



**SILVER STAR** was awarded posthumously to Pfc. Wilfred Hoffmann at private ceremonies at the home of his mother, Mrs. William Hoffmann Friday evening. The medal was presented to Mrs. Hoffmann by Captain K. C. Greenough, member of the Marine Corps recruiting office in Minneapolis. Sister and brothers of Wilfred Hoffmann are included in the picture (left to right) front, Rita, Mary Ann, Armella, Back Daniel, Glen Doris, Larry, Mrs. Hoffmann, Captain K. C. Greenough, making the presentation; and S gt. James T. Allen. (Times photo)

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## Silver Star to Hoffmann Family For Son, Wilfred

Mrs. Olivia Hoffmann, 206-15 avenue south, received the Silver star, awarded posthumously to her son, Pfc. Wilfred D. Hoffmann, USMC, in ceremonies held at the Hoffmann home Friday night. Presentation was made by Captain Kenneth C. Greenough, USMC, of Minneapolis, in the presence of the immediate family and relatives.

Citation accompanying the award is as follows: "The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver star medal posthumously to Pfc. Wilfred D. Hoffmann, USMC, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while serving with Third battalion, Tenth marines, Second marine division, during action against enemy Jap forces on Saipan, Marianas Islands, 7 July 1944. Courageous and aggressive under terrific fire from Jap machine guns and rifles, Pfc. Hoffmann maintained his station steadfastly during an attack upon his battalion area by numerically superior enemy forces. While the Japanese were advancing at a range of less than 100 yards, he laid his piece for elevation during direction fire and assisted in inflicting severe casualties on the enemy, thereby contributing materially to the disruption of the enemy's advance before his battalion was ordered to withdraw.

"Mortally wounded while firing an automatic weapon during withdrawal, Pfc. Hoffmann by his heroic fighting spirit and unwavering devotion to duty, had contributed to the success of this hazardous engagement, and his exemplary conduct throughout reflects the highest credit upon the U. S. naval service. He gallantly gave his life for his country. Signed by the President by James Forrestal, secretary of the navy."

In a personal letter to the family  
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## Severance Pay Directed For Steel, Ore Workers

Washington (P)—The National War Labor Board today directed payment of severance pay to employees of five U.S. Steel corporation subsidiaries and workers in 44 Lake Superior iron ore companies in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

In the steel companies, such pay would be limited by the directive to employees permanently displaced by the closing of wartime plants and facilities to reduce production costs; in the ore mines, which produce about 8 percent of the nation's iron ore, the severance pay would be limited to employees laid off from war-exhausted mines.

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## Need Settlement For Speed Ahead

Washington (P)—John D. Small, while reporting significant reconversion progress, says there can't be "full speed ahead" until current industrial disputes are ironed out.

The chief of the civilian production administration asserts that when these "widespread" labor-management differences have been settled "all-out production can be expected rapidly."

Small made these statements in reporting that even though industrial output has turned upward for the first time since victory in Europe, "the heavy demands of both consumers and producers are not being met in all cases."

In addition to work stoppages, continuing scarcity of some materials is holding up the full flow of many consumer products to market, Small said in a monthly review of production last night.

Questioned at a news conference about the impact of a steel strike scheduled for next month on re-

The decision, issued as one of the final acts of the War Labor Board which goes out of existence January 1, supplemented previous rulings under which the issue of severance pay was remanded for negotiation between the companies and the CIO-United Steel Workers. When these negotiations collapsed the union requested a board ruling.

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## Strikes At a Glance

By Associated Press

Workers idle because of labor disputes throughout country total about 386,000.

Major labor developments:

Administration—Lack of funds halts work of National Labor Relations board in conducting strike votes, leaving some 600 union petitions stranded.

Building—AFL Building and Construction Trades Council ask NLRB to conduct strike vote among 200,000 building trades workers in New York city.

Automobiles — Government's fact-finding board studying General Motors wage dispute proceeds with hearing despite corporation's  
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## 36 Killed in Bus Crash in Mexico

Pueblo, Mexico (P)—Thirty six persons were killed and 29 were injured Friday in the head-on collision of two passenger buses.

The accident occurred when the two buses, traveling in opposite directions, collided, overturned and rolled down a steep embankment into a gorge between Tepene and Matamoros Izucar, about six miles west of here.

ings under which the issue of severance pay was remanded for negotiation between the companies and the CIO-United Steel Workers. When these negotiations collapsed the union requested a board ruling.

