Those 'Local Issues' Historic at GI

When the last of General Motors Corp.'s 124 UAW-contracted plants settled its strike over local issues on Oct. 29, it signaled the end to seven months of national and local bargaining involving nearly 7,000 separate problems affecting nearly 300,000 workers.

Brought to a successful conclusion was the most complex bargaining marathon in American labor history involving the world's largest corporation and 124 different U A W bargaining units.

As a result of the strikes—which varied in duration from a few hours to nearly four weeks—the settlement made by local union bargaining committees, coupled with the national agreement signed Oct. 2, represent constructive g a i n s for all GM workers. And all were won despite a national recession, sharp cutbacks in the industry and an all-out

Continued on Page 8

UAW SOLIDARITY

INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AIRCRAFT & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA

Vol. 1, No. 34 — 3-5-8 Edition — November 10, 1958

POSTMASTER: Send undeliverable copies with Form 3579 attached directly under mailing label to 2457 E. Washington St., Indianapolis 7, Ind. RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

Printed in U. S. A. in 100% Union Shops

Second class postage paid at Indianapolis, Ind., and at additional mailing offices. EDITORIAL OFFICE—Detroit, Mich.—5c a copy. Published Bi-Weekly at 2457 E. Washington St., Indianapolis 7, Ind.

25-2 UAW-REP
LUTHER SLINKARD
062 N BRYS DR
GROSSE PT WDS 36 MICH

Anti-Union Line Fails GOP; Dems on Spot

"Running against Reuther" turned out to be unhealthy exercise for the Republican party.

If the UAW president had been on the ballot as well as in the oratorical realm, he'd be governor of a dozen states and the holder of an even greater number of Senate seats; in the House, he'd almost be a majority all by himself.

Walter P. Reuther, of course, has sought neither political office nor political dominance. The lesson of this election is that a campaign aimed against the labor movement and its leaders has been overwhelmingly rejected by the American people as a whole.

They Voted "Go"

The people's mandate is for a government that meets the people's needs. That was what motivated the farmers in South Dakota and the factory workers in Michigan; and the same idea was being expressed by workers in all walks of life, from Vermont to Nevada.

What the people said was simple enough: This country must move ahead. They voted for progress against reaction; for action against "sitting tight."

It is especially gratifying that voters in five states (out of six) resoundingly defeated so-called "right to work" laws, backed by one of the greatest con-

Continued on Page 8

IT ADDS UP RIGHT for R. Vance Hartke, who won Senate seat in Indiana. His family is helping—especially young Keith, who's "handling" the wire copy.

Cleanup Sequel

NEW CASTLE, Ind. — Remember the item in our last issue about the man who applied for the job of "cleaning the court house"? He misunderstood a Democratic election ad in the local newspaper, calling on the voters "to give the court house a long-needed cleaning."

The voters got the point. For the first time in a generation the Republicans were swept out of power in Henry county.

S-P Strike Vote

SOUTH BEND, Ind.—Members of UAW Local 5 at Studebaker-Packard here have voted 94.3% in favor of strike action if necessary, Region 3 Director Ray Berndt, department director, announced. Negotiations are continuing under a news blackout agreed to by both parties.

Deere Cracks Line, Ag Imp Sees Pattern

The united front of agriculture implement firms against UAW's 1958 bargaining program was broken last week when John Deere Co. agreed to a new three-year pact, Vice President Pat Greathouse, director of the union's agricultural implement division, announced.

Talks resumed at once with International Harvester, where the union exercised its option to terminate the agreement as of next Thursday. Greathouse said he was hopeful that talks with Allis-Chalmers would quickly resume.

At Caterpillar, where a strike is in its fourth week, federal mediators were scheduled to intervene as Solidarity went to press. Greathouse looked for a new offer in view of the Deere settlement.

The Deere pact, covering 16,000 workers in Iowa and Illinois, was reached through the joint efforts of Region 4 Director R o b e r t Johnston and his staff and that of the Deere department.

Aside from gains equivalent to those in the auto contracts, the Deere agreement provides:

- A 3% improvement factor.
- A pension program providing $2.50 a month for present and future retirees for each year of service; vested rights for workers with 10 or more years who leave the company after 40.

Dana in Fold; 5-State Range

TOLEDO, O. — A new three-year contract covering 5,500 Dana Corp. workers in five states was announced last week by UAW Vice President Richard T. Gosser, director of the Dana department.

The pact generally follows the Big Three auto pattern. It provides raises of 6c an hour for those earning up to $2.79, 7c for those earning $2.80 or more, and a 3c cost-of-living adjustment, all retroactive to Sept. 7.

Skilled workers will get an additional 8c Nov. 30 and a 2c premium will be paid for second and third shift work.

Other terms, including SUB, pension and insurance improvements, also match the Big Three agreements.

UAW's Arctic Outpost:

North Pole Gets New Neighbor

By JERRY HARTFORD

Away up north in Baffin L a n d, a snowball-throw from the Arctic Circle, the Eskimos and polar bears last week got a new and surprising neighbor — the international union, UAW.

The midnight sun and the northern lights now shine on UAW members at Frobisher Bay and Foxe, in Canada's n o r t h w e s t territories; at Goose Bay, Labrador, and at Great Whale, Que., on the shore of Hudson bay.

Where agents of the historic Hudson Bay Co. traded for furs nearly four centuries ago there will now be union meetings.

It all started innocently enough when Andy Sutherland, UAW representative in the

Continued on Page 2

Eaton Signs Up

An agreement corresponding to the auto industry pattern has been reached for 2,500 UAW members in Eaton Manufacturing Co. plants, Vice President Norman Matthews, director of the union's Eaton department, has announced.

Final settlements hinge upon the negotiation of local issues, Matthews said, and upon ratification by the various local unions.

Units involved are Local 307, Cleveland, and Locals 368, Detroit; 196, Battle Creek; 220, Marshall, and 810, Coldwater, Mich.

Fun in the Sun, Florida Version

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — While the breath of winter is already upon much of the nation, those lucky UAW members down in Florida can have fun at the beach. And that's exactly what the members of Local 298 here had when their local threw an all-day beach party and picnic at the Cabana Club on Treasure Island beach, followed by a dinner-dance which lasted into the wee hours.

The comparatively new local's first social affair was such a success, reports Ralph South, local president, that another dinner-dance is being planned for the Christmas holidays.

The beach party-picnic was attended by 500 members of the local plus their wives and children who had fun swimming in the Gulf of Mexico and picnicking. They consumed 3,000 hot dogs and hamburgers and uncounted gallons of soft drinks, yet not one single case of "tummy ache" was reported among the youngsters, South claims.

About 350 members and their guests had enough energy left to come to the dinner-dance at another club at Reddington beach. There they dined on barbecued chicken and smoked mullet with all the trimmings, and if they ate too much they had a chance to "work it off" by dancing into the night.

A highlight of the evening was the crowning of "Miss Local 298," an honor which went to Bea Busefink by unanimous vote of the members because "she's the sweetheart of our local," according to South.

Guests of the local included Region 8 Director E. T. Michael —who pitched right in by helping out at the refreshment stand—several officers of Martin Local 788, Orlando, including Ken Hopkins, local president, and his wife; William Mayo, area AFL-CIO representative and his wife, and Ed Guschak of the Brewery Workers and his wife.

Local 298, which represents the workers at the Electronic Communications plant here, is less than a year old. It was established after the Air Associates Co. ran away from Teterboro, N.J., changed its name and opened up here, hoping to avoid unionization. It didn't.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. Local 298's beach party featured high-powered talent soda jerks at the refreshment stand, including (from the left) Ralph South, local prexy; Phyllis Littlejohn, recording secretary, and Region 8 Director E. T. Michael.

Dig That Crazy Non-Union Type

MUNCIE, Ind.—"A perfect example of a non-union product"—that's what a UAW member here called the column of type from the Muncie Evening Press reproduced below.

The Press and its morning partner, the Muncie Star, were struck by the Stereotypers over a contract dispute and printers, mailers and pressmen's union members refused to cross the picket lines. Management went ahead and published "curtailed editions" with non-union help.

The result, as you can see, was almost unreadable. Every line of type had one or more typographical errors in it.

The clipping was sent to Solidarity by UAW member Estes W. Ball, who gave it the "perfect example" tag.

Ike Starts Campaign Trip West

By MERRIMAN SMITH

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Presiden Eisenhower ses ou oday on a 5,300 - mile poliical expediion o add muscle and uniy o the Rzpublca election campagn.

