House UC Bill Beats Ike's but Chills Liberals

WASHINGTON — An unemployment compensation bill far exceeding the proposals of President Eisenhower but still greatly inferior to the labor-backed Kennedy-McCarthy bill (Solidarity, April 21) was reported to the House of Representatives last week by its Ways and Means committee.

Despite its shortcomings, which liberals in both parties will try to correct in the Senate, the committee measure caused a group of northern Republicans to complain that the meager White House program had enabled the Democrats to seize leadership on the issue.

(Floor amendments are not possible under the rules of the House; a bill must be referred back to committee in order to be changed.)

The committee brushed aside Eisenhower's plan to lend state UC funds enough money to double the maximum duration of benefits. Instead, it voted $1.5 billion in federal grants to provide 16 weeks of emergency benefits at existing state levels continued as floor debate gets under way in the Senate.

Liberal Democrats on the committee fought in vain for the inclusion of basic federal standards for the amount and duration of UC. The effort will be continued in the Senate as floor debate gets under way.

Congressional liberals feel the emergency offers an opportunity for a long-overdue basic revision of UC. They feel benefits should be restored to the same relative level as in the Thirties, when they were intended to cover at least 50% of a worker's normal earnings and actually averaged close to two-thirds.

The best hopes for the Kennedy-McCarthy bill, it is felt here, lies in letters and telegrams from voters to their representatives and senators.

Rally Marks Kohler Date

SHEBOYGAN, Wis.—More than 3,000 persons attended an emotion-packed rally in the armory here to mark the fourth anniversary of the Kohler strike.

The Kohler strikers — members of UAW Local 833—and their friends, families and sympathizers heard UAW Secretary - Treasurer Emil Mazey pledge continued support of the strike and boycott.

Mazey said the recent Senate hearings showed that the Kohler Co. planned to destroy Local 833 as early as May 1952, and that the firm "was preparing for war instead of peaceful collective bargaining relations with the union."

Meany Backs It

The rally, sponsored by the AFL-CIO Sheboygan county labor council, was scheduled two weeks after the actual anniversary date, April 5, because of the Easter holiday.

Among the many messages received by Allan Graskamp, local president, were those of George Meany, AFL-CIO president, Peter Schoemann, Plumbers union president, and heads of several other international unions.

"Help fight the recession; buy your yacht today!"—TV comedian Jack Paar on NBC.

UAW SOLIDARITY

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

Vol. 1, No. 20 — 3-5-8 Edition — April 27, 1958

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Dems Pledge 'Fight' Not 'Sit' on Job Need

BADGE OF HONOR in Michigan COPE drive goes to Claude Cooper, President of Local 313, Detroit Bevel Gear, who symbolizes 300 men in the plant where drive went 200% over quota in first day. Pinning on button is Frank LaBita, UAW representative.

WASHINGTON — The Democratic leadership in Congress last week was pledged to a policy of "fight it out" rather than "sit it out" in dealing with the growing economic crisis.

Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson (D., Tex.), majority leader of the upper house, in a speech to the American Society of Newspaper Editors, called for swift, bold and imaginative action to end the depression and to restore American prestige throughout the world.

Policies Need Action

Anti-depression measures adopted under Franklin D. Roosevelt "are only so good and so valid as their execution," Johnson declared. "The best of policies are valueless when they are left unused . . .

"I do not question that our government has an obligation to harness runaway inflation. But I do say there is an equal obligation to keep a bridle on recession before it runs away."

In a bill of particulars paralleling the program he set forth previously (Solidarity, March 31) Johnson said:

"We saw a great depression brought on 30 years ago by a decline in farm income; yet we have allowed farm income to decline once more.

"We saw business expansion retract and crumple under the weight of burdensome money costs; yet we have deliberately sought to reimpose that burden.

"We saw the economy flourish under the stimulus of necessary spending for necessary public works; yet we have painstakingly deleted such works from our national program for too long."

Johnson took notice of the many statements by administration spokesmen that "this recession is sure to end of its own accord."

"But assumptions are no substitute for actions," he said.

"I don't believe America's families and businessmen and laborers want to see the doctor standing at the bedside of the economy giving odds on whether the patient can see it through the night without medicine."

In an indirect but obvious reference to charges that the Democrats would sit back and wait to reap political advantage from the depression, rather than move to relieve it, Johnson had this to say:

"I say America has victories to win that far transcend the fate of partisans at the ballot-box.

"I care, of course, who wins in such elections, but I care more why the victory is won—I care that the victors be worthy of their trust."

Relax, Folks; Ike Says It's 'Minor'

WASHINGTON — The nation's economic depression is just a "minor emergency," President Eisenhower told a press conference last week. "I don't think we should get hysterical about any of this business," he said.

When asked if he was following his advice to the nation two weeks earlier to "buy anything," he retorted "Do you want to see my personal aide who buys things? I don't know."

'Automated Depression' Rapped at IUD Meet

WASHINGTON (PAI) — Charging that conservative business groups are trying to put over a "giant fraud" that higher wages lead to inflation, economist Robert Nathan told an AFL-CIO conference here that labor must fight for higher wages and lower prices to create full employment.

Speaking before 200 staff technicians representing 45 member unions of the AFL-CIO industrial union department, Nathan denounced administration and Congressional inaction in the face of what another speaker called "the first automation recession."

"We should have taken action weeks and months ago," Nathan declared. "Almost nothing has been done. There has been more talk and baloney from the White House and the Department of Commerce than there has been action. What bi-partisan unity we have has been bi-partisan unity toward inaction. Neither the administration nor Congressional leadership have responded to the recession as they should have long ago."

Nathan warned that the "hoax" of higher wages causing inflation must not be tolerated by labor, but must be fought tenaciously on every level.

"What labor and the country needs is full employment and price stability," he went on. "Above all, the principle of full employment must not and need not be sacrificed for stable prices. We must seek both, but we will not succeed without facts and honesty."

Prices Still Soar, Slump Worse

Jobs went down and prices went up again last week as the screwiest depression in American history ground its way toward the bottom.

It wasn't due-date for employment figures from the government so the official number of jobless still stands at about 5.2 million. But the continuing slump was shown by such statistics as Ford Motor Co. employment.

In the Rouge plant, for example—once the world's biggest—jobs were down to their lowest level since before World War II.

Meanwhile, living-costs again hit an all-time high. The Bureau of Labor Statistics' index cracked the all-time record with customary regularity, and what was far worse for the millions on jobless benefits, short time or relief, the big jump was in food costs.

The overall price hike was 0.8 points—the equivalent of 3c an hour for Hayes Aircraft workers in Birmingham, Ala., under their UAW contract—but the food boost amounted to 2½ points, largest since the present inflationary spree began.

As the UAW executive board put it:

"The degree of suffering becomes painfully clear when it is recognized that more than one-quarter of the average family budget is spent for food.

"Although the most significant upward push came from food price increases which resulted from bad weather, these increases should have been more than offset by price reductions in manufactured goods.

