Pattern Pact Wins I-H Strike

UAW

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

SOLIDARITY

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CHICAGO — International Harvester made quite a prophet out of a grey-headed oldtimer in its McCormick Works here.

Standing alongside the soot-darkened Chicago plant as day broke last Nov. 13, he told fellow pickets:

"They'll settle Jan. 13, next year. I know just how this company thinks. They'll leave us out through Christmas and New Year's."

It was still Jan. 13 when the UAW and International Harvester reached tentative agreement on a new three-year pact, though important conversation kept negotiators locked together until the early hours of Jan. 14.

Its Own Schedule

Harvester, which operates in every way according to its own schedule, chose to end the strike it caused two months to the day it began.

It dropped the last of its 76 original demands against long-standing privileges held by Harvester workers and the gesture paved the way for settlement of the UAW's most vital strike.

UAW Vice President Pat Greathouse had led the UAW's bargaining team in near-continuous negotiations throughout the two-month crisis after spearheading the John Deere settlement which should have warded off strike action against Harvester.

'Achieved Goals'

Greathouse said: "We achieved many of our avowed goals and we successfully resisted the company's cold, calculated on-

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Liberals Open New Battle For Jobs, Rights Program

UAW'S REUTHER (left) is seated at industrial union department dinner beside Paul G. Hoffman, former Studebaker president, now heading a UN agency (center), and AFL-CIO President George Meany. All were featured speakers at the Washington conference on the problems of science and technology.

Congressional liberals, with the strong support of organized labor, began rolling up their sleeves to start the job of putting America back to work as the 86th Congress began its second full week of business today.

Despite a setback in the Senate, where liberal efforts to kill the filibuster threat by amending Rule 22 were smothered, Senate liberals were at work designing legislative recommendations aimed at solving many of the problems facing Americans at the start of 1959.

In Detroit, UAW President Walter P. Reuther promised to submit a full-scale legislative program to the union's international executive board at its next meeting Feb. 2. Later in February, he said, he would take the board's recommendations before the executive council of the AFL-CIO in an attempt to "solicit the broad support of the American labor movement."

Among proposals Reuther will recommend to the board are:

1. A depressed areas bill which would give to industrial centers hit by hard-core unemployment and plant obsolescence, much-needed aid in lo-

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Labor Blast Irks Mikoyan

WASHINGTON — If Deputy Premier Anastas I. Mikoyan goes back to the USSR with any irate recollections, they'll probably be about the reception he got from AFL-CIO leaders, not from U.S. businessmen.

UAW President Walter P. Reuther was among the sharpest face-to-face critics of Russia's No. 2 Communist who toured this country.

Reuther and Mikoyan met at a luncheon given by the AFL-CIO's industrial union department here. Other labor leaders also were there to give the top-ranking visitor from Russia a hot lunch and an even warmer going-over for two-and-a-half hours. AFL-CIO President George Meany refused to attend.

Meeting Important

Reuther and James B. Carey, IUE president, said the meeting was important because Mikoyan should return to the Kremlin with a first-hand

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Court Ruling 'Humanizes' Michigan Jobless Pay Law

LANSING, Mich.—Michigan's supreme court has upheld a five-year fight by 11,000 Detroit Ford workers for unemployment benefits for a period they were made idle by a strike at the company's forge plant in Canton, O. Benefits could total one million dollars.

The decision was hailed by the UAW as a momentous step forward for the rights of Michigan workers and brings the state into step with policies already established in most other industrial states.

By a 5-2 vote, the Democratic controlled court ruled that employes of a company idled in Michigan by a strike in another plant of the same company in another state were entitled to jobless pay.

Ken Bannon, director of the UAW national Ford department saw the decision as "heartening news not only to the 11,000 men and women affected but to all of the state's workers who will not, as a result of this decision, be made unfairly to bear the burden of total income loss during a strike against an out-of-state plant of the same company," he said.

Bannon noted that the decision helps "humanize" Michigan's unemployment compensation legislation by removing some of the severe and restrictive constrictions placed upon it in the past.

The decision was written by Justice George Edwards and reversed previous decisions by a lower court and the Michigan Employment Security Commission.

Pay claims will range from $27 to $105 each to the men, all members of Rouge Local 600. It is expected that a sizeable number of other cases in the lower courts will be affected by the action.

The decision—as was expetced—set off a blast of criticism by newspapers, Republican legislators and state business leaders. The Ford Co. announced it is considering an appeal to the Supreme Court, and rapped the decision as a shattering blow to "state neu-

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Reuther Urges U.S. Act in World Crisis

America and the free world need to realize the urgency of the crisis facing the world today, understand the problems, comprehend the dimensions of the challenge, set up a list of priorities of things that need to be done and go ahead and do them.

So UAW President Walter P. Reuther told one session of the UAW-CIO industrial union department's conference this month on "Labor and Science in a Changing World."

Indifference to the problems posed by the modern seven-league boot strides of science, the growing scientific and industrial might of the Soviet Union and its satellites and neglect on the part of the free world to keep pace in the social sciences are the greatest threats to peace and freedom, Reuther said.

"I am not frightened about the challenge we face," he said. "I am frightened by our failure as a people and a nation to comprehend the dimensions of the Soviet challenge or to understand the totality of the threat."

'Colossal Indifference'

He quoted Gen. Omar Bradley: "I am sometimes discouraged, not by the magnitude of the problem but by our colossal indifference to the problem. It's the corruption of complacency that contains the seeds of potential disaster."

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Missile Cuts Reduce Jobs

Tens of thousands of UAW members in the aircraft industry have been laid off due to Defense department cutbacks, UAW Vice President Leonard Woodcock has revealed.

Woodcock, director of the union's aircraft department, said these cutbacks have been carried out "in the face of the obvious fact that we are behind in the race for outer space."

Among UAW-organized plants affected are Chance-Vought in Dallas, Bell Aircraft in Buffalo, Martin Co. in Baltimore, Vertol Aircraft Corp., Morton, Pa., Douglas Aircraft in Tulsa and Tucson, Fairchild, Long Island, N.Y., several Curtiss-Wright divisions and other plants.

North American Aviation plants on the West Coast and at Columbus, O., were affected by earlier cutbacks.

While no final figures on the number laid off or about to be laid off at these various

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Not So Often

Starting with this issue Solidarity will be published once a month, rather than twice a month as before.

The change of schedule was dictated by an economy program launched by the UAW executive board (for the reasons behind this, see Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey's "State of the Union" report on Page 8).

Regional editions will be maintained, however, and the size of the paper will remain the same under present plans.

New Contract Settles Memphis B-W Strike

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Workers at the Mechanics Universal Joint division of the Borg-Warner Corp. are back at work after overwhelmingly ratifying a new three-year agreement which ended Local 237's three-week strike against the plant, Region 8 Director E. T. Michael reports. The vote was 104-19.

Contract improvements include a 6c annual improvement factor and liberalizations in pensions, SUB, insurance and vacations, among other gains.

The improvement factor calls for a 6c an hour wage increase retroactive to Nov. 15; another 6c on Nov. 15, 1959; and 6c on Dec. 15, 1960. Fifteen cents of the cost-of-living escalator float were frozen into base rates, leaving 10c in the float.

Skilled workers received an additional 8c an hour pay boost, and a 7c inequity increase went to several labor grades.

Incentive workers will receive 14c an hour above their base rate for down time. Piece rates plus 14c will also be paid on jobs to be time studied until the new rate is established. If the latter is protested by the union, a 15-day trial period is provided after which, if the price is still in dispute, the 14c will be paid until it is corrected.

Among the many improvements in the vacation provisions of the new agreement is a boost in vacation pay next year to 5½% of annual earnings for those with more than 10 years' service, and to three weeks and 7% for those with 15 years' service.

Improvements were also negotiated in job posting, health and safety, holiday pay, call-in pay, grievance procedures, seniority and recall rights.

The improved SUB plan includes separation pay and other new features. Pesnions were also improved. In both instances, these improvements go beyond those negotiated with the Big Three.

Insurance improvements include an additional $1,000 life, $3,000 accidental death and dismemberment policy; increases in hospital room allowances to $12 a day, and weekly sickness benefits from $35 to $53.

SNOW AND COLD were problems even in Memphis, Tenn., where the thermometer hovered around 20 when this picture of Borg-Warner pickets was taken. Strike of UAW Local 237 against B-W's Mechanics Universal Joint division has since been settled. From the left, Region 8 Director E. T. Michael; C. E. Strickland, international representative; Wallace R. Dowty, local president; Ray E. Minor and Jack V. Falcicchio, bargaining committee members, and Willis Chambliss.

BACK PAY CHECK for more than $4,300 is presented to Ray Bassemier by Ray Blythe (foreground, with hat), president of Chrysler Local 265, Evansville, Ind. Check was the result of successful arbitration of Bassemier's discharge (see story at right). Happy onlookers include (from the left) Audrey Murphy, local vice president; Clifford Hooe, financial secretary; John Adams, recording secretary; Wilbur Fehrenbacher, chairman of the bargaining committee; Jim Cichocki, Chrysler department rep, and G. W. Murphy, Region 3 rep.

Stockholders Revolt

New Management Buries Old Gripes

YORK, Pa. — Things have changed at the York-Hoover Corp.

A rebellion by stockholders has led to a complete turnover in the corporation's top officers—including the director of labor relations—and the new management has lost no time in "doing right" by UAW Local 1079.

