

# The United Automobile Worker

# UAW-CIO

INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AIRCRAFT AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA — U.A.W.-C.I.O.

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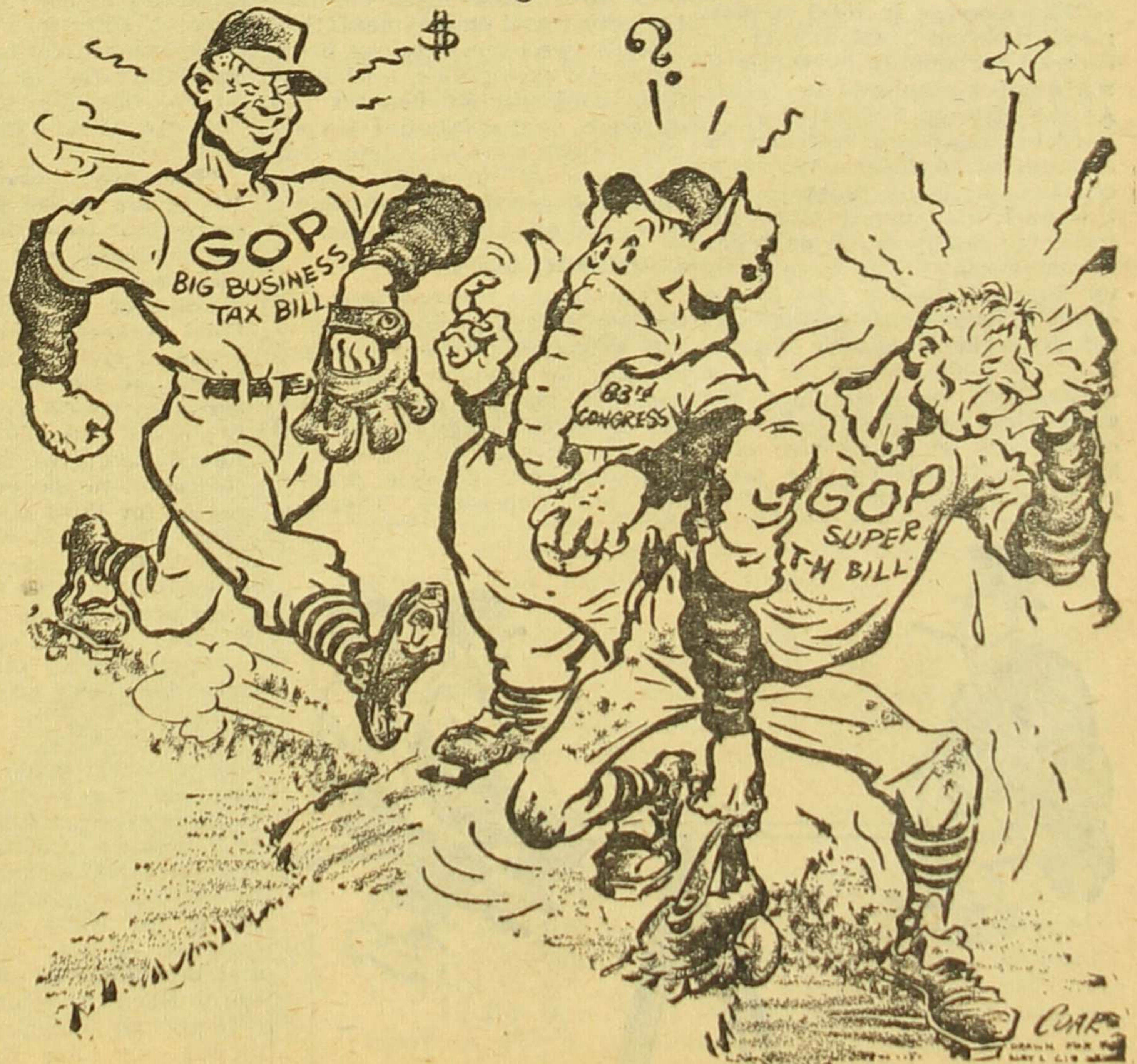
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# Continued Unemployment is Economic Insanity—Reuther

"Continuing unemployment in the face of the unfilled needs of the American people for decent housing, for adequate schools, for hospitals and for other necessities is economically insane and morally wrong," UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther said as unemployment figures released by the Government June 8 "set a new postwar record (of unemployment) for the month of May."

He charged the Republican administration with "shirking its responsibilities under the Employment Act of 1946" and demanded to know "how long the administration proposes to sit complacently on the side lines while millions of workers remain unemployed and other millions live in fear of joining those who are already jobless."

"Full employment in peacetime is possible, practicable and imperative," Reuther said. "It is time we abandon dangerous wishful thinking and take steps to get all economic groups together to work and to plan together to gear our resources and our potential abundance to the unfilled needs of people."

"Only an America fully employed can have the economic strength and the moral force to equip us and to make us worthy to lead the forces of the free world in the fight against Communist tyranny."

The text of Reuther's statement follows:

### SHORT WEEKS

"The employment and unemployment figures released by the Government yesterday can hardly be called encouraging. The number of jobless reported sets a new postwar record for the month of May."

"To this hidden unemployment on farms there must be added 2.4 million workers involuntarily on short workweeks in May and an increase of 36 percent between April and May in the number on temporary layoff. None of these factors are reflected in the official unemployment figures."

### TINY DROP

"The drop shown in unemployment since April was so small that it may reflect nothing more than statistical error. Even if the figure is taken at face value, the unemployment decline it indicates is smaller than usually occurs at this time of year. In other words, the April to May decrease in unemployment reported this year, compared with the normal April to May decrease, indicates a worsening rather than an improvement in the unemployment situation."

"Unless the Administration acts quickly and vigorously to stimulate employment, even the official figures will show very sizeable additions to the ranks of the unemployed during the next two months as the ending of the school year increases the number of those looking for work."

### HOW LONG?

"Employment in manufacturing—the weakest area in the economy—continued to decline."

"The American people have a right to know how long the Administration in Washington proposes to sit complacently on the side lines, shirking its responsibilities under the Employment Act of 1946, while millions of workers remain unemployed and other millions live in fear of joining those who are already jobless."

"Unemployment can no longer be brushed off as an isolated local problem. The Labor Department classified 124 localities as areas of substantial surplus in May 1954 as compared to only 34 in May 1953."

"Once again we in the CIO call upon the Administration to step up to its responsibilities under the Employment Act by taking steps to increase mass purchasing power and employment. Specifically, we urge increases in income tax exemptions, unemployment compensation benefits and duration, and minimum wages; and a quick start on volume construction of urgently needed homes, hospitals, schools, highways and other public works."

### FARM JOBS UP

"The increase in total employment reported yesterday is accounted for mainly by a rise in the number employed on farms. As the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank has suggested, however, the apparent strength of agricultural employment is no cause for optimism. It may merely reflect the return to family farms of unemployed workers who have given up hope of finding jobs in the cities. Farm employment was 200,000 higher this May than in May 1953 while, during the latter part of 1953, when non-farm jobs were more plentiful, the number of workers on farms was over half a million below the same month a year earlier."

### ECONOMIC INSANITY

"Continuing unemployment in the face of the unfilled needs of the American people for decent housing, for adequate schools, for hospitals, and for other necessities is economically insane and morally wrong. Full employment in peacetime is possible, practicable and imperative. There is

## Chamber Seeks "Salvation" by Decapitation

WASHINGTON — Biggest news for businessmen in the U. S. Chamber of Commerce "Washington Report" of June 4, is that their favorite "pay-as-you-go" social security program is in danger. Their plan would extend minimum (that is, miserable) benefits to everyone regardless of contribution, drain down the trust fund built up by workers over the years and rely for benefits upon annual appropriations in Congress.

"If businessmen are to save it," says C of C, "they must make their point of view known to their Senators at once—now."

The House has approved a social security bill which will go to hearings in the Senate Finance Committee when it completes its work on the tax bill.

Why doesn't C of C like the bill? Because—

"The pending bill would raise minimum benefits \$5 monthly, from \$25 to \$30, while those now retired and receiving maximum monthly payments would be raised from \$85 to \$98.50. And those who retire after December 31 this year can fare even better—getting \$108.50 maximum a month because of the increase in the wage tax base to \$4,200."

What can business do? Answer—"You can help improve the social security system."

"Urge your Senator to vote to retain the \$3,600 wage tax base and to pay minimum benefits to the present unprotected aged."

## UAW Asks Ford Retiree Center

UAW-CIO National Ford Director Ken Bannon, in a letter to Rowan Gaither, Jr., Director of the Ford Foundation, pointed to the urgent need for "the erection of a center for Ford retirees" while congratulating the Ford Foundation for its gift of \$500,000 to Detroit's Capital Gifts Fund for Civic Center development.

"Presently," wrote Bannon, "there are 10,500 UAW workers retired from the Ford Motor Company, and the total is increased each month by an average of 150 retirees. While Ford workers generally will be proud of civic center buildings coming to Detroit, I am quite sure they would feel more justly proud should the Ford Foundation give serious consideration to the erection of a center for Ford retirees."

Bannon concluded, "On behalf of the 140,000 UAW-Ford members throughout the U.S.A., whom I am privileged to represent as director, I again earnestly and sincerely request that deep consideration be given to this request."

enough work to do in America producing the good things of life to keep America fully employed. It is time we abandon dangerous wishful thinking and take steps to get all economic groups together to work and to plan together to gear our resources and our potential abundance to the unfilled needs of people.

"Only an America fully employed can have the economic strength and the moral force to equip us and to make us worthy to lead the forces of the free world in the fight against Communist tyranny."

## "I Have Here In My Hand A Document—"



## CIO Backs Improved Jobless Pay Bill

WASHINGTON—CIO and UAW President Walter P. Reuther called for non-partisan Congressional support for the Unemployment Compensation Standards Bill introduced on June 3 by Representative Forand, (Dem., R.I.) with 80 co-sponsors in the House and nine in the Senate headed by Senator Douglas of Illinois.

The bill would provide maximum unemployment benefits up to 66 2/3 percent of the state's average weekly wage. This would mean an increase from \$30 to \$32 weekly in Mississippi, and from \$30 to \$56 per week in Michigan. Subject to this maximum, individual benefits would not be less than 50 percent of weekly wages, plus dependency allowances.

It would also lengthen the duration of benefits to not less than 39 weeks. Currently, no state pays unemployed benefits for longer than 26 weeks.

In addition, nearly everyone covered by Social Security would be covered by this bill. Disqualification would be limited to leaving work without good cause, discharge for work-connected

misconduct, and refusing suitable work without good cause, but such disqualification could last only four weeks.

Disqualification could also be made for strikes, but not if the employer did not conform to Federal or state laws respecting collective bargaining or wages, and not if the employer were insisting on wages, hours or other working conditions less favorable than those prevailing for similar work in the locality.

President Reuther pledged CIO and UAW backing for the Forand Bill "even though the bill does not go as far as we believe necessary." He estimated that the bill, if enacted, would add \$2 billions yearly to the nation's purchasing power.

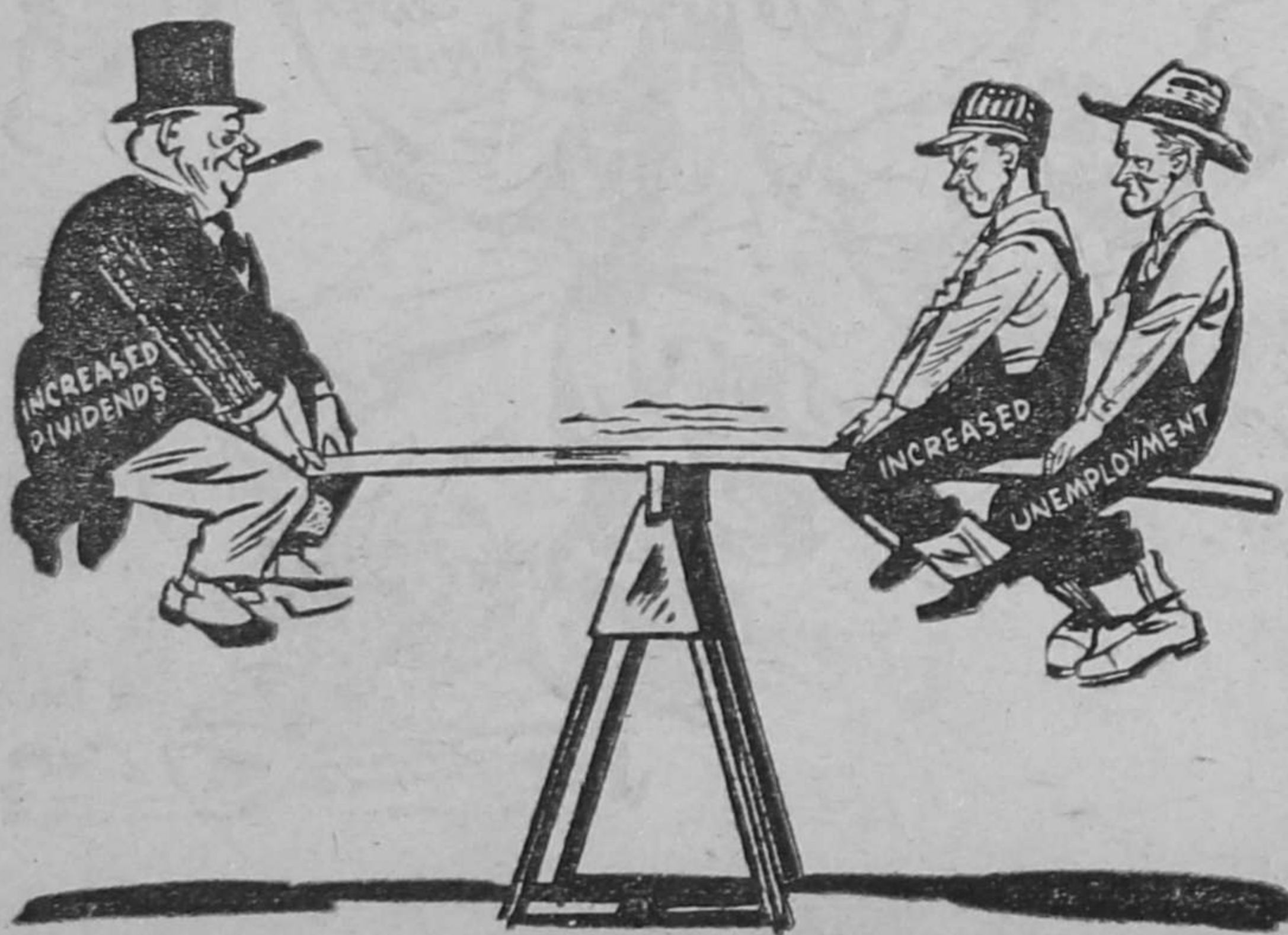
## How's That Again, Doc?

Dr. Edward J. McCormick of Toledo, president of the American Medical Association, told a group of healthy diners at the annual banquet of the Ohio State Medical Association that his organization "can be proud of having given America the finest medical program in the world."

The good doctor's stethoscope is operating on the wrong wave length because he apparently is unaware of the following facts:

1. Among all families, 15 percent are in debt to hospitals, physicians, dentists and other providers of medical goods, and two percent owe \$195 or more.
2. This means that approximately 7.5 million families have a medical debt and about one million families owe \$195 or more.
3. The national total debt to hospitals, physicians, dentists and other providers of medical goods and services is \$900-million.
4. Four percent of families reported borrowing from financial institutions and individuals to pay charges for personal health service.
5. The average state mental hospital has only about six doctors for every 10 it needs.

In other words, the claim of Dr. McCormick can be compared to the boast of a scientist that his group has given the United States the finest bomb in the world. You see, we have a lady in the balcony, doctor, who insists on asking about costs and future costs.