"Exorbitant price increases unjustifiable by economic fact

Continued on Page 8

Painter Gets $1,071 Back Pay

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—An arbitrator has awarded $1,071 back pay and reinstatement to James S. Moss, UAW Local 243 member who was fired last October at Douglas Aircraft Co. where he has been working as a painter.

Moss

The arbitrator, James A. Morris, ruled the company failed to prove its claim Moss was fired for incompetence. Moss' arguments were presented by Charles L. Rogers, Local 243 president, and George N. Frongilli, UAW international representative.

Morris ruled that the company's contention that Moss' difficulty "stemmed from inability raises questions of judgment."

"He had a proven record of experience and performed satisfactory work for the company several months after employment, presumably being evaluated by supervision during this period," Morris said.

Morris ordered him reinstated with uninterruped seniority with his pay made whole.

Parents Must Start Pushing Youth's Interest in Education

ATLANTA, Ga.—Half the nation's youth lack the high school education required in almost all skilled trades, while five-sixths lack the college study needed for training in most professions.

This was pointed out by Millard Cass, deputy under secretary of labor, in an address before the Georgia Institute of Technology. Citing a nation-wide survey, he said one out of eight students completing the fourth grade fails to enter high school and about one out of three of those entering high school leaves before graduation.

Among the students who enter college, he said, one out of four drops out by the end of the first year, and another one drops out during the following three years. Altogether, only six out of 10 who enter college graduate from it.

"It is too late for young people to make decisions to enter college or to take apprenticeship or other on-the-job training if they have not taken the high school courses necessary to qualify them for such training," the Labor department official declared.

"If a youth has not taken in high school enough mathematics, science, or other courses to qualify him for training in the professions or the crafts, all the good intentions in the world cannot make him a doctor, a scientist, a machinist, or a pipefitter."

"Consequently," Cass said, "we must start much earlier the aptitude testing and counseling and must do a far better job in this area. This is a challenge not only to the school authorities but also to the parents of the nation."

10c More Coming At Hayes Aircraft

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—UAW Local 1155 members at Hayes Aircraft Co. here will have another 10c an hour to count on when figuring up their paychecks next month.

April 30 a 3c cost-of-living bonus—the only one being handed out at this time in the aircraft industry—will come their way because the Bureau of Labor Statistics Index has jumped up again (see Page 1).

Then, two weeks later, a 7c wage increase will be theirs, according to C. A. Hollingsworth, Local 1155 president.

The cost-of-living bonus will make a total of 12c their UAW escalator has paid off.

Just Happens

UAW's aircraft department pointed out that none of the other aircraft plants are paying off for two reasons. Either they are in negotiations for a new contract or the breaking point at which they'll get the bonus will not come until later this year.

Meanwhile, re-employment at the plant has been continuing, according to Hollingsworth, who said that only about 1,000 workers are still laidoff.

He estimated that employment at the plant will top the 5,000 mark before the end. The firm recently acquired new aircraft and missile contracts.

Company Remiss

Dan Glass, unit chairman, warned workers, however, that the company has not met all its promises in upgrading those workers who were dropped into lower classifications during the layoff.

"If you are working out of classification, or your supervisor orders you to perform higher-classified work, call your steward and file a grievance," Glass told workers.

"This is the one way we have to combat this situation and get our people upgraded to their former jobs."

Thousands Are on Layoff, Yet 'Cat' Hires Newcomers

BALTIMORE, Md.—Heavy layoffs in some plants, hirings at others — that was the situation reported to the 20 delegates at the UAW's Caterpillar council meeting here April 19.

While more than 9,000 Local 974 members at Caterpillar Tractor Co.'s main plant in East Peoria, Ill. are on layoff, and while other Cat workers at the Decatur, Ill. and York, Pa. plants have lost their jobs, the company is hiring new people at the Riverdale, Ia. plant and the brand-new plant in Aurora, Ill., the delegates were told. Some of those laid off have as much as eight years' seniority.

Reason for this situation appears to be the company's policy of shifting work from the existing plants to the new plants.

The council put the finishing touches on demands to be served on the company during 1958 negotiations. A major demand will be for a national agreement to cover all UAW members in the Cat chain. (Solidarity, March 3.) Currently each of the locals has a separate contract.

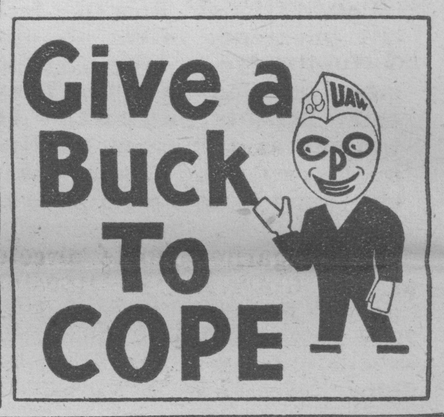
Local 974's contract will be the first to expire, on July 30. Negotiations will open on or about June 1.

The council also approved a change in by-laws to provide for an increased per capita tax from the locals to the council. This will help the council defray the cost of negotiating a national agreement, according to Marshall Hughes, administrative assistant to UAW Vice President Pat Greathouse, director of the union's Caterpillar intra-corporation council.

George Eisfelder, Local 974 president, and Russ McBride, chairman of that local's bargaining committee, though not council delegates, attended the council sessions by invitation.

The meeting was chaired by Joe Salch, Local 974, council president. The next council meeting will be held July 26 and 27 in Peoria, just prior to the expiration of the Peoria contract.

York, Pa., Local 786 was host local for the meeting here.



Local 663 Plays Rock'n Roll in Its Hall to Give Teenagers Place to Go

THEY RUN THINGS. Here the teenagers committee poses with Bob Brandt, 663 recreation committee chairman. Left to right, they're Wade Shaw, Olene Moore, Brandt, Jerry Griffin and John Hodson. Another committee member, Nancy Hammond, wasn't there when the camera clicked.

ANDERSON, Ind. — UAW Local 663 here figured they've gotta live with rock'n roll, so they've decided to put it to good use.

Every Saturday the basement recreation room of their hall resounds to the strains of recorded music and the stomping of kids strollin' and rockin'.

"We see it as one way of answering the growing need for supervised recreation and entertainment for teen agers," says Bob Brandt, recreation committee chairman.

His group, parents and the teenagers committee are working together. The parents provide rotating chaperones and occasional refreshments. The teenagers plan the programs and the local provides the hall, as well as over-all supervision.

THE GIRLS line up to do—you guessed it, the stroll . . .

BUT THIS TIME, everybody's in there rockin' and rollin' . . .

Meany Blasts Knowland

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif.—George Meany, AFL-CIO president, last week leveled a blistering attack at supporters of "right to work" legislation in a speech before the National Orange Show here which left little doubt the labor leader was taking dead aim at Sen. William F. Knowland (R., Calif.)

"This economic and social poison has now intruded upon the California scene," Meany said. "It was imported from the plantations, country clubs, Klan rallies of the last American stronghold of bigotry."

