

POLITICAL CONF. MAIN TOPIC



VOL. 1, NO. 4

OSHAWA, ONT., Nov. 29, 1943

28

FULL LABOR SLATE

OPEN FORUM WELL ATTENDED

The series of discussions on the Soviet Union being run by the Open Forum are proving to be exceptionally successful and it has been decided to continue them for the first two Sunday evenings in December.

Specific discussions to date have been on Labor in the USSR, Agriculture and the Constitution of the Soviet Union.

These forums serve to bring to Oshawa some of the best speakers in attendance at the Canadian Soviet Friendship Congress held recently in Toronto.

It is hoped in this way to give those interested at least a glimpse of the varied life existing among the people of the USSR.

Future subjects to be dealt with concern the matters of Health, Science, Education and other related topics.

A Chance to Learn

Apparently from the things we are being told today in the press and over the air, a great many of our ideas about the Soviet Union are in drastic need of revision. Gone are the shrieks of yesteryear that the USSR was a land of devils. Maybe they are not altogether angels either. The only good way to find out is to attend such meetings as these Forums in the Union Hall, hear speakers selected by the WEA who are strictly non-political and hear their reports of their observations after actual visits to Russia over recent years.

So much that we were told in the past about the Soviet peoples has proven to be wrong that it is worth while having a few doubts and come and hear and judge for ourselves.

SUPPORT URGED

By M. J. FENWICK, Vice-Pres. Labor Council

A feature of the coming municipal election will be the slate sponsored by the Oshawa & District Labor Council.

The Council, with which Local 222 is affiliated, has decided to run candidates for city council, board of education and public utilities, so labor can be adequately represented in the various civic posts.

The working people of Oshawa form the majority of the city's population. However, as far as labor representation is concerned there are only two union men in the city council now.

We hope this situation will be remedied on January 3, the election day.

If all union members and their relatives turn out to vote there is no doubt that the labor candidates will be elected to all civic posts.

Must Support

It is our duty as unionists to vote for labor men; put men into civic positions who know our problems and talk our language. The war may be over in 1944; some war plants may close; men may be out of work. Who would be in a better position to handle this to our satisfaction than our own men in the "city hall"?

On election day vote for the following: City council. Ald E. E. Bathe, Cephas Gay, Ald. Clifford Harman, Alfred Jones, W. J. O'Reilly and George S. Thomson; Board of Education: F. S. Britten, Gordon Crouse, Albert Elson and David Henderson; Public Utilities: Clifford Lang and A. G. Shultz.

Vote labor. Put your men in!

DEADLINE . . .

Items for the paper must be signed and address given of the contributor . . . Space may necessitate any item being cut. Write clearly and get it in EARLY. First come, first served! NEXT DEADLINE, DEC. 6, (Monday) 1 P.M.!



GEORGE THOMPSON

George Thompson, president of the District Council and chairman of the District Council Committee on political action which is to report to the convention being held Nov. 28th in Windsor. Jim Turner was the other Local 222 representative on the committee but he has been unable to act because of his illness.

UNION MINDED

No wonder we raved 'bout the days when we slaved.
When a man's livelihood was at stake.
The boss was the boss, his gain was our loss,
His attitude made feeble ones quake.
We've learned a lesson, since the depression,
Circumstantially victimized then.
Our only hope, that we don't get the rope,
For another occurrence again.
We're not heathens or dogs, not gluttons or hogs,
We are humans who want a fair living.
If we had the dough, we want you to know,
To any good cause we'd be giving.
For small change collection, we have protection,
It's a cinch—we never can lose.
The Union brings luck, for the price of a buck,
So don't get behind in your dues.
SMOKEY—Local 222.

Resolution Passed

Whether to affiliate to any political party or to remain neutral, to send delegates, or not; to send a full quota or only send a small number to the UAW-CIO conference being held in Windsor over the weekend were the main points at stake in discussions by the Executive and again at the last membership meeting.

The question to be considered at the conference is that of affiliation to the CCF as a union body. Some doubt was expressed as to the wisdom of abiding by decisions of such a conference in this matter and finally a resolution from Local 222 asking that a referendum on a Local Union basis be taken before any action takes place that would commit any Local to any final step was passed to be sent on to the convention.

It is learned that the whole plan of affiliation is coming in for a thorough discussion with E. B. Joliffe, leader of the CCF being present to answer the delegates' queries as to the place of the Unions in such an organization as the CCF would become with the affiliation of Labor as a whole.