Here's the whole story, as Region 8 Director E. T. Michael tells it:

In 1957, Local 1079 spent 5½ months on strike—a strike precipitated by management's attempt to water down the existing contract. Despite threats to sell the plant, he local won, maintaining not only all the provisions of the old contract but gaining substantial wage boosts and fringe benefits.

The ink was hardly dry on the new contract when management thought up a new gimmick—forcing the local to arbitrate every grievance. The object was not only to harass the union but to try to get arbitration interpretations contrary to past practice which would give management the changes in the contract they failed to get during the strike.

As a result, a backlog of 17 key cases was scheduled to go to arbitration when the corporation's stockholders suddenly saw the "light."

At their annual meeting, they threw out all of the top officers of the corporation, including the director of labor relations.

The new management lost no time in telling Local 1079 that it intended to honor the contract and suggested further meetings on the 17 cases before going to arbitration.

This suggestion was followed by two days of intensive bargaining, during which all 17 cases were settled. The settlement included these points:

- Time spent on strike will be counted as time worked for vacation pay purposes for workers laid off after the strike settlement. This has resulted in back pay of more than $8,000 to about 140 workers.
- All manual work will be performed by members of the bargaining unit. The old management had established a so-called research and development department and had used its personnel to perform production work, causing layoffs among workers in the bargaining unit.
- Back pay of 18c an hour for all class 1 machine operators who had failed to receive back-up rate while off incentive from May to December, 1958.
- During layoffs, workers still employed cannot be assigned to any operation from which others have been laid off.
- A number of cases in which seniority rights were ignored in promotions were also settled.

The two-day session was handled by a union team headed by Dick Heyne, local president, and Clair Hughes, shop chairman, assisted by B. W. Bothe, assistant regional director.

The company produces auto bodies and caskets.

Chrysler Worker Regains Job, Big Back Pay Check

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Ray Bassemier is starting out the new year in the right way: he not only has his job back, but in his pocket there's a check for more than $4,000, representing back pay from the Chrysler Corp.

That's one of the biggest individual back pay checks ever obtained by the UAW for a fired worker, according to Ray Blythe, president of Local 265.

Bassemier, a member of the bargaining unit at the Chrysler Plymouth body plant here, had been promoted to a salaried classification. Later the company fired him for what it called "improper performance of work-duties". It also refused him the right to transfer back into the bargaining unit.

The local immediately instituted a grievance, which finally went to arbitration. Umpire Russell A. Smith ruled in favor of the union's position, ordering Bassemier's reinstatement with back pay and seniority.

Bassemier, who had been out of work for about a year, received a check for $4,387.04.

The umpire's ruling was based on "past practice," Blythe reported.

The arbitration case was handled by Blythe and Clifford Hooe, local financial secretary, assisted by staff members of the national Chrysler department and the Region 3 office.

Local 292 Wins Region 3 Bowling Tourney

KOKOMO, Ind. — The Plant No. Five team of UAW Local 292, Kokomo, won the men's team event at the fifth annual Region 3 bowling tournament here with a score of 3105. Team members work in the General Motors Delco Radio division.

C. Gregory and F. Giles of the same local copped the doubles with a score of 1249, and W. Para of Chrysler Local 1226, Indianapolis, took first place in the singles event with a score of 710.

The women's team event's top trophy went to the Pick-Ups of Local 941, Elkhart, who knocked over 2870 pins. The gals on this team work for the Chicago Telephone Supply Corp. The doubles event went to Helen Wolf and Eunice Roher of Local 441, Ligonier, who scored 1182. They work at the Essex Wire Corp.

Eunice Roher also took the singles event with a score of 650.

THE 'PICK-UPS' of Local 941 are the top women bowlers in Region 3. From the left, Jo Stewart, Mary Marsh, Charlotte Albright, Kate Lang and Stella Phillips.

TOP MEN BOWLERS are these members of Local 292 team: (From the left) Doyle Dewitt, Everett Newburn, Wesley Devee, Tom Dinwiddie and Lowell Grant.

Harry Clark

ST. LOUIS—Harry. C. Clark, attorney for UAW Region 5, died of a heart attack in Kansas City earlier this month, reports Regional Director Ted Hawks.

"His passing is a great loss to our region," Hawks said. "He will be mourned by every UAW member who knew or worked with him."

About 28,000 persons die annually in home accidents, according to the National Safety Council, while half that number die each year in work accidents.

Thousands Lose Jobs in Aircraft Cutbacks

A check for orphans

Local 10 Donates $600 to Orphanage

DORAVILLE, Ga. — Members of General Motors Local 10 here have contributed more than $600 to the Jolly Home orphanage at Conyers, Ga. The orphanage is a non-sectarian institution without a permanent sponsor and the local intends to make an annual gift of some sort to the home in the future.

The orphanage cares for about 100 children between the ages of two and fifteen.

The check covering the members' contributions was presented by Bill Porter, local president, to the Rev. Marion Williams, head of the home, during a recent executive board meeting of the local (see photo above).

Airline Pact Nets 38.6c

DENVER — UAW Local 1030 has negotiated a new two-year agreement with Continental Air Lines, calling for a wage increase averaging 20.8c an hour, retroactive to last Nov. 1. Local 1030 members—mechanics and maintenance men—will get another 17.8c next Nov. 1, according to a report by Region 5 Director Ted Hawks.

The agreement covers more than 500 workers in eight states and 53 cities.

This year's pay boost will make the rate for lead men and inspectors $3.25 and for mechanics, $3.02.

The pact features a longevity wage increase of 1c an hour for each year after the first two years of service with Continental—up to a maximum of 10c.

Among the 15 contract changes was a provision calling for mileage and travel time to mechanics on special assignments requiring commuting to other than their home field.

This was the 22nd year the local has negotiated an agreement with Continental without necessity for strike action.

Berndt Is Better

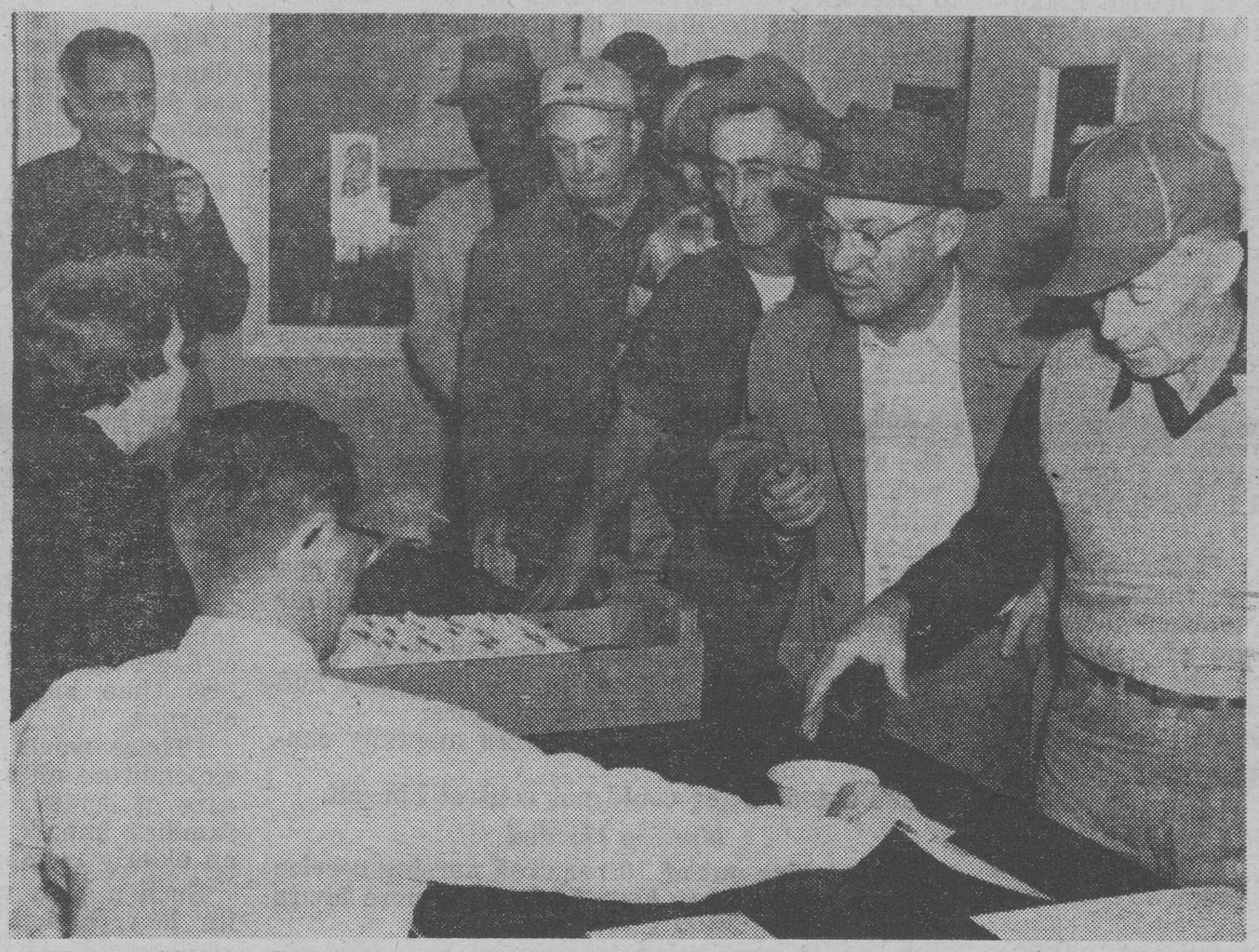
INDIANAPOLIS — Region 3 Director Raymond H. Berndt is recuperating at his home in South Bend after successfully undergoing major surgery in a hospital here, reports Don Ballard, regional publicity director.