"Its local sponsors believe that if enough money is pumped into this campaign of mass deception the citizens of the state can be persuaded that the standards and practices of Mississippi point the way to progress for California," he said.

Tub Co. Gives 12c Package, Eases Automation Problem

BALTIMORE—A 12c wage increase package and a solution to the problem of automation that had dogged them for two years have been handed to the 1,100 workers of American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp. here as a result of UAW Local 344's new contract.

Region 8 Director E. T. Michael said he derived "considerable satisfaction from the fact that the local union not only accomplished the job of reworking the basic agreement with the company, but also satisfactorily met the challenge of automation."

As a result of the one-year contract, hourly rates jumped as least 7c and as much as 26c, while piece rates are being adjusted to reflect at least another 5c an hour, Michael said.

Michael said there were also sweeping revisions in the contract seniority clauses, vacation allowances, medical coverage, enamelers' bonuses, shift premiums, disability and retirement provisions and the pension plan.

Automation Hurt

Michael pointed out that because of automation the bath tub moulding operation over the last two years had eliminated one-third of the crewmen necessary while doubling the output of the firm.

"For that reason, we felt the workers were entitled to a share in the savings," he said. And as a result of the contract, a "substantial" inequity increase will be inserted as more "jolt" units are put into operation, he said.

(A "jolt" unit is a machine requiring only 13 workers where the former "sling" method used called for 22 men to operate it.)

Seniority Stronger

Under the new seniority provisions, recalls were made plantwide, Michael said. Transfers from one department to another were put on a bidding basis, a job posting system was devised and the grievance procedure was streamlined and tightened, he said.

A special agreement also was incorporated into the general contract, Michael said, providing for a flat rate rather than a merit spread for the skilled tradesmen.

The increases for these workers will range as high as 27c an hour, he said, adding that their job descriptions had been clarified considerably as a result of negotiations.

For the first time, vacation pay will be pro-rated, he said. A clause was also inserted which will allow a worker up to 14 weeks' illness before he will be penalized any vacation time.

Free X-Ray

Another eight hours of vacation pay also was negotiated for employes who have consistently worked overtime, he said.

Free X-ray service for those workers exposed to silicosis is an added health and safety feature nailed down by the new contract, he said.

Formerly a unilateral bonus was paid to enamelers on the basis of the number of tubs accepted, Michael explained. Now, the average of these bonuses has been frozen, giving the workers another 7½% increase, he said.

The night shift premium was raised 2c an hour, and the shift preference language in the contract was improved to put bumping on a seniority basis, Michael said.

The overtime provision was overhauled, too, he added. Any worker expected to work overtime on a daily basis will have to be given 24 hours notice, he said, while weekly overtime will require two days' notice.

Near Deadline

The contract, which was negotiated in a 22-hour marathon session, was achieved only 10 minutes before picket lines were to go around the plant, Michael said.

The local negotiating committee was headed by Arthur Callet, Local 344 president; Frank Ziolkowski, unit chairman, and Joe Reitz, financial secretary. Assisting were representatives from Region 8 and from the UAW foundry department, directed by Vice President Pat Greathouse.

Top This, Kohler

BALTIMORE — Kohler Co. now doesn't have a leg to stand on to defend its rates of pay.

The struck Wisconsin firm has long contended its pay scale is in keeping with its competitors in the bath tub business.

To explode this, the wage rates at American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp. were cited before the McClellan Senate committee at its recent hearing on the Kohler strike.

Now, American has granted a substantial wage increase (see story this page), leading UAW Region 8 Director E. T. Michael to ask:

"Now what can Kohler say?"

THEY'RE LISTENING to what Charles Livengood, Richmond attorney and Democratic candidate for Representative from Indiana's 10th district, has to say about issues important to unionists. Scene is the Delware County CIO Council headquarters in Muncie. What's going on is a lively question-and-answer period. COPE custom there is to give a hearing to any candidate who wants to speak.

'Wreck' Law Killing Debate

HOUSTON, Tex. — A college debate coach here wants to drop "right to work" laws as a subject of debate.

No, he doesn't think it's too controversial.

It's just simply that debaters who argue for it can't win. He says they can't seem to muster up enough convincing reasons for having such a law.

Bill Kilgarlin, debate director at the University of Houston, had two of his debaters win the 28th annual mid-south debate at Arkadelphia, Ark. They won arguing against "right to work."

"The negative teams (that is, those against the law) have been able to show that many disasterous effects would result by the abolition of the union shop," Kilgarlin said.

A Long List

He listed "decreased wages, lower standards of working conditions, decreased employe benefits, and in certain cases, the actual loss of the union as the bargaining agent."

"To this," he added, "all the affirmative can reply is that the worker should be given the right to join a union if he desires and to refrain from joining a union if he chooses not to. This, of course, is the straight NAM line."

"It is therefore my opinion," he concluded, "as it is the opinion of many of the coaches with whom I've talked during the progress of the year, that this is a poor topic to debate, because the preponderance of evidence, logic and just common sense lies with the negative in defense of union security."

"A debate topic," he said, "should be fair to both sides."

Evansville Faces Jobless Crisis

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — The plight of an estimated 5,000 Evansville families who are without unemployment compensation—or will be without it in the near future—was discussed at an AFL-CIO community services conference here.

Officials of the United Fund and the state CIO discussed ways and means of aiding the families. Joining in the panel discussions were city officials.

Why Bore Our GIs? Cut the Commercial

NEW YORK—Every television viewer is familiar with the announcement at the end of his favorite program: "This program has been selected for viewing by our armed forces overseas," but did you know that meant the commercial, too?

The Writers Guild of America is protesting that American troops need not be subjected to a sales pitch inasmuch as the union has waived payment rights for its member writers so that armed forces may enjoy the kinescopes.

The writers group in agreeing to waive its pay was given the understanding that all commercials would be edited out before being sent along to military bases abroad.

The writers' guild also takes the position that government facilities should not be used to promote commercial products.

The generally understood policy in the past has been for all commercials to be cut from kinescopes — the recordings of live TV shows. The ban does not apply to films made for TV and given to the military for use.

The unaffiliated writers union, which numbers a membership of 900 on the east coast, has been working under the agreement since 1955.

Networks and sponsors claim that while they are willing to provide the kinescopes for armed forces use, they do not wish to shoulder the expense of editing out the commercials.

Sponsors of the "Wednesday night fights," Miles Laboratories and the Mennen Company, are paying to have their commercials deleted.

Price Daniel Fails to Act

AUSTIN, Tex. (PAI) — The Texas State AFL-CIO is gravely concerned over the failure of Gov. Price Daniel to take adequate steps to fight heavy unemployment here.

Some 200,000 unemployed workers in Texas mean that the equivalent of a city the size of Austin has been deprived of income, Jerry Holleman, state AFL-CIO president, told the governor.

