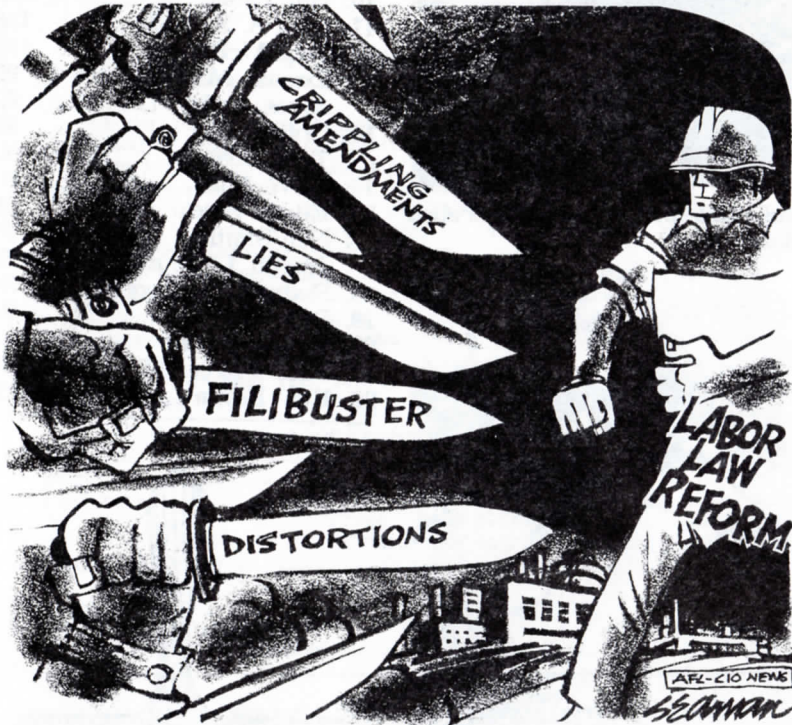


The Short Circuit

June, 1978



Vol. 18, No. 22



Labor Law Bill Termed Vital to Women Workers

A coalition of women's organizations, calling labor law reform a working woman's issue, strongly urged the Senate to pass the Administration's proposed legislation to guarantee justice on the job.

"As long as women are entering the labor market at the lowest rungs of the economic ladder," they said, "they must have a mechanism to better their economic situation. Labor law reform becomes a reality." It will go a long way to bringing justice to women in the workplace, she said.

Cope Conference

Omaha — Six delegates were sent from Local Union 1974 Saturday, June 10th and Sunday, June 11th to attend the Nebraska State AFL-CIO Cope Conference.

In attendance and representing Local Union 1974 for the purpose of making endorsements for the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, Nebraska State Offices and Nebraska State Senators was President, Michael D. Quinlan, Vice President, Whitey Clark, Executive Board Officers, Ken Mass and Jim Perryman, and Cope Director, John Sutej and Short Circuit Editor, Donald M. Wiecezorek.

The Cope Conference was held at the Ramada Inn.

Circuit Break

There will be no publication of the Short Circuit in July. With some twenty percent of the membership (including yours truly) expected to be on vacation during this period of normal publication, it was decided to resume printing of this spirited little union publication in August.

Your Short Circuit Staff wishes to extend to everyone a pleasant and safe vacation.

July Meeting

Because there is no standard vacation like we've been accustomed to in the past, twenty-

Members Elect Nine Delegates To IBEW International Convention

Omaha—Approximately 400 Union members showed up at the Local Union 1974 IBEW Union Hall, May 19th, to vote for the delegates of their choice to represent them at the 31st International Convention to be held in Atlantic City.

The light voter turnout was attributed largely to the sudden change in weather that occurred when the day shift left their jobs. At approximately 3:30 p.m., the rains poured on the election site, but it didn't seem to dampen the enthusiasm of the candidates who held on to handbill what few day voters that did show up.



Several 2nd shift voters show their membership cards.

It was a typical Local Union 1974 election with many candidates turning the Local Union parking lot into a camping site. Several candidates parked their campers and station wagons near the election site so as not to miss any electoral help.

Assisting Election Judges Bill Caddy and Russ Rudeen as tellers during the election were Al Benkis, Bev. Eyestone, Lynn Harder, Phyllis Hemmingsen, Kathy Huges, Vern Kramer, Mary Ann Pilus and Helen Solomon.

One surprising result from the I.O. Delegate Election was first time candidate John Barnes being the top vote getter. It was Barnes' first election and challenge to the electoral process of

There was a tie for the ninth delegate position between John Sutej and Hal Lyons, but due to the lateness of the evening a recount was set early the following Monday morning with the vote recount being conducted by judges Rudene and Caddy and the affected candidates were invited to be in attendance at the recount.

The result of the recount declared John Sutej a winner by two votes.

Subsequent to Sutej being declared winner candidate, Hal Lyons has filed a protest with the I.B.E.W. International Office (I.O.) requesting another election to be held and supervised by the International.

His election "protest" is pending.

"As long as women are entering the labor market at the lowest rungs of the economic ladder," they said, "they must have a mechanism to better their economic condition.

"Clearly, women have a better chance at improving their lot if they have the opportunity to join a union. That is why we support S. 2467," the Labor Law Reform bill.

The legislation will deliver to unorganized workers the promise of the 1935 National Labor Relations Act of an unfettered chance to obtain union representation, the women's groups declared in a joint statement issued at a news conference.

With long delays at each step of the organizing process, illegal dismissals for union activity, and a general lack of effective enforcement of the NLRA, "it is not surprising that women, who have potentially the most to gain from union organization and collective bargaining, are the most fearful of taking the risk of speaking out for what they believe in, or even signing up with a union," they said.

Signing the statement were Esther Peterson, President Carter's special assistant for consumer affairs; Alexis Herman, director of the Labor Dept.'s Women's Bureau; Eleanor Smeal, president of the National Organization for Women; Carin Clauss, the Labor Dept.'s solicitor; Mildred Jeffrey, head of the National Women's Political Caucus; Dorothy Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women; Eileen Thornton, president of the Women's Equity Action League, and Joyce Miller, president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

Pointing to inadequacies in the NLRA as it now stands, the women's rights advocates declared that "women workers must not be denied their best chance for upward mobility and economic progress—a job covered by a union contract."

