

STEEL PROFITS CAUSE INFLATION

In the first quarter of this year, the steel industry's net profit exceeded all expectations. These profits are climbing to still higher levels and when second quarter profits are reported the steel industry is expected to have riches of such magnitude that they should be cause for embarrassment.

Throughout the postwar period, the steel companies have raised prices \$3.00 for every dollar increase in labor costs. U.S. Steel's net profit margin per ton of steel rose from \$6.00 in 1948 to \$14.50 in 1956 and \$18.00 in the first nine months of 1957. In the fourth quarter of 1958, this net profit jumped to \$19.37 per ton and was even higher in the first quarter of this year.

This proves that HIGH PROFITS not high wages CAUSE INFLATION.

WORLD WAR II VETS HAVE YEAR FOR GI LOANS

Today marks the beginning of the final year in which veterans of World War II may make application for a GI home, farm or business loan, A.B. Kelly, manager of the New York regional office of the Veterans Administration, pointed out.

"Nearly five million World War II veterans have taken advantage of the GI Bill loan provisions since June 22, 1944," Kelly said, "but congress has set July 25, 1960 as the cut-off date."

The law does, however, allow an additional year, or until July 25, 1961, for the processing and actual closing of loans, he said.

LABOR WANTS AN ANTI-RACKETEERING LAW

The AFL-CIO wants a sound, constructive law to get at the crooks in management and labor. We want:

Public financial reports by unions and employers, policed by the Secretary of Labor to eliminate corruption.

Safeguarding of union election processes by federal law.

Elimination of improper trusteeships imposed for unethical purposes.

Encouragement of voluntary codes of ethical practices by union and employers, including their own enforcement provisions, and establishment of a continuing study of labor-management relations through an advisory committee to the Secretary of Labor.

Embezzlement of union funds to be made a federal crime.

Overdue revision of Taft-Hartley in areas where labor, management, the Administration and Congress have long agreed justice requires it. These provisions would sanction pre-hire contracts in the

"IT PAYS TO BE A UNION MEMBER", SAYS FIORE

EDWARD FIORE WILL TELL ANYONE THAT HIS UNION IS THE BEST, BARRING NONE, BECAUSE OF THE WAY THEY HANDLED AND WON HIS CASE FOR MONEY DUE HIM.

Edward was sent to Large Motor and Generator for a bump on the test classification. Management refused to give him this bump. A few days later, Large Motor and Generator accepted Edward, but he had lost some time because of the Company's refusal to give him his proper bump.

EDWARD WENT TO HIS SHOP STEWARD, Thomas Charsky, and had a grievance made out protesting the way the Company abused him. Shop Steward Charsky filed the grievance and upon receiving the unsatisfactory answer, gave it to Board Member Martin for processing at the second step of the grievance procedure.

AT THE SECOND STEP, the Company's answer was still unsatisfactory and the case was moved to the N.Y. Level; for Fiore was insistent that the Company not be permitted to get away with this injustice. At the N.Y. Level management reversed their position and said they would pay Fiore the several days lost by him.

Fiore upon hearing this praised Shop Steward Charsky, Board Member Martin, Ass't. Business Agent Townsend and everyone else who helped on his case, and a stronger, more loyal union member than Fiore cannot be found.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED!

Due to the Summer vacations there will be a shortage of local news items appearing in this paper. However, in the next few weeks, we expect things to pick up and be back to normal.

If you have any news items which you feel are important, pass them along to your Steward or Board Member.

- The Editor.

Anti-Racketeering Law (cont'd)

construction industry, reinstate pre-hearing elections, restore the voting rights of economic strikers and eliminate the jurisdictional "no man's land" created by the NLRB.

Most of these measures were contained in the bill reported by the Senate labor committee. They will protect the democratic rights of union members and safeguard their funds. They will promote better relations between labor and management.

