

NRA POPULAR WITH WORKERS

At Least More So Than With Their Bosses, Stewart Finds

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Central Press Staff Writer
PITTSBURGH—NRA distinctly is a more popular institution with the workers than with their employers.

All through the industrial belt, including western Pennsylvania, the West Virginia panhandle, northern Ohio and the Michigan area around Detroit, this is noticeable. The toilers don't speak particularly well of Gen. Hugh Johnson, but they don't seem to mind the general. As one Youngstown steel laborer expressed it to me the other day:

"The National Recovery Act has taught the bosses that there's a god in Israel. Or maybe, he qualified reflectively, "It hasn't actually convinced them that there is a god, but it's begun to make them wonder if perhaps, there isn't."

The numerous large employers, with whom I have talked of late very plainly take the view that the NRA god quite easily might be entirely to their liking if subject to their management.

They recognize that there have been what they term "trade abuses" in their various fields of activity—abuses which they attribute mainly to paycure operators, trying to horn in and thus deorganizing profits—and if NRA would confine itself to the elimination, under their advice, of such evils, they agree with surprising unanimity that they would regard it as a wholly beneficent instrumentality.

Nor do they express much hostility to the principle of collective bargaining by their workers. The only thing they do insist on is that each of them shall do his bargaining with the collector solely of his own workers, absolutely uninterfered with by any outsiders.

NRA or no NRA, the biggest of the employers show a strong inclination to go to the mat, certainly with labor, and even, if necessary, with the Government, on the issue of:

Who's to do the collective bar-

gaining for their respective staffs of workers?

They assuredly do not propose to deal with outside-organized unions.

They will deal with company unions, yes. But not necessarily with any and all company unions. If a company union is formed in some particular concern's plant, and that plant's management likes the union's looks, it will bargain with it; not otherwise.

Oh! surely, the employers say, the men are entitled to a 100 per cent free hand in organizing to bargain collectively—with the lone qualification that, whenever and wherever they effect an organization that the employers disapprove of (the "employers") won't recognize it.

On this issue NRA is "in bad" with both the American Federation of Labor and the generality of great employers in the industrial belt hereabouts and to the westward.

The A. F. of L. wants NRA to decree that collective labor bargaining shall be valid only as conducted by unions under A. F. of L. sanction.

NRA retorts, "contending that the A. F. of L. has no special mandate."

The employers want NRA to decree that they need bargain only with unions under their endorsement.

Again NRA balks, upholding the workers' right to do their own organizing.

The wrangle is triangular.

The employers are one group. Then there's the A. F. of L., striving to gain control in fee simple of labor's bargaining power.

Finally, there are numerous independent workers' set-ups. They include, in a sense, the company unions, but perhaps these properly should be classified with the employers' alignment. They include also, however, an increasingly formidable element of more or less radical organizations, which consider the A. F. of L. too conservative and are fully as hostile to it as they are to what they describe as capitalism.

The employers would be friendly to NRA if they could dominate it, but they can't, sufficiently to satisfy them.

The A. F. of L. is not satisfied with it, either. Still, it has hope of turning the Recovery Act more and more to its advantage. It expands its membership, to which end it exerts itself strenuously. The radicals haven't much faith in anything which seeks to preserve a semblance of the economic status quo, but at least they are inclined to NRA for assisting that their unions are entitled to recognition if they can "cut away with it."

It's a badly mixed-up situation—charged with dynamite.

Autotropism is the internal tendency of a plant organ to straighten after it has curved from whatever cause, as from geotropism, heliotropism, etc.

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By STANLEY



REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE SELECTED

Oakland County Republicans have chosen an executive committee to manage the G. O. P. campaign in the county next fall. The members are George Higgins, Fernand; Bart Norton, Rochester; Harry Lodge, Milford; E. H. Hart, Holly; and Don R. MacDougall, Waterford, with C. C. MacDougall, Pontiac, as executive secretary. After the primary, the candidates will select their own county committee.

BIRMINGHAM YOUTH PUT ON PROBATION

A 16-year-old Birmingham boy was placed on probation last Thursday by Judge Dan A. McGaffey following a trial in Oakland County Juvenile Court on a charge of unlawfully driving away an automobile. The boy was arrested by state police in Detroit last week, a few hours after driving off in an automobile which had been parked at Maple avenue and Chester street.

What The Women Think About It

Each week, The Eccentric asks several women, chosen at random from the telephone book to answer a question of general interest in Birmingham.

The question this week: Do you think there is any need for a supervised playground program for Birmingham children this summer?