"Balanced Economy"



# GOP Readies New Tax Cuts For Wealthy, Corporations

WASHINGTON — The Senate Finance Committee will complete work on Eisenhower's topside tax bill and report it to the Senate probably by June 14. Debate is not likely to begin until June 21.

All major tax reductions for corporations and wealthy families provided by the House have been retained by the Senate Committee. The bill will still give families under \$5,000 only 5 per cent of the nearly \$4 billion of tax cuts which it authorizes.

Senator Walter George (D., Ga.), ranking Democrat on the Committee, made the Committee vote on a proposal to give all taxpayers a \$20 cut in tax (\$40 if married). He offered this at the time the Committee was voting to approve the House-enacted bargain rate tax on dividends, saying that this 840-million-dollar bonus to a handful of wealthy families should not be sent to the floor without a tax reduction for the other families too. He lost.

It is still Senator George's intention, according to best information, to move an amendment on the floor to raise the personal exemption from \$600 to \$800 this year and to \$1,000 next year.

This amendment would cut an average worker family's tax by \$160 a year or \$3.08 a week. It would increase his take-home pay by the same amount as a 9 1/2 cents an hour wage increase.

Restoration of the personal exemption to prewar levels is long overdue. As compared with the present exemption of \$2,400 for a 4-person family, it would take over \$4,000 today to exempt as much real purchasing power from income tax as was done by prewar exemptions.

### WARTIME MEASURE

The present low level of exemption was imposed as a justifiable wartime measure when curtailing civilian expenditures and increasing government revenue were important public policies. At the same time and for the same

reasons corporations were subjected to excess profits taxes.

The wartime excess profits tax ended December 31, 1945. The wartime personal exemption for a 4-person family has been raised from \$1,900 to \$2,400 but buys less today than it did in wartime. The Korea excess profits tax was terminated last January 1, but the low personal exemption continues.

This is the only wartime sacrifice still being imposed.

To get back to normal prewar levels, the exemption at today's high price level would have to be at least \$1,500.

### BANKERS CALL TURN

Both in equity and as a vital stimulant to the nation's economy the \$1,000 exemption is amply justified, but this means nothing to the bankers in the Eisenhower Administration. White House pressure on Senators to vote against the George Amendment will be intense, as it was when this topside tax bill went through the House. Some Republican votes for the amendment are assured, however, and there is hope for getting enough more to offset Democrats of the Senator Byrd variety.

A very important influence in the voting will be the business outlook. The administration continues to paint rosy pictures with dark gray paint, and most newspapers help it along.

### UNBOtherED BY JOBLESS

Latest venture in this sorry

## FE-UE Licked Again as IHC Workers Vote UAW

business was a press conference held by Arthur Burns, President's Council of Economic Advisers. It is known here on the best authority that the government is estimating unemployment to reach 4 1/2 million in June and July. Burns denied this figure, but admitted that it might reach four million in June.

This, however, bothered him not at all. "Seasonal," he said, which is not true. Average rise in unemployment from May to June in postwar years was 370,000, and the highest was 500,000. Burns shows no concern about a rise of 700,000, according to his own figure. The real government estimate would mean a rise of 1,200,000 between May and June.

Burns also dismissed Department of Commerce figures showing that business investment in plant and equipment in the third quarter will fall short of a year earlier by more than 7 per cent. He said he had his own survey made and it shows that business investment will be as good as or better than 1953.

Eisenhower said early this year that he would wait until March to decide whether action to restore employment is needed. March has now become June and Burns says that if business doesn't pick up in the next four or five months he will be worried. Eisenhower fiddles while Arthur Burns.

The UAW-CIO has defeated the FE-UE in two bargaining units of East Moline (Ill.) International Harvester Works in NLRB elections conducted Wednesday, May 26; reports Pat Greathouse, Director Region 4, UAW-CIO, and Director, UAW-CIO Agricultural Implement Department.

In the large production and maintenance unit, formerly represented by Local 104 FE-UE, the UAW-CIO defeated FE-UE by a score of 1,326 for UAW-CIO, 311 for FE-UE, a victory margin of 4 to 1.

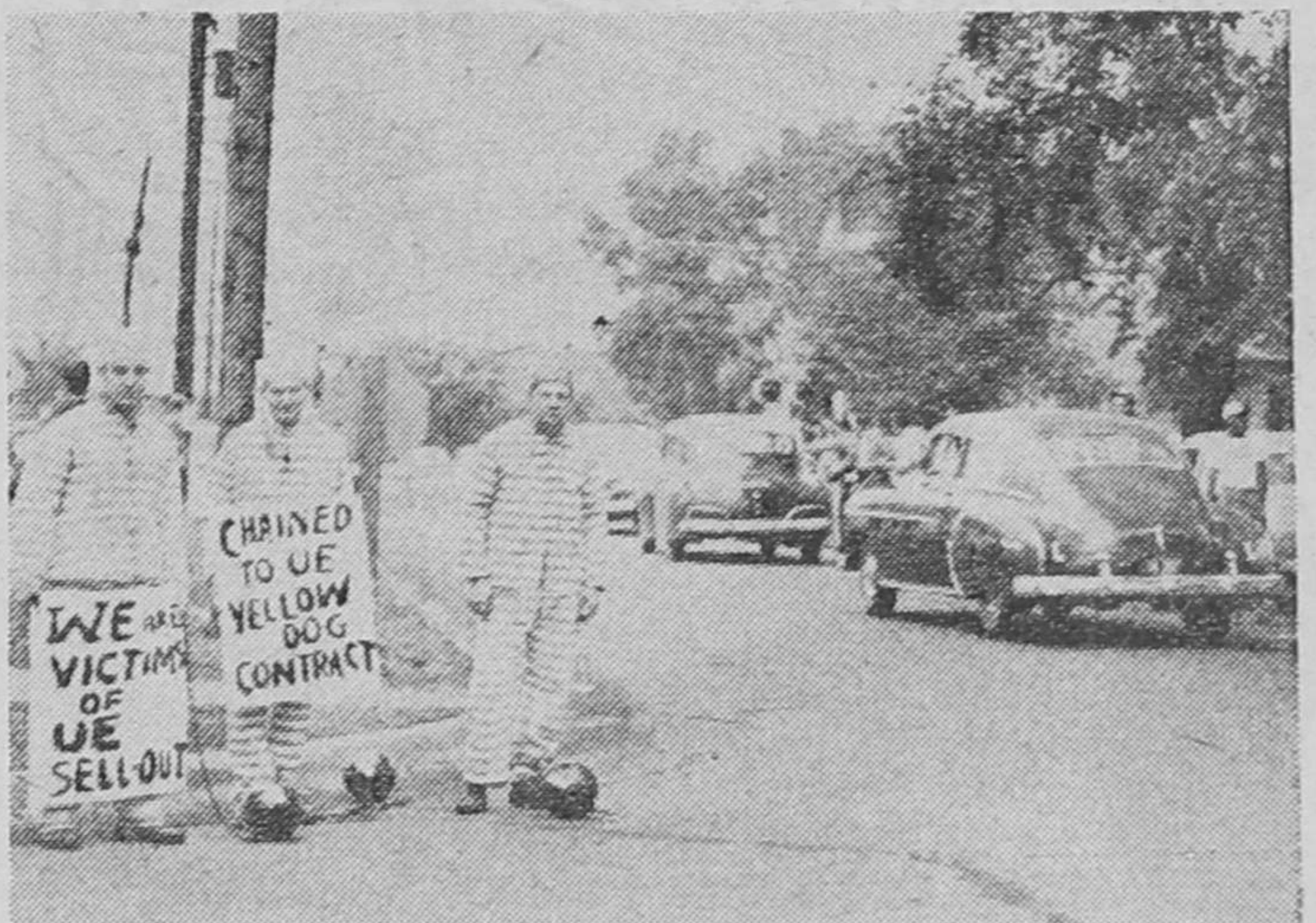
In the Skilled unit, formerly represented by Local 106, FE-UE, UAW-CIO routed both the IAM-AFL and FE-UE.

The twin victories in the Quad-Cities were conducted by the UAW-CIO Agricultural Implement Department, assisted by the UAW-CIO Skilled Trades Department and the Region 4 staff. Delegates to the UAW-CIO Harvester Council, meeting in Moline on Saturday, May 22, prior to the NLRB election, made a great contribution to the victory.

The two NLRB vote triumphs in East Moline represent the third and fourth in a series of union representation elections in Quad-Cities plants. UAW-CIO

won the 800-member John Deere Planter Works in Moline, now represented by Local 434, UAW-CIO, on April 1, 1954, and prior to that, the East Moline International Harvester Works Cafeteria.

FE-UE organizers waged the usual vicious propaganda campaign, making full use of anti-union daily newspaper articles, but failed to sway the East Moline IHC Workers from their resolute determination to "Unite All Harvester Workers in UAW-CIO."



THREE INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER WORKERS in East Moline dramatize their attitude toward the UE. The vote on May 26 at the East Moline International Harvester Works confirmed these feelings. On right are UAW-CIO distributors, handing out leaflets, the day of the election. This is the 3rd Street gate entrance to the plant (where a brief flurry of excitement took place several years ago by unionists who are now all on the same team).



CAMERAMAN WALTER REUTHER won't take any gold cups or salon prizes for photography. He's working out of classification. But he did get a Golden Anniversary shot of his parents at the family home in Wheeling, W. Virginia. Seated are the happy couple, Mr. and Mrs. Valentine Reuther with (standing l. to r.) sons Victor and Roy.

## Stevenson Barbs Pierce Elephant's Tender Hide

Fit as ever after a kidney operation, Adlai E. Stevenson, 1952 Democratic presidential candidate, leveled some telling blows at the Eisenhower Administration during an appearance at Meridian, Miss.

The sharp-tongued Stevenson, in taking note of the McCarthy attacks against the executive branch of the government, declared that the administration, "caught between contradiction, apathy and McCarthy, acts as confused as a blind dog in a meat house."

In commenting on the current hearings now going on in Washington, Stevenson asserted, "The shameful spectacle we have witnessed on television does suggest what I feel needs to be noted by all thoughtful Americans—the cost to American prestige around the world when 'we have no prestige to spare.'"

As for Ike: "The President was not chosen to head an empty pageant state, and only he can exercise the vast powers for leadership of his office. When he does, when he restores order in his house, he will have the moral resources of the nation behind him. . . ."



# The Bishop Turned the Other Cheek

Bishop Bernard J. Sheil of Chicago won the plaudits of organized labor and liberals everywhere with an address at the recent UAW-CIO Education Conference. When he lashed out at the undemocratic and un-American methods used by Senator McCarthy, the Bishop brought forth spontaneous cheers from the assembled delegates. The cheers are still being echoed by millions of people throughout the country who share Bishop Sheil's concern for the dignity and freedom of the individual.

The Bishop's courageous and forthright stand surprised no one who is familiar with his past record. Many inspiring stories of his sincerity and courage have been told and retold.

One of these we think is worth reprinting was told by Saul Alinsky in an issue of "The Progressive."

The episode took place just before Pearl Harbor when the Bishop, overriding the protest of associates, went unannounced and uninvited to a mass meeting sponsored by a number of groups, such as the Christian Front. Here, in a hall full of hate, Bishop Bernard Sheil for 15 tense moments denounced anti-Semitism, white supremacy and every vile lie that had been bellowed

by a demagogue on the platform. The audience listened restlessly, seething with hostility.

Finally, he ended, turned and slowly began to walk out down the center aisle. Suddenly the silence was shattered by a scream of anger. It came from a fanatical old woman who stepped out and blocked the Bishop's way just as he was passing her row. She shrieked, "I'm a Catholic, but you, you — you're not a Catholic bishop. God d— you! Nigger lover! Jew lover! A bishop! Ha, ha! Rabbi Sheil!"

Now completely hysterical, she deliberately cleared her throat, and with all her strength spat over one side of the Bishop's face. The Bishop did not raise his hand to wipe it off. By this time, most of the people were standing on their chairs. A mad roar began and suddenly died. The Bishop, with the dignity of immortality, had turned the other cheek. He waited. The old woman froze, as did hundreds about her. Then, as though a sudden chill had gripped her, she began to shake violently. What an instant before had been a mob of snarling faces became hundreds of lowered heads.

The Bishop waited another moment, then spoke softly. "Rabbi? That is what they called our Lord." He walked out in silence.

# Where's Homer?

## Unemployment Areas Score Near Zero on Defense "Preference"

If its performance so far means anything, the government program to give preference to "distressed" labor areas for defense work is a dismal flop.

It was disclosed last month that only a tiny trickle of defense work had been allocated as a result of the "preference" — and that none of it had restored any jobs to the more than 200,000 members of the UAW-CIO.

This news brought immediate cries from Michigan workers, particularly those in the hard-hit Detroit area, of "Where's Homer?"—meaning Senator Homer Ferguson of Michigan, powerful Chairman of the Senate Republican Policy Committee.

When several Michigan areas, including Detroit, had won the "distressed" designation, largely through the efforts of UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther, Ferguson cackled as if he had personally wrought a miracle. He said, "Now all we've got to do is begin pouring the work in."

But after he got off his publicity binge, he apparently forgot all about the distress of his constituents.

The most charitable conclusion would be that Ferguson's limited mental capacity is being used to contemplate the clobbering he will get, and deserve, from former Senator Blair Moody in the fall election.



—Herblock in Washington Post & Times-Herald  
"Run Along And Shoot Pool Or Something"

### 'Team' Lacks Initiative, Expert Says

The Eisenhower Administration of businessmen is showing "a surprising lack of initiative and enterprise" in combating the recession, Sumner H. Slichter, Harvard economist, declared last month.

"I believe that this recession will go down in history," he said in a speech in Washington, "as one in which the people will conclude that the Administration failed to act with proper initiative and vigor in adopting anti-recession measures."

Slichter said he "suspects" the Treasury was more interested in balancing the budget than in halting the drop in employment and production.

"Certainly it is not easy to find evidence that a rise of two million in unemployment has aroused as much concern in the Administration as the possibility of a deficit in the cash budget," he observed tartly.

He noted that unemployment also represents "a kind of deficit," and said he would rather accept a deficit of \$2 or \$3 billion in the budget than two million workers unnecessarily unemployed.

Spokesmen have said that the Administration will act "if and when action is needed," he recalled, "but the level of unemployment which the Administration regards as justifying action seems to be considerably higher than the people will find tolerable."

### Liberal Wins In Carolina

Despite injection of the Supreme Court decision outlawing school segregation into the campaign by his chief opponent, former Governor Kerr Scott won the Democratic Senatorial nomination in North Carolina over incumbent Senator Lennon.

The Scott forces charged Lennon's supporters with circulating reprints of a "phony" newspaper advertisement saying Scott worked for non-segregation. Similar tactics caused the defeat in 1950 of former Senator Frank Graham, whom Scott had appointed.

CIO President Walter P. Reuther wired congratulations to Scott, saying "working men and farmers especially have every reason to rejoice with you and the people of your great state. We in the CIO are sure that you will make a great contribution in statesmanship and service to our nation and to the free world."

## CIO Hits Stalling on Aid to Schools

WASHINGTON — CIO early this month vigorously opposed the Eisenhower proposal for "stalling", instead of acting, to meet America's crisis in public education.

Testifying before the Senate Subcommittee on Education, a CIO spokesman said, "The CIO vigorously opposes the Administration's program to sponsor a series of state conferences culminating in a national conference as the next step in solving these school building problems."

"This is a method of stalling—more talk and no action."

George T. Guernsey, of the CIO Department of Education and Research, said CIO was "satisfied that the facts now gathered overwhelmingly demand action by the Congress."

According to official U. S. statistics, he said, there was a shortage of 340,000 classrooms in America's schools.

"No longer can any senator or representative say that we do not need federal aid for school construction if he wishes every school child to have an adequate classroom," Guernsey told the Committee.

