Prof. John R. Commons of the Bureau of Economic Research Discusses Present

Outlook for Labor Homeless Race Horse that Came to Him on the Prairie.

NIVENS' LUCKY MAVERICK

FLEET AS THE WESTERN

Appeared Just in Time to Scoop in Pot of Money-Army Officer's Version of a Nebraska Episode.

"One July morning in '93," said an invalid infantry officer of the regular army to a New York Sun man, "Buck Nivens, the foreman of the 4-T ranch, near the Nebraska post, on the Union Parific line, at which I was stationed, led a big 16.3 chestnut horse up in front of my quarters-Buck and I were very chummy-and called me out to look the animal over

"I asked Buck if he'd taken to rustling The horse didn't look as if he belonged out that way. He was rank and hairy and muddy, and his rits were rather painfully visible, even through the mul and the long

hair. But he had blood lines and a thoroughbred's feet and legs, and he was a stargazer-never saw a horse, even on a race track, carry his head more proudly. "Where'd you nab that one, Buck?" I

asked him. "'Well, he's a kid o' gopher, I reckon,' replied Buck, grinning. 'He jes' nachully pranced up to me, about six miles over the versally employers hold it absurd that they

range, this mornin'. He walked right over to me, and put that fine head o' his'n \$1.50 machine which takes his place. If my pommel. Looks like he's a such a view succeeds, then machinery does acrost. breedn', hey? "'Breeding?' said I to Buck. 'He's a thor-

oughbred from end to end. Pretty shaky story of yours, Buck, about picking him up on the range. That kind don't come up on sage-brush. They're made of sweet tufts of bluegrass."

'I'm teilin' you right, though,' replied Buck, knowing that I was only fooling. 'I can't figger out ary a reason for his bein aroun' these yere parts-but thar he were as big as a 'dobe and as mild as a setter Acted like he were lonesome and used to the company o' humans, the way he comes a-waltzin' up to me.

"Well, it was a queer kind of business, for a fact. 'Give you a hundred for the waif. Buck

and no questions asked," I said to the fore-

Buck Makes a Proposition.

'Nope,' replied Buck. "The young feller-he's only 4-year-old, by his molarshas taken a kind of a shine to me, and I maybe I'll use him."

"I loaned Buck a bridle and he hastened it onto the handsome but abused-looking chestnut and trotted off to the ranch, leading his odd four-leggel find alongside his awerving cayuse.

"I didn't see Buck again for a month Then be came cantering up one afternoon on the chestnut. Now, I've been looking at without organization will be reduced to the and all the unskilled workmen who work in its value in the United States for epileptics race horses, odd times when I've been on lowest wages, longest hours and hardest the same industry, much as the United and idiots and in Holland and Germany for furlough and had a chance, for a matter of exertion that physical strength can endure. State Steel corporation binds together its beggars and tramps, and is being adopted a quarter of a century or so, but I don't Lack of organization is the essence of the constituent corporations. Certain strong in New South Wales for the less competent think I ever saw such a ripping looking sweating system. Apparent but not real and compact unions resist this movement unimployed. When once the grip of these brute as this lost, strayed or stolen range exceptions to this rule are members of because they are opposed to making sacri- of the working classes the labor question pick-up of Buck Nivens' had turned out to those highly skilled trades or those indi- fices for their weaker associates, but in can be treated on its merits as an indusbe in the course of that month.

proudly slipping out of the saddle. "Well make it a hundred and a half.

Buck, and I'll furnish him oats,' said I. 'Not ten hundred and fifty.' replied of him, and rode off. "Ten days later-this was about the mid-Buck. 'This feller and me is mashes, sure enough, Cap, and we git along together like die of August-Buck came loping up to my It was Gopher all the way and winning by the ashpan. two chum gais in boardin' school. He don't quarters on his cayuse. stand for nobody foolin' around him but me "'Jes' dropped by to pick

went.

a bit anxious for it.

a hold-out favorite at 5 to 3 cn.

Easy Money for Buck.

