

**WASHINGTON
MERRY-GO-ROUND**

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But today, when the boys clamor "Just one more," Lewis is as sweet as a fairy godmother. He will even make gestures.

Credit goes to his new public relations expert, Justin McCarthy, who has convinced Lewis that one way to make friends and influence people is to be nice to the photographers.

THE OTHER LEWIS

Sitting in session with the coal operators, however, Lewis is another man — as witness the "You are a liar by the clock" charge hurled at George Love, president of the Pittsburgh Consolidated Coal company.

What inspired this piece of verbal guffaw was Love's testimony that Lewis had declared during negotiations with the operators that he had 400,000 coal miners "in the palm of his hand" and urged the operators to bid for their labor. Love was referring to a closed-door meeting at which Lewis charged that the operators were controlled by "bookies" who wanted to make "slaves" of the miners.

When Love insisted that Lewis offer some specific proposals for a new work contract, the mine boss replied:

"This is our bargaining technique. It is a poor, poor thing, but it is the best we have. Our labor is what we have to offer. You cannot work the mines without men."

Then Lewis extended a cupped

Michigan Mirror

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ority around airports designed to prevent hazards.

Indications at Lansing were that the Governor would also recommend revision of the Michigan unemployment Compensation Act along lines of his message in 1949. At that time he favored a minimum of \$30 a week and maximum of \$42 a week, the latter depending upon dependents for unemployed workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation Act. The legislature agreed upon a minimum of \$24 and maximum of \$32.

The Governor is known to favor an extension of the time for work benefits, as well as a change whereby workers are disqualified from jobless payments under certain conditions.

Revision of the State Sales Tax, currently a subject of considerable controversy, is not likely to come before the legislature as the Governor has consistently opposed consumer taxes. The Governor has been assured by legal advisors that such could not be acted upon by the legislature unless authorized by the Governor.

Thus revision of the State Sales Tax is likely to be held over until 1951.

As 1950 is a Michigan campaign year, the proceedings at Lansing will bear close watching.

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**Sincerely Yours . . .
Writer Calls Building Code
"The Working Man's Friend"**

Letters submitted to the Editor for publication must be signed. Opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper.

"A Building Code — The working man's friend." As you know, the Farmington Township Civic Association petitioned the Township Board for a referendum election on the township building code.

As a representative of the North Farmington District Civic Association, I attended the Township Board meeting Tuesday night, February 21, to contest the validity of the signatures on those petitions.

The reason we wanted to contest the petitions was simply because the Township Board had received 225 people in the township that think so little of our community that they would oppose the minimum safeguards the building code provided. Mr. McCracken, our township clerk, assured me, however, that the petitions did bear the required number of valid signatures.

Still firm in the conviction that led us to contest the petitions in the first place, we agreed — at the request of the Township Board — to contact the Farmington Township Civic Association in an attempt to learn the nature of that

band and added:

"I have 400,000 miners. What am I bid?"

However, later Love said that Lewis had 400,000 miners in the palm of his hand, the mine boss said it was an "infamous lie" and added for emphasis, "Mr. Love, you are a liar by the clock."

George Lockhart
Fellow American Society of
Piano Technicians
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ally believed what he said, he is still guilty of going on record on a matter about which he was not adequately informed. For a person to do such a thing when he is the head of any organization is absolutely unforgivable. The least Mr. Gossett can do under the circumstances is to publicly admit that he was wrong, and make sure that his admission is given as much publicity as were his incorrect statements.

I would like to quote to you from Section Nine of the Building Code: "No dwellings or buildings constructed, altered, or repaired under a building permit under the provisions of this ordinance shall be occupied in whole or in part for human habitation until a certificate of occupancy shall be issued and furnished by the Township Clerk, whereof it shall be certified that the erection, alteration, or repair of said building or dwelling has been consummated in accordance with the building permit."

Fellow citizens, upon reading Mr. Gossett's statement, I believe I know how this organization succeeded in getting the required number of signatures on the referendum petitions. There appears to be ample reason to conclude that those signatures were obtained by misrepresentation.

Although I will firmly stand by this last statement, I must say this in Mr. Gossett's defense — he probably is sincere in his belief. But Mr. Gossett and his organization apparently have chosen to cry wolf rather than to make a factual analysis of what the building code really does provide for.

Assuming that Mr. Gossett actually believed what he said, he is still guilty of going on record on a matter about which he was not adequately informed. For a person to do such a thing when he is the head of any organization is absolutely unforgivable. The least Mr. Gossett can do under the circumstances is to publicly admit that he was wrong, and make sure that his admission is given as much publicity as were his incorrect statements.

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ALWAYS, IN ALL WAYS

erendum election on the building code if such an election appears desirable and is legal. What we are opposed to, however, is misrepresentation of that code to the citizens of our township.

We want the citizens of our township to know:

1) That the code helps, instead of harms, the "working man." The only group the code can possibly hurt is the unscrupulous real estate agent or builder who sells substandard homes to the working man. The code would prevent this kind of builder from putting up unsafe housing that falls down upon its owners' heads in a few years or burns to the ground because of faulty chimney construction or wiring.

I know from sad personal experience the burden that the lack of a building code can place on the "working man." Several years ago I bought a home in the township. Later I discovered the floors and roof were sagging because of poor construction; the plaster cracked, and I am forced to spend over two

thousand dollars, which I can't afford, repairing a house that is less than eight years old. Yes, I must spend \$2,000 to correct defects which would have cost the builder less than \$200 to have prevented in the first place.

Yes, by all means, let us have an election on the code if such an election would be legal. And may all the honest, sincere, civic minded citizens be sure to register immediately and then get out to vote for the code on election day.

L. E. Krieg

GETS KEYS BACK
The Disabled American Veterans has returned a set of lost keys to Z. P. Jourdan of Farmington. Attached to the keys was a DAV Ident-Tag, miniature license tag for key rings, which is distributed to 30,000,000 motorists each year. The replica of their state license plates enables the DAV to return 5,000 keys a month from its national headquarters in Cincinnati.

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