

The United Automobile Worker

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

VOL. 14, NO. 5

MAY, 1950



Chrysler Strike Won! Workers Ratify Pact

Details on Pages Two, Three, Four and Five



REPORT ON STRIKE VICTORY!

The letter on this page was sent immediately to all Chrysler workers when a settlement was reached. The letter tells the real story of the bitter fight with Chrysler. It contains the major points in the new agreement, and is therefore of importance to all members of the UAW-CIO. Further details of the Chrysler workers' victory over a stubborn and arrogant corporation appear on following pages in this issue of the *United Automobile Worker*.

To All Chrysler Workers

GREETINGS:

We salute you and your fellow workers on your victory over the blind selfishness of the Chrysler Corporation. The courage, solidarity and determination of the Chrysler workers has at last compelled the Chrysler Corporation to grant your reasonable and just demands.

It is most unfortunate that the Chrysler Corporation forced its workers and their families to undergo the hardships of a long and costly strike before the Chrysler Corporation was willing to give the Chrysler workers the economic and contract concessions that other companies granted their workers without forcing them to strike.

Despite the 1949 record profits of \$213 million, the Chrysler Corporation was unwilling to grant its workers the same reasonable demands which other companies granted their workers. It is nothing short of tragic that the Chrysler Corporation, while making a profit of more than \$2,000 per employee, lacked the simple, common decency to share these profits with their workers without forcing them to undergo the hardships of a long strike.

Fully mindful of the sacrifice and hardship of a long strike, your Union and your National Negotiating Committee did everything humanly possible to avoid the Chrysler strike. During more than six months of negotiations before the strike began, the Company refused to make any concessions whatsoever and refused to meet any of the reasonable demands of the Chrysler workers. The Corporation rejected two different arbitration proposals advanced by the Union. The Union insisted throughout the strike that the issues in dispute had to be settled on the basis of fairness and on the basis of the facts. The Corporation, however, preferred to hide behind its million dollar propaganda campaign of unfounded charges spread over full-page ads in the daily press.

In view of the unreasonable attitude of the Chrysler Corporation, Chrysler workers had the choice of surrendering to the Corporation's blind selfishness and arrogance or of standing up and fighting for their just demands. It is to the eternal credit and honor of the Chrysler workers that they had the courage and the will to stand up and fight for justice and fair play despite the tremendous odds and sacrifices involved in a strike of this duration.

The price of human progress, like the price of freedom, has always been high. Throughout history, working people have won greater security, greater happiness and a greater sense of human dignity only through their common effort and their common sacrifice. The blind forces of privilege and greed have blocked every step along the road of human progress. Powerful corporations like Chrysler continue to put property rights above human rights and to compel their workers to fight and sacrifice for every little gain which they win for themselves and their families.

The Chrysler strike was more than a fight for pensions, hospital-medical, and insurance benefits and a better contract. The Chrysler strike was a part of a great human crusade to build a better tomorrow and a better world—a world in which we and our children can have a little more of the good things in life, a little more security and a little more happiness. In their strike victory, Chrysler workers have made an important contribution to the building of a better and more secure tomorrow. Chrysler workers have made an investment that will, in the long run, pay large dividends to themselves and their families in terms of security and happiness.

No amount of Corporation propaganda can hide the simple fact that the Chrysler Corporation forced the strike upon the Chrysler workers and their Union because Chrysler refused to grant the 10 cents economic pattern for pensions, hospital-medical and insurance benefits. The full responsibility for the strike rests squarely upon the Chrysler Corporation's shoulders because Chrysler refused to grant the same economic concessions and refused to agree to the same prin-

ciples which were granted and agreed to by Chrysler competitors. The Chrysler Corporation forced its workers to win their just demands through a hard and costly strike.

Chrysler's first pension and insurance proposal represented a total economic concession of approximately 3½ cents per hour. The Company stubbornly held fast to this 3½ cents per hour package during the long weeks of the strike. The final pension, hospital-medical and insurance package won by the Chrysler workers represents the full 10 cents economic concession which the Union had demanded from the start.

The Chrysler Corporation carried on a continuous propaganda campaign in which it charged that the Union was stalling on a strike settlement. The Company made reference to a magic date, inferring that the Union would not settle the strike until it had collected all of the strike assessment. This campaign of unfounded charges was an obvious attempt on the part of the Company to cover up its refusal to agree to the reasonable and just demands of the Chrysler workers.

No amount of Chrysler propaganda can change the fact that the strike would not have been necessary had the Chrysler Corporation been willing to meet the economic and contract pattern agreed to by Chrysler competitors. No amount of Chrysler Corporation propaganda can change the fact that the strike was not settled because Chrysler held out in its refusal to meet the economic and contract pattern accepted and agreed to by Chrysler competitors. No amount of Chrysler Corporation propaganda can change the fact that it took the Chrysler Corporation 82 days of strike action before Chrysler agreed to the sound Pension Trust Fund such as was agreed to by Ford, Nash, Budd Manufacturing, Kaiser-Frazer and other Chrysler competitors without a strike.

As you check the important demands won by your Union listed on the following pages, you will note that most of the demands were won near the end of the strike, and many of the demands were won during the very last days of the strike.

In addition to the 10 cents economic package for pensions, hospital-medical and insurance benefits, the Union won additional economic concessions, including elimination of wage inequities in 45 job classifications covering thousands of workers, reduction of area wage differentials, wage increases for parts plants and increased vacation pay.

Listed on the following pages are the pension, hospital-medical and insurance benefits, and other important contract gains won in the new Chrysler contract. Your National Negotiating Committee congratulates you and your fellow workers on your courageous devotion to the cause of justice and humanity during the strike.

We are confident that the splendid solidarity demonstrated by the Chrysler workers in their determination to win their just and reasonable demands will have taught the Chrysler Corporation a much-needed lesson, and we trust that in the future the Corporation will be more willing to grant its workers a fuller measure of economic justice without again forcing them into strike action.

The Chrysler Corporation must be made to realize that industrial peace in a society of free men is possible only if great corporations accept their moral and economic responsibility and are prepared to give their workers the things to which they are rightfully entitled.

Your National Negotiating Committee and International Officers unanimously recommend the new contract. We urge you to study the provisions of the new contract and the outstanding gains that you have won.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR VICTORY AND ON A JOB WELL DONE.

Norman Matthews

NORMAN MATTHEWS, Director,
National Chrysler Department, UAW-CIO.

EDWIN BARTTELBORT, Local 3
JOSEPH HATLEY, Local 7
WILSON T. KUCK, Local 47
WILLIAM GERBE, Local 51
RAYMOND TRAVNIK, Local 140
EDWARD GRANT, Local 227
JOHN ALLARD, Local 230
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THOMAS STAATS, Local 404

Walter P. Reuther

WALTER P. REUTHER, President,
International Union, UAW-CIO.

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WALTER ROOD, Local 961
FRED JOHNSTON, Local 889
MILT FERGUSON, Local 954

MEMBERS, NATIONAL CHRYSLER NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

Chrysler Strike Victory Hailed; Workers Vote Contract Approval



—Acme Photo

Press and radio were on hand as President Walter P. Reuther and Chrysler Director Norman Matthews (center) emerge from the final meeting of the UAW-CIO National Chrysler Negotiating Committee that voted to recommend approval of the new contract. At left, Frank Winn, UAW Public Relations Director, tells reporters of the committee's action as a radio announcer, at right, tries to get Winn's attention and bring him to a portable microphone.

UAW Led Way in Sound Industry Pension Plans

The UAW-CIO pioneered in winning pensions for Ford workers. The Ford pension agreement was not only the first pension plan won through collective bargaining in any mass-production industry, but it was also the first pension plan negotiated in which the three basic principles necessary to a sound pension plan were established.

The three basic principles are:

1. Non-contributory plan (Company to pay entire cost of pension).
2. Pension payments guaranteed by an actuarially sound Pension Trust Fund into which the Company is required to make payments to cover the cost of past as well as future service credits for all workers.
2. Joint Board of Administration to administer the plan, with equal representation from both the Union and the Company.

A week after the Ford agreement had established the above three basic principles, 500,000 Steelworkers were forced to strike in order to win the non-contributory principle in their pension agreements.

Since winning the Ford pension agreement, the UAW-CIO has fought hard to apply the 10 cents economic pattern for pensions, hospital-medical and insurance benefits, and to establish the three basic principles in all of our pension agreements. In the Ford, Nash, Kaiser-Frazer, Budd Manufacturing, and now in the Chrysler agreement, the UAW has again won both the 10-cent economic pattern as well as the establishment of the three basic principles.

In fighting for the 10 cents economic pattern we have insisted from the very beginning that the Chrysler workers should have a better pension, hospital-medical and insurance program for the 10 cents than was won for the Ford workers. A better program with greater benefits is possible in Chrysler because Ford workers as an over-all age group are much older than Chrysler workers.

In the Ford MotorComp any, there are over 13,000 workers past 60 years of age.

pensions and 1¼ cents for hospital-medical insurance.

At Nash, we spend 7.4 cents for pensions and 2.6 cents for hospital-medical insurance.

At Chrysler, we spend seven cents for pensions and three cents for hospital-medical insurance.

Seven cents per hour spent for pension benefits in Chrysler gives Chrysler workers a far better pension plan than the Ford pension plan because Chrysler workers are far younger than the Ford workers. Since Chrysler workers are slightly younger on the average than Nash workers, the Chrysler pension plan compares favorably with the Nash pension plan, and in a few particulars represents an improvement.

Since in the Chrysler agreement a larger portion of the 10-cent package is being spent for hospital-medical and insurance benefits, such benefits in Chrysler are greater than the benefits won by the Nash and Ford workers.

In Chrysler, there are approximately 3,500 workers past 60 years of age.

Because of the larger group of older workers in Ford, it was necessary to spend 8¼ cents of the 10-cent pattern for pensions, leaving only 1¼ cents for insurance benefits. The age and seniority composition of the working force of a company is the most important factor in determining the cost of pension plans.

At Ford, we spend 8¼ cents for



Local 961 President Walter Rood (left) looks on as UAW Chrysler Director Norman Matthews speaks at the rally of Chrysler strikers.

The splendid solidarity and determination of the Chrysler workers triumphed early this month over the blind selfishness and stubborn arrogance of the Chrysler Corporation when a settlement was reached May 4 ending the 100-day-old Chrysler strike.

The settlement was announced by UAW Chrysler Director Norman Matthews and President Walter P. Reuther at the end of a marathon final bargaining session.

The company was finally forced to retreat from its fixed and arbitrary position of a 3½-cents-an-hour Pension and Insurance proposal and to agree to meet fully the 10-cents-an-hour Pension, Hospital-Medical and Insurance demand of the Chrysler workers.

Within two days after the settlement, Chrysler workers had ratified the new agreement by a majority of 94 to 98 per cent.

In addition to the Pension, Hospital-Medical and Insurance program, the agreement provides important contract improvements and other economic gains in addition to the 10-cents-an-hour pattern.

The agreement includes:

- A fully funded and actuarially sound Pension Plan paid for entirely by the Company and jointly administered by the Union and the Corporation. The Pension Plan obligates the Corporation to make payments into a Pension Trust Fund to cover the cost of past and future service credits for all Chrysler workers.

