

# The United Automobile Worker

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

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# LABOR UNITY

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# CIO-AFL Committees OK Labor Unity Terms; Final Agreement Possible Before Year's End

The CIO and AFL Unity Committees have agreed on terms for bringing about a united labor movement. CIO President Walter P. Reuther and AFL President George Meany released the news in a joint statement at mid-month following committee discussions in Miami Beach, Florida.

The AFL Executive Board, meeting in Miami Beach, approved the unity pact the following day. As *The United Automobile Worker* went to press, the matter was about to be brought before the CIO Executive Board. There were immediate indications that some of the Railway Brotherhoods might want to join, too.

While no time table was set, the two Union presidents said they hoped "the merged new organization can be established before the end of the year."

If the CIO Executive Board approves the agreement, as anticipated, the unity arrangements will be presented at both the AFL and CIO conventions for approval. "Then, a joint convention of the new organization will be called," Reuther and Meany said.

In their joint statement, they pointed out, "This agreement . . . will mark the end of the division in the free trade union movement of our country that has existed for almost 20 years.

"It is our belief that a united labor movement will be able to devote the talent and strength of our trade unions to greater service to the people of the United States.

"At this time in our history, when this country and all the free world are beset by the challenge of Soviet Communist totalitarianism, a united labor movement will best be able to mobilize the working men and women of this country toward the defense of our free institutions, and toward the development of full employment and greater security for all the people.

"We pledge that, as unity develops, labor in America will place itself at the service of the American public; and will, by its responsibility and sense of dedication to our democratic ideals, help build a better nation and a stronger free world.

### UNION IDENTITY INTACT

"This agreement will preserve the identity and integrity of the more than 140 trade unions now affiliated with the CIO and the AFL. They will continue, under this plan, to conduct their own individual collective bargaining with employers, as in the past. The agreement provides a mechanism for voluntary—not compulsory—merger of individual trade unions in the same field. Through arrangements to be worked out, the members of all affiliated trade unions and the general public can be assured that the swift progress made during the past two years toward the elimination of 'raids' and 'jurisdictional disputes' will be continued.

"If both (Executive Boards) ratify the agreement, committees from the AFL and the CIO will begin the task of writing a constitution for the merged organizations. That draft constitution will be referred for ratification to the Executive Council of the AFL and the Executive Board of the CIO later this year.

"When and if they ratify the new constitution, it will then be submitted to the conventions of the two bodies for their approval. Then, a joint

convention of the new organization will be called.

**TO AID AMERICAN UNITY**  
"We are setting no time schedule for this process. We are hopeful that if the agreement and the draft constitution are ratified, the merged new organization can be established before the end of the year.

"The members of the joint AFL-CIO Unity Committee express their pleasure that an honorable agreement, in a complex and difficult field, was so speedily obtained. We pledge our support to its ratification by our respective trade union organizations.

"We feel confident that merger of the two union groups, which we represent, will be a boon to our nation and its people in this tense

### Unmarching Feet

LONDON, England — The 400,000 members of the National Union of Railwaymen admitted there were advantages to working for government-owned railroads, even when the government is Tory and anti-labor. The union called off a nationwide strike set for Sunday night and two days later was astonished to learn that it had won pay raises larger than it had demanded when the strike call was issued. Track workers, for example, received a weekly wage hike of \$1.68, about 56c more than the union had sought. The settlement made everyone happy—except one small labor organization. A union of shoe repair men in London reported that during the week before the strike was scheduled to start business had been booming.

period. We are happy that, in our way, we have been able to help bring about unity of the American labor movement at a time when the unity of all American people is most urgently needed in the face of the Communist threat to world peace and civilization."

### Maybe GM Didn't Know Opinion Poll Was Loaded

The UAW-CIO this month mailed to more than 400 persons engaged in the profession of opinion surveys a copy of a question schedule being used to interview General Motors workers. The survey concerns demands that will be the subject of negotiations between the auto corporations and the Union this spring.

UAW-CIO president, Walter P. Reuther, in a covering letter, raised the question as to whether key questions in the schedule are "biased or designed to elicit answers that could be interpreted as damaging to the Union whether the respondent replies 'yes' or 'no'."

"It appears," said Reuther, "that this survey is being conducted by the Opinion Research Corporation for General Motors. Both corporations refuse either

to confirm or deny that they have any connection with the survey.

"The primary responsibility for maintaining confidence in the survey technique must, of course, rest with those in the profession. I am confident that you and your responsible colleagues will want . . . to take such action as may seem to you appropriate to maintain the integrity of and public respect for opinion surveys generally."

Reuther pointed out, "No questions are asked which would reveal whether the respondent favors or opposes the guaranteed annual wage."

The pollsters first made their appearance in Flint, Michigan. Locals there obtained copies of the questions. The poll, they decided was loaded.

### Ex-Truman Assistant New CIO Arbitrator

The CIO Executive Board appointed David H. Stowe of Washington, D. C., as impartial arbitrator of its Jurisdictional Disputes Agreement to succeed Dr. Nathan Feinsinger, who resigned in December.

From 1949 to 1953, Stowe was Administrative Assistant to President Harry S. Truman, serving in the major fields of Government operations, labor relations, manpower, material resources and civil defense.



PICKETING WAS PEACEFUL at the Simplex plant in suburban Detroit until scabs started shooting at Local 157 strikers. Picket shown here took temporary refuge from icy January winds by taking a snooze in his car, parked near plant gate.

### Tool and Die Plant Starts Talking After Gunfire Fails to Scare Pickets

Attempts to reach a first agreement between Amalgamated Local 157 and the recently-organized Simplex Industries, Inc., a Detroit area tool and die shop, continued this month after workers at the Oakland County plant had been forced to go out on strike twice in one month. During the second strike UAW-CIO pickets were fired upon by scabs and plant guards.

The strikes had been called to protest the company's firing of pro-union workers and its refusal to negotiate a contract, even though the company had "recognized" the union.

### BROUGHT IN SCABS

Trouble began on December 1, after Simplex workers had signed cards saying they wanted to join Local 157, which has jurisdiction over tool and die shops on Detroit's West Side. After a brief strike, management agreed to recognize the union and to sign a contract.

A few days later, two union committeemen and a shop steward were fired for "insubordination" and the workers walked out again.

The company, which holds a contract with the Atomic Energy Commission, then proceeded to re-open its plant with scab



"Can't you read? . . . We typesetters are on strike!"

labor, while the strikers continued to picket.

Late last month, scabs and plant guards fired on the unarmed pickets with rifles, shotguns and revolvers. Fortunately, there were no casualties.

A company attorney claimed the non-striking employees had fired "in self defense," and no arrests were made.

### BACK TO TABLE

Unable to scare the picketing strikers with such acts of violence, the company then decided to resume negotiations, with federal and state mediators participating.

After two days of discussion, the company agreed to take back the 34 striking workers, and Local 157 called off the strike. Negotiations to reach a final contract settlement are now being continued.

During the strike, Simplex workers were aided on the picket lines by other members of Local 157 and by members of other Detroit area UAW locals. Local 155, the East Side Tool and Die local, contributed the use of its sound truck.



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# Over 3,100 Delegates Will Attend 15th Constitutional Convention

With 1955 contract proposals at the top of the agenda, the 15th Constitutional Convention of the UAW-CIO will convene in Cleveland, March 27.

It will be the largest convention in the Union's history. More than 3,100 delegates will tax the capacity of Cleveland's huge Municipal Auditorium. (There were 2,300 delegates at the UAW's 1953 Convention.)

Negotiations on the 1955 contract proposals will begin with General Motors and Ford the week after the Convention ends.

The proposals, originally recommended by the International Executive Board, already have been approved by the International UAW-CIO Collective Bargaining and Economic Conference held last November in Detroit. The Union's National Ford and General Motors Councils put them into formal demands in meetings last month.

A thorough discussion of the proposals and how best to implement them is expected at the Convention. With the Guaranteed Annual Wage attracting nationwide attention, a record number of visitors and newsmen are anticipated.

### GUARANTEED WAGE TOP ITEM

Heading the list of the Union's demands is the Guaranteed Employment Plan which would provide workers with two or more years seniority guaranteed work or pay for a full year. It would give workers with less seniority one

### Reuther's Report Set for March

The March issue of *The United Automobile Worker*, which will appear shortly before the Convention opens, will contain President Walter P. Reuther's report to the membership.

week of guaranteed pay for every two weeks of service. Workers also would be assured 40 hours pay any week they are called in.

Other demands which will come before the Convention for final discussion and implementation:

● **WAGE INCREASE**—Wages should be brought up to the level they would have reached if the 1948 wage formula had been implemented properly. The size of the improvement factor should be increased; cost-of-living floats should be incorporated into the base rates. The escalator should be adjusted.

● **RETIREMENT SECURITY**—Normal retirement at 65 should be based on \$2.50 a month per year of service. The ceiling on accumulating credits should be removed. Disability pensions should be based on \$5 a month per year of service. Workers should have a vested right to pensions after five or more years of service.

● **HEALTH SECURITY**—Corporations should pay the full cost of plans with comprehensive in-hospital services and emergency care and the full cost of surgical-medical in-hospital services. Coverage must be extended over periods of layoff covered by the Guaranteed Annual Wage and periods of other interruptions beyond workers' control. Disability protection must be improved.

● **OVERTIME**—Time and a half for Saturday work as such; double time for work on Sunday as such; triple time for work on holidays.

● **CONTRACT DURATION**—Contracts not to run over two years if they include escalator and annual improvement factor clauses; not to exceed one year if they do not.

● **PREFERENTIAL HIRING**—Multi-plant corporations, when hiring in any plant, must give preference, in order of seniority, to workers laid off from other plants. All corporations under UAW-CIO Contracts should give preference to laid-off workers in the same area and industry when hiring.



ELBERT L. WARD, first member of UAW-CIO Local 923, Maywood, California, to be retired under the UAW-Ford pension plan, is the recipient of a power mower and a wallet, gifts from his local, which represents workers at the 7-year-old Lincoln-Mercury plant. Ward has worked for the Ford Motor Co. since 1923. Left to right: International Representative Charles Bioletti, Local 923 Vice-President Tommy Stephens, Brother Ward, Local President Pat Sosso, and Mrs. Ward, holding a Bible given her by the local.

