

NEWS & LETTERS

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

VOL. 11—NO. 3

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1956

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

'57 Model Grinds Auto Workers By CHARLES DENBY

Workers in the plant are asking each other why are they paying union dues. For several years past, you could hear this among individual workers, but not in such great numbers as today.

Since the beginning of the '57 model, everything is happening against the production workers: from extra speed-up, to being sent home all hours of the day before completing their eight hours, to getting their fingers cut off and their hands crushed in these automation machines.

And nothing, not a word, from the union leaders about these conditions.

NIGHT-SHIFT SITDOWN

The night-shift workers had a sitdown over speed-up. Every worker in the plant knew their grievances were absolutely legitimate.

On the previous model, workers on the lines were entitled to a six-minute break each hour. They also got a ten-minute relief in the morning and ten minutes in the afternoon. The lines they work on are responsible to feed another department that runs continuously. Workers in that department got a 15-minute break and a ten-minute break in the morning and the same in the afternoon.

The company and union agreed, during those past years, that it was necessary for a worker to go to the can twice in the morning and twice in the afternoon.

NO RELIEF FOR '57

On this '57 model, these lines are connected in these two departments. Neither stops from morning until noon. Then from lunch-time until quitting-time they do not stop. A worker can be fired if he leaves the line and lets a job pass his point of operation.

Workers in department 2 still get their 15-and ten-minute breaks twice a day. Workers in department 1 do not get their six minutes on each hour. They only get ten minutes relief in the morning and ten in the afternoon.

Their grievance was that they should get the same relief as the workers in department 2. The company refused. The workers in department 2 say that workers in department 1 should not work unless the company grants them the same relief they have.

Every worker knows that if the company gets away with it, they will say that workers in department 2 should not have more relief than workers in 1.

COMMITTEEMAN BACKS SUPERINTENDENT

Workers in department 1 struck over it. The plant committeemen came running, the superintendent with them. The committeeman yelled, "Go to work." The superintendent began to write workers' names and badge numbers and said if they didn't go back to work, they all would be paid off.

Immediately, the committeeman said, "That is true. You will have to wait until we settle it over the bargaining table."

A worker yelled, "What happened to those 500 grievances the president said they had from last year?"

Another said, "Emil Mazey said the time to strike would be at the beginning of this model; that the company would be so anxious for their new cars to hit the market that they would be glad to settle grievances."

And another said, "The contract was agreed on over a bargaining table. Right? How is it the company sends the majority of us home every day at ten, eleven, twelve and one—and a very small minority work eight hours, nine and ten hours, six and seven days a week?"

"The contract specifically states that overtime in a department should be divided as equally as possible among workers of that department."

The committeeman said, "We can discuss that. Now you must first start this line to rolling."

The workers have not seen him since.

LIKE A HORSE

One worker said he is going to bring a tin can to do his business in where he works. He said, when they carry him before the superintendent for doing it, when the superintendent asks, "Why did you do it?" he will say, "I am being worked like a horse so I have to do my business like a horse—while I am working."



"Healthy Man is Difficult to Find"

AMERICANS SUFFER THE "DISEASE OF MODERN TIMES," DOCTOR SAYS

The American people are very much concerned with health. Few, however, are aware of the very close connection between the health of the individual and that of the nation. Over many decades, the well-being of Americans has been directly proportional to the economic development of our country.

There are two ways of looking at disease and both of them are correct. There are disturbances of the entire body resulting from local disease of an organ; and there is local disease from a disturbance of the whole individual.

Thus far most of our attention has been focused on the local disease, without much consideration of the whole person. Much more can and must be accomplished in this direction than is now being done.

Overcoming common dis-

eases depends on major medical research. We, as a nation, are spending 40 to 50 billion dollars for defense each year. For support of medical research, however, in schools and universities—the private institutions where most of the basic research is done—the federal government contributes one-tenth of one percent of that spent on military weapons, or about 50 million dollars.

ONE-TENTH OF 1%

Many will recall the influenza epidemic of 1918 in which, during a period of four months, 400,000 people died in the U.S. alone and 15,000,000 in the world. Thirteen years later, in 1931, a lone investigator, interested in an obscure disease of swine, discovered the first influenza virus and started a chain of events that today makes possible the prevention of another such catastrophe.

In a recent newspaper article a physician who is recognized as an "authority on health" set out to explain why so many draftees are rejected for military service. He attempted to squelch criticism by explaining that it was simply a matter of "the definition of fitness." He found great satisfaction in the reduction of death from infection, which he attributed to peni-

A Letter from a Reader

Dear Ladies and Gents:

Here's hoping that you will bear in mind that your lives are yours and yours alone. No one has the right to live your life for you. But it looks like that is what the Southern white men are trying to do to you.

Isolation and segregation not only hurts the Negroes, it hurts others as well. It interferes with individuals' way of life, who are living their own lives as they see it—which is right for them—their own private life.

There are many people who would fraternize more, but they are afraid of what some would say to them, or about them to others, and cause them to lose their jobs and so forth.

Some white men have a habit of saying to other whites, or to sociable, free-minded whites who are friendly with other creeds and colors and mingle with them openly—they are given to saying, as if surprised, "Oh, so now you are a communist, hah? So you're hanging out with the dirty commies, hah?"

We must not let these evil forces and evil humans interfere with our private lives. We must strive to go forward in our efforts for independence.

What we do here will spread a long way. If we check these few bigots here in Detroit (the North), it will encourage those in the South to fight harder for their rights down there.

Yours sincerely,
G. K.
Detroit

(Continued on Page 8)

COAL AND ITS PEOPLE

You Can Get Killed Working "Under Protest"

PURSGLOVE, W. Va.—They tried it before and killed one man. Now they're trying it again.

In the company's drive to keep cutting down on the number of men, they are always looking around and trying anything that they think they can get away with.

Now it's the inside tippelman they're trying to get rid of. The inside tippelman's job is to keep the coal cars moving as the buggies empty the coal that is loaded at the face.

The coal cars are moved by means of a steel cable on a drum that is run by an electric motor. After so many cars are loaded, the cable has to be changed. As the cars are being loaded, they have to be moved slowly, under the coal coming off the buggy, in order to be properly filled. Now the company wants the buggy man to do this.

FIRST TRY ENDS IN DEATH

The company had tried this many months before. Very shortly after they tried it, one buggy man was killed.

When you get a bunch of loads on the cable, it's under a terrific strain. This buggy man was changing the cable and there was a lot of loads to contend with. He had moved the cable and hooked it in the car, but something happened. No one knows exactly what it was. Some guys have said that the hook wasn't properly set and, when the cable started to take the weight of the loads, it flew out. At any rate, the hook caught the buggy-runner and crushed his head.

The men raised plenty of hell over that. The buggy-runner was no tippelman. He was a buggy-runner and should not have been the one to handle the tippel.

There is plenty to know about a tippel job and apparently he didn't know about much that was involved. As is always the case with the coal company, they put the tippelman back on after the man got killed.

ANOTHER TRY

This all happened months ago, and the company must figure that it's all right to try it again. At first, the company used the same tippel setup that they had while using a tippelman. The cable and drum were on the opposite side of the cars from the point where the buggies came in to unload their coal.

This meant that the buggy-runner had to crawl between two cars to get to the cable to change it when it ran out. This took too much time, so now the com-

pany has put it on the same side that the buggies are when they are unloading. No more crawling between cars to change the cable.

DIE 'UNDER PROTEST'?

