WORKER'S JOURNAL

Why Should the Union Raise Our Dues?
By CHARLES DENBY

Workers are discussing the proposed dues increase that the International Union is now talking about levelling against them.

The first reaction was: What are we getting for the $2.50 we are now paying?

ALL FOR $2.50

Nothing but abuse from our local Union officers, and the International, when we mention a problem concerning workers at the shop level, like speedup, foremen working many hours. They are those things workers are receiving for the $2.50 they now pay.

Many are getting fired by the union and company, for their $2.50, with a guarantee of never being reinstated.

Secondly, why did the International mention the dues raise in the newspapers and the public before letting a breath of it be known to workers?

They started by saying it would be a dollar-and-a-half increase. Then it was a sliding scale—the more a worker gets, the higher his dues.

THEN & NOW

A year or so ago, the UAW secretary-treasurer, Emil Mazey, said they need a strike fund of 25 million dollars, no more than that. But, he said, if the fund sinks below 20 million, they may ask workers to put it back to 25 million.

Now, they are saying it's 21 million but they want 100 million in the strike fund.

As one worker said, "For what? They never have a strike. If they stop working our money on those democratic candidates we would have had that amount in the treasury.'

A daily newspaper stated that Reuther said no worker should mind giving two or three hours of work each month to the Union.

The majority of workers mind it: maybe all but those on Reuther's staff. He knows this. That is why they go after it in the way they do. Let workers have the right to vote on it and we will see.

Workers did not mind it in the early days of the Union when they had something to say about running it.

Of those who went to the International, many would not have any money above what they were earning in the plant. Now, it is a professional, big-salaried job to think of an International representative.

LOCAL OPPOSITION AT FORD-600

Stellato, president of Ford Local 600, can get in on the limelight and get publicity on this question of a dues increase. He is supposed to be opposed to the increase.

By his statement to the papers, he is only opposed to the way they are going after it.

He also stated that Reuther that workers at Ford are intelligent. In that he is correct. Workers as a whole are not dumb. That's why they are opposed to the dues increase. Period. Opposed to Stellato's or Reuther's method as long as it equals taking extra money out of their pay checks.

Stellato also mentioned that this increase is for the purpose of paying union expenses. Yes, paying for the living and travelling all over the world by Reuther and the International representative. Paying for those representatives that don't travel and do nothing else than be on the staff. Paying for the ones he expects to give jobs to in the future.

If this 100 million was going to be distributed among those workers who are employed and those who have been fired for trying to fight for better working conditions, then a worker would say, "Yes, we will give two, three or four hours a month's work and more.'

WHEN THEY PUSH & WHEN THEY WAIT

They are in such a rush to reach down in workers' pockets, they are talking of calling a special Convention. They cannot wait.

But when it comes to authorizing strike action by those same International members, they wait, they put it off, and many times workers never get them to authorize a strike.

Preparing for War?

In the auto factory where I work there was great resentment against Britain, France and Israel for their invasion of Egypt. There was discussion of the fact that it is not only Russian imperialism which brings the people of the world to the brink of war, but the oil interests of the Western Allies as well.

One worker quoted from a column by Drew Pearson to demonstrate that American oil interests dominate the U. S. State Department to the point where America also has no constructive policy for settling the crisis in the Middle East. He said very bitterly that the State Department has absolutely no concern for the peoples of the Middle East and is preoccupied only with making sure that U. S. oil interests dominate that area and not British, French or Russian oil interests.

One worker had been planning to vote for Stevenson until the invasion occurred. When Stevenson came out for support of the invaders this worker decided that this showed Stevenson was completely for big business and had no interest in the common people of the world as the Republicans. In protest against both major parties he voted for the Prohibition candidate. He came into the shop the day after the elections quite proud of the decision he had made.

WORKERS DISTURB POLICIES

The attitude of the workers in the shop taken as a whole was a distrust and disavowal of the policies of all governments involved including the Israeli and Egyptian.

One worker, however, undoubtedly representing an important minority viewpoint claimed that Nasser represented the legitimate claims of the Arab people for national independence and therefore deserved support. Another worker, representing another important minority viewpoint, said that since Israel was the most progressive state in the Middle East it deserved support.

The more common view of most of the workers was to be neither with Nasser nor with Israel but rather to fear that a general war can come from this crisis.