Mrs. Peterson said that "we are working hard to see that this bill

becomes a reality." It will go a long way to bringing justice to women in the workplace, she said.

Two victims of the current law's unfairness — Corrina Taylor and Donna Terry—described their experiences. Both were illegally discharged from their jobs at Good-year Aerospace Corp.'s Berea, Ky., plant in 1976 for their union activities. While the NLRB has found the company guilty, the firm has appealed the decision and their cases drag on.

"There's going to be more people like me if this bill isn't passed," Taylor said.

Using Small Business:

Giant Firms Distort Claims In Attack on Law Reform Bill

BIG CORPORATIONS have launched a "holy war" against President Carter's proposed update of the federal labor law under the guise of protecting small businesses, few of which are even affected by the current law or the proposed changes, the AFL-CIO's Thomas R. Donahue charged.

Donahue, executive assistant to Federation President George Meany, said that the small business scare is "clearly a red herring" dredged up by the so-called National Action Committee formed by the National Association of Manufacturers, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Business Roundtable to front an all-out campaign against the American labor movement.

Donahue pointed out on Labor News Conference that 3 million of the nation's 3.8 million business establishments are already "excluded from the law's coverage by the jurisdictional standards" of the National Labor Relations Board. There is nothing in the Labor Law Reform bill now being debated in the Senate that would expand that coverage, he added.

Such false and distorted claims, Donahue declared, are "the sheerest kind of nonsense in light of the modest revisions" that the President

July Meeting

Because there is no standard vacation like we've been accustomed to in the last twenty years, there will be a July business meeting. Plan to attend. The date will be July 21st. Look for the meeting reminder to be handed out in July.

Safe Summer

A summer vacation word of caution from the officers and stewards of Local Union 1974. Drive and vacation carefully—we want you back in the same condition you left.

I.O. Delegate Election was first time candidate John Barnes being the top vote getter. It was Barnes' first election and challenge to the electoral process of Local Union 1974.

All the officers of Local Union 1975 that sought election as delegates to the I.C. were also elected.

delegate responsibility of the I.C. were also elected.

It was also the first time ever the Underwood Unit Local Union 1974-1 took part in a joint election with Local Union 1974. Of the three candidates seeking to become a delegate, Unit Chairman Ted McElderry finished highest among Underwood candidates but 24 votes short of winning.

the I.B.E.W. International Office (I.O.) requesting another election to be held and supervised by the International.

His election "protest" is pending and currently being investigated.

Credentials for the following ten delegates have been forwarded to the International:

1. President and Business Man to Local Union 1974, Michael D. Quinlan,
2. John Barnes
3. Jim Perryman
4. Jim Curran
5. Robert Alberts
6. Jack Philby
7. Ken Mass
8. Frank G. Wisniski
9. Robert Belik
10. John M. Sutej.

Complete list of delegates and alternates on Page 2.

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NOTICE

The Monthly Meeting of the Membership will be held Friday June 16, 1978 at the Union Hall, 13306 Stevens Street, Millard.

Second Shift Meeting: 12:30 A.M.

First and third shift meeting: 8:00 P.M.

4—\$25 Drawings

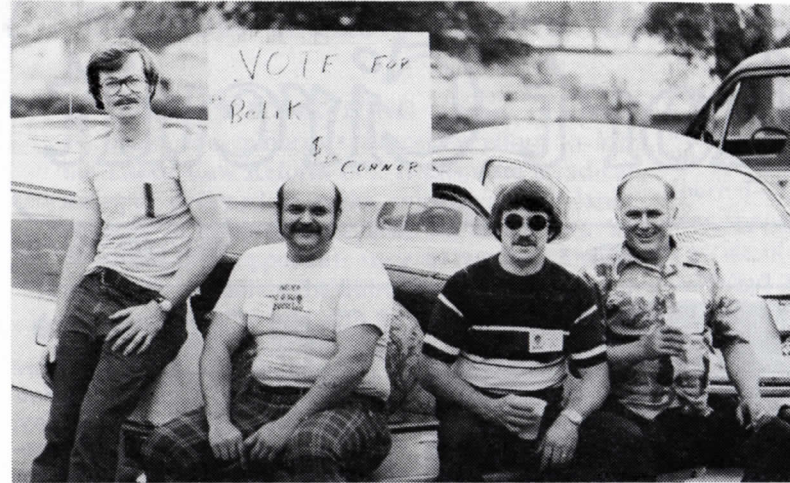
NOTICE

Absolute Deadline for Articles is the 1st of Each Month

IBEW I.C. Delegate Election



Voters lined up to receive their ballots.



These 4 guys tried to hold back the rains with an ancient Polish Chant but it didn't work.

Delegates to the IBEW Convention:

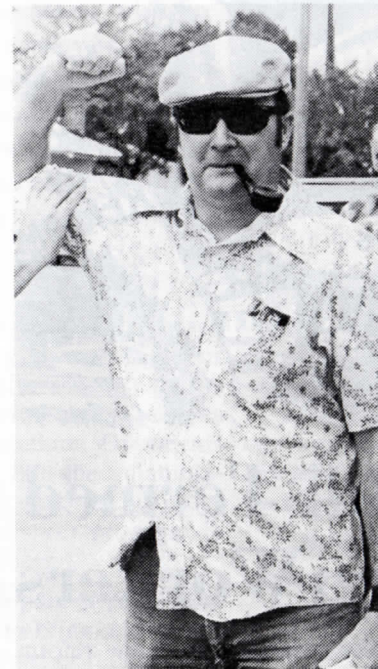
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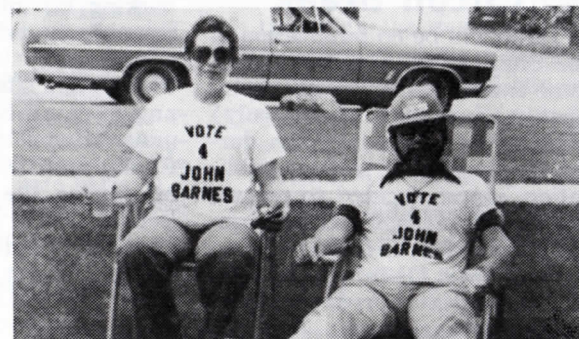
Helen looking good!