While there are some buggy-runners who may be willing to do this, there are some who are not willing.

One buggy-runner flatly refused. He said that it was unsafe, which it is. He said he would not do it.

He was cautioned by the mine committee. The standard "procedure" is to work "under protest" if there is something about a setup that a man doesn't like.

This man was having nothing of that noise. The committee went on to ex-

plain that the combination-of-jobs principle was an agreement made by the district and company and that the company could combine jobs. This argument meant even less to him.

"It's just not safe," he told them. "I'm not working 'under protest'. I'm just not doing it. What good will working 'under protest' do me if I get killed? The company isn't going to take care of my wife and kids if something happens to me. We already had one man killed because the company tried this before. I know that I'm not going to be the next one."

MINERS LOOKING FOR NEW WAY OUT

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—The "combination-of-jobs principle," that the coal companies are using to cut down on the number of men, goes back to World War II. At that time, there was a shortage of men and an agreement was made between the company and union that a miner could work outside of his classification.

During the war, this practice was used extensively. A miner did any number of jobs, depending on where there was a need for him. After the war, however, this practice was discontinued. A man had his job and that was all he did. A boss wouldn't think of asking one man to do another man's job.

LAYOFFS & CHANGE

In the early 1950s, the companies started to change. The coal industry was hard hit and mines were closing by the scores. The coal operators cut down on the number of mines they operated as well as on the number of men they used in the ones they kept operating.

In times like these, there are some men who will do anything to keep a job. In times like these, the union loses strength. Under good conditions they may fight for some things; under bad conditions they practically fall apart.

If some men start to object to what the company is trying to get away with, the union wheels are among the loudest you hear crying. "We've got to go along with the company. They're in a tough situation. You have got to help them in order to keep your job."

They say this to the guys who are still working. Nothing about the guys who have been laid-off and who will be kept laid off because the company will speed up and combine jobs for the ones who are left.

That is what the com-

panies went back to—the combination-of-jobs, something that was supposed to have been introduced to help the war effort when there was a scarcity of men.

UNION CHANGING

There was a time when the union would never have been considered the watchdog of the company. It fought for the men, for the things they wanted, and the men considered the union as a real part of themselves.

Now, however, the division between the men and the official union is at times more bitter than between the men and the company.

The men expect the company to try to get away with as much as it can. But they expect the union to fight for them and their interests—or rather, they used to expect the union to fight for them. From bitter experiences, they no longer look to anyone but themselves to accomplish anything.

This is exactly the situation that exists today. Every time the men have moved on their own after taking all they could stand of company abuses, it is their own union they see on the scene: urging, pleading, threatening them to return to work.

In order to take action, the men know they need organization. As a matter of fact, any action that they take has organization. It is their kind of organization to deal with the specific problems they must battle.

It is here that the seeds are being sown for the kind of future organization that the men will form which will in truth be representative of what they want.

Miner
West Virginia

Industry, Union, Seek Ambitious Young Men as Career Flunkies

LOS ANGELES — The first time I went to work in a coal mine I was offered a job as a pumper. This job required someone steady and reliable, because you worked whether the mine worked or not. Since I was young and had a little college education, they thought I was the man for the job. But when I only did what I was told to do and didn't volunteer any new ideas or do any extra work, they put me on a section cleaning up after the machine with a shovel.

SALARY JOB

The next job I had was in steel. I started in the labor gang, but I could only keep that job as long as it looked like I was going to go back to college. When it became apparent that I wasn't going back, they didn't want me to stay in the labor gang. They offered me one of two jobs: a mill cop or an inspector. I took the inspection job.

After several months, they asked me to take a salary job because everyone of the college men ahead of me and several behind me had accepted salary jobs.

An appointment was made for me downtown. I told them I didn't want it but they told me to go anyway, maybe I might be interested in it. After an hour-and-a-half during which they explained all the details about the job, I asked what it would pay.

"OPPORTUNITIES" WITHOUT PAY

I was told they had two

jobs, one for \$225 a month and maybe one for \$250 a month. I said I was already making \$400 a month and asked why I should go down there for \$250. They told me about the opportunities of the job—starting at the bottom and working up—but I told them I wouldn't consider going down there for any less than \$550 a month.

They said, "That's the trouble with you people from the mill, you won't come down here for less money." They said they'd call me back when there was another job opening that would meet my standards.

When I went back and told the men in the pit what I was offered, they said, "Is that all the men from here who went to the office were offered?"

All the time I worked in steel, there was the constant pressure to take a salary job.

UNION THE SAME

I feel that the union is always looking for an occasional new young face. I have been working in auto for the last few months and several of the people in the group I work with have been asked to become a steward. We've all turned it down. I was asked if I would think about running for an office and I refused because I said the contract would not allow me to be any different from those already in office.

Preview of UMW Convention

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—The United Mine Workers of America are holding their convention in Cincinnati, O. It started October 2. These are some of the remarks more frequently heard among miners just before the convention:

"Why send any delegates? Lewis and his machine already know what they're going to put through."

"The delegates won't be able to do anything but say 'aye' to anything that Lewis says. If any of them try to oppose him, he'll shut them up."

"A lot of guys who tried to buck Lewis and his machine have been worked over by his boys. There are plenty of guys around who can tell you stories about that."

"Lewis has got us coming or going. If we don't send delegates, he'll fine the local. If we send delegates, we'll be checked off what it costs to send them. We pay any way you look at it. But for what?"

"The convention is the same as the elections. When there is election of officers, you take your choice. You vote or don't vote. If you vote, there are no choices. Lewis for president; Kennedy for vice-president; and Owens for secretary-treasurer. What's the difference between that and what you have in Russia?"

"It would be all right if some of the resolutions that are sent in to help the men would be passed. But most of those go into the waste basket. That's the book on resolutions the convention puts out. You can read it, but you never hear it on the convention floor."

Coming Next Issue: The UMW Convention

Company Moves South for "Cheap" Labor

LOS ANGELES—Where I work there are a couple of men from an outside company. They are reworking some defective parts that the company they work for sent in.

They said their company is going out of business. It was a pots and pans and aircraft parts foundry.

It seems that the bottom

Safety Second Company First

WEST VIRGINIA—I worked on a right-of-way crew for the local electric company this summer, along with some other temporary labor. We cleared away the trees and brush to make way for new electric lines they are putting through.

On this job they continually preach safety until it runs out of your ears, but we still had the highest accident rate in the company.

The company has at least one safety meeting a week. In these meetings we are supposed to voice what we think should be done about safety. We tell them. But what happens to the suggestions we make?

"TRY AND GET ONE"

A few weeks ago they split the right-of-way crew that I was working on and made two crews out of it. The crew I was on was left without a first-aid kit. Someone from our crew brought this up, but all the company men could say was that they would "try and get one."

They tried for a week-and-a-half and ended up with one snake-bite kit, a box of small band-aids, a box of large band-aids, one bottle of antiseptic and three bottles of poison ivy wash. Nothing that could be used in case of a really large cut as can be inflicted with an axe or the open saw we use or in case of a really serious accident except that of a snake bite. What we had was quickly used up. To get even that little bit replaced meant another long "waiting game" with the company.

NEED A UNION

A good many of the men expressed the need for a union. This is how one conversation ran:

"We need a Union."

"We don't want a union like the Faucet plant. That is only for the company." (See story in News & Letters, Sept. 18.)

