

Wagner Act, Cornerstone Of Democracy, Endangered

By MILO LATHROP

What would the members of our Union do if they were to read in the papers next Monday morning that Congress had decided to call off all elections for public office during the next five years?

Who can doubt that such an announcement would rife the blood of every good Union man and woman? Millions of ordinary people, labor and non-labor, farmers, doctors, lawyers, teachers, and many more, would rally to the defense of our democratic heritage. The tyrants would feel the wrath of a free people.

Of course, it wouldn't happen like that. There would be warning signals, and we would become aware bit by bit that our democracy was being undermined, and we would do something about it. When the people know and understand they act.

WAGNER ACT IN DANGER

That is why we must know and understand that the Wagner Labor Relations Act, the cornerstone of democracy on the job, is in danger. It is being attacked in Congress by a slick bill called the Federal Industrial Relations bill, sponsored by Senators Burton (R., O.), Ball (R., Minn.), and



MILO LATHROP

Hatch (D., N.M.). The bill is described by Philip Murray, president of the CIO, as:

"... unquestionably the most bald-faced attempt to destroy labor unions and nullify the basic

constitutional rights of workers which only after years of struggle have finally been recognized."

On July 5, the Wagner Act was 10 years old. In order to understand what we are in danger of losing we have only to review some of the democratic gains made under the Act during these past 10 years. Here are a few samples:

More than 24,000 elections were held, with six million out of the seven million workers entitled to vote actually voting.

More than 2,000 company unions were disbanded.

About 300,000 fired workers were reinstated.

More than 30,000 workers have received almost \$9,000,000 in back pay.

That's the kind of democracy which is worth fighting for, which we have been fighting for and for which we must continue to fight.

The Ball-Burton-Hatch bill is dangerous because its sponsors have succeeded in surrounding it with such fine phrases as "industrial harmony," "fair play," etc. But behind the words and the propaganda are the hard heads and cold hearts of the National Association of Manufacturers, of the gentlemen who dream of returning to the old days when a worker was only a worker and a boss was really a BOSS.

DEVILISH BREW

The bill is doubly dangerous because its senatorial sponsors, Senators Ball, Burton and Hatch, have a liberal reputation and are in a position to do much more damage than could be done by sponsors known for their anti-labor bias.

And, finally, as you have read in past issues of the EU NEWS, the bill is a devilish brew of waiting periods, cooling off periods, compulsory arbitration, regulations, definitions, "states rights," unclear terms, new terms. All of which are intended to keep your case cruising in the courts until you are too old and tired to follow it.

What to do? Write, wire, telephone, visit your Congressman and your two Senators telling them that the defeat of the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill is a life-and-death matter for our democracy and that you expect them to be unusually active in opposing and exposing it.

Local 70 Elects

At a specially called meeting presided over by Robert Curtis Bornholz, Field Representative of the National UOPWA, the following were elected as officers and members of the executive board of that organization: Genevieve Winarski, president; Edmund Wilcox, vice-president; Erlene McGann, treasurer; and Roland Graydon, John DeStefano, Joseph Monaco, George Powless and Harold Royer, members of the board.

Fitzgerald Urges Union, Community Cooperation

Austin J. Case, Editor, Electrical Union News, Schenectady, N. Y.

Dear Bro. Case:

The part Local 301 is playing in the life of the city of Schenectady is particularly important today when we realize that the great problems facing our union are community problems, as well as union problems.

As we prepare to solve such problems as those resulting from cut-backs, the supplying of jobs for returning war veterans as well as war workers, raising wage standards, keeping prices under control, we are going to find ourselves working more and more in cooperation with the people of our community generally.

The people of our community are realizing that their welfare is connected intimately with the program our Union is supporting.

It is in this spirit of unity of all people who are honestly concerned with the public welfare that, I am sure, Local 301 will give full support to various worthy community campaigns which are carried on such as that for Allied Relief, USO, etc.

Unity is helping us win the final round in the war against the enemy. Unity, around the UE program will also help us win the next round which is for jobs and security.



ALBERT J. FITZGERALD, General President, UER & MWA.