Election Judge Russ Rudene (far right) with tellers Kathy Hughes, Phyllis Hemmgisen, and Vern Kramer.



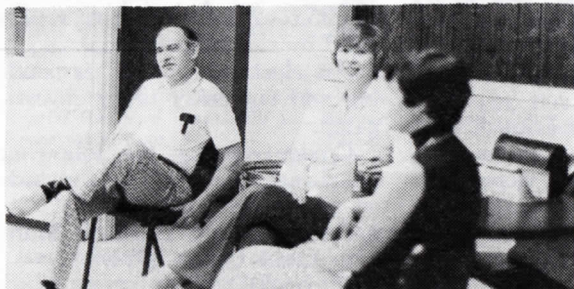
Which one of these two voters look like the 'Incredible Hulk?'



John Barnes takes a break from a hard campaign.



John Barnes takes a break from a hard campaign.



Election Judge Bill Cady and Tellers Bev Eyestone and Phyllis Hemmingsen take a break from the voter rush.



Len Harder: "I had 14 winners at Ak-Sar-Ben today and had to work the election."



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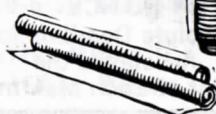
*2 year deposits earn 7¼% annual percentage rate compounded quarterly.

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Women and Social Security

Almost all Americans—women, men and children—have social security protection, either as workers or as dependents of workers. But certain aspects of the program are unique to women—if you—as a woman—are counting on social security benefits as part of your retirement program, you should know that:

To get any social security benefits, you need credit for a certain amount of work. The credits you may have already earned before marriage and children remain on your work record, and of course, if you return to work, additional credits are earned.

The amount of your social security benefit, is based on your average earnings over a period of years, and those years of no earnings (as well as part-time or temporary work) have to be included in that total. The result? A lower benefit potential.

A wife who has earned her own social security credits has certain options at retirement. For example, suppose your husband continues to work past 65 and earns too much to get benefits. Or suppose he's younger than you and not yet ready to receive social security checks. You can go ahead and retire on your own record; then when your husband does retire, take the wife's payments if they would be higher.

Regardless of your husband's age, you can take reduced benefits on your own wage record before age 65. But remember, your payment will always be reduced—even if you take reduced benefits on your own record and then take wife's benefits when your husband retires.

When a divorce occurs between the first and twentieth years of marriage, a wife is entitled to NO retirement, survivor, or disability benefits. If you do stay married twenty years or more, you can get benefits when your ex-husband starts collecting retirement or disability payments (if you are 62 or older); if your ex-husband dies (provided you are 60 or older; 50, if you're disabled); or if you have young children entitled to benefits on his record.

If you are widowed and remarry at 60 or older, benefits can continue, at 50 percent of the retirement benefit your deceased former husband was entitled to. If your new husband gets social security checks, however, you can take a wife's benefit on his record if it would be larger than your widow's payment.

There is an exception: if you are disabled, you can collect benefits at age 50. This so-called "widow's gap" could prove to be particularly treacherous for a middle-aged homemaker with no skills or recent work experience if life insurance and other provisions are not adequate.

A Message From the Vice- President's Desk



Recently, I have been working on trying to get the Red Cross to give our Union Members the Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (C.P.R.) Course.

At one of the recent Union meetings, there seemed to be a great deal of interest in such a course.

This course consists of eight to nine hours of instruction broken down into two or three segments.

As the instructors do this on their own time, it is necessary to find out how many of you want to take the course so we can arrange things through the Red Cross.

There is so much enthusiasm by other groups that it is necessary to book the instructors two months in advance.

If you are interested in such a course to be given at the Union Hall, please fill out the form and give it to any Union Representative as soon as possible.

Again, I remind you, this is a course for Union members and their families only.

Questionnaire for Proposed IBEW C.P.R. Course

Name:

Shift:

Preference (1st, 2nd, 3rd) Two 4-hour courses

Three 3-hour courses

Four 2-hour courses

When—Weekday

Weekend

Time of day

Name of Family Member
That Wants the Course

Hairy Responsibility

An employer did not have to provide free hair nets to long-haired employees required to wear them for safety purposes, arbitrator Don J. Harr rules.

By order of a state safety inspector, employees with long hair were required to use a hair net or similar protective device when working around unguarded equipment and moving machinery. The company bought a supply of hair nets and made them available to employees at \$6.00 each, but the union contended that management violated the contract in not distributing them free of charge. The provision at issue said that all "standard safety equipment," with the exception of hats, shoes, and belts, would be provided by the company if required for the job.

Management maintained that, since the hair nets were necessary only for employees who preferred to keep their hair long, they were not "standard" safety equipment and therefore the employer did not have to pay for them.

Harr sides with the employer, saying that the "use of hair nets is conditional," being based on "personal preference as to hair length." Since the equipment was not "standard" and the employees had known of the requirement during the previous contract term, the arbitrator said the union "should have sought payment for hair nets through ne-

Alert Guards

By Jim Meeks

It's not often that the guards get any praise. More often, articles of this type are berating the guards for either not being there when they should have been, or there when they weren't wanted (In the case of parking violations.)

This time they are to be commended on their alertness and actions. Maybe we should look a little deeper to see if we were berating them unjustly before. Maybe we should thank their new assistant manager and the engineers involved, also. There have been some very recent changes in the plant security surveillance system. They have recently installed (in both parking lots) light amplifying cameras that rotate to cover the whole company premises. These cameras are designed to see in the dark. The picture is as bright as if it were daylight all the time.

It was with this equipment that an alert console operator saw what he thought to be suspicious activity going on in the west lot. This was about shift change time for the evening and morning shifts. It involved several people and cars. Two guards were sent to see what was going on. The people were questioned, and due to lack of co-operation, 911 was called.

Now this activity may have been all legal (It is not known by me at this time), but at least with new equipment and the guards demonstration of alertness and desire to control parking lot security we can feel a little better about leaving our cars in the parking lot. For that, I for one, say thanks to all concerned, from the assistant manager down to the guards who were on the ball.

Editorial

War on Inflation Hits Wrong Enemy

THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S war against inflation may be the right war at the right time, but it has been launched against the wrong enemy.

The root causes of what some economists call "the new inflation" are soaring energy prices due to imported oil, uncontrolled health care costs, food price rises due in part to weather conditions and high interest rates.