In this respect, not even Britain and France, in spite of their actions, played a substantial part in the views that were expressed. Everybody, that is, the majority, went straightway to the two real contenders for world power, Russia and America.

EGYPT ENSNARED

It is plain to see that in attempting to escape the terrors of Western imperialism, the Egyptian government under Nasser has become ensnared in the snare of the equally terrible Russian imperialism.

Consider but one simple fact among many: Russia and its satellites, by own...
Miners Pay for Coal "Progress" With Sweat and Blood

John L. Lewis, Labor Capitalist

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—John L. Lewis keeps saying that he's "always been a labor-ress" in the coal industry. Well, let's see what this has meant for the miners.

The United Mine Workers Union was organized in 1890. From then until 1914, hand manual labor prevailed. Then, with the advent of mechanized mining, the coal-mined in the United States. During that quarter century, the men worked a seven-hour day, on the average, 2½ and ¾ tons a day. Today, in deep mines, the men work a ten-hour day, 11 tons per man, per day. It is considerably higher in strip-mining where giant shovels lift 20 tons and more at a bite. Production varies by this method. In Montana, for example, the average is very high—some 85 tons per man, per day.

What is important in the comparison is that from the beginning of World War I until today, the re- sults of the labor of the miners and the constant crises in the industry, many of the oper­ rators turn to greater and greater mechanization to increase production and reduce the number of miners employed.

In 1906, for example, the number of work­ men employed in the mines. In 1947 there were some 425,000. Today, there are little more than 200,000. Throughout this half-century period, even the miners with jobs suffer from unemployment an average of 100 days a year.

FROM WAR TO DEPRESSION

Machines, introduced during World War I, for drilling and undercutting the coal face, began the process of mechanization. Mule-drawn carts were replaced by the coal car, the locomotive drawing a string of cars.

The ten years between 1914 and 1924 saw an intensification of the miners' struggles against the ruthless exploitation of the op­ erators. At the same time, a rapidly accelerated process of mechanization that reached a peak resulting in a depression in coal mining six years before it hit the rest of the econ­omy.

The miners' Union was all but smashed. There was a great decrease in the number of mines operated side by side with unem­ ployment that hit practi­ cally one out of every two miners. (The unemployment among miners in 1929 was similar to the "reduction in personnel" between 1947 and today.)

FIGHTING BACK

By 1933 the miners had begun to fight back. Despite bloody brutality by the mine operators—who not only hired private armies of thugs but also received the aid of local and state police and National Guard—the miners rebuilt their Union to full strength.

Facing a well-organized and determined resistance, the coal operators stepped up the mechanization of the mines, eliminating jobs wherever possible.

The following description of the development in mining methods, and the com­ parative increase in productivity, is based upon the Pittsburgh­eous which is six to seven feet high on the aver­ age.

HAND-LOADING

Our first example is a typical hand-loading opera­tion, as it used to be, in the Pittsburgh seam. Here it was necessary to keep 18 to 20 rooms in the mines open for production. Fifteen men were employed, two at each coal face in each room.

This large area had to be supplied with trackage and power; that had to be maintained, ventilat­ed, timbered, supervised, pumped out, etc.

The 50 men drilled the coal face, blasted and loaded the broken coal into mine cars which were car­ ried off to the loading point. On a seven-hour shift they could produce 300 tons of coal.

The Good Boss

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—We had just come from our local union meeting and having a couple of rounds of beer. Somehow, bosses got to be the topic of conversation and there was a free exchange of opinions concerning this very usual subject.

Many colorful adjectives (and sometimes a couple of rounds of beer) were being used to describe them, when one young guy who is something of a joker came over waving a beer in front of him.

"I've heard what you guys have been saying," he said. "And I want to say here and now that I dis­agree with you. To hear you tell it, because they can't and work elsewhere.

"The introduction of trackless mining is steadily elimi­ nating thousands of jobs in the coal fields.

The mine owners, play­ ing upon the lack of seni­ ority system in the coal­ railroad workers Union, place the more militant miners and the older men on the track crew. When trackless mining is in full op­ eration, the entire track crew is laid off.

A typical trackless mine, drawing surface with rub­ ber-tired-type tires, needs to main­ tain only eight rooms and employed ten or fewer men in the workings. As coal are men are em­ ployed as follows: one load­er, one helper, one cutting-machine operator, one helper, two shuttle-car drivers; two men drilling and blasting, two timbermen, and one boss.