- A Medical-Hospital and Insurance Program with broader coverage and greater benefits for all Chrysler workers.

- In addition to the 10-cent economic concessions represented by the Pension, Hospital-Medical and Insurance package, the Union also won these further economic concessions:

- (a) Increase in pay of approximately five cents per hour in 45 job classifications covering many thousands of Chrysler workers.
- (b) A 3-cent-per-hour wage increase to thousands of workers in Kokomo, New Castle and Evansville, Indiana, Chrysler plants to reduce the differentials in wages between Indiana plants and the Chrysler Detroit plants.
- (c) Increase in wages in several Chrysler parts plants ranging from three cents to 13 cents per hour.
- (d) Increase in vacation pay of \$31.10 for Chrysler workers with three years' seniority and less than five years.

- Substantial non-economic contract improvements, including:

- (a) Greater job security through improved seniority provisions and elimination of two-year seniority break provision.
- (b) Strengthened grievance procedure.
- (c) Broader power for umpire to permit his reversing or modifying Company decisions on types of penalties and discharges formerly excluded from his jurisdiction.
- (d) Promotion clause to eliminate favoritism by permitting umpire to review promotions made out of line of seniority.
- (e) Greater protection for seniority workers during periods of temporary lay-offs.
- (f) Protection of workers in case of transfer of work between plants.
- (g) Union security clause providing check-off machinery.

The Chrysler strikers were immediately sent full details of the new contract in a letter to each individual worker by UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther, UAW-CIO Chrysler Department Director Norman Matthews, and the UAW-CIO National Chrysler Negotiating Committee.

Chrysler Strike Cost to Reach \$4 Million

Total Chrysler strike expenditures of \$3,001,391.12 by the International Union, as of May 4, were announced by UAW-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey.

Mazey also announced that emergency strike assistance would be continued until Chrysler workers receive their first pay checks. He estimated additional expenditures for relief would amount to approximately \$1,000,000 during the period between strike settlement and the first Chrysler pay day.

Funds spent so far during the strike were distributed as follows:

Direct donations to	
Local Unions	\$2,408,014.57
Blue Cross and Blue Shield insurance premiums	532,111.01
Newspaper advertising	50,611.46
Radio time	2,670.61

Miscellaneous (meeting halls, leaflets, etc.) 7,983.47

Income from the Union's emergency strike assessment as of May 4, 1950, was \$3,161,124.54. Mazey said it would be the first of July before collection of the assessments would be virtually completed. The delay, he said, was because of dues check-off difficulties with a number of companies.

Assessment funds not used in the Chrysler strike and other current UAW-CIO strikes will be placed in the Union's strike fund and will be used for emergency strike assistance in any other strike situation the Union may have in the future.

An Editorial . . . On the Chrysler Strike

For 100 days the solid strength and stout determination of the Chrysler workers were pitted against the blind selfishness and stubborn arrogance of the Chrysler Corporation. At the end of the 100 days, the Chrysler workers' solidarity won a tremendous victory over the forces of organized greed. People triumphed over profits. Principles triumphed over Chrysler's distorted propaganda.

For six months, beginning in July, 1949, the representatives of the Chrysler workers had bargained earnestly and patiently with the Corporation without making any progress. Finally, in January Chrysler made its first offer.

Chrysler's only pre-strike offer was a pension program that was not funded, not guaranteed and worth only 3½ cents an hour. The Corporation said its pension program would be backed by the "good faith and good will" of the Company. Chrysler's pre-strike offer provided nothing at all for a hospital-medical program.

Chrysler refused to meet the 10 cents an hour economic package for which Chrysler competitors had settled. Chrysler stubbornly refused to grant to its workers the same economic concessions Chrysler competitors had granted their workers.

At the end of the strike, Chrysler had moved from its fixed position of 3½ cents an hour to meet the full 10 cents an hour economic package, including an actuarially-sound pension program, fully funded and jointly administered by the Company and the Union, and a hospital-medical-insurance program into which the Company pays three cents an hour per worker.

In addition to the pension and hospital-medical-insurance programs, the Chrysler workers won other important economic concessions in the form of reduction of area wage differentials and classification inequities, improved vacation pay, as well as much-needed and long-overdue contract improvements.

The stubborn reluctance with which the Chrysler Corporation slowly and painfully met its obligations to its workers is shown in the Calendar of Gains Won on the opposite page. The Corporation did not move from its fixed position at all until the 56th day of the strike. It did not agree to a fully-funded, actuarially-sound pension program until the 82nd day. It did not make any substantial concessions toward the hospital-medical-insurance program until the 82nd day. **Even after making these concessions, the Corporation later tried to hedge on what it had already agreed to. The Calendar also shows the numerous important economic and contract concessions won by the Union in the very last days of the strike.**

Now that the strike is over, now that the Chrysler workers have won their tremendous victory—now come the scavengers—the editorial writers—who try to belittle that victory, who try to smear the Chrysler workers and their Union.

The editorial writers suddenly discover a heretofore undisclosed sympathy and concern for the Chrysler workers. They deplore the sacrifices the Chrysler workers had to make, the losses to Chrysler dealers and the profits lost by the Corporation.

And—in the face of the indisputable facts that make them liars—they say the Chrysler workers could have won what they got without a strike!

In the eyes of these writers, the layoff of hundreds of thousands of workers for weeks or months because of model change-overs or because of parts or material shortages or for other reasons beyond the control of the workers is simply the normal operation of the private enterprise system. **When 16,000,000 are unemployed and workers are losing their homes and farmers are losing their farms and children are going hungry, they do not then try to measure the staggering cost of depression to the economy nor count its toll in human suffering—because, to them, that is a natural and inevitable development.**

But when 89,000 Chrysler workers exercise their rights as free Americans to fight against the blind selfishness of a greedy,

arrogant Corporation—and win that fight—then the editorial writers deplore the strike and say there was no victory.

This editorial attack is no accident. It is not a spontaneous reaction. It is a planned, organized, directed campaign. The same editorials, identical in point of view and almost identical in language, have appeared in newspapers all over the country. The editorial writers are being told what to say by the opponents of labor and democracy, and obediently and slavishly they are saying it—without even bothering too much to change the language of the original model from which they are copying.

No amount of ink and newsprint can change the facts. No amount of devious arithmetic can change the three and one-half cents an hour Chrysler offered before the strike into the more than 10 cents an hour package the Chrysler workers won as a result of the strike. **No amount of editorial prostitution can change or evaluate in terms of money the important and far-reaching effects of the Chrysler workers' victory on the preservation of a democratic way of life and the building of a better tomorrow for all Americans.**

The price of human progress like the price of freedom, has always been high. You cannot measure the value of democracy or human rights in terms of dollars. It cost billions to defeat Hitler and defend democracy, but no one would question our victory over totalitarian aggression on the basis of cost.

Free men refused to surrender to Hitler's arrogance. Chrysler workers refused to surrender to Chrysler's blind selfishness.

The Chrysler workers and their Union did not want a strike. They waited six months before taking strike action. The strike was forced upon them by a greedy, profit-swollen Corporation that would deny its workers the benefits won by workers in other companies. The same Corporation was responsible for continuing the strike through 100 long days. **The Chrysler workers were faced with a choice of knuckling under and sacrificing their rights, or of standing up and fighting. They chose to fight—and they won.**

They won economic concessions greater than 10 cents pattern and three times as great as the economic concession offered by the Company before the strike. In addition, and of equal importance, they won issues involving important principles on which no economic price tag can be fixed.

The Chrysler workers deserve the respect and gratitude of all Americans for they chose to stand up and fight to advance their basic human and democratic values.

UNITED FRONT IN COPPER, BRASS

The Copper and Brass Council held its second meeting in Buffalo on April 22 and 23, 1950. The main purpose of the meeting was to formulate plans for a united front in their fight to obtain adequate pension and social security plans in their plants.

Vice-President Richard Gosser, who is also the Director of the Competitive Shop Wage and Hour Division, reports that fraternal delegates were in attendance from the Progressive Metal Workers' Council of the Connecticut Valley, who are affiliated with the CIO Ship-builders, and also from the AFL. The delegates in attendance represented approximately 60 per cent of the Copper-Brass Industry's pre-fabricating and fabricating plants throughout the United States.

The Conference adopted a five-point program. Two of the main points agreed upon were to hold the line in their demands for a 10-cent package in all of the copper and brass plants, and to give the UAW-CIO full support with finances and man power to complete the organization of the Revere Copper and Brass plant in Rome, N. Y.

Union Shop—110 to 1

In an NLRB union-shop election, held April 5, the workers of Wesels Company, Detroit, represented by UAW-CIO Local 355, voted 110 to 1 for the union shop.

Local 355, assisted by International Representative Bill Lattimore, of Norman Matthews' staff, recently won a 10-cent "package" providing for a Company-paid health, medical care and death benefit program, plus wage increases.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CHRYSLER WORKERS' PENSION PLAN AGE RETIREMENT BENEFITS

1. One hundred dollars per month including primary Federal Social Security Benefits at age 65 with 25 years of service;
2. A graduated benefit at age 65 with ten or more years of service credits, but less than 25 years;
3. A proportionate benefit at age 65 for workers who retire after age 60 and before age 65 and with 25 years of service.

INCAPACITY RETIREMENT

1. Fifty dollars per month after age 55 with 25 years of service;
2. Workers who are totally and permanently disabled, but who do not meet the age and seniority requirements for incapacity retirement benefits under the Pension Plan, are covered by a disability rider on the \$3,600 group life insurance policy and will receive a minimum of \$50 per month until the \$3,600 value of the policy is paid out.

PAST SERVICE CREDITS

1. Past service credits are based upon seniority, in addition;
2. All service with Chrysler Corporation or its predecessors, in excess of seniority is counted as past service credit if a two-year break did not occur during such period of service. If a two-year break did occur during that period, all service after the break is counted as past service credit.

FUTURE SERVICE CREDITS

1. One year of future service credit for 1,700 hours worked in a calendar year;
2. Graduation of future service credit to be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of a year of credit for every 142 hours worked or major fraction of 142 hours worked. Under this arrangement, a full year's credit can be earned if a worker works 1,630 hours in any calendar year. This is possible because the worker receives credit for the major fraction of the last one-twelfth of the year period;
3. Service credits are fully protected during periods of lay-off equal to the number of years of seniority a worker has at the time of lay-off;
4. Future service credits to accumulate beyond age 65 to age 68.

FINANCING AND FUNDING

1. Pension payments are guaranteed by the establishment of a Pension Trust Fund into which the Company is obligated to make payments equivalent to seven cents per hour to assure sound actuarial funding of both past and future service credits for all Chrysler workers;
2. Past service credits already earned by Chrysler workers, which amounts to approximately \$85,600,000, must be paid off in a maximum period of 30 years;
3. The Pension Plan is financed entirely by the Company;
4. Payment by the Corporation into the Pension Trust Fund must be sufficient at all times to maintain an actuarially sound plan;
5. Pension payments are guaranteed for life;
6. Future service credits are fully funded for every Chrysler worker as earned.