## 'We'll Get Guaranteed Wage' Reuther Assures Economic Club

NEW YORK CITY — UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther recently told the New York Economic Club, "There is no question in our minds that we will establish a guaranteed annual employment program in our industry."

He told the audience, which included many industrialists, "Two of the purposes of this program are to put more purchasing power into the hands of people who need it and who will use it as consumers . . . and to provide management with an incentive to rationalize their production over a year."

### DOWNTURN AHEAD

Reuther asserted that present production schedules in auto are "going to mean unemployment and recession for Detroit and other automobile centers in the last half of the year." This, he added, will affect steel and rubber and the economy of the whole nation.

"Estimates of automobile production for 1955 range from 5,300,000 to Mr. Harlow Curtice's optimistic 5,800,000 passenger cars," Reuther said. "Now the week ending January 8, the automobile industry produced 171,279 cars and trucks. This means they are producing

at an annual rate of 9,242,028 vehicles.

(In a later week, the industry produced 185,916 cars and trucks or at the rate of 9,667,632 a year. For passenger cars only, the top week was at the rate of 8,545,160 a year.)

Reuther pointed out that the automobile industry has the capacity to produce nearly 11 million vehicles a year.

### TRICKLE DOWN OUT

"There are some in our country, and I assume a number of them are in this audience, who subscribe to the trickle down theory of economics. This is the theory that the way to help people down below is to give the people on top more in the belief that their wisdom will reflect itself in investment policies that will result in an expansion of industry. Some of the accrued prosperity is supposed to trickle down to help the people below."

The facts are, Reuther said, this nation's current need is not for more capacity but for more customers.

During the war, America put every willing able-bodied man and woman to work. "When people applied for jobs, managements didn't ask them questions. They just felt them to make sure they were warm and then put them on the payroll," he observed.

"If we have the resources and productive know-how and the will to provide full employment in making the weapons of destruction, then pray tell me why haven't we got the courage and the good sense to find a way to give people jobs in peace time making the good things of life?"

### NEED BUYING POWER

Reuther asserted that the chief roadblock to abundance in peacetime is the serious "imbalance between our power to produce and our power to consume." He

### Strike Vote Gets Results At Studebaker

SOUTH BEND, Indiana—Raymond H. Berndt announced this month that overflow meetings of UAW-CIO Local 5 ratified an agreement on production standards which has been reached after two weeks of almost constant bargaining sessions.

Berndt, director of the UAW's Studebaker Department, said the vote was nearly unanimous. Management's side of the table during negotiations was represented by persons new to the Studebaker setup, as a result of the recent merger of Studebaker and Packard. This caused considerable delay in reaching the final agreement. During negotiations, the Union secured the return of five employees who had been penalized. The employees were returned with full back pay and seniority as were two stewards who had been discharged in the production standards dispute.

Director Berndt, who led negotiations, pointed out that the agreement was reached after a strike vote taken on January 20.

The strike vote carried, 7,188 to 806.

pointed out that the increased use of automation is widening this gap between producing and buying power.

The guaranteed wage, he said, can be a major factor in providing people with the money they need to buy the things America can produce.

Reuther refuted editorial charges "that our attitude toward the automobile industry is 'either our proposal . . . or else.' We are not committed irrevocably to our specific proposal," he said. "We are irrevocably committed to the principle that the workers in our industry are morally and economically entitled to a year-around wage. And there is no reason on earth that this issue cannot be settled rationally and peacefully if management comes to the bargaining table next April prepared to discuss, not whether, but how."

### It's Just Like Having Monkey Praise Peanuts

NEW YORK CITY — UAW President Walter P. Reuther gave the Economic Club here a good example of the kind of slanted "nonsense" that is being written and spoken against the Guaranteed Annual Wage.

"One of our leading weekly magazines, *The Saturday Evening Post*, quoted economist Douglas Brown of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as expressing the opinion that the Guaranteed Annual Wage would produce 'inequities.'"

"I think it is worth noting that the economist the author of this article, or his editors, chose to consult out of hundreds of possible candidates, was one who has been retained as a consultant by the Ford Motor Company."



# Where Have You Heard That Song Before?

## Unions—Bad

"As a natural result of this system of general and persistent interference (by union organizers)," said the employers, "our business is thrown into a condition of much uncertainty . . . Businesslike calculations and arrangements, especially as involve prices for work, and time of completion and delivery, are thus rendered quite impracticable . . . If continued for any considerable time, it must result in wide-spread beggary, with all its attending evils — suffering, bread-riots, pillage and taxation."

"They (workers) come in contact (in unions) with others of a different make and temper — uneasy spirits, pregnant with the leaven of discontent, and whose words, constantly dropping, are full of the seeds of trouble."

From preamble to Employers General Association of Michigan Constitution as reported in

The Detroit Tribune  
July 25, 1864

## Compensation—Evil

"I am everlastingly opposed to the principle of the (unemployment compensation) bill," Lovett (John Lovett of the Michigan Manufacturers Association) said. "Unemployment insurance never has helped anyone and never will."

"In the end, the taxpayers pay the shot. The chief sufferer under such a scheme is the working man himself. It takes money out of production. Suppose we had such a system in Michigan. Wouldn't we be in a pretty pickle now? The fund would have been drained dry long ago, and the working people, buoyed up by false hope, would be forced to eat the bread of charity."

"The plan is unsound, economically unsound. It just can't be financed. Such a plan would lower wages."

Reported in:

The Detroit News  
April 30, 1933

## Annual Wage—Awful

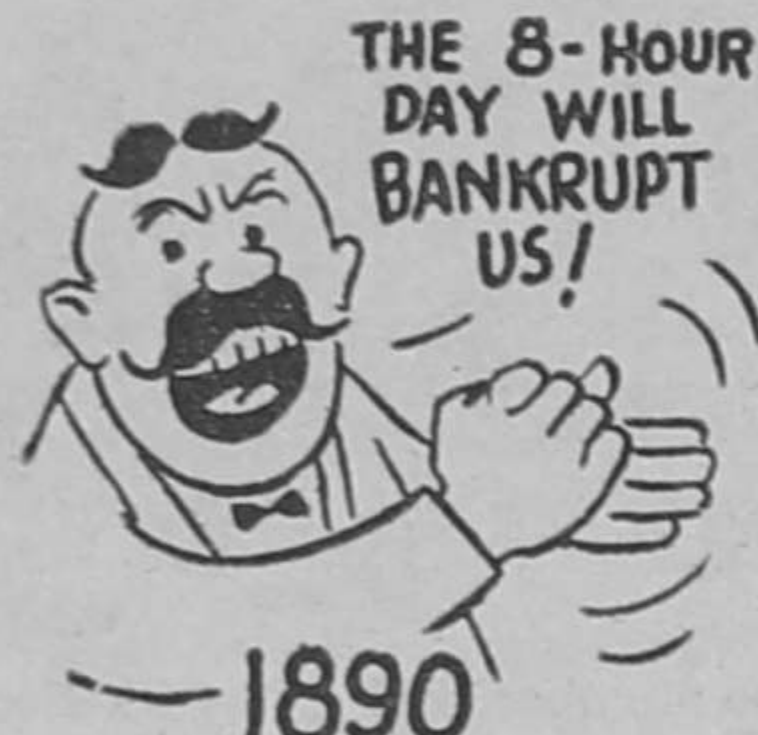
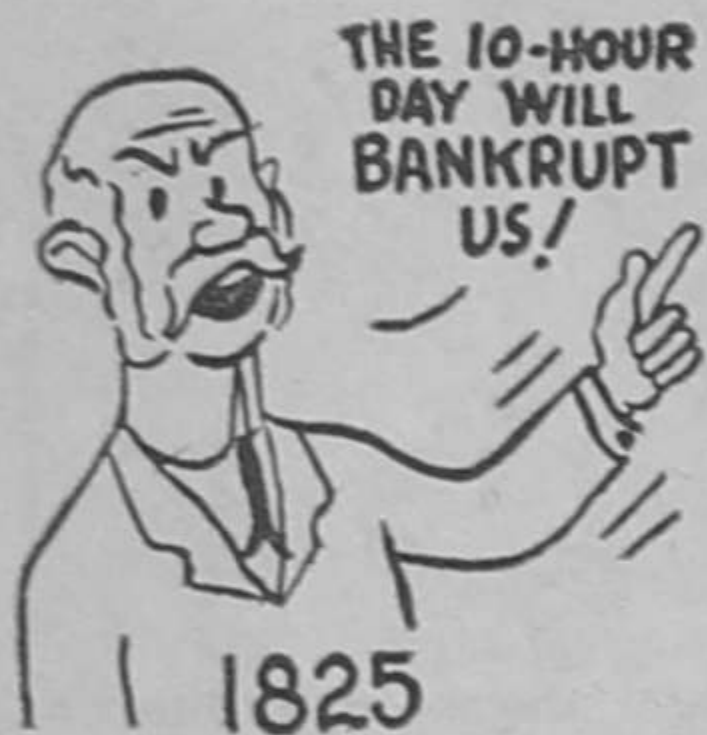
"Heading the list of demands to be laid simultaneously and in identical terms before the two companies is that of the 'annual wage.' This will be the first serious urging of a scheme to which management so far has reacted with mingled incredulity and dismay."

"Unless the Union means the term in some sense not yet fully understood, management is at a loss to see how annual wages can be practicable for the auto industry or any part of it."

"A deadlock and a strike of historic proportions thus could be the outcome harrowing to contemplate. On the other hand, a settlement granting the annual wage to any substantial share of the GM-Ford labor force would seem to foreshadow consequences still more history-making."

From editorial in—

The Detroit News  
January 11, 1955



Reprinted from May, 1947, issue of the UAW-CIO's "Ammunition"

## Editorials Opposing Annual Wage Make Editors Appear Not So Sage

The same newspapers which have opposed nearly every gain made by labor already are sounding the alarm against the UAW-CIO's Guaranteed Employment Plan. Nearly all the editorials display a lack of knowledge of the proposal. Most of the arguments appear to have been lifted from the National Association of Manufacturers' leaflet against the UAW's top demand.

With arguments still indicating no official position on the Guaranteed Annual Wage, the newspapers which follow the anti-labor line appear to be having trouble figuring out their own reasonable-sounding approach.

### FREE WITH FACTS

A good example is the *Detroit Free Press*. This month it carried its longest editorial in recent history against the GAW. It ran nearly a full page. Any Local Union member accustomed to presenting his views in meetings could tear its arguments to shreds.