Services Offered By Chest Agencies Outlined

(The following article is especially prepared for the Electrical Union News by the Catholic Charities and the Family Service Bureau.)

Among the agencies supported by our Community Chest are The Catholic Charities and The Family Service Bureau which are organized to help the people of our community with all kinds of family and personal problems.

Anyone wanting help with such problems can have a confidential interview with a trained and experienced worker.

Our workers have found that many people are faced with financial trouble even in these prosperous times. Such people are mainly servicemen's families living on allotments, white collar workers who have failed to receive wage adjustments, and others, who in spite of a higher income are today, unable to maintain their standard of living.

Many factors in today's living tend to create health problems which cause disruption in family life, as well as loss of time from work. Knowing the community resources we are able to advise them of these while discussing other factors which may have contributed to their illness.

Frequently many of these problems are complicated by domestic difficulties or behavior problems within the family. In such instances through our confidential interviews we explore with the individual the possible cause of such disagreement and plan together whenever possible to keep the family unit intact.

Elderly people often find themselves in situations where they are bewildered by the fact that they have to make changes which are complicated by health or family problems making it difficult for them to plan satisfactorily without help. Naturally these same problems occur in other age groups and we frequently find them among young people who are living away from home. Unmarried mothers are as-

LETTERS ARE LIKE A VISIT HOME TO A SOLDIER. WRITE HIM TODAY!

Printed in U.S.A.

L. J. MULLIGAN, ASST. WRS. BORG ELECTRIC CO. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

Electrical Union News

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

Vol. II—No. 28

AUGUST 11, 1945

300 3c per copy

This One's On Me...

This is the fourth in a series of weekly columns which will appear in the Electrical Union News serving as a clearing house of ideas, thought and knowledge of union minds of many union people. It will be written by a different person each week and the topics will be varied. Opinions expressed will be those of the writer and not necessarily that of the editorial committee or the leadership of this union.

By ERNEST BEZIO

A practice being followed by most committees of Local 301 and many members is robbing the business agent's office of much valuable time and tends to cause an inefficiency which is becoming serious for every union member who has a grievance in the process of negotiation.

The practice I am referring to is to call up the union office on the phone and say "How is my case coming?" or "How about John Doe's grievance?" A person's name is not enough information to work with to locate the record of a particular case.

When a person calls up in that manner, a lengthy "search" is necessary which causes a tieup on the limited phone facilities, thus making it impossible for another person to call. It wastes valuable time of the business agents and tries the patience of the caller.

TRACING PROCESS

To trace the record of the grievance by name alone, it is first necessary to look through the name file. Failing to find it there, the next step is to look in the files that contain the record of grievances submitted by buildings where the DOCKET NUMBER is recorded.

After that it is necessary to look into the "inactive files," the "active files," and then to the files which contain the cases that have to be submitted to Plant Manager Howell, the file of those submitted to Vice-President Spicer and somewhere along the line the docket is found.

DOCKET NUMBERS PUBLISHED

When a grievance is received at union headquarters it is immediately given a designation or "DOCKET NUMBER." After the number is given each case, the union and company as well, refer to the docket number when discussing the matter.

In each issue of the Electrical Union News, the grievances pending settlement are published along with the docket number assigned to them in the first left hand column.

If everyone would take this record for their own reference when they have a case in which they are interested and when calling up, "What's the latest on Docket 9999?" or whatever the number may be, it will be a comparatively simple matter for the assistant business agents to trace the number and give the desired information.

Jandreau Warns Failure to See Full Importance of Wage-Job Program Endangers All Workers

Business Agent Leo Jandreau today stated that he was concerned by the evident fact that people in the shop generally do not realize the great importance of the wage-job program of the UE and the CIO and how their own future welfare as wage earners hangs on the acceptance or rejection of those proposals by the Congress of the United States.

Returns to Union Post

Business Agent Leo Jandreau returned to his duties Monday, July 30, after his six-week leave of absence, fully refreshed and rested. He states that he "feels the best he has felt in years" after the first real rest from the hard union grind he has had in years.