They tried to get a union in this place a little while back. The company moved the leaders to other jobs. One guy, who was the main leader, now works in the office.

"In the Woods"

has fallen out of the pots and pans business in the last year. They make a pressure cooker for 85c and sell it for around \$10 but the market is slow.

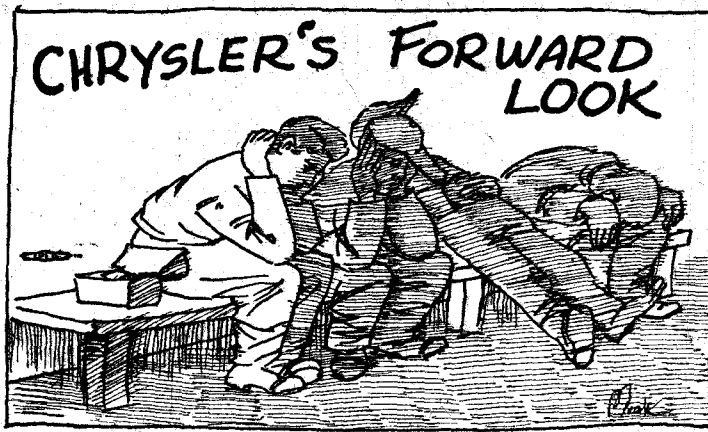
There is no return like this in government work so they have folded up and moved the main operation to Mississippi.

They said a man who went with the company to Mississippi, and came back on a visit, told them that they get molders to work for \$1.25 an hour, where it cost them \$2.35 an hour here in Los Angeles. And they only work the men two and three days a week.

You're in Hock

Personal debt of the average family is now up to \$2,512—and still rising — according to recent estimates. In 1948 the average debt of a family was \$1,204 and at the beginning of 1954 it was \$2,088. At the same time, the rate of personal savings is lower than it has been for five years.

Just in case you didn't know you were getting into a hole, these figures from recent business and government estimates will prove it to you.



Unions Don't Do Anything About Discrimination

The unions don't go out of their way to do anything about discrimination. That's what really gets me about the union.

It has always got me how instrumental the Negro has been in bringing about the union, and fighting to get the union, and yet the union doesn't do a thing for Negroes now. They have never done a thing about the upgrading of Negroes in the mill. They just take our dues along with the others.

Steelworker
Phila., Pa.

In the early days the company feared the District. And everything went along smoothly. Now when anything comes up, the company isn't afraid of the District. In fact, it's the company that wants the District to come in.

I've seen it happen so many times. A local situation would come up, and the local would just about have the issue won. Then the company would call in the District, and sure as shooting, the District

would reverse the local settlement.

The only exception is when an issue about discrimination comes up. That's the time the District won't do a THING. Except to tell us that we "know how to settle our own issues."

I was at a meeting once when the District official was soft-pedaling it. I got up to say something. He pointed his finger at me in the back of the room and said, "It's fellows like you who cause all the trouble."

I pointed my finger right back and told him, "And it's fellows like me who are responsible for you even having this job! If it wasn't for hundreds of fellows like me following Mother Jones all up and down these hills, there wouldn't even be a union for you."

Those fellows in there now never fought or suffered for anything. They just came in and took over the union we had built.

Miner
Fairmont, W. Va.

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

That old-time religion is dead and gone, to come no more. It used to make the people shout, holler and pray, if they were on the job or in their home or on the farm. That was called the old-time religion.

You know, religion is just like cold oil. When it gets hot it explodes. That put me to thinking:

Why do the colored people have to shout and pray so hard for the Lord to forgive them for what they had done in the presence of his sight? Which was nothing that I could see.

But the white people would beat you to death if you did not get out on their farm at the break of day, and stay until the daylight was gone, and then go home too tired to do anything for yourself. And then you would hear that the whites have said that the Negro people are too lazy and nasty for them, until they hate them.

UP FROM SLAVERY

One day my mother told me that I had to go to the mourners' bench and get religion so that I could be saved. I was in school at the time and I went to my teacher and asked him, "If I go up to the preacher to

be saved, will I have to holler and shout like the older people do in church?"

He said, "No. You don't have to do that. The older people have something to shout for because they once were under slavery where the white boss beat and killed so many of our fore-parents for nothing.

"Then the Yankees came and said that they were free and they could go out on their own to make a living for themselves because they could have their freedom. They have to shout and pray because they were so glad to be free."

But today the people are still going to church, asking God to help them in a needed time, when they see that God has done His part. It is time for them to do something for themselves, like going to work, fighting and making a way for ourselves. They know God does so much and that is all.

'ENOUGH FOR ME'

God spoke once and said, "Let there be light." And there was light. And then he said, "Peace on Earth, good will to all mankind."

And that was enough for me to keep up the Good Word by fighting for freedom.

The Working Day

By Angela Terrano

What kind of life do you want? I know for sure it isn't one where you spend 10 hours a day on your job, then come home so tired you don't feel like doing much of anything else.

A RAT RACE

Usually a man comes home from work, sits down to read his paper and waits for dinner, or maybe even starts dinner for you. But a woman just never stops working. Even when she does say, "The heck with the house tonight," she just has to catch up with the work the next day. Sometimes you feel it is just a rat race.

It is like the factory clock. The foreman does not stand over you every minute of the day, but you have to get your production out each day.

I hope no one thinks I am talking about man vs. woman. That is too simple. It is much more than that. You marry someone because you love him and want to have a family, etc. But to be able to live he has to get a job. It's hard to be a factory worker, no matter how "easy" his job may be.

Sometimes you have to work, too.

What happens during those working hours? I spend eight hours of the day doing something I can do in four. It is dragged

out to stop the company from piling work on top of work, for they don't care about you. Their work comes first.

All during the day you realize that there's a whole pile of work for you to do at home.

The funny part about it is that much of it is preparation to go back to work. So that the time that is supposedly yours isn't either.

One friend said very plainly, "If I had to do it all over again I wouldn't get married. You can stay single, work for yourself, and have all the things you have in marriage—without spending your life working and serving a man. If you have to stay home and take care of the children they don't consider that work."

WHO'S CONDITIONED?

I was talking to a friend of mine about how women, besides working in the shop, have to do everything in the home and serve their husbands, too.

His first reaction to this, in this land where marriage is supposed to be a 50-50 proposition, was, "It's because, since birth, women are conditioned." He caught himself and laughed and said, "Well, I guess it's really the man that's conditioned from birth to the idea that women should do all that's to do with the home."

EDITORIALS

Bulging "Pockets of Depression"

The "pockets of depression" that bulge forth from what the Republicans keep calling "the best four years of our lives," are a great deal more real than the promises of "pie in the sky" from both capitalist parties. The latest critical situation to arise is in the textile field.

The Textile Workers Union has issued a report which speaks of 1,000,000 textile workers and their families now "condemned to an ever-declining standard of living."

This is true from New England to the South. But the situation is especially explosive in the South which has lured Northern capitalists with its brazen boasts of unorganized and therefore "cheap and contented" labor.

What the union shies away from is its own inactivity in organizing the unorganized in the face of the White Citizens Councils and their inspired Southern Federation of Labor which is breaking away from the AFL-CIO.

The union is now pleading with—and begging—the textile owners to improve conditions, or they may not be able to prevent trouble.

Far from taking as its banner the fact that labor in the white skin cannot be free when labor in the black skin is branded, the labor bureaucracy is busy soliciting votes for the Democratic party.