Some samples: The *Free Press* says the Union is taking a "this or else" attitude concerning its Guaranteed Wage program. It ignores the many Union statements that the UAW is willing to consider any practical approach to guaranteeing wages.

The paper praises managements for being "calm," implies the Union is acting hastily. It ignores the fact that managements haven't said anything (and don't have to with papers like the *Free Press* carrying the ball for them).

It also ignores the UAW's long study and its 4-year effort to establish a joint Union-Management Study Committee.

It states, "management, however, has wisely refused to be drawn into a preliminary war of words," and then goes on to state what management's objections are. (Maybe management communicates with the *Free Press* without words—say, by mental telepathy.)

### CALM LIKE H-BOMB

The editorial suggests that the advocates of the guaranteed wage, "approach the subject as calmly as its management opponents do." Last September the *Free Press* gave an example of management "calm." It reported officials of the Michigan Manufacturers' Association described the UAW's proposal as "fantastic . . . dishonest . . . un-American . . . foreign, socialistic nightmare . . . crazy." (If that's calm, the *Free Press* definition of "hysteria" must be a killer.)

The editorial draws an amazing conclusion in one sentence: "What should be borne in mind from the first, however, is that (1) its adoption would alter one

## 40 for 40

FLINT, Michigan — The 40 employes of the Rado Manufacturing Company of nearby Fenton are guaranteed 40 hours pay every week they work. The new pact, containing the 40-hours' call-in pay feature of the 1955 demands, was announced by Region 1C Director Robert Carter.

Any worker who is not notified of a layoff by the preceding Saturday is certain of 40 hours pay for the week ahead. Carter says he expects no layoffs because of Rado's defense subcontract for the General Motors Corporation's AC Sparkplug Division.

## More Free than Enterprise

WASHINGTON (PAI)—One of the best thumbnail analyses of the Dixon-Yates deal made to date appears in a recent issue of the magazine *Private Power*. "It will be private," says the magazine, "but it will require very little enterprise."

way or another our whole economic system and that (2) it can only be looked at fairly as a piecemeal extension of unemployment compensation."

Not only do the two points contradict each other, neither describes the plan.

The UAW-CIO has requested space for an adequate reply. But the paper, apparently willing to set a pattern in blistering the GAW, so far has shown no willingness to trail blaze in printing both sides of the case.

## I-H Workers Take Strike Vote

INDIANAPOLIS — International Harvester workers here, angered at the Company's efforts to sabotage the grievance system, were taking a strike vote as *The United Automobile Worker* went to press.

UAW-CIO Local 98 held two strike authorization meetings to accommodate all shifts. Only one dissenting vote was recorded in the almost unanimous decision to support the recommendations of the bargaining committee and Local Union officers.

The meetings were attended by Region 3 Director Raymond H. Berndt, Director of the UAW-CIO Harvester Department. Berndt, with other representatives of the Harvester department, discussed the issues. They involved, among other things, the failure of Harvester to apply arbitration awards on production standards.

Members of Local 98 have become incensed at the attitude of the company at the bargaining table as well as their general treatment of the arbitration system. They assert that the strike vote and action, if necessary, is the only course left open to them.

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GAL KEGLERS SHARE LIMELIGHT as CIO's Fourth Annual International Bowling Tournament, sponsored by UAW Recreation Department, gets off to a start at State Fair Recreation, Detroit. Shown here are members of three teams representing Baldwin Rubber, Olds Local 652 and State Fair Rec (mixed group from Locals 203 and 212). The guy with a big smile—and who wouldn't—is Region 1A Co-Director Edward Cote, one of the hosts.



# UAW Beats 1953 Record With 144 NLRB Victories

A recent UAW-CIO report compiled by the Union's Competitive Shop Department reveals that approximately 28,000 new members voted for the UAW as the Union of their choice during 1954, a figure which exceeded by several thousand the number of new members added in 1953.

The Competitive Shop Department, under the direction of UAW Vice-President Richard T. Gosser, based its report on figures submitted by the various regional directors and department heads. Included are all 1954 elections involving the UAW, and not just those which followed organizational drives by the Department.

## PERFECT RECORD

Out of a total of 222 elections, the UAW won 144 while losing 78. This gives a victory figure of 65 per cent, which is two percentage points higher than the outstanding record acclaimed by the 1953 Convention in Atlantic City.

Of the 45,000 for whom the UAW sought bargaining rights, the 28,000 figure represents a percentage of 62 per cent. Most of these gains were secured in NLRB-conducted elections, although a few came through card checks and consent recognition by managements.

A perfect record was hung up by the UAW in all elections conducted among production work-

ers at Ford and General Motors plants. No election for production workers was held at Chrysler. Most spectacular of the Big Two elections was the one at GM Ternstedt in Flint. The UAW won by a lopsided margin of 3,048 to 21 in what proved to be the largest 1954 election.

## UE-FE TARGET

Other significant victories were achieved by swamping the independent Communist-dominated UE-FE at three International Harvester plants in the Quad Cities area of Illinois-Iowa.

The UAW was also successful in winning elections at several new plants of important auto parts manufacturers with whom the Union holds national agreements. However, most of the elections were conducted at small plants scattered throughout the country. Such losses were sustained in most cases by a "No Union" vote in small towns and rural areas.

Dozens of places where workers have failed to join the UAW-CIO this year will come into the fold eventually, organizers assert.

## AFL Brotherhoods Seek Annual Wage

MIAMI BEACH, Florida, (PAI)

Six AFL railway unions, comprising the AFL's Railway Employees Department, have announced that they will make the guaranteed annual wage their "main objective" in contract demands for 350,000 shop workers on the nation's railroads.

Michael Fox, president of the AFL Railway Employees Department, said that details of the GAW plan have not been worked out. However, he pointed out that the Seaboard Airline Railroad has had a form of GAW in effect since 1923.

"Critical unemployment among shopmen compels us to take this protective step," Fox said. "Lay-offs have been widespread and heavy, particularly during the latter months of 1954. Decisive action must be taken to prevent further suffering among the men."

Some of this year's most resounding wins were at plants where workers required two or more campaigns before they fully understood what the UAW has to offer them.



**LONG OVERDUE HONORS** came to contralto Marian Anderson recently when she became the first Negro ever to sing with the Metropolitan Opera. She is shown here signing with Met officials including Rudolph Bing, right. For decades music critics have known that Miss Anderson possesses one of the finest voices of all time. Because of prejudice, Met audiences were deprived of this great contralto until long after she had reached her prime. Miss Anderson is 47.

## CIO Mourns Jim Thimmes

LOS ANGELES, California (PAI)—James G. Thimmes, vice president of the CIO and the United Steelworkers, is dead at 60. He died last month after being stricken on Christmas Day by a brain hemorrhage.

The three executive officers of CIO, President Walter P. Reuther, Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey and Executive Vice President John V. Riffe, expressed the grief of the millions of CIO members:

"Jim Thimmes was known and loved by thousands of union people in every section of the country," the statement said. "A worker from the day when he got his first job in a pottery plant in Ohio at the age of 15 he had devoted his life to the welfare of the workers and the progress of their trade unions."

"As a 24-hour-a-day trade unionist he never shirked responsibility or assignments. . . . As a vice president of the CIO, his counsel combined wisdom, experience and a great sense of feeling for the men and women who make up our unions. . . . We mourn deeply his loss from our ranks; but in our grief, are thankful for the great service he rendered."

## Help Get Jobs for Workers Over 45 UAW Directors Urge Detroit Council

Following a union suggestion, Detroit's Common Council has urged employers to hire workers over 45.

In a letter to the Council, UAW-CIO Detroit area regional directors and Wayne County CIO Council officers charged that several thousand workers permanently laid off from such companies as Hudson, Murray Body and Kaiser-Frazer have been discriminated against by other Detroit manufacturers who refuse to hire them because they are over 45. In the case of women, the age barrier is even lower, they declared.

These are people who have invested years of their life "in the development of Detroit industry and in the building of our community," their letter pointed out.

"Now, because of factors completely beyond their control, they are dumped unceremoniously on the street and other employers turn down their job applications in favor of younger and more inexperienced workers, who have been inveigled into coming to Detroit from non-industrial areas by false assurances of permanent and steady work," their letter continued.

Although these are people to whom public aid is "repugnant," their letter declared, they may nevertheless "become burdens upon the community" unless the Common Council can persuade the city's employers to take "a more civic-minded, a more socially responsible" attitude on this matter.

They asked the Council to adopt a resolution "condemning employers who engage in this discriminatory practice and calling upon all Detroit employers, as a matter of civic responsibility and as a matter of good business, to avail themselves of the skills and experience of these workers by giving them preference in employment over those who have come, either voluntarily or by inducement, from other areas."

The letter is signed by Norman Matthews, director of UAW-CIO Region 1, Edward Cote, and Joseph McCusker, co-directors of UAW-CIO Region 1-A, Mike Novak, president of the Wayne County CIO Council, and Al Barbour, Council secretary.



(EDITOR'S NOTE: An anonymous and highly-suspect letter writer has been getting a big play in the Flint, Michigan, daily. He opposes the dues increase and the bargaining program. Here's Ruby McDonald's open letter in reply).

Dear Chum,

Trying to talk to you is going to be somewhat like shooting butterflies with a bow and arrow. I know you're there, but you're so doggoned well camouflaged it's hard to tell if I'm gettin' through.

You're the timid gent with the muscled tongue who has, lately, been gladdening the hearts of the post office by mailing a letter a day to editors of local daily blat sheets. And though I'm ready to admit that while your choice of surnames (such as "Realistic", "Concerned" et cetera) is not necessarily a reflection on your parentage, it is certainly one on your imagination.

## JUST FR'SCHIMMED?

I can't figure out whether you're one of Mister Wilson's relatives or just plain fr'schimmed.

Y'see, Son, the proposal is that Union dues be increased to five dollars a month until a kitty of twenty-five million dollars is built up. This is the Union's big stick answer to management's cannon.

If it's the five bucks that's grievin' you, then hear this: You spend that much on one trip to the dentist to save a tooth. More than that on a dress for the wife to save your peace of mind, and much more on insurance which guarantees only that you'll be planted in a style to which you were never accustomed on earth. Yet you mean to sit there on your nom de plume and tell me you're reluctant to spend five dollars on your future? You're not well, Son.

