



SPORT - - SPARKS

Well, the boys finally made it. They say everything comes to him who waits, and we waited long enough. For what? For a baseball victory, of course. After dropping an even ten games, mostly through a streak of the worst luck around, the "Americans" got mad and turned on the league-leading Troy gang for their first win of the season. And they made it despite the fact that a line drive by Buck Ewing which was going for at least a triple was caught by Bill Carr of Troy who practically climbed up the scoreboard to get it.

Our main problem has been trying to field the same team at every game. Overtime, training classes, shift transfers, etc., have prevented some of our boys from getting set in one position. But, win or lose, the fans always get a run for their money when the CIO boys take the field. And only Sunday, the Kaycees said, off the record, they would rather play any other team than us. They have to fight too hard to beat us.

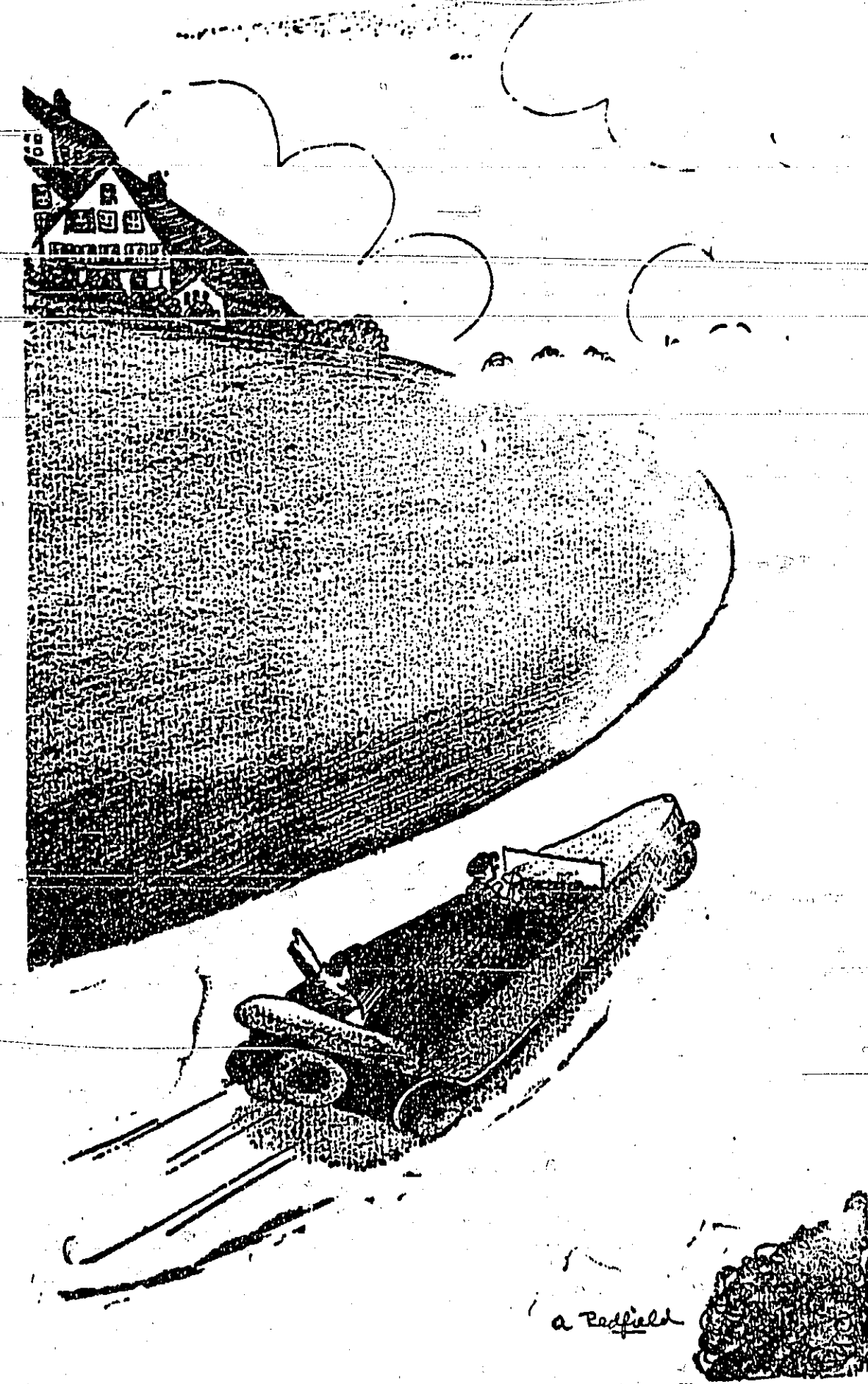
How About a Little Support?