War Worker will publish a digest of the findings in the next issue upon release of the report of the convention.

CAN. SOVIET MEET SUCCESS

Dave Henderson and Wm. Noble attended the stirring Canadian Soviet Friendship Congress held in the Royal York Hotel, Nov. 12, 13, 14, as delegates from Local 222.

With 1,500 people drawn from all walks of life in Canada registered as delegates, five panel discussions going on all the time and special meetings such as the opening dinner in the Metropolitan Church, a Canadian Soviet concert by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in packed Massey Hall, a full plenary session in the Royal York Concert Room attended by over 2,000 and a final Thanksgiving Service with a capacity audience in the Maple Leaf Gardens on the Sunday night, the Congress proved to be a weekend of fast and stirring interest. It would be impossible to give an impression of the whole in the limited space afforded by these pages.

The panel on Labor, attended by the Local delegates, had representation from over thirty unions and from both Labor Congresses. It adopted a number of recommendations in respect to our contact with Labor in the USSR.

Pte. GEO. METCALFE, B13, 18, 2, 7 . . . Stalag VIII B No. 31851, is now in a German prison camp. He can receive letters at the address given, drop him a line!

EDITOR TALKS

The daily press reports curtailment to some extent of U.S. war production plans and a general cutting down of manpower in the projects under way in that country. Plans are being worked out, it is said, to absorb the personnel displaced in this move into consumer production.

Looking at the Canadian end of the matter it appears there is every likelihood of the same thing occurring here. Industry is closely linked in both countries and what affects U.S. affects Canada.

It seems that the Trade Unions need to be constantly on their toes to keep abreast of developments in Industry.

With all this in mind the question arises as to what the average Union member knows of the rest of the Trade Union movement and what is taking place in other parts of the world. What is known even of other units of the UAW-CIO?

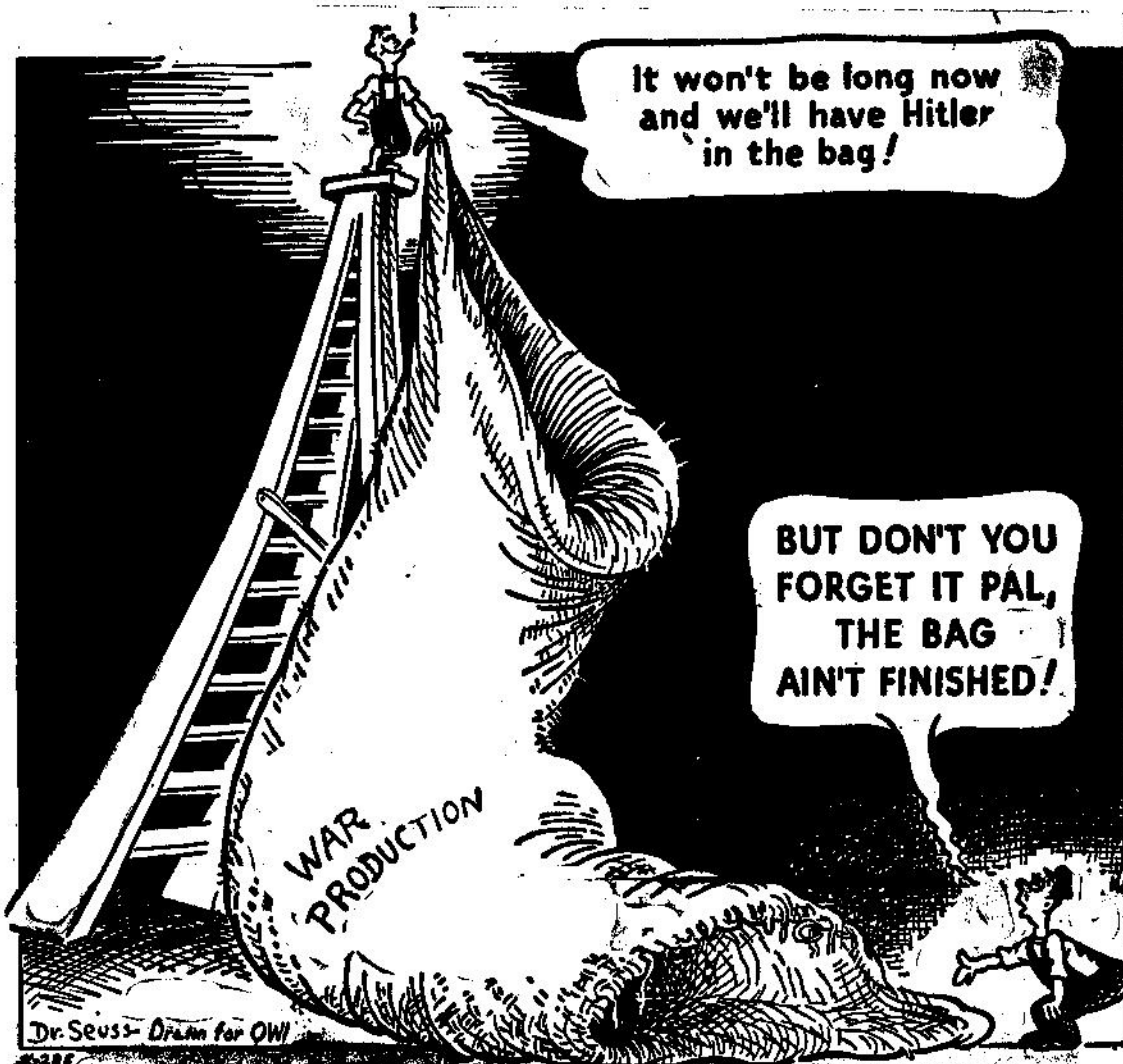
It is not enough for us to pay our dues and fight in our own small department for our own grievance settlements or pay increases for ourselves and our few brothers working adjacent to us!