## BACKING OUR IDEALS

Now let's play twenty questions. What, fr'instance, was in Industry's basket before you found the goodies in it? The answer is simple. Goon squads, tear gas, billy clubs and terms that stated, "Do this or else."

The big change wasn't brought about because they got religion, Brother, it was because there were men who thought more of the common good than

they did of their own necks. Men who weren't afraid to risk a little to gain a lot. Who put their pride before their bellies, to be somewhat crude.

Let's try another one. Why is the proposed dues increase and strike fund so important? That, too, makes sense to everyone except infants and cretins. The very fact that men are willing to back up their past achievements and future hopes with hard cash, shows Industry that it is dealing not with easily bested individuals, but with a determined army which is beautifully able not only to defend itself, but to bring about those measures which are necessary if labor is to survive.

The twenty-five million is insurance. United Insurance, not for a satin draped death but for a worry free future. Important? You bet your life!

## FUTURE INSURANCE

Now the last one. Why ask for a guaranteed annual wage and risk a strike to do it? This is the easiest one of all. At the present time, labor, all labor, is somewhat like a besybug ridin' downstream on a frog's back. If the frog decide to go down, the besybug drowns.

With Industry definitely committed to an annual wage, it will, with no pain and comparatively little discomfort, see that work is as steady as a 30-year husband.

We had better, my anonymous friend, take this step or one similar, very soon. Automation is peering over your shoulder, Buster. The machine that can do everything you do and do it faster, cheaper and better.

Unfortunately, our social and economic structure is not ready for it. Industry is enthusiastic over the unlimited possibilities of automation, but they are strangely confused over what's going to happen to the men it replaces.

The guaranteed annual wage won't stop the mighty midget, but it may make it pause long enough for someone to figure out what to do with the men who aren't busy pushing its buttons. That's why your frenzied screams over the dues increase strike me so funny. It's like swattin' at a mosquito when a tiger has you by the pants.

Yours for more backbone and less jawbone . . .



**THOSE CALM CANADIANS** took victory in stride just as they did Ford of Canada's efforts to start a back-to-work movement. At this strike kitchen in Windsor, members of Local 200 toasted news of the contract offer with coffee.

# Matusow Turnabout Rocks Federal 'Informer System'

The federal government's loyalty-security program, with its system of paid, professional informers, received a rude shock this month. One of its star performers, Harvey M. Matusow, confessed he lied in a number of cases because it seemed "a good racket being a professional witness." He added the "strange glamor" of being an ex-Communist appealed to him.

The storm broke when Matusow, one of Senator McCarthy's little helpers, signed an affidavit declaring he had testified falsely when he appeared as a witness for the government on an indictment charging Clinton E. Jencks with having filed a false non-Communist affidavit with the NLRB.

### AID TO McCARTHY \*

Jencks, an international representative of the independent Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, was sentenced to a five-year jail term for violating the Taft-Hartley Act. (Mine-Mill was expelled from the CIO several years ago on charges of being communist-dominated.)

The repentant informer followed this up with another affidavit. He admitted perjuring himself during the trial of the 13 "second-string" Communist leaders. In this affidavit, he implied that Roy M. Cohn, then the government's prosecutor and later chief counsel of the McCarthy Committee, had helped him fabricate the perjured testimony.

Besides testifying in important trials, Matusow was also used as an FBI informant, an aide to Senator McCarthy, an "expert" witness before congressional committees and grand juries, and as a campaigner against Democratic candidates.

He revealed, for example, that his fantastic charges against the *New York Times* and *Time Magazine* were put "on the record" with McCarthy's approval, so that the Wisconsin demagogue could later cite "the record" against these publications.

(Matusow had claimed that the Sunday edition of the *New York Times* had 126 dues-paying Communists on its staff. But the entire staff of the Sunday paper consists of only 87 people.)

### LIES FOR LIVING

He has now retracted all of these statements, as well as his testimony against Professor Owen Lattimore and his campaign speeches against Democratic Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana.

Matusow says he joined the Communist Party when he was a kid off the streets of New York City. By February, 1952, he had decided to become an "ex-Communist" because that "profession" had turned into a pretty "good racket."

There was money to be made as a paid government witness,

## Harvey's Echo

WASHINGTON—Harvey M. Matusow's confessions of perjury may have set a pattern. Latest government witness to recant testimony in a hearing involving charges of communism is Mrs. Marie Natvig of Miami Beach, Florida.

She swore this month that she had testified falsely in connecting Edward Lamb, prominent newspaper publisher and broadcaster, with communist causes. Mrs. Natvig told a Federal Communications Commission hearing that FCC lawyer Walter Powell, Jr., had "coerced" her into giving such testimony last year.

as a staff member or consultant for congressional committees, as a leading exponent of McCarthyism and as a political campaigner. The fact that he had been only a minor member of the Party did not detract from his usefulness, nor did the patent falsehood of some of his charges.

Now, Matusow has had still another change of heart: McCarthy has fallen from favor, and the ex-informer has had a falling-out with the Master. Questions have been raised in Congress as to the effectiveness of the government's loyalty-security program. Matusow sees the hand-writing on the wall.

### HELPS SELL BOOK

After his series of sensational reversals, Matusow held a press conference during which he confessed even more. That brought him headlines just when his book, "False Witness," was about to be published. Headlines will help the book's sale. He's talking for money again.

The book's publishers present an interesting sidelight: it is the firm of Cameron and Kahn. Albert Kahn and Angus Cameron are known chiefly for publishing pro-Communist literature.

Columnist Murray Kempton in the *New York Post* summed up: "You and I didn't offer him as a trustworthy man; the U.S. Government did. You and I didn't build him up; the Hearst papers did . . . If we know he was lying, it is because he says so, not because the government of the United States admits it . . . It doesn't make too much difference now if Matusow has stopped playing dirty pool. The important question is whether the Government is going to stop."

# 113-Day-Long Ford of Canada With Major Advances

TORONTO — Some claimed the automobile industry was making a test run during the Ford of Canada strike. If so, the members of the three striking locals passed all the obstacles handsomely. After 113 days on the picket lines, they won one of the most precedent-setting contracts ever negotiated north of the border.

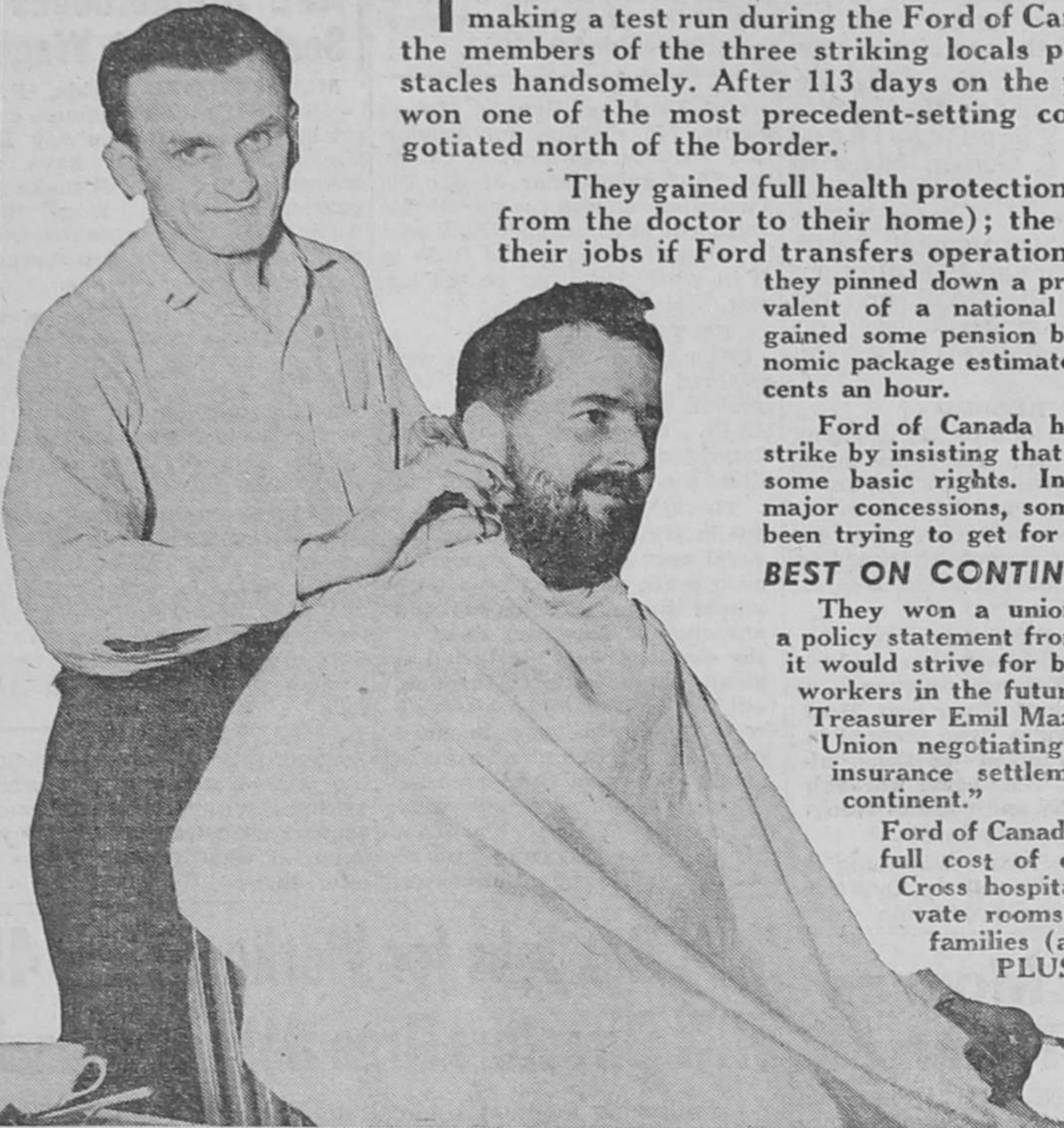
They gained full health protection (including visits from the doctor to their home); the right to go with their jobs if Ford transfers operations to new plants; they pinned down a provincial pact (equivalent of a national agreement); they gained some pension benefits and an economic package estimated to be worth 11 1/2 cents an hour.

Ford of Canada helped bring on the strike by insisting that workers retreat on some basic rights. Instead, they gained major concessions, some of which they've been trying to get for years.