Holleman's statement to Daniel was included in a repeated request by the AFL-CIO that the state government do something to help offset unemployment. Daniel had brushed off a previous request in what one newspaper described as a "stinging reply to organized labor's demand for a speed-up of state spending programs."

No Politics, Please

Holleman in a fellow-up letter said: "We made our suggestions in all sincerity, without the political motives you seem to attribute to us, and we hope that you will consider our suggestions with a similar absence of political consideration."

"For years Texas political and governmental leaders have linked the two terms 'state's rights' and state's responsibilities'," said Holleman. "Now they have a golden opportunity to demonstrate their sincerity."

Take It Off for GOP? Good Gracious, No!

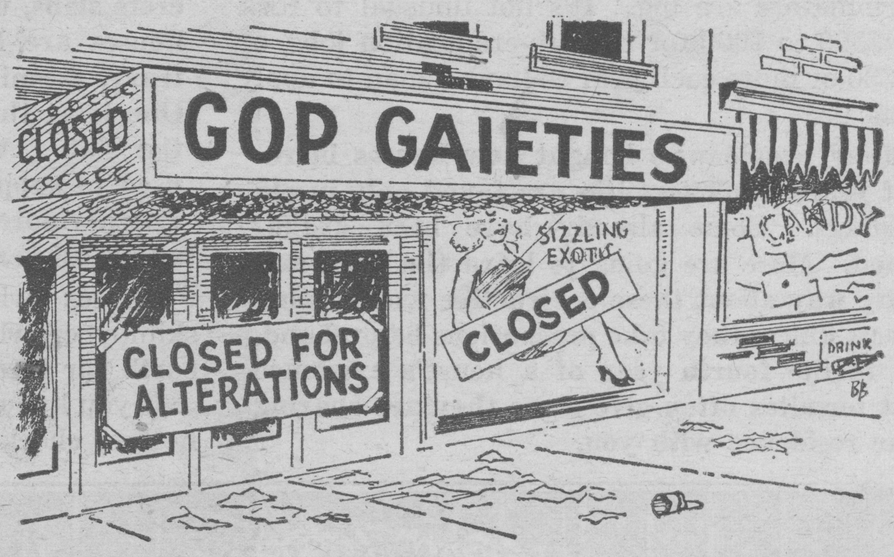
While details are still scant, the bare facts can now be revealed: That strip tease idea the Republican ladies had come up with a few weeks ago has been run off the runways, so to speak.

A pamphlet entitled, "Keep the Fun in Fund Raising," issued by the National Federation of Republican Women, has been withdrawn because of a passage which suggested the following fund-raising gimmick:

". . . An evening affair, with good dinner and . . . cocktails preceding . . . Beginning with hat, costume jewelry, etc., model delivers each item to highest bidder from runway, ending with bra and panties . . ."

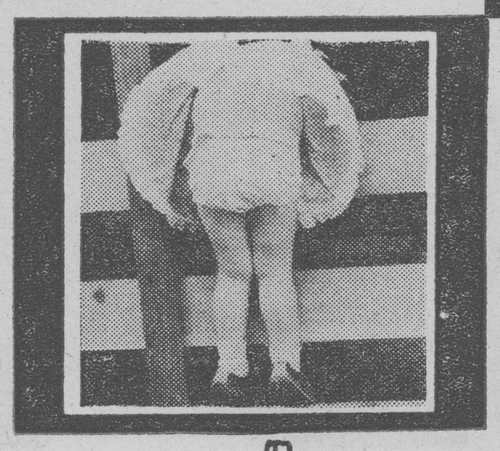
This first edition is now practically a collector's item, admits Mrs. Catharine Gibson of Monroe, Mich., federation president. She says a new and expurgated edition of the pamphlet has now been distributed.

The original idea for the fund-raising strip tease — oops, auction sale, we mean — came from "a Southern Junior Leaguer," according to Mrs. Gibson.



SOLIDARITY Consumer Section

Gee, What Baby Pictures! Aren't Yours as Good?



It's been said that a human being is a baby only between the ages of six months and three years.

Before that they're infants.

After that they're children.

But whatever the age boundary, the most-thumbed pictures in any family album are the baby pictures.

Many's the strapping, six-foot high school basketball center who's squirmed in agony while his beaming mother showed off his baby pictures to that nice girl he was taking to the dance.

Of course, 10 years later he was chuckling over the very same thing—snapshots of his own baby.

Let's face it. If you don't know how to handle your camera, you'll never get good pictures of your darling while he's still dimpled, dewy and cuddly.

But if you can handle your camera . . . If you can judge the distance so you'll be in focus . . . If you know enough to use daylight correctly outside (shoot with the sun behind you) . . . If you've got good flashing equipment for indoor shots . . . If you know how to compose a picture — that is, take one without lopping off the top of his head . . .

Then you ought to be able to take baby pictures.

But here are a few hints that may make these snapshots draw even deeper oohs and awws from the neighbor when you sandbag him into looking at your beautiful baby's pictures — instead of letting him inflict a set of murky photos of his idiot offspring on you.

For one thing, don't pose your baby. Catch him in his natural element—in the play pen, eating, being bathed, exploring the floor, pawing his toys, cooing on Aunt Bertha's lap. Any place except being forced to sit at ramrod attention dressed up like a department store mannequin.

After all, action and facial expressions are the two strongest attention-catchers in any photograph.

Action comes only when the baby is at ease and unafraid of his surroundings.

A pleasant, cheerful look that truly reflects his good disposition (after all, who ever had a disagreeable offspring) comes only when he's comfortable, absorbed and sure of himself.

Pick a good background for the picture. One that's simple, unobtrusive and in soft contrast to the baby. After all, it's the baby that's supposed to be the center of attention in the picture. Not the intricate design on the wallpaper, or the material in the drapes, or the unusual cloud formation in the distance.

A couple more things.

One's a safety consideration. Get a cloth or plastic diffuser to put over the reflector of your flashing unit. Especially for when you're shooting up close. This isn't only a precaution against that one in a million flash bulbs that explodes. It softens and spreads out the light and makes better pictures.

The other is to buy a close-up lens attachment if yours happens to be a simple, fixed-focus camera. For a dollar or two you're increasing the chances that every picture will come out clear.

Termites? Oh, Oh, You're in Trouble!

SIDNEY MARGOLIUS Says:

When the warm days of spring arrive, any homeowner may be shocked to see swarms of flying insects inside his house.

These may be merely "flying ants," or they may be the dreaded termites that cause much damage to houses in most parts of the U.S.

If you have termites you may be in for an expensive bill. Even the fees charged by reliable exterminators are big. It's not unusual to fork over $300 to $600 for termite-eradication jobs, or pay $30 or more each year to have a man to apply chemicals.

Many people who bought new houses in recent years think termites are found only in old buildings. Some already have been disillusioned. More are going to learn the hard and costly way about these destructive wood-eating insects unless they take precautions beforehand. It's in the fourth year of a house's existence that termites often give signs they are sharing your residence with you.