But Administration economists in January unveiled what they described as a "new program" of wage-price "deceleration." As elaborated in the President's Economic Report to Congress, the idea was to ask individual industries to voluntarily hold price and wage increases below the average for the previous two years.

In April, the President followed through and officially declared war on inflation, with "deceleration" the chief weapon.

Since then, however, the Labor Department's Monthly Labor Review came off the press and revealed that wage "deceleration" has been going on for four years.

"Wage increases negotiated in 1977 were the smallest since 1973," said the article. In major contracts—those covering 1,000 or more workers—the total effective wage-rate adjustment showed this trend: 1973, 7.0 percent; 1974, 9.4 percent; 1975, 8.7 percent; 1976, 8.1 percent; 1977, 8.0 percent.

Against this background of established wage "deceleration," the current attack on the union sector by some Administration economists seems misplaced, uninformed and unfair.

When President Carter proposed to limit federal pay increases this fall to 5.5 percent, he apparently was heeding the advice of his Council on Wage & Price Stability, which earlier had suggested such a cap.

One result was that the five unions on the Federal Employees Pay Council promptly quit, leaving in ruins a pay-setting mechanism that had been carefully reconstructed just a year earlier.

BESIDES DRAFTING federal workers to serve as shock troops in the war on inflation, the President also urged governors and big city mayors to hold down wage increases. Public employee unions, representing some of the lowest-paid workers around the nation, sharply protested being chosen for this honor.

Meanwhile, the director of the Council on Wage & Price Stability continued to spread misinformation. Concerned at the gap between union and non-union wage hikes, he leaped into the breach:

"If non-union workers try to close the gap at a rapid pace in the next couple of years, we will get a major acceleration in the rate of wage increase.

"standard" safety equipment used by the employees had not been paid for them.

Harr sides with the employer, saying that the "use of hair nets is conditional," being based on "personal preference as to hair length." Since the equipment was not "standard" and the employees had known of the requirement during the previous contract term, the arbiter reasons, the union "should have sought payment for hair nets through negotiation and not through arbitration." (Potash Company of America and Steelworkers, 70 LA 194)

Family Fracas

An employee was improperly denied medical benefits for an injury sustained during a fight with his father-in-law, arbitrator Neil M. Gundermann decides.

During a domestic quarrel, the employee's father-in-law socked him in the jaw. The employee then proceeded to get his rifle. A struggle ensued, and the father-in-law fell down a flight of stairs, sustaining a cracked rib and a slight concussion. The employee, who was hospitalized with a broken jaw, was charged with use of dangerous weapon.

When the worker applied for medical benefits to cover his hospital expenses, the insurance carrier and the employer informed him that no action could be taken until the court disposed of the charges against him. The employer's insurance plan which paid benefits for nonoccupational, accidental injuries, also provided that no benefits would be paid for injuries incurred during the commission of an illegal act. Subsequently, the employee pled guilty to a lesser charge of disorderly conduct. Based upon the guilty plea, the insurance carrier denied the employee's claim for benefits.

The employer contended that the insurance carrier properly determined that the employee's injury was not covered under the plan because it was not an accident, but had been sustained while the employee was committing an illegal offense.

Since the employee could not have anticipated that his father-in-law was going to strike him, the arbitrator finds that the broken jaw was a nonoccupational, accidental injury covered by the insurance plan. Although the plan did not authorize payment for injuries received during the commission of an unlawful act, Gundermann concludes, the disclaimer was not applicable to the employee since he was injured before he committed the alleged illegal offense. (Briggs & Stratton Corp. and Industrial Workers, 70 LA 399)

Know Your Rep.



Bob Belik

Chief Steward, Bob Belik, has been associated with Local Union 1974 for such a long time nobody can remember when he was hired. So, to set the record straight, Bob told us he has been with the Company sixteen years and a steward eight of those years.

Bob, a former tester, is now a Die Lab technician in Dept. 251-7.

Bob is married and has two daughters. His hobbies are Drag Racing and Fishing.

Royal Action

The June business meeting will be the last meeting of the 1978 baseball season where free baseball tickets for the Omaha Royals will be offered to the membership.

It should be noted for those interested members or baseball fans in general, who are taking their vacation during the upcoming summer months that the Omaha Royals will be in and out of town throughout the summer.

A night with the Royals is usually a very inexpensive evening and every seat in Rosenblatt Stadium is the coolest place in the town on a hot night. Plus, don't forget the thrills of Triple A baseball. If you're a baseball nut, then catch Omaha Royalmania.

cerned, from the assistant manager down to the guards who were on the ball.

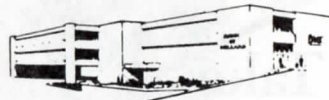
Four Winners At May Meeting

The election of delegates to the International IBEW Convention to be held in Atlantic City wasn't the only big event that happened to Local Union 1974 last month.

Four people from the membership won the \$25 door prize. They were Jean Willy, Dept. 439 and Bob Gaddie of Dept. 745 for the a.m. morning meeting and Tom Connor, Dept. 439 and Jerry Van Stratton, Dept. 253 for the p.m. meeting.

Don't miss the June and July meeting drawings. Remember, an extra \$25 is dinner for the family or one night's lodging in Kansas City or other points west. Happy Drawing, Happy Vacation!

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union and non-union wage hikes, he leaped into the breach:

"If non-union workers try to close the gap at a rapid pace in the next couple of years, we will get a major acceleration in the rate of wage increase.

"We have to make an effort—even though it is not terribly equitable—to try to hold down the non-union wage increases. They cannot close the gap, even though these workers have an equity argument going for them. The cost simply would be too much inflation."

What this official does not understand is that non-union workers close no gaps because they have no bargaining power. In a tight labor market, employers will compete for scarce skills, but with the jobless rate at 6 percent and nearly 6 million people unemployed, there is rather the depressing effect of a surplus of workers.

Imagine a mill worker asking a J. P. Stevens boss for a raise because this high official in Washington said he has an "equity" argument going for him. What the boss is most likely to say is: "Get your tail back to your machine or pack up and get out of here."

If the strategy is to lean only on unions and squeeze the unorganized, the Administration policy is neither fair nor compassionate. Until the anti-inflation program unfolds more fully and fairly, it would certainly help to decelerate the rhetoric of the Council on Wage & Price Stability.