### BEST ON CONTINENT

They won a union shop clause, and a policy statement from management that it would strive for better relations with workers in the future. UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, who headed the Union negotiating team, termed the insurance settlement, "best on the continent."

Ford of Canada now agrees to pay full cost of comprehensive Blue Cross hospitalization (semi-private rooms) for workers and families (a big improvement), PLUS the full cost of doctor's care at home, in the hospital or in his office. This includes surgical bills.



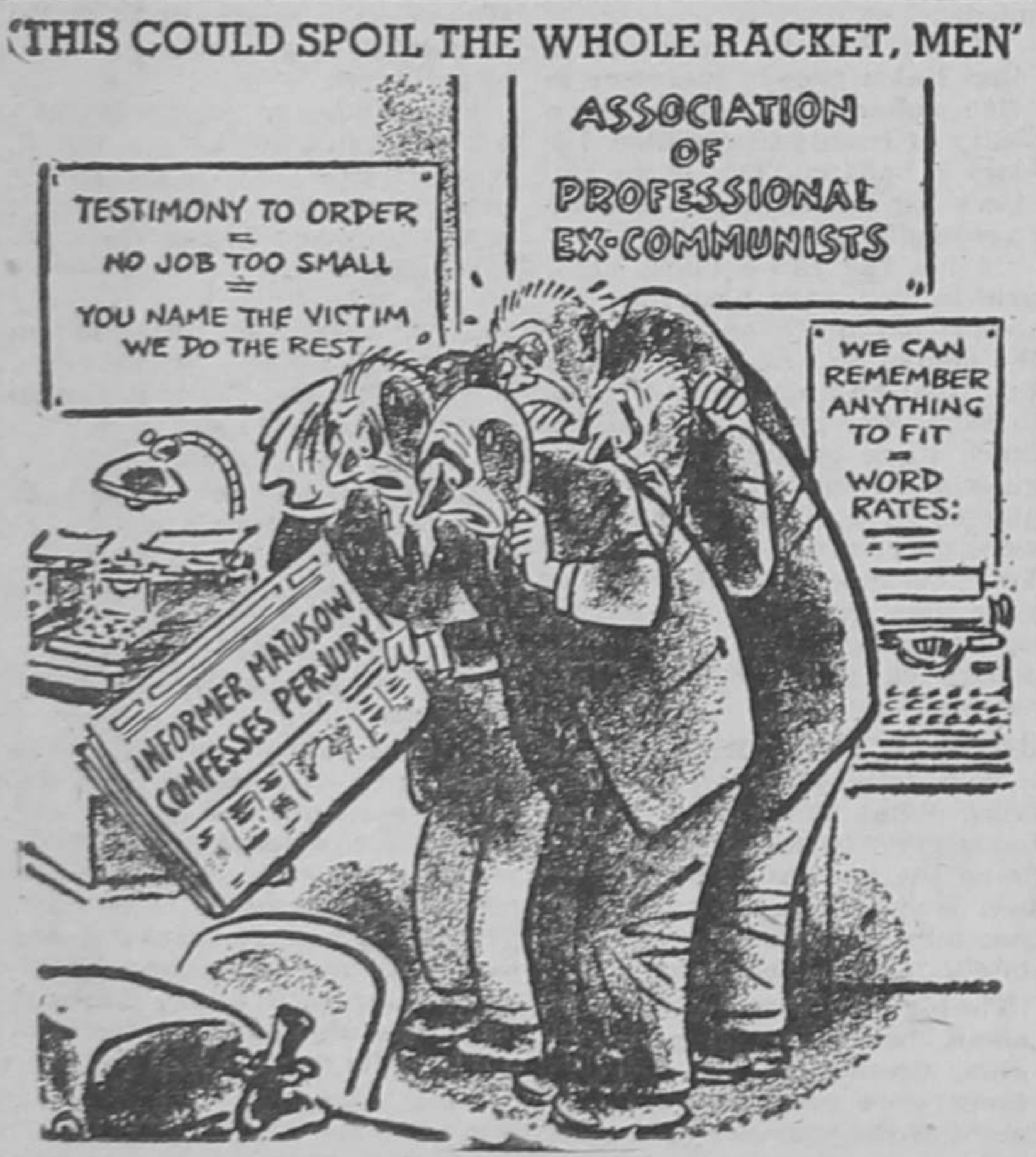
A 113-DAY GROWTH gets shaved from a satisfied picket. Don Mackenzie of Oakville vowed he wouldn't shave until Ford settled.



MORE THAN ONE WAY to skin a cat or keep a picket warm, Local 707 proved. When the Trafalgar Township Council refused permission to put up tents, three trailers like this one were brought in.



FATHER GEORGE NAN augmented his salary from his tiny Dominion Greek Orthodox Church parish in Windsor before the strike by working the midnight shift in the Ford plant.



PICKETS MARCH ON SANDWICHES as well as shoe leather so these members of Auxiliary 264 helped make thousands of sandwiches for their husbands and sons in UAW-CIO Local 200, Windsor.

# Canada Strike Ends Auto Workers

...mazey termed the transfer of operations clause "even more important." At a time when industry is shifting operations around, it gives the worker the right to follow his job to the new location at no loss of seniority. A worker also can use his seniority to bump other workers. A worker eventually displaced by this process gets preferential hiring at the new location and takes his seniority with him for purposes of computing pensions, vacation pay and the like.

For Ford of Canada workers, that is a tremendously important gain. Over a year ago, Ford transferred 3,800 jobs to its new plant in Oakville, but it moved only 340 workers. Tragedies like that can't happen to hundreds of families again under terms of the new pact.

## WINGS JUST KEPT PILING UP'

The contract, hammered out in six weeks of negotiations, contains a host of other advances. Workers pinned down the 4-cent improvement in wages. They won the third week of vacation after 15 years (only a 1-cent concession). They nailed down an agreement to use only one arbitrator or one slate of mutually agreeable arbitrators. (Before that, the whole grievance system was fouled up by a series of conflicting arbitrators by many different judges.)

They won \$500 to \$1,000 life insurance for future pensioners and a 10-day paid holiday for retired workers to group rates in hospitalization. They also won a seventh paid holiday, appropriately enough, Victoria Day.

At first Ford apparently didn't expect a strike. Its 1955 models were just about to go into production. But instead of going to stroy the growing tension between company and workers, Ford took an unyielding stand in negotiations. As one worker put it, "We'd grown pretty tired of Ford's harsh attitude. Things just been piling up for a long time. We simply had to hit the streets."

Local 200 in Windsor went out October 10. The new local in Oakville, Local 707, followed five days later and Local 584 in Etobicoke (a suburb) followed. Ford, apparently convinced that separate strikes would prevent the strike from spreading, faced a united front.

## TRICKS FOR AN OLD DOG

The three striking locals dug in for a long siege. All established kitchens and picket headquarters. Those Canadian winds blow hard so they arranged to have hot coffee and sandwiches delivered to pickets right at the start.

The complex machinery of strike assistance was established. Teams of local union members canvassed merchants for additional help. Leaders told the workers' story to other labor groups and to anyone who would listen. Especially in Windsor, where merchants had bitter first-hand experience with Ford policies, community sentiment rallied on the side of workers.

Ford had tried to turn back the clock on contract provisions. He tried to revive some old strike-breaking tricks, too. But it never aroused enough back-to-work sentiment to even risk opening one plant. (In Windsor, the wife of a picket who tried to organize a woman's back-to-work campaign was hooted down by members of Auxiliary 264.)

Perhaps Ford figured that the Oakville local, with so many new workers would be the weak link in the chain. It wasn't. As competitors were hitting the market with their '55 models, Ford discovered that it couldn't outmaneuver more than any company can profitably chew.

## SOLIDARITY PAYS BIG DIVIDENDS

The clincher took the form of support from the rest of labor. Strike funds rolled in by the tens of thousands of dollars. Workers showed they will stick together, and other laboring groups showed, with their willingness to stick with them. Some locals even doubled their dues during the strike with all the extra going "to those guys who are making our fight."

With agreement in sight, the Union made some concessions. It agreed to insert a plant-wide seniority step in the package. It agreed to a six 32 hour weeks a year.



...MILL ON ENTHUSIASM accompanied the cold weather. These Local 707 are enjoying their turn around the stove in one of the local managed to put up near the picket lines.



REPUBLICAN PROSPERITY is plain to see in this long line of unemployed workers snapped recently while applying for jobs at the St. Louis plant of Lincoln-Mercury. Word had spread that another shift was about to be added.

# UAW Wins Preferential Hiring For Unemployed Hudson Workers

Preferential hiring—one of the key demands for 1955—got a boost this month when the American Motors Corporation agreed to give stranded Hudson workers the first chance at new jobs in its Wisconsin plants.

Leonard Woodcock, director of both the UAW's American Motors Council and of Region 1D, headed the negotiating team which won the precedent-setting pact.

## BIGGEST CHANCE

The agreement offers biggest hope of steady work to many of the 15,000 Hudson workers who were laid off in the Detroit area. They become eligible for jobs at American Motors' Kenosha and Milwaukee plants which are now making both Nash and Hudson cars. (Most Hudson production was transferred to these plants when the two firms merged last Fall.)

The agreement provides for such preference after workers regularly employed at each plant have been called back to work in line with their seniority. All such employees have been recalled at Kenosha and will be recalled at Milwaukee in the near future.

Once hired, Hudson employees under the agreement will have seniority below regular Kenosha or Milwaukee employees. Seniority between Hudson employees once hired at a Wisconsin plant will be governed by total length of service at Hudson. New probationary employees hired at Kenosha or Milwaukee will rank in seniority below Hudson employees.