"To postpone any effective action at this time virtually betrays the interests of every school child," the CIO spokesman warned.

CIO, he said, urged the Con-

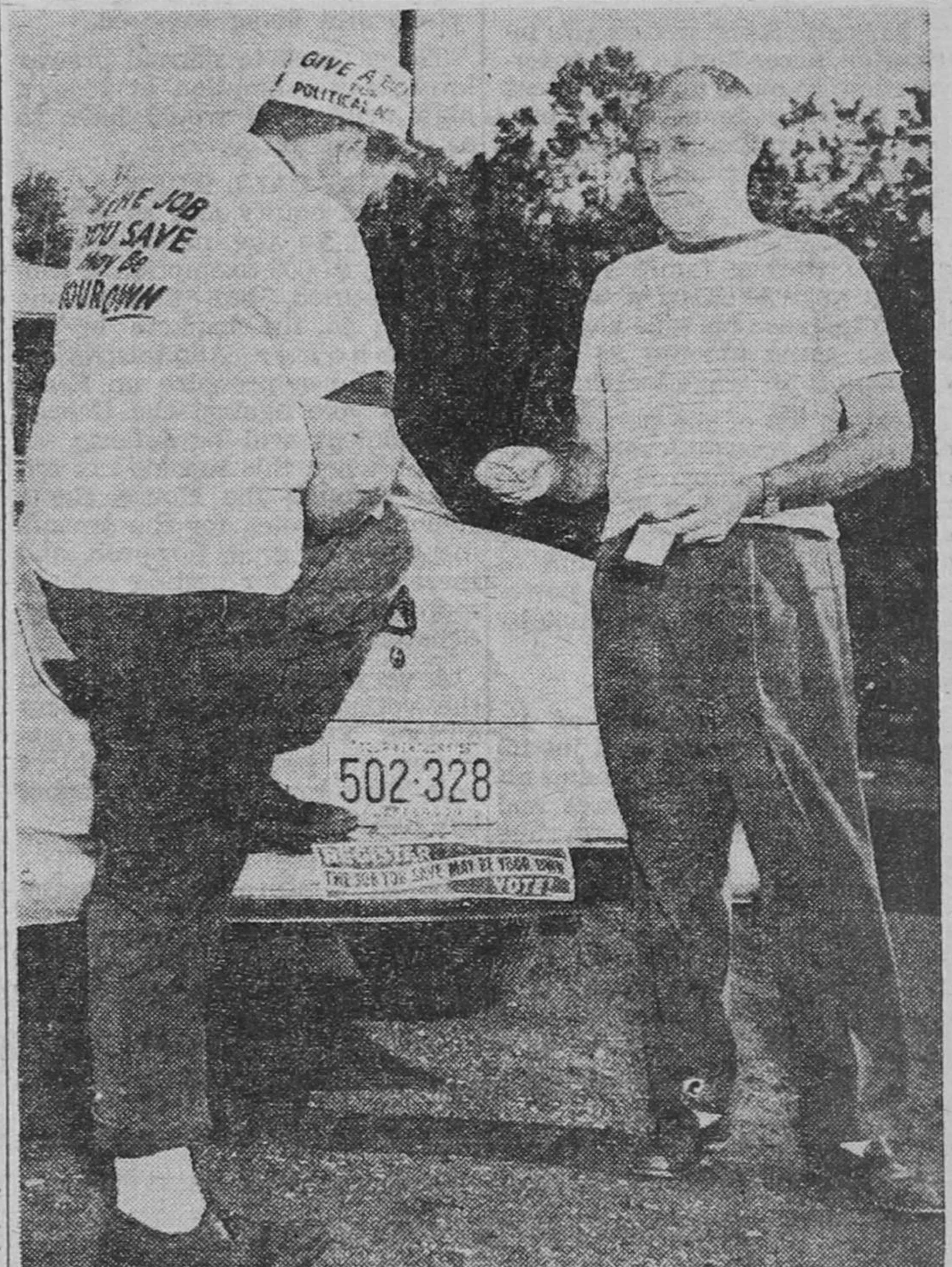
gress to immediately adopt a federal aid-to-school-construction program, which would provide a minimum of \$600 million per year in grants in aid to the states.

Concluding his testimony, Mr. Guernsey read this quote from CIO President Walter P. Reuther:

"If the schools fail because we fail the schools, none of us, rich or poor, will be able to buy our way out of the century we live in or out of the challenge it offers. That challenge is to make democracy work and to make democracy possible, not just in a privileged and barricaded corner of the world, but in all the underdeveloped and underprivileged sectors — wherever, in short, democracy's promise has too far outrun its performance."

### UAW Local Wins

FLINT — Local 708, UAW-CIO, won a close election held at The Engineered Products Company. The vote was 22 in favor and 19 opposed.



GIVE A BUCK TO PAC, MISTER? There's no doubt about this UAW-CIO member knowing on which side his bread is buttered, and he's paying his buck to PAC. This scene in Louisville is being duplicated in hundreds of towns and cities around the country as the PAC Buck Drive gains momentum. Have you given your buck?

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Give a Buck to PAC  
The Job You Save  
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# June Brings 5th Real Wage Increase; Reuther Sums Up Contract Performance

June 1 has brought the fifth real wage increase to most of the more than a million workers covered by UAW-CIO basic contracts, while a Bureau of Labor Statistics announcement of a slight decline in living costs brought a one-cent downward adjustment in the cost-of-living allowance.

UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther took the occasion to sum up the gains made since the first cost-of-living, improvement, factor contract was signed in 1948. His comments follow:

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics' announcement of a slight decrease in living costs will result in a one-cent reduction in the cost-of-living allowance paid workers covered by UAW-CIO contracts.

"Real wages for more than a million workers will be increased by five cents an hour through application of the annual improvement factor—in June under most contracts. This is the fifth real wage increase, under our present contracts which expire in 1955.

"Since the 1948 UAW-CIO General Motors Agreement, which first established the principle that workers should be protected against inflation and assured workers the right to share in the fruits of advancing technology, the UAW-CIO members covered by such provisions have received 56c per hour in wage increases.

"This 56c per hour in increased wages was paid in two forms. Twenty-five cents per hour was paid to cover the increased cost of living and represented no real gain to the worker and his family; while 31c per hour was paid under the annual improvement factor and does represent a real and tangible gain in increased purchasing power and in higher living standards for the workers and their families. Fifty cents of the total wage adjustment has been factored into the base rates and only 6c per hour remains in the cost-of-living 'float.'

"The UAW-CIO has consistently favored a reduction in prices even though it meant a downward adjustment in the cost-of-living allowance, since such reduction in prices would not reduce the worker's purchasing power nor lower his living standard. Lower prices, on the other hand, would increase the value of his savings, his insurance protection, and in general would protect the economic well-being of the whole community. It is for these sound reasons that we in

## TVA Gets Full CIO Support

**CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.** — In a statement prepared for delivery before the Hoover Commission Task Force on Water Resources and Power, the CIO upheld the TVA program as a model power and water development, and completely rejected the Administration's adoption of the private power lobby propaganda that TVA is "socialism."

"The more than six million men and women in our organization see in the TVA a philosophy and ideal that we can embrace with wholehearted enthusiasm," Paul R. Christopher, CIO Regional Director of Knoxville, declared, "not only as it applies to the valley of the Tennessee River but to the general development of our power and water resources throughout the entire nation."

Christopher read into the record a resolution adopted by the last CIO Convention in November which declared: "We deplore President Eisenhower's attack on TVA as 'creeping socialism.' TVA is a successful pioneering experiment which has won world-wide admiration and imitation. We give it our full support."

the UAW-CIO welcome the drop in the cost of living. We trust that prices will continue to be lowered so that all Americans can enjoy higher living standards.

"Unfortunately, this slight drop in living costs appears to be the result primarily of the reduction in excise taxes rather than a reduction in the prices of consumer goods. In the light of present profit margins, greatly expanded by the termination of the excess profits tax, American industry has the responsibility to reduce prices in order to increase consumption which is necessary to stimulate employment opportunities."

### Operation of UAW-CIO Escalator and Improvement Factor Clauses

Allowance effective first pay period beginning on or after:	Cost-of-Living Allowance		Additions		Total Increase
	Based on Index for:	Index	Amount	to Base Rates <sup>a</sup>	
May 29, '48	Apr. 15, '48	169.3	5c	6c	11c
Sept. 1	July 15	173.7	8c	6c	14c
Dec. 1	Oct. 15	173.6	8c	6c	14c
Mar. 1, '49	Jan. 15, '49	170.9	6c	6c	12c
June 1	Apr. 15	169.7	5c	9c	14c
Sept. 1	July 15	169.3*	5c	9c	14c
Dec. 1	Oct. 15	169.3*	5c	9c	14c
Mar. 1, '50	Jan. 15, '50	167.7*	3c	9c	12c
June 1	Apr. 15	168.1*	3c	13cb	16c
Sept. 1	July 15	173.3*	8c	13c	21c
Dec. 1	Oct. 15	176.1**	11c	13c	24c
Mar. 1, '51	Jan. 15, '51	182.4*	16c	13c	29c
June 1	Apr. 15	185.3*	19c	17c	36c
Sept. 1	July 15	186.6*	20c	17c	37c
Dec. 1	Oct. 15	188.6*	21c	17c	38c
Mar. 1, '52	Jan. 15, '52	191.0*	24c	17c	41c
June 1	Apr. 15	190.4*	23c	21c	44c
Sept. 1	July 15	193.2*	26c	21c	47c
Dec. 1	Oct. 15	192.3*	25c	21c	46c
Apr. 13, '53c	Jan. 15, '53	191.1*	24c	21c	45c
June 1	Apr. 15	113.7†	5cd	45cde	50c
Sept. 1	July 15	114.7†	6c	45c	51c
Dec. 1	Oct. 15	115.4†	8c	45c	53c
Mar. 1, '54	Jan. 15, '54	115.2†	7c	45c	52c
June 1	Apr. 15	114.6†	6c	50c	56c

\*Includes 0.8 points added to published index figure for rent bias.  
 \*\*Includes 1.3 points added to published index figure for rent bias.  
 †Revised Index.  
 aImprovement factor increases effective May 29 of each year in General Motors; June 1, Ford and Chrysler; various dates, other corporations.  
 bImprovement factor increased to 4c by Agreements of May, 1950.  
 cAdjustments delayed due to late publication of "revived" Old Index.  
 dAfter transfer of 19c cost-of-living allowance to base rates by Supplemental Agreements of May, 1953.  
 eImprovement factor increased to 5c by Supplemental Agreements of May, 1953.

### Value of Gains Under UAW-CIO Wage Formula May, 1948 — January, 1954

Allowance Effective During Period beginning on or after:	Increased Earnings Per Quarter			Total Increase
	Due to Cost-of-Living Allowance	Due to Base Rate Increase		
May 29, 1948	\$ 26.00	\$ 31.20	\$	57.20
Sept. 1, 1948	41.60	31.20		72.80
Dec. 1, 1948	41.60	31.20		72.80
March 1, 1949	31.20	31.20		62.40
June 1, 1949	26.00	46.80		72.80
Sept. 1, 1949	26.00	46.80		72.80
Dec. 1, 1949	26.00	46.80		72.80
March 1, 1950	15.60	46.80		62.40
June 1, 1950	15.60	67.60		83.20
Sept. 1, 1950	41.60	67.60		109.20
Dec. 1, 1950	57.20	67.60		124.80
March 1, 1951	83.20	67.60		150.80
June 1, 1951	98.80	88.40		187.20
Sept. 1, 1951	104.00	88.40		192.40
Dec. 1, 1951	109.20	88.40		197.60
March 1, 1952	124.80	88.40		213.20
June 1, 1952	119.60	109.20		228.80
Sept. 1, 1952	135.20	109.20		244.40
Dec. 1, 1952	130.00	109.20		239.20
March 1, 1953	127.20 <sup>a</sup>	109.20		236.40
June 1, 1953	26.00 <sup>b</sup>	234.00 <sup>b</sup>		260.00
Sept. 1, 1953	31.20	234.00		265.20
Dec. 1, 1953	41.60	234.00		275.60
March 1, 1954	36.40	234.00		270.40
June 1, 1954	31.20	260.00		291.20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,546.80</b>	<b>\$2,568.80</b>		<b>\$4,115.60</b>

<sup>a</sup> This figure takes account of the delayed adjustment of the cost of living allowance due to late publication of the "revived" Old Index figure.  
<sup>b</sup> 19c of cost-of-living allowance shifted to base rate.

## New Process Gear Election Stalled

**SYRACUSE, N. Y.** — Since the UAW-CIO started an organizational campaign at New Process Gear several months ago under direction of Region 3 Director Martin Gerber and the UAW Competitive Shop Department, the Company has tried every trick in the book, plus a few new ones, to prevent a UAW representation election.

First, New Process tried the oldie of an independent union. Then, they started the old rumor machine to intimidate their more militant workers. In desperation, they offered the workers paid vacations and a pension plan. But, none of these tactics slowed down the UAW organizational progress.

Since then, the Company has refused to consent to an NLRB election, forcing it to go to the Board for an ordered election, and they have also tried through legal technicalities to delay a hearing on the Union's petition. Still, the pro-UAW sentiment among the New Process workers continues to mount. Normally, New Process has a work force of some 2,500 to 3,000, but cutbacks have reduced this number to less than 1,500.

## Annual Wage UAW Petitions For Plant Vote At Middleville



**MIDDLEVILLE, Mich.** — Over two-thirds of the 145 workers employed at the Middleville Engineering and Manufacturing Company have signed UAW-CIO pledge cards, Richard T. Gosser, UAW Vice-President and Director of the Union's Die Casting Department, revealed in announcing that an NLRB petition for an election at the Middleville plant had been filed.

The plant, located in the Grand Rapids area, is notorious for its sub-standard wages, and the workers have indicated strong

sentiment in favor of the UAW-CIO, especially since the recent UAW election victory at the nearby plant of the White Products Company.