Jim Stuart

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Kaspar Family Motorcross

For racing fans, Motorcross is a sure fire attraction for young and old. It is hard work to compete in this demanding sport.

"My boys, Ron and Tim, put a lot of time into this sport," says Al Kaspar of Dept. 251. "Not only do they put in many hours of practice but they had to work a lot of hours to buy their bikes and equipment."

But hard work is the keystone of success in motorcross. Since development of motorcycle suspension systems made it possible to venture off hard surface highways, bikeriders have refined the sport of motorcross by conducting races on closed courses using natural terrain.

Obstacles like rocks, mud, ruts, jumps, seemingly impossible inclines and dizzying descents are among the elements which delight motorcross rider and fan alike. The compatibility of the even low gearing versus natural terrain reates situations which separate the heavy footed bikerider from the level headed bikemaster.

On any Sunday during the racing season, the Kaspar boys can be found competing for the trophies of the event, or just enjoying themselves putting their bikes through their paces.

"It is a great sport to watch," says Al Kaspar. "I just wish I could jump in their with the kids and try it myself. Maybe someday I will."



Kaspar Family Motorcross—Dad, Al Kaspar, stands with sons, Ron, Tim and trophies before their Y.Z. model Yamaha Bikes.



Ron Turns



Tim Flies

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Fall Expectations

A. Whiz Promises Winners and More

"Since the track at Ak-Sar-Ben has opened," claimed our resident track tout, A. Whiz, "I've been giving myself the limp billfold test. It seems like the longer the racing season lasts, the limper my billfold gets."

"But enough of the track and all the possible fortunes I could have won," said Whiz pulling out from his desk drawer a two-week old copy of Sports Illustrated, a faded copy of Sports Action, and three Baseball Digest survivors of the 1977 season, "It's time to sit down and make my June predictions for the pennant races and World Series."

"Last year, I picked four teams and only one out of that four finished in the money and it was the New York Yankees," bragged Whiz in his humble sort of blow the cigar smoke at my feet instead of in your face way." But in this year, I know a story, and I got all the winners."

"Starting in the American League East, this division is the easiest to pick and I strongly believe the Boston Red Sox will be the big winner here. They are in first place now and that's without Fred Lynn and George Scott in the lineup. They will walk away with this division. But don't count the Baltimore Orioles out until the season is over. They could close if their pitching holds up. The Yankees are out of it."

The American League West has three probable winners out of seven teams. The big three are California Angels, Texas Rangers and Kansas City Royals. But I like Kansas City's chances this year because they are a home grown team. They didn't spend the big bucks for free agents—just steady scouting reports and they don't change managers often. Kansas City will be there because California lacks the strong hitting and Texas lacks the deep pitching, so my advice is buy your playoff tickets to Kansas City early." (I didn't mention the Oakland A's because they could fade before August but if they don't then I and the whole world was wrong about them.)

Looking at the National League East, the Philadelphia Phillies look like the odds on favorite. They have good hitting, speed and balanced pitching with good relief support. I like Philadelphia, but say so with a weak feeling. Every year I keep looking at the Montreal Expos and they keep looking stronger. The same could be said of the Chicago Cubs. If Philly wins the East, they'll win the playoffs."

At the present time, over in the National League West, it's a three team race. But I look for a repeat performance from the Los Angeles Dodgers. They don't have the hall of fame hitting line-up that the Cincinnati Reds have, but L.A. has the pitching the other clubs don't have. And, remember, pitching is seventy-five percent (75%) of the game.

It's early, but I guarantee I won't be too far wrong," Whiz said as he summed up his baseball predictions for June. Look for the Boston Red Sox and the Philadelphia Phillies to be in the 1978 World Series."

"In the next issue of the Short Circuit which I call the August Football Advent issue, I hope to have several 'get on steady ground' bets that can't miss in September."

Have a nice vacation, everybody!!

Wieczorek on the Run

I spent a little time this month comparing my election results of the 1978 IBEW Convention with the 1974 election. In 1974, I finished 18th in a field of 30 as in relation to finishing 13 in a field of 25 this year. At the rate I'm moving up

I spent a little time this month comparing my election results of the 1978 IBEW Convention with the 1974 election. In 1974, I finished 18th in a field of 30 as in relation to finishing 13 in a field of 25 this year. At the rate I'm moving up in the vote result column, by 1982, I should finish eighth or backslide to 28.

Since I expanded my running program up to running year around, it's amazing how good it feels to run outdoors in the warm weather. The body human doesn't have to be locked outside the front door like it does in sub-zero weather to get it going.

Speaking about running, I've had a lot of inquiries about shoes. What kind are the best? How much should be spent? etc.

My best advice is that if you run, shoes are your only expense. If you spent \$25 for a good pair of shoes and run 5,000 or more miles in them, that breaks down to less than 2c a mile.

Has anybody noticed the great job the new editor of the Westerner is doing? That new editor, Linda Ryan, has really shown everybody around here how to put a newspaper that is "Company oriented" together and make it interesting. The change has been fantastic.

The nice thing about the kind of good job Linda does can be seen in her skillful use of the written word. Everything she writes is reviewed by a special board of managers long before the employees see it. So, judging from her talent with pen and ink, and from the kind of audience who reviews her work she surely has displayed a livelier imagination than has been seen on the pages of the Westerner before.

This will be the last issue of the Short Circuit until next August. It's our traditional two-month vacation period, so until August, if you go on vacation or not, have a pleasant summer. And remember the body is a beautiful piece of machinery. With the proper maintenance it'll last a lifetime. D.M.W.

Working men and women are practical. They like to see results. So naturally they're attracted to the Payroll Savings Plan for U.S. Savings Bonds. They've seen it operate and they know it works.

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The drive was June 5th through June 9th. Although it's over, it's still not too late to sign up. DO IT NOW



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Boston Red Sox and the Philadelphia Phillies to be in the 1978 World Series."

"In the next issue of the Short Circuit which I call the August Football Advent issue, I hope to have several 'get on steady ground' bets that can't miss in September."

Have a nice vacation, everybody!!