LEO JANDREAU

Jandreau expressed pleasure at the manner in which Executive Board Member Edward Wallingford conducted his office of Business Agent during his absence with the cooperation of the Assistant Business Agents and the entire office staff. Mr. Wallingford returned to his regular duties in the Turbine department, building 60, upon Mr. Jandreau's return.

Morgenthau Calls Job Plan 'Gov. Responsibility'

In one of his last letters before leaving his post as Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau wrote N. Y. Senator Robert F. Wagner of his support for the full employment bill, declaring that he is "strongly of the opinion that government does have a definite responsibility, together with industry, agriculture and labor, for seeing to it that a sound and prosperous economy in this country is maintained."

"I could not leave the Treasury with a sense of having completed my work without informing you of my strong support for S. 380, the so-called 'full employment' bill," he wrote Wagner, one of the sponsors of the measure.

"The fact that you and your committee plan to some grips" with the problem of creating a sound economic structure for after the war, his letter said, "is to me highly encouraging."

CALLS FOR SPEED

Calling the acceptance of responsibility for full employment, the most important issue, he added that the bill should be acted on by Congress "with all the speed that is possible and consistent with a careful consideration of its provisions."

"Prompt enactment of S. 380 (Continued on page 2)

Each of the proposals are so important and essential, he states, that it is not possible to say we can get by with one and without the other.

The proposition of providing sufficient jobs which would provide for full employment was subscribed to by all political parties during the last presidential election but Congress has now gone into summer recess without taking any steps which would put into actuality, a program to make that goal possible. Because of slowing production which is cutting the work week from 48 to 40 hours in many plants, immediate authorization by President Truman of a revision of federal wage policy to permit a 20 per cent increase in wage rates to restore the loss of overtime earnings is immediately essential, he says.

CEILING OUTDATED Unless this is done, Jandreau states, a worker who now receives \$50 take home for a 48 hour week will receive only about \$39 when he goes back on five days, a cut which most workers' financial means could not stand. The working people must, he says, protest the present inflexibility of government policy in maintaining an outdated and disastrous ceiling on wages while Congress applies elastic rules so generously in setting commodity price ceilings. Of equal significance is the matter of in-

flating full opportunity for employment for everyone who wants to work after the war. The importance of this issue is highlighted in Schenectady where the General Electric Company, in carrying out its present policy of de-centralization is moving far more work out of Schenectady than indications point out that it will replace.

The Murray-Wagner-Patman Full Employment Bill which Congress has left until after its recess is of utmost importance to every industrial community. CALL CONGRESS BACK In some cities, Jandreau reports, union workers are petitioning President Truman to call Congress back into session for the purpose of considering the many bills which are needed to ward off sure economic upheaval which will otherwise come the day Japan surrenders and all war work ceases.

Schenectady workers should join all the others throughout the country and flood President Truman and Representative Kearney with messages urging that this nation no longer delay providing for our welfare at home.

WELL, here I go again, plugging the phone fund for wounded vets. The Activities Committee is going to lend a hand and I know that they will do a job. In our next issue of the paper we will show the standing of our contest. Don't forget, a pen and pencil set will be the prize to the individual bringing in the most money. Bring it to the business office.

The Activities Committee went up to Saratoga Hospital and put on bingo games for the vets there and awarded prizes.

The requests of vets and their families for advice and help are coming in steadily. We try to help every case. We have no waiting list. Each case is handled the day it comes in. This service is open to all vets and their families. Don't be afraid to call us if you need help. Just call the union office 3-1866 or my home 6-0060.

Cases Before War Labor Board

Doc. No.	Blk.	Case	Committee	Date
4700	Gen.	General Complaint		6-18-45
4812	Gen.	Classification and Rate Ranges for West Operators (General)		6-18-45
4866	Gen.	Cranemen		6-18-45
4783	46	Wrap and Prepare Shipment		7-31-45
FORM 10 NON-DISPUTE				
5200	75A	Group Station 441	Richtmyer	6-5-45
DISPUTE CASES				
2210	Gen.	Electricians		
2009	Gen.	Steamfitters		
4596	25	Instrument Wiring Office Workers	Horsman	4-9-45
3292	60	Glenn, Ott, Schoch	Wills	8-28-45
4181	1	Raymond Franklin Toolmakers (General)	Franklin	6-14-45
4181	1	Toolmakers (General)		6-7-45

Veterans' News

By BOB ANDERSON

The veterans committee accomplished their biggest job last week when they convinced the Navy Department that one of the Seamen was needed home for the welfare of his family. The wife and children were very sick and needed him to personally care for them and needed a home with more chance of sunshine. We contacted all the necessary people and got affidavits, sent them in to Washington and were amply repaid by the thanks of the family when our man came home for good.