We know everyone is working hard but, a little time out for recreation is necessary—now more than ever. One of the reasons for the existence of our ball team is to encourage the workers to come out into the fresh air now and then and forget their work. All union members should be out in the stands at least once in a while cheering the team on to victory. We are winning more support from outsiders than the men and women in the works. Not so good! How about packing the stands every time we play? The boys will appreciate it, and you'll be getting some much needed relaxation.

More Teams Planned

Plans are being made to organize a broad athletic program in the works under the sponsorship of the Union Activities Comm. Golf, tennis, swimming teams are some of the Activities being considered for organized recreation.

The UPPER CRUST



"Look, Junior, there's the house Papa bought since he's been a dollar-a-year man."

"I Made My Money"

Johnny Jones gets a job on the floor. He works his neck off and when he comes to figure out his dough, he finds he has earned the magnificent rate of 50 cents an hour. "How? Well, he got paid \$2 for the job and it took him four hours to do it. Johnny stomps into the foreman—oops, pardon us, the committeeman... and starts yelling, "Hey, the price on that job is so tight you couldn't squeeze a piece of tissue paper into it!" The committeeman hurries to the foreman with the complaint. "So he didn't make out. Well, I'll take care of that. Here, give him these vouchers." You see, he's a nice foreman. He doesn't holler that the guy was stalling and could've made his money if he had pulled out. Johnny gets his make-up voucher and cools off. "Well, I made my money."

Somebody Gets Stuck

Johnny made his money. Johnny is happy. The committeeman is happy. But the guy on the third shift that gets the same job isn't happy. He raises hell about not making out. His committeeman makes a beeline for the foreman and registers a complaint. "What do you mean he can't make out? The guy on the day shift can make out. Why can't this guy? Look at the record." The committeeman scratches his head but decides that the foreman is giving him the runaround. (Such things happen.) In the case goes to 41. "What do you mean, he couldn't make out?" the negotiating committee is told. "Look at the record. The man on the day shift received \$4 for the job and it took him four hours. That's a dollar an hour and that's his rate."

Right Price Should Be Set

Well, to make a short story shorter, the workers have to learn one thing. That is, that "making your money" is not the important thing. You have to make your money out of the job, not out of make-ups. Every job has to pay for itself. If it doesn't... demand that the job be retimed and properly priced.

Labor - Baiting - As - Usual In Daily Papers

The newspapers are still at it. They are still stirring up discord and mistrust in the ranks of the American people. Owned by millionaire publishers and with millions in paid advertising keeping them going, the press more often than not reflects the attitude of the reactionary rather than the pro-labor, progressive section of our population.

The "Labor Leader", official AFL paper at San Diego, Cal., has made a little study of its own. It reprinted 11 disruptive editorials which appeared in the San Diego Union from June 1 to 15.

What the editorials did is described by the Labor Leader as follows:

"Appealed to hatred, pitting bosses against its leaders."

"Ridiculed Mrs. Roosevelt... to emphasize the weaknesses of democracy and its Leaders."

"Repeated attacks against the President and the other leaders of the nation... Followed the fascist party line of seeking to show that our leaders are incompetent."

"Vice Pres. Wallace was the object of a particularly vicious attack, perhaps because

Unions Prepared For Protection Committees

Washington, D. C.—The call of Director James M. Landis, of the Office of Civilian Defense, for establishment of labor-management committees for plant protection finds many unions well prepared for their role in this program. First Aid training under Red Cross instruction has gone forward in union halls and factories over the past several months, and a number of unions already have initiated such committees.

Examples of union accomplishment along this line are two committees in which the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (CIO) has participated. At the Westinghouse Company's Baltimore, Md., plant, union representatives serve on all committees of the plant protection staff. Reuben Dietz, president of the local union, acts as senior warden for the entire plant. First aid detachment heads have been appointed in each section of the plant for all of the three shifts, and daily classes in first aid are conducted before or after the work shifts, covering all employees. Louis Olette, plant medical director, is first aid director and supervises instruction of the workers in Red Cross First Aid.