Frst stop on hs wngng vsts wth the voters was ths afternoon at Cedar Rapids, Iwa, where he willo speak a he natinal crn' pickng conest, rub shoulders wih farmers, canddaes and GOP wrkers and shw by hois presence ha he wans he people of his sick wih he Republicans.

The Chief Execuive's our was his mos ambiious for an off-year elecion since he tk ffce. His majr speecheos wll be regonial naure, bu he will visit a l of places and see a lo of Republicants.

Smple Bale Plan

Esehower's pnla f battle was fairly simple, but nt withut diffculty. His chef aim waso t encurage and inspire GOP wrkerso greater acon and greater confidence aganst Democrats seekng to retan control of Congress. In some places, notably Califrnia, he will be tryoing t pach tup GOP famly dfferences.

And whout sayng i in so many words, he Presiden was expeced o ease any timpresson hat hs concept of campagn sues dffer to an appreciable degree frm thseo f Vce Presdent Rchard M. Nxon or GOP Natonal Charman Meade Alcorn.

As a matter of practcal politcal fact, Eisenhwer will boe attackng the Democrats n much the Nxon-Alcorn manner but his words may nt beo quite as biting.

The Presdent intends t ham-o mer at what he calls "Demcrat propaganda" hat he Republcans are defeated before the votes are counted.

He also will remnd hs lsteners tha he las ime he Democrats were n naional power, hey a-ur ecoomy ad of our nwhole populatio" n "he hands of a central bureaucracy". The moral of hs remnder wll be—dion' let happen again.

tExpands Campagn Swng

Shorly before begnnng hs seven-day swng to the West, he announced further expanson of his Charleston, W. Va., as a speaking stp n Octo. 27. He'll speak n Pttsburgh the same night, and n New York on Otc. 28.

Ark. Court Kills 'Speedup Law'

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—The voters of Arkansas were spared from having to vote on two anti-union constitutional amendments last week when the state's Supreme Court ruled them off the ballot prior to the election.

The two proposals, called the "freedom to hire" amendment and the "states' rights" amendment, would have placed rigid restrictions on collective bargaining and were designed by employer groups as logical next steps to the so-called "right to work" law now on Arkansas' statute books (Solidarity, June 16).

The high court ruled that both proposals were not fairly represented and were too far-reaching.

It held that the so-called "freedom to hire" amendment title conflicted with the true purpose of the proposal, which "is actually to restrict and curtail the number and hiring of employes," Justice Winor W. Milwee said in writing the opinion of the court.

The court said the ballot title could leave "the erroneous impression" that some new freedom-to-hire law was before the voter instead of a proposal to limit hiring.

William Kimberling, UAW Region 5 sub-regional director here, had labeled the "freedom to hire" proposal as the "freedom to fire."

The proposal was supposed to be directed against "featherbedding" and declared that "no employer shall be required to employ a greater number of persons than the employer deems necessary to carry on his business." Injunctive powers would have been granted to the courts to enforce this.

The Arkansas Committee on Political Education, AFL-CIO, declared that the amendment could wreck the labor movement in the state. Employers would have been able to go into chancery court and secure injunctions in every conceivable labor dispute, not only in strikes but in negotiations and grievance matters.

The so-called "states rights" amendment was also strongly opposed by Arkansas labor. This proposal would have set up a States Rights Commission, theoretically to oppose communism and "safeguard" states' rights.

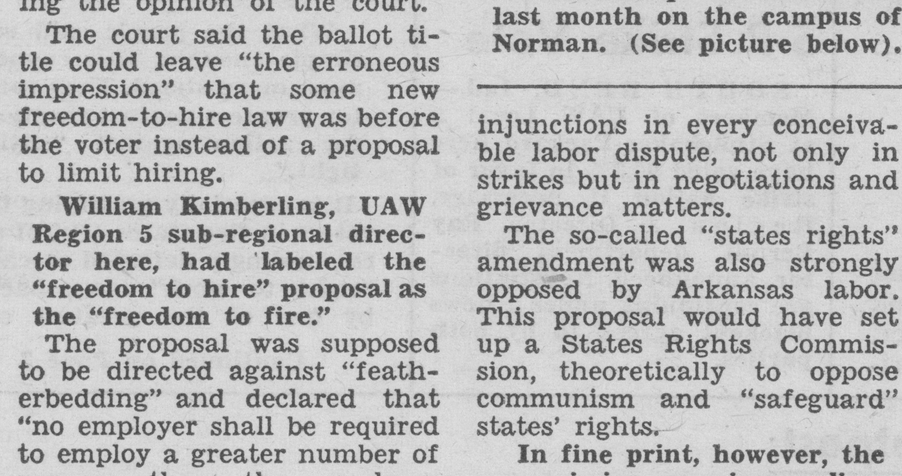
In fine print, however, the commission was given unlimited power to declare practically anything it did not approve of as an encroachment on states' rights. It could flout federal law that now protects workers in their rights of organization and collective bargaining.

Writing a unanimous opinion of the court, Justice George Rose Smith said the amendment was "the most far-reaching proposal ever offered to the state's electorate." He held that it would "destroy the system of checks and balances that has characterized our government since its birth."

Kimberling said that if the "freedom to hire" amendment had stayed on the ballot and had been passed, it would have "destroyed the seniority rights of all workers in this state" and would have been the signal for a giant speedup drive in all of the state's plants.

If the "states rights" amendment had gone through, he said, it would have seriously affected all of the democratic rights and liberties of all the people of Arkansas.

THESE STUDENTS at the Region 5 "summer" school were in the workshop on union administration. Classes were held last month on the campus of the University of Oklahoma at Norman. (See picture below).



THERE ARE ALWAYS plenty of questions at the workshop sessions. Here instructor Sam Jacobs (right) gets a tough one from one of the students at the political action workshop of the Region 5 "summer" school.

Women Plan Sale

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — UAW women's auxiliary 45 is planning its annual anniversary dinner this month.

Robert Short

NEW CASTLE, Ind.—Robert Short, veteran member of Chrysler Local 371's bargaining committee, died here last month after a heart attack.

A former coal miner, he began his union activities in the United Mine Workers. He had belonged to Local 371 almost since its inception, and represented the forge division on the local's bargaining committee.

ST. LOUIS—The St. Louis Union Labor Advocate has suspended publication after 24 years.

UAW Nears North Pole

Continued from Page 1

Montreal office, set out to organize workers at Wheeler Airlines Co.'s Dorval airport in Montreal. A majority signed up and the union sought certification.

The company argued successfully before the Canada Labour Relations Board that a proper bargaining unit should include all its bases, since its workers rotated among them and the whole system was integrated.

Long Flight North

Meanwhile, "we are harried by management resistance and the usual stooges who attempted to form a company union," Sutherland said. But the Canadian board dismissed the stooge effort and left the contest between UAW and no union.

Then the question arose as to how Sutherland—and for that matter, the labor board agent—was to reach workers 1,500 miles north, where no railroad, highway or commercial airline penetrated. The company answered that one by providing one of its own planes.

Thus Sutherland became the farthest-north organizer in union history. And he was rewarded when the UAW won the election, 42 to 32.

Next Stop Russia

It was Sutherland's first trip into the northwest territories.

"When I was in school, most of the territory up this way was marked 'uncharted' on the maps," he recalled. "It is past that stage now, but I suspect that the next two steps on dry land north of there are in Russia!"

Gas Prices High? Here's Why!

SOUTH BEND, Ind.—Thirteen oil firms have been indicted by a federal grand jury for allegedly conspiring to fix gasoline prices in the South Bend area in May 1957.

Named in the indictment were Standard Oil of Indiana, Socony-Mobil, Gulf Oil, Sun Oil, Texas Co., Ohio Oil, Phillips Petroleum, Shell, Cities Service, Central West Oil, Tornado Oil, Hudson and Pacer Oil.

REGION 8 Director E. T. Michael led the picket line at the adjoining Chevrolet-Fisher Body plants in Baltimore. All GM local strikes have now been settled.

In Maryland, Too

Labor Votes Indiana GOP Nearly Out of Existence

The landslide victory of labor-backed Democratic candidates in nearly every section of the country (see story on page one) was also reflected in the results from states in UAW Regions 3, 5 and 8. Here's a sampling of the magnitude of the Democratic party's victory on nearly all levels:

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana's working people, aroused by widespread unemployment, by Republican "blunder and bluster" in Washington, by state GOP scandals, by the GOP-sponsored "right to work" law and state administration refusal to allow SUB payments to jobless workers, answered the reactionaries and their attacks on the UAW and its leaders by giving them a thorough trouncing.

For example: R. Vance Hartke, Democratic candidate for Senator and present mayor of Evansville, slaughtered GOP Gov. Harold Handley. His margin (at Solidarity press time) approached 250,000—a fantastic figure in traditionally Republican Hoosierland.

