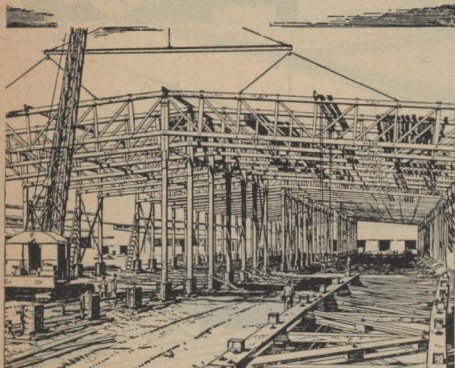


Good Machinery Deserves Good Housing



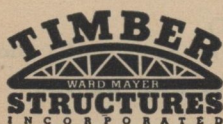
ARMY WAREHOUSES. 2304 flat top roof trusses for 12 buildings (200' x 800') prefabricated and erected by Timber Structures, Inc.

...BUILD WITH TIMBER STRUCTURES

Timber Structures specializes on roof truss construction for warehouses and general utility buildings. Much of our experience has been the fabrication of trusses and other timber items for this type of building; much of our future service to architects will be in the field of industrial fabrication.

The necessity for large areas of clear floor space requires the use of roof trusses long enough and strong enough to support necessary loads with a minimum of posts and columns. Teco ring-connected trusses of wood have proved to be suited to this type of construction, particularly when Timber Structures *Engineering in Wood* policy is applied.

This policy covers truss engineering and design, fabrication, assembly, inspection, shipping, erection. All are part of our service. All are responsible for the construction speed, economy, strength, low maintenance and permanence of roof trusses and other heavy timber items supplied by us. Inquiries are welcomed on the use of wood, allied structural materials. Illustrated literature on request.



Makers Union of the Western Federation of Butchers (A.F.L.).

• **What They Demand**—A.F.L. unions are demanding an increase of 5½¢ an hour to eliminate intraplant inequities. The C.I.O. does not ask for any specific increase but for evaluation of all jobs and establishment of classifications and rates to eliminate inequalities.

Main demands, on which action by NWLB is being awaited, include a general 10¢-an-hour wage increase and dressing time pay (BW—Sep.16'44, p102) sought under the portal-to-portal pay principle established for iron and coal mining industries.

Women Eye Jobs

While willing to abide by seniority rules, women workers are determined to hold their place in industry after the war.

Women workers in war plants served notice last week in Detroit and Washington that they have their eye on post-war industrial jobs, and that they want a voice in planning for them.

• **Will Abide by Seniority**—However, they made it clear at a Detroit meeting of the National Women's Committee of the United Auto Workers (C.I.O.) that they want no special treatment which would overturn established principles of union seniority (BW—Nov.4'44,p108).

The 150 delegates, claiming to represent 300,000 women plant workers holding U.A.W. memberships, climaxed debate on proportional seniority (by which the present ratio of men and women workers in plants would be maintained during layoffs) by reaffirming their willingness to abide by layoffs, transfers, or reassignments under the standard seniority rules of the U.A.W.

• **Toward Same Goal**—A few days before, representatives of 31 women's and labor organizations conferred in Washington with Miss Frieda Miller, director of the Women's Bureau, and other Dept. of Labor officials, and drafted a program aimed at the same goal as the U.A.W. meeting—assurance for women that a reasonable opportunity will be given them to continue working when the war emergency ends.

Both the Washington conference and U.A.W. attacked the problem by issuing recommendations for national and state legislation.