Berndt is expected to be convalescing for at least the rest of this month.

E. J. Kucela, assistant regional director, has assumed Berndt's duties while the latter is on sick leave.

Berndt underwent surgery Dec. 31 at the Memorial Clinic here. He was released from the hospital Jan. 11 and taken by ambulance to his home in South Bend for recuperation.

IT'S NOT EASY being on the picket line during the holiday season, but these International Harvester strikers can still manage a smile because they're confident of winning a national agreement for all I-H parts depots and transfer houses. Pickets are members of the I-H parts unit of UAW Local 472, Atlanta, Ga. Strike is now settled (story on page one).



STRIKE ASSISTANCE CHECKS for International Harvester Co. strikers at Memphis, Tenn., are handed out by Percy Winston, Jr. (seated, left foreground), financial secretary of Local 988. He is assisted by Mrs. Laverne Hill, the local's office secretary.

Indiana's Workers Will Get SUB, RTW Repeal — Maybe

INDIANAPOLIS — For three years, UAW members in Indiana have been fighting to get the SUB checks workers in other states have been getting regularly when they were laid off.

Indiana has been among the handful of states which prohibited such payments, causing hardship to thousands of jobless members of the UAW and other unions who have negotiated SUB plans with their respective managements.

Now, for the first time, there is a glimmer of hope. The Democratic sweep in Indiana last November has resulted in a change in the political climate of the state — even Republicans are beginning to support measures they should have backed long ago.

"Indications are that permissive legislation on SUB will be passed during this session of the state legislature because of the bi-partisan approach being used," Dallas Sells, president of the Indiana state AFL-CIO, told Solidarity.

The state legislature, which opened Jan. 8, may also consider a bill to repeal the state's recently-enacted "right to work" law (Solidarity, Dec. 8, 1958).

Sells, who has hitherto been pessimistic about chances for repeal, now says he is "edging toward optimism." The problem is still not the number of legislators who would finally vote for repeal, but the legislative procedures which will be used in handling the bill.

A friendly committee could push it; an unfriendly committee in the state senate could try to bury it.

The repeal bill was the first one in the hopper in the senate. It was introduced by Sen. Hugh Dillon (D., Petersburg) and co-sponsored by Sen. William Christy, Lake county Democrat and a member of the Steelworkers union.

Sells also said he was hopeful that legislation liberalizing unemployment and workmen's compensation will be passed during this session "although I don't expect anything spectacular in the way of improvements."

He pointed out that despite reports to the contrary in the daily papers of Indiana, GOP Gov. Harold Handley did not urge the legislature to repeal the "right to work" law or to permit jobless workers to get SUB checks.

"He actually ignored both bills in his message," Sells declared.

Most of the daily papers in Indiana are notorious not only for their anti-labor, pro-Republican bias but for sloppy, slanted and inaccurate reporting and for a complete lack of objectivity.

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plants are as yet available, Woodcock cited these examples:

- The Bell Aircraft plant in Buffalo employed 10,000 UAW members in 1957. Present employment is down to 1,600.
- Chance-Vought was hit by two cancellations—that of the Regulus missile program and the F8U-3 Navy supersonic fighter.
- **The Fairchild plant on Long Island went down completely as a result of the Eisenhower administration's cancellation of the Goose missile. About 2,000 UAW members were thrown out of work. Reports are management is putting the plant up for sale, although no final decision on this has been reached.**

"Drastic reductions have occurred in the last six months in the aircraft industry and the end is not yet in sight," Woodcock said.

Cutbacks Continuing

"These cutbacks, both in appropriations and utilization of manpower and equipment are continuing, despite our obvious lag in defense activity and in our efforts to conquer outer space.

"It is evident from the Eisenhower administration's attitude that there is an utter failure to grasp the dimensions of our problems as a world power in this new age.

"We hope that, through a better understanding of these problems by the new Congress, the necessary degree of leadership will be furnished to put America's aircraft industry and America's skilled aircraft and missle workers back on the job," Woodcock declared.

Region 3 Locals Give $6,750

INDIANAPOLIS—More than $6,750 was donated by locals and members in Region 3 to be used for the children of striking UAW members at Christmas time, the office of Regional Director Ray Berndt has reported.

The money came from more than 55 local unions and from the regional office, the International Harvester department of the International Union and the Indiana state AFL-CIO.

One local, instead of giving cash, donated large amounts of candy, toys and Christmas "stockings."

The funds were distributed to families belonging to Auto Lite Local 675, Vincennes, Ind. and to seven International Harvester locals in Indianapolis, Fort Wayne and Louisville, Ky.

Worley Named Assistant Director

ST. LOUIS—Region 5 Director Ted Hawks has announced the appointment of Kenneth Worley as assistant regional director.

Worley, a member of Chrysler Local 855, Kansas City, has been an international representative on the Region 5 staff for seven years. He has been servicing and organizing locals in this area, particularly in the aircraft industry.

Worley succeeds Hawks, who was assistant director under Russell Letner and who was elected director after Letner resigned for reasons of health (Solidarity, Dec. 22, 1958).

'What If I Get Sick?'

Medical Problems Plague Our Elderly the Hardest

If there is any one problem that can furrow the already-wrinkled brow of the aged it is probably "what'll I do if I get sick?"

True, social security payments are rising this year. But, as one financial paper wryly reported, the new benefits "will permit no one to wallow in luxury."

People are working on the problem. One of them is Dr. Franz Goldman, a retired associate professor of medical care at Harvard University's school of public health. He's head of a study being sponsored by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, with the support of a grant from the U.S. Public Health Service.

Goldman recently made a report to the American Public Health Association's medical care section in St. Louis. His facts were gloomy.

Never Before So Many

The old we have always had with us, but never before in such numbers. According to Goldman, as of last July there were 15,041,000 persons—65 or over—as many or more than there are members in the AFL-CIO. Goldman figured they make up 8.8% of our total population. At the turn of the century, they accounted for only 4%.

Of these, many, many more are women than men—to be exact (according to Goldman) 8,040,000 women as compared to 6,830,000 men in age group 65 and over.

Goldman also reported that "widowhood occurs later and its period is longer than in earlier times, and widows by far outnumber widowers."

Around 1900 the average age of a widowed person was 57. Now it's 67. In the 75-and-over age group, 38% of the men were widowed, 70% of the women.

No Cause for Glee

These, then, are the people with a problem — the problem of "what'll I do if I get sick?" How well equipped are they to find a happy solution if and when illness comes? Goldman's report was no cause for glee.

Most of the people who enter the nation's labor force now manage to live to be 65. But what then? Only a relatively small percent of them—last June it was 28%—either had work or were married to someone with a paycheck. Of those who did have a job to go to, many were reporting only part time and others only now and then.

Goldman found that about two-thirds of the nation's senior citizens living outside some sort of institution have "very low incomes and approximately one-fifth to one-fourth have none."

Furthermore, Goldman said, "the great majority of people residing in institutions for long-term care are dependent upon public aid for maintenance."

Among those who are working, or who have a husband or wife working, the income of most is way below $3,000, according to Goldman.

He praised social security, but asked also that some of its flaws be taken into consideration:

"The old-age benefits paid under OASI are small on the average — although they range widely—and in many instances fall far short of budgetary requirements.

"In July, 1958 the average monthly benefit actually paid to a retired worker was $65.87 and the average-awarded benefit was $74.57.

"Average figures conceal as much as they reveal. It is important to note that one-fifth of all old-age insurance beneficiaries were receiving monthly benefits of $90 to $108.50 and almost two-fifths were receiving from $60 to $89.90 at the end of 1957."

Public Help Needed

The median total income of OASI beneficiaries was $1,140 for single retired workers, $2,190 for retired couples and $880 for aged widows.

Public assistance was necessary for a tenth of those on social security. As of last July, public assistance provided for the income maintenance of 2,459,000 or 16% of our senior citizens, including 1,980,000 who were living off it alone and 570,000 who needed it in addition to social security.

"Obviously," Goldman reported, "the financial resources available to all but a small proportion of the senior citizens are barely sufficient to make ends meet and certainly grossly inadequate to meet any but minor expenses in case of illness.

"Serious acute illness or prolonged illness is likely to bring with it destitution for most of the senior citizens and may well place a heavy, if not intolerable, financial burden on their families."

And what are the health problems of the aged?

More of Everything

Compared with other age groups, senior citizens "require medical, nursing and other professional services as well as drugs and appliances more often, in larger amounts and over longer periods of time," Goldman said.

He pointed out that two out of three senior citizens call a docter within a year. In 1957, the average number of doctor visits per person was 6.8 for those 65 and over, as compared with less than 5 for all other age groups excepts the young.

Last year a detailed study was made of 435 residents averaging 80.6 years of age in four Jewish homes. Results?

One out of two required infirmary care.

More than half of those in the infirmary had been in the home three years or more.

More than four out of 10 were mentally confused.

One out of eight could not control himself.

Nursing Needed

Almost nine out of 10 required nursing service of from at least one hour to four or more hours a day.

One half were being maintained by public assistance.

One third were either on social security alone or in combination with other sources, especially public assistance.

Obviously the aged are paying more to keep their health. Goldman found that from 1952 to 1953, medical charges incurred by the aged topped those of the general population by 57%.

In 1955-56, the combined private and public expenditures for personal health service to senior citizens amounted to $2.34 billions or nearly 16% of the total of $14.9 billions spent on all types of service.