It is necessary to see that the whole broad field of Labor activity is adequately understood by, first, ourselves and, secondly, by our fellow members. We can never become a small world of our own, cut off from all interference by the outside world. Our wages and conditions are as much dependent upon what happens to workers in the U.S. or Great Britain, yes, or in India and China, as upon what is going on in our own city or our own Plant for that matter.

In the practice of democracy, local autonomy is a wonderful thing and must be highly prized but there inevitably comes a time when it is necessary to abide by the majority decisions of the larger unit, made up of many local groups, in order to be able to face the issues presented by the course of events in the world at large and to be strongly united to face a strongly united and entrenched opposition.

In Unity lies strength has become trite but is still true, and in unitedly carrying out the larger decisions lies success!

NO TIME FOR LAY-OFFS



Through the Dues Wicket

By A. G. SHULTZ

Greetings:

We regret we may not have had the pleasure of meeting all members of our Local at the dues wicket. However, it is possible that we may become better acquainted through this column.

Regulations which are governed by our constitution and other points of office procedure should give the opportunity of much informative discussion. Your questions are welcomed and we shall try to answer them in the same manner as if they were asked "through the wicket".

First we shall start with the location of Local 222 Office—the Union Office and Dues wicket are in the UAWA Hall, 17½ Simcoe St. N.—over the A&P Store.

HOURS—The Dues Wicket is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Mondays to Friday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

DUES—To remain in good standing your dues must not be over two months in arrears. After two months in arrears, you are liable for suspension. The months slide by—better check your card now.

SHOP CAPS—Aviation and peak styled caps are on sale at the office at 10c each. How many are being worn in your department? Can it be made the first 100 per cent with Union caps?

Double Check



December

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Membership Meeting | 8 p.m. |
| 2 | Auxiliary Bingo | 2.30 p.m. |
| 3 | G. M. Stewards | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Duplicate Stewards | 7.30 p.m. |
| 4 | Bingo | 8.30 p.m. |
| 5 | Open Forum | 8.00 p.m. |
| 8 | Auxiliary | 8.00 p.m. |
| | Duplicate Membership | 8 p.m. |
| 9 | Rod and Gun | 8 p.m. |
| | Aux. Bingo | 2.30 p.m. |
| 11 | Bingo | 8.30 p.m. |
| 12 | Open Forum | 8.00 p.m. |

WARNS AGAINST HORSEPLAY

Women's Auxiliary Busy!

By BEA MEYER

The last meeting of the Women's Auxiliary showed a record attendance.

Reports were heard on the Christmas boxes sent to Union members in the Active Services, on the purchase of a \$150.00 Victory Bond, and on the Bazaar to be held on the last Saturday in November.