Continued

MINERS FOR "OVER-AGE" MINERS

The only place where hand-loading operators are used today are (1) in small operations; (2) where sufficient capital is avail­able for mechanization; (2) where seams are so narrow that mechanized equipment cannot enter; or (3) where mining conditions are so bad that the miners refuse to risk machines.

It is here that unem­ ployed "overage" miners can work, if they can, get it, because they can't and work elsewhere.

STRIPE-MINING

All this that I have de­ scribed is in underground mining. Another type of mining that is constantly increasing is the surface mining. Another type of mining that is constantly increasing is the surface mining. Another type of mining that is constantly increasing is the surface mining. Another type of mining that is constantly increasing is the surface mining. Another type of mining that is constantly increasing is the surface mining.

"Efficiency" Means Speed-Up & Absenteeism

LOS ANGELES.—Auto­ mobile industry isn't the only one with "overage" miners. Many plants in Los Angeles have hired efficiency experts. A wage incentive is used in most of these places. All it does is squeeze more work from workers for a few cents.

The expert tells the worker that the result will be a better, faster, and safer job being done. What happens after standards have been set? Your methods are the same as before, and accidents increase. Yet if these so-called experts were to do your job they wouldn't know where to start.

The morale in these plants is very low. Sooner or later employers will find out that the harder they push people the less work they will get.
The Working Day

By Angela Terrano

What Factory Work Does to the Body

I went to see a doctor in New York a few years ago. I was amazed that the man should exag­gerate a charming bedside manner, had so little knowledge of what working in a factory does to the human body.

Sitting in his reception room I could see that many of his patients were working people. When I told him that I was tired and nervous, he told me to come back two weeks after, he asked me what I did. I told him that I assembled machinery. He said, "That's a hard job."

"Well that's not hard work."

Sitting there I felt a little foolish, a feeling that often overtakes workers who visit a doctor. Then I began to think. This man is supposed to be a doctor. His attitude is such that all we can see is the obvious wrong with the people who come to the visit. It kind of made me furious. Especially that I had to give my hard-earned money to him for a year, dishing out $5 bills.

It might be because Detroit is a large industrial city that this Detroit doctor, for understanding what factory work does to you. Not only understands but is ignorant of the companies hold on people.

A girl from my shop was having a miscarriage and said she had to go to the hospital. He immediately straight from his office.

The girl said she couldn’t. Her attendance at work had been very good lately and she had to report in the next morning with a note from him and then she could go to the hospital to take care of her health.

He was furious that a job could do that to a per­son. When she left he told me he was quite worried about her, but not from work for almost two months.

He says women shouldn’t work. Not because he thinks it’s bad for them, but because so many of his women patients who are in factories want to have children, can’t.

He says, "Working in a factory, doing housework, is an exhausting job. It’s no easy thing."

A YEAR AND A DAY

Recently I have been to a doctor in Detroit who happens to be a specialist. After the first examination he had an idea what was wrong. I went to the other doctor for almost a year and he didn’t see what this one did in the first visit.

He just had me going to GM Back to Normal ... Speed-Up

But now that the changeover has been made to the 1957 models, all of the opera­tions have been changed. When the prom­ised additional manpower has been available it has not lessened speed-up on the individual worker.

The final strike agree­ment stated that where speed-up existed the fore­man would have to get ad­ditional manpower or take time to reduce the workload on the worker.

Some union activists felt that this was in effect a neg­otiated line-speed. In practice it has not worked out like this because it is up to the foreman to de­cide when additional help is needed.

"FILE A GRIEVANCE"

All that a worker can do is file a grievance. by the time it is settled through official channels weeks may have gone by and the particular prob­lem no longer exists.

The only way to settle a speed-up problem effec­tively is if additional manpower in­volved can negotiate right then and there and stop the line if necessary.

The problem is compli­cated because if they run one Buick, and immedi­ately thereafter another Pontiac, a speed-up condition might exist.

On the other hand, if they schedule three Buicks and two Pontiacs, a speed-up condition might exist.

Several foremen worked under the agreement that they could make changes on the line. They were given this means of settlement but they were proven workers.

FOREMEN WORKING

It was also stated in the agreement that the company would live up to its contracts. Typewriters and not permit foremen to do production work on the line. In practice the foremen did not work for a few days but when the line started really moving, the foremen were back doing work on production. Under the contract provisions they can claim that they were not working to overcome an emergency.