In view of the medical expenses faced by our aged, what is the answer? Obviously, since private insurance plans are reluctant to insure the aged, government must step in. And if it does?

Strong Case for OASI

"If the choice is between 'letting the voluntary plans do it' and extending OASI, a strong case can be made for financing health services for senior citizens through OASI," Goldman said.

"As nine out of 10 gainfully employed persons are already covered and the contributions toward the cost of the present benefits are regularly collected by OASI, most of the future senior citizens and their survivors could easily acquire paid-up insurance for health service as well as for income maintenance.

"They would qualify for health services through regular prepayments during the years of working . . .

"To the future senior citizens this would mean protection through organized self-help.

Good for Doctors

"To the physicians in private practice and the voluntary hospitals and institutions for long-term care the advantage would lie in the certainty of payment for services rendered . . . with a decrease in the amount of free service and less time and money spent on collection of charges.

"There would be a marked reduction in the expenditure of general tax funds for the medical care of senior citizens and the maintenance of families impoverished because of the illness of an elderly member."

Such a plan was offered to the Congress at its last session. It was the so-called Forand amendment. Organized labor supported it and pleaded for it. Congress couldn't see it.

Now there's a new Congress. Will it recognize —and try to solve—one of our greatest problems?

It might if your Congressman knew how you felt about it.

She needed an oxygen tent. How many can afford one?

Milt's Restored Sights Are Set Toward a Much Brighter Future

WILLOW RUN VILLAGE, Mich.—"When you're blind, you're about washed up."

Or so Milton Sundberg thought four years ago. Diabetic cataracts on both eyes had blotted his vision down to little more than being able to tell light from dark.

Naturally, work was scarce for Milt. Work of any kind. And he was up against it. Had been every since losing his regular job as an inspector when the Kaiser-Frazer Corp. shut down its Willow Run plant in 1953.

But, things began to perk up. In August 1955 at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor his left eye was operated on. Those terse, objective, almost impersonal hospital reports said the surgery was "uneventful"—"uneventful" meaning that with thick, special lenses he had sight from that eye.

A Way Seemed Open

Then Milt got wind of the Michigan education department's vocational rehabilitation section. He popped in on 'em. Counseling and aptitude tests were given. When the results were available, Milt figured maybe he had a future in TV and radio repair.

So, in February 1956 he enrolled at vocational school at Pine Lake. The department provided his maintenance and what supplies he needed for the 18-month course.

Then, another break. Surgery was performed once again, in August 1957, this time on his right eye. Same results: With thick, special lenses Milt could see from that eye, too.

So Milt kept boning up on his course. He graduated. Then certificate in hand, he was faced with the problem of collecting the essential test equipment, tools and inventory of parts a repairman would need —plus, of course, a place to stash them and hang out his sign.

Suddenly a Brighter Side

That's when what had once seemed a calamity—his losing his job with Kaiser-Frazer—showed its bright side. The UAW and Kaiser-Frazer have a social security fund. One of the projects the fund pays for is vocational rehabilitation of former Kaiser-Frazer workers.

Milt was eligible. So, the joint program was good for the tools, manuals and repair parts he absolutely needed to get a business going. He found a place in an auction warehouse in Ypsilanti.

Milt went into business. He's no millionaire yet, but "Milt's TV Repair" is doing all right, thank you.

Why Not You?

Yet, Milt's case is not necessarily unique. Merely typical.

There are almost 100 former Kaiser-Frazer workers who have benefitted under the joint program set up in September 1957 by the K-F UAW fund and the state rehabilitation section. Every month, more are found who need it and can use it.

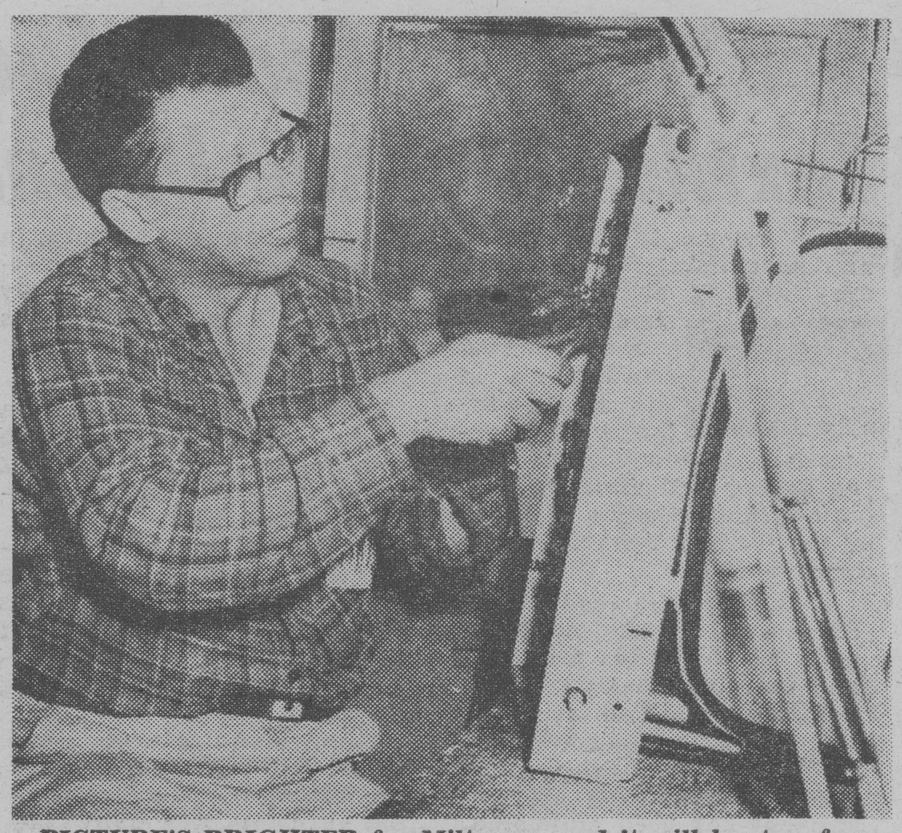
The fund offers another great service to the union members. A complete physical examination, free, is available to approximately 9,300 eligible former Kaiser-Frazer workers. It includes chest X-ray, urinalysis, and blood tests. Where indicated, specialists examinations are arranged. These may also include more X-rays and laboratory tests. There is no charge to the eligible former Kaiser-Frazer employee.

The medical work is done at Metropolitan and Henry Ford hospitals in Detroit. Arrangements can be made by writing William Bechill, rehabilitation consultant, Kaiser-Fraser UAW-CIO Social Security Fund, 34829 Michigan avenue, Wayne, Mich. His phone number is PArkway 2-5211.

D'you used to work for K-F? Maybe you're eligible for what the fund offers. Dubious about whether the whole thing's worthwhile?

Ask Milt Sundberg.

MILT AND HIS DAUGHTERS, Judy and Sheila, get their picture taken. One's all absorbed, it seems. The other thinks maybe Daddy ought to be slicked up a little more for the photo.



PICTURE'S BRIGHTER for Milt now, and it will be, too, for a customer when the former Kaiser-Frazer worker gets through working on this TV set.

Auto-Lite Workers To Vote on New Pact

With 13 of 17 UAW bargaining units reaching agreement on local contracts with Electric Auto-Lite Co. plants, UAW members were voting on proposals for a new national contract as Solidarity went to press.

This was announced by UAW Vice President Richard T. Gosser who pointed out that Auto-Lite locals without a plant agreement would be permitted to continue their strikes over local issues.

The walkout started Dec. 1 when 7,000 UAW members went on strike after negotiations broke down on a national contract. The workers are employed at Auto-Lite plants in Toledo, O.; Fostoria, O.; Bay City and Owosso, Mich.; Vincennes, Ind.; La Crosse, Wis., and Syracuse, N.Y.

Still Not Agreed

Gosser said bargaining units at Toledo, Bay City and Sarnia, Ont., still have not reached local agreements. The Ontario government is mediating the dispute involving the two Sarnia locals under its labor laws.

Should a majority of the members taking part in the secret-ballot ratification vote decide to reject the proposed national agreement, Gosser said, the strike will be extended to plants in Hazelton, Pa.; Atlanta, Ga.; Oklahoma City, Okla., and Oakland, Calif.

Terms of the proposed national agreement, scheduled to terminate March 1, 1962, include:

1. A 4c hourly improvement factor plus a 1c hourly cost-of-living increase, both retroactive to last Sept. 1.

2. A further increase of 4c per hour effective Sept. 1, 1959, and an additional 4c hourly increase effective Sept. 1, 1960.

3. An added 4c an hour for skilled trades effective on the date of signing of the local contract and 4c an hour effective one year thereafter for all those in the classifications listed in the 1955 national agreement.

4. Pensions—$2.50 per month for each year of credited service for all members, including those now retired.

5. Insurance — no change in employe contribution. An additional benefit in the sum of $25.00 non-scheduled laboratory and X-ray coverage.

6. SUB — extension to cover 39 weeks with 65% of take-home pay patterned after the Big Three in the auto industry.

7. Time and a half for hours worked on Saturday and double time for hours worked on Sunday except in seven-day continuous operations where the overtime provisions will prevail only for the sixth and seventh day worked.

Re-open Kohler Hearing to Judge Company Espionage

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. — Union and company attorneys have until Feb. 6 to file final briefs before George Downing, National Labor Relations Board trial examiner who has been holding new hearings into charges by UAW Local 833 that the scab-run Kohler Co. has been guilty of unfair labor practices, including espionage.

