

Here and There . . .

Little Luther



"What's a moron, Pop?" asked Little Luther.

"Uh, what?" Mr. Dilworth tore reluctant eyes from The Wall Street Journal. "A moron? He's a — a — a —"

"A king, Father?"

"What gave you that idea? You've been listening to the radio again. How many times have I told you about that radio?"

"Can the German people listen to the radio, Pop?"

"That's got nothing to do with ease — and it's not such a bad idea."

"Who's the moronic little king, Pop?"

"If you mean Victor Emmanuel, I want you to know he's a great man. He sent Mussolini packing."

"On one of those trains that always run on time?"

"Never mind that. Mussolini just got mixed up in bad company. If he'd have stayed away from Hitler, everything would still be fine in Italy."

"And in Ethiopia, too?"

"He civilized Ethiopia. Badoglio said that, and Badoglio is a great man. Even Eisenhower thinks he's a great man."

"Papa, what's a Darlan?"

"A Darlan isn't something; it's a man, a great man. He won the war for us in Africa."

"Is the king going to win the war for us in Italy?"

"Why?"

"Because I heard he was a Darlan."

"Nonsense."

"Well, what's a Giraud?"

"Come on, let's have it. Don't tell me you heard that Badoglio was a Giraud."

"Yes, Father."

"Giraud is a fine man. Mr. Berle says so."

"Is Mr. Berle an Italian?"

"No, he's an American?"

"Like Sen. Wheeler?"

"And like Sen. Nye and . . ."

"Stop it this instant, young man! I'll hear no more of that sort of thing around this house. The first thing you know you'll be saying something about Otto of Hapsburg. It's time you were in bed anyway. Go right upstairs."

"O. K., Pop. Only that's where I've been listening to the radio — in bed."

Eisenhower should radio this one to Adolph:

Two Nazis employed in the foreign office were walking down a street in Berlin.

"I have some inside information," one whispered. "It's about England's invasion."

"Ach," said the other. "Tell me, when are they coming?"

In order to make his tenants move so that he could raise rents, a Detroit landlord went on a 2-week rampage — nailing doors shut, cutting off electricity and water, banging on radiators and throwing "liquids" in the apartments — but with no luck.

The tenants all stuck it out — and they are there yet.

Now we understand what saved Stalingrad.

We Cannot Be Too Proud

WE ARE NOT PROUD of the fact that Schenectady has not met its weekly quota of Blood Donors. If we had any tact we perhaps wouldn't even mention it. But this is too important to ignore. And in a way we feel partly responsible for this failure to meet the quota. We have failed to point out adequately the seriousness of the situation.

Then too we are too far removed from the scene of conflict to appreciate the horrors attendant upon War. We have not seen great cities laid in ruins; we have not seen civilian populations destroyed by the inventions of modern warfare. We have not seen the battlefields where soldiers may be dying for lack of blood plasma; their own blood drenching the ground so that you, my friend, and I can continue to live in comparative peace and in economic safety.

We have heard all the excuses; and all of them are good. In some cases we are told that the Blood Bank is not open at convenient hours. This is undoubtedly true, and efforts are being made to correct them. But the fact remains that while you are making these excuses YOU ARE NOT DONATING ANY BLOOD, and as a result, on some far away battlefield A BLUE STAR AT THIS VERY MOMENT MAY BE TURNING TO GOLD. The man who is losing his blood in battle does not fight according to a clock card. Nobody goes out of his way to create convenient hours in which he may shed his blood. Yet, you my friend, quibble. When you do that you are saying in effect: "A man's life is not worth a half hour's inconvenience to me." The fighting forces of the United States contain the best fighting men in the world. We have every reason in the world to be proud of them. We are proud of them. But ARE THEY PROUD OF YOU? They are doing their duty. Are you doing yours or are you thinking of new excuses. Do you suffer from mental anemia; or is there another word which could more accurately describe it. Let us quote from a Boston Globe war correspondent who was at the taking of Mateur. He describes our soldiers; our kin folk: Quote: — " — they are young men, but the grime and the whiskers and exhaustion make them look middle aged. In their eyes as they pass is not hatred, not excitement, not despair, not the tonic of victory — there is just the simple expression of being here as though they had been here forever, doing this and nothing else. The line moves on, but it never ends. All afternoon we keep coming over the hill and vanishing eventually over the horizon. It is one long tired line of antlike men. —"

There is an agony in your heart and you almost feel ashamed to look at them. They are just guys from Broadway and Main Street, Market and Blossom Street, but you wouldn't remember them. They are too far away now. They are too tired. Their world can never be known to you, but IF YOU COULD SEE THEM JUST ONCE, just for an instant, you would know that no matter how HARD people work back home they are not keeping pace with these infantrymen in TUNISIA!" end of quote.