## Thomson Plant Votes UAW

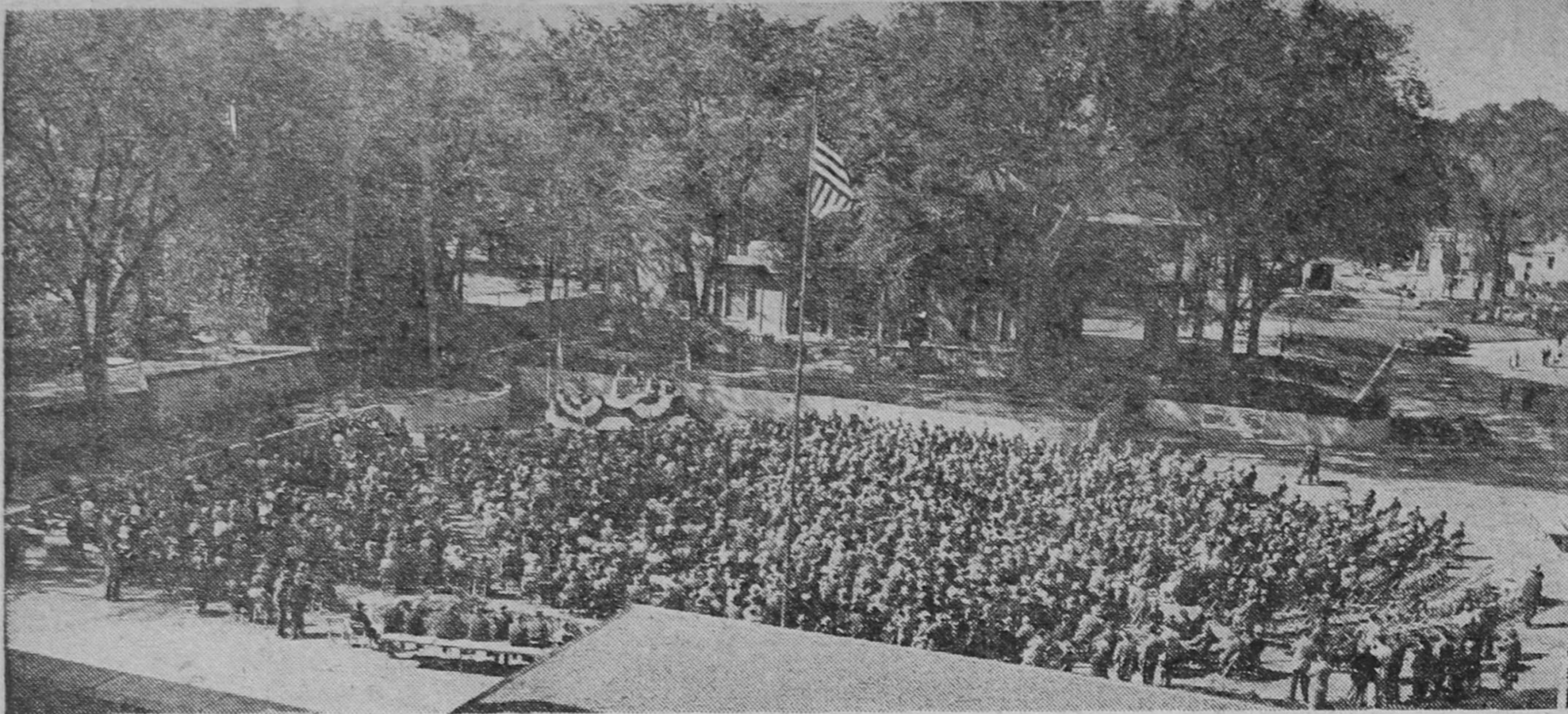
**WALTHAM, Mass.** — Another UAW-CIO victory was announced by Region 9A Director Charles Kerrigan at the Judson L. Thomson Company. Results of the election were as follows: UAW-CIO, 347; No Union, 219; and Challenged, 6. Both Region 9A and the Competitive Shop Department cooperated in the organizational campaign.

"Wouldn't You Rather See A Ball Game Or Something?"



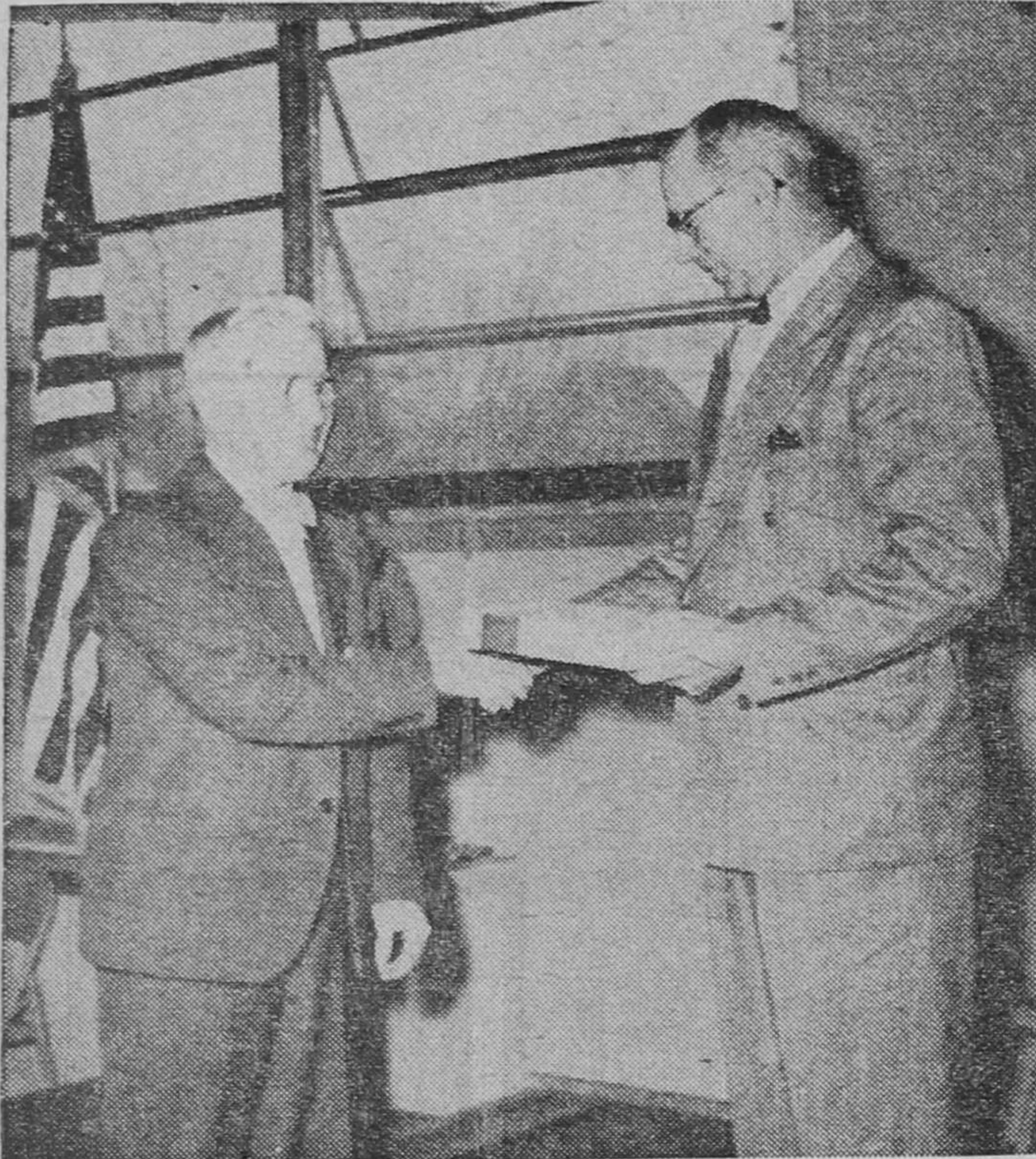
HERB LOCK





**OLD TIMERS PAC RALLY** at Solidarity House in October of 1952 had a turnout of more than 1,000 UAW members. They came to hear the political facts of life from their union leaders, and from several labor-sponsor-

ed candidates who pointed out to them the fact that retired workers would become an increasingly important factor in American political activities.



**CHARLES DOUGLAS**, 83-year old retired worker from Muncie Gear Local 495, UAW-CIO, receives prize from President Orville Grandstaff of Local 489 for being the oldest retiree in attendance at the monthly meeting of Muncie, Indiana, retired UAW members.



**RAISING BOSTON TERRIERS** is the full time hobby of retired UAW-CIO worker Fred G. Loeffler, Local 953, Jackson, Michigan. Fred worked over 33 years in one shop—Muskegon Motor Specialty—and retired in 1953. He's devoted the past 27 years to breeding, raising and showing AKC registered Boston Terriers.



**FOUR RETIRED UAW MEMBERS** help to fix up their new Drop-In Center at the Lincoln Local 900 on Livernois near W. Warren, Detroit. Shortly after the four unidentified workers got through with their painting and

refinishing, Detroit's second Drop-In center was ready and waiting for occupancy by pensioners living on the West Side of Detroit. Three more Centers are planned for the Detroit area.

## Retired Workers Grows; Expansion

Today, there are approximately 60,000 retired workers on monthly pensions negotiated by the UAW. This number has grown since retired and since died. The UAW reported on April 30, 1954.

It is estimated by the UAW Social Security Department that there will be more than 60,000 retired UAW members by the end of 1957 estimates more than 1,000,000.

Since the first UAW member retired in 1917, the number of members covered by UAW-CIO pensions has grown to more than one million members.

First pensioners to retire receive UAW-CIO pension and Social Security payments. Since 1951, this monthly amount has been increased by the UAW-CIO to build this combination program.

### DETROIT PENSIONERS

As the number of retired UAW members grows, it is plain that a program for the retired workers is needed. Their years of active UAW membership have earned them a program for union members. So, the Detroit UAW retired workers, it was decided that a program would be in the nature of a pilot program.

During the summer of 1951, a group of retired workers from the various Detroit UAW locals formed a Staff Advisory Committee made up of representatives from Education, Community Service, Regional Offices, etc., was established. The Detroit Recreation Department served as coordinator.

A number of meetings between the staff and the retired workers during the 1951 summer began to develop. This resulted in the first city-wide picnic and social held in August and December, 1951, respectively.

### FIRST DROP-IN CENTER

Then, in February, 1953, a real Drop-In Center at Hudson Local 154 was established. It had a pool, books, radio, television and other recreational facilities. A part-time staff director was hired to coordinate and carry out a well-rounded plan.

Some of the typical programs are provided special interest films and card and checker tournaments, visits to local radio shows, trips to interest points, "Party" films and talks by Union staff. A billiard table was also set up, and a monthly pastime program was started.

In February, 1954, the second of its kind was opened at the Lincoln Local 900 on Livernois. It is on a five-day basis, with a staff director, and a part-time staff.

Since the success of the Detroit Drop-In Center, the attention of UAW retired members has been drawn to these programs. Among the first to actively participate in the area, was the retired workers group in Livernois, and have just celebrated their first anniversary.

Other cities which have made special arrangements for their retired workers are the Lincoln Local 900, Jackson, Muncie, Anderson, Wilkes-Barre, and Lansing. In addition, some other centers are being moved shortly.

Yes, in four years much progress has been made.



**KIBITZING IS POPULAR PASTIME** Shown here as he plays them to kill time. Lending encouragement to Joe are (left) Ed 70; Barney Gagle, 71; and Walter S.



# Organization Its Activities

100 UAW-CIO members retired on pension. In addition, some 4,500 members are the latest available figures as of

Social Security Department that there will be 1,000,000 members by 1955. A further projection shows 1,500,000 by then.

In March, 1950, the number of pension agreements has increased unduly among members in all UAW-CIO agree-

ments. The monthly total of \$100 combined pension under the revised Big Three program has increased to \$137.50. It is the current goal to increase the monthly total to a minimum of \$200.

### PROGRAM

As the number of members increased, it became only too obvious that a program would have to be established. After these old timers wanted a union program area having a large concentration of the Detroit retired workers program.

A steering committee composed of retired workers and UAW representatives from the Recreation and Social Security Departments, under the direction of the President Reuther, was formed to coordinate the needs of the retirees. It also recently held a city-wide holiday party, in August

### DROP-IN CENTER

When the program was achieved. The first Drop-In Center was set up. Facilities for cards, checkers, and pastimes were provided. Later, a program to cooperate with the pensioners in setting

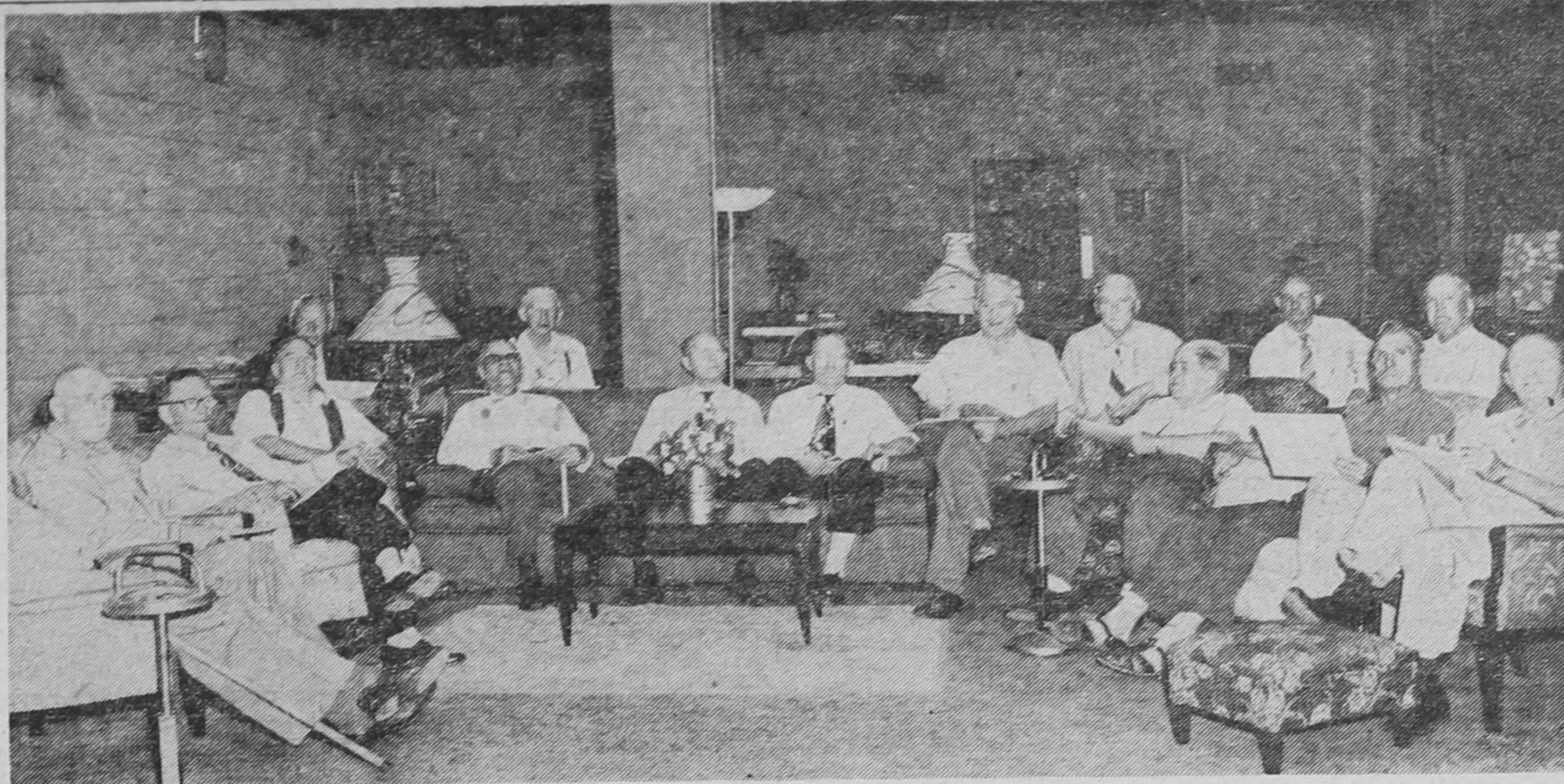
up a program for the Local 154 Drop-In Center was developed. Various sports authorities, TV and radio, and the Center, "White Elephant" and other personnel. A visiting committee for the center is now published.

Detroit's five planned Drop-In Centers are now operating on a par with the one at Local 154.

In other cities with a concentration program, other cities have been gradually developing their own programs, outside the Detroit area. Toledo. They now have a well-functioning program on their Third Anniversary.

Steps toward setting up a program are being taken in Pontiac, Flint, South Bend, Buffalo (Canada), Muskegon, Grand Rapids and other cities.

It has been made. Watch it grow from now



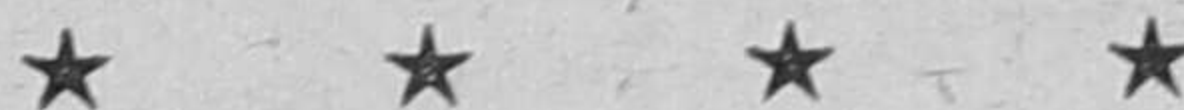
UNION COUNSELING CLASS of retired workers holds class session in the comfy Drop-In Center located at UAW-CIO Hudson Local 154, Detroit. Left to right are John Hanly, Rudolph Allard, Thomas Birtles, Wally Wisniewski (rear), Fred Jackson, Sr., Archie Baker (rear),

G. B. Dwelle, Jean Chave, Walter McCandless, Bill Ward (rear), Robert Reid, Louis Baer (rear), Frank Heath, John Barclay (rear) and Henry Park. Elaine Stinson directs the program at the UAW's first Drop-In Center.