Editor's Note: Whiz said with the confidence of the true game-man and handicapper he is that the 1978 football season will be like having one of those dreams where you follow a trail of quarters and halves to where your hands and pickets won't hold anymore. But Whiz guarantees you won't be dreaming.

"Like finding money in the road".

Jim's
Galley



Here is a good light meal for a week-end when you're hungry but don't want a big meal. Also, I consider it a quick no-nonsense snack for those up and coming lazy vacation days.

Spread on Burgers

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Lb. Ground Chuck | 2 Tbls. Green Pepper |
| 1/2 Pkg. Dry Onion Soup | (omit, if desired) |
| 4 Oz. Sour Cream | 6 Tbls. Instant Mashed Potatoes |
| 2 Tbls. Worcestershire Sauce | 1/4 Cup Milk |

Let meat come to room temperature. Combine all ingredients together, adding milk last. Spread on hamburger bun halves. Broil on low shelf until done.

TRIVIA TIME: Of the well over 100 or so professional teams, such as baseball, football, hockey and basketball, can you name, within the next sixty seconds, the teams whose nickname does not end in "S." (For example, Mets, Rangers). Look for answer on page 6.

DIRTY TRICKS MAKE DIRTY SHEETS!



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Special Report

The Midnight Hours

Toil powered by midnight oil can leave an employee exhausted, sick, and accident-prone, according to medical researchers who have studied the effects of shift work on employees. With more employers turning to shift work in order to maximize equipment use and profits, employees in ever-increasing numbers are being required to reset and rewind their "biological clocks" in crazy-quilt patterns that may pose serious threats to their physical and emotional well-being.

In May 1977, almost 10 million U.S. workers were scheduled on evening, night, or other non-standard shifts, according to a new Bureau of Labor statistics' study, which contains the first nation-wide estimates on the number of full-time, wage and salary employees working shuffled schedules.

The BLS study defines a night shift as one in which at least half the hours worked fall between midnight and 8 a.m.; an evening shift as one in which at least half the hours worked fall between 4 p.m. and midnight; and "other" shifts as those running longer than 12 or shorter than six hours. Day-shift workers—those for whom at least half the scheduled hours fall between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.—totaled 49.4 million, outnumbering by seven to one the 6.9 million total of late-shift workers.

Moreover, according to other BLS studies, the incidence of shift work is on the rise. The Bureau's area wage surveys, for example, show that 16 percent of manufacturing employees were on the second shift in 1961, but that figure rose to 21.3 percent by 1975. Also, while only 6.1 percent were working the third shift in 1961, in 1975 the figure stood at 7.6 percent.

nificantly more accidents than those who work permanent shifts." Rotating workers have reported "significantly more" ailments than permanent-shift employees, Tasto notes, including more stomach and digestive problems, leg and foot cramps, colds, chest pains, fatigue, menstrual problems, nervousness and shakiness, alcohol consumption, wheezing, and use of sleeping pills and stimulants. "Their sleep patterns, domestic and social lives, and psychological health" also are "less satisfactory," he adds.

Shattered Sleep Patterns

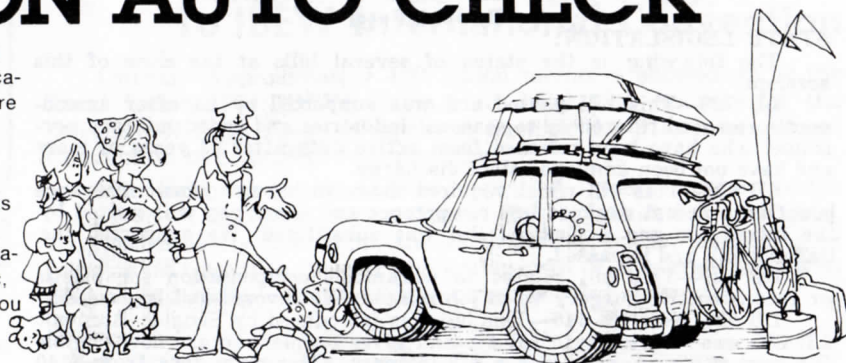
The largest problem for the shift-worker, according to Dr. Elliot Weitzman, neurology department chairman at Montefiore Hospital, New York City, is "the major disruption of the daily sleep-wake cycle." The "physiological clock can't just be turned around at will," Weitzman says, emphasizing that the "kind of sleep people get when they shift to daytime is demonstrably abnormal and fragmented."

Again, employees on rotating shifts seemingly experience the most severe problems. The disruptions shift changes cause in an employee's biological rhythms are not easily readjusted, Tasto notes. "After a 180-degree inversion of schedule," he explains, "it takes three to four weeks for all the circadian rhythms to become resynchronized again, so if you change shifts every month your rhythms are interrupted just as you're getting adjusted again." However, even on a permanent schedule, late-shift workers sleep less than normal.

Approximately half the women and 70 percent of the men on evening shifts are married, with slightly higher proportions hold-

VACATION AUTO CHECK

Flat tires, dead batteries, overheated engines . . . these are some of the vacation spoilers. Highway breakdowns are no fun. And they can rob you of time, money, and freedom. The National Safety Council (U.S.) reports that the greatest number of highway accidents occur during the summer months, peaking in August. Don't let your vacation turn into a miserable, even tragic, experience. This checklist will help you or your automobile serviceman to complete a vacation auto check.



CHECK THESE ITEMS

Electrical System—Check battery water level and condition of terminals and charge. Gap or replace plugs. For cars without electronic ignition systems, gap or replace points, replace condenser and check armature and distributor cap for burns or cracks and replace if needed.

Cooling System—Check radiator, liquid coolant level, and hoses.

Brakes—Check fluid level and adjustment. Have a wheel removed to check condition of linings and cylinders.

Tires—Check air pressure, tread, and general condition; rotate tires if needed. Check spare, too.

Lights—Check headlights, brake lights, back-up lights, turn signals, dashboard lights, and ceiling light.

Windshield Wipers—Check blades and fluid.

Steering—Check for excessive vibration or too much "play" in the steering wheel.

Exhaust System—Check it for holes, rattles and loose connections.

TOWING A TRAILER

Get the right equipment—Be sure the car is equipped to pull the trailer. Some trailers require special hitches, heavy-duty shock absorbers and transmission coolers.

Spread weight correctly—Most of the weight should be toward the front of the vehicle. Secure anything inside that might cause shifting or be tossed around.

