



## Smithsonian Institution

*Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives*

### Paul Studenski Collection - Scrapbook, Volume 2 (2 of 2), 1915-1961

Extracted on Apr-19-2024 07:12:44

**The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.**

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website ([transcription.si.edu](https://transcription.si.edu)), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives or [transcribe@si.edu](mailto:transcribe@si.edu)

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

- Page Four -

sphere, attaining standards of living of undreamt of heights. Most of us today are well fed, well clothed, have good automobiles, radio and television sets as well as electrical appliances that reduce the drudgery of housework. Many of us live in homes which years ago could be pictured only in fairy tales. Inequalities in the distribution of income have been reduced. Hours of labor have been cut and working conditions generally improved tremendously. Labor unions have come to be recognized almost universally, collective bargaining has nearly everywhere become the order of the day, and unfair treatment of employees by employers has been reduced considerably. Business fluctuations have been tempered by automatic stabilizers. Farmers have been assisted by government price supports and are today more prosperous than ever.

But there are also some dark spots on this record. Serious questions may be raised as to whether we are exercising the best possible judgments as consumers in the selection of our objects of expenditure, that is, whether we would not be better off if we spent less money on fancy automobiles and more on education or on housing? Private enterprise has proved incapable to provide low cost urban housing, with the result that slums in cities are increasing. Small businesses in many fields are being crowded out and displaced by large scale enterprises managed by bureaucracies responsible to no one except their own conscience. Labor union leaderships have acquired tremendous economic power, without gaining correspondingly in a sense of responsibility to either the society at large or to their own members. Wage increases are being demanded and granted far in excess of the rise in productivity and of the

- Page Four -

sphere, attaining standards of living of undreamt of heights. Most of us today are well fed, well clothed, have good automobiles, radio and television sets as well as electrical appliances that reduce the drudgery of housework. Many of us live in homes which years ago could be pictured only in fairy tales. Inequalities in the distribution of income have been reduced. Hours of labor have been cut and working conditions generally improved tremendously. Labor unions have come to be recognized almost universally, collective bargaining has nearly everywhere become the order of the day, and unfair treatment of employees by employers has been reduced considerably. Business fluctuations have been tempered by automatic stabilizers. Farmers have been assisted by government price supports and are today more prosperous than ever.

But there are also some dark spots on this record. Serious questions may be raised as to whether we are exercising the best possible judgments as consumers in the selection of our objects of expenditure, that is, whether we would not be better off if we spent less money on fancy automobiles and more on education or on housing? Private enterprise has proved incapable to provide low cost urban housing, with the result that slums in cities are increasing. Small businesses in many fields are being crowded out and displaced by large scale enterprises managed by bureaucracies responsible to no one except their own conscience. Labor union leaderships have acquired tremendous economic power, without gaining correspondingly in a sense of responsibility to either the society at large or to their own members. Wage increases are being demanded and granted far in excess of the rise in productivity and of the

Paul Studenski Collection - Scrapbook, Volume 2 (2 of 2), 1915-1961  
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers  
Extracted Apr-19-2024 07:12:44



## Smithsonian Institution

*Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives*

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)