UAW Upheld Before

Following the submission of these briefs, Downing will file a supplementary report with the NLRB. His first report, handed down in 1957, upheld most of the UAW's charges (United Automobile Worker, Nov. 1957).

"The dirty business of hiring detectives to spy on union members and government officials" was the business at hand during the latest hearings, which opened here last month and ended Jan. 9.

A total of 25 out of 40 detective reports were admitted as additional evidence by Downing.

Vain Effort

Company officials tried vainly to introduce some pet "evidence" used by Republican Senators Mundt, Goldwater and Curtis during the "kangaroo court" atmosphere of the McClellan hearings last year. Downing ruled that only "new testimony which had its origin between Feb. 2, 1954 and Dec. 1, 1957" could be introduced.

Lyman Conger, lawyer for Kohler Co., nearly started a fist fight with Raymond Majerus, UAW representative and a member of striking Local 833 during a hearing recess.

Majerus was assisting David Rabinovitz, local UAW attorney, in examining detective reports before they had been officially introduced as evidence.

Conger Got Mad

Conger was enraged by this and tried to grab the reports out of Majerus' hand.

"You keep your paws off those reports," Conger screamed at Majerus.

"You mind your own business," retorted Majerus.

White with rage, Conger shook his finger at Majerus and shouted — "We paid for these reports and we have something to say about who's going to look at them."

Majerus Retorts

By this time, Majerus was getting steamed up and yelled back at Conger — "Take your finger away from my nose.

"Conger," said the former enamel shop steward for the striking local, "you gave me your last order on April 21, 1952 (when the company fired him for union activity) and I don't have to take anything from you now."

While spectators gathered around, a hurried call to Downing's hotel room brought the examiner back to the scene of the shouting match to rule that Majerus could help inspect the company documents and detective reports.

Spied on NLRB

Kohler has spent over $45,000 for "private eyes" to prepare reports on unionists in the Kohler strike. Besides UAW members, the Kohler-hired detectives also spied on an NLRB hearing officer.

An important fact put into evidence showed that Kohler had detectives spying on Robert Brown, a UAW representative before Brown even arrived in Sheboygan to take up his duties.

The company attempted to introduce evidence that the union had a spy system, jokingly referred to in daily strike bulletins as agents "U2" and "QT."

The hearing broke out in laughter when it was shown that the union's "secret agents" discovered that company president Herbert V. Kohler bawled out his chauffeur for buying "union suits."

Local 833 has been on strike against the Kohler Co. since April 5, 1954.

Relax, the Fund Is Solvent

WASHINGTON—The continued campaign of some conservative business groups to question the fiscal "soundness" of the social security system has just been demolished by a special advisory council in a report to the board of trustees of the social security trust funds.

"The method of financing the old age, survivors and disability insurance program is sound, and, based on the best estimates available, the contribution schedule now in the law makes adequate provisions for meeting both short-range and long-range costs," the council declared.

Labor Press Important

BRUSSELS, Belgium—A recent article on the importance of the labor press by President Peter E. Terzick of the International Labor Press Association, published in the AFL-CIO Federationist, is receiving international attention. Extracts from the article appear in the current issue of "Free Labour World," official organ of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Deferred Increases

WASHINGTON—Several million workers already are assured of getting wage boosts this year under union contracts negotiated in prior years, the Bureau of National Affairs reports. The average deferred increase will amount to about 8c an hour, while in manufacturing industries it will run about 7c.

According to BNA, a Washington newsgathering organization, about one of every four contracts now provides for at least one wage hike to become effective during the agreement term.

Don't Get Rooked by Shoddy Goods, Textile and Shoe Unionists Warn

SIDNEY MARGOLIUS Says:

Two unions in the textile and shoe industries currently are sounding alarms against shoddy goods.

Depressed conditions in the textile industry have resulted in deterioration of textile dyeing and finishing, reports William Gordon, director of the Textile Workers Union dyers division.

Even otherwise good materials can be subjected to poor dyeing and printing, and the public can't tell the difference, Gordon recently told a Senate committee.

The inferior finishes generally show up only after a garment has been laundered or cleaned.

For example, a number of clothing tragedies have resulted from poor finishing of the new wash-and-wear garments. Some women have had the experience of washing a brand-new blouse, then pressing it and finding it actually develops holes when it is ironed.

Chlorine Absorbed

This is caused by the resin finishes sometimes added to cotton materials to resist wrinkling. Resin finishes absorb chlorine.

Sometimes this merely yellows the fabric. But when the materials are pressed, acid is released and the fabric itself may be destroyed, the American Institute of Laundering advises.

Some manufacturers have perfected their resin finishes for wash-and-wear and drip-dry garments. But many take short-cuts and use cheaper finishes.

Besides poor dyes and finishes, another problem you undoubtedly have encountered is progressive shrinking. A shirt or cotton dress may shrink a little more each time it is laundered. Laundry experts warn that just the word "preshrunk" on a garment label is not always enough. The word "Sanforized" is better assurance. A "Sanforized" fabric will not shrink more than 1%.

Trick Revealed

The reason firms don't preshrink goods properly is that in preshrinking they may lose as much as 10% of their yardage. So sometimes they stretch the fabric back again to its original dimensions, and add a fine powder called "sizing" which helps the fabric hold its shape.

But when the sizing washes out in laundering, or even in a rain, the dress or other garment gradually shrinks.

A growing number of shoe manufacturers also have "downgraded" quality, the Boot and Shoe Workers Union discloses. These manufacturers are giving the public "prettied-up shoddy shoes." The shoe workers charge that "in some types of foot wear, consumers are getting less for their money than they expect and deserve. A razzle-dazzle of fashion baubles and glitter is concealing the cheapened basic values."

Cheaper Materials

The cheapening of shoes has resulted from the use of inferior materials, lower-grade construction and poorer fit, the shoe union says. The deterioration is especially severe in women's and children's shoes.

Standards Available

In textiles, the public could be protected from inferior dyeing and finishing if finishing plants and textile converters adopted the voluntary standards of the American Standards Association, Gordon advises. But since only a few do observe these voluntary standards and label their products accordingly, Gordon urges federal regulation of quality.

The shameful feature of the whole deterioration problem in textiles, Gordon says, is that the cost saving rarely is passed on to the public—not that poorly-finished or improperly-preshrunk garments are worth buying even at lower prices.

George Sommaripa, textile expert of the American Standards Association, advises that careful finishing actually costs only a little more. It would not require costlier fabrics but merely more careful supervision and control, elimination of such chiseling as stretching 100 yards of materials to make 110 yards.

Here's Checklist

Gordon lists five most significant quality factors in a fabric that determine how well it will stand up under wear and washing.

- Fineness and character of the fiber itself.
- Construction of the fabric (number of warp and filling threads per inch).
- Quality of dyestuffs and finishes.
- Method of finishing.

You won't be able to judge all these characteristics by examining a garment but you can judge tightness and closeness of weave, and also look on tags attached to the garment for this information as suggested by Gordon:

- Washability (including method of washing).
- Colorfastness.
- Shrinkage.
- Pressing (including method of pressing).
- Permanency of finish.
- Chlorine retention.

Unfortunately, you won't even find all this information on most labels or tags, although some firms do provide some of these buying facts. A few firms now attach tags stating that the fabric meets or exceeds tests of the American Standards Association L22 standard. These "L22" tags are possibly the best assurance so far available of careful finishing.

When you see "Do Not Bleach" or "Do Not Use Chlorine Bleach" on a so-called wash-and-wear or drip-dry garment, be warned that the finish has limitations, the Laundry Institute says. It may be safer not to buy any white garment that bears this warning. Whites *inevitably must be bleached.*

It's also wise to see if the label states that the thread used to join the fabric pieces also is preshrunk and colorfast.

But until there is better regulation, either federal or voluntary, don't hesitate to return any unsatisfactory garment to the dealer, say Gordon, Sommaripa and all other experts.

It's January Shoe Sale Time, But Check Them for Quality

January is the month of shoe sales with standard brands and styles reduced 10% to 20%. But beware of inferior quality union shoe workers have warned against. Here's how to check:

- Best leather is called "full grain" and is recognizable by tiny pores and close grain. Bend the shoe at the forequarter to judge the closeness of the grain. A good leather will show seven or eight lines to a quarter inch, poor leather only three.
- Welted shoes are generally sturdier and easier to repair. In welt construction, the upper and sole are not attached directly to each other, but both are sewn to a thin strip of leather called the welt. The inside of a welt shoe is smooth.
- Good-quality shoes have a sock lining of genuine leather, not paper, and leather lining in the back of the shoe. The rest of the lining is closely-woven cotton drill.
- Careful fit helps shoes last longer. Allow sufficient toe room and note whether the heel seat grips the heel of your foot snugly but without binding.

Three Plants Accept Ford of Canada Pact

Ford Canada workers voted overwhelming acceptance of their new three-year contract. In Oakville and North York, the vote was almost unanimous. At Windsor it was carried by a 4-to-1 margin.

The contract runs until Dec. 1, 1961. It follows the pattern set at General Motors.

Special Problem

Ford workers had the special problem of protecting a key principle they had won in a 112-day strike in 1954-55—full payment by the company of Windsor Medical (or PSI) and Blue Cross Hospitalization for workers and dependents.

The company fought hard to have the workers pick up any future increases in medical-hospital costs, proposing as an alternative that workers and company share all costs equally. The union held out for continuation of the principle of full payment, and won.

The Ford committee (representing all three plants) tried for a two-year contract, instead of three, but yielded in the late stages of a non-stop 32-hour bargaining session which ended just four hours before a strike deadline.