If you are not a good American and don't give one hoot in hell whether we win the war or lose it, just disregard the whole thing. But we are convinced that you must be a good American and do care what the outcome of this struggle will be. Don't let's waste time making excuses. Those boys are giving their lives, surely you can spare a pint of blood. Believe you me, neighbor, if we can possibly prevent it we MUST NOT LET THOSE BLUE STARS TURN TO GOLD.

War Bonds ★ ★ ★ ★



Defense Stamps

"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

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

UNION
...NEWS

Vol. I

SCHENECTADY, N. Y. — AUGUST 31, 1943

No. 2

Labor Honored For Its War Effort

Full Participation in Labor Day
Celebration Pledged by Local 301

The following resolution pledging full participation in Labor Day celebration was passed at the membership meeting held Tuesday, August 17, 1943:

WHEREAS, Mayor Mills Ten Eyck has proclaimed a special out-door ceremony to be held at Crescent Park the evening of Labor Day and has requested that all phases of community life participate in this ceremony in recognition of the outstanding achievements of organized labor on the production lines of this area's war plants, and

WHEREAS, we the members of Local 301 consider this a great honor bestowed upon us by the Mayor of our city and we are sure that the thousands of our members on the production lines of G. E. Co. war plant will be greatly encouraged in maintaining production of vitally needed war material at full speed.

WHEREFORE, be it resolved that we the membership of Local 301 extend our appreciation to Mayor Mills Ten Eyck for this fine acknowledgement of our contribution to the war effort, and we pledge our fullest cooperation and participation to Mayor Mills Ten Eyck in making this ceremony, to be held in Crescent Park on the evening of September 6th, 1943, the greatest Labor Day celebration Schenectady has ever witnessed.

Mayor Mills Ten Eyck of Schenectady issued a special proclamation for Labor Day calling for a special out-door ceremony to be held at Crescent Park on the evening of September 6th to honor labor's achievements on the production lines.

In proclaiming the special observance, the Mayor said in his proclamation:

Soldiers of Production True Patriots

"I feel that it is only fitting that Labor Day in this area be commemorated because of the outstanding achievements of labor on the production lines of the area's war plants. The community should pay special tribute to these true soldiers of production who have maintained the flow of war material to the boys from Schenectady who are fighting our battle of freedom on the far-flung battlefields of the world. These soldiers of production in the factories and in transport have proved themselves true patriots and have stuck to their jobs regardless of hours and effort.

Contribution To Community and Nation

"Leaders of both labor unions and management of industry in this area have contributed greatly to the welfare of the community and the nation by exercising great responsibility in their industrial relations through collective bargaining. Management and labor have in the past 10 years, during the growth of the great labor organizations, judiciously and equitably settled their differences over the conference table. These leaders of labor and industry have brought great honor to our community and have served its interests well. The thousands of members of the labor organizations in this area have contributed greatly to the war effort of their energy on the production lines, and financially through the purchase of war bonds and generous contributions to the Red Cross, War Chest, Blood Bank, and other war relief agencies.

Political Action Conference
Sunday, Sept. 12, 1 P. M.

How Politics Affects Your Pocket Book

While the legislators of the nation are discussing taxes and how to shift the burden of the cost of the war from the shoulders of the rich to the working people, the Average Workingman is SLEEPING. Mr. Average Workingman is also saying, why should our labor leaders meddle in politics; our representatives in Washington know what they are doing. Let's leave it up to them.

We have left it up to them too long. We now have 20% of our wages deducted for income taxes alone and Congress is discussing a sales tax which will further lower our present incomes.

When Mr. Average Man actually feels these pinches then he sqawks. They yell to high heaven as individuals and blame everyone under the sun but themselves. They need a messiah to lead them out of the woods. They need a more vigorous president who will drive the profiteers out of the country.

The war profiteers and big business lobbyists in Washington get a big horse laugh out of these individual ravings. Mr. Workingman can blame himself for this constant chiselling on his pay check.