It seems that there is always an emergency on a G.M. production line.

The strike showed once again the strength of un­ion leaders and ranks. As a result of the failure of the union leaders to communicate with the ranks there was much con­fusion when we got back to work after the speed-up was done.

Many workers, like myself, were not at the meet­ing to vote on the agree­ment simply because we didn’t know that a meeting was scheduled. The people who were at the meeting came away with ideas that speed-up was forevermore being eliminated in the plant.

It took me two weeks to get an actual copy of the agreement and then I had to swipe it from a fore­man’s desk.

ENDING ‘NORMAL’

The plant has fully re­turned to normal condi­tions of speed-up, inade­quate and poor working condi­tions.

We got it from a plant protection man that every day, in one recent week, 200 men were quitting or being fired out of a total of about 5000 in the whole plant.

Accidents and Deaths Pile Up in Steel

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — They are piling up at the safety in the steel mills now. And then they cry about getting the job faster and saving material.

If we go on a hot job, the less time we spend the more money we’ll get. If we get a bigger piece of pig, you’ll get on a job. Everybody’s working at the same speed, by the way. Everybody’s supposed to be busy. I don’t see how they’re going to cut down on ac­cidents when they have you working with bricklayers over your head and carpenters under your feet. You’re not going to hurt. How’s that going to work? It can’t work.

The foreman gets a memo every day on safety and he’s supposed to have it on his little safe calendar with the men. But when you get on the job to start your job, the foreman brings in another thing a man could throw in your way. And the accidents and deaths keep piling up every week.

—Steelworker.
Pills, Automation and Production

Two seemingly opposite facts have crept into the news in the closing weeks of 1956.

One concerns low labor productivity today, and is buried in the financial pages.

The other was a short item on a recent secret conference between doctors and industrialists on the effects of "nerve pills" on auto workers.

Despite all the automation machines, labor productivity, in 1956, has shown the lowest rise since the end of World War II. It is no more than two per cent.

Such a tiny rise, despite the heavy changeover to automation, means an actual decrease in labor productivity. It has the Administration and the economists worried about the future of the economy.

When World War II ended they were worried about the very same thing. At that time, the Administration called for a frantic round of conferences on productivity, or, in simple English, on how to make the worker produce more.

After about five years of search and research and conferences among "responsible" labor leaders, industrialists, specialists in technology, engineers, personnel experts, public relations consultants, popular writers, trialists, specialists in technology, engineers, personnel and leading industrialists.

This may be news to the medical consultants of big industry: the workers' resistance to the speedup and to capitalistic discipline in production is not due to nerve pills any more than it is a result of automation.

With or without automation, and with or without nerve pills, the workers do not want to continue as part of this crazy inhuman system of "production for production's sake."

The workers have long since asked the question: What kind of labor shall man perform, and for what reasons?

In asking the question, the workers have already posed the answer in general: In a new society where every worker runs his own life; where, to a man, each decides what to produce and how to produce it in relation to his fellow man.

Nothing short of this new society will bring about a rise in productivity.
Views

WAR & PEACE

I haven't read about or heard of any interviews here in America with any actual Freedom Fighters, only with professionals mainly and students.

Worker
Los Angeles

Nixon isn't going over there to look into the Haitian refugee situation. He's going to see if it can be used as an outpost of Western democracy.

Housewife
Los Angeles

I met a friend from Latvia who said it's going to be a little tougher for us here in this country to revolt because the Russians forcibly took a good many Latvians and pushed them into Siberia and replaced them with groups from central Asia.

A NEW SUBSCRIBER

I received the sample copy of your paper. I am putting forth my opinions here to report.

Sincerely and best wishes,
E.L.
Santa Rosa, Calif.

* * *

FROM A NEW SUBSCRIBER

When you go to work some morning and find you have been laid off, or are out of a job, that situation and condition didn't "just happen"... It happened because someone, or ones, was or were lying in bed, walking, riding, in a smoke-filled room, planning scheming how to get a mortgage on your name and any economic control over your life put your body in service to his or her desires.

If you had been thinking while he was thinking he could not have deprived you of your job. But you weren't thinking. You were letting him do your thinking for you because your own reasons for allegedly being "for" the Hungarian revolution.

The nub of the question is what the workers inside the Middle East can do. The power of men-made laws made by a few, and the power of man-made money and we will have whipped all dictators and patriots little "in gods" like kings and queens and princes and princesses and those of their ilk by any other name.