The Ford workers voted 96.4% for a strike, if necessary, and the UAW authorized a strike.

The settlement provided for 6c-an-hour retroactive to Oct. 1, 1956; 6c on Nov. 1, 1959; and 6c on Dec. 1, 1960.

About 1,100 skilled trades workers got an additional 8c, as of the date of signing. About 120 semi-skilled workers (cutter-grinders and small tool repairmen) in Windsor also got the additional 8c.

Five cents of the 13c cost-of-living bonus was factored into the base rate, leaving the same 8c "float" as at GM. The ratio for figuring cost-of-living bonus was changed from 1c for each .7 change in the index to 1c for each .6 change, based on an index reading of 126.0.

Ford workers picked up a 1c cost-of-living increase within a few days of signing their agreement.

In line with the GM pattern, the Ford pact provides Supplemental Unemployment Benefits of 65% of take-home pay for a maximum of 39 weeks.

Similar Pensions

Pension changes are similar to GM's: The former monthly benefit of $2.25 for each year of credited service was upped to $2.35 for those already on pension; to $2.40 for service prior to Jan. 1, 1959; and to $2.50 for service after Jan. 1, 1959. The supplementary pension of $40-a-month between ages 65 and 70 is retained (this supplementary pension ends when the worker gets his national old age pension).

The new contract makes it easier to acquire pension credits. A pension year is now 1,700 hours of work, instead of 1,800. Workers can accumulate credits for every one-tenth of 1,700 hours that they work in a year, instead of for every one-quarter of 1,800 hours.

Except for a clause affecting skilled trades, there were no changes in the seniority provisions. The new clause allows skilled trades to be recalled on a department basis for up to three days. The time limit is 14 days in the case of production workers.

In-plant union representation was improved. At Windsor, when the plant employs between 4,000 and 6,000 workers, there will be 30 stewards, seven committeemen and one skilled trades chairman. When the Oakville plant ranges between 2,500 and 4,500 it will have 19 stewards, five committeemen and one skilled trades chairman.

George Burt, Canadian UAW director; Tom MacLean, assistant director, and John Eldon, international representative, headed up the bargaining team in the protracted negotiations (with Burt joining the others direct from the GM settlement).

School Awards

WASHINGTON—The AFL-CIO will award six $6,000 four-year merit scholarships to high school seniors of exceptional ability who plan to enter college in September, it was announced by Secretary Treasurer William F. Schnitzler. Two scholarships will be granted in each of three geographical sections of the country. One will be awarded to children either of whose parents are current members of AFL-CIO affiliates and the other will be entirely unrestricted.

Organized Labor Must Help Solve Problems Caused by Science Gains

WASHINGTON — Organized labor's stake in helping solve the mounting problems caused by the swift advances of science and technology was brought sharply into focus at a two-day conference held here by the AFL-CIO's industrial union department.

UAW President Walter P. Reuther chaired the conference as IUD president and one of the principal speakers (see story Page 1). Theme of the meeting was "Labor and Science in a Changing World."

Two of the nation's top scientists who addressed the delegates were members of the faculty at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Jerome Wiesner and Dr. Jerrold R. Zacharias.

Research Needed

Wiesner, director of the research laboratory of electronics at MIT, emphasized the nation's need for more scientific research as well as applied scientists who can translate lab discoveries into community benefits.

Wiesner said much of the blame for the U.S. lag in scientific development could be traced to the Eisenhower administration's attitude toward scientists and research.

As an example, he cited former Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson's wisecrack, "We don't have to know why potato skins are brown."

Demoralized Scientists

This know-nothing attitude, he said, had demoralized U.S. researchers to the point that our national scientific programs had bogged down.

He added that Washington's outlook had merely helped the USSR keep the edge it already had by allowing its scientists to plunge ahead at full speed.

Zacharias, MIT's director for nuclear science and engineering, stressed the need to improve our high school and college educational setups.

We must plan for the future, take care of educational problems, train more teachers and "light a fire under the colleges and stoke it with hard cash," Zacharias said.

Otherwise, when 1945's babies become college students in 1963, the universities will "scream that they can't handle them," he declared.

Another speaker was Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Arthur S. Flemming, who admitted that the soaring of sputnik into outer space had revealed glaring weaknesses in the U.S. educational system.

In the 15 months since, he said, we have made progress, but not enough "because we were motivated by fear alone and lacked a sustained drive to improve our educational system."

'Group' Effort

As for the Eisenhower administration's desire to step in and help, Flemming said it was merely government's responsibility to get various interest groups together and list the national objectives so that each group could "determine their share."

Paul G. Hoffman, former president of Studebaker and Marshall Plan administrator, now heading a UN agency, was another speaker at the conference which also heard from Al J. Hayes, president of the machinists; Stanley Ruttenberg, AFL-CIO research director, and Brendan Sexton, UAW education director.

Reuther Featured On ADA Dinner

NEW YORK—UAW President Walter P. Reuther will speak at the annual Roosevelt day dinner Jan. 29 sponsored by Americans for Democratic Action. His topic will be "New Dimensions in Freedom."

Liberals Open New Battle For Jobs, Rights Program

Continued from Page 1

cating new industries and finding work for the unemployed.

2. A meaningful civil rights bill.

3. Legislation to increase unemployment compensation benefits and extend their duration according to Federal minimum standards. Minimums applicable to all states would remove the competitive advantage some currently enjoy at the expense of the unemployed.

4. Federal aid to school construction, scholarship programs and increased teachers' salaries.

5. Housing and industrial redevelopment legislation.

6. A measure increasing the minimum wage to $1.25 per hour and extending the law's coverage to millions of workers now unprotected.

7. An increase in social security benefits, extension of the program to those not covered presently and the provision of hospital and surgical care to those receiving social security benefits, similar to the plan outlined in the Forand Bill introduced in the last Congress.

"There is much work that needs to be done in America—building new classrooms, clearing urban and rural slums, providing adequate security for our aged population and modernizing medical care practices," Reuther said.

"What America must do is to work out a list of national priorities and then commit its total national resources to the fulfillment of these priorities.

"We need to put idle hands to work on idle machines," he added, "making the goods necessary to satisfy the unfilled human needs of the American people."

First week's activities in the new congress saw the House clear away the preliminaries while in the Senate, liberal hopes for modifying Rule 22 were dashed by surprisingly heavy majorities.

The upper chamber finally adopted, following a series of test votes in which the bipartisan liberal caucus was unable to muster the necessary support, a "compromise" measure put forth by Democratic Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson of Texas.

Worked Together

The UAW and the AFL-CIO worked closely with the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, a national organization composed of 54 civic, fraternal, liberal, religious and labor groups in its support of the liberal proposal offered by Sen. Paul Douglas, (D., Ill.) and its opposition to the Johnson resolution.

The new rule will permit closing debate by two-thirds of the Senators "present and voting" instead of the former provision which called for the affirmative vote of 66 senators. In addition, the Johnson measure inserts the "continuing body" concept into the Senate rules and permits halting debate on rules changes under the "two-thirds present and voting" formula.

The "continuing body" theory holds that Senate rules "continue from one Congress to the next Congress" unless changed under other rules including the requirement for a two-thirds vote to close debate. Formerly, it was impossible under Rule 22 to close debate on proposed rules changes.

Passage of the Johnson "compromise" and defeat of the rules changes offered by Douglas and Republican Thruston Morton, (Ky.) increased the difficulty of passing meaningful civil rights legislation in this session of the 86th.

Douglas had proposed the rule be changed to permit cloture, or closing of debate, on the vote of two-thirds present and voting two days after the cloture petition was filed, or by a majority of senators 15 days after the petition was filed. The Morton measure would have permitted closing debate by 60% of the Senate. It was on this latter proposal that the liberals reached their peak voting strength of 36.

During the long debate on the Senate floor, Douglas lashed out at the Johnson proposal as a fraudulent one which, he said, would "deceive the American public into thinking it is getting something when it is getting nothing."

Republican Jacob Javits of New York termed the Johnson measure "an absolute roadblock to any effort to put the majesty and power of the Federal government behind rights guaranteed by the Constitution."

Johnson defended his position by calling it "the will of the people" and insisted it was not a "meaningless" change.

Douglas countered that the Senate "might as well put the emblem of King Filibuster up over the head of the presiding officer with the cotton stalk and the tobacco leaf on either side."

It was pointed out during the debate that enactment of the Johnson measure only restored the rule to its essential form before adoption of the Wherry Resolution in 1949. This resolution, sponsored by the late Republican senator from Nebraska, locked in the principle that two-thirds of the entire Senate, then 64 votes, had to vote affirmatively to shut off debate. Prior to the resolution's adoption, two-thirds of those present and voting could impose cloture. No provision was made at that time, however, for stopping debate on a proposed rules change.

Spokesmen for the liberal group in the Senate, while shaken by their defeat, indicated they would intensify their drive to enact legislation "mandated by the people last November."

THIS ENTHUSIASM displayed on a Harvester picket line by a Local 1301 committeeman, his daughter and grand-daughter typified the drive that led eventually to UAW's successful conclusion of an agreement.

Win Pattern Pact In I-H Strike

Continued from Page 1

slaught against the established rights of Harvester workers."

Seniority protection would have gone out the window had Harvester succeeded in its raid against the old contract.

Settlement of workers' grievances would have been nigh-on impossible, except on company terms.

Protection Trimmed

Health protection for workers and their families would have been trimmed.

Weekly disability benefits to workers would have been chopped in half.