Our telephone fund will end Sept. 1 and the member collecting the most money will receive a pen and pencil set donated by your Vets chairman. I would like to see at least \$500 for the worthy cause. There will be no expenses to see. There will be no expenses to see. There will be no expenses to see. There will be no expenses to see.

Don't forget, we are waiting to hear of any cases where we can do any good for returned Vets or boys still in service.

On August 1 a family who lost their son will move into a lovely home which this committee aided them in securing.

We contacted the real-estate man, took the mother to see the house, remained with her in negotiations, obtained her an attorney who charged a very low fee and will have the pleasure of knowing she is set for life.

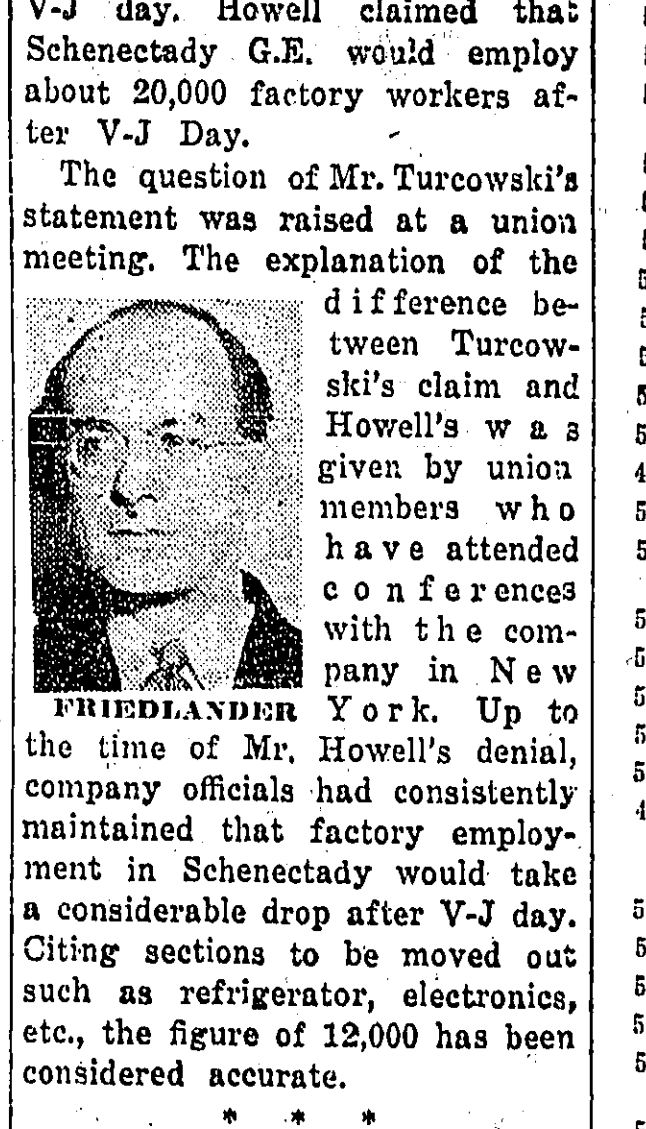
Any other union member who wants the pleasure of keeping this worthy cause? We need you.

Buy em and Keep em WAR BONDS

ORIGINAL TORN

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS
 United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers of America, Local 301 CIO
 Schenectady C I Local 301
 Published weekly, the first three weeks of each month, by Trade Union Service, Inc., 17 Murray Street, New York 7, N. Y. Subscription \$1.00 a year. Entered as second class matter August 8, 1944, at the Post Office of New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1939.
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 Editorial Office, Electrical Union News
 301 Liberty St. Schenectady, N. Y.