ADMINISTRATION OF PENSION PLAN

1. Democratic administration of the Pension Plan is assured by a Joint Board of Administration on which the Union and the Corporation have equal representation;
2. An impartial chairman appointed by the Union and the Corporation will cast the deciding vote in case of deadlock.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF PENSION

1. Pension program shall be effective beginning August 1, 1950;
2. Pension benefits become payable on September 1, 1950.

UNITED AUTOMOBILE WORKER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION, International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, affiliated with the CIO. Published monthly. Yearly subscription to members, 60 cents; to non-members, \$1.00. Entered at Indianapolis, Ind., November 19, 1945, as second-class matter under the Act of August 24, 1912, as a monthly.

Please send notices of change in address on Form 3578, and copies returned under labels No. 3579 to 2457 East Washington Street, Indianapolis 7, Indiana.

Circulation Office: 2457 E. Washington St., Indianapolis 7, Indiana
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CALENDAR OF GAINS WON DURING STRIKE

Throughout the first 56 days of the strike, the Chrysler Corporation maintained the fixed position it took before the strike started. It was not until the 56th day of the strike that the Corporation made any concessions at all on any of the issues in dispute.

Following is a calendar of major gains made by the Union in the negotiations from the 56th day until the conclusion of the strike:

DAY STRIKE BEGAN (Jan. 25) The Chrysler Corporation refused to fund pension benefits in any way whatsoever. Chrysler said its offer to pay pensions was backed up by the good faith of the Company.

56th DAY OF STRIKE (March 21) The Chrysler Corporation agreed to increase vacation pay by providing a middle step in vacation payments. Thousands of workers with three years of seniority, but less than five years, will receive an increase of \$31.10 in vacation pay.

56th DAY OF STRIKE (March 21) The Chrysler Corporation partially agreed to a Joint Board of Administration for the Pension Plan on which the workers, through their Union, have equal representation with the Company. The Joint Board of Administration was finalized in later negotiations.

56th DAY OF STRIKE (March 21) The Chrysler Corporation made its second offer. They proposed funding of pensions for the workers, only as they retired, but provided no protection to workers who had not retired by Company payments into a Pension Trust Fund to cover cost of past and future service credits.

59th DAY OF STRIKE (March 24) The Chrysler Corporation made its third offer. They proposed funding pensions for workers as they retired with a \$30 million bank deposit. However, the \$30 million was not to be placed in a Pension Trust Fund, nor would it have been sufficient to cover the cost of past and future service credits even if it had been placed in a Pension Trust Fund.

73rd DAY OF STRIKE (April 7) The Union won reduced payments by workers and larger payments by the Chrysler Corporation for group insurance.

73rd DAY OF STRIKE (April 7) The Chrysler Corporation made its fourth pension offer. They proposed funding of future service credits to cover all workers, but still refused to fund past service credits. They proposed, instead, paying only the interest on past service credits.

82nd DAY OF STRIKE (April 16) The Chrysler Corporation finally agreed to guarantee pension payments by establishment of an actuarially sound Pension Trust Fund into which the Corporation is obligated to make payments to cover cost of both past and future service credits for all Chrysler workers. The Chrysler Corporation forced its workers to strike for 82 days before Chrysler was willing to agree to the same sound funding principle which Ford, Nash, Budd Manufacturing, Kaiser-Frazer and other Chrysler competitors had agreed to without a strike.

82nd DAY OF STRIKE (April 16) The Chrysler Corporation moved from its position of refusing to pay anything whatsoever on hospital coverage, and agreed to pay one-half the cost of hospital coverage.

82nd DAY OF STRIKE (April 16) The Chrysler Corporation moved from its position of refusing to pay anything whatsoever on surgical coverage and agreed to pay one-half the cost of surgical coverage.

82nd DAY OF STRIKE (April 16) The Chrysler Corporation moved from its position of refusing to pay anything whatsoever on in-hospital medical care and agreed to pay one-half the cost of in-hospital medical care.

82nd DAY OF STRIKE (April 16) The Chrysler Corporation agreed to increase its payment to approximately 50 per cent of the cost of sickness and accident insurance. Benefits were increased from \$25 to \$28 a week. Waiting period in case of sickness was reduced from eight to four days.

82nd DAY OF STRIKE (April 16) The Chrysler Corporation agreed to disability benefits under the Pension Plan and Group Insurance, and to pay the entire cost of such benefits.

85th DAY OF STRIKE (April 19) As demanded by the Union, the umpire was given authority to reverse, modify or set aside all types of penalties and discharges imposed by management.

85th DAY OF STRIKE (April 19) The Chrysler Corporation agreed to grant discharged workers the right to see their stewards or committeemen and to have their grievances presented to management before being required to leave the plant.

85th DAY OF STRIKE (April 19) The Chrysler Corporation for the first time in its relationship with the UAW-CIO agreed through collective bargaining to any form of union security when it agreed to a contract clause providing check-off machinery.

91st DAY OF STRIKE (April 25) The Chrysler Corporation agreed to a contract provision to insure greater protection for workers affected by a transfer of work between plants.

94th DAY OF STRIKE (April 28) The Chrysler Corporation receded from its steadfast insistence that the two-year seniority break provision be continued in the contract. The Corporation agreed to the Union's demand that workers have both their seniority and their pension credits fully protected during any layoff for a period equal to their years of seniority, with a minimum protection of one year for new employees.

94th DAY OF STRIKE (April 28) The Chrysler Corporation agreed to three-cents-per-hour wage increase for thousands of workers in the Kokomo, New Castle, and Evansville, Ind., plants in order to reduce the differential in wages between the Indiana plants and the Chrysler Detroit plants.

94th DAY OF STRIKE (April 28) The Chrysler Corporation agreed to wage increases from three cents to 13 cents per hour on major job classifications in several parts plants in order to reduce the wage differential between Chrysler parts plants.

94th, 95th, 96th DAYS OF STRIKE (April 28, 29, 30)

The Chrysler Corporation agreed to eliminate numerous wage inequities by granting wage increases of approximately five cents per hour on numerous job classifications.

96th DAY OF STRIKE (April 30) The Chrysler Corporation agreed to contract provisions to eliminate favoritism in the promotion of workers to higher-paid and better jobs by permitting the umpire to review promotions made out of line of seniority.

97th DAY OF STRIKE (May 1) The newly-organized Pekin Wood Plant in Helena, Ark., in which the workers enjoyed none of the advanced contract provisions of the Chrysler agreement, will now be protected by most of the basic provisions of the Chrysler production-maintenance agreement.

97th DAY OF STRIKE (May 1) The Chrysler Corporation presented a letter to the Union in which the Corporation agreed to protect vacation pay of all Chrysler workers by providing that every worker returning to work after the strike will be considered as having been on the payroll May 1, and therefore eligible to vacation pay for 1950, to be paid within the month of May.

99th DAY OF STRIKE (May 3) The Chrysler Corporation agreed to continue the shop steward system intact by withdrawing its demands to limit grievance time for stewards, which would have weakened the effectiveness of the plant grievance machinery.

99th DAY OF STRIKE (May 3) Contract improvements agreed to in the production and maintenance contract, which are applicable, were incorporated in the Office Workers, Engineers, Parts Plants and Cafeteria Workers agreement, plus some additional improvements to meet the needs of each of these groups.

99th DAY OF STRIKE (May 3) The Chrysler Corporation moved from a continuously fixed position on this important item and finally agreed to the Union's demand that older workers who continue to work after age 65 be permitted to earn future service credits until age 68. This will permit workers who do not have 25 years' credit at age 65 to earn additional needed credits toward a full pension.

99th DAY OF STRIKE (May 3) The Chrysler Corporation finally agreed to give California Chrysler workers the same economic concessions as were granted other Chrysler workers. Because California laws provide disability benefits (hospital and medical), the Corporation had refused until the 99th day to make the necessary adjustments to protect California Chrysler workers.

Many hours of the last three days of negotiations were taken up in working out final contract language on general contract matters and on the Pension Agreement to eliminate sleeper and joker clauses which the Corporation tried to insert in an attempt to deny full pension rights to Chrysler workers.

"We are paying vacation pay because we are so big-hearted—and because we have a tender concern for the welfare of Chrysler workers. . . ."
—Weckler.

CHRYSLER CAUGHT IN ANOTHER PHONY CLAIM

Chrysler is still keeping up its false propoganda to try to save face after being soundly trounced by the Chrysler workers in the strike which the Corporation precipitated.

The latest dodge is to try to take credit for payment of 1950 vacation pay to Chrysler workers on May 12.

Here are the facts:

The Chrysler Corporation is paying vacation pay May 12 because the Chrysler workers made them promise to do it.

Robert Conder and other Corporation representatives tried to get out of paying the 1950 vacation pay at all on the technicality that since Chrysler workers were on strike on May 1, the eligibility date, they weren't entitled to vacation pay.

Payment of vacation money was part of the strike settlement. But it wasn't until the final days of negotiations that the Corporation grudgingly agreed to pay it. It was nailed down by a letter from the Corporation to the Union. The letter was dated May 4, the 99th day of the strike.

On the issue of vacation pay, as in all other issues affecting the welfare of the workers, Chrysler's record is still the same. They will do the right thing only when they are forced to do it.



Massive line of Dodge Local 3 demonstrators winds away in the distance. More than 10,000 workers took part in the strike rally.

Negotiators Empowered to End Contract by Nat'l GM Conference

The GM National Negotiating Committee has been authorized by the National GM Conference, representing all GM locals and bargaining units, to serve notice of cancellation of the contract on the Corporation unless there is more progress in negotiations.

Following adjournment of the Conference, which met in Detroit May 7, UAW-CIO GM Department Director T. A. Johnstone issued the following statement:

"The UAW-CIO National General Motors Negotiating Committee today reported to the National General Motors Conference that there had been no substantial progress toward a collective bargaining agreement during a series of 21 meetings with representatives of the General Motors Corporation. The meetings began March 29. (The UAW GM Conference is composed of approximately 250 elected delegates from 117 GM local unions and bargaining units.)

"The Conference then voted to empower the National Negotiating Committee to serve notice, at its discretion, on the Corporation, of cancellation of the existing agreement. Such notice would be given under the terms of the terminal facilities agreed to by the Union and the Corporation before the beginning of the current negotiations.

"The committee will serve notice of cancellation in the near future unless developments in negotiations indicate a greater possibility for a peaceful settlement than is indicated at present.

"The agreement provides for 60 days' notice of modification, with 30 days' notice of cancellation allowed at any time after 30 days of the initial notice had elapsed. This means that the Union is free now, at any time, to give cancellation notice of 30 days."

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Ford Workers Win \$166,000

DETROIT—Unemployment benefits totalling \$166,000 for time lost in a 1947 strike were awarded 1,546 Ford production workers by Circuit Court Judge George B. Murphy.

The decision reversed a ruling by the Michigan Unemployment Compensation Commission Appeal Board.

The dispute grew out of a strike by some 4,400 Ford foremen in the summer of 1947. The Company charged that some production workers were stalling to support the foremen. It laid off the 1,546 workers for periods of from one to four weeks.