READ THE UNION PAPER REGULARLY

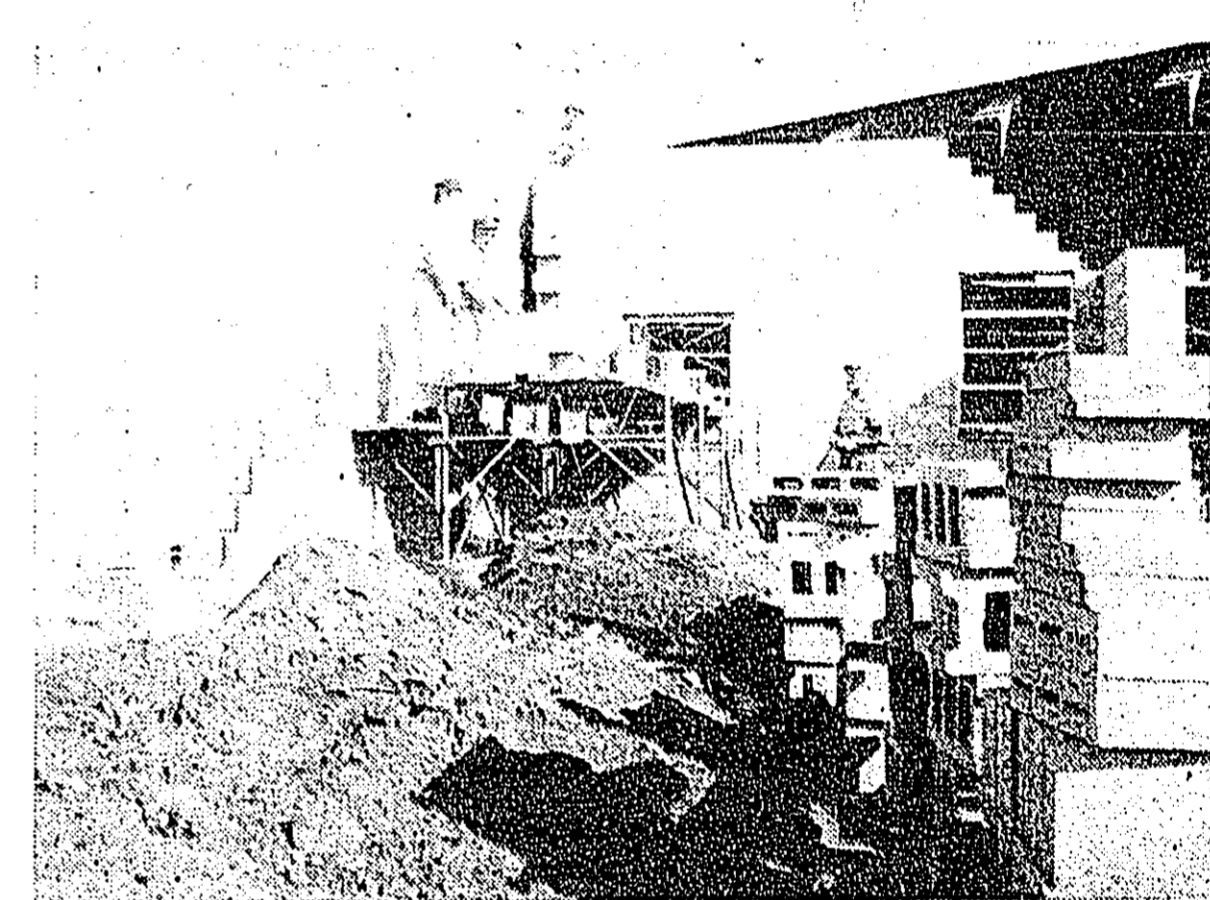
GET THE TRUE FACTS

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

Vol. 5 — No. 55 The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y. August 7, 1959

New Union Building To Be Completed By September



A long awaited dream, to have a new beautiful Union Hall all our own, finally will become a reality in September of this year. The new building will be located on Erie Blvd. adjoining our Union Auditorium. The dimensions will be 50'x100' and will provide much needed office space and a meeting hall.

Space Badly Needed

The new quarters will furnish the extra space which our Executive Board and Committee so badly need in order to better service our membership. Plans are being made to continue our educational classes in October in the larger quarters. Our old quarters were too inadequate to furnish a really concrete course.

The new building will also advertise to the Community, by our good deeds, that Unions are helpful and well worthwhile organizations. In the long run, we should be able to remove the black-eye which the Becks and Hoffas have given to labor and set a shining example of what labor really means in our Community through our Community Services, COPE, and other committees.

The staff of "Local 301 News" wishes our Officers and the Membership the best of luck in their new undertaking.

Booming Steel Profits Give Lie To Charges Labor Asks Too Much

WASHINGTON (PAI)—Booming steel profits during the second quarter of 1959 have exposed the "hypocrisy" of the steel industry in declaring that a wage boost for the Steelworkers would necessitate price boosts.

Already, the Steelworkers charge, there is every indication that "steel industry profits may this year be double those in the best previous year in history." Citing early financial statements by the major steel corporations, Steelworkers President David J. McDonald declared:

"The profits of industry are as fantastic as its claim that earned contract improvements cause inflation. How can the steel industry still persist in its pious hypocrisy that profits are not high enough, that its workers cannot share in its tremendous

prosperity on the just basis of the productivity which made that prosperity possible."