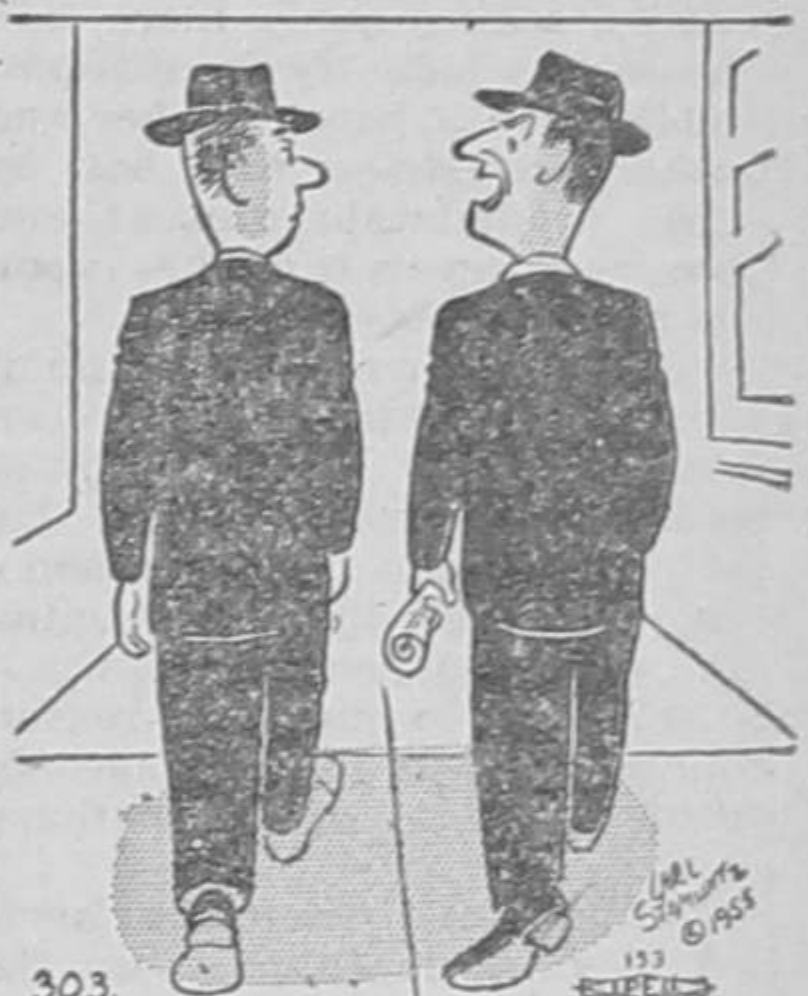
## DETAILS REMAINING

The Kenosha plant now employs approximately 6800 hourly employees. Peak employment of 8750 employees is expected by late February. The Milwaukee body plant employment of 2,850 hourly employees will hit approximately 4,500 at about the same time. There are about 1600 employees laid off in Milwaukee who will be recalled before Hudson employees may be hired.

Many of the laid-off Hudson workers have seniority stretching back to even before the

UAW-CIO came into being. Some have found other jobs. This is the big chance for many since the automobile industry seldom has hired older workers when younger men are available.

Still at issue is the final seniority standing of Hudson employees hired at Kenosha or Milwaukee, with this matter now being resolved by the International Union, subject to negotiations with the Corporation.



303. "My boss must be backing these 'Right-to-work' bills. Every morning his first words are: 'Let's get right to work now!'"

## \$100,000 Hope Jokes

The man who makes up jokes on the General Motors production line gets the cold eye from the foreman. For ad libbing gags on GM's hour-long "Motorama," comedian Bob Hope got more than the typical GM production worker gets in a lifetime.

Hope received \$100,000 just for tossing out jokes when the television cameras were on him and not on one of GM's new cars.

At \$2 an hour, you'd have to work more than 24 years to earn a total of \$100,000. The average GM worker now makes more than \$2 an hour, but 24 years ago he made only about 68 cents. The man rounding out a lifetime of work... at making General Motors rich... hasn't received anything close to what Hope got for cracking jokes.

Maybe that is why General Motors workers figure they're entitled to a lifetime of security. After all, Hope got a lifetime's wages for one hour's work, didn't he?

## UAW GM, Ford Booklets Tell Story of Progress

Designed to enlighten younger UAW members and to refresh the memories of older members, booklets for all GM and Ford workers have just gone to press.

Prepared by the UAW-CIO's National GM and Ford departments, the booklets cover the progress the Union has made from those stormy days of the sitdowns to the present. Each significant collective bargaining development that is highlighted.

Both booklets are expected to be ready for distribution early next month.

UAW Vice-President John W. Livingston, director of the GM Department, declared that "many of our GM workers, while they are good and loyal union members, do not fully realize the role that the Union has played in building that measure of security and dignity which they enjoy today."

"This booklet will, therefore, be something more than a pamphlet. It will be a thumb-nail union history that brings the facts of the past right up to date for every GM worker."

Ken Bannon, director of the National Ford Department, added

"the Ford booklet will bring home to every Ford worker the gains they have made through their Union."

He declared that these gains can be "measured not only in dollars and cents, but in terms of job security, retirement security, and the dignity of the individual worker."

The two booklets also cover the entire economic program for the 1955 contract negotiations, outlining the demands and pointing out the manner in which they fit into the program of continued progress for the Union.

Copies will be made available in quantities sufficient to provide a booklet for every Ford and GM employe.

The GM booklet is entitled "Forward, Forward, Forward."

## Detroit Tops

WASHINGTON (PAI) - A Labor Department survey shows that one out of every six office workers in large American cities is now covered by a union contract. The same survey shows that eight out of every ten plant workers in the cities surveyed are covered. Detroit led in the proportion of both plant and office workers covered with more than 90 per cent of plant and between 20 and 30 per cent of office workers under union contract.

Reuther Warns Congress:

Administration's Policies Can Mean Decline in Jobs

WASHINGTON — UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther warned Congress that "present levels of employment and production may not be sustained beyond the next few months" in urging that steps be taken now to attain full employment.

Appearing before the Joint Committee on the Economic Report, Reuther asserted that President Eisenhower's economic message "lacked" substance.

'HEAD IN SAND'

"In my opinion," he said, "the (Eisenhower) report unfortunately continues the Administration's past policy of digging its head in the sand when confronted by economic problems."

It falls far short of recognizing the duties of government to maintain employment as outlined in the Full Employment Act of 1946, he said.

Reuther asserted that present employment in the automobile industry can only be maintained by selling many more cars than even industry dreams possible in 1955. Steel, rubber and other industries will not be able to maintain present employment levels if layoffs occur in auto, he observed.

"Unemployment in January was higher than in any recent January since 1950," Reuther said. "Employment is still lagging behind the point reached a year and a half ago. An examination of employment trends would be sufficient to make any reasonable person lose his complacency about the state of the national economy."

Reuther asked what provisions had been made to prop up the economy if production and employment in auto and allied industries sags.

UNEMPLOYMENT THREAT

Instead of maintaining purchasing power, it will decline. Farm income shows no sign of becoming greater. The present rate of housing construction may decline sometime during the year. "That will mean a decline from a level that is already substantially below full employment," he said.

He pointed out that automation is speeding up the increase

in productivity. That means we either increase the volume of sales or the number of unemployed, he said.

In the face of the need for increased purchasing power, Reuther said, "I am compelled to draw the conclusion that the Administration is satisfied with a state of economic activity in which some 5 per cent or more of the civilian labor force is unemployed."

He asserted, "Instead of stimulating economic activity, the new Administration is embarked on a deflationary policy of tightening the money supply." After months of successively lowering interest rates on government paper to stimulate the economy, the trend already has been reversed. (Tight money policies are always looked to as a major cause of recession.)

NEED EXPANDING ECONOMY

Among Reuther's suggestions to bolster purchasing power: a high-

Alky Equality

SIoux CITY, Iowa — An Indian can now drink a bottle of beer in Iowa without casting a furtive glance for a sulking sheriff.

A native American member of Local 34 of the CIO Packinghouse Workers here was arrested in a tavern because an ancient Iowa law forbids selling "firewater" to Indians.

The Packinghouse Workers went on the warpath. A municipal judge agreed the law was unconstitutional. The state did not appeal his decision.

An Indian can now get beer, and UPWA gets the credit.

er personal income tax exemption; \$1.25 minimum wage; comprehensive public works program; government encouragement for building more housing.

Present policies, at best, can lead only to economic stagnation, he said. "We must promote an expanding economy."



The Sioux City Journal.

"I Now Pronounce You . . .!"



A WOMAN FROM INDIA with an American name helps tell the United Nations story to one of 10 groups at the UAW-CIO Region 9 Conference. Eva Christian, clad in native costume, gives a detailed report. The Region 9 groups made up the largest labor delegation ever to visit the UN.

250 Members of UAW-CIO Region 9 Get Chance to See World in a Day

About 250 UAW-CIO members sat in a worldwide classroom this month. They took time out during a Region 9 weekend study institute on the Union's 1955 collective bargaining goals to tour and learn about the United Nations.

As a result, the lives and problems of people in other lands—and the goal of building peace, security, freedom and abundance in the world—became much more meaningful, many delegates said.

GREATER UNDERSTANDING

The tour came after delegates, representing UAW-CIO locals from all parts of Region 9, had spent two days studying details of the Union's 1955 demands. It differed from similar conferences being held in many regions chiefly because of the geographic opportunity to visit the UN.

It was scheduled by Region 9 Director Martin Gerber to illustrate "how our problems, as people and as a nation, tie in with those of people everywhere."

Typical reaction of delegates after the tour was the comment of George Frongillo of Local 501. Reporting on a discussion a group of local union representatives held, he said, "We agreed that what our country is doing for the United Nations is worthwhile and necessary."

During the tour, they met with UN officials who detailed the efforts of the specific

agencies which make up the UN.

Benjamin Cohen, UN Undersecretary-General in charge of trusteeship, explained what the worldwide organization is doing to promote social progress and freedom along with security in the world.

"We believe it is impossible to create a world of peace unless you first establish a world of economic and social progress which builds understanding and cooperation between people," he said.

"And it is very difficult to elicit a comprehensive form of cooperation unless every individual in every community feels he has a stake in it," Cohen added.

REUTHER SPEAKER

Other UN spokesmen discussed and answered delegates' questions on world health and education problems, technical improvements in underdeveloped countries, establishing decent labor standards throughout the world, and other international problems.

Delegates also sat in the Security Council and General Assembly chambers where many

of the world's vital problems involving peace and security are being thrashed out.

"Tying these things together as you are doing in this conference—the Union's collective bargaining goals and the work of the United Nations—is symbolic of what we in UAW-CIO always have said, that the basic problems of people everywhere are the same regardless of race, creed or nationality," President Walter P. Reuther said in a talk to the delegates.

"People everywhere have the same hopes and aspirations of the kind of world they want to live in, the kind of world they want to bring their kids up in," Reuther added. About 500 persons—double the number of institute delegates—crowded into a Hotel Commodore auditorium to hear his speech.