The MUCC held that no dispute was involved and upheld the workers' right to benefits. That decision was reversed by the Appeal

Chairman Named For UAW-Ford Pension Board

Appointment of Ronald W. Haughton as Impartial Chairman of the UAW-Ford Joint Retirement Board of Administration was announced May 8 by Ken Bannon, Director of the UAW-CIO National Ford Department.

Mr. Haughton is Assistant Director of Industrial Relations at the University of California, Berkeley, Cal. He was formerly Disputes Director of the War Labor Board in Detroit during 1943 and 1944. He also has served as Technical Advisor to the U. S. Social Security Board, Director of the Strike Section of the WLB, and as Special Assistant to the Director of the U. S. Conciliation Service. He has been active in the arbitration of labor disputes for several unions and companies on the West Coast, and is a member of the National Academy of Arbitrators.

Board, and the workers appealed to the Court.

In his ruling, Judge Murphy also held that no labor dispute was involved, since the production workers were members of the UAW-CIO and not the striking Foremen's Association (Ind.).

Chrysler of Canada Held Up Favorable Pension Decision

WINDSOR—A government conciliation board recommendation that cracked the door open for the first time on \$100-a-month industrial pensions in Canada was being studied at press time by Chrysler Corporation of Canada members of Local 195, UAW-CIO. UAW spokesmen complained bitterly that the report had been deliberately held up until the Chrysler Corporation ended its warfare against the Union in the United States. The report, dated April 20, was released May 8.

Conciliation Board Chairman Judge Harold E. Fuller, of Welland, said any pension plan agreed on should be funded.

He added: "The employees should not be required to depend on the maintenance of the Company's earnings or the Company's ability to pay at some future date."

This statement met head on the full-page propaganda efforts of Chrysler Vice-President Herman Weckler during the 99-day U. S. strike. Its release when Judge Ful-

ler signed it might have shortened the American strike by a couple of weeks.

The report was held up by Charles Donaldson, a previously unheard-of Windsor lawyer, who represented the Company on the three-man Conciliation Board. Judge Fuller and Drummond Wren, of Toronto, the Union's representative, made out a 17-page majority report. Donaldson's report was a two-paragraph dissent.

Judge Rebukes Chrysler for "Hasty . . . Drastic Action"

Chrysler Corporation's reputation for labor relations bordering on the idiotic got another boost last month in an umpire decision handed down by Canadian Judge H. E. Fuller.

Said the Judge: "... had management not been quite so hasty and determined to use this incident for the purpose of taking a drastic step to enforce discipline . . . the (production) line need not have been shut down that morning at all."

Judge Fuller's decision came following an appeal by UAW-CIO Local 195 over the firing of five

Chrysler of Canada workers. Two days before last Christmas, Chrysler sent home over 5,000 workers because, to quote Judge Fuller, the firm was "determined" to use a minor dispute as a lever for enforcing discipline.

That day, there was a five-minute work stoppage by five or six men who protested the installation of an ear-shattering air hammer. Officials ordered the line closed and sent home all its workers, depriving them of most of a day's wages.

The five workers were then fired.

Membership Drives Planned in Aircraft, Farm Implement Plants

Coordinated and planned organizational efforts will be made to bring into membership any non-members presently working in aircraft or agricultural implement plants presently under contract with the UAW-CIO, it was announced by John W. Livingston, Vice-President.

"Such efforts are intended to increase the bargaining power of those local unions which are currently in negotiations or those which shortly will be negotiating," Livingston said.

These in-plant organizational efforts for the agricultural implement locals will be launched at the next meeting of the Agricultural Implement Wage-Hour Council to be held in Chicago on May 19, 20 and 21.

Similar efforts will be launched at an appropriate time prior to economic negotiations in those aircraft local unions in need of such organization.

B-W Workers Vote For Union Shop

Richard Gosser, Vice-President of the UAW-CIO and Director of the Borg-Warner Council, announces two victories in units of Local No. 42 in NLRB union elections for the union shop.

The Morse Chain Division voted 216 for the union shop and only 11 against.

The Detroit Gear Division voted 682 for the union shop and only 47 against. The management did everything in its power to prevent democratic elections — even to the point of prohibiting the elections from taking place on Company property.

A meeting of the Borg-Warner Council was held at the Durant Hotel in Flint, Mich., on Saturday, May 13th.

The Doctor Bill He Doesn't Have to Pay



Pictured above, Eugene Coursey (left center), member of Local 157 and an employee of Willeys Carbide Tool Company, Detroit, Michigan, receives a benefit check for \$56.25 with which to settle in full the surgeon's bill for an operation undergone by his wife. The check is being handed to Coursey by Union Member John Selecky, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Willeys Carbide Tool Company-UAW-CIO Health Security Fund recently established by collective bargaining between Local 157 and the Company. The benefit is the first paid by the Board, on which the Union and the Company have equal representation in administering a program of hospital and medical care, temporary disability and death benefits for all workers and their dependents. Others in the picture, from left to right, are: Board Members Benjamin Blumenthal (Company Representative); Harry Goddard, Secretary-Treasurer (Company Representative); Jim Mothersbaugh (Union Representative); Cyrus Courier (Company Representative) and Andy Kettler (Union Representative). The Willeys Carbide Tool-UAW-CIO Board is among the first of the growing number of joint union-management boards or committees established in accordance with this year's bargaining pattern to actually plan and arrange for workers' security benefits made possible by the employer financing stipulated in current contracts.

Chrysler Strike Contributions

The UAW-CIO has acknowledged with thanks contributions for the Chrysler strike from the following organizations and individuals:

United Steelworkers of America	\$125,000.00
UAW-CIO Staff Members	43,310.74
Congress of Industrial Organizations	25,000.00
Int'l Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, AFL	25,000.00
Amalg. Clothing Workers of America, CIO	25,000.00
Textile Workers' Union of America, CIO	25,000.00
United Plant Guard Workers of America	5,388.96
Greater Detroit and Wayne County Industrial Union Council	2,000.00
Utility Workers' Union of America, CIO—Local 223	1,912.50
UAW-CIO Clerical Employees	1,468.50
United Dairy Workers—Local 83	1,000.00
National Maritime Union, CIO	559.07
Detroit Joint Board, Amalg. Clothing Workers of America, CIO	500.00
United Plant Guard Workers of America, Locals 114 and 160	326.75
Brewery Workers, CIO, Local 10, Baltimore, Md.	250.00
Local 768, IUE-CIO, Dayton, Ohio	233.00
Goodwill Printing Company	200.00
National Piston Ring Wage and Hour Council, UAW-CIO	200.00
Luckoff, Wayburn & Frankel Advertising Agency	200.00
Local 433, UAW-AFL	200.00
Morris Novik	280.00
UAW-CIO Health Institute Employees	143.50
Michigan State CIO Council	100.00
August Scholle, Michigan CIO	25.00
Tom Downs, Michigan CIO	25.00
H. T. McCreedy, Michigan CIO	25.00
Helen Lounzie Graham, Michigan CIO	10.00
Brewery Workers' Drivers' Union—Local 38	100.00
Anonymous Friend	100.00
Law Firm of Rauh & Levy	100.00
Sophia Radlow	100.00
Vuko A. Draskovich	62.65
Painters' Local No. 42, AFL, Detroit	50.00
Walter Smethurst, CIO Representative	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. Bond Collier	37.50
James T. Farrell	25.00
Hennepin County Industrial Union Council, Minneapolis	25.00
District Council No. 11, UAW-CIO	25.00
Joint Defense Appeal, New York	21.50
Jane Lovejoy	15.00
Roger S. Wilson	12.00
District of Columbia Industrial Union Council	10.00
Paul A. Strachan	10.00
Elizabeth Averill, Shop Committeeman, LIU 72, CIO	9.00
Peter Bernacki	10.00
Hy Fish, Asst. Dir. Labor Educ. Div., Roosevelt College, Chicago	8.00
Conrad Gundlock, U. T. O. News, New York	5.00
TOTAL	\$284,133.67

FEPC Supporters Take Lead in Senate Debate

WASHINGTON—Southern Democratic filibusters against FEPC are squawking about a switcheroo whereby the fighting supporters of the FEPC are taking up at least half the time before the first test vote to limit debate, now expected to come about Wednesday, May 17.

FEPC sponsors Elbert Thomas (D., Utah) and Irving Ives (R., N. Y.) led off with hard-hitting statements showing (a) that job discrimination is widespread, and (b) the success of FEPC laws in states and cities shows it can work nationally.

Senator Russell (D., Ga.), leader of the anti-FEPC forces, who have 23 Senators lined up to filibuster, claims that bill is unconstitutional, won't work, would lead to nationalization of industry, and is "a Russian idea."

Senator Benton (D., Conn.), formerly in charge of the State Department's "Voice of America" broadcasts, blew Russell's Russian charge out of the water by showing that Russia practices forced labor at home, but uses job discrimination here to propagandize other peoples.

Senator Hill (D., Ala.) protested

that FEPC supporters were filibustering the filibusters against FEPC.

Senator Lucas (D., Ill.) served notice at the start of the debate on his motion to take up FEPC that he will present a petition to limit debate on that motion after 10 days. He has promised that, if the vote falls short of the 64 needed under the new DixieGOP-Wherry amendment to the Senate rules, the debate will be kept going while attempts are made to line up the needed 64.

President Truman is expected to challenge Taft, Wherry and their party to put up enough votes to break the filibuster or shut up about civil rights.

Press estimates are that 64 votes are possible but not likely.

At least there will be a test roll-call for PAC purposes in 1950.

Board Calls for FEPC Passage

The UAW-CIO International Executive Board, at its April meeting, called upon the U. S. Senate to pass a Federal Fair Employment Practices Law with strong enforcement provisions.

In a strongly-worded resolution, adopted by a unanimous vote, the Board said that a long series of postponements by Senate Democratic leadership "lent credence" to a GOP charge that delays in bringing up the FEPC bill were "inspired by Democratic political consideration."

But, the resolution added, "the Republicans have yet to demonstrate their own good faith in regard to FEPC."

Specifically the UAW leaders called for passage of S. 1728 and called the House-passed McConnell Bill "unsatisfactory" and "toothless."

Leaders of both political parties were sent copies of the Board's resolution.

Workers Face Wage Cut If Rent Control Ends

"Unless federal rent controls are continued by Congress, working people who rent apartments and small homes will be forced to pay rent hikes after June 30, amounting to from five per cent to 10 per cent of their wages," Walter P. Reuther warned in a statement urging union members to write their Congressmen about the housing shortage and the need for rent controls in their cities.

"Where controls have already been lifted, rents have gone up from 20 per cent to 40 per cent. Our members spend a fifth or more of their income for housing. If the rent goes up 20 per cent, that is the same as a wage cut of five per cent—if the rent goes up 40 per cent, it is a wage cut of 10 per cent. We have to fight against the real estate lobby on this one just as hard as we'd fight a corporation that proposed a wage cut of 10 cents to 18 cents an hour," Reuther said.