Mrs. Mabel Maynes, former secretary, now Board member for the Auxiliary in Canada, reported on the Philadelphia Convention which she attended recently.

Bro. Geo. Thomson, of Local 222, gave the first of a series of four lectures on parliamentary procedure, and the members endorsed the proposal to have educationals every second meeting.

The municipal elections were discussed and the Auxiliary pledged its support to the labor candidates who will enter the contest.

Sisters Thomson and Meyer, elected at the previous meeting, were given their credentials to attend the Canadian-Soviet Friendship Congress in Toronto.

Tea was served after the meeting, giving old and new members an excellent opportunity to chat together and become acquainted with one another.

Progress at Skinner Plant

The organization in the Skinner Plant has made good progress in the last two weeks, with the following committee being elected:

Harvey Greenwood, Chairman; Michael Arych, Harold Garner, Executive Board member, Lillian McDonald, and Dalise Edwards.

This committee needs all the support it can get from the workers in order to bring about satisfactory results.

We still don't like the statement that was made recently by one of the plant supervision "that the Skinner workers are not the right type of people to have in the Union." Let the Management see that the workers in the Skinner plant are the same type of people who work in the other plants in the City and are entitled to the same consideration.

A full slate of Stewards has been elected in the plant, whose job it is to see that the members who come under their jurisdiction are kept informed of what is happening and to assist the shop committee in every way possible, and to see that the members remain in good standing.

I think that the members will know that Local 222 is behind them since the last few meetings have been attended by President Elson, Vice-President Benson and Bro. Moody of the Organizing Committee.

So Skinner workers—go to it now—let us clean up that mess once and for all.

Duplicate News Briefs

In an effort to boost the Victory Bond sales, a raffle was promoted by the Shop Committee and \$145.00 was realized. The winners of the Draw were as follows:

\$50 Bond, Opal Brown;

\$50 Bond, Joe Davis.

The following won War Savings Certificates:

Earl Sayers, Dolly Monaghan, Fred Mack, P. Lylyk, Mae Rutter, Vic Twasnick, Bill Short, Sil. Kerr, J. Anderson, Marie Cassidy, H. Sager, and Les Peck.

WE REMIND YOU!

Committee meeting every Monday at 8 P.M.

Steward meeting every Friday at 8 P.M. until further notice.

Sorry to hear Jimmy Mitchell of the Bev. shop has been sick again, here's hoping his luck soon changes.

Nice going Plastic Finishing and Inspection. That's what we needed to liven things up.

So — it finally leaked out — Freddie Johns is a proud Papa again (another Baby girl). Congratulations Freddie.

**U.A.W. CREDIT UNION
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
in
U.A.W.A. HALL
SUN., 2 P.M. DEC. 12TH
Important Topics
Please attend**

UAW CREDIT UNION

By PHYLLIS BATHE

You wish to Join?

1. Bring 25c and a deposit not less than 50c to the UAW Board room, Saturday morning of G.M. pay day. (UAW office services members on days other than pay-day Friday, Saturday and Monday)

2. You will be given a copy of the By-Laws at this time.

3. After your application has been accepted by the Board of Directors, a notice will be sent to you when your pass book is ready.

You wish a loan for a productive purpose??

1. Each member, according to By-Law, must have their first \$5 deposited, transferred to a share.

2. One month after acquiring this share, you may request a loan up to \$50 on your own signature—over that amount requires a co-maker (preferably a Credit Union member).

3. Your application is considered and passed on by the 3-man Credit Committee (C. B. Peel, John MacGregor and Wm. Watson (Chairman). Within a day or two, upon calling at the UAW office, the \$25-\$50—or \$100 is yours.

4. Interest on this loan is \$1 per month on the unpaid balance i.e. \$75 for one month—75c.

5. You name your own terms—\$10 a pay or \$5 a pay, it is up to you.

6. Pay-day to pay day loans is also a helpful feature of the Credit Union.

Maximum of \$20 may be borrowed at time of application to be repaid in 2 weeks at a set fee of 25 cents.

Credit Committee are not required to pass on this type of loan, although member must have one share at least, before he is eligible to make application.

STRENGTHENING TIES WITH UNIONS IN THE USSR

Jack Tanner, President of the Amalgamated Engineering Union of Great Britain, reports that his union at its annual conference this year has gone on record to exchange delegates with the Russian Metal Workers Union, along the lines of the plan which the British Section of the International Metal Workers Union has already worked out for inviting delegates from American Metal Workers Unions to Britain. Tanner made this report to the Labor Panel of the American Soviet Friendship Congress in New York over weekend of Nov. 7. Over 1,000 delegates attended the Labor Panel.

