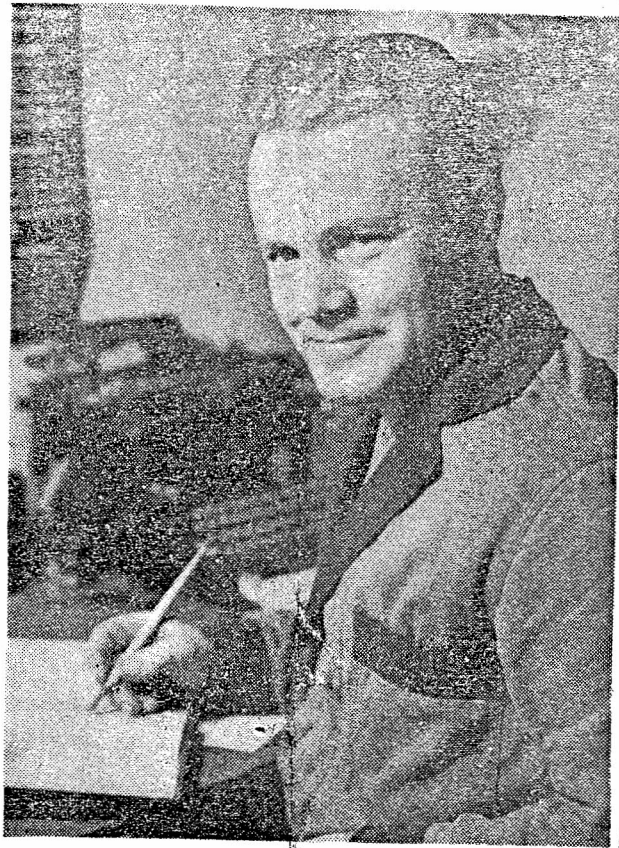


Join Forces to Turn Out Orders for War Material



Manager Carl Cederholm found he had a real factory on his hands.

Berkshire Hills Community Leaves Chores and Work To Man Machines

IT'S TURNABOUT fairplay between farmers and Uncle Sam. The bearded old fellow helps them, they help him by becoming machinists. Far cry from haying, it, milking and raising crops. Up in the hills 39-year-old Carl Cederholm has converted an old basket factory, whose machinery was weary with rust, into a humming war plant manned by six workers, five of whom are nearby farmers, one of whom is a woman.

The woman is Jane Tuttle, opera singer and teacher of voice, and granddaughter of the late Dr Russell Conwell, lecturer, author of many books including the famous "Acres

of Diamonds" and founder of Temple University. Not one of the "hands" had ever done anything of the kind before, and all were properly dubious, when Mr Cederholm approached them with his plan.

He had been doing repair work on the farmers' tools and machinery a very present help in time of dislocation. "Why," he mused, "can't I get them to help me?" He started on a one-man recruiting mission.

"Well," said one, "I'd sure like to help but I don't know a darn thing about drill presses".... "Funny thing," objected another, "I never could get the hang of one of those queer tapping machines".... "Sure, I'd give a hand but what about my



"Winkie" assumes a supervisory role as Opera Singer Jane Tuttle does her stint at the machine.

added. An expert machinist, Cederoles and the farm?", countered a third.

He Showed Them

To each he calmly put the question, "Can you ride a bicycle?" Each said, yes, of course. "Well," persisted Mr Cederholm, "if you can ride a bicycle, damn it, you can operate a machine. C'mon let me show you." He did.

So Farmers Arthur Coddling, Fred Drake, Herbert Haskell, Reginald Pease and Frank Pelletier listen to the rumble of drills and presses, as musical to their ears as the whirr of saws and click of rakes, and the opera singer, it may be imagined, contributes lyric canzonas to the buzz of fan belts.

At present the shop is turning out small metal parts for both army and navy. And it is strictly a community affair, this small but important effort to help defeat the axis. Only one worker has to travel any distance, and that only eight miles. Incidentally, when Mr Cederholm suggested he work in the shop, the man was out helping his hired man gather the apple crop.