In another talk, William Kemsley, the International Confederation of Free Trade Union's representative at the UN and a member of UAW-CIO Local 174, emphasized the basic problems involved in building peace in the world.

"We can build our unions as strong as we want to; we can get the best wages and working conditions in the world, and it all can be wiped out overnight by an atom bomb or a hydrogen bomb," Kemsley said. "That is what the UN is working against."

Ike Offers Another 'Counterfeit' Bill

WASHINGTON — The biggest slack-filled package yet offered by the Eisenhower Administration is the \$7 billion so-called "Federal Aid to Education Bill" unveiled this month.

On being analyzed, it amounts to only about \$70 million a year in federal aid for a three-year period, plus (a) advice to states and local communities on how to get around constitutional debt limitations by having school authorities build and lease out school buildings and (b) some federal underwriting of bond issues.

It amounts to offering the American people an "operation boot strap" when they lack both boots and the leather out of which to make boots.

Big 70 Cent Minimum

WASHINGTON (PAI) — The Department of Labor Wage-Hour Administrator is proposing minimum wage boosts in two areas: for learners in the Knitted Wear Industry from 65 to 70 cents an hour, and learners in the Women's Apparel Industry also from 65 to 70 cents an hour.



"I presume you realize, Wilson, that I'll have to dock you for the time you're spending in here asking for a raise!"

Guide to Veterans

UAW-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, director of the Veterans Department, this month sent a "Veterans Reemployment Handbook," and other guides to handling veterans problems to all local union presidents and International Representatives. The series is a part of the Union's efforts to help veterans get jobs; receive all the benefits they have coming.

Education Department Produces Color Film On Guaranteed Wage

A new kind of screen hero has turned up in a movie just released by the UAW-CIO Education Department.

The hero of the new sound movie, a 16mm. production with music, is the UAW-CIO Guaranteed Employment Plan.

The film, titled Work or Wages Guaranteed, is designed to explain to UAW members how the plan works. It will be especially useful in refuting arguments against the plan which are based on misinformation and misconceptions, according to Education Director Brendan Sexton.

The movie presents a collective bargaining scene in which a UAW shop committee negotiates with Gigantic Motors, an imaginary corporation.

Matthews Tops Drive For Radio Free Europe

Union members were urged to contribute to the support of Radio Free Europe in a letter sent this month to labor organizations throughout Michigan by UAW Regional Director Norman Matthews, co-chairman of the state's Crusade for Freedom Campaign Committee.

Matthews pointed out that public-supported stations around the rim of the Iron Curtain form one of the best weapons in the struggle against Communism. The broadcasts sustain hope for millions, he said, and provide them with facts to counter communist propaganda.



# Monopoly Atomic Power Grab Set for April 1; 37 Combines Could Control Industrial Future

WASHINGTON — The Atomic Energy Commission is trying to pull off a super colossal, titanic April Fools' joke on the American people. If it isn't stopped by April 1, it will complete a giveaway so big that the Dixon-Yates deal will compare to it as a penny theft to a bank robbery.

The AEC will hand over to 37 of the largest power interests a virtual monopoly on the development and distribution of atomic power.

In the name of free enterprise, the 37 will be given almost free rein in handling the most valuable resource of the 20th Century.

The 37 will be given the chance to create new boom towns (almost surely in low wage areas) and to make ghost towns out of communities where union members live. Their decision on which areas get the low-cost atomic power (electricity), can determine the course of plant expansion in the age of automation.

### AFFECT SIZE OF YOUR BILL

Their decision on how rapidly to develop electricity from the atom will determine the size of your electric bill.

As a kicker, the AEC plans to let the government finance much of the cost of the research, and then hand over to the 37 patent rights which would free the monopolies from the pressure of enterprising competitors.

For a long time, the nation's Atomic Energy Commission promoted the idea that the commercial development of atomic power was years away. Then the atomic-power submarine Nautilus (developed with the cooperation of AEC) started making successful test runs. Great Britain announced its hopes to have commercial power next year. (The Russians, of course, claim they already have it.)

Suddenly AEC switched gears. On January 10th it invited all comers to compete for the subsidies in the development of the power of the future. But before it sent out the invitations to its party, it made sure that most of the guests couldn't come.

### 'Q' CLUE TO AEC PLOT

To be certain it got only the white tie and tails crowd, it announced that only companies and combines with Q-clearance could qualify. Only 39 of the nation's 3,750 private, public and cooperative electric utilities have it. The deadline for getting the Q-clearance was set for April 1. It takes months to get a Q.

That means only the 37 private power interests and the two public utilities with their Q-clearance can get by the doorman April 1. (The two public power utilities are TVA and Consumers Public Power District of Columbus, Nebraska.)

AEC also said that the size of the capital outlay will determine who gets in on the scheme. That freezes out all but the big companies and combines.

For those who do qualify, AEC promises really lush pickings. Right at the outset it is refusing to advance atomic power through its own facilities. That means depriving smaller companies, public and private, of the benefits of what has been developed at taxpayer expense so far.

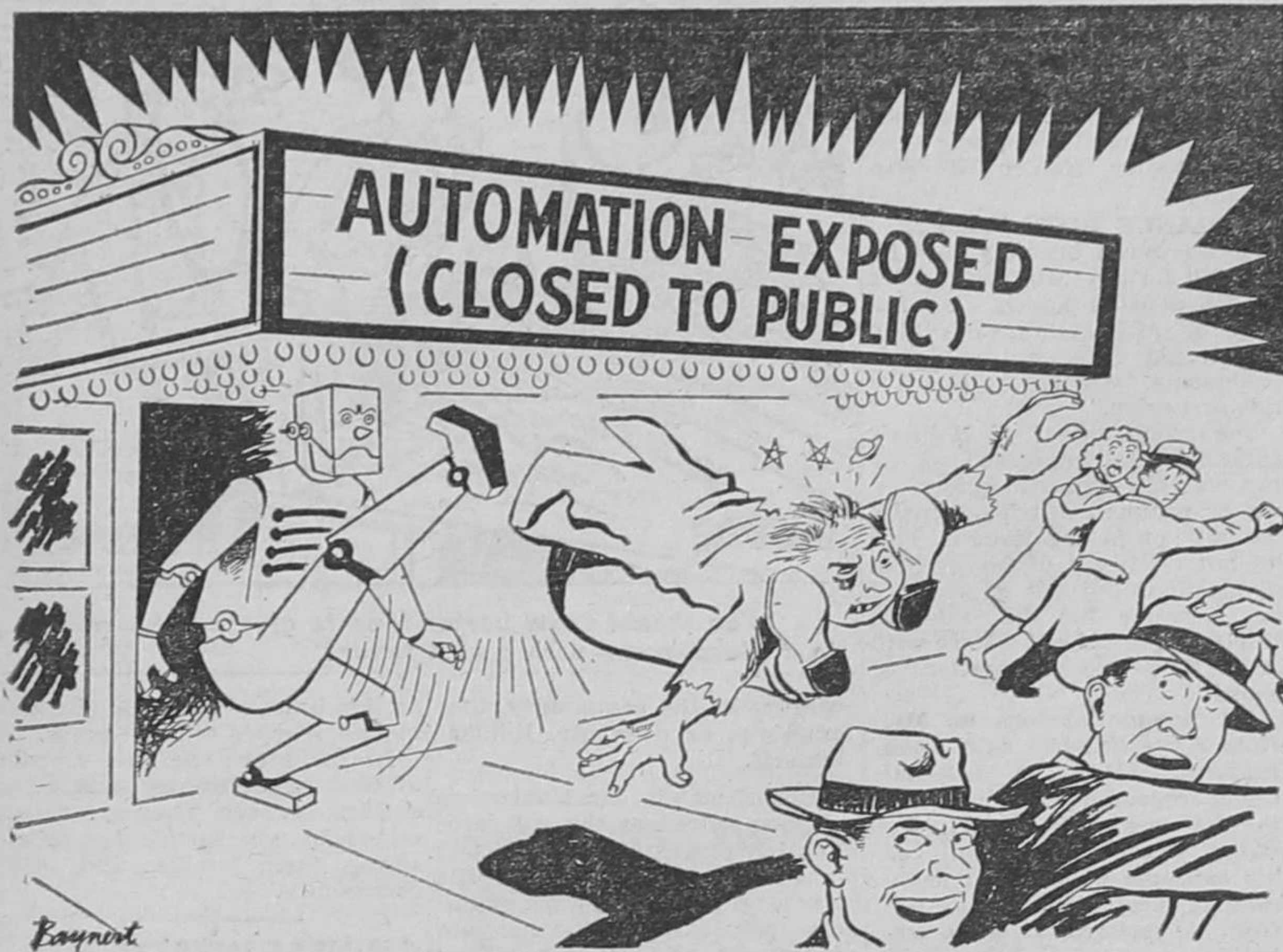
The Atomic Energy Commission also promises to lend the lucky few precious nuclear fuel for up to 7 years "waiving established commission charges."

### HEADS THEY WIN, TAILS YOU LOSE

It will perform development work FOR THEM in its own taxpayer-supported laboratories without charge. It agrees, in advance, to pay fixed sums for technical information which the lucky 37 may turn up. And it still will permit them to get those precious patent rights.

A joint Senate-House Committee, headed by Senator Clinton Anderson (D., N.M.) is looking into the proposal right now. A post card from you might stiffen its backbone against the AEC blitz. Senator Anderson already is asking AEC Chairman Lewis Strauss (a McCarthy buddy) for some of the data Strauss has tried to keep secret.

A note to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, Washington, D.C., could bring him assistance from other members of the committee.



"It's the only Automation they'll let the public see"

## Automation Exhibit Strictly Private

### 70 Manufacturers Show Secret Devices to Buyers

NEW YORK — Here in the big town, folks are still waiting to learn what automation is all about. With the First International Automation Exposition over, the public still doesn't know much about the event except that it was held.

Some 70 manufacturers of equipment used in the new super-automatic processes took part in the 4-day exhibit. The general public was not allowed to look at their offerings.

Only potential buyers or experts got in. The whole topic is being kept so hush-hush that even representatives of some firms reportedly came incognito.

Even companies are keeping secret from each other their plans to convert to automatic

machinery. Nobody knows the size or the timing of the impact automation will make on our economy.