Facts and Fancies
 By SIDNEY FRIEDLANDER
 Several weeks ago, the G. E. Works News and the local press published an official denial by G. E. Works Manager Howell of a statement by International U. E. Representative Turcowski that G. E. planned to employ 12,000 factory workers in Schenectady after V-J day. Howell claimed that Schenectady G. E. would employ about 20,000 factory workers after V-J day.



The question of Mr. Turcowski's statement was raised at a union meeting. The explanation of the difference between Turcowski's claim and Howell's was a given by union members who have attended conferences with the company in New York. Up to the time of Mr. Howell's denial, company officials had consistently maintained that factory employment in Schenectady would take a considerable drop after V-J day. Citing sections to be moved out such as refrigerator, electronics, etc., the figure of 12,000 has been considered accurate.

Many union members will remember other statements made by the company in the past. About a year ago, G. E. President Chas. E. Wilson hit the national headlines with a statement that, with reconversion, workers would have to receive the equivalent of six days pay for five days work.

Another statement by the company, in fact an oral agreement with the union early in the war when the need for full production was being emphasized, was that day workers should receive a pullout bonus up to 15% in every section of the plant where pieceworkers' production increased 15 per cent or more.

Cases Pending Before Management
 By LEO JANDREAU

The following is a list of cases pending before management at the present time. As a service to the membership, the Electrical Union News in cooperation with the Business Agent's Office will publish in each issue the list of cases pending. When a case no longer appears in this list, it may be assumed that settlement has been made.