At the same time, Rep. LeRoy H. Anderson, D. Montana, introduced profit figures into the Congressional Record under the heading:

BIG STEEL HYPOCRISY A NATIONAL SCANDAL: CONTROLS PRICES, SOARS THE PROFITS, BUT WOULD SUPPRESS WORKERS.

Rep. Anderson added:

"It is interesting to see what is happening to the profits of the big steel corporations which have forced unions to strike . . . Let us have done with any pretense that this is a free and competitive economy when it is evident that

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BOARD MEETING

MON. AUG. 10th
7:30 P.M.

STEWARD-MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MON. AUG. 17th
2nd Shift — 1:00 P.M.
1st & 3rd — 7:30 P.M.

UNION AUDITORIUM
121 Erie

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301,
REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY
GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee

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Booming Steel Profits—

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the major segments of our economy are, like steel, governed by administered prices where price levels are set by a few big corporations at whatever price will yield the greatest profits. In view of the sky-high profits the steel companies have been rolling in, it is evident that the only reason they are considering another raise in the price of steel is so that they can increase their take again while they holler about the inflationary effect of any labor settlement.

Even the Wall Street Journal is showing signs of uneasiness as the steel profit picture belies corporation talk of excessive wages in the industry.

"Pre-strike inventory buying," the newspaper said defensively, "sent mill sales and earnings kiting."

"Colorado Fuel and Iron this week disclosed a net eight times as high as in the recession-ridden second quarter of 1958. That may be exceptional, yet shows the trend. Big Republic Steel is expected to report a doubled profit; smaller Acme Steel will reveal earnings nearly trebled.

"Steelworkers will shout this proves ability to boost pay without price hikes. Hoping to beat the unions to the punch, at least one company is considering ad space to pound the point that profits are necessary for a healthy economy, not something for shame."

Meanwhile, as steel negotiations remained deadlocked and the strike continued, labor increasingly rallied to the cause of the Steelworkers in recognition that the deadlock is not merely an effort to beat one union but is part of the bigger pattern of beating down unions everywhere.

Are You Causing Inflation?

You've no doubt heard of this DISEASE called inflation...and how it is being caused by YOUR high wages....It's been repeated over and over in the newspapers, and on the air, so often in fact, that by this time Big Business believes that we've all been pretty well brain-washed....

Now, let's analyze this propaganda for a moment....

- Are you being **OVER-PAID** for your work? **THEY** say you are. Do you make enough money each week to pay **ALL** your bills without having to worry about such things as:
 - **Doctor Bills—Dentist Charges—About paying off your Mortgage—or having decent clothes to wear?**
 - Can you purchase **ALL** the **LITTLE** things you so **BADLY** need?
 - Would you feel **SECURE** if a **SUDDEN ILLNESS** hit the breadwinner of **YOUR** family?
 - Can you afford to give your children the higher education they deserve?
 - Can you **REALLY** save enough for a rainy day...without depriving yourself and your family of the necessities of life?
 - When's the **LAST TIME** you bought a **NEW** car?
 - Can you honestly afford to **BUY** a car **WITHOUT** going into **DEBT**?
 - Did your boss **EVER** approach you and **VOLUNTARILY** offer you a raise because of the **FINE WORK** you were doing **WITHOUT YOU ASKING FOR ONE?**

Put it all together and you'll find that **YOU** are not only **UNDER-PAID**, but that, most of us are just about **EXISTING** from week to week....

And **STILL, BIG BUSINESS**, wants you to **BELIEVE** that **YOU** are making **TOO MUCH MONEY** and causing this so called **INVENTED DISEASE** called **INFLATION!**

They keep urging us to produce more and more. They keep bringing in newer, more modern machinery which not only steps up production but also creates more unemployment....records show that the average output per man hour has been rising at about 6% a year.

We have no objection to progress provided that it does not result in displacement of workers and unemployment. However, there has been an increasing number of unemployed as the result of Automation through the use of new machinery and new production techniques. For example:

It would take a mighty good magician to accomplish what **GE** did from 1956 to 1958, when **GE** sales rose \$30 million—profits before taxes rose \$62 million, profits after taxes rose \$31 million—**YET EMPLOYMENT DROPPED BY 31,000!**

The Steel Industry produced at 93% of their capacity with thousands of steel workers walking the streets unemployed, which is the result of increased production per man and lack of purchasing power to buy up the surplus.

U. S. Steel has reported an all-time profit of \$255 million for the first six months of 1959 but they still claim they can't afford a pay rise without raising their profits.

Industry deals with administrated prices to increase profits. **GE's** Mr. Cordiner says we make a profit on everything, but more than that prices are established on how much the consumer wants the product.

This means prices as high as the traffic will bear. This means a price policy that definitely leads to inflation.