Twenty-two thousand employees of the Radio Corporation of America at Camden, N. J., work in an atmosphere of greater security as the result of an Industrial Defense Committee representing workers and management. A special first aid detachment at the plant is made up of instructors only, and training in standard and advanced first aid has prepared a larger emergency crew for action.

the paper realizes Wallace is the champion of the little people."

"Accused national leaders of fighting a social and economic war on the home front."

"Constant attacks on Congress... to pave the way for popular distrust of anything that comes out of Washington."

All that harms labor is treason to America. No line can be drawn between these two. If any man tells you he loves America, yet hates labor, he is a liar. If any man tells you he trusts America yet he fears labor, he is a fool. There is no America without labor, and to fleece the one is to rob the other." — ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA—Local 301 CIO



Union Security Seen As Buttress to U.S. Democracy

President Frank P. Graham of the University of North Carolina, member of the United States War Labor Board, wrote the following decision on Union Maintenance of Membership.

The maintenance of membership, the maintenance of the contract, and the maintenance of production are parts of the interconnection of freedom and security, justice and democracy, production and victory. . . . Finally, this maintenance of membership provides three basic guarantees:

First: Guarantees American Democracy.

It guarantees democracy in America against the tragedy both of the disintegration of responsible unions during the war and against the defenselessness of industrial workers after the war.

Second: Guarantees Responsible Union Leadership.

It guarantees, through responsible union leadership and stable union membership in the crucial transition from war to peace, against a violent revolution and the rise in America of fascist, communist or imperialistic dictatorship.

Third: Guarantees All-Out Production.

It affords one of our chief hopes that the all-out production for destruction in winning the war for freedom shall be converted into all-out production for winning the peace and for organizing plenty for America and for the stricken and hungry peoples still hopeful for freedom, justice and peace all over the world.

2,500 NEW UNION MEMBERS!

As the drive to make the Schenectady G.E. plant 100 per cent Union hit its stride, 2,500 new Union members signed up during the month of July.

Union Maintenance Clause a Factor

The revised G.E. Union contract carries a union maintenance clause—whereby all members before becoming delinquent must file a written notice with the union sixty days before becoming delinquent. Such a member must appear before a joint Company-Union committee to justify his delinquency.

Local No. 301 Earned Union Maintenance Clause

Local No. 301 as a service organization has well earned the Union Maintenance clause. Since Local No. 301 became the sole bargaining agency for the G.E. workers in Schenectady, in December 1936, thousands of grievances have been peacefully settled for these workers over the conference table. Not one G.E. employee sacrificed one hour of his work to settle these grievances.

Partial Record

The Union negotiated and improved vacations with pay, bonuses for shift workers, seniority on lay-offs and rehiring, general wage increases . . . besides the thousands of individual increases negotiated. The greatest tangible improvement is noted in the fact that the Union has brought to every G.E. employee true collective bargaining. No employee giving a fair day's effort to his job can be discriminated against. No petty boss can take unfair advantage of any employee represented by the Union.

Responsibility and Stability

Local 301 has brought a great measure of stability to the Schenectady G.E. workers during a period when strikes were rampant throughout the rest of the country.

The leadership of Local 301 both in and out of the shops has proved its responsibility to every G.E. employee and the community. Schenectady has gained a national reputation for good industrial relations thru the efforts of the Union.

U. E. Fights Wage Freezing in Washington

(Text of the letter written by Julius Emspak, G.E. Secretary-Treasurer of the U. E. R. & M. Workers of America, and a member of Pres. Roosevelt's so-called Labor "Victory" Committee, on Apr. 21, 1942, to the President of the U. S.)

My dear Mr. President:

Representatives of 170,000 General Electric and Westinghouse workers have been carrying on wage negotiations for two months.

They, in a joint meeting yesterday (April 20), endorsed your efforts to approach the war economy as a total problem.

However, these people expressed grave concern about wage freezing.

As our people see it, we have two jobs:

The first is the pressing and immediate problem of a wage demand that developed over the past year. Unfortunately, the vociferous anti-Administration and anti-war forces did more in Congress than any other group to kill the efforts of the Administration to approach the war economy as a total problem.