The group that can bring the greatest pressure to bear on the politicians in Washington is the group that wins the marbles.

In Honor of War Workers

"Therefore, I call upon the community to give special observance to this Labor Day, 1943, in honor of the thousands of war workers in this area who are making it possible to win a speedy victory over the dictatorship forces of the world which would enslave those who love freedom.

"I proclaim a special out-door ceremony to be held at Crescent Park the evening of Labor Day and request all phases of community life to participate in this ceremony."

Labor Unions are doing everything possible to drive the politicians in line on behalf of labor. Every workingman must realize that united they can control the laws in Washington.

We merely ask that the thousands of members of our great labor unions attend some of our meetings where we are attempting to tell the people how politics affect their pocketbooks.

A great Political Action Conference is being held at the CIO Headquarters Sunday, September 12th, at 1 P. M. The labor unions affiliated to the AFL, CIO, and Railway Brotherhoods are participating in this conference. The congressmen from the Capital District area have been asked to attend; and we invite the people to attend this conference and ask their representatives why they voted for bills harmful to the best interests of themselves.

See Page Two for A B C of Politics For Labor

All Out to Crescent Park — Labor Day Evening, September 6 — 7:30 P. M.

SPECIAL LABOR DAY ISSUE — ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS — SEPTEMBER 6, 1943

ORIGINAL TORN

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

Published by
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The ABC's of Politics For Labor

Ways and Means In Our Public Affairs Work

No. 1 — Why Learning About Politics Is Important

The EIGHT-LETTER word, politics, got a bad reputation because for so many years the art of politics was simply the art of keeping the people from having anything effective to say about their own affairs.

In this old meaning, politics meant graft; it meant double-dealing, confusion and corruption. And there are still plenty of cases of that kind of politics around, as everybody knows.

But union men and women know that although politics can be dirty politics and work to the disadvantage of our country and its people, it is just as true that politics can be clean — and work to the advantage of the people and the nation as a whole.

Politicians In Charge

For a long time, indeed, union men and women regarded politics as such dirty business that labor people wouldn't touch it with the well-known ten-foot pole.

Today, however, we are all learning that the politicians are delighted to have the whole show left to themselves — and that the only way to get clean, progressive politics is for the people themselves to get into politics, to bring about a wholesome change of atmosphere in the dark corners and dirty shadows of the political machines.

More and more, everybody realizes that the salvation of politics is for the people to get busy and take an active part — and, because labor unions are the most vigorous and active organizations of the people, that labor will have to do most of the work.

And these days, there is an additionally powerful force at work to push more and more Americans into active, constructive participation in politics: this force is the deep desire of our American people to win this war at the earliest possible date, coupled to the realization that the run-of-the-mill politicians, left to themselves, are insufficient to bring about such a victory.

Today, in hundreds of instances — and in a few months, it will be tens of thousands of instances — we are seeing the practical results of the renewed interest in clean, progressive politics as an instrument of advancing the victory.

Serious Business

As you might expect, politics is not a simple matter these days. Good intentions are essential; but by themselves they are not enough.

The fact is that the rules of the game have been made, by and large, by generation after generation of machine politicians; for this reason, the rules are complicated and slanted in favor of the machine politicians; and for the same reason, one of the tasks that we union men and women have ahead of us is the job of learning how the machinery works, so that we can avoid serious mistakes due to ignorance of the realities of politics.

The purpose of this series of brief articles is to discuss some of these realities — and then to see how they apply in our every-day, practical political action work.

Much of what we talk about, you will know already; but that's all right — for it may be helpful just to refresh each other's memories, and to see how what we already know applies to present day problems.

Mistakes Are Costly

If you spoil something you're making, that's bad. But at least you can throw what you've spoiled away; you can start again, and make it right the second time.

In politics, it's not quite so convenient as that. It is much harder to undo the results of "spoiled" work in politics; little blunders prove to be very costly; there is never a chance to have the same election twice — and thus never a chance to start all over again and make it right the second time.

Now, it would be very foolish to avoid doing anything just out of fear of making mistakes; we know that. But, at the same time, we should be very careful to make as few as possible. Keeping the mistakes that do occur as few as possible, clearly in mind at all times may avoid avoidable mistakes.