Democrats also picked up at least six Congressional seats. Winners include John Brademas (South Bend), Edward Roush (Huntington), Fred Wampler (Terre Haute), Joseph Barr (Indianapolis), Earl Hogan (Columbus) and Randall S. Harmon (Muncie). Incumbent Democratic Reps. Ray J. Madden (Gary) and Winfield K. Denton (Evansville) were also re-elected.

Greatest surprise of all was Harmon's upset victory. A toolmaker in the Muncie Chevrolet transmission plant and member of UAW Local 499, Harmon had been given little chance to win by the political prognosticators. He was, in fact, hospitalized during much of the campaign period.

Indiana Democrats also won control of the lower house of the state legislature by wide margins. At press time, they appeared to hold 79 seats to the GOP's 21.

The Indianapolis Star, rabid anti-UAW paper, quoted GOP leaders here as saying that this means the state's "right to work" law will be repealed next year.

Handley, in fact, attributed his defeat to the strong position he took in favor of the "right to work" law four weeks before Election Day.

* * *

BALTIMORE—Democrats did well in Maryland, despite one heart-breaking loss attributed to an old intra-party feud.

While radio, TV and the nation's press highlighted Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro's defeat in the Senate race by the GOP incumbent, Democrats captured the entire state Congressional delegation, picking up two GOP seats.

Democrat John R. Foley beat GOP Rep. DeWitt S. Hyde and, in the biggest upset of all, Thomas F. Johnson beat veteran GOP Rep. Edward T. Miller, a champion vote getter. Dan Brewster won by a wide margin over his GOP opponent in the second district.

J. Millard Tawes won the governor's race by a two to one margin over his GOP opponent, and the Democrats also won the rest of the state ticket.

In the state legislature, Republicans were reduced to three seats in the senate and seven in the house.

Locally, labor-backed Democrats took the entire Baltimore county council, formerly controlled by the GOP.

In neighboring Delaware, labor-backed Harris McDowell won the Congressman-at-large race.

Impressive victories were also won in Missouri, Kansas, Colorado and Oklahoma, as labor went to the polls en masse to defeat GOP candidates. Only lack of space and early deadlines prevent detailed information on these races.

In Colorado, the "right to work" amendment was defeated by a margin of two to one, while in Kansas, labor took a loss when a similar amendment was passed by a margin of less than three to two, a result which had been anticipated.

GM Local Pact Details:

One Plant Invited Scabs

Here are further details on GM local settlements in Regions 3, 5 and 8 (see story on page one):

MALVERN, Ark.—Despite an attempt by the local management of the GM Fabricast plant here to take advantage of the state's "right to work" law, UAW Local 1140 successfully settled its local issues after a 10-day strike, reports William Kimberling, Region 5 subregional director in Arkansas.

Biggest issue was the wage inequity problem which existed in relation to the Bedford, Ind. Fabricast plant. This issue was resolved to the satisfaction of the local with the help of representatives of the UAW's national GM department.

When the strike began, management notified the local that it intended to keep the plant gates open for any employe "who wished to cross the picket line during the strike."

Needless to say, not one of the 300 striking workers heeded management's call to scab, despite the state's "right to work" law, of which GM was trying to take advantage, Kimberling reported.

Although it was the local's first strike experience, a militant picket line was maintained throughout. Kimberling paid special tribute to the local's women workers, who ran an efficient strike kitchen throughout the shutdown.

* * *

INDIANAPOLIS — Local issues in GM plants in Region 3 were about the same in each plant, reports Regional Director Ray Berndt, with seniority problems, shift preferences and equalization of hours heading the list.

Local managements' unusual stubborness may have been due to a mistaken company belief that the GM locals could be weakened or frightened by the state's new "right to work" law, according to GM department reps working in the region.

Last local in the region to settle was Local 23, the Chevrolet body plant here, where the membership ratified the agreement Oct. 24.

* * *

BALTIMORE — Aggressive bargaining committees, equipped with the facts and backed by solid membership support, hammered out outstanding local agreements with GM plants in Region 8, reports Regional Director E. T. Michael.

Chevrolet Local 678 here won substantial wage inequity increases in 22 classifications, improved shift preference and inventory provisions and concessions on protective clothing.

The pact was ratified by better than 10 to 1.

The Local 239, Fisher Body, agreement, is reported in the page one story.

Other agreements reported include:

● Local 435, Wilmington B-O-P: Elimination of the 50% wage rule — a worker whose job overlaps classifications will be paid at the higher rate; improved shift preferences; wage inequity raises for 311 workers in 16 classifications; pact ratified by better than 20 to 1.

● Local 34, Atlanta: Chevrolet assembly — wage inequity adjustments, parking lot improvements; grievance procedure improvements, etc. Chevrolet parts — gained their own seniority, shift preference and grievance procedures; wage inequity of Hi-Lo drivers eliminated. Fisher Body unit — a new and improved seniority pact; open-end shift transfer agreement; better relief provisions; equal pay for equal work for women; wage inequity increases; wash-up time and protective clothing.

● Local 10, Doraville, Ga. B-O-P: Elimination of 50% rule; wage inequity adjustments; grievance backlog cleared up.

A special regional team of reps, set up by Michael, coordinated the various local negotiations.

"The overwhelming region-wide vote for approval of these local settlements is a tribute to the hard, intelligent and dedicated work carried out by the officers and members of the respective bargaining committees," Michael said, pointing out that they had been backed up by solid support on the picket lines "from Delaware to Georgia."

Emphasizing the role teamwork played in these talks, Michael praised the assistance furnished by staff members of the union's national General Motors department, under the direction of UAW Vice President Leonard Woodcock.

UAW Members Win 2 Elections

BALTIMORE—Two veteran UAW members were elected in local Maryland races last week.

Joseph Schield, long-time member of GM Fisher Body Local 239 here, was re-elected to the county council on the Democratic ticket.

John Easterday, Local 842, Hagerstown, was elected county commissioner of Washington county on the Democratic ticket. He works at Fairchild.

'Controversy' Wasn't There

HOUSTON, Tex.—The second annual Texas AFL-CIO convention here adopted a strong civil rights resolution spelling out national AFL-CIO policy on the subject.

The resolution recommended legal action to prohibit discrimination in employment because of age, disability, religion, race or national origin. Although the local press had predicted that the resolution would be a source of "controversy" at the convention, it was passed with only a few scattered "no's."

Other resolutions called for:

● Abolition of the importation of Mexican farm labor, declaring that the 500,000 farm laborers who are brought into the United States are actually displacing U.S. workers rather than filling a need for labor.

● Establishment of minimum wage of $1.25 in the state.

● A corporate profits tax as the fairest way to raise state revenues with abolition of loop-holes in the present laws.

● Stepped-up political action and the placing of new emphasis on "organizing the unorganized."

The resolution regarding Mexican laborers charged that the "influx of braceros forces resident workers to migrate, disrupting their family lives and the education of their children and depressing their entire social-economic standard."

It called for the implementation at the earliest possible date of a five-state pact calling for "satisfactory working conditions and wages" for migrant workers. The report termed the pact "an excellent step in the right direction toward achieving mutual understanding."

UAW GALS IN DELAWARE help get out the vote—Supervising the work of volunteer workers Helen Feldman, Wanda Giamatteo and Hannah Krasowitz (seated, left to right) is Betty Doto (standing) of UAW Local 840, Wilmington. Betty is the full-time women's director for the state AFL-CIO's COPE.

Here It Is, GOP: Democracy Is Our S

Worker, Political Boss, Voter—In UAW They're

In nearly half the states, all across America from California to Connecticut, Republicans ran hard in this election against the "labor bosses" in general and most especially Walter P. Reuther.

According to GOP propaganda, these "labor bosses" dictated the choice of candidate bers behind them. It was all do through some mysterious combi and millions of dollars.

Most UAW members know be know best are the hundreds, rank-and-filers who have devot the hard, indispensible routine pay, and often without thanks.

Here, on these pages, is a pic litical action program REALL freely to the opposition, for it c

Our secret weapon is democ that.

IT ALL BEGINS with eager candidates (left above) seeking labor's endorsement sitting in an ante-room waiting to be interviewed by the district committee about their stand on various issues. But the wait isn't as uncomfortable as the interview itself (left) because these constituents aren't just satisfied with the answers a candidate gives when he fills out a questionnaire. His voting record, his vocal ability in debate and his intentions if elected are gone into—but thoroughly.

By GEORGE RYDER

The "political labor boss" the Republican party screamed so loud about in the campaign that just ended isn't quite as they pictured him.