It is a problem that must be solved in over-all terms rather than on the piecemeal basis that has been followed and is still being followed by these same groups in and out of Congress.

These groups are the loudest in their demands for wage freezing. Yet these groups are the very ones who, because of their failure to act in a statesmanlike way, have precipitated confused and misleading discussion on the matter of wage freezing.

The pressing and immediate problem of a wage demand that developed over the past year, because of inadequate control on prices and because of the impact of the tax program, is one thing. It is separate and distinct from the problem of stabilizing the economy of the United States for the duration of the war. There has been a deliberate confusing of these problems, with the result that seeds of disunity have been sown among the people of this country on a false basis, just as was the case of the overtime issue.

The actual physical condition of war production workers depends on whether their incomes are above or below what can be called the efficiency level.

(Continued on Page Four)

Here's What Happens To our \$1.00 Dues

So that all our members will know exactly about his or her monthly dues of \$1.00 and 60c, the financial secretary of Local 301 has broken down all income received at the headquarters in dues and initiation fees on the basis of \$1.00.

See page Four (4) for Table showing the complete breakdown of the \$1.00 dues.

IT'S BETTER TO PRODUCE AS FREE MEN FOR THE MAN WITH THE LONG WHISKERS THAN IT IS TO PRODUCE AS SLAVES FOR THE MAN WITH THE LITTLE MOUSTACHE " " " "

ORIGINAL TORN

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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Where's the Extra Money?

Where is all that extra purchasing power which has to be cut, we are told, to prevent inflation?

To listen to the propaganda of the publishers and politicians who are more intent on fighting labor than on fighting Hitler, you'd think it was all in the hands of the working people, and that wage-cutting, sales taxes, etc. were the only solution. But what are the facts?

Department of Labor figures just published show that 71% of all American industrial workers earn less than \$40 a week—which is less than a "health and decency" standard for an American family; and that 50% do not earn even a "bare subsistence" family wage of \$30.

Even in the war industries alone—where overtime increases weekly wages for many—68% of the workers are below the \$40 level, and 34% earn less than "bare subsistence".

Who are really getting the extra purchasing power then?

The OPA estimates that 77% of the \$93,200,000,000 national income that will be divided this year between America's 32,650,000 families, will go to families with incomes of more than \$2,000 a year—which excludes more than 70% of the workers.

OPA figures also show that only eight per cent of American families will have incomes above \$5,000 this year, but their incomes will total almost \$34,000,000,000, or 36% of all income available.

When labor seeks to remedy wage inequalities and to raise substandard wages, it is not creating an inflationary surplus of purchasing power. It is simply trying to assure living standards adequate for the health and efficiency of America's war workers.

The place where the extra purchasing power exists that really causes inflation is in the higher-income brackets. And the way to reach this is through progressive taxation, as proposed by the U. S. Treasury and the CIO tax program. This won't deprive low-income workers of the necessities of life, but it will cut down the inflationary surpluses now in the hands of the well-to-do and the wealthy.

**UNION MEMBERS
HAVE HELPED MAKE
YOUR
PRESENT GOOD
WORKING CONDITIONS**

**JOIN UP
WITH THE BOYS!**

President's Seven-Point Program Sabotaged

(From LOOKING AHEAD by Len DeCant)

Some months ago a national conference of CIO editors publicly called on the daily press to "follow the example of other private industries by abandoning policies which hinder successful prosecution of the war and convert itself into a war industry dedicated to the defeat of the Axis."

Unfortunately the daily press, by and large, has completely failed to follow such advice. It has continued business as usual as a special pleader for the selfish interests which control it. It has failed in its all-important war duty of promoting national unity and mobilizing the united effort of all groups to win the war.

Pres. Roosevelt's seven-point anti-inflation program is a case in point. This has been treated as a stick with which to beat labor, in line with the constant wage-cutting propaganda of most of the big dailies; while all of the points which might adversely affect private interests have been deliberately ignored or misrepresented.

Of course, the press does not bear the sole responsibility for failure to enact the President's seven-point program. Congress has failed to act upon the most important points and bureaucrats have bungled. But the press has failed to create an informed public opinion which would quickly whip politicians and bureaucrats into line, if the American people knew the real facts.

