

Michigan Mirror
INTERPRETING THE NEWS

By GENE ALLEMAN

Another round of labor strikes in big cities, now in the offing as a result of Washington's lifting of wage and price controls, will only accelerate migration of industry to small towns.

That's the belief of a number of labor relations experts who make a business of finding out why workers become dissatisfied and what the employer can do to keep them happy.

Industrial plants in small towns where the boss knows the worker personally, are comparatively free of employee turnover. There is more democracy in living; home ownership is not penalized by high taxes; transportation is no great problem.

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You Can Buy It in Mexico



Despite shortages in the U. S., things seem plentiful among our less opulent neighbors below the Rio Grande. Here, Clementina Gonzales helps herself to a package of azucar (sugar) from the well-stocked shelves of a Mexico City grocery.

a summary in the case of one woman employee who was absent and was interviewed by a nurse sent to find out if she was ill," he said. "The woman declared quite frankly that her spending money was backing up and she wanted time to get rid of it."

The worker's candid comment explains the illogic of why we have low production per worker in a period of our greatest prosperity—a veritable fantastic situation. By reverse you may assume that employee production will increase in a period of hard times when spending money does not back up!

It reminds us of a remark made by the director of a major state department following the Nov. 5 election. Reading the news that the people had voted a \$270,000,000 bonus and had diverted 75 per cent of the sales tax to local governments, he remarked: "This department should proceed with its previously adopted program of state-wide improvements. I am

convinced the people want to spend money."

While strikes have been more numerous in 1946 than in any war-time year, industrial production continues at a high rate. Try to explain that. In fact, we have just about attained Wallace's promised land of "full employment" within 12 or so months after V-J Day.

Unless labor and industry wage a costly cat-and-dog fight paralyzing our industrial production, economists now predict a mild economic "recession" in 1947 to be followed by a fairly stable period of good times. Federal labor courts, proposed by Senator Homer Ferguson, would assist the nation in averting disastrous nationwide strikes.

As we analyze political trends, the Nov. 5 "mandate" was more of a warning against the federal administration in power than a clear-cut directive to victorious Republicans. We were weary of restrictions, tired of shortages, disgusted with bureaucracy.

It is easy to move toward the right when your pocketbook is full.

It is another matter to do so when your pocketbook is empty.

Stanley High Will Speak At Cass Town Hall November 29

One of America's leading platform figures, Stanley High, will be the speaker for the Detroit Town-Hall at the Cass Theatre on Friday morning, November 29th at 11 o'clock.

Just back from one of his perennial travel-reporting tours to England, the Scandinavian countries, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and France, High's talk will tell "How Recent Events Affect Our World Position."

High was formerly editor of "Asia Magazine," "The Christian Herald," and a writer for "The Christian Science Monitor" from Russia, and today is a roving editor for "The Reader's Digest," and a regular contributor to "The Saturday Evening Post," "The Forum Magazine" and other periodicals.

Among his well-known books are: "China's Place In The Sun," "New Crisis In The Far East," "Europe Turns The Corner," and "Looking Ahead with Latin America."

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