These were amongst the 76 demands the company plunked on the bargaining table in the days just before Nov. 13 and which the company left stacked on the table even after the union, in an effort to avoid a strike, had pulled what remained of its demands off the table.

The UAW had sought to put a halt to Harvester playing off workers at one plant against those elsewhere. The company did it by jockeying wage rates and job classifications.

'Tremendous' Agreement

Described by union negotiators as "tremendous," was the agreement on wage inequities.

For thousands of workers, the UAW won a new master piecework pay scale, raising "thousands of job classifications and piece-rate prices," according to a union negotiator.

Rates Boosted

In addition, dayworkers' rates were boosted to overcome existing inequities.

An 8c hourly pay increase will go to all apprenticeable tradesmen, with an above-everything-else increase of 4c hourly to workers in labor grade 10; 6c to those in labor grades 11 and 12; and 8c to those in labor grades 13 and 14.

Following are highlight gains in the UAW-International Harvester agreement, affecting some 37,500 workers and their families.

● Annual pay increases in recognition of workers' productivity, of at least 6c an hour or 2.5% of current hourly pay (whichever is greater). First installment is retroactive to Aug. 23; the second 6c hourly hike will go into effect Sept. 14, 1959; and the third 6c increase becomes effective on Oct. 3, 1960.

● **Widespread wage inequity increases together with a more realistic recognition of job classifications, both to mean increased hourly pay for thousands of Harvester workers over and above pattern economic gains.**

● Cost-of-living formula continued, with 15c of the cost-of-living float moulded into the base rate.

● Pension payments will be increased for both past and future retirees—at the rate of $2.50 per month for each year of accredited service—retroactive to last Oct. 1.

● Vacations improved for top-seniority workers. Employes with 25 years' or more service are now in line for four-week paid vacations.

● **SUB benefits no longer decrease as the period of unemployment lengthens. SUB, together with state unemployment compensation, will guarantee laid off I-H workers 65% of a normal week's take-home pay for up to 39 weeks—with special protection for Harvester workers in Indiana and Ohio.**

● Health insurance was improved to permit workers off due to sickness or accident to collect $77 a week maximum. Hospital benefits were liberalized, all without any additional cost to the employe.

● **Parts depot employes, for the first time, have a contract whose expiration date coincides with that of the major master agreements. Depot contract itself contains vast improvements at the working level, and considerably narrows the shortchanging on rates between depot areas by applying additional pay increases of up to 17c hourly.**

● Long-sought changes in the production-maintenance and clerical-technical master agreements were achieved.

● Agreement was reached on fast-handling of a backlog of grievances, the plan to include mediation and arbitration if necessary.

● Over and above all other economic increases, members at Local 792, Stockton, Calif., will receive a ½c general pay increase while 30% of the work force will find an additional 5c hourly coming as a result of agreement to raise job classifications there.

Labor Chiefs' Blasts Irk Mikoyan During Visit

Continued from Page 1

account of U. S. labor leaders' distaste for the Soviet regime.

The luncheon was arranged by Carey with the cooperation of the State department and was attended by William C. Doherty, letter carriers president; Joseph A. Beirne, communications workers president, and Al J. Hayes, machinists president, as well as Reuther and Carey.

Reuther reported the discussion ranged over the Berlin crisis, the Hungarian uprising of 1956, Soviet propaganda misrepresentations about American life and the lack of true, democratic trade unions in the USSR and its satellite countries.

"Why is it," Reuther demanded at one point during the conversation, "that while the Soviet Union professes concern for peace, the Kremlin continues to create the tension and pressure points which endanger peace in the world. The Berlin crisis was made in Moscow."

Mikoyan denied this, claiming the East German government sets its own policies.

'But Not Now'

"Four years ago some people might have listened to your talk about East Germany having a measure of independence from Soviet control, but not now, not after the Soviet's bloody suppression of Hungary's attempt to establish its own free government."

U.S. labor leaders stated emphatically the American labor movement and American people in all walks of life stand firmly behind the U.S. government's position in defense of a free Berlin.

After the raking over from the AFL-CIO leaders, Mikoyan complained: "You fellows are more vicious than the capitalists. The capitalists don't talk to me that way."

"We know you better," was Reuther's reply.

High Death Rate

More accidental deaths occur in the bedroom than anywhere else in the home, according to a study reported by the National Safety Council.

Hail Court UC Decision

Continued from Page 1

trality." Observers saw Ford's definition of neutrality as "hands off if it isn't in our favor."

In Lansing, Republican legislators who have in the past hurriedly written legislation to overcome any benefit won by the state's workers, sadly admitted that there was little chance of any restrictive bill getting past the Democratic strength in the house of representatives.

Newly-elected Democratic minority leader Joseph J. Kowalski (D. Detroit) saw the ruling as "within the spirit of our present law and follows decisions in other states."

Issue Ignored

In statements to newspapers Republicans and businessmen alike chose to ignore the issue of a man's right to collect jobless pay for his family and himself when unemployed through no fault of his own. Instead they have attacked the decision as a giant plot whereby the UAW would use it as a lever to substitute the state jobless pay fund for the union's strike fund.

Other justices who joined Edwards in the decision are John Voelker, Talbot Smith and Eugene Black, all Democrats. Justice Harry F. Kelly, lone Republican to go along with the majority, said he "concurred in the results." Justice Thomas M. Kavanagh did not take part in the decision because of involvement in the issue while he was attorney-general.

State of Union: Fewer Members with Higher Pay

The UAW is caught in a paradox.

While the paychecks of its members and benefits for its retirees are going up, its roster is dwindling.

UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey pointed out these facts on the union's TV program "Telescope" in a special "State of the Union" telecast over CKLW-TV, Windsor, Ont.

Impressive List

The gains Mazey listed were impressive.

Over $200 million more will go into members' pockets a year as a result of the union's 1958 and early 1959 negotiations.

For most workers the hourly increase, Mazey said, was 9c, of which 6c came through the improvement factor and 3c in cost-of-living bonus.

This, Mazey said, amounted to $15.57 more a month figured on the basis of a 40-hour week.

For skilled trades workers, the boost was even bigger.

Differential Narrowed

Their increases amounted to 7c in the improvement factor, 3c in cost-of-living bonus with an additional 8c for some for a total of 18c an hour or $31.14 a month.

The added increase, he pointed out, was to narrow the differential between captive and job shops.

The picture was equally bright for UAW penioners.

Last year they received some $72 million in benefits, with the average monthly check amounting to $62 — and that's above and beyond social security, Mazey said.

Over Billion Mark

Big Three negotiations in 1958 increased monthly benefits from $3 to $4.50.

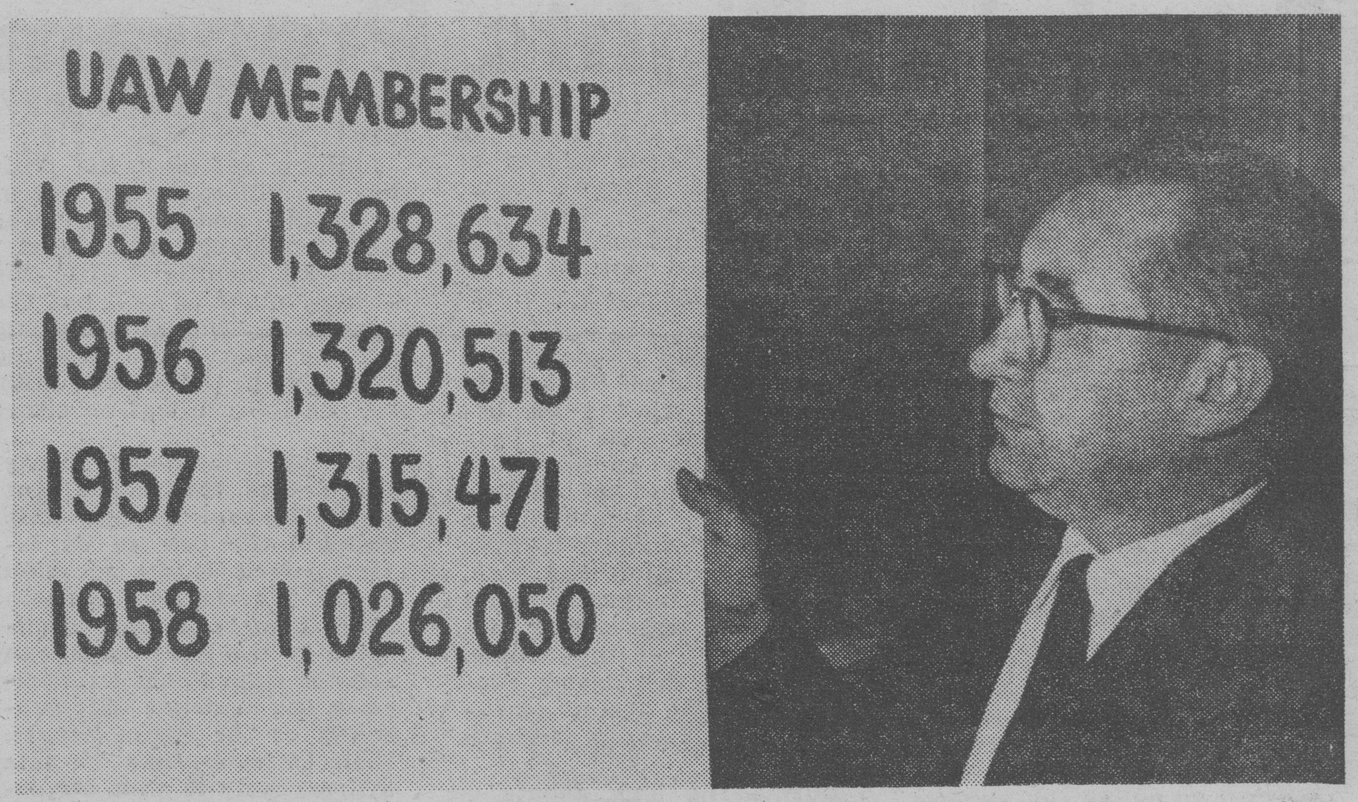
Assets of the pension fund at the end of '58 were $1¼ billion. He also revealed that as of Dec. 31, 1958, some 102,600 UAW members had retired. Of these, 84,100 are still drawing benefits.