ME AND MY SHADOW



"Your Congressman" is trying to run away from his huge, threatening shadow, labeled "Anti-War Record."

For Speedy Victory

Everybody wants the war over as quickly as possible — and every patriot wants the war to end in the total defeat and unconditional surrender of the Axis.

The CIO is dedicated to this single end above everything else. Every program it puts forth and every action it undertakes is aimed toward the final offensive and the early return of our men from the fighting fronts.

CIO's tremendous production drive in all the basic war industries of the nation is aimed at this target.

CIO's political action campaign to make Congress a true victory arm of the nation is aimed at this target.

CIO's drive for repeal of the polltax, for repeal of the Smith-Connally bill, for a fair and adequate tax program, for price control and the rollback, for real social security, for a united nation behind the Commander-in-Chief are all essential parts of the nation's desire for the speediest possible total victory in this total war.

The men and women of the CIO have no illusions that the struggle is almost over. They are not guilty of over-confidence, any more than our military leaders and our responsible political leaders think that the job is simply one of coasting from here on.

That is why the CIO, its leaders and its millions of members — their families and the people they live among and influence — are putting everything in their power into carrying on and increasing the fight for the survival of our nation and its liberties.

And to just the extent that this mighty power is poured into the tasks of war, so shall we shorten the war and hasten our victory.

The Stakes Are High

In a country as big and powerful as ours the stakes in politics are vast beyond imagination. This is always true — and it is still more true during this war.

Put it this way: our country has tremendous striking power in this war — and therefore the enemies of our country are willing to do literally anything either to move our Government around to their side in the war, or — failing to do that, as they have failed — at least to cut down our striking power as much as possible.

No wonder, then that pro-Axis groups — both the intentional traitors, and the groups so reactionary that they function as tools for the Axis — are working day and night to keep the American people as busy as possible fighting each other, instead of devoting all our energies to fighting the enemy.

The stakes, then, are tremendous. The stakes on our side, too, are tremendous — for our American nation, as such, including our democracy and the whole opportunity for further democratic advances.

Shop Shorts of Local 301 Members in G. E.

Marine Aircraft Section B — Bldg. 28

By R. A. French

We would like to put in a word of encouragement for Bert Price (28-3), who is chairman for "blood donors procurement committee," for Section B.

Section B has pledged ten donors a week. So far Bert has been able to make the grade, but now the going is a little harder. If we could enlist the aid of more first timers it would relieve the pressure on some of the veterans who are three, four and five time losers.

Remember the slogan "Your pint of blood and the Red Cross — one life." Let's think about that.

See your committeeman or committeewoman about donations. Every Monday 4:15 to 4:30.

Donors who contributed August 23rd are Lottie Kazmar, Helen Zagata, Dorothy Bieling, Charlotte McMahon, Barbara La Barge, Edward O'Connor, Ignatius Tracki, Hazel Van Campon, Marie L. Egginger.

Charlie Green says every time we put in a suggestion we give the Axis a kick in the pants.

The following members of Section B have just been paid off for their kick.

Wanda Krasnowski — Bldg. No. 24-4, Lena McDornell — Bldg. No. 28-5, Carlton Treux — Bldg. No. 28-5, Ralph Palmer — Bldg. No. 28-5, Jim Henderson — Bldg. No. 28-5.

I understand Chet Masden of the fifth floor Bldg. No. 28 has acquired another row-boat. Does that mean twice as many fish, Chet? He is supplying several families now.

Yours truly met our old friend Pete Fuller the other day. He is now working for the New York Central. Pete left the stockroom 28-5 to go in the army sometime ago. But is out now with a medical discharge.

Activities of the Transmitter Dept. — Bldg. 81

Sorry to hear our legislative member Joseph Sindoni was stricken with an attack of appendicitis, but later it was found out that it was only a false alarm.

Well Charlie Keener, how do you like your motorcycle? We can't keep up with Charlie. He may be trading it for a saddle horse next. Don't forget Charlie is buying and selling cars.

ARE YOU GOING ??? — WHERE ???

TO THE EMPLOYEES' TRANSMITTER DEPT. CLAMBAKE

AT COLUMBIA PARK
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1943 — 10:00 A. M.

The three Transmitter Depts. have joined hands and are putting on one of the biggest and best clambakes in transmitter history. The three general chairmen are Dewey Brashear, Campbell Avenue Plant; Harry Case, Bldg. No. 89; and William Mastriani from Bldg. No. 81.