Night driving and unfamiliar roads require that you see and be seen. Signals from truck drivers often indicate burned out lights.

Wrong turns and read-end collisions dampen fun quickly. Seeing clearly in all weather conditions is vital. Commercial windshield fluids contain solvents to dissolve sticky insect remains.

This may be a signal that you may need a front end alignment. Poor alignment may mean less steering control and eventually wear tires.

If repairs are needed, do it now, not when the muffler falls off in downtown rush hour traffic or when driving in isolated rural areas where help may not be available.

LAST MINUTE CHECKLIST

Avoid eye fatigue—Use sun glasses that reduce glare. Avoid night driving.

Pack sensibly—Pack baggage and articles away from passengers. When using station wagons, load the back compartment no higher than the back seat. Prevent articles from tossing; give the driver a clear view to the rear of the vehicle.

Avoid distractions—Keep youngsters busy and out of the driver's hair by entertaining them with games and puzzles. Make a special place for the family pet which will keep it from having the run of the automobile.

Drive defensively—On the road, wear safety belts; stop regularly to prevent driving fatigue. Don't take a vacation from safety, take safety along on the vacation trip.

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SCOTT WILLOUGHBY — Owner

on the second shift in 1961, but that figure rose to 21.3 percent by 1975. Also, while only 6.1 shift in 1961, in 1975 the figure percent were working the third stood at 7.6 percent.

Rotating is Rough

Shift work is increasing for various reasons. A prominent cause is the lower price charged by utilities, under time-of-day rates, for power used during off-peak hours. Also, a growing number of capital-intensive industries are aiming at maximum utilization of plants and equipment through continuous process production.

While it is difficult enough for employees to adjust from day work to a permanent late shift, the more serious problems are encountered by workers on rotating shifts that change at regular intervals. According to Dr. Donald Tasto, the director of SRI International's Center for Research on Stress and Health, the evidence is "very clear that people who rotate shifts have sig-

nificantly more health problems than normal. Approximately half the women and 70 percent of the men on evening shifts are married, with slightly higher proportions holding true for the night and non-standard shifts. Many of these workers complain of the detrimental impact such scheduling has on their families. If a late-shift worker has a day-working spouse, husbands and wives seldom link up except on the weekend. Late-shift workers also say they have little time to spend with their children, which sometimes leads to guilt and loss of parental self-esteem.

Because they are out of chronological step with the rest of the world, employees on the late shift also have problems with social relationships. Activities ranging from PTA meetings to bowling leagues are difficult to maintain, leaving the employees, Dr. Weitzman notes, feeling "isolated" and "not in touch with what's going on."

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Oklahoma City August 20-24

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manually, head, late shift workers sleep less than normal.

Spread weight correctly—Most of the weight should be toward the front of the vehicle. Secure anything inside that might cause shifting or be tossed around.

Install mirrors—Large rear-view mirrors should be attached to both sides of the automobile.

Practice before the trip—If towing a trailer is a new experience, practice driving it before the trip and learn the "feel" of the vehicle with the trailer attached. Practice backing the trailer is often difficult even for the most experienced driver.

HERE'S WHY

A faulty electrical system can stop a vacation cold—sometimes in the middle of an intersection. Danger signals include: stalling, difficulty in starting, dim lights, engine missing or sputtering, and increased gasoline consumption.

Low coolant level causes overheating and stalling. Hose ruptures result in immediate loss of coolant and possible severe engine damage. Deteriorating hoses can produce rubber flakes in the coolant which may plug the heater.

Loss of brakes at 55 mph on crowded highways is a frightening, often tragic experience. Soft, spongy brake pedal, fading, or brake noise indicates danger.

Skidding and blow-outs at high speeds are a major source of highway deaths. A change in tire shape and screeching when turning at medium speeds are warning signals.

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COPE Legislative Report

By John Sutej

STATE LEGISLATION:

The following is the status of several bills at the close of this session:

LB 128—This bill passed and was supported by us after amendments removed references to seasonal industries and added military personnel who have been released from active duty after 20 years or more and have not been employed since discharge.

LB 424—This bill which required those on unemployment insurance benefits to accept work of less competence and lower pay was gutted by the introducer and a Gasohol Bill was substituted. We supported the Gasohol Bill and it passed.

LB 529—This bill related to workmen's compensation for plastic or reconstructive surgery when job related. We favored and it passed.

LB 630, Now LB 446—This bill was introduced by Senator Brennan. LB 630 was inserted into LB 446 and gives people who are now eligible for workmen's compensation a \$15 increase. (Maximum goes from \$140 to \$155). We favored and were pleased to get this increase.

LB 826—This bill was introduced by the Banking Commission at the request of Senator Brennan. It deals with increase in amount of loan available through cooperative credits associations. It passed.

SB 2467—Labor Law Reform is on the Senate floor and a filibuster is in progress. Many labor leaders from Nebraska have visited Senator Zorinsky to encourage him to vote for "cloture" and the bill "without amendments." Senator Zorinsky's response is "he wants the bill thoroughly debated and all serious amendments to receive serious consideration before cloture is invoked." No one knows when the first cloture vote will come.

At a recent meeting in Washington, D.C. on **Labor Law Reform**, a plan was initiated to keep Senator Zorinsky informed on what the various amendments would mean and the AFL-CIO position on any amendments. Various Legislative Directors from Internationals who work on Capitol Hill on a daily basis were assigned three Senators to act as liaison for the various states. The person designated for Nebraska is Jerry Gerber, Legislative Staff of the CWA. You can contact him at 925 "K" Street., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Business is bound and determined to defeat **Labor Law Reform**, including the National Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Donahue, Assistant to President George Meany, stated at the meeting that business, after all these years, will not accept the validity of the American Labor Movement. The fight for dignity and fair treatment to organize workers in

Our thanks to all the members who have taken the time to sign a Democratic Society is being challenged in the Halls of the Senate. card, write a letter or contact Senator Zorinsky expressing your feeling. **Do not stop now—keep in touch with your Senator.** His address is:

Senator Edward Zorinsky, 1407 Dirksen Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

I would like to say thanks to everyone in the membership whose vote helped me to get elected as delegate to the IBEW Convention.

