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Crazy Ideas On Labor, Pay Crash Human Mentality

By PETER EDSEN
NEA Washington Correspondent.
WASHINGTON — (NEA) — Last summer a big eastern advertising agency put out a full page piece of copy in the slick paper magazines, to the effect that everybody should feel sorry for the boss. Most bosses, the argument ran, began at the bottom as simple working men. The president of this big steel company began at 88¢ a week. The head of that auto company started out as an office boy. But by the dint of honest endeavor and application of his noodle he rose to the top, where he now had responsibilities and troubles for which he got no overtime pay—just a lot of free kicking around by one and all.

What all this suggests is not the usual Horatio Alger line that in this golden land of opportunity, anyone can rise to the noble responsibilities of bossism. To reduce it to complete absurdity, what this suggests is that there should be a union of bosses.

Utopian Possibilities
It could have some dandy demands. It could recruit members on the slogan, "Every Man a Boss."

It could seek the one-hour week. It could bargain collectively with the workers to see whether it would bargain collectively with the workers. It could seek two bathrooms for every office, the one hour week, 52 weeks vacation a year—at double time, of course.

By way of social security, it could seek free education for all bosses up to age 30, retirement at full pay at age 31 with added old age benefits at 62. If these conditions were not met, the bosses could go on strike and shut down the country good until everybody got back to his senses and a fresh start.

Labor's Crazy Parallel
This isn't any crazier than some of the things that are actually coming up in labor negotiations now.

A labor union in Washington presenting its demands for a new contract recently came in with a proposal for double time pay during vacations. Don't laugh. They had a serious argument.

The way they had it figured out was that when a man got a vacation, he usually went away from home. He had to pay traveling expenses, rent a resort room or a cottage, pay for meals in a high priced hotel or restaurant, buy his wife and himself a lot of new clothes and spend other important money for incidentals. Meanwhile his rent, or the payment on his house and his taxes went merrily on. Since this added up to higher expenses all the way 'round, the worker ought

DAILY DEVOTIONS DR. CHARLES A. EDWARDS

Jesus Christ alone can save the world. But Jesus Christ cannot save the world alone. He needs you and me. This world of ours painfully emerging from the tragedy of war, is very dead to the heart of God. How dear is it to yours? Are you ready to do something, to venture something, to give something, that others here at home and in distant lands may honor Christ as you do? Let us be practical. How much of your money, your income, are you willing to dedicate to your church as a spiritual investment in human life for Christ's sake and the Gospel's? If you have given little or nothing before, begin now. If you have given grudgingly start now to give gracefully. If you have given occasionally, give regularly. If you have supported only your local church, remember the needs of countless multitudes the world over who are precious in His sight. By your generous and systematic support of the missionary society of your church you liberate spiritual and humanitarian forces that reach around the world. You become a faithful steward, an active co-worker with God, and carry forward the work of His kingdom. "Let none hear you idly saying, 'There is nothing I can do.' While the souls of men are dying. And the master calls for you." Amen.

to have more money to break even on his vacation.

Now the 30-Hour Week

In the light of this, the idea for a bosses union makes complete sense. The only trouble with it is that everybody can't be a boss. Or can't he? He can be better than a boss. The way things are going now, there just isn't any incentive to be a boss.

William Green and the American Federation of Labor convention just closed in Chicago went on record as favoring the six-hour day, the 30-hour week.

Think of it. Start at nine, take a half-hour—oh, what the heck—take an hour for lunch and be through at four, just as the kiddies are being let out of school. Children's hours for grown-ups. That's the stuff. Communism can't make any headway in the United States as long as working people have working conditions better than the capitalist bosses.

A good start on this "Every Man Better Than a Boss" movement has already been made. The foremen have organized for their protection. The supervisory employees in the coal mines are organizing. Ship captains and engine room officers are organized hundred per cent, and boy when they strike, the place stays struck. Airline pilots are striking for \$14,000 a year. What's the use of being a mere boss when you can haul it in like that?

These are some of the things to keep in mind as the country goes into its second round of negotiations for higher wages. There are going to be some demands which make sense can be sillier than have been mentioned here. They deserve only to be laughed out of the negotiating rooms, so that the serious demands which have sense can be given the consideration they deserve.

