

*Worker Decision Making on Production* is an expanded version of my father's doctoral thesis, which he completed in May 1950. He was awarded his doctorate from the Columbia University Department of Industrial Engineering in August 1951, under the direction of his thesis advisor, Professor-Emeritus Walter Rautenstrauch.

The original manuscript underwent several revisions over the years but was never published. His long-term friend and colleague, Seymour Melman, published *After Capitalism* in 2002, and it helped to revive interest in the manuscript. Melman's book was dedicated to my father, and chapter IX is devoted to material from my father's dissertation. Following the publication of his book, Seymour encouraged my father to prepare his work to be submitted for publication, and my father, who was 86 at the time and in failing health, agreed to try and, with the help of my mother, managed to put together the manuscript from the original. The book was sent to Seymour, who volunteered to try to find a publisher.

In the fall of 2004 I learned about this, and I called Seymour to find out if he could give me an update on the status of the book. He informed me that the manuscript had been read by Stanley Aronowitz who liked it and was forwarding it to a publisher for consideration. Seymour passed away shortly after our phone conversation and sometime after that I learned from Aronowitz that the manuscript was now in the hands of an editor at Temple University Press. Over the next two years I was in contact with the editor who for various reasons had not sent the book out to be reviewed. After some prodding, he requested a digital copy of the manuscript. as the copy he had was a collection of chapters that had been written at different times and were a mixture of typewritten and Microsoft Word produced text.

I ascertained from my father that there was no digital file for any of the manuscript, so the entire book would have to be retyped into a word file before it could be sent out for review. On a visit to my parents in March 2007, I finally got hold of the entire manuscript and hired someone to retype it in its entirety. Unfortunately, my father died a month later and never got to see his book published.

The typing of the manuscript was completed after his death and I sent both Word and pdf versions of it to the editor at Temple University Press. Some months later I was told that the book in its present form was not going to be published. That is where matters stood until I discovered work by Robert Barsky online and I contacted him to ask him if he had known my dad or had encountered his name in his research. While Barsky did not know my father personally, he knew Seymour very well and through him was well aware of my father's book. The conversation I had with Robert Barsky is what led to the publication of *Worker Decision Making on Production* in this issue of *AmeriQuests*.