Doc. No.	Blg.	Case	Committeeman	Date
4944	78	Enclosing Case Group	Herodes	8-27-45
5290	75	Group Station 411	Richtmyer	8-4-45
5480	78	Victor Oswald	Boyle	7-8-45
5481	78	A. Tino	Savage	7-10-45
5280	Pt. Ed.	Electricians	Dunton	5-28-45
5482	Pt. Ed.	Mr. Moynihan	Boynston	7-14-45
5448	16	Dorothy Merriman	Jones	7-14-45
5475	14	George Weighston	Quick	7-19-45
5494	26	Campbell	Christison	7-25-45
5465	10	Antonio Miono	Christison	7-25-45
5466	10	Milton Penston	Christison	7-25-45
5268	107	Ralph Ricciardi	Holmes	5-24-45
5401	69	M. Rigal	Matrazzo	6-27-45
		C. Smith		
5428	53	Aldor Wasilla	Hills	7-6-45
5447	53	Jack Devine	DiLallo	7-14-45
5484	69	Ann Hernes	Valois	7-20-45
5126	288	A. R. Bush	Luberda	4-23-45
5286	285	Group Complaint	Flanigan	5-15-45
5477	235	A. L. Maturro	Laddlow	7-1-45
5482	235	Philip Doherty	Doherty	7-10-45
5463	285	Oliver Desormeau	Luberda	7-25-45
5446	278	D. D. Sweet	Sweet	7-23-45
5274	278	T. G. Assemblers	Chamberlain	5-25-45
5434	278	George Osteritz	Pulver	7-26-45
		A. DeBorja		
5476	59	Petroosky	Petroosky	7-10-45
5397	42	Royal Hildreth	Shannon	7-26-45
5417	46	Helen Dempsy	O'Brien	6-29-45
5408	40	Packing Group	Bender	7-4-45
5428	46	Joseph O'Brien	O'Brien	7-26-45
4906	40	Group Complaint of Wonders and Connectors	Tanski	8-1-45
5307	19	Group Complaint	Jeffers	6-4-45
5463	40	J. Rachel	Eberfeldt & Tanner	6-14-45
5449	18	Group on Lay Out	MacDonald	7-14-45
5483	40	Ralph Johnson	MacDonald	7-24-45
5278	55	Joseph Albert	Civtello	6-28-45
		P. Fountain		
5404	109	Group Complaint	Wysonski	7-22-45
5462	81	J. Russell	Rapoli	7-5-45
5422	81	Group Complaint	Fazio	7-11-45
5420	84	Railroad Crews	Holmes	7-5-45
5437	227	James G. Chamberlain	Mohyde	7-11-45
5481	24	Walter Felt	Holmes	7-26-45
5479	234	Fred Conback	Horsmyer	7-19-45
		Ernest Kopper		
5480	234	Willard Saunders	Nighy	7-19-45
5461	CAP	May E. Frost	Nighy	7-24-45
4909	8	Group Complaint	Jovine	5-9-45
4973	66	Ralph D'Agostino	Campbell	7-1-45
5030	66	C. E. Brown	Friedlander	7-20-45
5022	66	Millington	Millington	6-26-45
5406	62	W. Row	Kehoe	6-27-45
5406	62	Robert Dieterich	Nichol	6-23-45
5406	62	George L. Parent	Peterson	7-24-45
5401	8	Francis Hale	Friedlander	7-26-45
5401	8	Grinders	Glover	6-19-45
5471	17	John Godlewski	Skrzynski	7-26-45
5411	24	Machine Room Group	Sheehy	7-3-45
5411	24	Buttress	Buttress	6-14-45
5456	25	Group Complaint	Gulio	7-23-45
5456	25	S. Barberich	Wilkinson	7-28-45
5456	25	J. H. Leich	Wilkinson	7-26-45
5301	37	Plating Job Rate	Villano	6-13-45
5391	37	Raymond Poutre	Villano	6-26-45
5410	37	Paul Zimmerman	Schoeffler	6-29-45
5422	37	Marion I. Hickey	Hill	7-5-45
5412	37	Philip Boehm	Niemce	7-19-45
5408	9	H. Sheldon	Carlock	7-26-45
5479	60	Edward Burdick	Lash	6-28-45
5479	60	Group Complaint	Barber	6-19-45
5458	60	Group Complaint	Stewart	7-21-45
5459	60	Frank Pittman	Hamilton	7-26-45
5470	60	Rieve Evans	Hamilton	7-26-45
4924	13	William Chlopocki	Bello	7-5-45
5162	68B	Group Complaint	Gordon	8-1-45
5283	61	T. Robbins	Edwards	6-20-45
5383	61	J. Myers		
5367	61	Andrew Wasura	Bazan	6-5-45
5395	205	Group Complaint	Polwara	6-13-45
5119	205	John J. Casey	White	6-27-45
5472	52	William Butler	Roth	7-4-45
5438	43	Group Complaint	Stout	7-23-45
5459	43	Stamfitters and Plumbers	Rockwell	7-11-45
		Rockwell	Rockwell	7-11-45

General Complaints
 5445 Tolerech Classification Inspectors' Classification and Rates 8-1-45
 5495 8-1-45

Cases Listed For Joint Investigation
 5268 J. Kalar 7-26-45
 5411 Group Complaint 6-29-45
 5272 Pellen Marx 7-13-45
 5459 Crane-followers 7-31-45
 5046 Lenny Friedlander 6-7-45
 5218 CAP James W. Myatt 6-11-45
 5211 CAP Group Complaint 6-11-45
 5300 R. Jagger 7-19-45
 5406 B. B. Slattery 7-19-45
 5292 Hunslett 7-19-45
 5299 Smith 7-19-45
 5299 Group Complaint 7-19-45

If you call about your case give the docket number
 (Continued on page 3)

British Elections

Working men and women all over the country are elated over the victory of the British Labor Party in the recent elections. Members of Local 301 have shown much enthusiasm at the decisive two to one defeat of the Tory Party, and some have suggested that we in Schenectady can learn something from the results.

These results show not a mere "trend to the left," as press and radio comments put it, but a definite forward movement by the large majority of the British people. They are moving ahead to more democracy, with a program of jobs, social security, medical care for all, good houses to live in, and better wages.

The British people were not willing to take any chances with a Tory government which did not offer concrete planning measures to back up their promises for prosperity. In defeating the Tory leaders at the ballot box they were defeating Tory policies, Tory thinking and Tory attitudes toward the people.