"The much talked about decline in the cost of living since the peak in the fall of 1948, to the present, has been less than five per cent. For hundreds of thousands of working families, decontrol of rents would jack-up living costs above the 1948 peak, overnight. Rent decontrol at this time would seriously impair the purchasing power structure of our nation. According to the City Worker's Family Budget for March, an average working family needs \$64.27 a week to meet the minimum costs of living. The average industrial worker, however, received only \$56.57 in his check, and that before deductions—\$7.70 short of the very modest budget of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"If working people have to pay even more of their income to landlords, they will have less to spend for other goods and services. In economic terms, this money, diverted from the normal channels of business, will only serve to weaken our economy and drive us more rapidly into the kind of economic hole we are trying to avoid. In human terms, it means money that is now spent for socks and shoes, for bread and milk, will simply go into the landlord's profit ledger."

To stave off the end of rent control, the CIO is supporting the Myer's Bill (amendment to Lucas Bill S. 3181) extending rent control for one year with a provision for two-way local autonomy to de-



WAKE UP, CHIEF!

control or recontrol. Under this bill, cities — where the housing shortage is still critical—can keep controls on rents. Rural legislators will not have the power to make the decision to increase city rentals.

"The real estate lobby is spending money right and left to guarantee its comfortable position in the profit wallow of the housing shortage. On one hand it fights public housing which would provide an increase in the number of low rental units and to some extent relieve the need for rent control. And while with one hand it prevents more units, its other hand is spending money where it counts, to remove the lid on rents. Herbert W. Nelson, the \$25,000-a-year lobbyist and vice-president of the National Association of Real Estate Boards—the same man who says he thinks 'Democracy stinks'—has gone so far as to make arrangements for planting an anti-rent control article in the Reader's Digest—and then to circulate a half million reprints of this 'impartial' publication."

UAW members are urged to counter-attack with a barrage of letters and telegrams to your representatives in Congress.

UAW DELEGATION DEMANDS ACTION ON UNEMPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON (LPA)—It's up to Congress to act swiftly to wipe out the unemployment sweeping through many cities and areas, four CIO Auto Workers from Michigan declared after explaining their plight to Congressmen, Senators and federal officials here. They said they'd told everyone they'd seen that the government should enact a threefold program immediately.

The most important action Congress could take, they said, would be to pass the item in the Fair Deal program necessary to implement the Employment Act of 1946 and maintain maximum employment throughout the nation. But even if the Congress refuses to take this vital step, it at least should adopt the temporary steps proposed recently by CIO President Philip Murray. These are extension of unemployment compensation to 26 weeks everywhere, and to 52 weeks in areas where more than nine per cent of the workers are unemployed; institution of a public works program, and establishment of a new Civilian Conservation Corps. In addition, the UAW spokesman said that government contracts should be routed to the distressed areas.

The UAW representatives, Walter Sowles, Charles Bowers, Ellis Howard and Owen Whitford, said, "Over-all figures on employment are no comfort to the unemployed" who have exhausted unemployment pay and are now on relief. They said they were "determined" to press Congress for action now despite the bipartisan combine against it. They quoted Walter Reuther, UAW President, who has called unemployment "the unfinished busi-

ness of this century," and said that perhaps big corporations ought to be prevented from condemning whole communities to ruin by "transferring work from one plant to another with no regard for the workers and other businesses affected."

Nothing but "a strong demand from states and local communities that Congress do something definite and practical about unemployment before it goes home to campaign for re-election will get the necessary hearings and floor action even on emergency measures," said Paul Sifton, Washington legislative representative for the UAW. "The real place to turn on the power for steady full employment is in the election booth," he added. "That is where the Fair Deal is going to get the juice necessary to get off the siding and out on the main line in time to prevent depression and its usual accompaniments."

Sifton said the CIO and the UAW-CIO has had the formula for full employment at least since the CIO Postwar Planning Conference of January, 1944. The AFL held a similar conference in March of the same year.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERTSON



WASHINGTON (LPA) — Deeply moved by the death of Nathan Robertson, columnist for Labor Press Association, Representative Emanuel Celler (D., N. Y.) inserted in the Congressional Record of April 4 a tribute to Robertson, in which he said, "His loss will be a shock to all newspaperdom."

Representative Celler said, "Mr. Speaker, I note with real regret the death of my dear friend, Nathan W. Robertson, Washington correspondent for over 25 years. This is sad news indeed, for Nate was an exemplary newspaperman, devoted always to the public interest, diligent and painstaking in his efforts to become what he was—a good and conscientious reporter."

"Nate was a well-known figure in the House Press Gallery as well as in other federal agencies. I have known and respected him for many years, and grew to have an affectionate regard for him when he wrote the Washington column for Labor Press Associates."

"His loss will be a shock to all newspaperdom."

"Our condolences go to his parents, brothers, and to his wife and children."

Addes Leaves UAW

Former UAW-CIO Secretary-Treasurer George F. Addes has received an honorable withdrawal card from Local 12, Toledo.

Addes is now reportedly employed by the Auto-Lite Corporation in its sales division in Chicago. He had previously been engaged in the bar and grill business in Detroit.

Secretary Chapman Blasts Corporate "Socialism"-Criers

Industrialists who raise the bogey of "Socialism" to attack the Fair Deal and American labor were sharply told off last month at a Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner in Everett, Wash., by U. S. Secretary of the Interior, Oscar Chapman.

"In this campaign year, there are already being heard the voices of some men from large corporate businesses who once again begin to claim that the administrations of Presidents Roosevelt and Truman have been the enemies of business," Chapman said. "These men, representing vast concentrations of economic wealth, fail dimly to bolster such false claims, so they proceed to talk about 'socialism' when they become alarmed at the government's efforts to make available to greater numbers of our people the products of our growing economy."

"The newspapers have reported that a vice-president of the General Electric Company has announced the determination of his Company to take a strong stand against what he calls 'socialism'. This socially-secured gentleman represents a company whose president received in 1949 a salary of \$125 thousand, with added bonus grants amounting to \$76 thousand. General Electric, during 1949, reported profits greater than in 1948, and declared dividends of \$2.50 a share in 1949, compared to \$1.80 a share in 1948. Significantly, the earnings of its employees were 8 per cent less than in 1948."

"Is this the 'socialism' that the gentleman fears? Is he concerned that prices may have to be lowered in the future to get people to keep on buying, and that the profits of his Company

may be reduced below the \$125 million it made in 1949?

"On the day before this story appeared, another report told of a summary of the year issued by the General Motors Corporation. With total sales before taxes of over \$5.5 billion, this giant announced a net profit of \$656 million, 49 per cent greater than in 1948, and the highest ever received by any American business. The president of this Company received in 1948 a salary of \$166 thousand. In addition to his salary he was granted bonuses equaling \$280 thousand."

"In the face of this story of business prosperity surely it ill becomes corporations representing the investment of American citizens to talk of the dangers of a welfare state, or to apply the false label of 'socialism' to the programs we plan to continue our prosperity."

"In maintaining our sound business structure, we are always aware that the products of our industries are, first of all, the fruits of the men who work to produce by their labors. In a democratic nation, men and women are free to choose their occupations, and the conditions under which they will labor. This has been one great strength of our democracy. Your government will continue to safeguard these guaranteed freedoms. Laws which would curb these rights can only produce unnecessary and unprofitable conflict."



Above is the UAW delegation to Washington on unemployment. From left are: Walter Sowles, Charles Bowers, Ellis Howard and Owen Whitford.

WWJ Is Ruled Wrong in Refusing UAW Time to Air Chrysler Strike

WASHINGTON—Detroit radio stations WWJ and WWJ-FM violated Federal Communications Commission policy when they rejected a UAW-CIO request for broadcasting time to discuss the issues in the Chrysler strike, the FCC has ruled.

The commission acted on a complaint filed by Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer of the UAW. Mazey protested to the FCC after WWJ had refused to give or sell the Union radio time.

Mazey told the FCC that WWJ proposed to make time available only if the Union and Chrysler Corporation agreed to share the time, and if no agreement was reached, no time at all would be sold.

Mazey charged that Chrysler was able "to keep discussion off the air by simple refusal to participate."

In its decision the FCC asked WWJ to review its action taken in the UAW-Chrysler dispute. The commission declared that WWJ policy went contrary to principles laid down by the FCC on June 1, 1949, in a decision entitled: "Editorializing by Broadcast Licensees."

That ruling declared in part: "... where the licensee has determined that the subject is of sufficient import to receive broadcast attention, it would obviously not be in the public interest for spokesmen for one of the opposing points of view to be

able to exercise a veto power over the entire presentation by refusing to broadcast its position.

"Fairness, in such circumstances might require no more than that the licensee make a reasonable effort to secure responsible representation of the particular position and, if it fails in this effort, to continue to make available its facilities to the spokesmen for such position in the event that, after the original programs are broadcast, they then decide to avail themselves of a right to reply to present their contrary opinion."

The commission statement further declared:

"Since the issues in the Chrysler strike are admittedly of public importance, and on the basis of the information before us, it seems clear that the policy of the station in connection with this matter is contrary to the above-stated principles set forth in the above-mentioned decision of the commission.

"You are requested to review your action in this case and provide the commission with a further statement regarding it."

Chrysler Victory Spurs Harvester Bargaining

Contract demands and bargaining strategy were adopted at a meeting of the International Harvester Intra-Corporation Council held in Memphis, Tennessee, early in April. The session was attended by representatives of 10 local unions in Harvester plants.

The current collective bargaining contract expires on August 23, and negotiations for a replacement can begin 60 days in advance after appropriate notices.

In the meantime, negotiations on pensions and other workers' security features were resumed on May 9 under the terms of an economic reopener provided in the current contract.

John W. Livingston, Vice-President and Agricultural Implementation Department Director, stated: "The Harvester Company has been dragging its feet in the hope that the Chrysler workers would lose their fight with the

arrogant Chrysler Corporation and that such hoped-for loss would then reflect itself in the Harvester negotiations. The victory of the Chrysler workers will now clear the air for productive bargaining in Harvester."

The Harvester Council elected officers for the coming year as follows: President, Brother Lewis, Local 402; Vice-President, Brother Collins, Local 1106; Recording Secretary, Brother Cluts, Local 6; Financial Secretary, Brother Conner, Local 988; Sergeant-at-Arms, Brother Fitts, Local 226; Guide, Brother Bulat, Local 1101.

Two Years Have Passed

Union Renews Reward In Reuther Shootings

On the second anniversary of the attempt on the life of UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther, Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey issued the following statement:

"The UAW-CIO is as determined as ever to do all in its power to aid in the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the attempt on the life of President Walter P. Reuther two years ago today.

"The reward of \$100,000 offered by the Union for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the principal or any accessory in the shooting still stands, as does a similar reward offer of an additional \$100,000 in the case of Victor G. Reuther a year later.

"The UAW-CIO takes this occasion again to pledge its continued full and unstinted cooperation with city, state and federal law-enforcement agencies in their efforts to solve these crimes.

"We sincerely hope that the press and radio will again give generous publicity to the terms of the reward offers by the Union, and to the 'Secret Witness' plan by which informants can give information without disclosing their identity.

"Payment of the reward money will, as before, be entirely in the hands of a Citizens' Committee consisting of Judge Ira W. Jayne, George Edwards, Father Raymond J. Clancy, Rabbi Morris Adler and Rev. Dr. Henry Hitt Crane."