TYPICAL DROP-IN CENTER presented over Detroit WWJ-TV on the "Life in Detroit" program showed some of the activities carried on by UAW-CIO retirees. UAW retirees and their special hobbies are (left to right), Walter McCandless, copper tooling; Bill Ward, leather work; Archie Baker, rope mat making; Ed Moore, drawing; Mrs.

Thomas Birtles, knitting; Mrs. E. E. Birchall, crocheting and John Blue, reading. Standing in rear are Olga Madar, director of UAW Recreation Department and in charge of retired workers activities, and WWJ-TV commentator Harry Stone.



at the Local 154 Drop-In Center. Joe Rop, 70. Other retirees who are (left to right) Tom Birtles, 72; George Brown, 76.



TOLEDO PENSIONERS CLUB celebrates Second Anniversary with Chairman Jake Burtchin of the Region 2B Pensioners Club, UAW-CIO, cutting the cakes furnished gratis by pensioners' wives. A buffet luncheon is one

of the features of the Club's monthly meetings at Local 12 hall. Physically handicapped members are picked up and returned to their homes by UAW staff members. On the average, 200 or more retirees attend every meeting.



## Major Step Toward Unity

# Ten Million Organized Workers Covered by No-Raid Agreement

A solid foundation for peace in the American Labor Movement and ultimate unity of its two major branches was laid on June 9 when top officers of the CIO and the AFL signed the long-pending no-raiding agreement in Washington.

President Walter P. Reuther signed on behalf of 29 CIO Unions which had authorized him to do so in writing. President George Meany, likewise armed with authorizations, signed on behalf of 65 of the 111 AFL Unions. The agreement became effective upon signing and will expire December 31, 1955.

The Unions which authorized signing of the peace pact represent between 10 and 10.5 million of the estimated 16 million organized American workers.

Reuther told a press conference that the CIO signed on behalf of between four and 4.5 million of its members. All but four Internationals had authorized him to act on their behalf—the Steelworkers, Lithographers, Newspaper Guild and Shipbuilders being the exceptions. He predicted the Newspaper Guild would sign soon.

A subcommittee of the AFL-CIO Unity Committee, headed by the respective presidents, was set up to persuade non-signing unions to agree to the terms.

"Our next step," Meany explained, "is to implement this agreement. Some AFL unions which have not acted are waiting on board meetings or conventions. Some have not signed because they are in what they believe are difficulties. The subcommittee will try and work out these differences."

Major AFL holdouts were the Teamsters and the Carpenters.

The two presidents said that "the over-all job of the Committee, of course, is labor unity." They expressed confidence that they can get the non-signers to act.

"I'm confident that the soundness of what we are doing will be so demonstrated," Reuther said, "that in due time a large number of the unions which have not signed will see the wisdom of doing so."

"This is the most important single step in history toward working out the differences in the labor movement. I think that people will look back on this day 10 or 15 years from now as an historic occasion."

### AFL-CIO Pact Signers Listed

CIO unions ratifying the no-raid agreement were Auto, Barbers, Brewery, Broadcast Employees, Clothing, Communications, Department Store Workers, Electrical, Furniture, Chemical, Glass, Government and Civic Employees, Insurance, Marine Engineers, Maritime, Oil, Packinghouse, Paperworkers, Radio Association, Railroad, Retail and Wholesale, Rubber, Shoe, Stone, Textile, Transport, Transport Service, Utility and Wood Workers.

AFL affiliates who signed were Agricultural Workers, Airline Dispatchers, Aluminum Workers, Asbestos, Barbers, Bill Posters, Shoe, Bricklayers, Broom Makers, Building Service Employees, Cement, Chemical, Cigarmakers, Cleaners and Dyers, Railway Clerks, Retail Clerks, Coopers, Diamond Workers, Distillery, Doll and Toy, Electrical, Elevator Constructors, Metal Engravers, Photo Engravers, Firefighters and Flight Engineers.

Also, Garment Workers, Bottle Blowers, Granitecutters, Hatters, Horseshoers, Insurance Agents, Jewelry, Lathers, Letter Carriers, Longshoremen, Machinists, Maintenance of Way Employees, Marble Polishers, Butcher Workmen, Molders, Musicians, Paper Makers, Plasterers, Plumbers, Metal Polishers, Sleeping Car Porters, Railway Mail Handlers, Postal Supervisors, Postal Transport Association, Plate Printers, Bus Drivers, Railway Patrolmen, Roofers.

Also, Railroad Signalmen, State-County and Municipal Employees, Stereotypers, Stove Mounters, Switchmen, Teachers, Telegraphers, Textile, Tobacco, Wire Weavers and Flint Glass Workers.

ment of the negotiated hourly-rated employees plan is necessary to increase benefit levels and to fully protect the rights of the employees who are being affected by the discontinuance of plants."

The subcommittee will meet frequently during the summer to consider problems involved in inducing additional unions to sign, the presidents said. The full AFL-CIO unity committee will try to meet early in October, after most union conventions have been held, to ponder the next step toward merger—a step which Reuther said will be made easier by the "kind of climate" established by the no-raiding agreement.

### Ford Director Asks Pension Adjustments

In a recent letter to John S. Bugas, Vice-President and Director of Industrial Relations for the Ford Motor Company, Director Ken Bannon of the UAW National Ford Department requested a meeting with the Company for the purpose of "discussing needed amendments to the negotiated (pension) plan for the hourly-rated employees."

After noting that the "benefits under the Salaried Employees Pension Plan have been increased," without any increase in the employee contribution rate, Bannon praised the Company for recognizing the inadequacy of benefits for the salaried workers and making necessary adjustments. He requested like action for the hourly-rated workers.

Bannon pointed out that "The UAW-CIO believes that amend-

### CIO-AFL Statement On No-Raiding Pact

The AFL-CIO Unity Committee on June 9 issued the following statement in connection with the ratification of the CIO-AFL no-raiding agreement by a majority of the affiliated unions of the two parent organizations:

"This is an historic day for American Labor.

"The first constructive step toward labor peace and a united labor movement since 1936 has been taken here this afternoon.

"Sixty-four unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and twenty-nine affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations have signed a two-year no-raiding agreement.

"This agreement represents a cease-fire. During the two-year truce, the joint AFL-CIO Unity Committee will go to work on the manifold problems involved in bringing about a merger of the two major labor federations into a single, united labor movement.

"Some of these problems are relatively simple. Others are extremely intricate and difficult, because of jurisdictional overlapping, long-standing animosities and structural differences in the various industries and unions affected. All such obstacles, however, can and should be overcome, by negotiation in good faith and a common determination to achieve labor unity.

"We are confident that this goal, so beneficial to the workers we represent and to the nation as a whole, can be accomplished before the truce expires.

"Our confidence is based upon the expectation that the successful operation of the no-raiding agreement will usher in an era of good feeling and cooperation in the labor movement, that the signatory unions will gain substantial benefits from the cessation of hostilities, and that they never again will want to go back to fighting and raiding each other.

"We are mindful of the fact that during the past eighteen years repeated efforts to heal the breach in the labor movement have ended up in failure.

"In each instance, continuing hostilities made the task of the peacemakers impossible.

"This is a new and more practical approach. For the first time, it permits the negotiations of labor unity in an atmosphere of peace.

"The no-raiding agreement signed today remains open for further signatures by unions from both parent organizations. This Committee is not disappointed because we do not have 100 per cent subscription to the plan at the outset. We anticipate that virtually every union involved in jurisdictional strife will come in within a reasonable time. A special subcommittee will proceed at once to attempt to iron out minor differences which at present stand in the way of securing a substantial number of additional signatures to the agreement.

"Labor in modern America can no longer afford to be divided. We cannot waste our strength and substance in civil war while the enemies of human progress step up their attack on us on the economic, political and legislative fronts.

"Ours is a growing country and labor must grow with it. We have a solemn duty to organize the unorganized, instead of raiding each other's members. The signing of the no-raiding agreement today will permit us to concentrate our energy and our effort on this basic trade-union goal."

### Cole Named No-Raid Umpire

The following statement was issued on June 9 by AFL President George Meany and CIO President Walter P. Reuther:

"We are pleased to announce that Mr. David L. Cole of Paterson, New Jersey, has accepted our joint offer to serve as impartial umpire under the no-raiding agreement between the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

"Mr. Cole is one of the country's leading experts on labor-management relations. His long record of service to government in the realm of labor-management relations, and his service as impartial arbitrator for a number of unions and industries, has been recognized as outstanding.

"The unions of the AFL and CIO can be certain that with Mr. Cole serving as the impartial arbitrator of their no-raiding agreement, they are assured of a sympathetic understanding of their problems and needs, and fair and honest decisions on the cases that may come before him.

"On our part, we pledge to Mr. Cole our complete cooperation in seeking to make the no-raiding agreement a complete and permanent success—for the benefit of organized labor and the nation as a whole."



SCHOOL SEGREGATION has been outlawed by the Supreme Court. That there are other evil, more vicious kinds of segregation is underscored by this picture, snapped with his small son's "Brownie" camera by Research Director Nat Weinberg while passing through a small Georgia town.

Give to  
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# Kohler Strikers Undaunted By Company Guns, Gas, Clubs

**SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN**—Up here in the bratwurst country, embattled Kohler workers are pulling the teeth out of a tiger.

The trademark of the area is the institution of the peaceful family bratwurst fry on Sunday afternoons, but the trademark of the biggest employer was a billy club.

Kohler Company marksmen killed two men here and wounded 47 during a strike 20 years ago. The strike, in its 10th week as the *Auto Worker* went to press, is the climax of a 20-year battle against fear.

Herbert V. Kohler, President of the Company and executive vice-president during the 1934 strike, hadn't changed his labor policies in those two decades.

That became clear when he boasted on the witness stand, during a Labor Board hearing, that Kohler Company had a private arsenal and revealed that Kohler Company had a private stock of tear gas. He admitted that he carried a billy club.

Kohler, the hulking descendant of a family of feudal barons in Austria, hadn't counted on the change in labor and the public reaction to labor problems in the last 20 years.

### WORKERS UNAFRAID

Instead of being frightened, more than 2,000 out of the 3,600 production workers marched on the picket line the day after Kohler's testimony. Instead of being cowed by the threat of tear gas, they brought in a quick supply of Army surplus gas masks and wore them on the line to show their contempt for threats.

### FORT KOHLER

Kohler Company looks like a fort from the outside, and inside there are foremen and guards with guns. One night Kohler approached the picket line, billy club in hand and a platoon of the inside troops behind him, and informed them that, "I am the law."

That was before the union discovered that top Kohler officials were also deputy sheriffs. That had been a custom here for 17 years. The Sheriff took a long look at the implications, and suspended them. They immediately sneaked the tear gas out of the plant and stored it in the Kohler village town hall, a block away from the main gate.

### SEIZE ARMS

Even the ultra-conservative Republican Attorney-General couldn't stomach that one. When he got wind of the tear gas, he ordered the County Sheriff to confiscate it. The supply included

200 short range tear gas shells, 175 long range shells which could hit with a fatal impact, and two riot guns.

Kohler workers also discovered that Kohler village has a private supply of tear gas, and they're working on the possibility that the company sold the village some riot guns. Their attorneys believe the village has no right to possess tear gas under the state law.

But the key thing is that Kohler Company no longer roars like a lion. It had charged the Union members with breaking laws. Possession of tear gas is a felony under state law, and there's a big question whether Kohler Company deputies ever had a legal right to it without the Sheriff's permission. For 17 years the head of the Kohler negotiating team was both an attorney and a Deputy Sheriff, and that's against state law, too.

The lion had roared that the majority of the workers opposed the strike. But in the 10th week of the strike, the lines are as open as they would be if the injunction Kohler sought so eagerly had been granted. Approximately 93 per cent of the workers won't cross that line.

The lion asserted that it has made its "final offer" when the strike started. But Kohler Company is making new offers at the bargaining table right now as this edition of the *Auto Worker* goes to press.

### Reminder

Former Pres. Truman, returning to Washington for a Democratic rally, had a wonderful sentence for reporters who asked him how he judged the relative significance of Korea and Indo-China.

He wouldn't talk about that subject, said Truman, but he could promise one thing: He would not announce publicly for campaign purposes, "I shall go to Indo-China."

### Auto-Lite Retirees OK Insurance Plan

More than 70 percent of the 225 eligible pensioners retired from the Auto-Lite plants have signed up for hospital and surgical coverage, according to an announcement last month by Vice-President Richard T. Gosser, Director of the Union's Auto-Lite Department.

The retired workers surgical and hospital insurance plan provides benefits similar to those for active workers. Unlimited hospitalization up to 70 days is provided for any one illness or disability, plus a maximum of \$200 for surgical expenses.

It is optional for retired Auto-Lite workers to have insurance premiums deducted from their monthly pension payments. Those not now receiving pensions can make direct premium payments at the Company personnel offices.

### UAW Certified At New Bedford

**NEW BEDFORD, Mass.**—Charles Kerrigan, Director of UAW-CIO Region 9A, announced that the NLRB has certified the UAW as collective bargaining representative for the workers at the New Bedford Defense Company. Earlier, the UAW had won an election in the plant by a vote of 118 to 110.

### Meet Herbie himself . . .



"CANDID ANSWERS" at the Wisconsin Employee Relations Board hearing by Herb Kohler resulted in a million dollar's worth of bad publicity for Kohler Company products when newspaper readers discovered that the President of the Company approved of billy clubs, guns, and tear gas in his labor relations policy.

## Board Lifts Charter To Keep Union Clean

Vowing to maintain the high moral and ethical standards of the UAW-CIO, the International Executive Board late last month revoked the charter of Local 589, Newark, New Jersey.

The Board declared, "No one in any position of leadership in our Union will be permitted to put personal gain above the welfare of the membership," and that such leadership "is a public trust that requires eternal vigilance against any and all forms of racketeering . . ."

The Board's action followed a report by Region 9A Director Charles Kerrigan, who had been previously named administrator of the Local by the Board, that he and his staff representatives had been blocked by the local leadership in their attempts to bring about honesty, regularity and Constitutional procedure in the conduct of the Local's affairs.

Kerrigan added that the leadership, surprisingly, had the apparent backing of most of the some 500 workers at the Ronson Art Metal Company, which formed the bulk of the membership of the amalgamated local.

Among the many items considered by the Board was the purchase, with union funds, two Cadillac automobiles for the personal use of Joseph Demodica, Local 589 President. Demodica, does not work in the plant, is the proprietor of "Joe D's Blue Moon Bar and Grill."

Region 9A staff representatives also reported that a move was under way to purchase a summer home for Demodica.

The Board also found that the membership had supported a number of illegal and unconstitutional moves, including a "disaffiliation" from the UAW-CIO after Kerrigan had begun his administration and investigation.



**LOCAL 669 WINS \$2,200 arbitration award from Wright Aeronautical for Howard Louters.** Award includes seven months' back pay plus reinstatement to old job for Louters. Seated (left to right): Robert Ormsby, President UAW Local 669; Louters; Gabe De Angelis, Assistant Regional Director. Standing (left to right): Harold Brown; Wright Plant Chairman; James J. Coates, Secretary-Treasurer Local 669; and John Hayes, Local 669 Business Agent.



**UAW PICKETS PREPARE FOR KOHLER "WAR"** as they demonstrate outside Kohler plant, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, during seventh week of strike. Some 500 out of more than 1,000 UAW-CIO pickets from Local 833 donned war-surplus gas masks in defiance of Herbert Kohler's testimony regarding Company possession of tear gas bombs. Elmer Schrader's dog, Duchess—a good Union dog—wore a mask to keep out the strong odor of Kohler's anti-labor tactics, doomed to failure by a strong Union front.