We feel sure that the new Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, will spare nothing in continuing with us the fight against Japanese fascism, and in wiping out the Japanese militarists and industrialists responsible for Japan's crimes against the civilized world.

We look forward to the coming of a new day in Greece, where those who opposed the Nazis most fiercely have endured the bloody oppression of a reactionary government maintained by Tory British arms.

We hope that the new government of Britain will carry out its promise of justice for Spain, and that our government will follow its lead and not stand before the world as the sole supporter of Dictator Franco.

We could wish for much more and we do, in fact, except these British election results to strengthen the democratic cause in Europe and throughout the world. The success of our British brothers and sisters in using ballots in the same fighting spirit that they used bullets is an inspiration to all working people.

The result of the election was not, as some people mistakenly think, a repudiation of the war-leadership of Winston Churchill. No belief could be further from the truth. His great fighting spirit and "never give up" heart won him a place among the great war leaders of all time.

However, despite this personal ability which he possessed to fight a foreign enemy, the policies of his political party and associates did not equip him to fight unemployment and home economic ills with the same vigor and resolute purpose.

Consequently, the British working people, who want a place in the sun for themselves, not just for an empire, elected a labor government which will carry on now for them with the same vigor as Churchill defended the empire.

Morgenthau Calls Job Plan 'Gov. Responsibility'

(Continued from page 1)
 will give this country—industry, agriculture, labor and government—a definite policy with which to approach the epoch making problems of reconstruction. Delay, on the other hand, offers the spectacle of this country facing this rapidly approaching crisis with indecision, confusion and stop-gap emergency measures.

"As you and I agree," it adds, "our returning soldiers and those on the home front who have contributed so generously to victory deserve—yes, are entitled—to know now where their government stands on the issue of full employment and prosperity after the war."
 (Continued on page 3)

Facts and Fancies
 (Continued from page 2)

The program of union busting now going on in Congress was given another lift with the passage of the Lea amendment which excludes food processing and foodhanding workers from the benefits of collective bargaining. This amendment deprives over a million workers of rights under collective bargaining.

Army authorities operating Montgomery Ward properties have notified CIO that they will pay \$1,445,000 back pay as ordered by the National War Labor Board. This was one of the orders that Sewell (carry-me-out) Avey refused to obey. (CIO News July 9th.)

Rep. Rankin, the Poll-tax Congressman from Mississippi proposes to set the veterans against their fellow workers by making scabs and strike-breakers out of them. (Union Star July 10.) His bill proposed to exempt returning servicemen from joining a union even in a closed shop. Unfortunately for Superman Rankin, the returning veterans almost invariably join the unions even in open shops as soon as they get on the job. Local 301 membership records show that by far the larger majority of veterans sign up in the union when they return to work.

Schenectady Gazette, Monday, July 9, gave the Rankin story a big play quoting the usual Rankin style spial about wartime strikes and union big shot racketeers. We have yet to see an article in the Gazette or Union Star slating the well-known fact that strikes have averaged less than 1/10th of one per cent of all time lost since Pearl Harbor, and that Union dues are one dollar per month in Local 301, initiation fees \$2.00.

Talking about time lost through strikes, a high army official said last week that the work done on July 4th this year alone was more than enough to make up for all the time lost through strikes since Pearl Harbor.

Upton Close, Paul Mallon, and LeMoine Back On Exec. Board
 One of the recent changes in the make-up of the Local 301 Executive Board has been the return of Eugene LeMoine, the oldest board member in years, spent on the board, who replaces Walter Magdalinski of the Wire and Cable Department.

LeMoine has plenty at stake in seeing that the people enjoy the type of life after this war that our boys have been fighting for because his own son, Eugene, Jr., gave his life for that cause in France. A bronze star was awarded posthumously for his bravery and devotion beyond the call of duty.