UAW-CIO Praised for Role In Stopping Gas Steal

Senator Paul Douglas, Illinois Democrat and leader in the successful fight for a Presidential veto of the consumer-robbing Kerr Bill, had this to say about the UAW-CIO's part in persuading the President to act:

"It is sometimes said that labor unions are interested only in higher wages.

"Here is an instance where the UAW performed a splendid public service in the interest of the consumers, including industrial consumers."

Douglas was quoted in *Detroit News'* Washington correspondent Blair Moody's column.

Moody also wrote:

"Kerr had let the impression drop that he had explained the bill to the President and he was for it.

"Kerr had 'explained' the measure to Mr. Truman, all right, but not as Senator Douglas, No. 1 Senate liberal, explained it, or as the United States Conference of Mayors explained it, or as Donald Montgomery and Paul Sifton, Washington representatives of the UAW-CIO, explained it. . . ."

Opponents of the measure were agreed that the Kerr Bill, which would have exempted gas prices from Federal Power Commission regulation, would have cost gas consumers literally billions of dollars in increased gas prices.

Kerr Bill Veto Helps Labor's Political Action

WASHINGTON—A looming obstacle in the path of labor's political action was turned into a boost by the President's veto of the Kerr gas bill. Kerr Bill backers seeking re-election—Taft, Capehart, Hickenlooper, Millikin and Young, for example—will have to explain the votes they cast for this ten-billion-dollar raid.

The veto will mean votes for Fair-Deal Democrats at the polls next November. Yet it took political courage on the part of the President. It will cost him votes in Congress. To veto it, he had to reject the pleas of some of the most important—and best-heeled—powers in the Democratic Party.

Reappointment of Nelson Lee

Smith to the Federal Power Commission could still bring victory to the oil and gas industry. His term runs out in June. If reappointed, he probably could persuade a majority in FPC to let the big oil companies set their own prices for gas. But the President knows Smith's record. His reappointment would appear to be impossible.

NLRB Decision Hits J. I. Case

The National Labor Relations Board, in a decision dated April 10, 1950, found the J. I. Case Company guilty of a refusal to bargain charge at its Bettendorf, Iowa, Works and ordered the Company to take corrective steps, it was announced by John W. Livingston, UAW Vice-President and Director of the J. I. Case Intra-Corporation Council.

An unfair labor practice charge had been filed by the UAW-CIO last September after the Company's brazenly admitted refusal to bargain since the UAW had been certified by the NLRB on August 5, 1949, as the exclusive bargaining agent of the Case workers. The Board summarily brushed aside the Company's shallow accusations against the validity of the representation elections and its resultant certification of the UAW by stating, "We reject as without merit the contentions raised by the Respondent in its brief with respect to the validity of the representation proceedings . . . and the

Union's certification based thereon, contentions which we have already overruled in the representation proceeding."

The Board reaffirmed its previous decision on the scope of the bargaining unit which the Company had challenged in its brief to the Board.

The NLRB order requires the Company to cease and desist from refusing to bargain with the UAW and to cease and desist from interfering in any other manner with the efforts of the Union to negotiate for, or to represent the work-

PISTON RING COUNCIL DONATES TO STRIKERS

The Piston Ring National Wage and Hour Council, meeting in its regular quarterly session at Columbus, Ohio, on April 15th and 16th, unanimously voted to donate \$200 from its treasury to the International Emergency Strike Fund and pledged its full moral and economic support to all strikers throughout the UAW in their fight for pensions, health insurance and other economic demands.

The Council also held its annual election of officers, all of whom were elected unanimously:

- President—Robert Gray, Local Union 156.
- Vice-President—Charles Reese, Local Union 156.
- Recording Secretary—John A. Willoughby, Local Union 416.
- Treasurer—Kenneth Ammerman, Local Union 416.
- Trustees—Harvey Yeager, Local Union 231; Harold Rochelle, Local Union 416; Carl Batchfield, Local Union 370.



"Well, you see, I'm non-union—and I work for peanuts!"

ers in the bargaining unit.

The order also required several affirmative actions to be taken by the Company including bargaining with the Union upon request, posting notices in their plant for 60 days which describe the bargaining unit and state the Company's intention to bargain with the Union upon request, and notifying the Board within ten days from the issuance of the order of the steps taken by the Company to comply with the order.

The Company has the right under the terms of the Taft-Hartley Act to appeal the NLRB order to the Circuit Court of Appeals and the past anti-labor record of the Company indicates that there is a possibility that the Company will exhaust its appeal rights in a final and futile effort to circumvent its responsibilities to bargain collectively with its workers.

Les Towner, UAW Agricultural Implement Department Representative, reported that the J. I. Case workers in Bettendorf hailed the Board's action as a victory which would spur their efforts to increase membership in Case Local 1008 to the maximum.



CHARGES FRANKING ABUSE. CIO Housing Director Leo Goodman tells a Congressional committee investigating lobbying that in 1948 the Committee for Constitutional Government used the franking privilege of Representative Ralph Gwinn (R., N. Y.) to send its propaganda through the mails. Above, Goodman shows a copy of the CIO News containing the story to Representatives Frank Buchanan (D., Pa.) and Charles Halleck (R., Ind.).

Truck Crashes Picketline; UAW-CIO Member Killed

Leland Martin, father of two, is dead. Brother Martin, staunch UAW-CIO member and good American, was run down and crushed under the wheels of a heavy truck driven by an unlicensed junior salesman, and manned by a pistol-waving deputy sheriff.

The picket-line established in front of the Rupert Die Casting Company in Kansas City, Mo., was bowled over like ten-pins as the truck, loaded with "hot" merchandise, rolled down a ramp and into the peacefully patrolling pickets.

The picket-line was established following the discharge of 11 UAW members for allegedly failing to meet production standards. But the Company had previously sought to prevent the workers from changing their affiliation from the discredited Mine, Mill and Smelter workers to the UAW-CIO.

After the dispute began, a customer of Rupert's got a writ of replevin to get certain items from the plant; but instead of loading the truck with the correct items, the truck was loaded with manu-

factured products and protected by law-enforcement officers on the scene.

UAW-CIO Representatives, led by Region 5's "Pete" Rinkebaugh, had great difficulty in restraining Brother Martin's enraged fellow-workers when they learned of his death.

Region 5 Education Representative Ed Coffey said, "The Kansas City die casters will be forever grateful for the supreme sacrifice made by Brother Leland Martin. They have created a monument to his memory. It is called—Local 132, UAW-CIO."

The vote, taken by the NLRB, was 198 to 3 in favor of the Union which Brother Leland Martin died to establish.



LELAND MARTIN

UAW Executive Board Supports Labor Unity

The UAW-CIO International Executive Board voted support of the labor unity plan recently submitted by CIO President Philip Murray to the country's major labor organizations.

In a resolution adopted by a unanimous vote, the Board said, "Our experience during the past few years definitely shows that the time is ripe for all elements of organized labor to join together for effective economic, political and legislative action, and to seek organic unity."

"Already, in many localities, all labor has been and is working together. In those areas, cooperation in political action and other fields has proved its effectiveness beyond any doubt."

"The formation of the joint committee proposed by President Murray would be another long step toward eventual organic unity of all labor — a goal to which we join wholeheartedly in aspiring."

"A number of great labor organizations have already indicated their approval of the CIO proposal. We congratulate those organizations, and sincerely hope they will be joined by the others invited."

Children's Camps Open in June

Children's summer camping, a booming UAW activity, opens its 1950 season at three sites next month.

Pottstown, Pa., and Port Huron and Sand Lake, Mich., local unions will send 2,000 youngsters during the six weeks the camps are open.

All camps feature expert leadership, complete facilities and equipment, and provide educational and recreational experience for children who qualify.

The FDR-CIO Memorial Camp for children at Port Huron is sponsored by Wayne County Council, Michigan CIO Council and the UAW Recreation Department, and will open on July 1. Augusta Harris, physical educational and recreational expert from Michigan State Normal College, will be Director, assisted by Merrill Hershey.

Both boys and girls are accepted for all of the one-week session. Fee is \$13 per week, exclusive of transportation.

Local 12 camp for children at Sand Lake will open June 18 for boys and on July 30 for girls. The Toledo camp is directed by Clem Holewinski. Fees are \$7 for children of members and \$15 for children of non-members.

At Pottstown, the community camp will be opened on July 3, directed by Royden Welker and under the sponsorship of Local 644. Five hundred boys and girls will be in attendance over a period of six weeks.

ing the names of over 95 per cent of the employees of the Aluminum Magnesium Company were filed with the NLRB.

A hearing before the NLRB on the petition of the Die Casting Department of the UAW-CIO filed for workers of the Los Angeles Die Casting Company, Los Angeles, California, will be held on June 28. The majority of the Los Angeles Die Cast workers have indicated their desire to disaffiliate from Mine Mill. Mine Mill is desperately trying to rush through negotiations in Southern California and signed two-year agreements with employers so as to head off the revolt of the rank and file against the policies of the Mine Mill officers which have resulted in the expulsion of Mine Mill from CIO.



46. RED-153 © 1950 CARL STAMWITZ

"Reducing is easy! Just try living on the same diet your employees can afford!"

In the first major test, among 30,000 employees of General Motor's electrical divisions, IUE defeated UE 9 to 1. Bargaining votes are scheduled to be held soon among 7,000 RCA Victor and 100,000 General Electric employees.

In the Detroit Westinghouse manufacturing and repair shop, the UE won a unanimous vote from 61 workers.

in the election at the big turbine plant in East Pittsburgh where 13,000 production workers are employed. The UE has won majorities in plants with 12,000 workers.

Fifty-one elections were conducted by the National Labor Relations Board in 40 plants in 31 cities.

CIO Scores Over UE in Westinghouse Vote

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — The International Union of Electrical Workers, IUE-CIO, claimed a second major victory over the United Electrical Workers (UE) as they won bargaining rights for 29,000 of Westinghouse Corporation's 55,000 workers.

No decision has been reached

Unanimous Vote

Michigan Anti-Labor Law Bounced by Supreme Court

Michigan's Bonine-Tripp Act, requiring a state-conducted vote before permitting workers to strike, was thrown out as unconstitutional on May 8, 1950, by a unanimous decision of the United States Supreme Court. The high court held that Michigan could not impair the right to strike in interstate commerce in conflict with the federal law.

The cause was brought by the UAW-CIO in the state court as a result of the 1948 Chrysler strike for the "third round" of wage increases in the auto industry. Convinced that the Bonine-Tripp strike vote requirement was unconstitutional, the UAW officers challenged the state law in a suit to enjoin the Attorney General from enforcing the statute. The state circuit court agreed with the Union that the law was unconstitutional but was reversed by the Michigan Supreme Court.

In the opinion by Chief Justice Vinson, the Federal Supreme Court said that the Michigan strike vote requirement "conflicts with the exercise of federally protected labor rights. A state statute so at war with federal law cannot survive."