The serious problems which face the for the less gifted mass, and those non- awakening to the need of protecting them workingman today are machinery, division union workmen in trades where a union selvts by protecting them. exists. Setting aside these exceptions,

of labor, and trusts. Machinery and division of labor affect which prove the rule, there is no substitu- on the employer in the matters of machinhim in two ways-they drive him to over- tion for organization for the great ma- ery, division of labor, discipline of the stitching, to hand sewing, to pressing, and increases. not only was each change a relaxation but it was impossible for him to get up speed in any of his operations. Now one man

does the stitching, another the basting, another the pressing, and so on. The man at the machine gets an amazing skill in narrow limits, which amounts merely to the skill necessary to drive his work through at high True, the price of ready-made coats speed. has come down, but the man can no longer earn wages after he is 45 years of age. This effect of the division of labor and machinery extends to all trades. Even bricklayers in New York have increased their speed thirty per cent in the last ten years, and a German bricklayer lays fifty per cent more brick than he did in Germany.

A weaver now operates twenty to twentyfive looms where by hand one was enough.

But the main effect of muchinery is not that it intensifies exertion or even that it displaces labor, but that it cuts wages. A certain tannery introduced a machine to take the place of men at \$15 per week. The men were forced to work for 19 a week. and then proprietors threw out the machine because labor was cheaper. Almost uni-

> should be asked to keep's \$3 man on the not stand on its own merits. America ex- employers of uonunionists. But the ceeds in the introduction of machinery belabel cause American wages are so high that employers must seek machine substitutes. But, plainly, if the machine is used to cut wages, then the economical reasons for its ited in scope.

> introduction are gone, and it becomes mainly a club to cow labor. Contrast the tannery machine above mentioned with the As a result of these changes a new uniontypesetting machine. The compositors when ism is springing up which bids fair to do faced by this machine saw that boys and more for the workingman than anything women were likely to take the places of that has been done in the past. This is hours lengthened. On the contrary, at the place of trade unionism. It takes different present time, those same compositors who forms, all the way from amalgamation, as in yours a day at whatever they could make, federation, as in the case of the Uniteday

paid by the piece, are now operating Garment Workers and United Hatters. The the machines six to nine hours a day at a mine workers' union is no longer a union minimum of \$18 to \$30 per week, according of miners alone, but it includes day labor-

to locality, paid by the day. At the same ers, 'op men, drivers, carpenters, blacktime the cost of competition to the em- smiths, firemen, hoisting engineers-in fact, ployer has been reduced two-thirds. Here, everybody who works for wages in or about reckon I'll put him under a shed and fix It is biain, machinery stands on the work- New York City are now conducting for the It has benefited directly both the work- New York City are now conducting for the man and the employer. It has not been a first time a general strike under a central good these classes need to be clearly set club, but an economy. But notice, the council, in which ten or twelve unions take only condition that made the effect of the part, covering the entire trade, except the typesetting machine different from that of Jialian women, who work at home. This for the aged, but for the other classes a machinery in other trades was the strength new form of alliance is not necessarily an promising solution is that of the labor or and wisdom of the printer's trade union.

cannot be

"'He's some hoss, ain't he?' said Buck, as experts or as supervisors or pacemakers with machinery taking their places they are charity question chestnut, that pawed joyfully at the sight cut to 5 to 1 when the horses got away ways leaving a bright white heat surface.

like a platoon of cavalry. There were no clinkers, everything being "The race doesn't need to be described. reduced to the finest dust and falling into

thirty lengths, pulled sideways. The favor-ite was second and the rest strung out row has made what he considers a liberal

Building in the West.

THE BEE BUILDING is not only a familiar name to people in Omaha, but is known everywhere as one of the best office buildings in the country. It is the best advertised building in the west and visitors to Omaha are seen every day admiring the wonderful combination of the beautiful and the substantial in it's architecture. en minere fin

Is it not worth while to be identified with a building like this? Is it not a good investment to have an address which is known all over the country as the best office building in Omaha? Is there not also a feeling of satisfaction in having surroundings that are beautiful and pleasant? Surely in choosing a house you would rather be opposite a park than a mud bank.



THE BEST KNO The new unionism abandons restrictions

1

exertion and they cut his wages. Formerly jority of workingmen and working women establishment, and speed of work. The emwhen a skilled tailor made the entire coat except legislation, and in proportion as ployer becomes free to manage his own he changed about from basting to machine organization fails the demand for legislation business and to iniroduce any economy or improvement. But the union strives to share the ad-

While organization is esential, it cannot succeed if not rightly directed. For this vantages of machinery, division of labor, reason the old-time trade union is gradually and business organization by directing its giving way to the industrial union. As a atlention to shortening the hours of labor. manufacturing establishment grows and en- raising the minimum day wages, and reguters a trust it can subdivide its operations lating the piece prices. Shorter hours secure and substitute automatic machinery until it all the advantages hoped for from restric-Therefore, the tion of output, and, besides, are the neceseliminates trade skill. union based on trade skill controls a sary compensation for increased intensity smaller and smaller proportion of the of exertion.