No wonder that the whole cry of crisis by the Textile Workers Union can only end on a whimper of appeal to capital itself. Cap in hand, the union pleadingly points out: That the poor conditions and wages down South force the youth Northward and leave the textile industry with an aging work force who are incapable of meeting "the harsh pressures of modern, high-speed production!"

The labor bureaucracy—along with the Republican and Democratic parties—is blocking the way out.

The "New" (Pie-in-the-Sky) Nixon

A "new" Nixon is on the scene. Butter wouldn't melt in his mouth.

He is so busy promising workers the four-hour day; Negroes freedom from all discrimination; and being a gentleman towards Democrats, that he has covered up (he thinks) completely the "old" Nixon who still is beloved by racists and McCarthyites.

His writers have now gone all-out demanding that "back-breaking toil and mind-wearying tension be left to machines and electronic devices."

Nixon ought to come down to any factory and see whether automation has relieved the worker either of "back-breaking toil" or of "mind-wearying tension." A million auto workers know differently.

There is no doubt, however, that Nixon's speeches do sound as if he left all "back-breaking toil and mind-wearying tension" of any serious, concrete, fundamental problem, of the real crisis-torn world, to "machines and electronic devices."

Sneak Attack

It has recently been reported that Nixon has privately told his cronies that Walter Reuther is the man to beat in the coming election.

More recently, the DETROIT NEWS stated editorially that it supports Republican Cobo for governor of Michigan and is opposed to incumbent Democrat Williams because he is only the front for Reuther. The NEWS challenged Reuther to put his name on the ballot if he is running for office, and not to jockey behind the scenes.

We make no defense of Reuther. We have repeatedly characterized his bureaucratic role and function as the last barrier against the workers' drive for full human freedom. We have repeatedly condemned his role as messenger boy of the Democratic party.

But this attack by the Republicans is a calculated attempt by reactionaries and would-be Fascists to hide the identity of their ruthless masters. Hiding behind pious phrases, they oppose the worker's right to take political action, while they attempt to foist upon us all their own nefarious plans.

News & Letters
VOL. II, No. 3 Tuesday, October 16, 1956
News & Letters is published every two weeks by News & Letters, 8067 Grand River, Detroit 4, Mich. Telephone: TYler 8-7053. Subscription: \$2.50 for 26 issues (1 year); single copy — 10c; for bulk orders of ten or more — 6c each.
Charles Denby Editor
Saul Blackman Managing Editor
Application for entry as 2nd class matter is pending at the Post Office, Detroit, Mich.

Readers

RUBY FAUCET STRIKE

Everybody knows what conditions are like at the Faucet. But you wonder if there is any way to beat a guy with money. The company has bought everybody out. Even the Health Department and most of the doctors, I think.

My husband had worked there for quite a few years, and got brass poisoning. The Health Department insisted that there was nothing in the brass that was dangerous. But his own doctor kept insisting that it would kill him if he didn't quit. He told the doctor that he couldn't quit, he had to work and support his family. If he quit who would support his kids? The doctor just told him that a dead man didn't support his kids very well, either, and that finally convinced him. The doctor even helped him get another job. Since he quit he's been fine.

Mother of Four
Morgantown, W. Va.

The contract at the Faucet is up in April. But the company is trying to get the workers to sign a new contract now instead of waiting until April. They say that they're not afraid of any strikes, that a strike won't hurt them one bit. But that's baloney. The only reason they want us to agree to a new contract now, instead of waiting until April, is because they're afraid that in April they'd really have a strike on their hands, a legal one. It would hurt them plenty.

Faucet Worker
Sabraton, W. Va.

The company at the Faucet is trying to get a new contract now. They say it will only be a few pennies raise, and some say they'll even have to take a cut in pay. But I don't know that anything will be done about the conditions there now. They got rid of all the pickets. There's nobody left there to do any fighting.

Fired Worker
Morgantown, W. Va.

Looks like Ruby wants all of the money around here. That chicken farm he started in Arthurdale has put a lot of small farmers who depended on

their chickens for a living out of business. That's bad enough, but he has his farm so near the school house that it stinks to high heaven. The kids who have to go to school there are always complaining about how bad it smells. There ought to be a law against anything like that.

Construction Worker
Sabraton, W. Va.

There are plenty of people who know how dirty Ruby (owner of faucet factory) is. I worked for him when he was paying 45c an hour. And you really had to work, too.

That guy is buying everything around here. In Preston County he's bought a lot of land. But there was a couple who had bought property up there before he started to do anything around there. They built themselves a home and were figuring on living there. But then Ruby came in and bought up land all around them. He wanted to buy them out, but they wanted to keep their home where it was. It so happened that the couple were both working at the faucet plant. Ruby fired both of them.

Ex-Faucet Worker
Sabraton, W. Va.

The strike at the faucet plant was ended by the union. The men would have stayed out until it was settled, if the union hadn't forced them back. It was a wild-cat, that's what they have to call any strike nowadays. Because the contract makes striking illegal. The union they have now, that made this contract, is a UMW outfit. A lot of men are convinced that the last elections were rigged, and that the CIO really got a bigger vote than was reported. Some of the company officials voted in the union election to keep the UMW in, and there were some workers who voted more than once—the way the company told them to.

Some of the boys who weren't in on this strike—I don't mean that they worked, but they just weren't in on it, will be there all right when the next contract comes up!

Faucet Worker
West Virginia

"News & Letters" was enthusiastically received and relatives still working at Faucet asked for extra copies to take to work.

Committee Member
West Virginia

AUTOMATION

With these new automatic machines you're just no place if you don't have at least 15 years seniority. They didn't eliminate my job, but they eliminated jobs on grill-work. The guys working there had 20 and 25 years seniority so I got bumped. I only have 12 years.

Chrysler Worker
Detroit

Technical specialists have developed many new devices and machines. This in itself is not necessarily bad. We cannot deny nor condemn technology. It is simply up to us to insist that technical developments be used for our benefit.

Furthermore, we cannot be passive. Our efforts to steer automation in the right direction must be active and strong. Unless we, as individuals, have some voice about the effects of technical developments, we may soon find ourselves trapped in a web of bureaucratic control which is made particularly efficient with the help of banks of modern data processing machines.

Engineer
Los Angeles

The way things are going in this town you are just "too old to work" at 30. If you haven't got a job and you're 30 or 35, brother, nobody's going to hire you. The only thing I can get right now is driving cab.

Unemployed
Autoworker
Detroit

I've heard that some people complain that the paper is just a bunch of "gripe articles". How anybody could say that after reading the second issue (Oct. 2), I just don't know. When a man loses his fingers because of automation, that's no "gripe".

Student
West Virginia

Views

LEADERS & RANKS

We just got a copy of the contract that ended the strike this summer. You know what those contracts look like. It takes a lawyer to figure them out.

There wasn't much talk about it. Everybody knew we weren't really getting anything, so nobody was disappointed.

All we really got was \$2 increase in union dues. We pay \$5 a month now.

Steelworker,
Phgh., Pa.

Lewis just got a raise of \$2 a day for the miners. The fellows I know weren't asking for any raises. What does a raise get you? Higher taxes is all. I never even work any overtime if I can help it. When you've put your time in, all you've worked for is more taxes for Uncle Sam.

They tell you you have to pay those high taxes to survive. But I remember the old days when you could carry enough groceries home for a week for \$5, and your taxes weren't a whole day's work or more. And everybody survived — in fact, most of them are still living.