CAUSE FOR DISMISSAL

By MALCOLM SMITH

I wish, through the medium of our plant paper to bring to the attention of our membership, the serious situation which is developing in the plant at General Motors on account of the horseplay which is being indulged in by some of the employees. This is a condition which has now become so prevalent, that we are going to have to take our responsibility as Union members very seriously and exert all the influence we can with the offenders in an attempt to have it eliminated. Within the last ten or twelve weeks, there have been three cases of severe injuries suffered by employees as a result of this silly and unnecessary practice—one so serious that it confined the victim to hospital with concussion and another in which an employee received a broken ankle.

The thing which concerns me most is that there have been employees discharged over these happenings, and you will readily understand that cases of this kind are something of a headache to the negotiating committee. I would like to convey to the membership at this time that management take such a serious view of the situation, that it has developed, as far as they are concerned into an offence where the penalty is dismissal and up to now, the committee has not been able to reverse any decisions of management wherein offences of this kind have been involved, because where it is conclusively proven that horseplay has been indulged in, then the Union has a weak case to present.

Cause of Accidents

I do not know if this condition is prevalent in any of the other plants under the jurisdiction of Local 222, but if it is, then I hope that this word of warning will not fall on deaf ears.

In conclusion, I would ask that all committee men, stewards, and members of Local 222 bend their energies when in the shop to the job of eliminating horseplay in their various departments, and in this way help to cut out some of the serious accidents that have happened in the past, and also put an end to a practice that has come to cause a great deal of concern to both Negotiating Committee and Management.

With the Stewards

It's a funny thing but those stewards sure roll the business along at their meetings! A very full agenda, thorough discussion of all items and yet, Jim Lowney pronounced adjournment at 10 o'clock!

Jim who has been vice chairman was declared chairman after Jim Turner's letter of resignation was read and accepted with expressions of deep regret and the hope that Jim would have a speedy recovery and return from the Sanatorium fresh and fit again.

For some time the Stewards have been greatly concerned over the great number of collections that are being made every pay in some or many parts of the shop. The situation has got so bad that some time ago they decided to do something about the matter, so they set up a committee to deal with the matter.

The plan as at present recommended is for a benefit committee or club to be set up by the Union members, regular collections to be made, and the funds so collected to be distributed

fairly to those in need of assistance. The plan gives a supplementary income, spread over the entire absence from work, and will tend to relieve the anxiety in the minds of the families and of the breadwinner as to meeting the grocery and rent bills. Thus contributing no doubt to a more speedy recovery.

Of course, to receive benefits from the plan it will be necessary to participate in the payments and all this has been carefully worked out on a thoroughly business-like basis. In addition first-class advice is being sought by the committee in charge to ensure proper handling of the whole project.

To be eligible to participate it is necessary to be a member in good standing in the Union and to sign up for the plan as well. When the plan goes into effect it is believed there will be no further personal collections.

Ask your steward about the idea, and if you have a plan of your own in your department send a delegate to the committee. W. Noble is the Secretary.

UNION ROD & GUN CLUB, OSHAWA

By OTIS O. HAMILTON

At the meeting of Nov. 11th Mr. Taylor of Port Perry gave a talk on fishing, which had some wonderful ideas for the fisherman, ideas that many a fisherman had not considered.

Mr. Taylor presented a trophy that he had offered for the largest fish caught during the regular open season in Lake Scugog to Walter Colton of Oshawa, a Club member. In presenting the trophy Mr. Taylor paid his respects to the late Wm. Oke who was a sportsman of Port Perry, who had for some years put up a trophy. Mr. Taylor is carrying on in memory of Mr. Oke.

The trophy known as the BILL TAYLOR Trophy is a cigarette lighter set on an Ebony base. In handing the trophy to the winner, Mr. Taylor hoped that Walter would get as much pleasure from it as he had in presenting it.

Walter Colton told of how he had caught the 20 lb. Maskanonge, and of the battle that he had.

The presentation of the other Club Trophies was held over to the next meeting as their winners had to work that night.

During December there will be only one meeting, that of Dec. 9th. Following this meeting the next regular meeting will be the second Thursday in January, 1944.