Fact is, many new houses are built so carelessly they invite termites. Builders could provide an effective metal shield at a cost of about $60-$75 and avoid certain bad construction habits. One is the concrete-topped terrace filled with earth. Often the fill under the concrete contains scrap wood and lath. This is an invitation to termites. Often dirt fill is banked closely around the exterior siding or shingles.

Many postwar houses have been built on concrete slabs, with heating coils in the floor. Slab houses are NOT termite proof. On the contrary, termites have several ways to get in. One is at the expansion joints at the edges of the slab. Also, wood stakes may have been used to support the heating pipes in the floor. Furthermore, the heated slab provides a nice warm all-year climate for termites to multiply.

Houses with partial basements built over skimpy crawl spaces also provide all-year warm earth for termites. These need to be ventilated.

If you know termites have attacked neighboring homes, check your own by testing—with an ice pick or sharp knife — beams in the basement around the edge of the house and the bottom row of exterior posts and frames. Especially test the basement timbers resting on the foundation.

Infested wood may seem all right on the outside but be almost hollow when you tap it and your knife will go right into it. It must be replaced.

Watch for the appearance of narrow mud tunnels on the exterior foundation walls. Termites construct these tubes to get back to the soil for the moisture they need to survive. But destroying the tunnels is no complete assurance of getting rid of the termites.

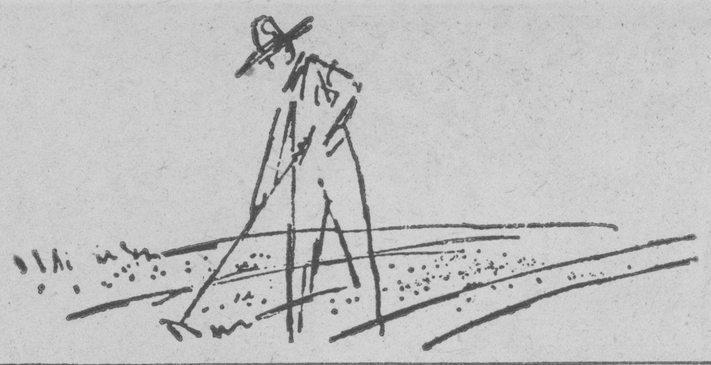
A reliable professional exterminator is the surest way to get rid of termites if you can afford the fee. Always get two or three estimates, and check your local Better Business Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, or the experiences of other families. You can also write the National Pest Control Association, 250 West Jersey St., Elizabeth, N.J., for names of member firms in your area.

You yourself can set up a chemical barrier against term inches deep foundation trench. Cov distribute ad the rest of dense, the tr

The U.S. A a 5% solution at least five can harm fou sion chlordane life. These p but it's safes years.

Some exter Others guaran antee to five tion service w minators who tee, are more the first place out.

How's About a Garden?



One of the happier persons in this world is the man or woman with a green thumb.

And, of course, a little plot of ground to work.

The satisfactions of gardening are as spiritual as they are nutritious. The ground that you call your own, and the life that can spring from it because of your effort, are two of the most comforting things in the world.

As exercise, as a hobby to pass otherwise idle time, as a source of food for your family's table—a garden has a great many things to recommend it.

Not that it's done with a simple twist of the wrist.

Care, thought, foresight and diligence all enter into turning that patch of earth into rich, red juicy tomatoes, crisp lettuce, tangy cabbage, tasty sweet corn on the cob.

Here's a chart of vital information on how to carry out your planting and an equally valuable set of hints on how to insure the greatest return from the soil.

Get out your spade and go to it.

VEGETABLE	To Sow 50 feet of Row	Inches Deep to Sow	Inches Apart to Thin or Set Plants	Inches Between Rows For Hand Cultivation	Planting or Transplanting Date (a) Outdoor — (b) Indoor	Later Planting	Common Insect Pests And Suggested Control
BEANS	2 cartons	1	4 to 8	Bush: 24 Pole: 36	(a) 1 to 2 weeks after average date of last frost.	Make several plantings of bush varieties about 2 weeks apart. May follow early radish, lettuce, spinach or beets. Plant again in August.	Mexican Bean Bettle—Rotenone, pyrethrum, or cryolite.
BEET	2 packets	½ to 1	1 to 4	18	(a) As early in spring as ground can be worked or up to 1 month later.	In North, plant July 15 to Aug. 15 for fall use. May follow early peas or spinach. In mild climates plant again in fall, winter.	Seldom bothered.
CABBAGE	1 packet	¼ to ½	12 to 24	30	(a) 1 to 2 weeks after average date of last frost. (b) 4 weeks before average hard-frost date.	In North, may follow early radish, lettuce, spinach for fall crop. In mild climates plant again in fall and winter.	Green Cabbage Worm—Rotenone. Aphids—Nicotine dust or spray.
CARROT	2 packets	¼ to ½	1 to 3	18	(a) As early in spring as ground can be worked or up to 1 month later.	In North, plant again July 15 to Aug. 15 for fall use. May follow early peas, spinach or lettuce. Mild climate plant again in fall.	Seldom bothered.
SWEET CORN	1 carton	1½ to 2	6 to 8	36	(a) 1 to 2 weeks after average date of last frost.	Make several plantings of early varieties about 2 weeks apart until July 1. In mild climates plant again in August.	Corn Borer—Apply rotenone dust just before ear forms, then 4 times more 5 days apart. Corn Ear Worm—Snip off tips of ears after silk dries or apply mineral oil to ear tips.
CUCUMBER	1 packet	¾ to 1½	12 to 18	72	(a) 1 to 2 weeks after average date of last frost.	In mild climates plant again in August.	Striped Cucumber Beetle—Rotenone. Aphids—Nicotine dust or spray.
EGG PLANT	1 packet	¼ to ½	18 to 24	30	(b) 6 to 8 weeks before average hard-frost date. Set outdoors after all frost danger is past.	Needs full season to develop.	Colorado Potato Beetle—Methoxychlor. Flea Beetle—Dust with arsenate of lead.
LETTUCE	2 packets	¼ to ½	Head: 8 to 10 Leaf: 1 to 4	18	(a) leaf: As early in the spring as ground can be worked. (b) head: 6 to 8 weeks before average hard-frost date.	In North, plant Aug. 1 to Sept. 1 for fall use. May follow early beets or carrots. In mild climate plant again in fall and winter.	Cut Worm — Poison bait on ground. Aphids—Nicotine dust or spray. Birds—Cover rows with screen or open mesh cloth.
MELON	Muskmelon 1 packet Watermelon 1 packet	¾ to 1½	24 to 26	Muskmelons 60 Watermelons 108	(a) 1 to 2 weeks after average date of last frost.	Needs full season to develop.	Squash Bug and Cucumber Beetle—Rotenone, or hand pick. Aphids—Nicotine dust or spray.
ONION	3 packets	¼ to ½	2 to 4	15	(a) As early in spring as soil can be prepared after frost is out of ground. (b) 8 to 10 weeks before average hard-frost date.	In mild climates, plant again in fall and winter.	Onion Thrip—5% DDT dust
PEAS	1 carton	1½ to 2	1 to 3	24	(a) As early in spring as ground can be worked.	In mild climates, plant again in early fall.	Aphids—Rotenone, pyrethrum, or nicotine dust or spray.
RADISH	2 packets	½ to 1	1 to 2	12	(a) As early in spring as ground can be worked and at 10 day intervals until warm weather.	In North, plant again Aug. 1 to Sept. 1 for fall use. May follow any leafy summer crop. In mild climates, plant again in fall and winter.	Cabbage Maggot—Avoid by quick root growth.
SPINACH	2 packets	½ to 1	8	18	(a) As early in spring as soil can be prepared after frost is out of ground.	In North, plant again July 15 to Aug. 15 for fall use. May follow early beet or carrots. In mild climates, plant again in fall and winter.	Aphids—Nicotine dust or spray.
TOMATO	1 packet	¼ to ½	36 to 38	36 for Staking 48 Unstaked	(b) 4 to 6 weeks before average hard-frost date. (a) Transplant after all frost danger is past.	In mild climates, set out plants of early varieties again in August.	Cut Worm—Paper collar around each plant when set out. Aphids—Nicotine dust or spray. Green Tomato Worm—Dust with rotenone or hand pick.