Don't forget to get your tickets early to avoid the rush. Word is being passed around that there are going to be extra beer lines from the brewery to the Columbia Park. On that day there are also going to be 2 door prizes, one for the women and one for the men, softball, races, and dancing.

We send our sympathy to brother Strule in the illness of his new born son.

We hope our little committeeman William Harris has enjoyed his well earned vacation. I bet he will be back and will show us his beautiful tan.

We notice Captain Jack Grant of CIO Transmitter Basketball Team is getting around to some of the players and is scouting for some new talent. Some of his last year's players are playing in Uncle Sam's Army. We hope you get a winning team this year, Jack. Incidentally transmitter copped the National League Championship last year in the city league and was runner up in G. E. league.

Test Dept. Second Shift — Bldg. 11

By Miss A. M. Arpey

I see where a great number of our testers have volunteered to donate their blood. Nevertheless many more donors will be appreciated.

Among those who have volunteered are: Eileen Hayes, Wilhelmina Rink, Rose Cardillo, Angie Malizio, Claribelle Epps.

We wish to welcome Miss Geraldine Ferrara into our department. Also, Max Koling. We hope both of you enjoy your work here.

We were all very sorry to hear of George Mohrmann's illness especially because it fell on his vacation week. Everyone is wishing you a speedy recovery George.

Reminding you all to remember the clambake. We like to see a good showing from our voltage Regulator Dept. Don't forget to get your tickets early.

The Voltage Regulator Dept. extends sincere wishes for a great success of "The Electrical Union News."

Turbine Dept. — Bldg. 60

By Fred Matern

Mr. Robert Clemons of the East Gallery has a Doberman Pinscher dog for which he is justly proud of. He entered his dog in the Albany day show Sunday, August 15, 1943 and won first prize. Congratulations Bob!

This is how it happened — — — There were only 2 dogs entered, Bob's and another one — — — the other one did not show up.

Our sympathy for Donald Falkner who lost his father. For Dominick Capano who lost his wife, for Karl Quirini who lost his mother and Harry Decker for the loss of his father.

The Union workers in the Turbine Dept. of East and West Gallery have a flower fund. Every worker contributes 25c into the fund. There are approximately 250 members who contribute to this fund about 25c every year. A treasurer takes care of all the money and gives a receipt for every contribution. Flowers are sent to any member or his family who die.

Watch for more Bldg. No. 60 news in the Gazette, CIO column every Friday morning.

Building 10A

By C. N. Calvano

"Orchids" to Carol Bucholski for doing her part. She works in the G. E. all week, laboring on her husband's farm at night and on her way donated her fifth pint of blood to the Red Cross.

John Sharp is enjoying a visit to New York.

Bob Bradt is the winner of the \$25.00 Bond for the week.

Joe Bernel had a quiet vacation at Mattituck, L. I.

Frank Donnelly of SR4 will have a lot of respect for "Ole Sol" judging from the second degree burn he got sleeping in the sun.

Welded Products — Bldg. 52

By Bill Geier

Bldgs. No. 52 and 66 are really behind the drive for blood donors to the Red Cross. Twenty-five guys and gals went down last Thursday and twenty more are expected to go every week. In this way, we won't be breaking any records for packing them in all at one time, but we'll guarantee that we will be the steadiest bunch that the Center has seen in many moons.

We welcome Amos Leguire to our "Proud Papa's" club. Amos is the daddy of Ethel Lynn Leguire.

The quiz kids are at Joe Farrell again, but they have to admit that it's pretty tough to stop him.

Stan Penichter has amazed us all by proving that scientists are all wrong about the speed of light.

Only one person had anything to say about that article on the wolf howls. Could it be a guilty conscience? However, the little man soon forgot all about it, and promptly went back to playing "Pin the Tail On The Donkey." Quick Sally, the needle!

Cliff Ditzel will leave for the army Sept. 4th. Good luck, Cliff, from all of us.

Bill Tomeck and his new trotter had a work out a couple of Sundays ago, witnessed and timed by Ed. Cuomo.

What's all this handwriting on the wall? And who is Joe and Mary?

Bill Killough golfer extraordinary, hit a 74 for 18 holes at the Normanside Country Club. Jim Anderson take notice.

ORIGINAL TORN