to outlive their illusion.

"It became obvious that the term of nationalism was only a guise. There was no change of ownership, only a change of name.

"The ex-coalowners were and are still reaping the proceeds of industry . . . with no responsibility whatsoever.

"In addition, this section still holds important executive positions under the Coal Board. . . . Too many administrative posts are created, making contact more remote and creating similar cumbersome machinery by the miners' union. This . . . causes unrest amongst the miners, with the resultant unofficial stoppages."

WOLF AT THE DOOR

Large wolf-packs, always a problem in Poland and Russia, have become an even greater problem lately.

This seems to be one of the direct results of depriving

the peasant of his gun or rifle "for security sons."

If the peasants don't the bureaucrats with the shotguns, the wolf-packs do the ob for them.

DEFEAT OF A DICTATOR

After ten years rule as tator of Argentina, Peron has fled with his life. It fate that is much too good for him. But the defeat Peron does not mean the umph of liberty. No more the resignation and suicide Brazil's dictator, Vargas, year bring liberty to Bra

Argentina, like Brazil, one of the largest and powerful of the Latin American countries. But, like all Latin America it is a se colonial country relying mly upon large scale agriculture and industry-related it such as meat-packing leather and pharmaceuticals.

The majority of the Arg tines are agricultural lab ers and industrial work

They are so exploited t they are called the "shirtless ones."

With the end of World War II, the internal crisis was so severe that a ruthless political operator like Colonel Peron could win the Army and take over, in 1946, the promise of building stability.

He made all sorts of promises to the "shirtless ones" organized—huge state charities for them and from the ranks selected out a large bureaucracy to control the in state-organized industrial unions.

Within a few short years it was clear that he did not have the support of the "shirtless ones" in spite of his police power and his large bureaucracy. Competition between opposing power cliques began to emerge.

The first big test was the clash of arms last June 16. In spite of staged rallies and propaganda, Peron did not have the mass backing the threat of which had kept his rivals in check before. Last week, they kicked him out and took over. If they continue in power it will have to be upon Peron's basis: repression of the agricultural laborers and industrial workers of Argentina.

This Is Your Life

My parents were both born in a small coal mining town in Ohio. My father had no schooling. He went to work in the coal mine at the age of 12. He worked in mines in Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

I was born in Ohio but raised in many small towns in Pennsylvania. The family moved wherever there was work for my father. The last 17 years he worked in a zinc smelter. He worked steadily through the Depression but the family was so large—there were 11 of us—that we were always poor.

The experience that is most vivid of my youth is moving to a small town that was predominantly Slavic. Ours was the second family of English parentage ancestry living there. We were considered "different." Integration was difficult.

After my third year of high school I got married. After I gave birth to our third child, we moved to a midwest industrial city. We had two more children. I then went to work in an auto factory.

We lived in a Federal Housing project for 10 years. During this time I was active in many organizations that were formed in the project. We knew McCarthyism before there was a McCarthy. Our homes could be searched by the management, according to the lease, for any or no reason. Sometimes our mail came opened and I'm sure our telephone was tapped. It was said and I believe that the F. B. I. had investigators living there. I'm sure they joined the organizations that the tenants formed. In order to live there now you have to sign a loyalty oath. The investigators are still there to double check.

—Working Mother

GI Jokes During World War II

NEW YORK — During World War II we used to hear a lot about GI humor and "GIngenuity." They don't talk about that much today. Maybe there's nothing to laugh about in the service now and maybe the boys don't give a hoot about using their ingenuity, things being what they are. I want to talk about humor as I knew it in the Army more than 10 years ago.

SOUTH PACIFIC

The Okinawa invasion opened on Easter Sunday 1944. It was also April Fool's Day. That day a new company landed on an island in the South Pacific. This island had been secure for about a year. A few hundred Japanese were still in the hills and they would sometimes go on foraging raids. We would send out small patrols now and then to round them up. But the island in general was as safe as your backyard.

The new company was assigned to an area near my outfit. They got there around noon and the officers ducked off for chow leaving the men in the road. I recognized a fellow I was drafted with and when he told me what was up some of my buddies and I told them about the different mess halls in the area and we fixed them up for lunch.

That night I looked my friend up. He was pulling Corporal of the Guard so I visited with him in the orderly room which was temporarily set up in an unfinished Quonset hut. The company clerk was there and also a Captain. The Captain was

worried about reports from the Okinawa invasion and he asked me about enemy action on our island. I gave him all the gory details. He got very nervous and started to talk about his ambitions and how much he'd given up for the Army. I figured my friend could handle the situation so I sat back to enjoy it.

FIGHTING THE ENEMY

The Captain said: "Our sidearms haven't been unpacked yet. You two men (my friend and the clerk) have the only carbines in here." He suddenly picked up a piece of two-by-four and said: "I've provided myself with a club. If anything happens I'll be in it with you for all I'm worth."

My friend kept a straight face. "It's good to know we can count on the Captain, Sir. But don't worry. Ryan and I qualified on the range. We'll protect you."

Then the Captain said, "But this hut doesn't have doors yet. The Japanese could surprise us without our hearing them."

Ryan, the clerk got up and dragged a footlocker in front of each open doorway. "Captain," he said, "if we balance a mess kit on the inside edge of each footlocker anybody trying to sneak in will kick it over and alert us."

"Wonderful idea," the Captain said. "You armed men stay here. I'll go get the mess kits. I'll whistle while I walk so you won't shoot me by mistake."

We sat and laughed our heads off until we heard the Captain whistling his way back with the mess kits.

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