HINTS ON PREPARING YOUR GARDEN SOIL

1 Remove all stones, rubbish, and old plant stalks before working the soil.

2 Make sure the soil is crumbly and only slightly moist before plowing or spading. If it packs in your hand, wait until it's drier.

3 Push the spade *straight down* full length with your foot when spading the plot. Turn each spadeful over and break up the clods.

4 Use your rake freely in making the top two or three inches of soil fine, loose, and smooth. Use the back of the rake as well as the teeth.

5 Spade in peat moss or thoroughly rotted stable manure to improve the texture of heavy clay or very sandy soil.

6 If the soil lacks richness, scatter balanced commercial fertilizer over the plot at the rate of about 2 pounds to each 100 square feet. Rake it in thoroughly before sowing seed.

7 Sow seeds when soil is slightly moist, *not when very wet*. If too wet, the soil may pack too much in covering them, forming a crust which the seedlings cannot break through.

8 If yours is new garden soil and has been giving unsatisfactory crops, contact your County Agricultural Agent and let him analyze your soil. He is also an excellent source of other information on gardening.

gainst termites. Dig a narrow trench eight
ches deep all around the house next to the
undation and distribute soil poison in the
ench. Cover up the poison with some soil and
stribute additional soil poison. Then fill up
e rest of the trench. If the soil is clayey or
ense, the trench should be dug two feet deep.

The U.S. Agriculture department has suggested
% solution of DDT in No. 2 fuel oil, as giving
least five years protection. However, fuel oil
harm foundation shrubbery. A water-emul-
n chlordane, DDT or Dieldrin won't harm plant
. These poisons may last a number of years,
it's safest to renew them every couple of
rs.

Some exterminators give a five-year guarantee.
ners guarantee for a year, but extend the guar-
ee to five years if you subscribe to an inspec-
n service which costs $6 to $15 a year. Exter-
nators who give the straight five-year guaran-
, are more likely to do a more careful job in
first place because they've stuck their necks
.

Don't Worry, Gals; Judges Are Busy

Stop gnawing your nails, girls. You haven't been forgotten.

We're referring, of course, to those of you who entered Solidarity's menu contest.

The reason it's taking such a long time to come up with the winners is quite simple: So many of you entered the contest.

There's another reason, too. So many of the entries were so good, the judges are having a difficult time deciding in many cases.

But they're doggedly going through the entries, and by the middle of May we hope — we're not promising, but we're hoping — we'll be able to announce the winners.

By the way, look around for a good photograph of yourself. If you're one of the winners, we'll want to run your picture in Solidarity.

IT WAS AN ENJOYABLE AFTERNOON for everyone at Local 47's party. A carnival of games . . . bingo . . . and dinner (see photos) were highlights. And on hand for festivities was Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, above, in dark suit, with Art Gormely, retiree committee chairman for the local, who helped plan and carry out the affair.

. . . . . .

So They Thought They'd Have a 'Little Party'...

They thought it would be good idea at Local 47 in Detroit to hold a little party for retirees. Maybe some of the fellows would like to get together with their former co-workers.

They didn't know how right they were.

The "little party" brought forth more than 150 retirees, and was such a bang-up success that they're figuring on having more.

What happened to Local 47 is probably the forerunner to many such affairs by UAW locals through the country as ranks of UAW retirees grow. Already 78,000 members have retired on union-won pensions.

Serious Side, Too

The idea for the party came to local president Larry Powers and other local officers who noted that many questions asked by retired members who dropped in at the hall were about their former co-workers and about the current activities of the union.

"Getting them all together seemed like the natural thing to do," Powers explained.

In addition to providing the former workers of the Detroit Forge plant of the Chrysler Corp. a social afternoon, local officers viewed the get-together as part of its responsibility to retired members.

"This is the kind of an affair every local should undertake," Powers noted. "After all, the union is a living thing and our retirees are a most valuable asset—they built the union.

"And as the union undertakes new goals — such as profit sharing — our retirees can be our 'labor ambassadors of good will' in their communities."

. . .

Questions, Anyone?

Beginning at noon the retirees registered, took part in a carnival of games and a grand march.

After a buffet dinner came group singing and the introduction of union representatives to answer questions on pensions, social security and other problems of retired life.

The retirees also heard short addresses by local and international officers, topped off by an afternoon of bingo, cards and checkers.

At the time of the shift change — word having been sent through the plant — many of the oldtimers' co-workers still on the job dropped in to visit.

Ford Leaflet Now Boasts Of Gains It Once Fought

It's always nice to know you've been right in an argument — but it's even nicer when your opponent admits it

So if any Ford workers around the U.S. (those with jobs, that is) are gloating these days, it's understandable. They've probably just finished reading Ford Motor Co.'s latest employe publication, "More Pay to Your Paycheck," in which the firm takes a couple of curtain calls for the benefit programs in Ford plants — pensions, SUB, vacation and holiday pay, hospital and surgical insurance and the like.

The facts are, as every Ford worker knows, that each of the programs the company boasts about was put into effect, not by Ford management, but by Ford workers through their union, the UAW, in collective bargaining. Moreover, almost all of the programs came into being over the determined and often virulent opposition of Ford management.

Ken Bannon, director of the union's national Ford department, said he was "delighted" at Ford's belated recognition of the value of SUB, pensions and the rest.

Took a While

"We're glad they've finally come around to our way of thinking," Bannon said.

"Of course, it would have saved the union and the company a lot of time and money if management had recognized that the UAW was right at the time we were asking for these benefits."

Bannon traced the history of each of the programs hailed by Ford in the pamphlet.

Medical-surgical insurance was negotiated in 1946 and revised two years later, he said, while sickness and accident benefits and life insurance coverage date back to 1942.