NEW ACT OUT, TOO

Irving J. Levy, UAW General Counsel, who with his partner, Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., handled the case in the Supreme Court, pointed out that the decision meant that the strike vote provisions of the new Bonine-Tripp Act were also unconstitutional. The 1949 amendments which made some minor changes in the law still retained the requirement for a majority vote at a state election before there could be a strike. The Supreme Court's holding was, however, that a state could not do this in the case of any company subject to

the jurisdiction of the National Labor Relations Board.

Because the court threw out the Michigan law on the ground that it was unconstitutional under the interstate commerce clause, it did not reach the Union's other contention that its members were deprived of due process by the interference with the right to strike. The court's attention was called to the provision in the UAW Constitution for its own democratic strike vote of the members, but the Union pointed out that under the Michigan law, non-members would vote on whether Union members could go out on strike.

WRONG SEVERAL WAYS

In declaring that the Michigan law was unconstitutional, the Supreme Court pointed out that the Bonine-Tripp Act conflicted with the federal law in several ways. The state act imposed additional delays after the Union gave the 60-day notice required by the Taft-Hartley Act and was free to strike. The federal law does not call for a majority vote for any strike. Congress rejected such a requirement which had been proposed by Congressman Hartley. Furthermore, Michigan could hold a strike vote only among the Michigan workers. In the case of Chrysler, the bargaining unit covered employees in other states.

Before going to press, UAW counsel had not had sufficient time to see how this important Supreme Court decision affected the restrictive labor laws of other states.

Clark Plants Merge; UAW-CIO Benefits Offered to Workers

UAW-CIO benefits are being offered 2,200 workers of the Clark Equipment Co. of Jackson, Michigan, in an organizing drive conducted by UAW-CIO's Regional office.

In the drive, the UAW-CIO is bucking a "sweetheart" agreement signed by the Company with the UAW-AFL after just one man had moved into the plant. Previously, the Company had two plants, one under contract with the UAW-CIO—the other with the UAW-AFL, which represents potato chip shavers, pickle makers, and almost everything else but auto workers.

The backdoor agreement is below UAW-CIO standards in many important respects.

Organization of the plant is un-

der the direction of International Representatives Ted Chilson and Harold Marsh, both of Regional Director William C. MacAulay's staff.

Chilson pointed out to Clark workers: "The UAW-CIO represents more gear, axle and transmission workers than the entire membership of the UAW-AFL."

"If benefits and gains are to be won, they must be won by the Union that represents comparable workers throughout the industry."



After discussion with UAW-CIO members, this "UAW"-AFL Chief Steward at the Clark Equipment plant decided not to use his baseball bat; but did decide to sign a UAW-CIO application card. Note pocketbook in same hand as bat. He paid his initiation fee and dues.



NAB Asks TV Mfgs. For FM Band Tuners

The National Association of Broadcasters, trade organization of station owners, asked all manufacturers of television sets at their recent convention to include FM band tuners in all future models.

Morris Novik, UAW radio consultant, first proposed this action at the convention session of FM independent stations. According to Novik, the addition of an FM tuner would not cost more than \$2.50. There is no reason why every TV set should not make superior radio reception possible for home owners by providing an FM tuner. In addition to the pressure which it is anticipated NAB will put on TV manufacturers, the general public and particularly union members should insist on FM tuners when buying television.

Since the cost of adding the FM tuner is so low, it has been charged by FM independent operators that the TV manufacturers have been deliberately withholding the advantages of FM radio from consumers.

TV sets which have FM tuner on all models are Dumont, Atwater, Pilot, Adrea, Remington and TRAD. All others restrict inclusion of FM tuners to the high-priced models.



Charming songstress Kay Armen delights WCUO radio listeners each Monday evening at 7:45 p. m. when the Ohio Farm Bureau Insurance Cooperative presents "Curtain Call." The lovely Kay sings old favorites and new hits from well-known musical comedies.

Detroit's "Displaced Persons" Tell Story Over WDET Mike

The Poe-Jefferson Neighborhood Council of Detroit met to hear Detroit's Housing Director, Harry J. Durbin, deliver a heartless explanation of the mass eviction of the residents of their neighborhood. Four hundred fifty people heard Mr. Durbin—stooge of the building and real estate interests in the city—tell the people to get out or be taken to court on the first of May.

The housing plan, which has forced the evictions with no provision for relocation of hundreds of families whose homes are being torn down to make way for "private enterprise housing," was termed an "atom-bomb approach to the housing problem" by the UAW-CIO representative at the meeting.

After the meeting, several of the evictees told their stories to Detroit audience over WDET's Saturday evening program—INSIDE DETROIT.

AROUND THE TOWN GETS SPONSOR

The Gerrity Michigan Corporation, producers of Dishmaster, will sponsor "Around the Town" on UAW radio stations WDET and WCUO.

Dishmaster, in its five-day-a-week show, will bring to UAW radio listeners news of local union meetings, activities of clubs, fraternal organizations and women's groups. "Around the Town" will be heard at 4:55 p. m., Monday through Friday on WDET in Detroit, and the time of the program on WCUO in Cleveland will be announced later. Dishmaster, a labor-saving, dish-washing device, is made by members of Local 1055, UAW-CIO, in Adrian, Michigan.



"The Consumer Talks," new program on WDET every Saturday at 5:45 p. m., features Caroline Ware, longtime protector of labor's spending dollar. Dr. Ware, professor at Howard University, reports on legislative proposals designed to safeguard workers' pocketbooks. Mrs. Sarah Newman, former president of the Potomac Cooperative Federation, joins Dr. Ware in the weekly discussion of consumer problems. Tell your wife to listen every Saturday at 5:45 p. m., UAW Radio Station in Detroit, WDET, 101.9 on the FM band.

Nunn on CKLW For 52 Weeks

The UAW-CIO has signed a contract with Detroit and Windsor Radio Station CKLW for a daily news program for the next 52 weeks.

Guy Nunn, UAW-CIO newscaster, will continue his searching commentary on national and international news at 7:15 p. m., Monday through Friday on CKLW, 800 on AM dial. "Labor Views the News," as the program is called, is also aired on the two UAW stations at the same time, WDET, 101.9 on FM band in Detroit and WCUO, 103.3 on FM in Cleveland.

Nunn was first put on CKLW by the International Union during the Chrysler strike. The enthusiastic response from local unions throughout Michigan, northern Ohio and Indiana, to the broadcasts stimulated the decision of the International Union to continue the labor news program on a yearly basis.

Local unions are asked to publicize the program at membership meetings, on bulletin boards and in their newspapers.



Vice-President Alben W. Barkley studies Jefferson-Jackson Day program before making his keynote speech at the Michigan dinner April 20. UAW Station WDET-FM again scored another first when it was the only Michigan station to air the Vice-President's address and that of Governor G. Mennen Williams. Standing is Hicks Griffith, Chairman, Michigan Democratic Party, and to the far left is Mrs. India Edwards, Director, Women's Division of the national organization.

Taystee Sponsors Dixieland Swing

Following the trend in music back to the days of the twenties, a new program made its appearance on the WCUO schedule Saturday night, May 6, at 7 p. m., under the sponsorship of the Taystee Catering Co. of Cleveland. A half hour of Dixieland swing played by the Dixielanders in the traditional manner revived memories of this musical style that is again sweeping the country.

Taystee Catering, Cleveland's largest catering concern, is well known in union circles, as they operate lunch rooms in many plants and cater to union gatherings.

LABOR'S ON THE AIR WDET

(DETROIT)

101.9 on FM Band

WEEKDAYS

7:30 p. m.—Washington Report with Kaiser-Frazer Liberal Commentators Marquis Childs and Joseph Harsch.

10:45 p. m.—Frank Edwards, AFL Commentator.

SATURDAYS

5:45 p. m.—Consumer Talks.

6:30 p. m.—Inside Detroit.

7:30 p. m.—UAW-CIO Sports Special.

SUNDAYS

12:45 p. m.—Rhythm and Reason.

1:30 p. m.—Voice of Labor, Michigan CIO Council.

3:30 p. m.—It's Your Life.

5:00 p. m.—UAW-CIO Education Department.

6:30 p. m.—Brother Chairman with Local Union officers.

FOR NEWS THAT'S FAIR LISTEN TO WCUO

(CLEVELAND)

103.3 on FM Band

FEATURES

MONDAY

7:45 p. m.—Curtain Call, sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance Companies.

WEDNESDAY

6:00 p. m.—News, sponsored by United Rubber Workers.

THURSDAY

6:00 p. m.—News, sponsored by District Auto Council.

FRIDAY

7:45 p. m.—It's Your Life.

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

4:15 p. m.—Time for the Ladies, featuring Isabel Edgar.

WEEKDAYS—Daily

7:30 p. m.—Washington Report, with Joseph Harsch and Marquis Childs, sponsored by Kaiser-Frazer.

8:15 p. m.—Guy Nunn, Labor Views the News.

10:00 p. m.—Frank Edwards, sponsored by AFL.

SUNDAY

7:00 p. m.—Dixielanders, sponsored by Taystee Catering Co.

LISTEN TO YOUR UNION STATIONS—WCUO-CLEVELAND, WDET-DETROIT

Bell Vengeance Trials Begin

LOCKPORT, N. Y.—Charles S. McDonough, attorney representing 23 union men on trial here for riot and conspiracy, told the jury in his opening address of his intention to submit proof that every act of violence in the Bell strike last year was deliberately provoked by the Bell Aircraft Corporation.

The charges of riot and conspiracy grew out of a disturbance at the gates of the Bell Aircraft plant last September 7 in the course of the 19-week strike conducted by 1,700 members of Local 501. Under New York state law, the rioting charge is a felony carrying a maximum penalty of five years in jail and a \$5,000 fine. The conspiracy charge is a misdemeanor, subject, on conviction, to a maximum penalty of one year in jail and a \$500 fine.

MASS TRIAL

Under the indictment, handed down by a Niagara County grand jury last September, all of the 23 defendants are being tried at one time in a mass trial—a procedure that seriously hampers the efforts of the defense to explain the issues to the jury of housewives, farmers and businessmen. Two other similar mass trials on contempt of court charges, held last fall before juries of the same character, resulted in convictions which have been appealed.

Defendants are: Martin Gerber, Director of UAW-CIO Region 9; Edward F. Gray, UAW-CIO Sub-Regional Director in the Buffalo area; Ben Blackwood, Jay C. Watkins and Clayton W. Fountain, International Representatives; Robert Seigler, Phil Ralabate, Joseph Mordeno, Donald Slaiman, James Schuetz, Ben Nowak, Chet Rubak, Joseph Yantamosie, Merton House, Bernard Schmidt, Hilton Bunce, Frank St. George, Joseph Blackowicy, Gasper Varco, Frank Vohs, and Edward Lytle, all members of UAW-CIO Local 501; Joseph Ippalito, a member of UAW-CIO Local 424, and Donald Fried, a member of the United Steelworkers, CIO.

This vindictive and vicious legal persecution of strikers, strike leaders and strike sympathizers six months after the official end of the strike has few precedents in the history of the American labor movement. One observer has noted that the riot charge has only been used three times previously in the history of the law—and the most recent occasion was some 30 years ago. In fact, aside from its invocation to attack a union, the nature of the crime described in the rioting act is simply a fancy name for disorderly conduct.