If you're wondering what he's really like, look in your mirror.

He might look just like you—if you're the kind of a UAW member who takes enough interest in his country's future to get out and work at the drudgery of a political campaign.

For it is truly those who spend their free time ringing doorbells, handing out literature and talking about the issues with the voters who really determine the outcome of an election.

Why? Because they're the ones who get the voters to come to the polls and cast their ballots. And it is those ballots that are rung up on a machine or folded and put in the box that decide which candidates will win and which viewpoint will prevail in city, county, state and national government.

Organization's Needed

True, the doorbell-ringer has to be a part of an organization. So any political campaign is organized, and the way labor unions organize to get out the vote may seem complicated. But it isn't.

Naturally, in a general election such as last week, each Congressional district is organized as a separate unit.

Within each district, an effort is made to find two precinct workers—those are your doorbell ringers. Usually one of them is elected by the party. If the elected delegate isn't particularly interested in labor's viewpoint, then the union's political action department offers a member who'll work independently—but in cooperation with—the party's elected representative.

From seven to 10 precincts—it'll vary—are grouped into zones. Each zone has a chairman elected by the precinct workers themselves.

These 30 or so zone chairmen constitute the steering committee of the Congressional district organization. They're sort of its executive committee.

He's Elected, Too

Meetings of this committee—or of all the precinct workers

PRECINCT lists must be compiled, so electrician and pattern-maker spend off-hours going through city directory making one.

—are presided over by a district chairman, who—along with the district secretary—is elected at a meeting of the precinct workers.

You may also often have a district coordinator, someone who in a general way helps the chairman and the secretary supervise the day-to-day activities of the precinct workers.

In Michigan, for example, each Congressional district has two or more state senate or house of representatives districts within it.

So, as election time draws near, special steering committee meetings are called. At these meetings, steering committee members break up into their various state districts

NEXT STEP, once candidates have been chosen, is to organize precinct workers who'll have to carry the ball at the doorstep. Here (above) a district chairman makes assignments, hears reports.

and interview the candidates who have written asking for labor's endorsement.

These meetings may call for the committee members to spend a couple of evenings—very often for four or five hours at a stretch—to conduct the interviews and then gather together to assess the answers the candidates have given.

Call in Candidates

A few days later, there will be a meeting of the entire district's precinct workers to hear the steering committee's recommendations about which candidates to endorse.

If there is a division of opinion among steering committee members, the candidates themselves may be asked to appear before all the precinct workers to present their arguments for endorsement.

When the precinct workers have decided upon which candidates they want to endorse, these recommendations are sent to the county council's policy committee. Then to the council's executive board. Then to the eventual authority, the council's delegate body.

Altogether, it's a helluva obstacle course for any candidate who wants labor's endorsement.

But even before he goes through this coffee grinder, a candidate for the legislature in a state where UAW's politically active has to fill out a questionnaire.

When he gets it, his first reaction almost automatically is "Whew!" It's rigorous.

No Detail Too Small

Besides a fairly complete personal biography, the candidate's political history is run down in minute detail—other offices he's held or just any political experience of any kind at all that he's been exposed to.

Sample questions: "What experience have you had in connection with legislation? Have you ever acted as a lobbyist or as an interested person in behalf of any particular

legislation? Specifically, what did Was this legislation enacted? An result of your actions? Why are y legislature? What legislation are y

Then the questionnaire asks point social welfare and civil rights, labo tural-rural-urban economic develo election laws and legislative appor

THEN THERE ARE meetings, meetings Mrs. Jane Hart, wife of Sen.-elect P appears at one on behalf of her husb on the Democratic ticket.

of the legislature, recent legislative and the candidate's idea of how a l himself.

Sample questions: On taxes—"W state tax laws now in force? What any, would you advocate? Do you . . . sales tax . . . corporation prof

Questions Go

The questions on the other issues

His personal habits are not ab dolence (if he's an incumbent) du attendance at committee meetings sessions.

In Michigan, where legislative secret, the precinct workers egg stand on opening up the committe public scrutiny.

If the candidate survives this gau dorsement, what then are the prec do?

First of all, of course, they mus They must set up books listing the preferences of every voter in the p

What Are the

They must find out what issues to each citizen.

They even are expected to ferret

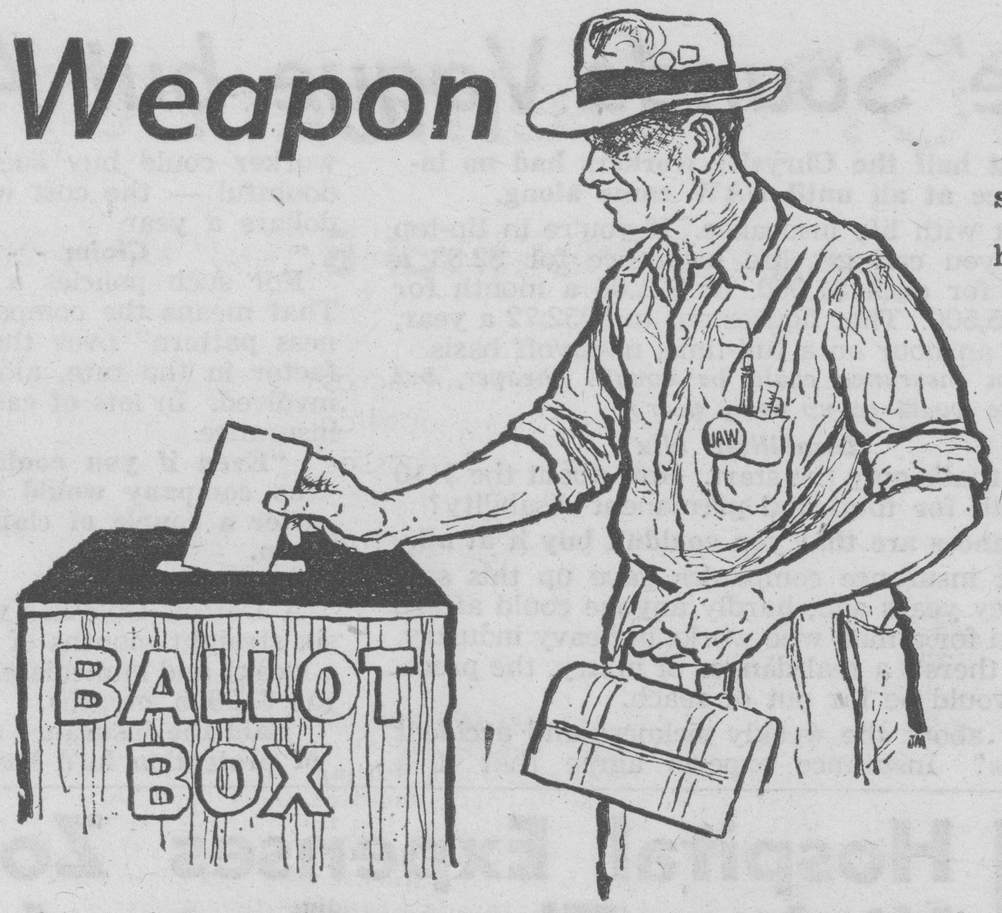
...r Secret Weapon

...hey're All YOU

...candidates and herded the mem-
...was all done, in this nightmare,
...ous combination of black magic
...s.

...s know better; and the ones who
...undreds, perhaps thousands, of
...ave devoted countless hours to
...e routine of politics — without
...t thanks.

...es, is a picture of how labor's po-
...n REALLY works. We reveal it
...n, for it cannot be stolen.
... is democracy. It's as simple as



hood gripes, and then apply a little community service—nagging the city for another street light on a dim corner near an elderly woman's home, or agitating for playground improvements in a neighborhood with a heavy population of children. They must show an interest in obtaining for the voter services in which the city may be negligent or deficient.

And, finally, they must show enthusiasm, interest and energy—or expect the PAC committee in their local to replace them.

Hub of activity, of course, is the district headquarters.

Usually, it's an empty store, rented for the few weeks before an election. Its windows are plastered with signs and its door is almost always open.

Here the precinct worker comes to get his literature, exchange information with his brother door-bell ringers, discuss the day's news and its effect upon issues and voter interests, make his reports, meet a candidate who may have sauntered in to find out how he's doing in the district—and, if there's any time left, get a cup of coffee.

Here neighborhood rallies are planned, set in motion and reported upon. Here trends in voter sympathy are discussed, dissected, analyzed and figured out. Techniques to arouse voter interest are traded. Here the precinct worker can find out what there is about a certain candidate that is causing uncertainty in the voter's mind.