Seven-Point Anti-Inflation Program

The seven points are: (1) an effective tax program directed against high profits and surplus wealth—to which the President coupled a limitation of personal net income to \$25,000 a year, after taxes;

(2) Effective price control; (3) wage stabilization; (4) stabilization of farm prices; (5) greatly increased war bond purchases; (6) more extensive rationing; (7) reduced installment buying and paying off of debts and mortgages.

For its own selfish purposes, the business-controlled press has completely distorted the true picture of this program. It has misrepresented wage stabilization as wage-freezing. It has concentrated nearly all its attention on attacking labor for demanding adjustment of present wage inequalities and for resisting undue cuts in real wages caused by sharply increased living costs.

Labor Accepted Program

Actually labor has accepted the principle of wage stabilization, and the wage adjustments it seeks are not of an inflationary character. The most immediately urgent steps necessary to prevent inflation are a progressive tax program and effective price control and rationing.

These are the points at which the seven-point program is really breaking down. But you'd never guess it from reading your daily papers.

The U. S. Treasury presented to Congress a tax program, approved in general by the CIO, which would have taken the most effective step against inflation by progressively taxing surplus wealth and purchasing power.

The House ways and means committee has shamefully mutilated this tax program, with never a protest from most of the daily press. It has distorted it into a soak-the-poor-and-spare-the-rich program, which falls billions of dollars short of raising the necessary revenue.

Present Tax Bill a Miserable Failure

The present tax bill fails miserably in the following respects:

(1) It fails to limit annual incomes of the wealthy to \$25,000, thus completely violating the equality-of-sacrifice intent of the President's program, and depriving our war effort of close to two hundred millions in tax revenue.

In Appreciation of our Union Committeemen

We want to brag a little about our unsung union heroes. We mean the shop committeemen . . . in the front line of the production trenches. Today, more than ever before, the production lines have become an integral part of the fighting force, and it's the union committeeman that's on the job night and day, maintaining peace and harmony among the men to keep the production moving at top speed.

It's the Union Committeeman who is the fall guy for all the gripes and bellyaches of the men in his jurisdiction.

It's the Union Committeeman who goes to the front when the prices are low!

It's the Union Committeeman who gets the kicks from the headquarters when the dues drop in his section.

It's the Union Committeeman who is expected to keep everybody happy on his job . . . and maintain good relationships between the men and the supervision.

It's the Union Committeeman who is expected to attend all the union meetings and learn what it's all about . . . and answer all the questions in the shop. On hot summer nights it's nice to cool off under a shady tree . . . and whole doing so remember your Union Committeeman is attending a meeting in your behalf!

It's the Union Committeeman who promotes the sale of War Bonds . . . the soliciting of Red Cross funds, and many other funds to aid the war effort.

It's the Union Committeeman who is on his toes, checking all suggestions that will speed the production of war materials.

It's the Union Committeeman through serving the day to day needs of the men in the shops that built confidence on the part of the men in the Union . . . and built our union into one of the greatest service organizations in the country!

It's the Union Committeeman who too seldom gets the thanks of the men that he serves.

Let's show a little keener appreciation of our shop leaders who get all the gripes and jobs and very little thanks. When your committeeman does a good job, let him know about it. . . . it will encourage him to keep going. The shop committeeman is the union in the shop . . . the union at the front . . . use him right!

(2) It gives special privilege to the rich by failing to require compulsory joint income tax returns by married couples. This deprives the war effort of about \$800,000,000 and benefits only a small group of wealthy families.

(3) It favors the rich again by failing to tax tax-exempt securities, retaining this tax-free special privilege for banks, corporations and the wealthiest individuals, at a cost of between two and three hundred million dollars to the war effort.

(4) It fails to raise normal and surtaxes on corporation profits to the 55% rate asked by the Treasury, limiting this taxation to 45%. This means a saving of about a billion for the wealthiest corporations, and a corresponding loss to the country.

Sabotage by Congressional Tories

Meanwhile Congressional tories are sabotaging an effective price control by refusing necessary funds to the OPA; and OPA Administrator Henderson is himself playing into the hands of the saboteurs of the seven points, by concentrating on wage-freezing propaganda and neglecting to install a widespread and effective rationing program.

THE UPPER CRUST



"But I am sacrificing, Regina. I give my maid every Wednesday night off for a first-aid class."