Instead of a raise, what would have meant something to the miners is a shorter day for the same wages. That way they'd be putting more men to work, and everybody would live longer, and nobody would be paying the raise out in taxes, either.

We weren't asking for a raise, but that's what we got.

Miner
Fairmont, W. Va.

THIS WHITE WORLD

I have been very troubled by the demonstrations against integration in Kentucky and elsewhere. In fact, it makes me sick with shame. I would like to know what and who are behind it. I always thought if kids were left alone they would get along together, white and Negro. Is it the parents of these white children who influence them to stay out of school? Or are they protesting against something else, against school itself? How much of a role do outside agitators play? I wish we could get a letter from somebody who is in on it.

One white woman in Alabama has been trying to get her foster-daughter, who is a Negro, into

a formerly all-white school. She says the girl, should be admitted because she has been educated in Europe and is on a "moral and intellectual level" with her "white schoolmates. I don't think this woman is for integration, she is just for herself. The ones who are really going to achieve complete integration are the Negro kids themselves.

White Student
Detroit

I met a white fellow from the South, and we started talking about what was going on down there. He told me that the way he figured it, the reason they want to keep the colored separated in segregated schools is because they found that when they get a little bit, they want to go all the way. And they want to keep the colored uneducated, so they can keep them working for them at low wages. They have to have them for their labor down there.

New Reader
West Virginia

The Supreme Court made a ruling so it isn't right for a group of people to take the law into their own hands as they're doing in the South. I think that the majority of people agree with the ruling. Just because a small group doesn't agree doesn't make them right.

Housewife
Los Angeles

ELECTION CAMPAIGN

In the convention, when the chairman spoke of civil rights for the colored people, the whole audience went wild over that word they call "freedom." Which made every Southern white want to fight. So they had to stop the question of civil rights and went on discussing the interest that they had for the farmer. And the North has taken sides with them.

Ethel Dunbar
Detroit

I wasn't going to vote at all because I couldn't see any difference between Eisenhower and Stevenson. But after Stevenson said he was in favor of stopping H-bomb tests by the U.S., I changed my mind. That one single thing is going to earn him my vote.

Student
Detroit

WAR & PEACE

They've been having all those tours for the Russians, to show them our country. But they're picking the wrong class of people. Do they choose ordinary workers and farmers to bring over here? No, they pick members of the Communist party. They ignore the ordinary people. It works on both sides. What do we know about Russia? Only what the press tells us. What do they know about America? Only what the press tells them. They get their propaganda and we get ours. The only difference is that ours is in English and theirs is in Russian.

Student
West Virginia

I couldn't help feeling after reading "Our Life & Times," in the last issue, that it ought to be longer. Material like that really hits home.

There are lots of people in the U.S. who know that people in other countries don't like the U.S. There, in simple language, is the reason. If you get among a bunch of "Political Science" guys, they always want to argue points. But nobody could argue about the facts printed in that column.

Student
West Virginia

Can any man today take seriously the irrationality of military training in a world where an H-bomb can destroy a million of the finest trained automats?

How many believe so fully in the need for a gigantic military that they give up home and job to rush out like Minute Men and grab their guns and march? Or voluntarily pay more than the 75 percent of their income tax that goes for war? . . . The big shot planners decide and tell us exactly what foreign policy we are supposed to want if we are patriotic — or whatever they call "patriotic".

Student Detroit

The United States has to clean up their own back yard first. That's the reason they're not getting any cooperation from the countries over there. Because they're not doing anything here. They think what they do over here is a secret. They're trying to tell the people over there what's right to do, but that's not their policy over here.

Miner's Wife
Jeri, W. Va.

Notes from a Diary

TWO WORLDS

LIFE MAGAZINE REWRITES AMERICAN HISTORY

LIFE magazine, the internationally-minded, rabid, Republican, Luce publication, is busy selling the "American way of life" abroad. It is also busy whitewashing "the-Southern-way-of-life" up North.

Having begun to display its "understanding" of white-supremacy South, some time back, with a salvo by that Nobel-prize winner, Faulkner—who announced his readiness to defend the Southern way of life by the spilling of Negro blood—LIFE followed up with a current series of articles called "Background to Segregation."

The background begins way back—some 400 years back—in Africa, where some kings sold some of their own people into slavery. This, according to LIFE, is supposed to shed light on the institution of American slavery. Presumably this also explained the background to today's disgusting resistance to the elementary question of desegregation in schools—100 years after the South lost, militarily, the "War Between the States."

No one in his right sense would have expected a magazine like LIFE to write the true history of the Negro — of the mass revolts against slavery in the South and the mass flights of slaves from the South which finally led to the Civil War.

Nor would one expect LIFE to write the true history of the great Negro Abolitionists like Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Harriett Tubman, David Walker and countless others who helped mold a nation's mind on the question of slavery.

Even less would one expect an objective account of the achievements of the only true democracy that the South ever attained, through the "black parliaments" during the much-maligned Reconstruction period, or of the present Negro struggles for freedom.

Through LIFE we get only white Southern thoughts on freedom for capitalist North. Planter South knows only the white South and not the true, civilized South of freedom-loving Negro Southerners.

No argument can ever break open the skulls of this degenerate cultural alignment.

The climax of this degeneration is reached by LIFE when it maligns the most glorious page of white American history—that written by the Abolitionists. LIFE labels them "incendiaries" and in the same breath, finds words of praise for the origin of the Ku Klux Klan! "Many of the Klan's early leaders," writes LIFE, "were men of dignity, ex-Confederate officers."

We do not doubt that the leaders were ex-Confederate officers. But these "men of dignity" were the founders of lynch-law, while the men against whom they moved—the freedmen, the Negroes, ex-slaves—constituted the only constitutional bodies that ever brought the South any democracy and public education. Nor was it true then, any more than it is true now, that white South was afraid of "mongrelization," in which they were the greatest participants all through slavery.

No, the truth is, it was not the Negro the Southern white feared, but the white.

White man down South fears white man. There is not a man among the "cultured" South who can stand up to the KKK or the White Citizens Councils because none has a single principle for which it is worth fighting.

Courage comes, not out of gentility or thin air, but out of conviction that you are part of and represent the wave of the future—as the Negro struggle for freedom does and the "Southern way of life" does not.

Having lost on the battlefield, but not in the economy, the restriction to freedom now assumed a new form — sharecropping. Thus, the planter South entrenched its way of life by the rope and the faggot of the KKK; the politics of the Eastlands; and now again, mob-rule against the Supreme Court.

If the White Citizens Council can burn crosses in Washington, D. C., on the front lawn of the United States Supreme Court Justices — and the FBI appears helpless—why should not Faulkner of Mississippi or Hodding Carter and "other liberals" fear for their lives, from whites, where the military might of the state supports that Southern-way-of-life?

Oppression has ever worn a white face down South. Now, so does the degeneration of its "culture." So do its Northern friends who are so sophisticated as to travel the world "to sell the American way of life." But the European will not buy. He will not buy because he is stretching his hands to another American, and another South, whose struggles for freedom are heard over the shrill voice of degenerate LIFE.—R. D.

YOUTH

Thinking It Out

By ROBERT ELLERY

"Don't worry, you can always find a job if you're young," is what an older worker told me the last time I was laid off.

I knew he simply meant that any company would rather break in a young man than an old one.

I told him it wasn't so easy for young people. These days employment offices always check your draft status and if you're eligible, your chances for employment become extremely slim. Young people naturally have little work experience and that always counts against them. They can't, of course, build up any seniority, always being the first to be laid off.