Candidates Can Learn

Here, too, if he comes and talks to precinct workers, the candidate can get a first-hand report on his campaign. He can find out what he ought to talk about in his next rally speech. He can find out on which issues he must press harder.

If a political campaign generates fever, surely the district headquarters is the thermometer.

Finally, comes the day for which the precinct worker has given up his leisure, scuffed his shoes trudging the streets,

DURING campaign lots of literature must be mailed. So these girls spend hours checking addresses and typing envelopes.

calloused his finger ringing door bells, inked his hands passing out literature—the day for which he has talked, cajoled and pleaded.

Election day is here.

Activity is at a fever pitch. Arrangements are made to haul to the polls those who can't go or would neglect to go.

Finally the precinct worker himself does what he has so often urged the indifferent, uninformed or lazy citizen to do —he goes to vote himself.

HANDBILLS have to be passed out. Here father, son and playmate pick them up at party district office to be taken out to their precinct.

Cycle Completed

He steps into the booth, yanks the lever that closes the curtain and turns down the pegs for the candidates he knows will try to remedy the never-ending problems, social grievances and inadequate protections that nag and gnaw at an ever-changing society such as this country is.

By turning down the pegs for the candidates of his choice, the precinct worker completes the cycle. For in the final analysis, the worker, the politician, the voter are one and the same person.

He is truly on this day the "labor political boss."

FINALLY COMES ELECTION DAY and voters line up at their precinct polling place (below) to vote. It's important to know how to operate the voting machine, so watcher explains it to be sure ballot is properly cast. Machine keeps running compilation of votes to enable swift tabulation after polls close. P.S. We won.

, what did you do in behalf of this? acted? Anything else happen as a Why are you running for the state lation are you interested in?"

... asks pointed questions about taxes, ...ights, labor laws, industrial-agricul-...nic development, public education, ...ative apportionment, public conduct

...gs, meetings, meetings. Here (below) Sen.-elect Philip A. Hart of Michigan of her husband to push his candidacy

... legislative controversies in the state ... of how a legislator ought to conduct

... taxes—"What is your opinion of the ...rce? What changes in these laws, if ...e? Do you favor a state income tax ...ration profits tax?"

...estions Go On

...ther issues are equally pointed.

...are not above inquiry—perhaps in-...mbent) during crucial debate or lax ...e meetings during the legislature's

...legislative committee meetings are ...rkers egg candidates into taking a ...e committee meetings and votes to

...es this gauntlet and gets labor's en-...re the precinct workers supposed to

..., they must canvass their precincts. ... listing the voting habits and party ...er in the precinct.

... Are the Issues?

...hat issues are of particular concern

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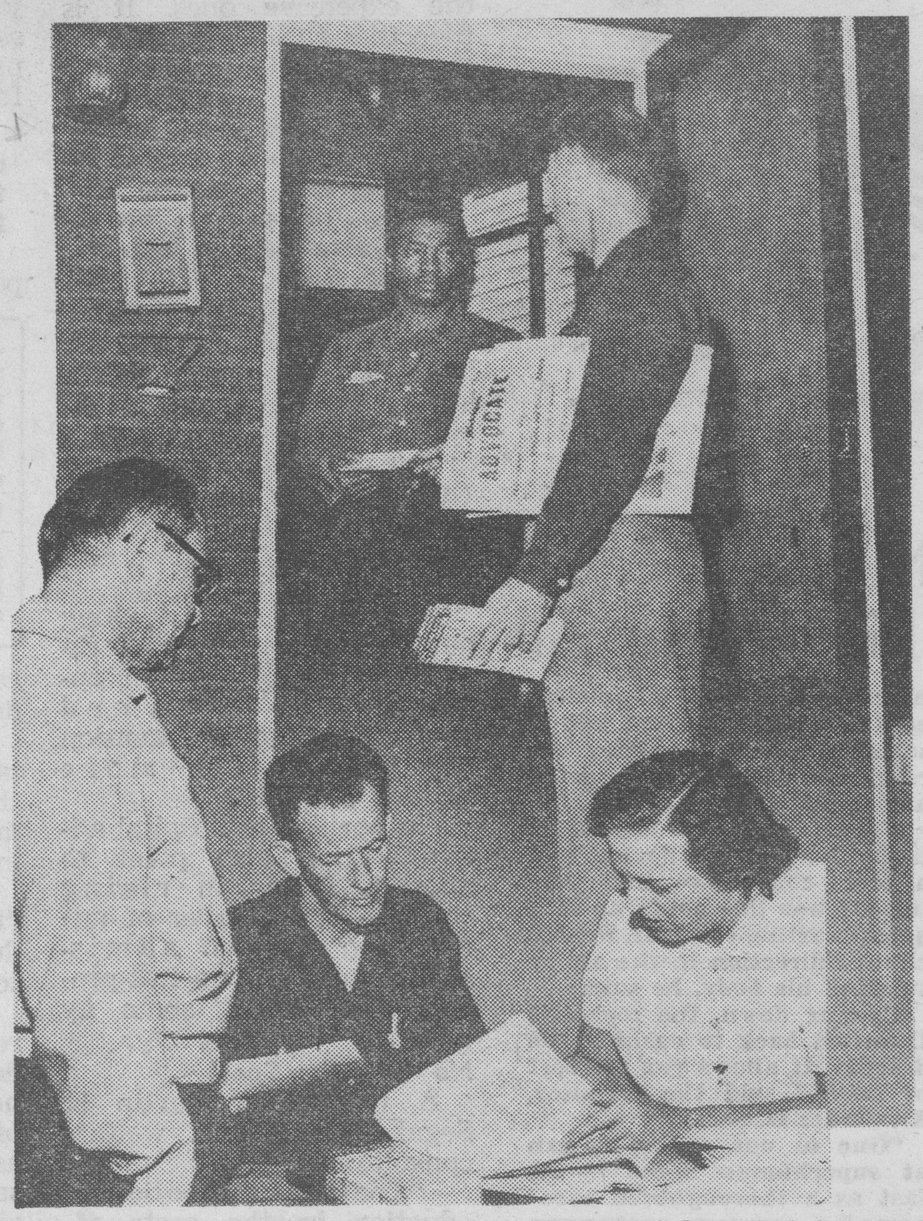


BACKBONE OF ANY CAMPAIGN, of course, is the guy who rings the doorbell, hands out the literature and gives the voter labor's viewpoint. This one (above) is Robert Ryan, Local 985 PAC chairman. After a day trudging from door to door, he reports his findings on voters' preferences to Charlene Cantalini, Local 681, who served as campaign secretary in Michigan's 15th district.

'Improved Insurance' Sounds Vague but Adds $$

In the daily papers it was only one line at most:

"Improvements in group insurance."

Only the UAW's own papers, including Solidarity, told what the new insurance provided for auto workers. And even in their stories the top billing went to SUB, pensions and the like.

Let's see what this neglected item means in dollars and cents.

The new insurance schedule provides, for a worker earning $2.50 an hour, $5,500 in life insurance; $110 a month in the event of total, permanent disability, and $55 a week if he's idled by sickness or accident. (The amounts vary according to hourly rates.)

Starting From Scratch

Suppose you're an average worker in, say, Chrysler; and you set out to provide this sort of protection for yourself.

You are 45 years old; and it's a 50-50 chance you're beginning from scratch, since almost half the Chrysler workers had no insurance at all until UAW came along.

Start with life insurance. If you're in tip-top shape you can get life insurance for $2.83 a month for each $1,000, or $21.06 a month for your $5,500. That figures out to $252.72 a year, or 12c an hour on a full-time, no-layoff basis.

(Term insurance could be bought cheaper, but the rate would go up every year.)

Disability? Nix

But that's only the start. How about the $110 a month for total and permanent disability?

Chances are that you couldn't buy it at all.

Most insurance companies gave up this sort of policy years ago; hardly anyone could afford it. And for a man who works in heavy industry, where there's a real danger of injury, the premiums would be far out of reach.

How about the weekly sickness and accident benefits? Insurance experts agree that if a worker could buy such protection — and it's doubtful — the cost would be "a few hundred dollars a year."

Claim - - and Cancel

For such policies a worker must "qualify." That means the company will examine his "illness pattern" over the years. That will be a factor in the rate, along with the kind of job involved. In lots of cases the verdict will be no insurance.

"Even if you could afford the premiums, the company would likely cancel the policy after a couple of claims," said one insurance man.

In contrast:

A Detroit Chrysler worker recently came off six straight months of sickness benefits (at $60 a week) and immediately went on total disability (at $120 a month).

Said the insurance man: "To buy that kind of protection he'd have to go without food."