# Take a Good Look at That Man

By GREGOR ZIEMER

This is the story of Raymond Craib, member of Local 662, UAW-CIO, Anderson, Indiana.

It is a story of courage and pluck. More than that it is a story of mature, conservative cooperation between labor, management, and a State Board of Industrial Aid and Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind.

The story might begin at any one of several places. It could begin at headquarters of UAW-CIO Local 662, where any worker can bring his grievance.

Or in the modern air-conditioned well-lighted factory across the street where Raymond is running a complicated bit of machinery.

Or it could begin in the workshop of the Indiana Industrial Vocational Rehabilitation Center with its broom-making machines and lathes and drills.

For me it began on an open lane by the side of a cornfield. A rider came galloping along the fence on a spirited horse, his head high, his eyes straight ahead, obviously enjoying the feel of freedom and motion the ride gave him.

That's how I first saw him—galloping down the field to his home, on an Indiana farm on rural route 2, "5½ miles due east from the drive-in theater which is located on State Route No. 9 north of Anderson, Indiana," as the survey sheet has it.

But no matter where the story begins, its central character is that same young man on the horse, handsome, five feet, six inches, now twenty-four years old, well adjusted.

**A blind man.**

How well Raymond Craib has overcome what to him at first seemed a bitter, harsh injustice which was threatening to rob him of his sanity, was demonstrated not long ago at the Delco-Remy plant in Anderson where Craib is now gainfully and regularly employed.

**TAKE A LOOK!**

Fred G. Yelton, Director of Safety, proud of his record, had a problem. A strapping, careless individual was not only violating many rules of safety, he was also creating unrest and dissatisfaction among the workers. He had a certain priority on the job, and couldn't be fired without a long process of grievance.

One day, when he was at his wit's end, Fred Yelton took the reluctant giant and put him to work on a machine over in the corner of the plant where young Craib was working on a multiple spindle drill, turning out the specified quota. "Take a good look at that man," Yelton



**BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY-SIDE** no stranger to Raymond Craib as he goes cantering down a rural lane near his farm home. The blind horseman rides his dapple-grey with perfect confidence that he'll get there and back safely.

told his problem worker. "He's blind."

After a day and a half the giant returned to his regular machine. He is today not only a friend of Craib but a friend of everybody.

Raymond Craib—blind worker, citizen, union card holder, normal member of society and normal member of

an average family—is many things to many people.

To the Indiana Board of Industrial Aid and Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind he is a symbol of conquest over big odds.

### HOW IT HAPPENED

For the first sixteen years of his life Raymond had been leading a carefree existence with his parents, three sisters and one brother, to whom he was a jolly companion, a willing worker, full of fun and frolic. He loved to ride, loved to play ball.

It was springtime and the apple trees in the orchard needed spraying. Father Craib asked his two boys, Dale and Raymond, to help him. The spraying machine was a bit rusty and got clogged up. Raymond was fussing around with the nozzle of the instrument when the pressure from the tank broke loose through the obstruction and the stream of lime burst full force into his face.

What followed Raymond and his whole family would rather not talk about. The lime ate through both eyelids, resulting in what ophthalmologists call symblepharon, adhesion of the lid to the eyeball.

It did more; it burnt into the very eyeballs themselves.

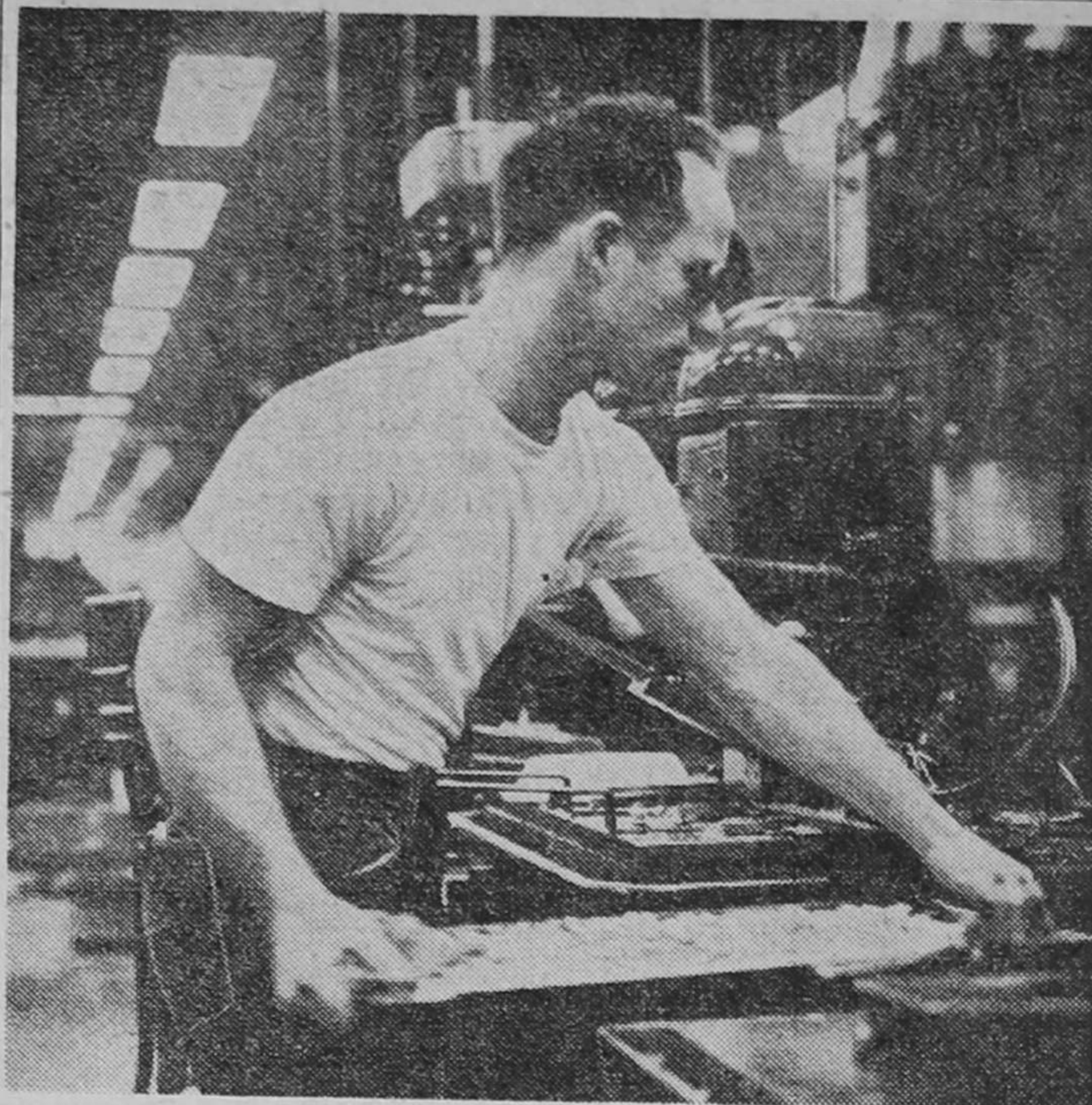
A cloud of gloom so deep, so black that it beggars description settled down on the entire Craib household. And it was all so irrevocable, as total blindness always is.

Time softened the physical pain, but not Raymond's mental agony, his mental rebellion. The two years at the School for the Blind in Indianapolis acquainted him with braille and other aids. It proved to him that he was not alone in his blindness.

### COMEBACK STARTS

But it was not until 1950 that his real rehabilitation began.

To W. Howard Patrem, Director of the Indiana Board of Industrial Aid and Rehabilitation, himself blind; to Taylor C. Parker, Chief, Vocational Rehabilitation Service; to J. C. McLain, blind placement agent, he was a challenge. And since he was young and strong and able their job consisted of placing



**RUNNING A BURRING MACHINE** is just one of the many things that blind Raymond Craib does during his daily job at the Delco-Remy plant in Anderson. He moves about the job without hesitation, proving to any would-be skeptics that blind workers have a definite place in the average industrial plant, and they earn their pay, too.

him somewhere where he could work.

When Raymond was asked by the rehabilitation staff what he would like to do—if he could do it—he admitted that perhaps working with some sort of machine, possibly working in some sort of factory, might be interesting. But, of course, he was convinced he'd never get a job.

### He was wrong.

He was taken into the Rehabilitation Center in Indianapolis to become acquainted with machines. He met people—blind people, who manipulated some very complicated lathes and presses and cutters which trimmed broom corn, and stitchers which wired it, and shaped it into brooms.

Nobody remembers just when Raymond's attitude changed from that of passive pessimism to that of hopeful optimism. But change it did. Then came the weary but

challenging task of getting Raymond placed in industry. J. C. McLain, Placement Agent, and his colleague John McAulay, also blind, and all other placement agents of Rehabilitation Centers throughout the nation, can sing sad monotonous songs of their hardships in finding jobs for blind men and women.

"We have developed working agreements with unions in some of the industries of the state whereby certain jobs are set aside for the blind," states Taylor C. Parker, Vocational Rehabilitation Services of the State Board. "It is understood between the union and management that certain jobs are to be filled by blind persons, so the blind person is not 'bumped' when the slack period comes. Our relations with unions in this state have been very cordial and cooperative."

*(To be concluded in the July Auto Worker)*

## CIO Hails Court School Decision

The CIO hailed the Supreme Court decision ending segregation in public schools as "a heart-warming reaffirmation of American democratic principles."

CIO President Walter P. Reuther said "the unanimous nature of the decision clearly indicates that honest Americans recognize that violations or deprivations of civil rights have no place in our nation."

The CIO, which had long aided the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in its court fight on the issue, "will vigorously support every democratic means to implement this decision in our communities," said Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey.

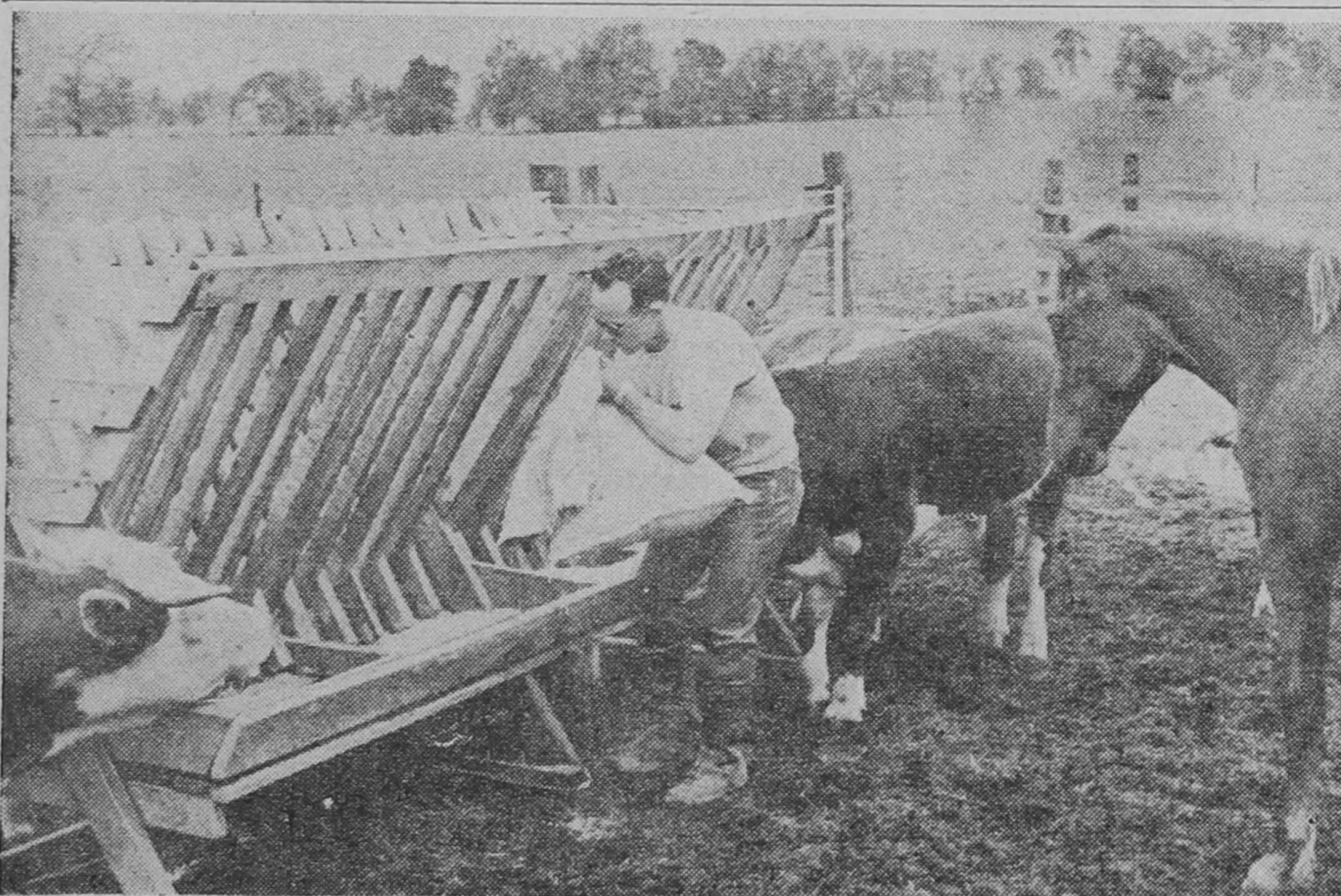
"Our country will be judged in the manner of how we adjust to this decision," noted Carey, who heads CIO's Civil Rights Committee.

"The court is to be congratulated," Reuther said, "for the great and inspiring decision which will benefit America not only at home but in every corner of the globe."

"The decision will be a body blow to the efforts of the Soviet Communists to use America's civil rights record as a propaganda weapon against all the nations of the free world."

"As a result of this historic decision, children of every minority in the United States will receive direct and substantial benefits, and, in turn, a greater share in our democracy."

In a reference to CIO participation in the legal aspects of the fight for civil rights, Reuther went on to say "the CIO is proud to have played a role as a 'friend of the court' in the school segregation cases and in many of the earlier civil rights cases that built the legal groundwork for today's decision by the Supreme Court."



**FARM CHORES ARE EASY** for blind UAW member as he goes about the farm feeding livestock. The ease with which young Ray Craib performs these routine tasks astounds everyone who has seen him in action both in the plant and at home.

Give to  
The You  
May Your



# Richmond Harvester Workers To Quit FE-UE, Join UAW

Another local union has voted to leave the FE-UE, expelled by the CIO in 1949 for Communist domination, and affiliate with the UAW-CIO.

Members of the FE-UE local at the International Harvester plant in Richmond, Indiana, voted overwhelmingly to disaffiliate with their parent organization and, by an equally overwhelming vote at the same meeting, to come into the UAW.

Those attending the meeting who favored UAW affiliation signed authorization cards. About 900 are employed at the plant.

Regional Director Raymond Berndt said he was moving immediately to request a NLRB election so that the UAW may be certified as the bargaining agent and institute negotiations with the company on behalf of the Richmond workers.

The move at Richmond followed by just a week a NLRB vote for the UAW-CIO by Harvester workers at the East Moline IHC Works.

# Ford Local Strike Vote Brings Company to Terms

After a month of successful negotiations, the membership of Local 400, Ford Highland Park on June 6, 1954 ratified an agreement and withdrew its strike notice of April 29, 1954. The Negotiating Committee, led by Ken Bannon, National Ford Director, was assisted by several members of his staff, and Sam Licavoli, International Representative from Region 1.