Britain's grim is just about torn loose from its enslaving hold on its colonies by a more enlightened and aroused slave mind of those exploited nations. Those triposes of the Queen and now Princess Margaret... aren't just "sightseeing" trips. Britain knows she is aligning. I say now is the time to forever rid the world of its human parasites by letting those nations who enslaved other colonies collapse from a lack of oil. Allow them only enough to keep body and soul together but none for their war machines such as Naval and Merchant Fleets.

The Middle East can soon enough build up a self-supporting economy if all its countries will get rid of their parasitical Princes and what-not who do nothing but work as anybody has to work to ensave their own people.

We must get our heads out of the sand and out of the clouds and "take a look around" and see what is going on.

E.L. Santa Rosa, Calif.

TWO WORLDS

Hungary and Kenya: Two Fights for Freedom

Freedom has become the most abused word in the language these days. Everyone from Eisenhower to Nixon, Walters and Hartley (co-author of the Taft-Hartley Law) are suddenly "for" the Freedom Fighters in Hungary.

They do nothing to help the Hungarian revolutionaries who are carrying on the fight in Hungary itself. Instead, they pick and choose which of the Hungarian refugees they will allow into the United States, that is, those who want "good security risks." But they wax poetic over the word, freedom.

TRANSFORMED INTO OPPOSITE

It all goes to show that there is nothing on earth that cannot be transformed into an opposite. If one fights for freedom from Russian rule, you play it big. But when one fights for freedom from British rule, as the people of Kenya have done for much longer than has Hungary, then not only do you not play that up, but you call that freedom fight the "fight of savages."

This was brought out at a lecture I gave and I wish here to report it.

Two young workers were discussing with an older worker the attitudes in their shops to the Hungarian Revolution. One thing they all agreed on was that the effusive sympathy of the Administration in Washington for Vice-President Nixon's trip to Austria, was alienating the American workers' sympathy for the Hungarian refugees.

At the beginning of the revolt against Russian totalitarianism, the same workers were all talking not only about how to help the Hungarians but also how they "should do the same thing here in organizing our own factory committees to do our negotiation instead of the union leadership." Now, the workers are asking, "How does it happen Washington is all for Hungarian refugees getting jobs, but they still use the Taft-Hartley law against us?"

The older worker said: "Let's not mix up the refugees and the Hungarian workers. One fights for freedom from Russian rule, as the people of Kenya have fought. But all we ever hear of them is that the Africans who want Africa for themselves are 'savages.'"

There is no doubt that British brutality, in putting down the Mau Mau, more than matches the Russian brutality against the Hungarian revolutionaries. There is no doubt that the Administration has its own reasons for allegedly being "for" the Hungarian Revolution. They are certainly against Russia and Russia has given them a golden opportunity to appear as if they were for the Hungarian revolution too.

"But America is doing nothing for those who bear the brunt of the whole fight in Hungary itself: the Hungarian Workers' Councils. If there were a way to help them," concluded the older worker, "that is where I would send the help."

NEW WAYS OF FIGHTING

The nth of the question is what the workers inside Hungary itself are doing, and how they are doing it.

First, they are fighting in the factories which they are using as their places of refuge. Look how the people of Kenya have fought the British but all we ever hear of them is that the Africans who want Africa for themselves are 'savages.'"

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YOUTH

Thinking It Out

By Robert Ellory

Absenceism Among Young Workers

A few days ago three young workers in my department were called into the office by the foreman. They were given an official warning that they had been absent too often. They were told if the company decided their attendance isn't improving, further disciplinary measures will be taken. This means a two-day layoff and then the possibility of being fired.

WHAT'S EXCESSIVE ABSENTEEISM?

The guys didn't think they had been off that much. The contract doesn't specify what is considered too much time off. The company doesn't publicize what it considers to be excessive absenteeism. I asked an oldtimer what was the company policy.

He laughed and said, "A five-day layoff is too much time off."

As a group, young workers I've known take off a lot more time than the older guys. There are a variety of reasons, and matters concerning absenteeism have always been of interest to them.

THEY FORCE YOU TO LIE

Work has slowed down in my shop during the last couple of months, but still the company refused the guys who requested it, time off to go hunting.

One worker thought he had things all figured out. He said he wasn't a liar and wasn't going to fake illness. He would explain to the foreman that he was going to take a couple of extra days off during the company vacation so he could spend more time with his daughter whom he was going West to see. This he did.