Conditions

Hours and wages are controlled on the employes, although on account of the growth of the business the absolute numonly basis on which they can fairly be conber of skilled men in the country may not trolled-namely; through conferences of the be reduced. This is the reason why the representatives of labor and the reprelargest establishment in many industries sentatives of capital for the entire competiare non-inion. To an outsider it seems tive field. Neither would be despotism, but unfair that 10 or 25 per cent of the work- the representatives of each agree in confermen-those who are skilled-should be able ence. This is representative government to stop the work of an entire industry in It places all competitors on an equality; it order that they alone may get an increase takes control out of the hands of local unions and walking delegates and places it in of wages or the recognition of their union. Another point where the older trade union the hands of national conventions and na-theory is giving way is in its theory of tional officers. This eliminates personalirestrictive output. These restrictions place ties, local friction and petty contentions. union shops at a disadvantage in competi- and makes more certain the enforcement

of a labor contract.

tion with non-union shops where machinery and division of labor are carried to their limits. This disadvantage is obscured Again, the new unionism relies on fair for a time by the device of the label which treatment by the public authorities. The has enabled employers of union workmen first conference agreement between the powerful Mine Owners' union of Illinois in certain cases to sell their product at higher prices than those received by and the operators of that state, which has brought notable prosperity and satisfaction to both capital and labor, would, nevertheconsidered a fealess, have suffered defeat had not Governor ture of organization-lt produces a kind Tanner refused to furnish militia to help of hothouse unionism; it is only a substia company to bring in colored labor from tute for billboard advertising, and is limother states in order to break the agree-ment to which the company itself was a party. The fact that the mine workers.

have political power is essential in maintaining organization. So long as the abuse of injunctions-which have now gone so far in Ohio and Connecticut as even to prohibit men, and their wages likely to be cut and sometimes called industrial unionism in persuasion - is continued or enlarged there is but little hope for labor organization The only remedy is either for the judiciary formerly set type by hand ten to twelve the case of the mine workers, to a close to keep hands off or for the workingmen to control the judiciary through practical politics

Finally, it must be noted that with the ncreased tension of machinery and division of labor and the higher standard of wages there is an increasing residuum of the aged and of incompetents and delinquents who cannot or will not work up to the minimum required by employers. For the sake apart from the strictly industrial occupations. This is a difficult problem, especially amalgamation, rer does it wipe out trade beggar colonies, where these classes volunlines, as was attempted by the Knights of tarily or compulsorily work under super-It may be stated as axiomatic that labor Labor, but it binds together all the trades vision. The colony idea has already proved viduals of extra gifts who are advanced proportion as they see these unskilled men trial and not as a parily police and a parily

and I reckon it's wuth while to have any ol', kind of a four-legged thing feel that-away toward you, particularly one with all the instincts of a gentleman like this boy. How 'bout that?'

'Well, it 'ud be a shame to keep one like that plugging around a beef ranch. that's all,' I told Buck. 'He's good enough. by the looks of him, to go to the races.'

"'And," replied Buck, with a strong accentuation of the "and." 'he's good enough going to take a run down there to see how by somethin' else than the looks o' him to go to the races. That's what I'm over here to see you about, bein' plum loco myself when it gits down to a matter o' figures."

A Regular Racing Machine.

Beck flipped a coin to one of the post dog-robbers to hold the chestnut for awhile his little arithmetical problem to me.

'It's this-a-way. Cap,' said he, turning colonel the old man very generously rigged this yere orphan hoss hits me as bein' a until the day before the opening of the nothin' but feed and burnish him till about two running races were to be decided. a week ago. Then I puts one o' the light saddles on him-about forty-five pounds, I very happy. He was in company with the morrow." reckon-and gits on him to give his legs a son of a wealthy banker of the town, a stretch.