CAN'T HOLD A JOB

A couple of years ago, a study of young workers indicated that the average worker under age 25 held over a dozen jobs in one year.

Still, when you're job-hunting, the character in the personnel office looks down his nose at you and says, "You can't seem to hold a job, can you." That is, if you've honestly reported your past work record.

Unemployment is of particular concern to new workers. The other day we discussed the problem at work. Our shop steward was bitter because the company was hiring so many new men instead of

giving overtime work to the old work force.

I asked him if he would feel right, working so much overtime, with so many guys walking the streets.

He said he was sorry for them, but all he could think of was the bills that he had to pay. He said most of the guys who don't want to work overtime are holding down two jobs, or have wives who work. His wife doesn't work and he can't make out, unless he is able to work for that time and a half pay.

SPREADING THE WORK

Everybody sitting at our lunch table disagreed with him. One guy told of his brother, a pattern maker, who belongs to a union that doesn't permit any of its members to work overtime if over five per cent of them are unemployed.

Some one else said something like that would be good for the whole country. No overtime and only one job as long as unemployment exists to any extent.

The problem is not so easily solved however. Countless numbers of workers must work overtime or bear the drudgery of two jobs merely to make ends meet.

Thus, youth will have to suffer along in the front ranks of the unemployed until the people decide to make fundamental changes

"My Father Has to Work Awfully Hard . . ."

LOS ANGELES — My father runs a gas station and he has to work awfully hard. He has to work 13 hours a day, seven days a week, which he doesn't like. He's over 50 and he just can't do it.

THEY SAY—YOU DO

He's leasing the station from Richfield—and Richfield says you stay open Sunday and you work so many hours. They get three-fourths of the profit on every gallon of gas he sells. They won't let him do repairs on cars because they don't get a profit out of it. The only things he can do in that station are the things they're going to get a profit on.

He has to sell their products, pump their gas and stay open their hours.

He wants to get out, but he has to wait for Richfield to find someone to take over the station.

He put in the equipment himself, but Richfield owns the building and the lot. They can kick him out any time they want as soon as the lease is up.

NOTHING BUT WORK

They don't want him to leave. After all they've got a guy who works 13 hours a day, seven days a week.

Why should they want him to leave? But he's going to get out.

It wouldn't be so bad if he could hire a man to help him, but he can't afford it on what Richfield gives him out of what he makes.

He's making a pretty nice living but he's breaking his back. He has no time for his family—all he does is work. He doesn't need clothes expect for his uniforms, because that's all he ever has a chance to wear.

"Don't Worry About Rock and Roll,"

13-year-old Advises

DETROIT—Some people think Rock and Roll is awful and think it should be taken off radio and TV. It is a fact that boys and girls go through different stages. The Rock and Roll stage is one of them. This stage usually comes in the early teens. But as they grow older they start to like Jazz and forget Rock and Roll. So don't worry about this Rock and Roll business with your kid. Remember its just a stage of life and part of growing up.

—Charles Ray
(13 years old)

"They Have No Business Treating Us Like That"

LOS ANGELES — You know, when kids go into a drugstore, we're the last ones to get waited on. Or they treat us like the bus driver on the bus did the other day.

We got on and my brother hadn't got his money out yet, so the driver said in a real nasty tone of voice, "Why didn't you get your money out before?"

He wasn't very nice to us. Other people would come in and they'd take just as long but he didn't say anything to them.

"NOT CIVIL TO KIDS"

People are just not civil to kids. We're the last ones to get waited on. They're impolite to us all the time and they'll take advantage of us any way they can.

With all the problems kids have today, it doesn't help us any for people not to have any respect for us. People get these ideas about kids from what's written and what they hear.

They never had these ideas before and the kids aren't any different today than they were 20 or 30 years ago. Maybe today we have a few more cars, but we're the same. They just didn't make as much out of it 20 or 30 years ago.

IT DOESN'T HELP

Now the kids are so self-conscious and miserable half the time because so much is made of juvenile delinquency and all that.

It doesn't help you to know that everyone is looking at you like you're a hoodlum or that nobody trusts you or has any respect for you. There's no reason for it.

Maybe ten percent of kids get in trouble, but what about the other 90 percent? We're just kids, like anybody else, and they have no business treating us like that.

LOS ANGELES — They have these stupid free shows over at the neighborhood theater and I'm never going to go to another one. There's too much noise and yelling. You can't even hear the picture.

They order you in and you better sit down. They have three ushers about 17 or 18 years old, who patrol the aisles and tell everyone, "Sit down!"

If you're talking a little bit they come over and tell you, "Keep quiet!"

Boy, you better not give them any trouble, because I saw what happened to one guy who did. One guy argued a little bit with the usher. The usher grabbed him and kneed him a few times. He kept kneeling him and pushing him all the way up the aisle and finally threw him out.

Second Thoughts On Dem-Rep Conventions

LOS ANGELES — What Ethel Dunbar says on the campaign is real facts (Sept. 18). The only thing I listened to was to see who was nominated. I didn't have to listen to the Republicans. That was a closed deal.

The girls I worked with hardly listened at all. It seems people get acquainted with the smaller radio and TV stations during this period.

I think there could have been a sharper stand on civil rights without there being a break in the Democratic party. I don't think what happened in the South, including the Montgomery movement, has pushed the Northern civil rights section to a split within the Democratic party.

Even as glorious as the Montgomery movement is, it did not get the strong support of the Northern or even the Southern states. The kind of support that counts. Just look at Southern California. The only support that the papers reported, outside of the big meeting the Baptist ministers ran, were two events. One was a work stoppage in a Chino, Calif. plant, and the other was in a small plant in Vernon, where three Negroes led the whole plant in an hour stoppage.

That's what I mean by not strong enough support to make this movement spread all over the South. Only this would have made the Democratic party split.

Somehow I feel that the Montgomery movement had more sympathy and support from outside countries.

—Sarah

Mother Worried That Kids Dislike School

We have three children ages 15 to 19. I am puzzled and unhappy about their attitude towards school—unhappy because they dislike it so and are openly rebellious about having to attend.

One of them shows a great liking for creative work, but somehow this attitude is not encouraged in school, at least nothing has been done about it.

SOMETHING'S WRONG

It seems to me that something is not quite right about a school set-up, where so many children, not only mine, are so unhappy with school and don't find it interesting enough to want to attend.

TEACHERS AT FAULT

I keep thinking that perhaps this may be due to the fact that the teachers are of a different generation and can't or won't understand the youngsters of today. They expect them to

GM Blames Workers for "Poor Quality"

LOS ANGELES—In recent months, whenever the management of the General Motors South Gate Assembly plant scheduled a short work-day or work-week to cut production down, they have always announced it as a disciplinary measure against the workers for "poor quality."

"TIGHTEN UP"

The union issued a "formal protest" to the company in answer to the slander that the workers at the plant couldn't produce a quality car that buyers would want to have.

A far more effective protest was made by the men in the inspection department whose job it is to make sure that the cars coming down the line meet specifications.

One day, one of the foremen started to discipline a group of inspectors for passing a number of "bad cars". He gave them written reprimands and told them to "tighten up" their inspections. They filed grievances with the union and proceeded to tighten up their inspections.

The next day, the inspectors followed the book. They were rejecting so many cars for rework that the plant couldn't meet its production schedule.