Supervision said, "Nothing doing." It made no difference that he hadn't been out a day in five years. He suddenly became ill and left work in the middle of the day.

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

The company thinks that the way you work or don't work should be strictly up to the company.

There are times when there is little or no work to perform and still the company tells the men to come in. Only the most naive think this is for the welfare of the men.

At times like this the foreman stands over the bosses and the bosses all sneer around, pecking here and there, as if they expect to see you working. They let the men know that as work picks up they expect them to make up for the slack period and some guys feel obligated. It's real psychological warfare.

An old UAW contact, to begin in appeal to young workers, will have to start with the conditions of work. It will have to back the workers' struggle to own themselves.

IT ALL Depends On Teacher

LOS ANGELES. — It seems like the behavior of the kids depends almost completely on a teacher. I've had different classes where I've realized that.

I've seen the roughness kids in the school buck up and work for some teachers, the ones who treat them like human beings and try to help them.

On the other hand, I've seen kids who work hard not work at all for other teachers. They seem to recognize a flunky as soon as he walks in the room.

Aging the Young Newsboys

DETOUR—I got a route on a newspaper here in Detroit to make some money. But after a month or so I found out, all the work and logging the heavy papers around and they don't pay the boys enough for it and they make you think you're doing you a big favor.

—12 Year Old, Boy

Notes From Overseas:

Correspondent Reports Workers' Unrest in England & Russia

GT. BRITAIN

All over Britain workers are preparing themselves for the coming economic struggles in 1957.

Wage Claims
Six millions workers are putting in claims for wage increases varying from 4/8 (about $1.65) per week of the building workers to $1 ($2.80) per week of the London bus workers. Railway workers are demanding a raise of ten to 15 per cent.

Meanwhile, as the result of the Anglo-French imperialists' attack on Egypt, prices continue to rise, and are expected to go on rising. The people who are happy are the capitalists who go on making still more profits.

Rent Raises

In addition, workers are facing possible rent increases in 1957. As a result of the new Rent Bill before Parliament this year as a result of the proposed new Rent Bill before Parliament. At present the rents of privately owned houses are controlled by a factor, the Board of Trade, and the proposed Bill, introduced by M. Attlee, aims to de-control the fixing of rents.

Already, before the Bill has a chance to be debated in Parliament, the landlords and since then and property owners are raising their prices on houses for sale, since the proposed Bill raised the market value of houses.

This in spite of the fact that in the current fiscal year as a result of the $24 property-owning companies increased from approximately $6,000,000 ($16,500,000) to near $6,500,000 ($18,500,000).

The total number of the property-owning companies rose from $1,509,929 ($4,227,150) to $1,609,217 ($4,505,030).

As a group, young workers I've known take off a lot more time than the older guys. There are a variety of reasons, and matters concerning absenteeism have always been of interest to them.

THEY FORCE YOU TO LIE

Work has slowed down in my shop during the last couple of months, but still the company refused the guys who requested it, time off to go hunting.

One worker thought he had things all figured out. He said he wasn't a liar and wasn't going to fake illness. He would explain to the foreman that he was going to take a couple of extra days off during the company vacation so he could spend more time with his daughter whom he was going West to see. This he did.

Supervision said, "Nothing doing." It made no difference that he hadn't been out a day in five years. He suddenly became ill and left work in the middle of the day.

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

The company thinks that the way you work or don't work should be strictly up to the company.

There are times when there is little or no work to perform and still the company tells the men to come in. Only the most naive think this is for the welfare of the men.

At times like this the foreman stands over the bosses and the bosses all sneer around, pecking here and there, as if they expect to see you working. They let the men know that as work picks up they expect them to make up for the slack period and some guys feel obligated. It's real psychological warfare.

An old UAW contact, to begin in appeal to young workers, will have to start with the conditions of work. It will have to back the workers' struggle to own themselves.

IT ALL Depends On Teacher

LOS ANGELES. — It seems like the behavior of the kids depends almost completely on a teacher. I've had different classes where I've realized that.

I've seen the roughest kids in the school buck up and work for some teachers, the ones who treat them like human beings and try to help them.

On the other hand, I've seen kids who work hard not work at all for other teachers. They seem to recognize a flunky as soon as he walks in the room.

16-Year Old, Boy
A DOCTOR SPEAKS
By M.D.