"I clean fergits how these yere blooded reputation out there in the Big Muddy counhorses hates the gaff, and so I don't take try as a gentleman rider, and this young off my spurs. Hadn't no more'n got him fellow had been let in by Buck on the posout in the open when I absent-minded like sibilities of Gopher, so that he had decided gives him a dig with the off spur, like he to ride the horse in his first start. Gopher was a cayuse. Well, he gives one jump, had been entered as an 'unknown bred'and then it's me to do some ridin', sure 'nough. Now, I strip at 150, and there were forty-five pound o' gear on his back beside, which figgers up near 200, if I know anythin' about it, and the way that hose kept thoroughly under cover. galloped f'r three miles was just racin'that's all-racin'. I stopped tryin' to pull him up after the first mile, and let him go on. At the end o' three miles I figgered I'd had enough o' breeze f'r one day and On'ly got him to slow up. When I hopped of the West saloon on Shawnee street, and off there warn't hardly a heavin' of his sides."

'Oh, well, there's nothing remarkable only horse in the race with no given breedthe races.

'But this yere's what I want to git at.' takes this yere Gopher out onct more, and with. I've got it fixed with one o' the hands that I can depend on to do a little timin' f'r me. I puts the hoss through a little gallop out o' reach o' the layout, where nobody but between \$3,000 and \$4,000. The book hadn't my timer is next, and then 1 sets him on the mile that I've got plotted out.

Trial in Wonderfal Time.

"'Now, my man with the wach catches this yere mile at 1:50 flat. That's with 195 pound up, y'understand, over a mile stretch that's a heap deep in spots and cloggy. What Iswant you to figger out f'r me is this: What is that 1:50 mile 'quivalent to, so to speak, to a race hoss runnin' on a reg'lar race track with the average racin' had that look at Gopher. weight up?

"I had to smile at the ingenuousness of Buck's question, as well is his implicit con- races had been decided, the five bookmakers fidence in my powers as a mathematician. on the grounds had all they could do taking Nevertheless that 1:50 mile under the condi- in the money on a big, raw-boned 6-year-old tions he had named struck me as being a from St. Louis that one of my friends from mighty powerful performance, if the watch the fort was booked to ride and before ten had caught it right.

"'Ask me easy ones, Buck,' said 1. 'but you've got a race horse right from that showing. If your timer wasn't dreaming or his watch running a bit of a race, too. you've picked up a mag that ought to negotiate a mile on a track, with average paraded, to the post. Gopher, as the only weight, in about 1:42 or better."

'Much 'bliged,' said Buck. 'That's all, to emerge. The crowd took just one look That's what I thought myself, but I want d at him as he pranced to the post, as handfiggerin' sharp that I knowed.'

if you want to go along." "'Go along where?' said I. "'Leavenworth,' said he. 'I'm a sure

I contrived to pull out enough on the range enough wizard o' the turf now, Cap.' grinpickup to keep my uniforms in repair for ning into his whisky and soda. awhile. When I returned to my post I

"Then he explained to me that ha'd found my orders for the Presidio of San shipped Gopher down to Leavenworth, Kan. to run at the county fair meeting on the three-quarter-mile track and that he was his orphan made out. The county fair was to begin ten days later and Buck wanted me Gopher and he was interested from the first to go along with him. Buck was disapword. He asked me to describe the horse pointed that I couldn't go along, but I t ld and I did. him that I'd root for his nag, and away he

Gopher, at 20 to 1.

a 4-year-old that had never faced the flag "His visit sort of put an itch into me to and last May I shipped him on with a carliquored up a couple of times he presented get away from the post for a little whill, load of other horses to make a killing him in the east. The car caught fire somewhere and when I gently hinted as much to the in western Nebraska, in the middle of the his chair the wrong way around so's he me up a detail that would take me to night and the hands had to turn all of the could lean his elbows on the back. This Leavenworth for a couple of weeks. This horses loose on the prairie to save them yere Gopher o' mine-that's what I'm was a week after Buck's departure and 1 from being burned to death. All of them callin' him, Gopher, and you know why- didn't get into Leavenworth and meet Buck were recovered in the morning but that chestnut and it was concluded that his panie sure-enough blood proposition. I didn't do county fair, on which day two trotting and was such over the fire that he had run over the prairie until he had dropped dead. I'll shoot a man to Nebraska for him to "I found Buck a couple parts drunk and

HAS CHEAP FUEL SECRET. sitm young fellow who had considerable

Artificial Substitute for Coal Invented by a Chemist.