Slivers From the Box Factories

Experience has proved to the workers at Kohen's Box factory, that you get results when you go about it the right way.

As mentioned before the steady workers there have, for some time, had trouble with the management who lets all the material be used up at night so that the steady piece workers have to wait, sometimes for hours, at the beginning of the shift, before they have sufficient lumber to start their work. "Of course," they are not paid anything for sticking around.

The shop committee took this grievance to Selective Service. Br. Wheeler of S.S. expressed his surprise, as he had contacted Kohen's a couple of months ago when the question first came up. Kohen's manager had promised that the regrettable situation would be rectified. Since then Selective Service had heard no more about it. Mr. Wheeler promised to look into it again and at once.

He did.

The following day he spoke to Kohen's announcing that a selective service representative would inspect the factory the next day. And so in the morning, at the beginning of the shift, the piece workers had to wait for their lumber one and a half hours. When Selective Service turned up later, everything was in ship

Plant Gossip



Nacelle Dept. 90J

When is the little fellow 5 ft. 2" going to trade his blue suit for a pair of coveralls?

Anyone who wishes to know the results of exercise, contact Mac. McKellar. He should know after a trip around his future father-in-law's farm.

Have you paid a visit to the little church yet? Frenchy of N.S.

We are all going to miss the wolf of the west but he sure had a fond farewell from 90J.

I wonder who the married man is in 90J who hates to admit he is married and also has a child.

Congrats. to Dorothy Dowe as our new Steward. Come on girls—make her work for you.

Shipping Dept. Shavings

By A. SHORTT-PENSILL

Red Craig after being away sick for over a week showed up at his work with a beautiful shiner. No explanations were given.

Certain members of the "Lemons" Bowling team were blowing about their ability when E. J. Pomery, our demon inventor challenged them to an exhibition game. He also backed it up with a sizable wager. Inspector Jack Fair was stakeholder. Next day the stakeholder did not come to work and Pomery was transferred after having recruited a team of "Has Beens"—"Never wassers" and "Comers." The contest is now in the laps of the Gods.

Late reports are that Jack Fair has become a proud father. All sorry to hear of Gordon Elliot's serious accident—hope he makes good progress.

We hear that a certain veteran CKD bachelor makes himself

shape. Everybody was happily at work.

Hats off to Mr. Wheeler! He certainly knows how to do it!

—The Buzz Saw

quite useful around the house. We wonder what progress he is making. We hope to hear by "August."

An omission in the last issue was that Bill Tribble, main cog in the Shipping office machinery, got hitched. Tribble goes double!

Quite a few members of the shipping room went deer hunting. Their names will be mentioned when they bring home the bucks.

C.K.D. according to reports has unlimited supply of stewards. It appears that they are organizing a rugby team and intend to use the "huddle" system. They are still in need of quarterbacks.

You're Telling Us . .

Replying to the kidders on No. 2 Truck line, the Saturday Night Soldiers wish to express an opinion that it is better to prepare oneself in case an emergency should arise than sit at home and do nothing . . . well, nothing but criticize . . . Why not come down? The "S.N.S." are looking for some smart(?) recruits!

We hear there's one man on or near No. 2 Army Truck Line who thumbs his way through life. They wouldn't by any chance be trying to feed us a little "taffy" would they? Put your initials on that one Ar-tie!

Aircraft 90J

Bill M is on the loose once more. Watch out girls! Melly weekendening in Toronto! Casino girls still worth a trip? 90J misses Margaret. Hope she will soon be well again. . . Watch your step with that Aluminum welder Sid. Lovely ring denotes competition. Is that the lead-up Bettie? Wonder if Shirley M. has found 'blivis' yet?

Sophie and Arvella are lucky girls having husbands home for a spell! Congrats to Isobel Cowan and Clemence Brennan on passing steel welding tests, also passing Aluminum test along with Bettie Brockman and Vera Welch. They run a mean bead now!

Don't forget the Xmas party for 90J! It should be a Bangaroo!

U. S. Profits Continue Up

Profits in the U.S. are still headed upwards in spite of income taxes. Renegotiations of contracts and increases in wages and the costs of raw materials. For the second quarter of 1943 the reports of leading companies show average profits 18.5 per cent higher than for the same period of 1942. For the first quarter profits averaged 8.3 per cent higher.

—From WEA Labor News