The cause for the strike notice appeal concerned itself with work standard grievances. In the process of settling the disputes, a number of important time study issues were resolved, which will greatly help the local combat production standard problems in the future. These include—job posting of standards in the Trim Department, a "pacing agreement," prior notice to the employees when they are to be time studied, and various other points. In addition, the agreement provides for:

- 1. Satisfactory disposition for 27 health and safety issues.
- 2. Higher rates of pay on several jobs and raises for about a hundred workers on

- the automation jobs, with retroactivity to May 3.
- 3. A model changeover clause for the skilled group.
- 4. An apprentice ratio.
- 5. A skilled group jurisdictional board.
- 6. Renegotiations of the occupational groupings.
- 7. An improved method of recalling laid off employees.
- 8. Several seniority adjustments for the skilled group.
- 9. Settlement of many other problems that were raised.

The Local committee, consisting of Al Musilli, President; Sam Fishman, Chairman of Plant Committee; Steve Boyle, Frank Dombroski and Mike Anderson, Plant Committee; Bert Conway, Recording Secretary, and Joe Paladino, Financial Secretary, expressed their satisfaction with the job accomplished, especially since some pioneering and liberalizing of the contract was achieved in the midst of layoffs. Considering this fact, the strike vote of 2492 to 526 was viewed as a strong vote of confidence and gave solid backing to the negotiators.

# "Souls Don't Have Color"

William H. Oliver, Co-Director of the UAW-CIO Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department, announced the publication of a new Union pamphlet, "Souls Don't Have Color," dealing with one community's simple solution to the controversial problem of racial segregation in the churches.

"In view of the recent momentous Supreme Court decision holding segregation in the schools to be unconstitutional," Oliver declared, "actions such as those of the Catholic Church which are depicted in this pamphlet take on added importance and should be fully publicized as shining examples for other groups to follow."

In a foreword to the pamphlet, UAW-CIO President, Walter P. Reuther, Director of the Union's Fair Practices Department, stated "Jim Crow's Sunday punch hurts every one of us."

Reuther concluded his foreword by stating, "Churches are the conscience of communities. They have the moral power to end this moral wrong. The battle for a better world—a world of peace, freedom and justice—never will be won without brotherhood."

"Souls Don't Have Color" graphically illustrates how the small southern community of Newton Grove, North Carolina, faced its problem of having two Roman Catholic Churches—one for whites and the other Negroes—and how Bishop Vincent S. Waters, diocesan church head ended that segregation through his bold action.

Three weeks later, as the pamphlet relates, Bishop Waters is

# JOURNEYMAN CARD PROGRAM BOOSTED

An announcement by UAW-CIO Vice-President Richard T. Gosser points out that the Coordinating Committee of the National CIO has been reestablished. Six CIO International Unions will participate in a June meeting to work out a program covering uniform apprenticeship, journeyman status, wages and working conditions in CIO unions.

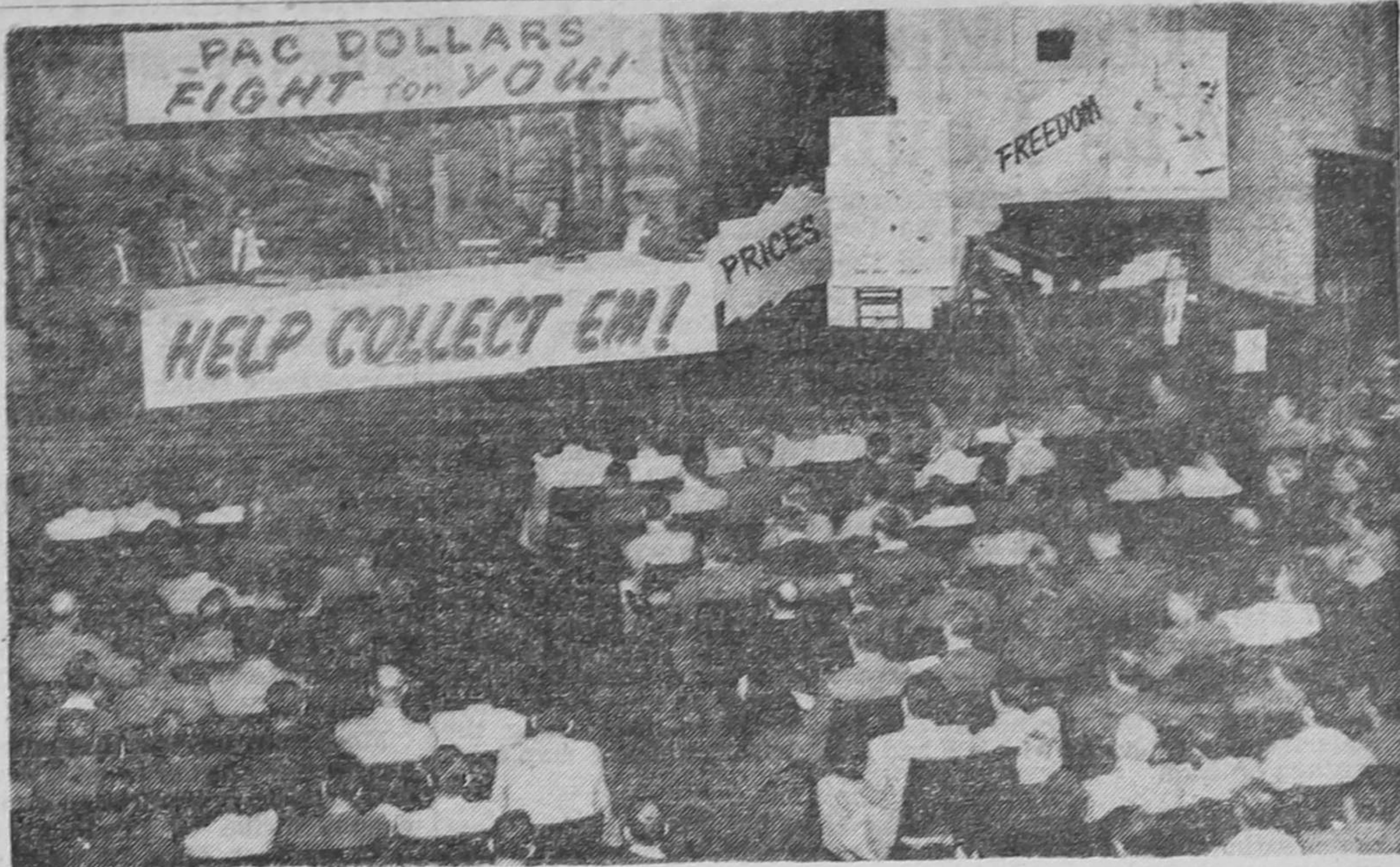
Gosser also noted that since the International UAW-CIO has taken over the issuance of Journeyman Cards, it has been necessary to establish Skilled Trades Councils in Region 5 (Kansas City) with another contemplated in Region 8 to process Journeyman Cards.

The UAW Skilled Trades Department has ironed out most of the kinks concerning Journeyman Cards. No, many employers are requiring prospective job applicants to produce proof of apprenticeship by showing Journeyman Cards.

# Borg-Warner Council Meets July 17-18

The Borg-Warner Council is scheduled to meet July 17 and 18 in the CIO Council Hall at Rockford, Illinois, UAW-CIO Vice-President Richard T. Gosser, Director of the Borg-Warner Department, announced. Election of Council officers will be at this meeting.

sued an edict forbidding segregation in all Roman Catholic Churches within his diocese—all of North Carolina with the exception of Gaston County.



REGION 1A LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, held in Local 157 hall, heard former Senator Blair Moody (currently Democratic candidate for Michigan senator), discuss 1954 campaign issues. The 602 attending delegates, representing 38 UAW local unions, broke up into four panels on Unemployment Compensation, Guaranteed Annual Wage, Tax Reductions—For Whom? and Discrimination. Later, Moody spoke, Region 1A Co-Directors Ed Cote and Joe McCusker reported on regional activities and PAC Coordinator Roy Reuther discussed the importance of the CIO-PAC buck campaign.

# Here's a Letter from the Rich Man's PAC Department

OR

# Give a Buck to GM... the Tax You Save Will Be Theirs Alone

This is a copy of a letter sent to business concerns by a Vice-President of General Motors and General Manager of the Allison Division, soliciting funds for their Political Action Campaign.

ALLISON DIVISION  
GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION  
INDIANAPOLIS

OFFICE OF  
GENERAL MANAGER

May 26, 1954

Demands of minority groups that will be made at the next session of the Indiana Legislature would increase Indiana's tax costs by many millions of dollars. Your taxes, both in the form of payroll taxes for unemployment compensation and of general taxes, definitely would go sharply higher.

Issues and the amounts involved in such fields as Social Security, Personnel and Labor Relations, Public Welfare, Education and other phases of government are so great and often so complex that the facts must be presented to the public forcibly and understandably to help assure the wisest possible decisions.

For example, in the field of Social Security, demands from labor unions already have been made calling for the revision of Indiana's unemployment compensation law to boost benefits from the present maximum of \$27.00 a week for 20 weeks, to more than \$65.00 a week for as long as 6 months. This should be a matter of vital concern to every businessman, since unions are acquiring more skill and "know how" in gaining public as well as the legislators' favor in such matters. Should labor be successful in this program, it would not be long before experience-rating for most businesses would become meaningless and unemployment compensation would be turned into "robbing their benefits".

Indiana businessmen must prepare now to meet these new attacks that will be made against them. Because most of your time and efforts must be spent on your business affairs, it is fortunate that in Indiana there are the facilities and trained staff of the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce to tackle these state-wide problems that vitally affect your business. I think you will agree that the work being done by the State Chamber could not be accomplished by any one company or individual. This is the only organization which represents and works for all types of business from all sections of the state.

We would appreciate your cooperation in this work of the State Chamber for all business either through membership or an underwriting of this legislative program in the suggested amount of \$25.00. Should your decision be favorable to this suggestion, you may send your support to my office or direct to the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade Building, Indianapolis 4, Indiana.

Sincerely yours,

*E. B. Nevill*

E. B. Nevill, President  
Indiana State Chamber of Commerce

# The Boss Is Proud

"You ought to hear employers talk, when they're overseas," Brendan Sexton, UAW Education Director told the leadership at Local 927 Hall Tuesday night. "You wouldn't recognize some of 'em."

"They tell foreigners that the U.S.A. is a good place for working men and women because they have paid vacations, paid holidays, call-in pay, pensions, health insurance programs, the eight hour day, the five day week.

"They tell foreigners about these things, and boast of them, and every single thing they boast about, Unions had to drag out of them. Not one of these benefits was given the workers out of the kindness of the employers' hearts. You got 'em because the Union fought for 'em."

# Petty Cash Hire Now A Retiree

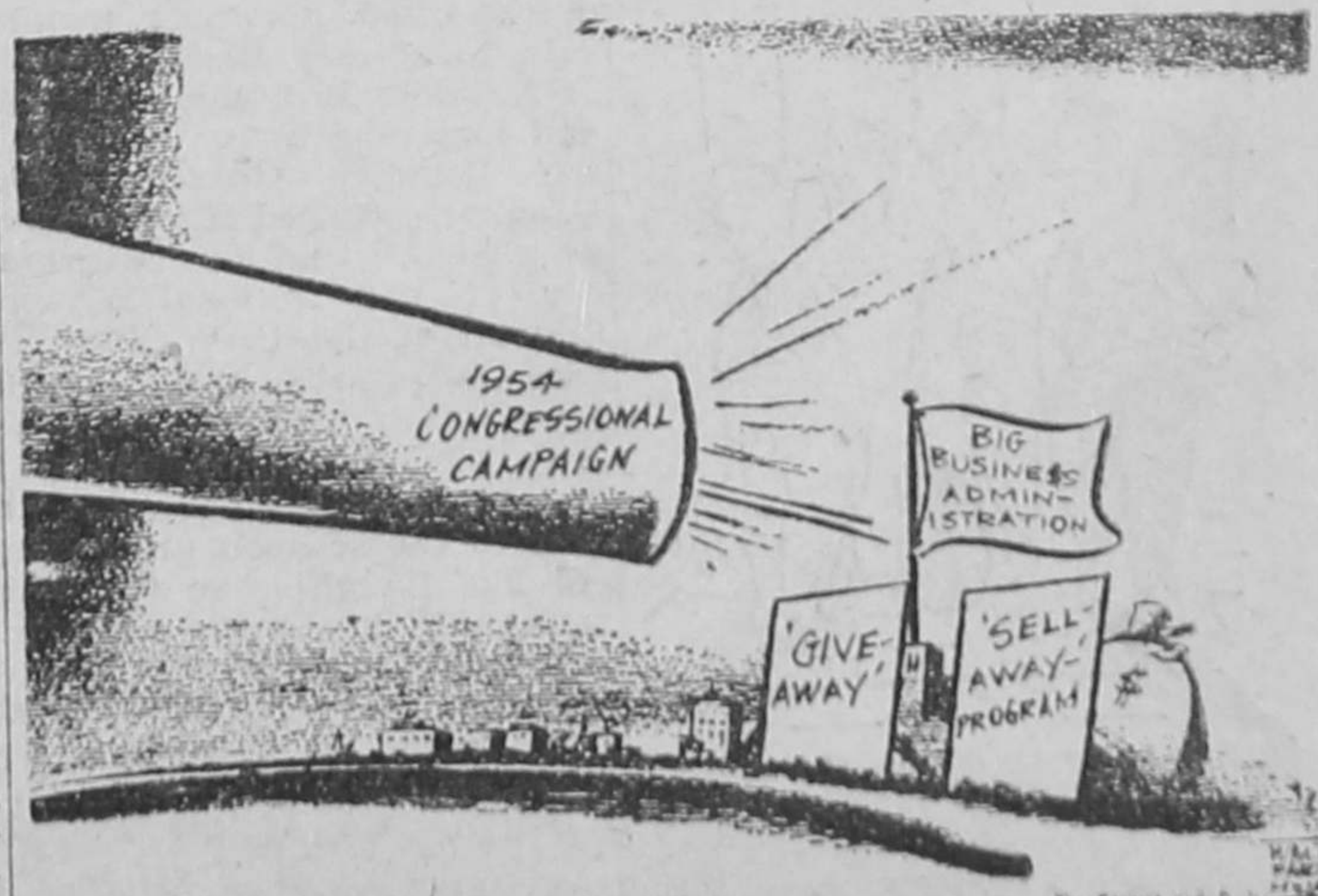
KANSAS CITY, Kansas—Earle Richard Walker, 65 years, first Local 855 retiree under the UAW—Chrysler Agreement, did some reminiscing about his more than 22 years employment as boiler operator and maintenance man. Said Walker, "It's a long stride when I think back that my first pay at Chrysler's was out of the petty cash fund, and I was the only employee (also the first)." Walker's pension won't be so petty as he takes it easy on his farm at Clinton, Missouri.

# Facts Forum Gets Another Free Ride

Facts Forum, the controversial radio-television program, is being allowed to keep its tax-free status as an educational organization by the Internal Revenue Service, according to press reports. The show is financed by H. L. Hunt, fabulously rich Texan and ardent admirer of Joe McCarthy.

The charge has been made that Facts Forum is a "propaganda machine" being used to defeat liberals in Congressional elections. The program's scripts will be examined by a special House committee investigating tax-exempt foundations.

# The Guns Will Soon Boom





# The Man That Was Louis Stark

(Condensed from the New York Post, May 19, 1954)

By Murray Kempton

IT SEEMS a little irrelevant to say so, but Louis Stark was for many years a labor reporter of the New York Times, and he died very suddenly Monday while I was down in a sewer with Joe McCarthy. He was the first of the full-time labor reporters; he was the mold; the rest of us were cast from him, and next to him we are all flawed.

Louis Stark was a very gentle man with a hoarse and weary but never hopeless voice. I was not surprised to find that he had begun 41 years ago as a teacher. I don't suppose he ever belonged to anything but the Times. Three years ago he had become a little tired of Washington, and had come back here to write editorials for the Times.