On the other hand higher wages mean more purchasing power ... and more purchasing power means more prosperity for everyone concerned....

The more people make, naturally, the more they are going to spend...and the more they spend, the more business as a whole will prosper.

So, when they try to tell you that you're making too much money...just get out that back-log of bills and show them how much you're in debt.

HELP WANTED!

In order to insure the success of the coming SPECTACADE which will feature the Sesqui-Centennial Celebration from August 22nd to the 29th...YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED.

A cast of 1,047 people...men, women and children is needed. All that is required is that you spend only 1 hour per week for rehearsals for about 3 weeks, starting immediately.

No experience is needed...No speaking parts are required. Everything will be done in pantomime.

Costumes will be furnished. The whole family is welcome to participate, to make this pageant a huge success.

The Union Office will advise the volunteers on where and when to report for rehearsal.

"SESQUI SPECTACADE"

The Schenectady Commemorative Committees are making great plans to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Schenectady County. The biggest event in the full calendar, August 22 through 29th, will be the nightly performance of "Sesqui Spectacade" at Daley Field, Union College.

"Sesqui Spectacade" will be a gigantic stage spectacular with a cast of over 1,000 local people, under the supervision of Robert Wayne Powers, Professional Theatrical Director from the John

SCHEDULE FOR REHEARSALS

- Mondays**
7:30 Teen Aged Girls—14 and older
Procession for the Queen
- Tuesdays**
7:30 Dancers—Girls 14 and older
8:30 50 Couples—late teens or early 20's to dance Charleston—will teach
- Wednesdays**
7:30 50 men, 50 women—Railroad Scene & Va. Reel (no age limits)
8:30 75 men, 75 women—1890's days of Schenectady Co.
- Thursdays**
8:30 75 men, 75 women—Colonial Period
Reception for Lafayette

B. Rogers Producing Company, world's largest theatrical producers. Presented outdoors before a nightly audience of 3,000 spectators, "Sesqui Spectacade" will portray in vivid reality the history of our county and its relation to freedom, from its birth, up to the

Kennedy Raps Ike's Support Of Substitute Labor Bill

WASHINGTON—Senator John F. Kennedy (D, Mass.) differed sharply with President Eisenhower over labor legislation.

With a showdown scheduled in the house this week on the politically touchy legislation, Kennedy issued a sharply worded statement criticizing a bill that received Eisenhower's public blessing.

At his news conference last week, Eisenhower said that a substitute labor bill pushed by Representatives Robert P. Griffin (R, Mich.) and Phil M. Landrum (D, Ga.) was a tremendous improvement over other labor bills now getting congressional attention.

This was a direct slap at both a compromise bill reported out by a divided house labor committee and a bill pushed through the Senate by Kennedy and Democratic leaders there.

Kennedy's statement said passage of the Griffin-Landrum substitute "would endanger final passage of any reform legislation by complicating the chances for a conciliation of the Senate and house version."

An eventual senate-house compromise bill will be needed after the house acts. This then must win final senate and house approval before a bill can be sent to the President.

"This congress must pass a labor-management bill," Kennedy

said. "We cannot go home without enacting a responsible, effective measure that will strike hard at racketeers without penalizing honest union members."

The Griffin-Landrum bill is expected to have strong support from a combine of northern Republicans and southern Democrats in the house.

Kennedy called it a punitive measure which he said "seeks to undo the conscientious efforts of the house committee members."

He commended the house committee bill as "a responsible measure aimed at the Hoffas, the Dios and the Sheffermans, based on the McClellan committee's reports and compatible with the strong, workable bill which passed the senate 90-1."

Kennedy said the substitute bill goes far beyond the recommendations of the rackets investigating committee.

It threatens "to restrict the anti-racketeering efforts of honest unions, to bog down small unions and the bill's administration in a welter of red tape, and to weaken labor's legitimate rights at the bargaining table," Kennedy said.

Pensioners To Meet Sept. 17th

The Pensioners Club will resume its regular monthly meetings on Thursday, September 17th, after having adjourned for the Summer months of July and August.

Secretary Jack Lindsay is enjoying a well deserved 30 day vacation at Hampton Beach, N. H., but he has kept in very close touch with us here in Schenectady.—B.G.

Production Costs Drop—Prices Rise

RECENT FIGURES of the IRON & STEEL INSTITUTE, management's facts and figures bureau, show that production and maintenance manhours required for each ton of steel shipped declined to an all-time low of 10.7 in April. These same figures show that production and maintenance labor costs per ton of

steel shipped had dropped from \$37.92 in 1957 to \$35.74 this April. The price per ton of steel meanwhile has risen from \$141.46 to \$148.81. These figures strongly support the union contention that non-inflationary wage increases can be granted.