Paid vacations were also inaugurated in the UAW-Ford agreement of 1942, paid holidays appeared first in the contract of August 1947.

No, No, No . . . Yes

The first pension program at Ford was negotiated in 1949 and supplemental unemployment benefits (SUB) became a reality on June 6, 1955.

When most of the programs were first presented by the union, Bannon pointed out, they were quickly rejected by the company.

"The reasons were generally different, but the answer was always the same — NO."

For example, he recalled, the company claimed pensions for retired workers would be far too expensive for Ford to bear. Management also contended it would be "extremely difficult and perhaps even impossible" for the company to provide SUB.

Yet today, Bannon said, Ford boasts of these benefits.

"We're hopeful that in the future, it won't take the company from three to 16 years to admit that a worthwhile idea has merit — whether it is suggested by the UAW or not," he said.

Those Anti-Revolutionary Daughters

WASHINGTON—If only the unusual makes news, the Daughters of the American Revolution are an exception.

Once again, that collection of hereditary bluenoses convened here and asked the 20th century to repeal itself.

Among the resolutions the DAR passed (as usual) were demands to end the fluoridation of city water supplies; all federal aid to education; the reciprocal trade program; all foreign aid; diplomatic recognition of countries we don't like.

The DAR also wants the United States to withdraw from the United Nations and to oust that agency from American soil. The ladies also criticized the National Council of Churches of Christ in America for its "socialistic one-world activities."

The UN, the ladies said, is motivated by ar "anti-Christian philosophy" and is the forerunner of a "socialized one-world state."

Next year: Same thing.

With These Two Hands...

This is the story of Paul Ackerman, active UAW member, Ford worker, crack bowler, golfer and gardener—who almost 10 years ago lost both his hands in an accident. Like his more famous counterpart, Harold Russell, Paul is an inspiration to all who know him. We think he will be an inspiration to our readers, too.—Ed.

By RUSS SMITH

CANTON, O. — Paul Ackerman is a carefree, happy-go-lucky UAW member. He's like thousands of other workers who make a living with their hands—with one exception. He doesn't have any.

Ten years ago Paul was just another hammerman at the Ford Motor Co. forge plant. His father and he, with some valuable assistance from Nellie, his wife, had built a modest but comfortable one-story house for themselves and the two young Ackermans. It took them two years; by the end of 1948 it was finished.

December 31, 1948 was just another work-day, shortened to six hours because of New Year's Eve. Just another day, but a momentous one.

Paul was cleaning the scale out of the dies in his hammer. He had it propped open with the usual blocks. He'd even stuck his head into the opening to see how the cleaning was coming. Moments later, something slipped. Smashing down came the hammer — crushed both Paul's hands at the wrists.

Then, as Paul recalls it:

"I yelled for my heater and he came running and turned the steam on. When I was free I headed for the plant hospital and from there was taken to Mercy hospital. I was lying in the emergency room when they told me my wife was there to see me. I was afraid to face her.

"My heart sank lower and lower as they told me my wife and sister were coming in. All I could think of was my wife crying. I saw her coming through the door —head high, chin up. She walked steadily over to my side. Her eyes were red but she held her tears back. She made me feel as though it wasn't so bad even though I knew both hands were gone.

"Finally it came time for me to go to the operating room. I was in a dither, but the pain wasn't too great. I just wanted to go to sleep. Perhaps if I went to sleep I would wake up with my hands.

"I started waking out of the ether. It seemed I could see my wife. It was my wife. She had stayed all night with me. And there propped on the pillows in front of me were what was left of my hands —nothing but bandages.

"The doctor came in quite frequently to see how I felt. He was a swell doctor and he gave me a lot of confidence in myself. The fellows from the shop were wonderful to me. The union was also very good and it seemed like everyone around me was different. The nurses were awfully good to us."

When his wounds healed, Paul was fitted with the artificial hands he has worn since.

"It was sort of clumsy, but by hard work I could do a few things," he said. "So with a great deal of help from Jimmy Seccombe, a Ford worker, I was sent to the Kessler Institute."

Paul completed four weeks of rehabilitation training at the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation, West Orange, N.J. He had nothing but praise for its training program.

Today the shock of his accident is a dimming memory to Paul. He wants neither pity nor help. He doesn't think he deserves any praise for the fact he has made a new life for himself despite his handicap.

Paul is still in the forge plant, now as trim die repairman, a job for which he is paid $2.93½ an hour. He operates a small grinding and burring motor with dexterity. He puts on and takes off grinding wheels, uses wrenches, checks his work with template gauges and does the other jobs necessary to his work with no more apparent effort than his co-workers.

When Bill Schick, COPE chairman of Local 542, approached Paul to get his COPE buck donation, Solidarity's photographer thought Paul would be stumped. But he reached into his pocket with ease, abstracted a buck and passed it along to Bill — receiving his COPE button to show he supported the union's political action program. He does just as well with coins for the vending machines.

Paul has two sets of hooks which fit into metal collars of the plastic, leather and metal arms and harness he puts on and takes off by himself. One set has a heavier harness. This he uses only for bowling. The other set is for work and his everyday activities. He manipulates the hooks through tension exerted on cables extending from the trigger release to a shoulder attachment.

Some two years after his injury the boys in the plant gave Paul a bowling ball especially fitted with a spring release inserted in the one hole which could be handled with his artificial arm and hand. He had never bowled before.

In the UAW national bowling tourney now going on at Hagerty Center in Toledo, Paul averaged 190 for nine games.

Bill Cotzes, a fellow worker, dreamed up an arrangement whereby Paul can play golf with a minimum of trouble. Bill fixed up a set of nine clubs with square steel shanks on the end of each handle. Now it just takes Paul a jiffy to loosen a small tightening screw, remove the hook from the left hand and insert the club he wants into the socket. Last year he won the Mercury-Ford golf tourney.

Paul also goes fishing, plays a fair game of badminton, plants and cultivates a garden and drives a car.

Has his own vegetable garden and raises dahlias as a hobby.

His 1957 Mercury is a stock automobile with minor additions. It has a swivel ring attached to the steering wheel making it easy for him to control the wheel with his hooks. There's also an upright extension on the directional signal arm.

Paul shaves with an electric razor. He dresses himself including putting on socks, fastening ties and shoes. The last is considered an extremely difficult task for a handless person.

He does the usual tasks around the yard and house just like any other suburbanite and he has a summer vacation cabin near his birthplace of Meyersdale, Pa. He helped build this during vacation time.

No wonder the Ohio Industrial Commission thinks Paul is an exceptional example of rehabilitation. Every so often he gets a call or a letter from some newly handicapped person who wants advice or would like to see how he gets along with his mechanical hands and how he has overcome his handicap. They've been referred to him by the industrial commission, and he always responds to their pleas.

One fellow who came out to see Paul was having a difficult time eating. Seems he couldn't use his eating tools with his artificial hands. Paul suggested he strap the fork onto one hand. When his visitor claimed this was too hard, Paul really gave him both barrels.