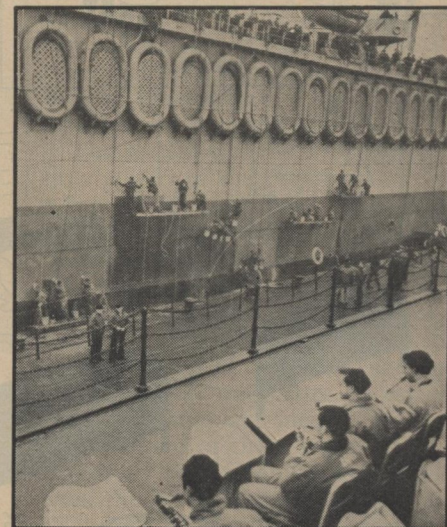
• **Are Against Discrimination**—These touched on many of the general objectives of labor organizations—improved working and wage standards, re-employ-

ment and retraining, dismissal pay, and public works planning—but most of all they were concerned with establishment of policies and procedures for layoffs to prevent discrimination against women.

The interest of the women's groups was intensified by new figures. In the truck and agricultural implements industry, where women make up 13.1% of the total employed, 51.6% of the personnel discharged in the first cutbacks were women. Among ordnance workers, women comprise 25.6% of the total employed; they were 61% of the total in initial layoffs. Among aircraft workers, the figures were 42.2% and 60.2%, respectively.

• **Blame Assessed**—The union policy of last hired, first fired, was responsible for a large part of this. But the women believe that seniority alone was not responsible. In shops without union contracts, they assert, cutbacks were running largely to women, regardless of seniority and efficiency, while in union shops, they accused many managements of playing upon women's dislike for heavy and dirty jobs to force them out by transfers and reassignments to such jobs.

• **Peak in July**—In December, 1941, some 12,090,000 women were employed, forming 22% of the labor force. By March, 1944, the number had risen to 16,480,000, or 31.5%. Of this 4,390,000 increase, Dept. of Labor sta-



HELPING HORNS

While the ship's band tootles swing and martial airs, seamen slap a rhythmic coat of paint on a Coast Guard troop transport at a European port. Just as industrial music is providing a lift for the manual jobs in war plants (BW—Apr.3'43,p64), such service concerts speed the sailors' monotonous tasks of housekeeping.



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tistics show that 2,670,000 women were added in the manufacturing field.

By July, 1944, female employment reached a peak of 19,110,000; it dropped to 18,480,000 in October.

• **Eye to the Future**—The Washington and Detroit conferences showed comparative agreement on the immediate postwar number of women in industry. The former set the total at approximately 15,000,000—almost 3,000,000 more than the December, 1941, figure.

UNION ELECTION QUESTION

Although they have voted for officers for the first time in three years, members of Los Angeles Local 9 of the C.I.O. Industrial Union of Marines & Shipbuilding Workers still are wondering whom they elected.

C. R. Brown, appointed director by the international union (BW-Oct. 21 '44, p100), was elected president over three rival candidates, but has impounded the ballots pending investigation of reports of ballot stuffing. Although the union has cried loudly for autonomy, only 2,880 of the 22,000 members took the trouble to vote during the four days set for the election.

Brown also is fighting a suit in which a member, Roy T. Trent, seeks to block use of union funds for political purposes. Trent sued shortly before the Nov. 7 national election, charging that \$30,000 of union cash was poured into the campaign funds of Democratic candidates endorsed by the C.I.O. Political Action Committee. A Los Angeles judge granted a temporary injunction on Nov. 4, after the money was spent. A hearing is scheduled for Dec. 22.

STUDIO STRIKE VOTE SOUGHT

Threats of a new tie-up alarmed the movie industry last week as two A.F.L.-affiliated union groups wrestled for control of Hollywood studio artisans.

Early in October, 750 set designers, painters, and machinists belonging to two of the ten locals comprising the Conference of Studio Unions walked out to block jurisdictional encroachment by the A.F.L. International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (BW-Oct. 14 '44, p106). They returned a week later when the dispute was certified to the National War Labor Board for settlement (BW-Oct. 21 '44, p102).

Now they are aroused again because NWLB, diagnosing the trouble as a jurisdictional fight, has asked the A.F.L., in effect, whether the artisans should be represented by the C.S.U., their present affiliation, or the I.A.T.S.E., which wants them. C.S.U. has petitioned the National Labor Relations Board to hold a strike vote within 30 days.