



Is the man who owns the ladder



“exploiting labor”?

ONE OF THE WAYS many of us earned money as kids was picking cherries. We had to scramble up the tree trunk, stand on one limb, hold onto another with one hand, and pick with the other hand. Slow, not too safe, and we never did reach many of the ripest and best cherries.

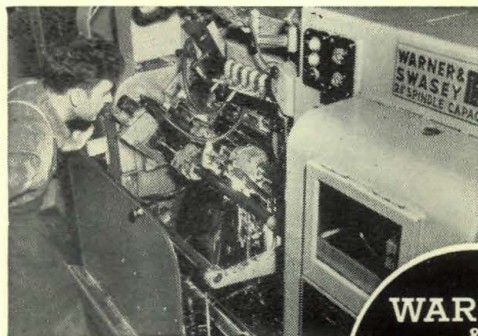
If we had had a good ladder we could have stood safely, picked with both hands, reached the ripest cherries, and filled a basket in half the time.

We could have afforded to pay several quarts of cherries a day to the owner of the ladder—we still would have made more money, more easily, more safely. He had the ladder because he

had saved for it instead of spending his money on himself.

That ladder is *capital*—the same as a machine in a factory today. Somebody had to deny himself, and save, to provide it. Without it, workmen could not possibly earn as much as quickly as easily.

Workmen should be the first to demand a good return to the investors who save and buy today's better machines. The interests of workmen and investors are the same; the enemy of both is the socialist or the bureaucrat who wants to make saving impossible.



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