Cardinal Mooney Dead; Friend of Workers, Poor

"The death of Edward Cardinal Mooney takes from our community a great, good man, a respected and revered spiritual leader and a dedicated and wise civic leader."

These were the words of UAW President Walter P. Reuther on the death of the cardinal, archbishop of Detroit and senior prelate of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States.

The cardinal became the first archbishop of Detroit in 1937 during the turbulent organizational period of the newly-formed CIO. At public meetings shortly after his coronation, the archbishop made clear that he favored organization of workers and spoke out strongly in favor of the social teachings of Pope Leo XIII.

"Without neglecting others," he said, "we must give special thought to the problems of the worker."

Later he instituted a series of projects aimed at helping the growing labor movement. Among these were classes for priests in the social teachings of the church and the Archdiocesan Labor Institute under which workers' classes were held in parliamentary law, public speaking and the social ideas of the popes.

Friend of Workers

Archbishop Mooney also put an end to the political activities of Father Coughlin, the anti-CIO, anti-Roosevelt priest whose broadcasts aroused violent national controversy during the late thirties. The archbishop required that all of Father Coughlin's public utterances be submitted to the archdiocese in advance for approval. Archbishop Mooney received almost unprecedented support from the Vatican when Pope Pius XI declared this ruling to be "just and timely."

He devoted his life to "God's work," which he clearly believed meant service to mankind. As Reuther said:

"People of all faiths and from every walk of life share deeply in this great loss to our community and to our nation."

Hospital Expenses Zooming Higher Than Cost of Living

Ever wondered what—if anything—has risen faster and higher than the cost of living?

There is something: the cost of going to the hospital.

Since 1946, hospital costs have soared 258%.

In that first postwar year, the average cost a day for a patient was $9.39.

By 1954 it had leaped to $21.67.

Last year it was up around $25.

By the end of this year it'll be still higher.

And More to Come

In 1956 expenses for the country's 6,966 hospitals topped $6 billion. All the figures for 1957 aren't available yet, but it's estimated by authorities the figure will be $7 billion.

What's more, the same experts don't think the climb will stop. They think it'll continue to zoom, possibly at the rate of 5% to 10% a year.

Why?

Aside from the general inflation that began when price controls were removed in 1946, there are several reasons for the high cost of hospitalization.

For one thing, hospital admissions have increased 41% in the last 12 years. In 1957 alone, 22,089,719 persons were admitted for treatment.

Costly Progress

More admissions mean higher costs, for the early days of hospitalization are the expensive ones. It is then that the most intensive care, specialized medication and nursing attention are required.

Strange but true, the medical and scientific advances of recent years have also been a contributing factor toward towering hospital costs.

Forward-looking hospitals have been forced, regardless of cost, to improve laboratory techniques, install more complex machinery (high-voltage radiation used in cancer therapy is an example) and stock up on new —and expensive—drugs.

Advances in heart, lung and kidney surgery have required changes in both operating room layouts and equipment, not to mention the necessity for more trained personnel.

Authorities in hospital administration also point to another factor in rising costs — the number of unnecessary hospital admissions and the useless-prolonged stays of some by patients.

No 'Vacation Spot'

A report by Martin E. Segal & Co. Inc., welfare consultants, stated:

"The most dramatic reduction in the costs of hospitals will come from the elimination of unnecessary length of hospital stays."

The Segal report said the medical profession will have to take a good share of the responsibility if this step is to be achieved.

For it is physicians who arrange for admittance, determine the length of stay and order discharges.

Unfortunately, some physicians admit patients for the simple reason that it is easier to treat a larger number in one place.

Others admit patients early in order to reserve operating rooms.

Still others persist in keeping patients in the hospital long after critical phases of illness are past and the person could just as well be treated at home or in a nursing home.

Wages Aren't Key

This boosts hospital costs, not to mention such side considerations as keeping a breadwinner away from the job longer than necessary, separating children from parents and keeping wives from their families.

The Segal report did not consider increased hospital wages quite the baleful factor some have insisted.

For one thing, the report pointed out, more service is required in a hospital nowadays.

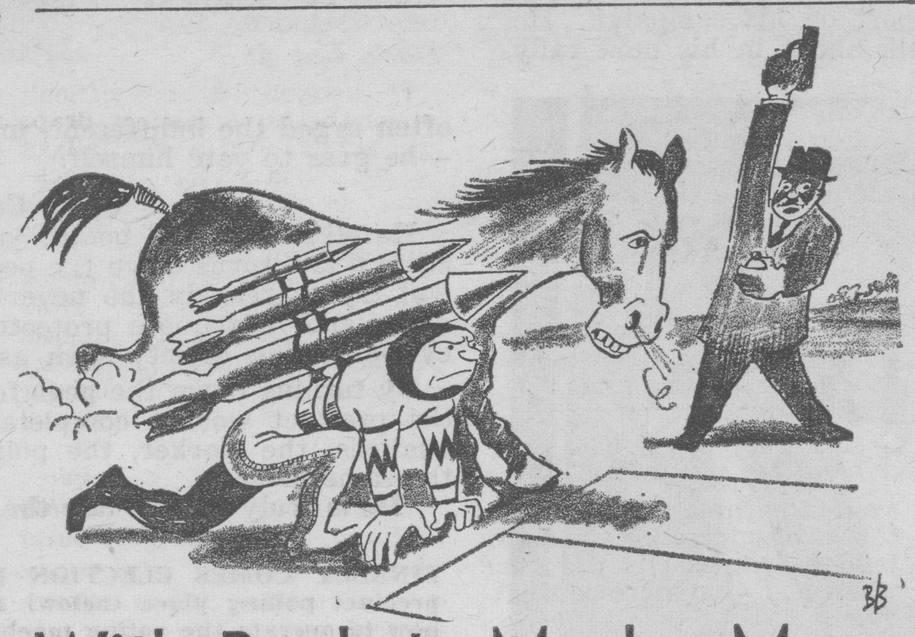
For another, while hospital wages have gone up, they still lag behind pay in manufacturing and service industries.

In fact, the report said, "to compete with private industry, hospitals will have to pay higher wages.

"What can be done?" the report continued. "A great deal, but cutting wages of hospital employes is not one of them . . . For hospitals, as for other employers, low salary rates may be expensive in terms of efficiency and productivity—and service.

"Hospitals need a high percentage of professional and technical employes, and they must pay to get and keep them."

(This is another in a series of articles dealing with developments in the field of medicine, which Solidarity hopes will increase UAW members' understanding of the possible ways through which Americans could be provided with the medical care they need at a price they can afford.)



With Rockets Maybe Man Can Become a Bird After All

DENVILLE, N. J.—Ever since Icarus (according to an old Greek myth, anyway) flew too near the sun and melted a pair of wings his daddy made for him and plunged into the sea, man has tried unsuccessfully to fly with the freedom of a bird.

Maybe, at long last, he's got it made.

Here in this New Jersey town of 3,500, a man strapped a rocket on his back and took off — like Buck Rogers, or Superman, or Mighty Mouse. Only this time, it was for real.

"It's the greatest sensation there is, It's just like being a big bird. You're up there all alone."

That's what Edward C. Kurszewski, test pilot who may be the first man in history to make an ancient dream come true, said about it.

The device was developed by Reaction Motors, Inc., manufacturers of rocket motors here. It consists of cannisters containing rocket fuel and a somewhat complex piping arrangement roughly as wide as a man's back.

Kurczewski, who has made many tests of the device, told a press conference that taking-off was like going up in a quick-starting elevator. He can change direction in the air by twisting his body, he said.

Coming down, the rocket is throttled back to cushion the descent. It allows you to "sort of settle," said the inventor, Alexander H. Bohr.

"One of our engineers ran at superhuman speed — as fast as a thoroughbred racehorse," a company spokesman said.

Don't rush out to buy one—they're not on the market yet. The Defense Department is said to be interested and watching development of the device for possible application to military problems.

THIS TECHNICAL SECRETARY takes her dictation book right to the drafting table.

Science Plus Shorthand Adds Up to a Good Job

"Miss Jones, bring your dictation book to the missile launching pad."

It's not as far fetched as it seems. There's a good future ahead for young women who can read a blue print or a chemical formula, as well as type a letter.

With the U.S. galloping into the inter-space age, there is as desperate a need for scientifically-trained secretaries as there is for scientists.

Research Is Suffering

For too many of the engineers and scientists responsible for getting a rocket to the moon are being bogged down by having to shuffle papers or to attend to administrative detail. Vital research is suffering.

As one harassed government official growled about his important but hamstrung department, "we've got enough engineers to beat the Russians, if they only had enough time to do some engineering."