"LOOSEN UP"

One of the big shots from the front office came out to see what the trouble was. When he located the "bottleneck," he told the foreman to have the inspectors "loosen up" and let more cars pass down the line.

The foreman got blue in the face and said he couldn't do it; that he had just issued reprimands to the inspectors on the basis of instructions from the front office and that inspections would have to stay "tightened up." They went round and round. Finally the big shot said that either inspections were "loosened up" or he would have the whistle blown to send the whole plant home. A few minutes later, everyone was sent home.

The next day all the reprimands against the inspectors were removed.

conform to a certain pattern that might have worked all right during the time when they were growing up, but won't do now.

Teachers seem to be the biggest reason why young people dislike school. Our children just don't seem to feel at home or comfortable around them.

"Personal Life on Market," Says Woman Job Hunter

LOS ANGELES—I have often said, and heard others say too, that the hardest part of working is getting the job.

I went to a factory and told them I was a wirer and solderer. When they told me that they didn't have any openings right then in that line I said I had done many other things too.

The interviewer seemed interested and gave me a long application to fill out. Then she gave me a manual dexterity test and asked how I would like to be a glass cutter. I said I'd like that and she gave me a written test.

WHAT KIND OF QUESTIONS?

I couldn't see what the questions had to do with the job. Most of them were something like this: "A person who is opposed to change and progress is (a) radical, (b) conservative, (c) reactionary." You had to choose one.

They called me back two days later and kept me waiting an hour before

anyone would see me.

The interviewer, a man this time, told me I came out high on my tests and would I mind answering a few questions.

He asked me questions like: Are you a happy person? How is your married life? What do you and your husband do for recreation and hobbies? Is he happy and healthy? How much money does he make? What kind of people don't you like? What did you like and dislike about your last job? When did you have your last drink?

All these questions, he explained, were for proper placement because they wanted the right person in the right job.

THEY WANT EVERYTHING

After all this I didn't get the job. He said this job would be too monotonous and rough for me. Too repetitious. He said I needed something that would be more of a chal-

lenge, something that would be a little different each day.

I went there to sell my labor. I didn't realize my personal life was on the market, too.

—Working Woman

Can't Ever Retire

PITTSBURGH, Pa. —You know, a man can look forward to the day he's going to retire. But a woman can't retire until she dies.

And nobody better tell me that story about women living longer than men, either. It's not our fault if the jobs the men are doing are killing them. Don't blame the women for the conditions the men have at work.

They may not live as long as women do, but as long as women live, they can't ever "retire."

—Steelworker's Wife

'If I Were Negro'

LOS ANGELES—If I were Negro and people discriminated against me, I wouldn't try to move into a white section. I'd try to live in a place where people loved me. If I wanted an education I'd go where I'd get it not where I knew people would hate me.

When we were looking for a place to live you could tell they didn't want Mexicans. We just went someplace where they did.

But you have to strike back. You can be under the thumb so long and then you have to. Although it's so far away from me, I see that Negroes have to fight for their rights, otherwise it will stay like that.

Something like this to me is like a revolt in Mexico. It's like the peasants against capitalism. Here it's Negro against white, but it amounts to the same thing.

Like I said at the beginning, I'd stay away from it if I could. But if I couldn't, I'd stay and fight.

—Working Mother

Negroes are advancing every day. There is no denying or getting around it. Prejudice is being broken down. But until Negroes learn to stick together, I can't see where too much can be done for them, North or South.

Steelworker's Wife
Pittsburgh, Pa.

A Woman's Viewpoint

WEST VIRGINIA—I try to budget my money each month. It worked for a while when my husband was getting his check and I had a job to help out. We made out a list of things we had to buy and bills we had to pay. But my jobs never lasted very long. As soon as they ended and I was out of work again, everything on the budget was upset and the bills would get behind again.

EVERYBODY HAS DEBTS

Debts are something I think everybody has the worry of today. And they really are a worry.

When we get out of debt this time, I hope we never get in debt again. It does something to a person to owe money. It takes the pleasure even out of house-keeping when you have bills piling up and there is nothing you can do but try to get rid of them.

I don't know if there are other people who feel the same way I do, but sometimes I know I won't have enough money to pay the bills, no matter how much I may try. So I go to a movie and have an evening of enjoyment instead of sitting at home worrying about them.

I feel that if I don't have enough for the bills, anyhow, I just have to get a little pleasure out of the little we have. The "little pleasure" may be a movie, or even buying some little thing for the house that we don't desperately need. It

just does something to know you can have a little bit of luxury when you feel blue about money.

When I have a job of my own, it makes me feel sort of proud to bring my check home. I think that I earned this all myself. If I need a little extra something I feel a lot more free about getting it than if I wasn't working and had to ask my husband for the money and tell him what I wanted it for.

I like to be able to buy my husband a few little extra things once in a while, too.

SHARING THE WORRIES

When a couple are both earning the income, the money belongs to both, and both have their own pocket money to spend as they like. The debts and bills and worries should also be shared by both. One should not have all the worries of the bills on his own shoulders.

If a husband's income isn't enough to live on, I don't see any reason why a wife shouldn't get out and pitch in to help with the salary. Most women today do help, but I know some women it would kill to get out and work instead of staying at home and thinking all day what to do.

I know that if I didn't work I would feel ashamed to let my husband do all the work and all the worrying. I just couldn't see it. Maybe I'm different. I like to work.

A DOCTOR SPEAKS

BY M.D.

ATOMIC RADIATION: WHAT CAN IT DO? (Part II)

Physicians have used radio-activity in medicine for over a half-century. In the study and treatment of illness, Radium and the closely-related phenomenon of X-ray, have occupied, and are still occupying, an important place. In the diagnosis of disease by X-rays—wherein the shadows cast by the rays in passing through human tissue into an underlying film may reveal changes from the normal structure—we have an almost indispensable tool.

X-RAYS HELPED ESTABLISH MODERN MEDICINE

The early recognition of diseases of the lung, stomach and intestines, as well as changes in bone and body cavities by X-ray, helped greatly to establish the practice of modern medicine. There are now thousands of doctors who specialize only in the use of the X-ray.

In the treatment of malignant tumors, where surgery will not help, the application of high-voltage X-rays or radium to the growth, may prolong and at times save life. X-rays have also been used in the management of skin and glandular disorders.

In recent times, with the splitting of the atom, it has been possible to unite radio-active elements with chemicals that may take part in the normal function of the body. These radio-isotopes, as they are called, have opened up a vast new field for recognizing and influencing the essential chemical and physiological functions of the body.

DANGER OF X-RAYS KNOWN

It has long been known that there is considerable danger associated with the use of X-rays and radium. Those who, 40 and 50 years ago, worked as pioneers with the X-ray tube, did not realize this danger and exposed their bodies—especially the hands—repeatedly to the X-rays.

Some 15 to 20 years later, cancers of the skin began to form on the hands of these physicians, causing ulcers and deformities that required multiple operations. A number of these workers ultimately died of the disease.

Nowadays, every worker in X-ray knows that he needs the protection of heavy lead gloves, lead aprons and lead screens.

NEWER KNOWLEDGE—NEW QUESTIONS

In the light of newer knowledge, there is a questioning now of how well protected the average patient is, when being X-rayed.

Until quite recently, a fluoroscopic machine which makes use of X-rays for direct vision of tissues, was found in almost every shoe store in the United States. The whole family had a lot of fun gazing at the bones of their feet while exposing themselves unnecessarily.