SUB has grown, too, with the last available figures (as of Nov. 30, 1958) showing assets of $193 million in the fund.

During the 11 months of 1958 covered by the figures Mazey gave, UAW members received some $64 million in SUBenefits with the average for the year amounting to $14.50 a week. This, of course, was in addition to unemployment compensation.

Extended Period

In the UAW's 1958 contracts SUBenefits were increased from $2.50 to $5 a week and the period was extended from 26 to a possible 39 weeks.



DWINDLING membership figures since 1955 illustrate severe problem UAW faces despite collective bargaining achievements according to Mazey.

Yet, with these glowing financial figures, Mazey had to report the dismal fact that UAW membership has shrunk some 300,000 — from a banner roster of 1,328,634 in 1955 to 1,320,513 in 1956, to 1,315,471 in 1957 and, finally, a low of 1,026,050 in 1958.

In great part, Mazey said, the loss was due to the Eisenhower recession.

To point this out he showed that auto production had dwindled from 7,941,000 units in 1955 — the peak year — to 4,244,000 units last year.

Way Down

Percentage-wise, production last year was 46.6% below the 1955 level and 30.6% below 1957's output.

This was reflected, Mazey said, in the sad fact that joblessness in Michigan has now reached 322,000 with 200,000 out of work in Detroit alone.

Because of the bleakness of the economic picture, Mazey pledged again UAW's all-out support for passage of what he called "Right to Eat" legislation by the new Congress.

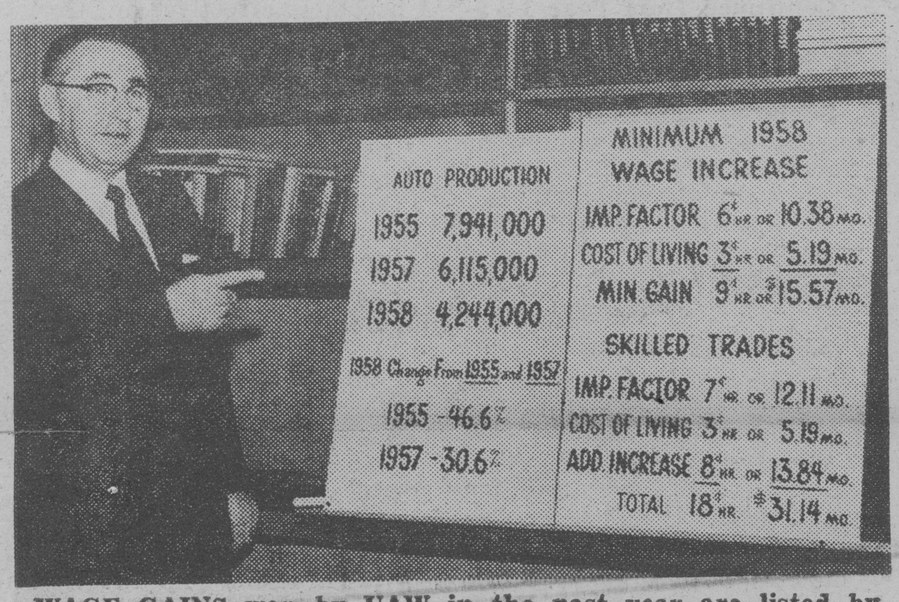
The program, which UAW President Walter P. Reuther had called for earlier, included:

- A depressed areas bill which would give to cities such as Detroit much-needed aid both in locating new industries and finding work for the unemployed.
- Legislation to increase the benefits of unemployment compensation and extend their duration according to federal minimum standards, such federal minimums to apply to all states.
- A bill providing federal aid for school construction, scholarship programs and increased teachers' salaries.
- Housing and industrial redevelopment legislation.
- A measure to increase the federal minimum wage to $1.25 per hour and to extend its coverage to millions now unprotected.
- An increase in the level of social security benefits, extension of the program to those not covered presently and the provision of hospital and surgical care to those receiving OASI benefits similar to the plan outlined in the Forand bill introduced in the last Congress.

Mazey concluded his report with the statement that 1958 had been a "difficult" year for the UAW, with management trying to take advantage of the Eisenhower recession and widespread unemployment to block the union's goals.

He pointed out that in 1958 some 279 plants went on strike with the UAW being forced to spend over $22 million in strike benefits.

The strike fund balance as of Dec. 31, Mazey said, was $19,774,544.16.



WAGE GAINS won by UAW in the past year are listed by Mazey in his "State of the Union" report.

Reuther Urges U.S. Act Firmly Now To Meet Crisis Facing the Free World

Continued from Page 1

Basic to any priority list, the UAW president said, is to get America back to work, to realize our full productive potential and to bring the economy into balance.

He chided those who put the greatest emphasis and devote their greatest efforts to a bookkeeping operation to balance the budget.

"You cannot achieve a balanced budget except as it reflects a balanced economy operating at full employment, full production levels," he declared.

Education Leads

At the top of the list of priorities he proposed, Reuther put education, pointing to the lag in the United States behind education in the Soviet Union. He warned against a crash program, however, that would put the emphasis in education exclusively on science and technology.

"Nothing could be more tragic," he said, "because we would be competing in the physical sciences at a time when we not only have to meet the Soviet challenge in that area but also to demonstrate our superiority in the human and social sciences. The purpose of higher education in a free society are quite different from the purposes of higher education in a totalitarian society.

"The purpose in a free society is to facilitate the maximum growth of the human individual who in the process of that growth becomes a competent technician or scientist or teacher or doctor. If we attempt to subvert the purpose of education by duplicating the Russian effort, we will have lost at that point."

Work Together

Reuther stressed the need to bring together free labor and free management with educators, government and other interested groups to probe our problems and search out answers together—not in a bargaining table climate "where attitudes sometimes deteriorate into haggling, but in an atmosphere and intellectual climate where everybody understands that the common denominator that binds us together—from the most underpaid and under privileged sharecropper to the starving peasant in India to the fellow in the most lavish penthouse on Park Avenue—the common denominator of human survival."

Reuther specifically proposed creation of a federal department of science and technology, with cabinet status.

And he further urged creation by the government of a permanent citizens committee drawn from representative groups on a non-partisan basis, which would have the continuing task of re-evaluating the nation's economic, social and scientific activities and progress and to make recommendations that would put our national priorities and values in proper focus and in proper relation to each other as conditions and circumstances changes.

He quoted Lincoln: "If we could first know where we are and whither we are tending, we could then judge what to do and how to do it."

"This is an hour in the history of human freedom," Reuther said, "in the history of American democracy, when we need to re-evaluate where we are, where we are tending, and then together as a free people decide how we shall meet the challenge, what we can do about it and where we will go."

Eight Million Jobless

WASHINGTON—Total unemployment benefits paid out for the year 1958 were estimated at $4 billion by the U.S. Dept. of Labor. Checks for one or more weeks of unemployment were received by approximately 8 million jobless workers.

It's Your Dough!

WASHINGTON—Companies doing business with the Pentagon have made almost three-quarters of a billion dollars in excess profits in the last five years, according to the government's Renegotiation Board.

Since the 1953 fiscal year, it has ruled companies must refund a total of $723,055,054 in excess profits through June 30, 1958. This amount breaks down to $144 million a year which American taxpayers have paid into the pockets of Big Business in overcharges.

Morgan Starts 5th Year

WASHINGTON — Edward P. Morgan, ABC commentator sponsored by the AFL-CIO, has begun his fifth year under labor sponsorship. He took the occasion to praise the AFL-CIO for the way in which it has permitted him "full freedom to report, to comment, to criticize and make my own mistakes . . ."

AA Strike Settled

WASHINGTON — A 21-day old strike by the Airline Pilots against American Airlines has been settled with agreement on a 14 percent pay boost, credit for layover time and employment of a third pilot in jet planes. The agreement was reached after a solid week of negotiations with the National Mediation Board.

3 Forgers Captured

Three International Harvester strikers charged with forging checks against the Local 1336 strike benefit fund in Louisville, Ky., will be prosecuted with all possible vigor, UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey said last week.

The forgeries were discovered by local officers when a monthly bank statement showed an unaccountable shortage in the strike fund.

"There is no worse crime in the labor movement than stealing the members' money," Mazey said. "This is just as true whether the culprits are rank-and-file members, as in this case, or union officers."

The forgeries were made possible by the theft of a book of blank checks from the union office. Thirty-eight checks for $23.95 each—a total of $910.10—were cashed. They bore the forged signature of Fred Webb, senior trustee of the local.

Arrested by Louisville police, after an investigation in which local union officers played a leading part, were Charles R. Mitchell, 44; Fred R. Bodemann, 40, and James T. Hazel, 37.

All were released on $1,000 bonds for a hearing scheduled at Solidarity's press-time. A fourth man is thought to be implicated, but has not yet been held.