Possibly the strangest note amid the confusion of noises in the shop is the sight of "Winkie," a feline mascot who shows utter disdain for machinery. She springs lightly up and onto the workbench and thence to the shoulder of the singer, where she nestles and purrs contentedly to

the rythm of the machines.

Even Made Some Tools

When Carl learned from outside sources that he couldn't get certain tools he needed, he grinned and said "Okay, then we'll make 'em. Give us the steel!"—and they did give it to him. Thus to the farmers who doubted their own ability, Carl proved they could do anything.

They work from 8 in the morning until 11 in the evening, and take only a half hour for lunch and supper. That is, until one of the men leaves quietly for the pasture to get the cows in for their milking. This fellow supplies the community with milk. Week-ends the opera singer commutes to New York city where she gives lessons to a number of pupils. Said one of the workers: "You know, if we ate dinner and supper at the time we eat breakfast, why we wouldn't have to stop work at all!"

It might be of interest to many who are defeatists—when it comes to getting things done, to know how Mr Cederholm powers his shop and keeps the wheels of production going. He generates his own electricity. In some ingenious manner he has converted an old Reo automobile engine to run on fuel oil. And, since his shop is doing 100 per cent war work, he doesn't expect any shortage on oil.

As the orders increased, new machinery and necessary tools were holm learned his apprenticeship (three years) in Sweden, where he was born

and where his father and grandfather were highly regarded blacksmiths. He came to this country in 1924, after completing his compulsory army training as a technician in the Swedish army. Not liking New York he journeyed to Boston and eventually found his way to Springfield.

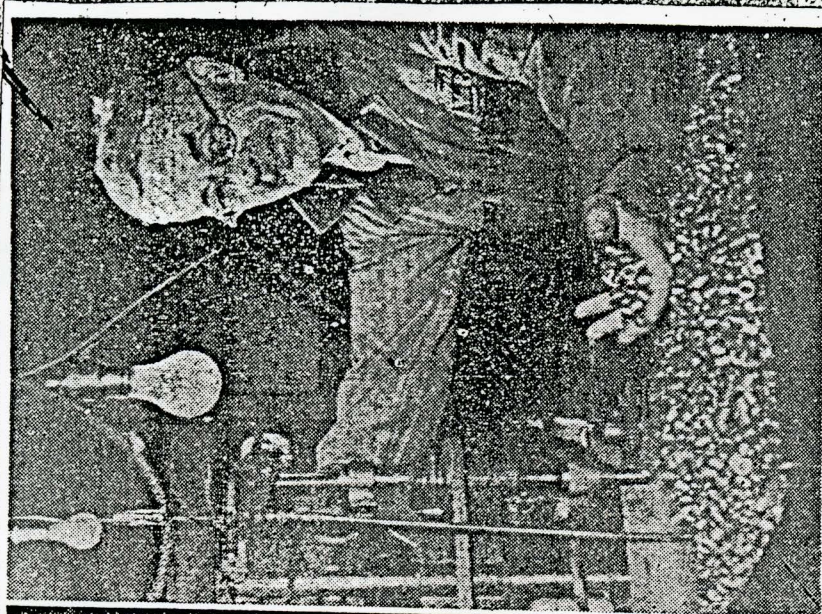
How He Started

Once in this city he found employment at which he remained for 15 years. But he always yearned for a farm and eventually located in this particular place. However, he soon discovered that farming was not his forte. The smell of oil, clinking of machinery, were more symphonic to his ears than the lowing of cows and crow of roosters.