Search Given Up

YAKIMA, Wash., Nov. 7.—(AP)—The week-long search for Joe Blackburn, missing Goose Prairie commercial packer, was called off today after searchers disclosed they had combed the area in which Blackburn disappeared last Thursday.

Local Drug Stores May Now Fill Vets' Prescriptions

War veterans with service connected disabilities undergoing medical treatment can have their drug prescriptions filled in their own communities at Veterans Administration expense, Director George E. Sandy of the state Department of Veterans' Affairs was informed.

The Seattle branch office of the Veterans Administration informed Sandy that a contract between that agency and the Oregon State Pharmaceutical association enables veterans undergoing outpatient care in service connected cases to take their prescriptions to local drug stores of their own choosing.

Sandy said this new plan eliminates delays encountered previously by veteran patients, particularly those out-state, who have had to mail their prescriptions to the Portland regional office for drugs. He gave considerable credit for getting the Oregon contract into effect to State Sen. Jack Lynch, Portland, manager of the state pharmaceutical association. Lynch outlined the procedure for veterans concerned, step by step, as follows:

1. Veterans seeking treatment should request their "home town" family physicians to fill out Veterans Administration Medical Form 2690 for them and mail them to the chief medical officer, U. S. Veterans Administration regional office, 1019 S. W. 10th Ave., Portland 5.

2. If it is not convenient to have a physician fill out the above form, veterans may make application direct to the above office, in which event the following information should be included:

Veteran's full name; dates of enlistment and discharge; type of discharge; veteran's rank and organization; veteran's medical claim number, in the event of previous treatment; disability for which treatment is requested (as specific as possible).

3. Veteran prescriptions, which must be written in duplicate, may be taken to any drug store throughout the state and although they will be filled without charge, veterans are requested to execute the following acknowledgment:

"I acknowledge receipt of Prescription No. _____ (or medical requisite) on _____ (date)."

4. Veterans must present prescriptions to drug stores for filling within ten days of the date they were written.

If the above procedure is carefully followed, "veterans should have no trouble in receiving prompt, adequate and convenient medical and pharmaceutical services," Lynch told Sandy.

Lynch also advised veterans to contact their community drug stores for additional information.

Scrapbook Will Enter National 4-H Contest

OREGON STATE COLLEGE, Corvallis, Nov. 6.—(AP)—Maxine Wright, sophomore in business and industry from Days Creek, recently won the state contest for girl's achievement, according to an announcement by H. C. Seymour, regional 4-H director. Her record and scrapbook will be entered in the national contest. Miss Wright has an opportunity to win a trip to the national 4-H Club Congress in Chicago, Ill., December 1 to 5.

Punishment Enough

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 7.—(AP)—A dejected motorist, appearing before Municipal Judge John B. Seabrook, glumly admitted that he disregarded a traffic signal, the judge, a Republican and visibly in a chummy mood, asked what he thought of the election.

The motorist was brief: "I'm a Democrat."
"I guess you got enough of a beating Tuesday," declared the judge, "sentence suspended."

Huge Task Posed In Figuring Vets' Insurance Surplus

By ROWLAND EVANS, JR.
WASHINGTON—The Veterans Administration (VA) has announced that virtually all former and present holders of National Service Life Insurance (NSLI) are entitled to a dividend.

The NSLI fund out of which all non-service connected death benefits are paid has a surplus. The surplus belongs to holders of NSLI policies.

But VA officials are scared to death that news of the dividend will bring a flood of mail. VA's insurance staff is already loaded with work.

VA statisticians must check 18,000,000 policies held by the 15,000,000 servicemen and veterans. That will take at least a year. When the computations have been completed dividends will be mailed out. VA points out that each letter asking about the dividend will delay the computations, because each letter must be answered. It takes time that might

be put to figuring the dividends. The amount of the dividend will depend on three things:

1. The amount of insurance taken out.
2. The age of the insured.
3. The length of time the insurance has been carried.

VA will not attempt now to estimate the amount of the dividend, but says it will be about equal to dividends paid by commercial mutual companies.

The dividend is payable not only to veterans and servicemen whose insurance is in good standing, but also to holders of lapsed policies. Ten million veterans allowed their NSLI to lapse. Almost all these will nevertheless come in for at least a small dividend.

The big delay lies in lack of trained personnel and in many cases of doubt whether the death of a serviceman or veteran has

been due to actual service-connected disabilities. In such borderline cases VA has been paying subject to later agreement on cause of death.

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