What the trial means is that Bell Aircraft Corporation is still waging its ferocious attempt to destroy Local 501. Few strikes in recent years have been marked by such brazen and fanatical demonstrations of violent strike-breaking and union-busting.

BEGAN LAST JUNE

The Bell Strike started on June 12, 1949, after weeks of fruitless negotiations on routine UAW-CIO demands, including a pension plan and contract improvements. In a plant where for more than 12 years collective bargaining had proceeded with relative smoothness, the about-face of Bell management in 1949 came with shocking suddenness.

Once the strike was under way, Bell officials followed a tailor-made strike-breaking formula which harked back to the Remington-Rand "Mohawk Valley Formula" of 1936. Where Bell could not engage the services of Pearl Bergoff and his professional finks—as Mr. Rand did in the old days—new innovations and stunts were designed to bring the "formula" up to date. These improvements included helicopters for spying and dropping tear gas bombs, an airlift for scabs and armored buses to shuttle strike-breakers in and out of the plant.

First, Bell officials secured an injunction from a New York State Supreme Court judge. This writ limited pickets to 15 at a gate not less than 10 feet apart. Then the Bell attorneys processed trumped-up charges of violations of the injunction against the strikers.

BACK-TO-WORK

In the middle of August, 1949,

Bell declared that the plant was open for production and invited the workers to come back in defiance of the Union. Foremen, supervisors, engineers and scabs who had been duped into returning were pressed into the strike-breaking effort. Workers were called on the phone and visited in their homes by these agents of management, and subjected to terrific pressure to come back to work. They were told that the Union was through, that an independent (company) union was to be formed and that they would lose their seniority if they did not return at once.

During negotiations in late August and early September, in which the UAW-CIO bargaining team was led by Vice-President John W. Livingston, the Company took a position which made an honorable settlement of the strike impossible. Bell officials insisted that the Union agree to a six-point proposal which included superseniority for scabs and discharge of all strikers whom the management ACCUSED of violence, threats of violence or violation of the injunction.

It was at this point that a United Labor Defense Committee was formed in behalf of the CIO, the AFL, the IAM and other unions in the Buffalo area to rally support for Local 501. On September 7, this committee staged a mass demonstration at the plant. That was when scabs and strikebreakers attacked the pickets with stones and crude blackjacks, precipitating the disorder upon which the current trial is based.

LEGAL TERROR

Following this open provocation of violence by Bell agents, District Attorney William Miller and Sheriff Henry Becker of Niagara County launched a campaign of legal terror against the strikers. Miller visited the plant, addressed a meeting of scabs and strikebreakers, pledged himself to arrest strikers in wholesale lots and to set bail so high they could not get out of jail. Becker sent his deputies out to round up every strike leader. The Local 501 Hall and the UAW-CIO Regional Office were raided by squads of police and deputies.

All of this time, the Company was hiring strikebreakers, still taking them into the plant with planes and armored buses. The undersheriff used the control tower of the Bell Airport to direct his helicopters and squad cars. The helicopters were furnished by Bell, as were the horses used by mounted deputies, and both horses and deputies were housed and fed inside



Pep meetings were held frequently in the open fields near the Bell plant. Here Martin Gerber, Director of UAW-CIO Region 9 (towering in center of picture), addresses such a meeting. Gerber suffered a fractured skull on September 7 when he fell from a flying squad car to the pavement.

the Bell plant.

Still the ranks of the strikers held. The wives came out in steadily increasing numbers to take their turn on the picket lines. On September 28, Bell attacked again. Plant guards brought tear gas out of the plant and threw it at the strikers and their wives; other tear gas bombs were dropped from heli-

copters. Men and women pickets alike were clubbed, beaten and arrested. At the Lockport jail, when the women were slapped behind the bars, inmates already there said that the sheriff's matron had started getting the place ready for the newcomers the day before their arrest.

At the peak of this persecution,

62 workers faced a total of 116 trials. Maximum penalties threatened totaled over 375 years in jail and \$350,000 in fines. The UAW-CIO had to post \$431,000 in bail to keep its people out of jail.

CONTRACT

Finally Governor Dewey appointed a fact-finding board to look into the strike and recommend a settlement. This board worked out a proposal to end the strike and have itself act as a board of arbitration. This was accepted by the Company and the Union, and a contract was finally signed.

But still the Company continued its assault. In late October and early November, Company attorneys pressed contempt of court charges against 28 strikers and strike leaders. A judge literally instructed the jury to find them guilty. The jury did so and the convictions have been appealed. Now 23 victims of the Bell strike-breaking campaign are on trial for a felony and a misdemeanor as a result of which they may all go to jail for six years each.

WALL STREET

In the background is the shady form of the First York Company, a Wall Street holding company controlled by two of America's richest families—who bought up control of Bell Aircraft about a year ago and initiated its new labor policy.

FUNDS FOR THE EXPENSE OF THE TRIALS ARE BEING RAISED BY "THE COMMITTEE TO AID IN THE LEGAL DEFENSE OF BELL WORKERS." CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO RICHARD LIPSITZ, 506 BRISBANE BUILDING, BUFFALO, NEW YORK.



These deputies, typical of the army of them kept in the Bell plant during the strike, are shown here rushing a picket off to jail during one of the disturbances provoked by scabs armed with blackjacks. —Buffalo Courier-Express.



Tear gas day—September 28—with a few women picketing and a few more strikers standing around with their hands in their pockets. It was the menace of these women with placards and men with their hands in their pockets that frightened the Bell plant guards into throwing the tear gas bombs shown exploding in the picture. The pickets were then arrested and hauled off to jail. —Buffalo Courier-Express.

Nash Vacation Plan Renewed

Renewal of the vacation plan for 1950 for UAW-CIO Nash-Kelvinator workers was announced this month by Leonard Woodcock, Director of the Nash-Kelvinator Council.

The plan provides 88 hours' pay at regular rate for all employees with five years' seniority, 66 hours' pay for all employees with three years' seniority and 44 hours' pay for all employees with one year of seniority, providing such employees work in 26 weeks during the year. If employees of one or more years of seniority do not work in 26 weeks but do work in 13 weeks, they receive two and one-half per cent of their gross earnings.

Time lost through sickness is counted as time worked for the purpose of qualification for the two and one-half per cent of gross wages. The agreement also provides that time off shall be taken for vacation.

CREDIT DUE LOCAL UNION PRESIDENT

Because a line of type was dropped in the Budd pension story in the last issue of the *Auto Worker*, the name of Budd Local 813 President James McCaffrey was omitted. Brother McCaffrey had a major rôle in the negotiation of this highly-important agreement, and he was highly praised by Regional Director Martin Gerber, who called the error to the attention of the *Auto Worker*.

UAW Local 174 Wins Bargaining Election

DETROIT—Local 174, UAW-CIO, has been chosen as bargaining agent by employees of the Metro Auto Electric, Inc. In a vote conducted by the National Labor Relations Board, Local 174 received 21 out of 27 ballots cast.



UAW Presents Truck To French Workers

PARIS, France—Victor Reuther, Director of UAW's Education Department, last month presented a sound truck, as a gift from the membership of the UAW, to the French Force Ouvriere (Workers' Force), trade union confederation.

Fully equipped for both sound and recording purposes and capable of carrying almost 3,000 pounds of printed material, the truck, a one-ton Renault model, will be pressed into service immediately for organizing work at the Renault auto plant in Paris. Thereafter, during the next few months, it will be used in strategic industrial centers throughout France in FO's campaign for election of workers' representatives to the highly-important boards administering the French social security system.

Top officials of Force Ouvriere attended the presentation ceremony, including Leon Jouhaux, President of FO and for 40 years general secretary of the French CGT until the split in late 1947. Accompanying Reuther were Elmer Cope, CIO's European representative, and Jay Krane, assistant to Cope.

In accepting the gift on behalf of FO, Jouhaux expressed the hope that the American trade union movement would throw all its weight into making the newly-established International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) a powerful instrument for the defense of workers' interests throughout the world. Reuther declared that the sound

truck was only a symbol of the common interests which bound the free trade unions in the U. S., Europe and elsewhere in their struggle against totalitarianism and reaction. The UAW, he said, regarded the truck as merely a small token of repayment for the inspiration which the young American movement had always drawn from the long struggle of the French trade unions.



Above is a group of delegates from St. Louis Locals 25, 819, 691, 282, 986 and 881, who met last month and planned the program and arrangements for the first conference on women's problems, sponsored by the Women's Bureau of the International Union and Region 5. An all-day conference will be held June 10 at the Fairgrounds Hotel in St. Louis.

MINESWEEPER

In Washington, D. C., Naval publicity officers in the Pentagon planned to frame a letter they received from a Wyoming housewife. She wrote that she had just read the Navy had developed a new minesweeper. "I would like," she wrote, "to get one of these because the mine my husband works in is very dirty."

\$450 for Bro. Speight

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of Early Speight, former member of Local 415, Detroit, should tell him that he has a check for \$450 waiting for him at the NLRB office.

Bro. Speight was employed by Dean Sellers, Detroit Ford dealer, who was ordered to pay back pay following the mechanics' strike. The money will be returned to Sellers if not collected by Bro. Speight.

Sparkplug Workers Vote UAW, 242-83

Workers at A-C Sparkplug, Milwaukee, voted to join UAW-CIO by a 242-83 vote last month, Harvey Kitzman, UAW-CIO Region 10 Director, announced.

Organization at Sparkplug had been carried on since the plant opened several months ago. Several unions tried to organize at the same time, notably the IAM, IBEW and UAW-AFL.

Voting was under NLRB supervision. In the unit won by UAW-CIO are all production and maintenance workers. Wally Finn, UAW-CIO International Representative was in charge of the drive.

President of the Sparkplug Local 438, UAW-CIO, is Sigurd Olson. Herb Jacobson is recording secretary. The local union charter was installed several months ago during the organizational drive, after more than 50 per cent of the production workers had signed up with UAW-CIO.



PADUCAH, Ky.—Pictured above are members of the strike-bound Paducah Battery Plant, Local 99, UAW-CIO. Local 99 is a newly organized local in Region 3. It is the southernmost local in Region 3 and a key local in terms of the Southern Organizing Drive. The local is on strike over wages and contract demands.

Studebaker, Local 5, wanted to make sure every member of Local 99 had a ham for Easter Sunday, so they sent down enough for the local. Pictured above, left to right, are Frank Bartee, International Representative; Maurice Cohen, Local 5; the pretty young lady receiving a ham is a member of

Local 99; Jerry Snyder, Local 5, and Jack Parkhill, President of Local 99.

Raymond Berndt, Director of Region 3, stated at the last meeting of the District Auto Council, "Not only must we bend every effort to assist the Chrysler workers in their all-out fight to win their demands, but we must also do everything possible to assist the Paducah Local 99. Local 99 is waging a battle for all the Kentucky workers. Wages are low and prices are high. Local 99 demands are most certainly justified, and I want to call on all locals in Region 3 to send money, food and give moral support to this fine group of workers."

POSTMASTER. Send notices of change of address on Form 3578 (Canada, Form 67B) and copies returned under labels No. 3579 (Canada, labels No. 29B) to 2457 E. Washington St., Indianapolis 7, Ind.