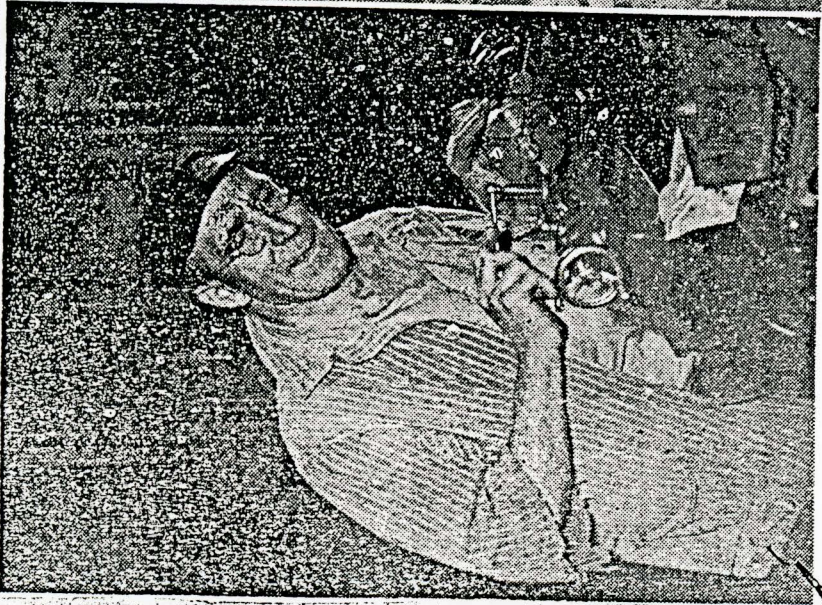
He discovered the abandoned basket factory, and forthwith secured it, repaired the iron equipment and passed along the word that he was ready to fix up farm tools for farmers who didn't have the taste or ingenuity for such work. The century-old building soon became known as the "Hobby shop."

New equipment was gradually acquired. Then came Pearl Harbor and all its fearful possibilities. A hobby shop, even a farm machinery repair center, was less necessary than fashioning objects that could be hurled in defense of his adopted country. He put the idea in action, the farmers and the singer not only commended but cooperated. Now they all sing a song for Uncle Sam.

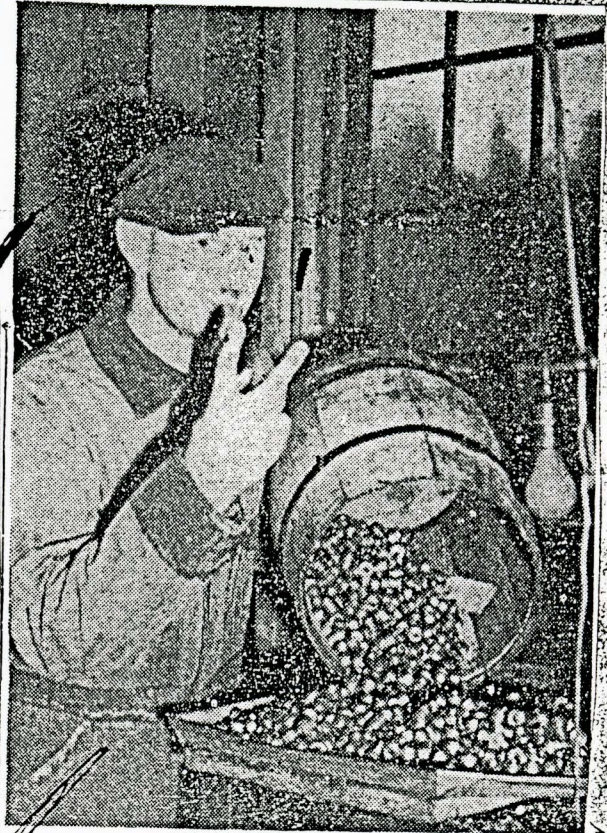
Farmers and Opera Singer



Bert Haskell, a painter, lays aside his brush and turns to tapping for the navy.



Fred Drake, who supplies milk for the neighborhood, leaves the shop to do his milking, then comes back for his stint at tap making.



Reginald Pease, emptying another keg of parts to be finished for army use, signals V for victory.