Medical Care Has Become a Serious Problem

The understanding of disease today—medicine and surgery—is not a simple matter. It involves continual vigilance. The reaction of a person to an illness and medication may be extremely variable and subject to rapid change. Time is an important factor. Irreversible changes may quickly take place in living tissue leading to permanent damage or death.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF MD TO PATIENT

The situation calls for specific personal responsibility of a physician to a patient. This is the hidden but most important element in medical care, and is frequently lacking in charity hospitals as well as in certain clinics that treat patients in an assembly-line fashion.

Today, for the average American worker in a factory or on a white collar job the cost of medical care has become a serious problem. Frequently it is not the doctor’s fees, but the laboratory tests, hospitalisation and the cost of the new miracle drugs that makes the load too heavy.

To meet this problem there has come into existence over the last dozen years or so, pre-payment medical insurance plans and pre-payment clinics.

A SUBSTITUTE

There are many varieties of pre-payment medical insurance plans now operating in this country. One labor union after another is rapidly including such benefits in contracts with employers.

Their rapid growth indicates that union leadership and managers of industry see this as a substitute answer to the more rigorous demands of American workers for a new, free and healthy way of life.

The medical insurance benefits written into the contract are often inadequate and unsatisfactory. The payments may be limited in time and in quantity. The patient is not only to supplement payments to the hospitals and to the doctors. The doctor's fees is generally below acceptable levels. The resulting situation is not a happy one.

UNHEALTHY ATMOSPHERE

The physician is dissatisfied because his fee is generally below acceptable levels. He feels that insurance profits are being made at his labor. An unhealthy atmosphere may thus exist between physician and patients not conducive to good medicine.

An association of physicians—both general practitioners and specialists—in one unit for the complete study and care of the ailing individual is certainly a healthy way and a progressive step. It can be an efficient and fruitful way of practice medicine. The freely available consultations, thus possible, give the physicians a necessary feeling of security and certainty and bring to the patient complete and thorough care.

Many pre-payment groups, however, organized by doctors or laymen, cannot practice good medicine. The reason for this lies in the attempt to make a profit by establishing a belt-line type of care that is hurried and impersonal, and where there is lacking the specific doctor-patient relationship of responsibility indicated above.

DEFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE

Certain defects of insurance coverage may be seen in the practice of industrial medicine today. Physicians are employed by either a large industrial organisation or by some insurance company to look after the injuries and sicknesses of the plant workers.

The physicians employed in such capacity usually give complete allegiance to the insurance company or company management. The interest of the patient is not primary.

The patient's injury may be minimized. The responsibility of the company is generally denied, especially since the relation of a specific injury or disease to a person's occupation may at times seem obscure.

It is the nature of the company doctor to protect the company.
Nasser can simply not escape the fact that his social and economic reforms will leave the Egyptian worker and farmer with only an average yearly income of about $300. By the force of events, Nasser is compelled not to be a liberator but an oppressor of the Arab peoples, leading them from the shackles of one imperialism to the chains of another.

ISRAEL ENMESHED

Not much more can be said for the Israeli government. Internally, despite all the publicized democratic institutions, the prominent role of union leaders in the government, the social reforms and the publicized startling experiments in collectives, Israel is a sick country.

It is sick not primarily because of outside factors but because its basic economy is established on the capitalist principle of growth: demanding ever more sweat and production but because its basic economy is established on the capitalist principle of growth: demanding ever more sweat and production from its workers in return for at best poverty. The unpunished strikes against private owners, against government and its true cause some dissatisfaction of the Middle East by foreign powers.

There is no question of measuring Nasser's sincerity. A little of this land reform. A little of this Nasser embarked on a very following the revolution of 1952 against King Farouk, but it has not been accomplished but it has not been enough to free the Egyptian worker and farmer from the pangs of hunger, from the highest rates of the village money lender, from widespread crop distress or, from the bureaucracy in Cairo which stiplies every impulse of the common Egyptian to do things.

This is why there is a police state in Egypt today. This is why Nasser did not order his troops to fight the British and French, preferring instead to keep the bulk of the Egyptian army away from the front lines and inflict against a possible uprising from the towns people against him.

This is why Nasser, in the style of all fearful dictators, kept his people inflamed against Israel instead of seeking a human solution to the very difficult problem of conflict and conflict between the rights of a million Jewish and a million Arab refugees.

PREPARING FOR WAR?

(Continued from Page 1)