The problem is not particularly new, as many an old engineer will testify. But the recent developments in science, plus the Russians' head start in so many phases of its practical application, have made the need even more pressing. Business men—and the government—are getting worried and willing to hire trained, competent help for their handcuffed engineers.

A girl—or for that matter, a boy—when entering high school or business college might give serious consideration to combining science with commercial courses—math and chemistry or drafting, as well as typing, shorthand and handling office equipment.

A crash program called TESTS (Technical-Engineering-Scientific Training for Secretaries) has been set up. It's a special two-year diploma course offered by the leading independent business colleges.

Here's the Course

The course outlined by TESTS calls for 90 semester hours broken down this way: shorthand and dictation, 18 hours; typing, 8; English, 3; office machines, 3; filing and indexing, engineering/science shorthand and dictation, 10; drafting, 5; science, 10; advanced machines, 3; statistical typing, 3; electives (more science, office practice, accounting, etc.), 12.

Further information on TESTS can be obtained by writing to TESTS, Dupont Circle Building, Washington 6, D.C.

You and the Outdoors:

Dressing Deer Is Messy Job So Squeamish Shouldn't Hunt

Dressing a deer is messy business, but unless you're willing and able to do it right you'd be better off shooting at old tin cans. Here are detailed instructions from Solidarity's outdoors expert.

* * *

Deer meat is choice fare if it is properly taken care of. Strong-flavored venison is the result of handling the carcass carelessly after the kill.

Dressing should be started soon after the kill—immediately, if possible.

FRED GOETZ Says:

Bleeding may be unnecessary in some cases, since natural hemorrhage will usually drain the circulatory system. However, you may wish to bleed a head or spine shot.

Sticking (see sketch No. 1) rather than cutting the throat is recommended if you're going to bleed the carcass. With the animal's head downhill, insert the knife blade at the point of the brisket and cut toward the backbone, severing the large blood vessels leading from the heart (sketch No. 2).

Remove the entrails without delay (sketch No. 3). Proceed by wedging the carcass on its back away from blood and other debris.

Careful, Now!

To protect against transferring secretions to the hands, remove both musk glands from each hind leg. Be certain to wash or wipe the knife and hands immediately after this operation.

Skin the genital organs of the bucks away from contact with the meat to prevent contamination in case the bladder is pressed during dressing. Open the skin from the jaw to the vent, cutting from the underside rather than downward through the hair. Use the fingertips to press the intestines away from the knife point as the abdominal lining is cut.

Lay the rib cage open by cutting to one side of the center-line. Free the pelvic organs by encircling the vent, being careful not to puncture the bladder.

Roll the deer on its side, with the opening you have made facing downhill. Cut the windpipe and gullet below the chin; grasp the ends with one hand, and pull. As the organs are removed, cut the diaphragm and other attachments along the backbone. If encircled properly, the bladder, lower bowel and genital organs can be pulled into the body cavity and removed intact with the remainder of the intestines.

Want a Trophy?

The heart and liver can be salvaged as tasty additions to the camp fare.

If the head is to be saved for a trophy, preserve the cape in as clean a condition as possible. Do not stick the deer or cut the skin of the neck or chest. Open the abdomen back of the ribs and remove the intestines. Then skin out the cape and head before dressing is completed.

Moisture brings on meat spoilage. With the entrails removed, lift the front of the carcass to drain away any blood. Wipe all remaining moisture with cheesecloth. Trim away bits of flesh, bloodshot tissue and like material from the body cavity and around the bullet holes. Exposing the opened carcass to sunlight and air for a brief period will assist in drying.

Rapid cooling to remove body heat is necessary. Hang the carcass in the shade and prop apart with sticks (sketch No. 4).

Skinning will speed the cooling process and is recommended when possible. Then you're ready for quartering if you like (sketch No. 5).

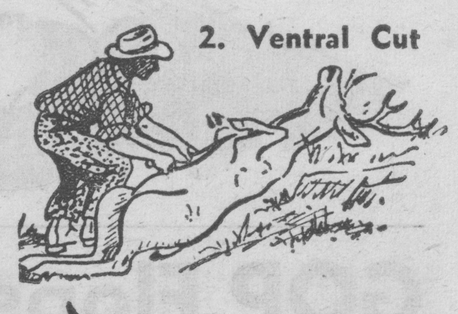
Don't Get Shot

If hanging is too difficult under the circumstances, drape the animal over a windfall, or wedge limbs under the backbone, or prop the animal in arrangement to permit free circulation of air.

A good material for protecting the hanging meat from birds or insects is cheesecloth. A deer bag made of similar material can be purchased for less than $2 at any sporting goods store.

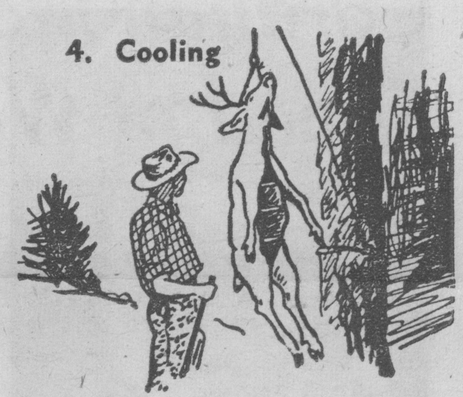
(To digress slightly, never drag a deer if you can possibly avoid it. Dirty, bruised meat generally results. Carry the animal whole or in sections, whichever is practical. But take precautions, if you're carrying an unskinned animal or portion thereof, to avoid being mistaken for a deer. Take along some goodly portions of brightly-colored cloth to cover what you are packing.)

1. Sticking



2. Ventral Cut

3. Removing Entrails



4. Cooling

5. Skinning and Quartering

Deer can be preserved in camp for several days, even in parts of the country where the weather is a bit on the warm side. Nights are generally cool during the hunting season, so hang the meat at night to cool and glaze. Keep the meat in a shady spot during the day, covered with blankets or sleeping bags to keep the cold in.

An early morning start on the home-bound trip will find the meat cool and in the best possible condition to travel. **Do not display the animal on the hood or top of the car, uncovered.** Stow it in a cool, protected spot if possible, and again insulate the carcass with sleeping bags or blankets.

Good luck to ya'.

Tain't So! Pay Hikes Don't Boost Prices

By SIDNEY MARGOLIUS

Constant repetition by businessmen and some government officials and newspapers of the claim that wage increases are responsible for today's high living costs has led the public generally to assume this is true.

One of the most damaging results of the success of businessmen in maneuvering labor into the whipping-boy role in the public's eyes, is that it has enabled them to raise prices with increasing boldness.

But now the propaganda is beginning to boomerang. Labor unions are vigorously counter-attacking the phony claim, and federal and state authorities are beginning to examine price boosts more closely.

Just Too Brazen

Recently when five major bread companies all on the same week increased the price of a standard loaf by the same 1½c at wholesale and 2c at retail, New York state authorities started an investigation. The bread companies were a little too brazen for the boost to pass unnoticed.

Over and over, we've reported union-made and union-sold goods in general cost no more than non-union goods made by cheaper labor. Our surveys have found that union goods sometimes cost even less, that union-made products tend to be better quality as shown by tests of independent laboratories and that living costs in low-wage, largely non-unionized areas such as the south are often as high as in unionized cities in the north.

The proof is in the prices. Union-made cigarettes cost no more than non-union Camels. Or take men's hats. Two of the lowest-priced standard-quality men's hats (Adams and Young's) generally considered by trade experts to be outstanding values, are union-made even though their price tags generally are much lower than other brands.

In a new investigation of the effect of wages on prices, especially on the present high cost of food, we find there is really little or no relation between wage increases and recent price increases.

In the first four months of 1958, when the wholesale food price index went up 2% and retail food prices rose 3%, average earnings of workers in the food-processing industry remained at exactly the same $2 an hour—no increase whatever.

Going back to the beginning of 1957, food-processing workers' earnings went up 4% while retail food prices jumped 8% and wholesale prices 7%.

Nor does this simple comparison even take into account the increase in productivity, which holds down unit labor costs—the actual labor cost of manufacturing and selling goods. In the supermarket industry, for example, productivity increased from 1950 to 1957 at an average rate of 5% a year.

Wages Lag, Prices Soar

In industry as a whole, reports Solomon Barkin, research director of the Textile Workers Union of America, output per man-hour rose 40% from 1947 to 1956, compared to an increase in real hourly earnings of 32%.

In other words, the record shows that real wages did not keep up with the increase in productivity, while prices have gone up faster than the increase in labor costs.

Utter and Gruden At Safety Meet

CHICAGO—A three-day discussion on ways and means to improve safety on the job was held by the labor conference of the National Safety Council here.