The award provided for four weeks pay after three or more years of service; six weeks pay after five years; seven weeks pay after seven years, and eight weeks pay after ten years.

In lieu of pay, the companies may offer an eligible worker "substantially equivalent employment in the same general locality," with the

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## NLRB Out of Cash for Voting

By Associated Press

The National Labor Relations board, which since July, 1943, has spent about a million dollars conducting strike votes, was without funds today to carry on further balloting and some 600 labor union requests for votes were left stranded.

The disclosure that the NLRB had discontinued conducting strike ballots came soon after President Truman signed a deficiency appropriation bill which provided no funds for the activity. The NLRB, an official said, is the only agency empowered to supervise strike ballots.

One of the newest petitions filed with the board was by the AFL Building and Construction Trades  
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tragedy of a village maiden. Suppressed by publishers at first, it later became recognized as one of his greatest works.

### 2 Novels Coming

Others of his works included "Jennie Gerhardt," "The Genius," "A Hoosier Holiday," "A Book About Myself," "Moods, Cadenced and Declained," "Dreiser Looks at Russia" and "A Gallery of Women."

Since he established his home here 10 years ago, Dreiser remained in semi-seclusion, but recently completed two more novels, "The Bulwark" and "The Stoic," which are not yet off the press.

casts." The primary obstacle is "labor-management differences."

**Tires**—Passenger tire production is equivalent to 90 per cent of the pre-war rate. (CPA expects output next year to set a record, but says full demand will not be satisfied for several months).

**Refrigerators** — November shipments from plants representing more than half the pre-war industry totalled 77,000 as compared with a pre-war rate of 200,000 a month from these plants.

**Washing Machines**—Output now at about 50 percent of the 1941 rate. Among delaying factors: Labor-management problems.

**Construction Machinery**—Major producers are maintaining their high wartime rate of output.

**Farm Machinery**—Up to "comparatively high levels" in November, recovering from September slump caused by work stoppages.

**Transportation**—Delivery of railway passenger coaches will start in 1946. Bus production at about the same rate as before the war.

**Textiles and Clothing**—"No prospect production of textile products will catch up with demand in the near future." Principal problem is a shortage of manpower.

**Construction**—Major bottlenecks are lumber, cast iron soil pipe, brick, gypsum board and lath, clay sewer pipe, and cast iron radiators and boilers.

from A. A. Vandergrift, general and commandant of the USMC, sympathy was expressed as follows: "I wish to assure you of my deep appreciation of the conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity of your son, the late Pfc. Wilfred D. Hoffmann, USMC, who died during action against enemy Jap forces on Saipan, Marianas islands, 7 July 1944, for which he was posthumously awarded the Silver star medal with

citation by the President of the United States. I tender again my sympathy and condolence in your bereavement. The marine corps shares your pride in the heroic conduct of your son."

Wilfred Hoffmann was an employee of the St. Cloud Daily Times.

withdrawal; CIO United Auto Workers prepare data from federal agencies for panel's consideration; company willing to continue negotiations with union.

council in New York city for a strike vote among 200,000 New York city building trades workers.

The proposed ballot, the council said, was in protest against a decision of the federal department of labor's wage adjustment board which failed to give the workers a straight 15 percent wage increase that the union and employers had agreed was warranted.

The automotive industry's major dispute, the strike of 175,000 employees at General Motors plants, continued today before the government's fact-finding body, despite the corporation's withdrawal yesterday. The company said its prices, profits and ability to pay were "not facts but forecasts and estimates of the future" and not "proper factors in determining wages as applied to an individual business."

### No Meeting Date Set

The CIO United Auto Workers, which is demanding a 30 percent wage rate increase and lacking company figures on its price-profit position, prepared for submission to the panel data from government agencies.

In Detroit, corporation officials and union leaders said they were willing to continue the wage negotiations, but no meeting date was set.

In Cleveland, AFL union leaders and Greyhound Bus Lines company officials were to meet with federal conciliators in an attempt to effect settlement of the nearly two months old strike of 4,000 employees because of a wage dispute. The walkout, affecting transportation of the Central Greyhound lines and the Pennsylvania Greyhound lines in 18 eastern states, was called by the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees union.

Throughout the country, continuing labor disputes kept idle approximately 386,000 workers.

Of the 1944 national income, now computed at about \$157 billion, approximately \$127 billion was paid to persons who earned less than \$5,000 per year.



## Weather

St. Cloud vicinity: Cloudy tonight and Sunday with light snow tonight, colder Sunday afternoon.

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