Heavy doses of X-rays, or radio-activity, will destroy tissue and lesser doses will stimulate the growth of tissue. This is the explanation why exposure to X-rays will, in some instances, cure malignancies and in others help to bring it on.

X-rays can destroy normal tissues as well as cancer. That is why the dosage has to be very carefully measured over area and time. Some tissues are more sensitive and more easily injured.

BARBARIC "JOKE"

The Nazis, in their attempt to do away with races of people they considered inferior, directed heavy doses of X-rays from a concealed source to the region of the sex glands of their victims, while they were being questioned.

Unknown to them, these victims of the sadistic Nazis, were sterilized and thus prevented from having children.

This little "joke" of the Nazis, highlights the essential question that faces humanity: Are the wonderful achievements of man to be used for his growth and development, or are these to become a further means to use man?

The next article will continue into the dangers of atomic radiation.

"HEALTHY MAN HARD TO FIND"

(Continued from Page 1)

illin, better incomes and better nutrition. He was encouraged by the growing interest in the problems of mental illness. He indicated the enormous growth of hospital and health insurance plans, and the increase in the life-span.

WHAT IS 'FITNESS'?

As individual "facts" these points are true. But they are not true enough because they cannot and do not answer why heart disease, cancer and mental illness—just to name three major diseases—strike an increasing number of people in the United States.

There is still no cure in sight for the two diseases that lead all others: cancer and heart attacks.

But even as we attain success in the care of some ancient diseases, entirely different forms of sickness appear. It is right, therefore, seriously to question whether we can ever reach good health merely by traveling a greater distance along the present road.

To see this more clearly, we have to turn from the sick man, with an ailing part of his body, and take a look at the whole "normal" man in the activity that makes up his life.

In so doing, with open eyes and mind, we soon realize that a healthy man is difficult to find. That is not simply a question of definition. He is a rare

specimen even in this penicillin-sterilized atmosphere. Only here and there, in isolated individuals, do we get a glimpse of such a man.

'DISEASE OF MODERN TIMES'

One doesn't have to be a physician to see all about men who are not "at home" with themselves. They are agitated, restless, tense, unhappy, worried, fearful, anxious and dissatisfied. They lack that something which makes for joy in being alive.

These symptoms describe a sickness that has been called the "disease of modern times."

Good health is only attained through the combined full use of body and mind by each individual in a free-flowing zestful activity—a condition not possible for the majority of people under existing forms of work.

To correct the defect in living, it is necessary to eliminate the division between mental and manual labor. But only in community with others can each individual find the means to do so.

In such a community, people will obtain freedom in and through association as individuals on conditions not based on accident or other unnatural event. Then, for the first time, will there be present the fundamental basis on which it is possible to attain health for everyone.

News & Letters Committees

WEST VIRGINIA — As soon as the first new issue of the paper arrived (News & Letters, Sept. 18), I called one of our members. He said he would come over to get a stack and was going out to a friend he knows near the faucet plant and see if the guy would take a stack to sell.

The guy wouldn't take any papers to sell. Instead, he bought ten copies which he is going to give to the faucet workers to make sure Ruby (the boss) sees it! It turned out that one of his relatives was fired for not crossing the picket line.

As soon as I finished supper, I went up to Jeri, W. Va., to see some folks myself. One was a Negro family I had left a copy with months ago, just before we stopped printing. I gave them the new copy and explained why I had not revisited them before.

They remembered me well and liked the old copy they had got. Though I had planned on a short visit this time, we talked for two hours. I am to go back early next week to see them again and get some other names and stories and discuss this issue.

The man has spent 52 years in the mines—and has stories from Alabama to the present.

There is more: The son was in from Pittsburgh. He is also "all for the paper." He took six copies to try to get subscriptions from his friends in Pittsburgh. He gave me his phone and address and wants to get together with us on our next trip there.

He took my address to write what happens, and will try to call some of our Pittsburgh friends on his own when he gets back home after the weekend.

—Committee Member

Our Life and Times

By PETER MALLORY

GOLD COAST —NOW GHANA

Priemier Kwame Nkrumah has won the election in the Gold Coast over some opposition from the tribal chiefs in the inland Ashanti areas. His victory removes the last stumbling block on the road to an independent Negro Nation under the British Commonwealth.

The Gold Coast, which has been promised independence, will operate under the old name of GHANA. The name was chosen for its deep roots in ancient African history.

The Ghana Empire existed for about 1,000 years, long before European domination and conquest destroyed the civilization.

It is reported that students from Egypt, Europe and Asia attended the ancient universities set up in Ghana. An exchange system existed between this university and the University of Cordova, Spain, during the medieval period.

Perhaps once again, a free independent Ghana will become a center of learning and culture for the African people, through which they will again attain a prominent place in the affairs of the world.

CYPRUS

Recently, three more Cypriot rebels were taken from their cells by the British and hanged on the gallows at Nicosia Central Prison. These executions bring to eight the total in lives extracted as punishment by the British government.

The entire population retaliated by a week long General Strike which completely shut down all business.

The long struggle of the Cypriots for "union with Greece," has led to open guerrilla warfare resulting in the death of 43 British soldiers and a large number of guerrilla fighters.

While this is the surface phenomenon of the unrelenting civil war, designed to rid themselves of British domination, the Greek population is truly united in its determination to rid itself of British domination.

True to the maxim of "divide and rule," none respect the desires of the Turkish minority. The desires of the Greek Orthodox Church (a branch of the Catholic Church) seem to dominate the situation.

None of the dominant interests present even the remotest pretense that "union" will help or hinder their cause.

Britain wants Cyprus as a base of operations against Egypt.

Cypriot Greek religious leaders want "union with Greece."

The Cypriot people, both Greek and Turkish, want freedom, which they will find under neither Greek, Turkish nor British domination.

The unfortunate drafted British workers, now called upon to do Eden's dirty work, are sent on such gruesome missions, not of their own liking.

NORTHERN RHODESIA

While British Prime Minister Eden is busy promoting ideas about the potential dangers of Nasser, the fruits of his own actual dictatorial government are seen in Rhodesia.

Seventy Africans are under arrest. All public assembly has been prohibited. Troops, called in from Southern Rhodesia, have used tear gas, clubs and bullets. Yet none of this stupid, tyrannical and brutal activity of the British government, is in response to a single act of violence or threat to "public order."

The issue there, as here, is between the North and the South—discrimination its base. The African Miners Union, representing the Northern view which is for destroying racial discrimination, is opposed by the Staff Association, who, under the flag of "federation," seek to impose Southern discriminatory practices on the North.

The Union of African miners has opposed this move toward federation on the basis that their labor organizations would be destroyed.

By employing strong arm methods, the government of Northern Rhodesia has capitulated to the minority of white settlers in the territory, against the African organized workers.

SOUTH AMERICA

The assassination of the president of Nicaragua; the food riots in Bolivia; the economic chaos in Brazil, in which the communists exercise some influence; the miserable lives of the Peruvian miners; the artificial, American-supported, oil economy of Venezuela; the general misery and poverty of the mass of South American peoples—all testify to the American propping-up of dictatorial regimes which owe their existence to the aggressive support of the government of the United States.

COFFEE-TIME

Inferior coffee— but very expensive to the American coffee-drinker—is produced under government subsidy in Brazil, in competition with superior and less expensive African coffee. African, Brazilian or American—it is the worker who pays.

LOS ANGELES EDITING COMMITTEE MEETS EVERY SUNDAY EVENING,

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