Talking Shop

By LEO JANDREAU

Labor's Stake in the War

Today, American labor is facing its greatest crisis in history. Labor is playing a great historical role on the production lines. We are at war with an enemy whose main objective is to enslave the working people of the world. This is one war we cannot afford to lose . . . every other consideration must be subordinated.

Membership Must Rise Above Petty Grievances

Our members must adopt a more tolerant attitude in their petty grievances; such as demanding seniority rights where a few weeks are in question . . . such as threatening a sit-down strike over a half-hour change in the work schedule. Transportation facilities are overcrowded and all transportation authorities are doing their utmost to meet the problem. Work schedules may be changed to get everyone to work on the production lines.

When we are considering some of our petty grievances, let us give some thought to the soldier at the front who has no schedule of work hours, no schedule of meal times and what is more, no union representative to take up his grievances.

The C.I.O. is fighting a desperate battle in the legislative halls of the nation to protect the wages of the working people.

Every day, laws are introduced by Tory congressmen and senators to cut down wages through excessive taxation, etc. The President's seven-point anti-inflation program is being torpedoed by reactionary congressmen and senators.

These are some of the big things that the union is fighting for, which will directly affect the man on the production line.

When magnifying your petty grievance, think about some of these things.

Union Catches Up With Real Estate Fraud

One of our Union members—Mr. K.—came to the headquarters some weeks ago and reported that he had sold a piece of property, specifically two lots, to Mr. A. for the sum of Three Hundred Dollars.

Mr. K. and his wife jointly signed a binding contract with a penalty clause of Two Hundred Dollars with Mr. A. Upon closing the deal, Mr. K. discovered that he had sold the lots to Mr. A.'s son . . . whose name was on the deed.

Some days later Mr. K. received a letter from Mr. A.'s attorney stating that he owed Mr. A. \$30.00—a commission for selling the lots for Mr. K. Mr. A. had a real estate broker's license which Mr. K. did not know about until after the deal.

An officer of the Union got in touch with Mr. A.'s lawyer and told him that the CIO was interested in the case and expected Mr. K. to get a square deal.

Mr. Lawyer answered that Mr. A. had in his possession a contract signed by Mr. and Mrs. K. that they had agreed to pay a Ten Percent commission to Mr. A. for selling the lots and that he, the lawyer, had seen this statement.

The Union officer notified the lawyer that if that was the case, he would advise Mr. K. to pay the \$30.00. Mr. K. was contacted and told about this agreement—but Mr. K. did not remember signing such an agreement, but he said that he would be at the lawyer's office the following day after work to take a look at the agreement in question.

The following day, accompanied by the Union officer, Mr. K. went to the lawyer's office. The lawyer was sorry to report that the agreement in question had been lost by Mr. O. but that Mr. K. would have to pay the \$30.00 because he, the lawyer, with his very own eyes had seen the paper and no one could question his word. Did Mr. K. and the Union officer think he would tell a lie for \$30.00?

Mr. K. did not pay the \$30.00 and Mr. A., the so-called crooked real estate broker, almost lost his license.



"Tough luck, old man—my money's all in nontransferable War Savings Bonds."

WSS-421 c



**Have You Contributed
Your 10% This Week?**

To Our New Union Members

You have joined an organization that has been built through the hard work of many G.E. workers over a period of almost ten years.

Working conditions, vacations with pay, bonuses for shift workers, present wage rates, were not always what they are now. The present working conditions, wage rates etc. were brought to their present levels through many union-company negotiations.

A union is no stronger than its membership and no more democratic than the active participation of its membership. A union is what its membership make it. You are the union.

The union will serve you as you serve the union.

If there is anything in your estimation about the union that isn't right, come to the headquarters and see your officers. See your committeeman concerning any dissatisfaction or grievance on your job.

Local 301 of the U.E. has a signed contract with the G.E. Company fully protecting you on your job against any discrimination whatsoever.

Always give your job a fair day's effort—and never depend upon the good will of your boss or anyone else for any betterment of your condition. Stand on your own record . . . which, in the long run, will serve you best. The Union will stand behind you 100 per cent on your record.

Talk these matters over with the older Union members . . . and they will tell you about the working conditions and wages before the union became the representative of the G.E. workers.

Mr. K.'s final comments were the following: "My gang in the shop will sure be glad to hear of this . . . the CIO comes thru again!"

ORIGINAL TORN