The conference paid special tribute to Ned H. Dearborn, retiring president of the NSC, for his leadership in bringing the trade union movement into the council.

Lloyd Utter, UAW safety director, served as chairman of the labor conference during the last year. John Gruden, Local 600 safety director, was among the participants at the meeting here.

Utter was also awarded a plaque for his work as chairman.

Syncopated Pickets

MILWAUKEE—Instructors at the Arthur dance studio here put a new wrinkle into the ancient craft of picketing. About 20 of the striking dance teachers picketed in a hip-swinging, foot-kicking conga line to call attention to their grievances against the studio management.

GOP Flops, Dems In

Continued from Page 1

glomerations of big money and small minds in history.

The election is now a fact. The question remains, what will the Democrats do with this unprecedented off-year majority?

There are almost enough northern Democratic votes to be a majority in the Senate, and more than enough in the House. How will these votes be used?

DID SHE GUESS? This photo of Mamie Eisenhower, the President's wife, emerging from the polling-booth suggests she was prepared for the election results.

Contrary to the reactionaries' nightmares, no one in the labor movement expects these votes to be a "labor bloc." Like Tuesday's other voters, union members expect their representatives in Congress to vote for the welfare of all the people. And the record suggests they will do just that.

A most appealing side of the results has to do with those Republicans who won. With a very few exceptions, primarily Sen. Barry M. Goldwater in Arizona, the GOP survivors—whether in New York or Oregon—were those closest to the Democrats on issues and in principle.

How now, David Lawrence?

Who Needs One?

"The last three Presidents each taught us something—Franklin Roosevelt that one man could be President indefinitely; Truman that anybody can be President, and Eisenhower that we can get along without having any President."

—TRB in the New Republic magazine.

Solving Those 'Local Issues' Makes GM Contract Historic

Continued from Page 1

campaign by the automotive Big Three to cut down the union.

Settled in local negotiations were thousands of issues involving seniority, wage differentials, reclassifications, shift preferences and hundreds of other problems.

At the same time thousands of grievances which had arisen since the contract expired May 30 were settled, many of them involving handsome back pay awards.

Other local gains, while not appearing to be spectacular are of vital importance to the workers involved. Among these are clothing provisions, parking lots, vending machines, improved wash rooms, clean up time and tool allowances.

These are among the local demands which newspapers attempted to brush aside as "frivolous."

None of the local gains came easy. With the settlement of national issues after a 10-hour strike, all GM locals unions had to hit the bricks to back up their demands. The settlement expressly stipulated that the locals were to vote on ratification of the national settlement by Oct. 20 but could continue their strikes for local gains until they had a satisfactory contract.

Local union bargaining committees, which had sought vainly since early spring to discuss demands with the local management, plunged into the task.

POT-HOLES are eloquent proof that issues like the condition of parking lots—which daily papers scoffed at as "frivolous"—are no joke to workers whose springs and axles are at stake. This one, at Fisher Body, Baltimore, was a sore point with Local 239. Company has agreed to pave it.

Also to be decided was the problem of how to distribute the wage inequities fund won in national bargaining.

An example of the settlements was that by Local 239, Fisher Body in Baltimore. There local union officers and regional and national UAW GM representatives hammered out an agreement which was approved by their membership 1,200 to one.

The settlement covered:

- Wage adjustment of 2c to 10c an hour in 27 job classifications. This brought raises to nearly one-third of the 1,500 workers in the plant.
- Washup time of 12 minutes for certain dirty jobs.
- Management agreement to replace all personal hand tools without charge.
- Guarantee that line speeds would not be increased to make up for breakdowns or line stoppages.
- Improved language concerning relief.
- Promise to pave workers' parking lot.
- New shift preference agreement.
- 160 grievances settled.

In Flint, home of Chevrolet and Buick, a long list of sought-for contract changes was achieved. At Local 659, Chevrolet Manufacturing plant, transfer rights according to seniority were won for workers within their equalization group. The agreement will help overcome the company's indiscriminate shuffling of workers. Local also won right of older workers to fill inspection jobs, giving older workers a chance to get off tough or dirty jobs. The local also settled 275 grievances.

In the Grand Rapids area, GM workers in the two Fisher body plants and the Diesel plant won elimination of wage differences which had existed in their plants since they became part of the GM set-up. Skilled trades rates at the Fisher plants were also adjusted to the Flint and Detroit scales.

These are but a few of the many important items locals found by experience over the last three years had to be nailed down in the contract—a contract which all GM workers found during the three months they worked without its full protection to be a very vital part of their working lives.

Public 'Seat' at Table Hailed in Auto Pacts

UAW-Big Three negotiations this year may have set a pattern for future bargaining—with the American public sitting front and center at the bargaining table.

The UAW hopes so, UAW President Walter P. Reuther told the Aircraft Club of Detroit.

Reflecting on six months of bargaining, Reuther made these points:

- It's simple to negotiate when the economic climate is favorable, when sales are high and employment is high. The test comes with adversity.
- Unemployment, mounting right along with inflation, gave every American home a stake in negotiations.
- Economic justice at the bargaining table is incomplete if it's confined to the participants with the public left to pay the price.
- Final agreements passed the acid test of public responsibility.

Economists Agree

Leading economists across the land joined John S. Bugas, Ford vice president, and Frederick G. Donner, GM board chairman, in calling the UAW settlement non-inflationary as well as just to the workers and stockholders.

"The UAW went into negotiations more determined than ever to meet its wide range of responsibilities," Reuther said. The union tried for months to find a formula for bargaining in an area that was non-inflationary yet contained the answers to economic problems at a time when the economy was souring, he went on.

The formula, found first in negotiations with Ford, served in UAW negotiations on behalf of hundreds of thousands of other UAW members, he noted.

Responsible collective bargaining—aimed at solving critical human problems as they arise—fits neatly into the health-building course America must undergo in order to fit itself to meet its world obligations, Reuther said. Political and social morality, he added, must go hand in hand with economic morality if America is to lead the world in the direction of peace with plenty.

Cost: $11 Million

More than $11 million in strike benefits have been paid out to GM workers during the strikes over local issues, UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey announced. The funds were distributed in accordance with the procedure set by the UAW special convention last January.

International strike assistance began to local strike kitchens the first day of the strikes; individual assistance began Oct. 16 and continued until the workers drew their first pay.

A complete story of the UAW strike assistance program will be carried later in Solidarity.

Bosses in Politics:

No-Nox Packs No PAC Pep

Gulf Oil Corp. attracted some pre-election attention with an official announcement of its intention to enter the political arena. (No one mentioned that Gulf officials had for years been big contributors to Republican campaigns.)

The announcement, in the form of a letter to workers and stockholders by Archie D. Gray, senior vice president, left no doubt about the company's target. It quickly offered a long quotation from Rep. Ralph W. Gwinn (R., N.Y.), a veteran union-hater who is retiring this year.

"Union leaders get men elected who agree with them and thereby force government into improper activities," said Gwinn.

Then Gray took over. Until Gulf's political program gets fully organized, he said, individuals should contribute money and effort to "the party of our choice." But lest this tiny gesture toward bipartisanship should be taken seriously, he quickly went on:

"If our free, competitive institutions are to be preserved from destruction by the unholy combination of predatory gangsterism and crackpot socialism that is thriving and expanding under labor's Congressional benevolence, then business has no choice."

And he calls his gasoline No-Nox!

* * *

Convair, a major aircraft firm, was accused by the International Association of Machinists of using its mailing-list to send out Joseph P. Kamp's hate-Reuther literature (Solidarity, Sept. 22).

Not so, said the company; it just loaned the list to the Convair Pomona Management Club, "just as we do for club announcements."

That, of course, makes everything clubby.

* * *

Businessmen who coughed up money for another hate artist, Edward A. Rumely (Solidarity, Oct. 27), are in for an expensive surprise. Rumely told potential suckers that contributions to his Constitution and Free Enterprise Foundation would be tax exempt, and gifts to his Committee for Constitutional Government could be deducted as a business expense.

Not so, said the Internal Revenue Service. The service has moved to revoke the previous exempt status of the foundation. As for the committee:

"I don't see how they can get a business deduction for that (the anti-Reuther ad)," said O. Gordon Delk, acting internal revenue commissioner.

* * *

Pitching in on the drive for "right to work" laws was—surprise!—the Kohler Co., now in its fifth year of fighting off the UAW. A letter to other employers, signed by L. C. Conger, Kohler's labor "expert," pleaded for a "special fund" of $50,000 to support the work of Clarence E. Manion. Manion, a professor, once held a post with the Eisenhower administration but was fired because he was too reactionary even for the GOP.