Story of Labor
 HE FIRST IDEAL TRADE UNION IN AMERICA Began in Philadelphia in 1805...
 HE FEDERAL SOCIETY OF COOPERATORS (OR SHOCK-MAKERS), IN 1805 THEY STRUCK FOR HIGHER WAGES, THEY PUT OUT THE FIRST PICKET LINES AND WERE THE FIRST TO YELL SCAB AT THOSE WHO WOULDN'T JOIN. THE FRIGHTENED EMPLOYERS INKED THE COURTS. THE UNION OFFICIALS WERE INDICTED ON A CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY TO RAISE THEIR WAGES. AFTER A FAMOUS TRIAL THEY WERE CONVICTED AND FINED. OTHER STATES TRIED THEM FOR A WHILE IT LOCKED GATES FOR THE LABOR UNIONS; SINCE EVERY COMBINATION FOR BETTER CONDITIONS WAS PROMPTLY CALLED "A CONSPIRACY"

Mead, Wagner Warn Thousands Will Be Idle Unless Congress Acts

Let's pretend tomorrow is V-J Day. What would happen? Throngs of deliriously happy people crowding the streets, tooting horns, throwing confetti, celebrating the end of a long and terrible war. Yes, of course, but what about the morning after V-J Day? Here the picture changes and we have a group of very distinguished Senators pre-

dicting that the "morning after" this nation will wake up with the worst hangover in its lengthy history of economic ups and downs. What's their picture? "We will be largely unprepared to cope effectively with the many home economy problems. Reconversion will not have progressed far enough to absorb the manpower that will suddenly be released. Government work programs, designed to cushion the shock, will not have been established. We will probably experience widespread unemployment."

This warning from the fourth annual report of the Mead was investigating committee confirms what responsible labor spokesmen have been saying for months now—that, unless the government acts quickly, the U. S. is heading for a fall that will make 1920 seem like an era of delightful prosperity.

MAY MEAN 12 MILLION IDLE
 The "widespread unemployment" referred to in the Mead report may mean anywhere from eight to 12 million workers out of jobs after the defeat of Japan, according to expert government economists.

And, according to another distinguished Senator, "mass unemployment would drive us toward both economic isolationism and economic imperialism—economic isolationism in the vain hope of providing jobs in America by excluding the products of other nations; economic imperialism in the vain hope of creating markets abroad for American products at the threat of the sword."

Those words were spoken by Sen. Robert F. Wagner (D, N. Y.) in a report to his Senate banking committee as it opened two-day hearings on the Murray full employment bill. Enacting the full employment bill won't make up for the fact that Congress "has done too little and been too late in acting on matters of reconversion and postwar economic affairs," Wagner said.

But, he argued, one of the reasons Congress has been busy dodging its responsibilities is because it has not decided in which direction to lead the nation. Once it accepts the perspective of an expanding economy and jobs for all, it will be easier to enact specific measures. Like the Mead committee and organized labor spokesmen, Wagner too struck the note of urgency.

OUNCE OF PREVENTION
 "If we act promptly, transition unemployment can be held to a minimum and our peacetime economy can move ahead in high gear, avoiding both inflation and wild boom on the one hand, and unemployment and depression, on the other," he said. "If we fail to act promptly, we may once again

be swept along the boom-and-bust road. We may once again be forced to use a pound of cure rather than an ounce of prevention."
 Actually, the prospect of postwar unemployment is not at all frightening one to the big corporations, which relish the idea of a huge supply of cheap labor. But businessmen who open the gates to "postwar enemy No. 1" are committing suicide. Sen. James E. Murray (D, Mont.), sponsor of the full employment measure, told Wagner's committee.

"We have in this country," Murray said, "reactionaries and Tories who are just as blind to the dangers which threaten our country as the reactionaries and Tories of England... overwhelmingly defeated by the people... who no longer could accept a system which offered so little in happiness, opportunity and security."

It's one of those ironies of Washington life that the blindness Murray so sternly warned against is most deep-rooted in Congress. For while the outstanding grim conclusion to be drawn from both the Mead report and the Wagner hearings is that there's so little precious time left for building a strong fortress against postwar disaster, Congress itself has picked these critical days to take a vacation until Oct. 1.

Congress may choose to be blind, but the labor movement has its eyes wide open. And because it can see so clearly the two alternate paths before the U. S., it is getting underway an energetic, far-reaching campaign to mobilize broad public support for its program of jobs and security.

ORIGINAL TORN