I don't know how to explain the defect I always felt in myself when I talked to Louis Stark. It was not a defect in human kindness and breadth of soul. When he came back to New York, after so many years in Washington, there were certain areas in which I had an edge on him so far as information was concerned. Once or twice, he called me up to ask me about matters along the waterfront, matters in which I had a certain confidence man's advantage on him.

I ALWAYS felt very much older than Mr. Stark during these conversations, older and harder and more sophisticated. It is difficult to say just when he first began asking me what could be done to help the longshoremen and I understood that he really cared about that. He was nearly twice my age when he died, and he still cared about these people. I had been writing the waterfront as though it were a long run of "Guys and Dolls." I felt old before my time and encrusted and altogether, as Henry Mencken once said, had no more social conscience than a cat. Louis Stark was 66, and moral indignation to him was instinct.

He had almost been born to the Times and he had lived all his life in its house and he died there. When the Times sent Louis Stark to cover Sacco-Vanzetti case, he went there as a neutral. He talked to Gov. Fuller and the warden of Charlestown Prison and Vanzetti and Edna St. Vincent Millay, and finally he filed the pieces which are the real reason most of us believe that Sacco and Vanzetti died innocent.

Louis Stark, in type, was always calm and measured, and he died true to the image of himself that he had held when he began in 1913. He was a man of the middle always; there is a passion to the middle which those of us who have swung from one side to the other of it can never really feel. Men have shouted under banners and betrayed them and shouted under others ever since Louis Stark began, but he had not changed, and he had been true to himself.

HIS INTEREST, his kindness and his concern, at the end as at the beginning was for the men and the women and the children whose lives were changed by whatever happened on his beat. He never thought that to be honest was to be cruel, and he never forgot the faces of the people who were hopeful or hungry because the dice came up this way or that way. I think that was the thing which always made me feel inadequate in the face of him. It was not just that he made me feel so mean, but that he made me feel so old and empty and incapable of his own great kindness.

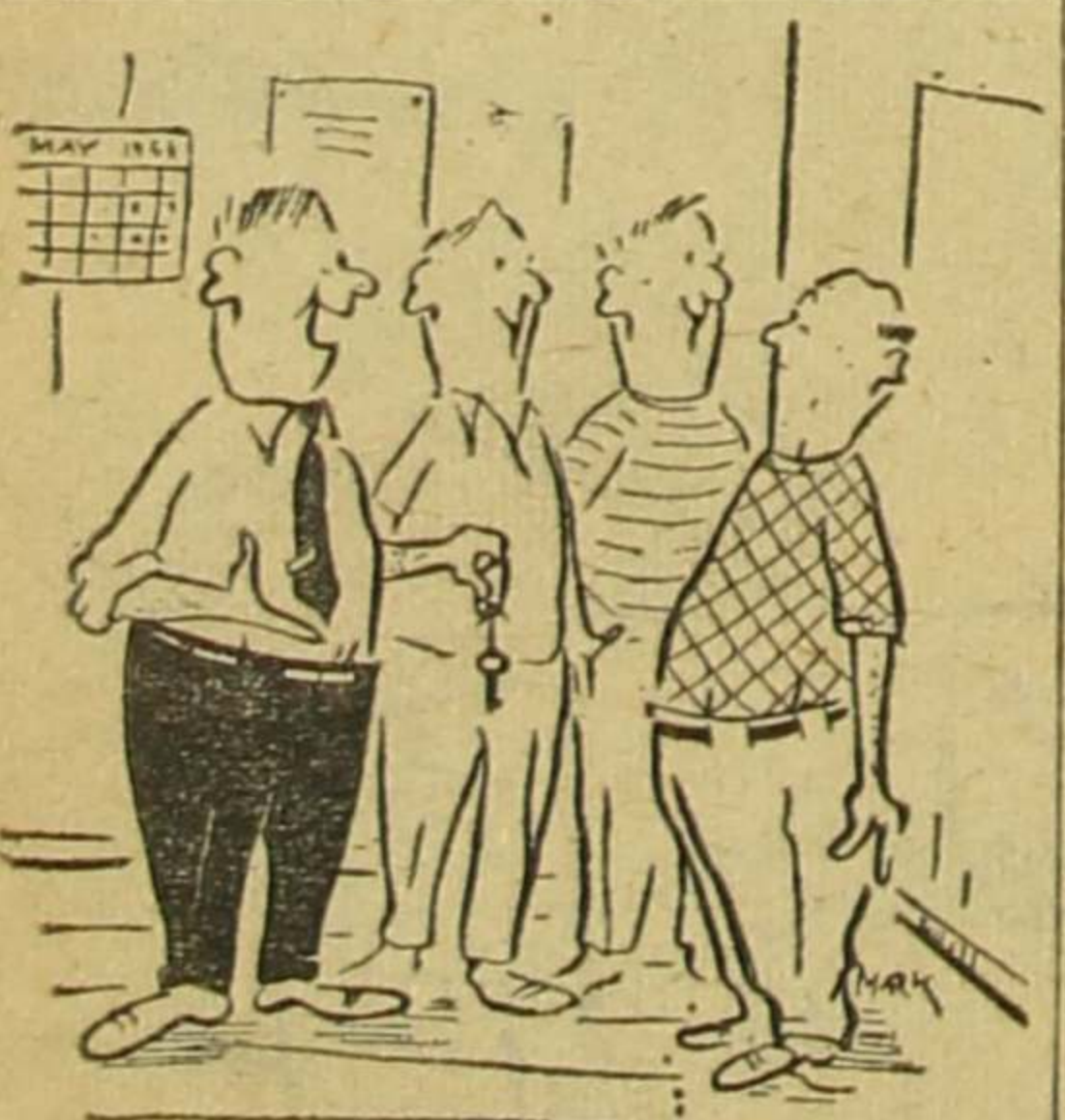
## Williams Visits New Wayne CU Opening

WAYNE, Mich.—Governor G. Mennen Williams was a guest of honor at the half-million dollar Wayne Community Federal Credit Union open house, May 9, 1954. Formerly the Kaiser-Frazer Employees Federal Credit Union, the Credit Union was rechartered when the Kaiser-Frazer Corporation transferred operations to Toledo.

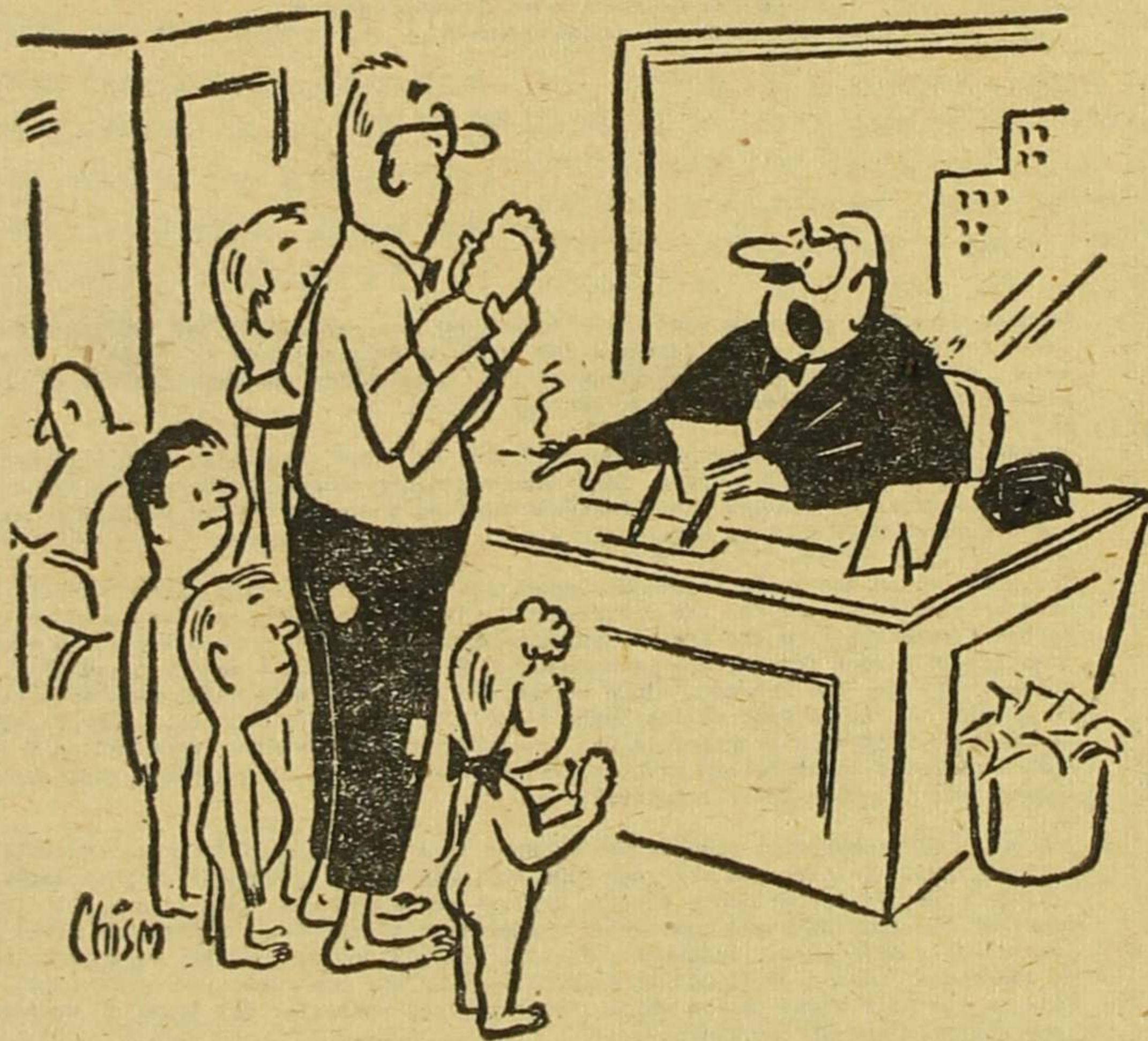
Under the new charter, the Wayne Community Federal Credit Union opened its membership books to thousands of community residents who had not previously been eligible for membership.

The Michigan Governor noted village officials in the crowd, and told the new Credit Union, "it's obvious that you're going to be a great success. Election time is coming around and you can bet that your village officials would not be here, if they thought you were a sinking ship. They want to be with the winners."

Starting the new membership drive off with a bang, the open house featured a Jackpot Contest. Prize for guessing the amount of money in a five-gallon jug is a new car. Chances are given for just registering at the office—3911 Newberry—and bonus chances can be earned by joining the Credit Union, signing up new members, or making regular savings deposits.



"And for your years of devoted service, we now present you with your own private key to the men's room."



"Now, Potter, I hope you're not going to start that unpleasant talk of a raise again!"

## Baugh Retires From National Foundry Group

Foundry Sub-Council 4 of Indiana voted honorary membership to Horace Baugh, member of National Malleable Local 1210 and long-time active member of the Foundry Council, when Baugh announced his retirement as a worker and an active member of the National Foundry Council of the UAW-CIO.

Commenting on Baugh's retirement, UAW Vice-President Richard Gosser, Director of the Foundry Department, declared, "We hate to see staunch union workers like Baugh leave the active ranks. He has made an important contribution to the cause of unionism down through the years, and we wish him God-speed ahead."

Baugh, one of the Foundry

## Reuther Marks Anniversary of Czech Uprising

On behalf of the members of the UAW-CIO, Walter P. Reuther, the Union's President, cabled congratulations May 26 to workers in the Skoda works in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, on the anniversary of their strike against their Communist masters in industry and government.

On May 30, 1953, the Pilsen auto workers revolted against the Communist terror and exploitation to which they have been subjected, one of the few, if not the only, instances of this kind of defiance behind the Iron Curtain.

The text of Reuther's cable follows:

More than a million organized automobile workers of CIO recall with deep admiration courageous strike of Pilsen auto-workers last May 30 against exploitation by anti-labor puppets of the Kremlin. Democratic free labor everywhere salutes Pilsen workers on this anniversary of their open resistance to a regime of terror and national subjugation. Their continued resistance has earned the solidarity of all who are joined in the common struggle for universal freedom, social justice and genuine peace.

Walter P. Reuther, President United Automobile Workers of America-CIO.

## Forge Council Backs Park Forge Strikers

ERIE, Pa. — The National Forge Wage-Hour Council of the UAW-CIO met on May 15, 1954, and pledged their all-out support to the striking workers at Park Drop Forge, Cleveland. The Council delegates made a cash donation to the strikers, members of UAW-CIO Local 776.



DETROIT LABOR, both AFL and CIO, joined hands last month to honor one of their best friends: Father Raymond S. Clancy, famed "labor priest," who has headed the Roman Catholic labor institute in Detroit's archdiocese for the past 16 years. More than 500 labor leaders, rank and file members and public officials gathered at dinner to pay tribute to Father Clancy. Above, congratulating the honored guest are UAW President Walter P. Reuther (center) and Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey (right). President Reuther was one of the testimonial speakers at the dinner.

## Democratic Votes Again Save Farm Electric Co-ops

WASHINGTON—Three and a half million farm families, members of 983 rural electric cooperatives, have again been saved by Democratic votes in Congress from the plans of the Eisenhower administration to shackle them and slow them down.

These electric coops have done what private power companies refused to do—bring electricity to the farm to lighten burdens and brighten the home. As Bob Olson, Minnesota farmer, told the UAW-CIO Full Employment Conference last December, electricity on the farm has substituted "five rooms and a bath" for "five rooms and a path" in rural real estate ads.

The New Deal set up the Rural Electrification Administration to advance loans to farmers to provide themselves with power lines and power houses. Each year Congress replenishes the loan fund according to estimates of pending applications for new systems or the expansion of old ones.

This year with \$170 million of applications pending and with new applications coming in at a rate of about \$150 million a year, Eisenhower's budget proposed only \$90 million of new funds for REA.

The National Association of the Cooperatives asked for \$249 million in new funds to catch up on the backlog of pending applications.

The House of Representatives over-rode the President's request and voted \$135 million. The Senate has now approved by a 42-40 vote the Douglas Amendment to raise the total to \$170 million. CIO supported the Douglas proposal.

This vote provided one occa-

sion when there was no noticeable rift in Republican ranks. They voted 37 to 6 against the Douglas amendment, thereby taking their stand with Eisenhower against adequate loans to farmers to increase the capacity of their power lines and to build their own generating stations.

The six Republicans voting for the farmers were Cooper of Kentucky, Langer and Young of North Dakota, Mundt of South Dakota, Wiley of Wisconsin, and Schoepel of Kansas. "Low-Blow Joe," who recently made a grandstand play for more than 100 per cent of parity for farmers, voted against the farmers' co-ops.

Democrats voted 35 to 3 for the farmers. Byrd of Virginia, Kennedy of Massachusetts and Frear of Delaware voted against them, while Robertson of Virginia, Pastore of Rhode Island and Hayden of Arizona were paired against.

The independent party, as usual, cast its vote in a block on the right side through Wayne Morse of Oregon.

## Steady Work

COLUMBUS, O.—The year's screwiest unemployment compensation case turned up when a woman complained to a compensation official that she didn't get the job she wanted. The place she wanted, she explained, was at a hotel that has been picketed for many months. And what sort of work did she want at the hotel, the official asked. "Oh, one of the walking jobs," the woman replied, "where you carry signs."

## Hucksters

In his statements before the Senate Subcommittee on Health, CIO Vice-President Joseph N. Curran tartly wondered if President Eisenhower is "scared of huckster slogans about 'socialized medicine' after a lifetime in the Army."

"Are the members of Congress scared by the false use of the words, 'socialized medicine,'" he asked, "when many of them make use of the fine facilities of the U. S. Naval Hospital in Bethesda (Md.) and the Walter Reed Hospital?"



"Say, Mister—My dad says there's a lot of vacancies in that non-union plant. Are you one of them?"