Mrs. Frank L. Roberts, 1740 Oak street: "I think the best thing they could do would be to use the money to pay the teachers—if that were permissible—instead of spending it on a playground program. It certainly is not necessary for my child. He goes over to Quarton School and has a grand time without any supervision."

Mrs. William Strong, 2220 Crooks road: "I think it is a very good idea. Children have to have some place to play and such a plan would keep them constructively occupied and out of the streets."

Mrs. B. M. Zimmerman, 675 Vinewood avenue: "If children do not go to camp, some form of organized play is necessary in the summer. In my opinion the swimming pool would be the most popular feature of the program."

Mrs. William M. Lee, 775 Rivenoak avenue: "Seeing that so many of the children have access to lakes or go to camp, I do not believe that such a program is necessary."

Mrs. Francis P. Kemp, 843 Puritan road: "I think it is an excellent idea, provided competent people can be found to manage the playgrounds—people who know something about children."

Mrs. Clifford H. Ramsey, 519 Winton drives: "Systematized play is a fine thing for the children in the summer. It takes the place of school in keeping them occupied and in good hands."

Mrs. Irvin R. Smith, 1343 Buckingham road: "I feel that the children here have enough to occupy them. There are plenty of places to play in Birmingham. The playgrounds are by no means a necessity here as they are in more congested areas like Detroit. I think the money could be put to much better use."

Mrs. John P. Wood, 312 George street: "I think it is a marvelous idea. The playgrounds would provide a substitute for camps or summer homes for the children who will not be going away and it would be a big help to the mothers."

Mrs. Henry Whiting, 715 Lake Park drive: "The playground program seems to me a fine idea. It would keep the children happy and busy, and mothers would be very glad to have their children safely taken care of and off the street. Group play develops the resources and cooperative abilities of the children. The program would provide work for the unemployed and fun for the children, thus killing two birds with one stone."

Mrs. Edward H. Laird, 288 George street: "Yes, I do think there is a definite need for something of the sort. I believe such a measure would lessen the number of accidents. The children should be separated into age groups so that the younger ones would not be afraid to take part. Often the smaller children are frightened by a large group or a group of older ones, and will not join the activities."

Mrs. George Y. Reed, 459 Madison avenue: "I approve of the idea heartily. Directed play keeps the children out of mischief. They need something of the sort during the summer months when there is no school."

Balaam was a seer and the hero of a remarkable story told in connection with the conquest of Palestine by the Hebrews.

50 BOYS ENROLL AT PLAY SCHOOL

3rd Annual Summer Games Program Gets Under Way At Cranbrook

Approximately 50 boys between the ages of five and 14 were enrolled when the third annual Summer Play School for Younger Boys opened Monday at Cranbrook for a six-week period, ending Aug. 4.

The enrollment includes boys from Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Palmer Woods, Pleasant Ridge and Pontiac. The school is again being directed by George T. Nickerson, of the Cranbrook School faculty.

It is being assisted by Max Sullivan, arts and crafts instructor at Cranbrook; Forest Fowler, of the Cranbrook School business staff, who is serving as an instructor in swimming; and by Albert Wood, director of athletics at Redford Union High School, who is in charge of games. Older boys who are aiding the regular staff include Clemson Page, William G. Lerchen, Jr., Robert Craig, and Lyman J. Craig, Jr., all of Bloomfield Hills.

The purpose of the school is to provide a place for supervised recreation, instruction in shop work, and coaching in outdoor sports. The students are divided into groups according to age, so that each boy competes against other boys of his own size and capabilities. The entire athletic equipment of Cranbrook School is at the disposal of the Play School.

During the six weeks, the school will be in session daily, five days a week, from 9 A. M. to 12 noon. Merits will be awarded to boys of each age group who pass certain tests and for other achievements. One Saturday will be devoted to the annual Play School picnic, and a track meet and water carnival with events for all boys will be held at the end of the term. A display of the showwork done by the boys will also be held at the close of the school.

He Knew
Youthful Bridgroom—My wife has come into my life like a ray of sunshine.

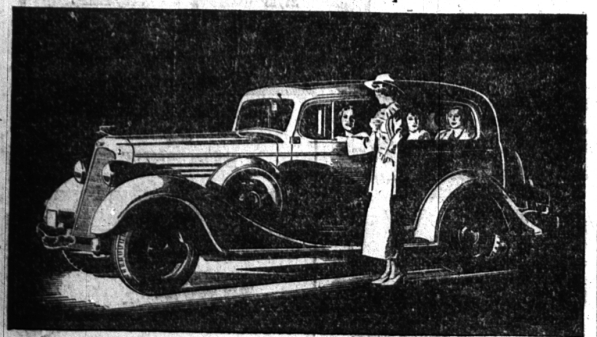
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