But, I was disappointed at the small turnout at the election. It seems that people in our membership don't realize that voting is progress. It shows that people are concerned about their Union and will do more than just talk about it. This kind of apathy does more harm to a Union than people realize. Maybe, someday the people in our membership will realize this.

Aiding the Violators

Business Leaders Playing 'Cynical Game' on Labor Law

THERE IS SOMETHING almost irrational about the minority's desperate effort to kill the Labor Law Reform bill. If this were a radical measure designed to make substantive pro-labor changes in existing labor law, one would not be surprised if its opponents were to resort to almost any tactic, including the filibuster, to try to prevent its coming to a vote. In fact, however, S.2467 doesn't fit that description at all. To the contrary, it's an extremely moderate bill designed not to change the existing labor relations law (the so-called Wagner Act of 1935, as amended twice during the intervening years), but simply to guarantee prompt union elections under the law and to provide realistic remedies for the victims of those employers who willfully break the law.

In short, the bill provides unions with no additional rights and deprives employers of none of the rights they now possess under the law. It is designed solely and simply to take the profit out of disobeying the law and would have no effect whatsoever on those employers—the majority, by far—who are in compliance with the law.

This being the case, there is something very cynical about the diversionary tactics being used by a willful minority of senators to keep the Labor Law Reform bill from coming to a vote, thereby thwarting the democratic process and making a mockery of parliamentary procedure. Opponents of the bill know perfectly well that the inflammatory statements they are making about its purposes and allegedly harmful effects is sheer propaganda bearing no relationship to the facts.

This kind of cynicism on the part of politicians is disgraceful and is calculated to bring our system of government into even further disrepute at a time when politicians, of all people, ought to be working overtime to restore public confidence in the system and also, I might add, to shore up their own sagging credibility.

Be that as it may, there is something even more cynical about the frantic efforts being made by blue-chip employers to kill the Labor Law Reform

them in an all-out effort to defeat S.2467.

AFL-CIO President George Meany recently addressed an open letter to these employers in the form of an advertisement in the Wall Street Journal—the first such ad that the federation has ever sponsored in the Journal. Meany addressed a series of questions to the business community:

"Why? What is your motivation? What do you expect to gain? Where is the moral basis for your attacks? Is not the real intent of this attack the destruction of the uniquely American system of collective bargaining, which business leaders have hailed for four decades?"

THESE ARE LOGICAL and reasonable questions. So far, to their great discredit, the business leaders to whom they were addressed have yet to answer them. Their refusal to do so bodes ill for the future of labor-management relations in the United States, for it means that even those employers who will tell you in private (as some have told me) that unions are a good thing not only for workers but for employers and that if unions didn't exist we would have to invent them, are willing, when the chips are down, to give aid and comfort and large scale financial support to a minority of reactionary employers who are not only opposed to collective bargaining but are determined to go on violating existing labor legislation with impunity. In short, they are breaking faith with their union counterparts who have cooperated with them over the years in developing a system of collective bargaining which, with all its limitations, has benefitted American industry at least as much as it has benefitted American workers.

Business leaders who are playing this cynical game may eventually have to pay a heavy price for their stupidity, for as President Meany has courteously cautioned them, the "Labor Law Reform bill is a symbol of good faith. What happens to that symbol, in the Senate of the United States, will have a profound impact on the kind of labor-management relations that America will have in the years ahead. The wise and intelligent leaders of the American business

The Record

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Georgette W. Hopkins, Dept. 722

..... Father-in-law

Lretta Damubman, Dept. 723Husband

Shirley Klabunde, Dept. 253....Father-in-law

Lillian Wiersema, Dept. 761Brother

Ronald Bressman, Dept. 437Wife

Betty Kahre, Dept. 722Sister

Demo Convention

By Marie Cook

If you have never been to a political convention, I guarantee it to be an experience.

I am proud to say that three of your Executive Board Officers attended the Democratic Con-

Georgette W. Hopkins, Dept. 722 Father-in-law
 Lretta Damubman, Dept. 723 Husband
 Shirley Klabunde, Dept. 253 Father-in-law
 Lillian Wiersema, Dept. 761 Brother
 Ronald Bressman, Dept. 437 Wife
 Betty Kahre, Dept. 722 Sister
 Mary Daneff, Dept. 441 Mother-in-law
 Charles Blanchard, Dept. 723 Brother
 Eunice Kraft, Dept. 446 Father
 W. J. Rosencrans, Dept. 761 Father-in-law
 Steve E. Smith, Dept. 741 Father-in-law

If you have never been to a political convention, I guarantee it to be an experience.

I am proud to say that three of your Executive Board Officers attended the Democratic Convention, but sorry to say of all the Democrats in Douglas County, only 410 were in attendance.

Isn't it sad that so many people allow someone else to elect the people and make the rules we will all have to live by.

'Nuff said. Think about it, please.

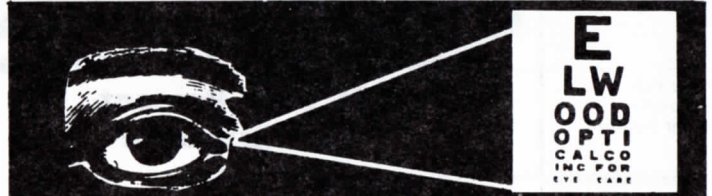
Answer to Trivia Quiz. There are three teams, the Boston Red Sox, Chicago White Sox and New Orleans Jazz.

the system and, to add, to shore up their own sagging credibility.

Be that as it may, there is something even more cynical about the frantic efforts being made by blue-chip employers to kill the Labor Law Reform bill. Again, one might be disappointed, but not surprised, if a hard core of fanatically anti-union employers were to oppose even such a moderate and sensible bill. But it boggles the mind to think that responsible business leaders of great repute who have been dealing constructively with unions for decades and have publicly endorsed the purpose of the Wagner Act are now giving aid and comfort to law-breaking employers by joining

United States, will have a profound impact on the kind of labor-management relations that America will have in the years ahead. The wise and intelligent leaders of the American business world should quickly address themselves to this question, and to their role in this campaign."

The sooner the better, I would add—for their own good. They need the Labor Law Reform bill at least as much as labor needs it, and, if they don't think so, they are far out of touch with reality and would be well advised to ponder the ancient adage: "Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad."



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