

# CINCINNATI TIMES-STAR

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## *Nobody Wins Here*

Perhaps the 1,200 American Airlines pilots who have now been earth-bound for nearly three weeks don't give a hang, but it is hard to recall a strike that has been so unpopular or so unreasonable as theirs.

The general public can find scant sympathy for men earning up to \$19,000 a year who are striking because they are asked to fly 35 minutes five times a month over and above an eight-hour flight span (an extra stint necessary to fly the best equipment in the world, non-stop, from New York to California against prevailing west winds). Their argument that safety is involved for these few extra minutes in the air is contrary to the considered judgment of the Civil Aeronautics Board.

Until last week end the strike had affected only the pilots themselves and the traveling public, but now nearly 16,000 American Airlines employes have received two-week dismissal notices. When planes are not flying there obviously is no work for ticket, sales or maintenance personnel.

This strike made little sense when it was first talked about. It makes less sense every day it continues. These pilots (or, more precisely, their union leaders) are doing damage to the high esteem which they have always enjoyed. Unless the strike is ended soon, it will cost their fellow employes millions of dollars in lost wages.