"Stop feeling sorry for yourself," he said. "It's about time you realized you've got to help yourself. No one else is going to do it for you. You've got to get by on your own, and the sooner you do it the better."

How can you keep a guy like that down? Not Paul Ackerman, say his union brothers.

Good form means another strike.

Driving the car requires gadgets.

He doesn't feel "hooked" for COPE buck.

10 Good Reasons for Giving a Buck to COPE

- FULL EMPLOYMENT—Whether we have full employment and job security—or unemployment, insecurity and depression—depends on government actions. Your COPE dollar will help get the right kind of action.
- FAIR TAXATION—Congress can vote tax relief for those who need it. In the past, Congress has helped those who needed tax relief least. Invest a buck in COPE to help change unfair tax favoritism.
- REMOVE LABOR'S HANDCUFFS — Changes in labor laws can help your union do a better job for you. Still worse restrictions can be headed off. Your COPE dollar will help bring this about.
- LOWER PRICES — This rigged inflation can be whipped. A sensible economic program and farm aid will result in lower prices to consumers. A dollar for COPE will go a long way in this fight.
- UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION — How much jobless pay you get and for how long a period depends on actions of Congress and your state legislature. Your COPE buck fights for improved benefits.
- CIVIL RIGHTS FOR ALL—Laws guaranteeing fair employment and civil rights for everyone will never be passed until we have effective political action. Put your COPE dollar to work on this job.
- HOMES YOU CAN AFFORD—Housing laws should be passed to provide homes at reasonable prices, not to make bankers and realtors richer on high interest rates and prices. Your COPE buck will aid this fight.
- WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION—What you get in compensation when you're hurt in the plant is fixed by law. Elect the right lawmakers and workmen's compensation can be improved. Put your COPE dollar to work for you.
- BETTER SCHOOLS — Both federal and state laws control the educational opportunity your children will have. A buck invested in COPE will help pass necessary laws.
- COMPLETE MEDICAL CARE — A comprehensive program providing prepaid medical care under national health insurance is a must. Give your COPE dollar to buy insurance against economic ruin possible through disastrous illness.

You Owe It to Your Future — Give a Buck to COPE Today

Labor History in Pictures—20

THE CIO was born because millions of factory workers wanted to be organized. Until the early 1930s they hadn't been. The AFL was loath to take them in if they worked in factories, no matter whether they were skilled or production workers.

Their own efforts, moreover, usually met with failure. Skilled auto plant workers tried to form a union in 1934; their strike was broken and the men blacklisted. Elsewhere the story was the same.

The depression made factory workers increasingly desperate. They wanted a union through which they could talk to their bosses about their grievances. But companies were paying to have workers terrorized, organizers beaten and meetings spied on. Employer associations also pulled out all the stops in efforts to crush labor.

Meanwhile, a different fight was taking place in the AFL between the old and the new—the new insisting upon taking in the tremendous numbers of factory workers who wanted a union; the old resisting the internal structural changes this threatened to bring.

The struggle erupted at the AFL's 1935 Atlantic City, N.J., convention when United Mine Workers president John L. Lewis, in the forefront of the demand for organizing factory workers, exchanged blows with William L. Hutcheson, Carpenters Union head who opposed industrial unionism.

Right after the convention, eight supporters of organizing industrial workers decided to go ahead with their drive. On Nov. 9, 1936, they set up the Committee for Industrial Organization—the CIO.

In two years, CIO's membership skyrocketed from less than a million to more than four million. In the same period the new unions added more than a billion dollars to the wages of the never-before-organized skilled and production workers in the nation's factories.

Accused of not following the majority decision of the AFL convention, the CIO unions later were expelled by the AFL. Some—such as the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, the International Typographical Union and the Hatters Union, soon returned to the AFL.

Industrial workers weren't the only ones to surge toward unionism. Many white-collar workers did, too. Newspapermen, for example, turned their backs on unions until Heywood Broun (lower left), one of the nation's highest-paid columnists, wrote in his regular New York World space in 1934 that he intended "to organize a union of newspaper people."

"Small fry are no longer small when they begin to organize," Broun declared elsewhere. "They take on purpose and power." The result of the efforts led by Broun was the American Newspaper Guild.

New CIO unions were formed in mass-production industries like auto, steel, rubber and textile. In none of these had organization in the old pattern taken hold for long; for the most part, workers were getting union contarcts and benefits for the first time.

Of the eight men whose unions formed the CIO, seven are portrayed in this painting. In the top row are Max Zaritsky of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers; Charles P. Howard of the Typographers; John L. Lewis of the Miners; David Dubinsky of the ILGWU and Harvey C. Fremming of the Oil Field, Gas, Well and Refinery Workers.

Below are Sidney Hillman (left) of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and Thomas F. McMahon (right) of the old United Textile (later TWUA). The eighth was Thomas H. Brown of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.

Prices Soar, Jobs Don't

Continued from Page 1

have been heaped on consumers year in and year out, without regard either to the law of supply and demand or to the devastating impact such increases have on the economy as a whole.

"It is impossible to escape the conclusion that the only serious hope for an end to the current recession with all its hardships, and an early upward adjustment in production and employment, is through aggressive, positive and prompt action by the federal government.

"The UAW believes, as does the balance of the labor movement, that this can best be accomplished by the speedy enactment of the Kennedy-McCarthy bill, which would provide federal standards for unemployment compensation with increased benefits and extended duration; a tax cut for low and middle income families, and a comprehensive public works program."

Is Workmen's Comp A Social 'Dinosaur'?

WASHINGTON—The 50th anniversary of the country's first workmen's compensation law was marked by a three-day national conference here, sponsored by the AFL-CIO. Three UAW representatives were among the compensation experts who attended.

WC benefits are worth only slightly more than 1c an hour, the meeting was told by Jerome Pollack, program consultant in the UAW's social security department.

In a talk on "financing workmen's compensation," Pollack declared that "a penny an hour doesn't go far enough in replacing the injured worker's lost wages, nor does it buy enough medical care and rehabilitation.

Costs Less Now

"There's little wrong with WC that another cent an hour wouldn't cure."

While employer complain about the "increased cost" of WC, they are actually paying less today than they did in 1940, he asserted. In 1940, they paid three-fourths of 1% of their payroll; today it's only a little more than one-half of 1%.

For some reason it's much harder to win improvements in WC—which would cost management a fraction of a cent an hour—than to negotiate for several cents an hour for pensions, insurance and similar benefits, Pollack observed.

This state of affairs has made WC "the dinosaur among social insurance programs—lost in the evolutionary process and facing extinction," he said.

Pollack also attacked the bite insurance companies take out of WC.

Mitchell's View

Participating in conference workshop sessions were Clayton E. Johnson, director of the UAW's compensation and safety department, and Richard L. Schmidt, assistant director.

Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell told the group not to waste its time trying to get a federal WC law. He said labor should concentrate on trying to improve existing state laws.