"'I'll send a man to Nebraska for that

substitute for coal which has made for it the claim that its cheapness and the fact that it can be made anywhere there were no breeding requirements, of will cause it to become the universal fuel course-in a mile dash, with gentlemen has been found. Dr. Henry W. Morrow, riders up on the first day of the opening chemist, of Wilmington, Del., has invented and the orphan, Buck told me, had been an artificial fuel that can be manufactured per cent cheaper than the produc-"There was a lot of talk in the town tion of coal, and recent tests show it to and at the fort about the gentlemen riders' have all the desired properties for heating. race and two pay or play future books had The artificial fuel is composed of about \$ been open for three days-one in the Star per cent of common earth. Any kind can be used. For domestic purposes Dr. Morrow the other handled by a sporty citizen of thinks ordinary earth, such as is found it Leavenworth. Gopher, because he was the back yards, is preferable, while for high-

draught fires, such as locomotives, steamabout that,' I said, 'seeing, as anybody can ing, was at 20 to 1 in the two future books. fuel made of clay is preferable, as it hardsee, that he's a thoroughbred and meant for There were nine to go altogether and three ens better. To the earth is added about 3 of them were to be ridden by army officers per cent of coal tar as a protection from the from the fort, all of them, by the way, weather. With the coal tar in the fuel it proceeded Buck. 'A couple o' days ago I friends of mine and men that I had served can be exposed to rain for any length of time without being damaged. Dr. Morrow "Needless to say, Buck had taken all of has pieces of his fuel that have lain in

the 20-to-1 that he could get from the two water from two to three days without being future books and he already stood to win impaired. A trifle of sawdust is added, al between \$3,000 and \$4,000. The book hadn't though it is not necessary. It is merely rubbed, but they had just declined to give added to the fuel for domestic use, so that it will burn out and make the fuel porous. Buck any more Gopher because he seemed To these parts is added the secret com-

"Well, I had a look at Buck's range pound, which Dr. Morrow says "I have back pickup that night and then I went right of my cars and I will keep it there until somebody pays me for it." down town and made a modest little in-

The fuel with which a demonstration was vestment in that 20-to-1 about his chances. made was manufactured in a hand mold in The horse looked magnificent. The reputa-Dr. Morrow's laboratory. It was in the tions of the three crack horses from St. shape of small bricks. Each weighed three Loo didn't scare me a little bit after I'd ounces. When placed on a fire they burn with an intense heat. According to the ex-"Well, when the betting on the gentleperiments the artificial fuel, under an ordimen riders' race opened, after two trotting

nary draught such as is used in hous * will burn from four to six hours. Under a forced draught it will last from two to four hours longer than coal. Another point in favor of the fuel is that it throws off no smoke, gas or vapor. When

minutes had passed this horse was almost first placed on a fire it takes about ninety seconds for the coal tar in the bricks to be consumed, and after that there is not the slightest odor, but the fire burns intensely "I never saw anything funnier on with a small blue flame.

race track than when those nine borses At the demonstrations a fire of wood was kindled in an ordinary cook stove. cold bred horse in the bunch, was the last On top of the wood were thrown about

twenty little bricks-"eggetts." the inventor calls them of the artificial fuel. In less to sort o' git my calc'lations indersed by a some as any Hanover, and then they than twenty minutes these bricks were swooped upon the bookmakers with their glowing at a white heat. They kept clean-"Whereupon, leaving me somewhat mysti-money. They were still trying to get it ing themselves, for as the fire burns the Acd, Buck, clomped out, mounted his fine down in chunks at a price that had been outer surface bricks gradually cooled off, aling themselves, for as the fire burns the

estimate. Earth costs almost nothing more than a sixteenth of a mile Buck was about \$5,500 to the good, the banker's son tar is very cheap, for the barrel in which it who had ridden, something similar, while is carried costs more than the tar itself. The secret ingredients are staple articles that are inexpensive.

Thieves Break Into Postoffice.

found my orders for the Presidio of San Francisco awaiting me. About a month after I got there I met a well known Irish turfman who used to be a big man on the \$6,000 worth. California tracks and is now racing in England. I narrated to him the story of



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