**THE CIO HAS DEMANDED** that Congress investigate the subject. Reactionary Congressmen are viewing that about as enthusiastically as they would cold asparagus.

A spokesman for the exposition management did give the public something to chew on — a definition of "automation."

It's "the substitution of mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, electrical and electronic devices for human organs of observation, decision and effort, so as to increase productivity, quality control and reduce cost."

A New York cabbie commented, "Brother, that means we still don't know from nothin'."

## If Buying Power Doesn't Grow, Unemployment Will, UAW Asserts

Testifying before the Joint Congressional Committee on the President's Economic Report, a UAW-CIO spokesman has called on Congress to prevent another recession in the latter part of 1955 by increasing the purchasing power of the American people.

Douglas Fraser, administrative assistant to UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther, pointed out that Detroit's unemployed numbered 85,000 in December, although car production totaled about 642,000, and that the automobile corporations' "mad production race" coupled with the enormous increase in productivity due to automation will make heavy unemployment inevitable later this year.

### HIGHER EXEMPTIONS

To combat this trend, Fraser urged Congress to increase personal income tax exemptions, improve social security and unemployment compensation, establish a higher minimum wage and increase aid to farmers.

He also called on the government to "provide employment while at the same time catching up with the backlog of needed housing, schools, hospitals, highways, and other community facilities."

Fraser also declared that a substantial increase in aid to underdeveloped countries was needed to help them strengthen their own economies and thus strengthen their resistance to communism.

He also recommended abolition of the excise tax on automobiles, and the establishment of federal minimum standards for state unemployment compensation laws.

Fraser, who testified on "Problems of Regional and Industrial

Unemployment," blamed the auto industry for making the 1953-54 recession "inevitable."

### FOOLHARDY PRODUCTION

"Early in 1953," Fraser told the Congressional Committee, "it became apparent to our union, not only that the country was facing the threat of a recession, but that the automobile corporations in particular, by engaging in a mad production race in the early part of the year, were making it inevitable that there would be heavy cut-backs in the later months."

Such cutbacks, he pointed out, seriously affect other industries as well.

"The threat of unemployment in Detroit was aggravated by the production scheduling and labor recruitment policies of the auto corporations," Fraser told the committee. "They had scheduled for production in the first half of the year 60 per cent of the volume they projected for the year as a whole."

order to achieve their schedules, they were recruiting thousands of workers from other areas, in spite of the fact that there could not possibly be more than a few months' work for them, and their temporary

employment would later intensify unemployment for the workers already in the industry."

Fraser said President Reuther's protests to the auto corporations had no effect.

Describing how unemployment in Detroit, which rose to nearly 200,000 between April 1953 and September 1954, affected the city, Fraser cited revenue losses by the DSR and the department stores as good examples. He described how the Detroit and Wayne County welfare departments had to put on night shifts to handle the flood of applications for relief.

### HUNGRY BIRDDOGS

"Both the bird dogs and the kennel dogs" went pretty hungry in Detroit, Fraser declared, and Defense Secretary Wilson's remark in January 1954 that "come spring and everything is going to be all right in Detroit" turned out to be somewhat less than prophetic.

A better prophet than Wilson was the Detroit welfare commissioner who, Fraser told the committee, warned in 1953 that "if Detroit industry didn't stop recruiting workers in every hamlet, village and crossroad in the country, it would get us into trouble."

Touching on the excise tax on cars, Fraser declared that "recognition be given to the economic absurdity of continuing the excise tax on automobiles at a time when every means should be used to stimulate their purchase."

### To Confuse Spies?

LYNN, Mass.—Labor editors here are baffled by the U.S. State Department's ruling which closes large areas of the country to members of the Soviet Embassy staff and touring Russians. One CIO editor, Arthur Gordon, commented, "Someone in the State Department has either a weird sense of geography or a weird sense of humor. Lynn is one of the most industrialized areas in the country. Moreover, here in Lynn we have sensitive defense production, including jet airplane motors and guided missiles."

"But the State Department's ruling permits the Russians to tour Lynn to their hearts' content. On the other hand, visiting Bolsheviks are prohibited from visiting Moscow, Idaho, a tiny town that contains only a small college. Are we appeasing Moscow?"

### UAW-CIO Sends \$500 In Mexican Flood Aid

A \$500 contribution for flood relief has been sent to Governor Braulio Maldonado Sanchez of the state of Baja California, Mexico, by the UAW-CIO.

Some 10,000 people were made homeless in Mexico as the result of heavy rains flooding a 10-million peso sewer construction project undertaken by Governor Maldonado's Administration. He had asked for aid, especially in procuring typhoid vaccine to protect the victims and prevent an epidemic.

UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther wired Governor Maldonado that "the million and one half working men and women in our organization want you to know that their hearts go out to the people of Mexico and that you have our best wishes for a speedy end to your current troubles and a fast and complete recovery."

# Herb Kohler Faces NLRB, But His Memory Fails Him

**SHEBOYGAN, Wisconsin** — A more cautious but still arrogant Herbert Kohler went on the witness stand here this month to answer NLRB charges of precipitating and prolonging a strike by refusing to bargain in good faith.

His demeanor in this hearing was in sharp contrast to his appearance last May before the Wisconsin Employment Relations Board, when he

boastfully prattled of an arsenal of guns, tear gas and clubs stored in the plant for possible strikebreaking use—to the embarrassment of his associates and to the horrified amazement of the country as a whole.

His 3,300 employees at the Kohler Company plumbing ware plant are in the eleventh month of a strike that began last April 5.

His testimony in the NLRB hearings this month was studded with "I don't know," "I don't remember," "I can't recall." He had obviously been well coached by the lawyers who at the hearing last May had squirmed in their seats as he boasted cheerfully of the Company's private arsenal.

Of course, in the current hearing, he could not deny his earlier testimony about weapons but the admissions came reluctantly and over the raucous objections of his attorneys. Even so, he finally asserted defensively that "tear gas

is the most humane way of stopping a riot."

### THE BASIC ISSUE

Basically, the issue in this case is whether the Company bargained in good faith and sincerely tried to reach a settlement, or whether it deliberately precipitated, and has continued to prolong, the strike.

NLRB attorney George Squillacote asked Kohler if he had instructed his negotiators to make any concessions in order to avoid a strike. Kohler replied: "I doubt it, I'm not built that way."

Another instance in which the old arrogance showed through the veneer of caution and poor memory was when he was asked what made the Company's offer of three cents an hour increase the "maximum you could offer."

He replied that his Company had never pleaded inability to pay and that they were not using it now.

Then why, repeated the NLRB attorney, was that the maximum offer?

Because, Kohler replied, he is

a "careful operator" and "prudent."

Kohler came nearest losing his composure when he was questioned about his rejection of an arbitration proposal last Summer that came from his nephew, Governor Walter Kohler of Wisconsin.

### IGNORANCE DISPLAYED

He answered heatedly that he wouldn't let any arbitrator order a UAW pension plan in his Company or a hospitalization plan that would cover an employee's dependents, "whether he had five kids or twelve."

One other aspect of Kohler's testimony that impressed spectators was his apparent ignorance, real or assumed, of what actually had gone on in negotiations. This did not arise out of his evasion of questions but out of some of the answers he did attempt, which simply did not square with facts that are a matter of record.

"It became obvious as Mr. Kohler testified," said Bob Burkart, UAW-CIO international representative assigned to the negotiations and the strike, "that while many of his concepts came from deep-rooted prejudices, resulting from his background, these prejudices were being deliberately nurtured and exploited by a small group of advisers who seem more interested in their own selfish designs than in the



"You should know better than to give a thermometer to a glassblower with a high fever!"

welfare of the community, the employee or even Mr. Kohler himself.

"Unfortunately, Mr. Kohler has never appeared at the collective bargaining table since the start of this lengthy conflict. His knowledge of the situation comes admittedly through the medium of lawyers and labor relations advisers whose careers depend on litigation and labor-management friction."

Kohler was still on the stand

as this issue of *The United Automobile Worker* went to press.

In the meantime, the morale of the gallant Kohler strikers is as high as ever. They are determined to win justice for themselves, their families and their community.

### CHINESE INVESTMENT

Recent estimates show that capital investment in China is currently twice as much as that of free Asia.

## AUDIT REPORT

### INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AIRCRAFT AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA—CIO

#### DETROIT, MICHIGAN—DECEMBER 31, 1954

CLARENCE H. JOHNSON  
Certified Public Accountant  
Highland Park, Michigan  
Member  
American Institute of Accountants  
Michigan Association of  
Certified Public Accountants

### Certificate

I have examined the Statement of Resources and Liabilities of the INTERNATIONAL UNION UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AIRCRAFT AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA—CIO as of December 31, 1953, and the Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the year ended December 31, 1954, have reviewed the system of internal control and the accounting procedures of the International Union and, without making a detailed audit of all the transactions, have examined or tested accounting records of the International Union and other supporting evidence by methods and to the extent deemed appropriate.

In my opinion, the accompanying Statement of Resources and Liabilities and related Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements present fairly the position of the

INTERNATIONAL UNION UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AIRCRAFT AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA—CIO as of December 31, 1954, and the results of its operations for the year ended December 31, 1954, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Very truly yours,  
CLARENCE H. JOHNSON,  
Certified Public Accountant

### STATEMENT OF RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES

#### DECEMBER 31, 1954

#### RESOURCES

CASH	\$ 2,337,210.24	
DEPOSIT IN CREDIT UNION	1,313.33	
INVESTMENT SECURITIES—(Cost):		
U.S. Government Bonds and Certificates of Indebtedness	\$11,949,360.83	
Dominion of Canada Bonds	240,270.00	
General Motors Acceptance Corp. Bonds	422,702.50	12,612,333.33
Total Liquid Assets		\$14,950,856.90
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:		
Salary Advances — Employees	\$ 879.51	
Miscellaneous Advances	165,209.40	
Rotating Funds	85,990.00	
Local Unions for Supplies and Literature	5,710.61	257,789.52
MORTGAGES RECEIVABLE		850,003.38
NOTES RECEIVABLE		290,343.61
INVENTORIES:		
Supplies for Resale		37,815.80
FIXED ASSETS:		
Furniture and Fixtures	\$ 848,946.81	
Vehicles	25,874.92	
	\$ 874,821.73	
LESS—Reserves for Depreciation	418,204.14	456,617.59
INVESTMENTS:		
Union Building Corporation—U.S.A.	\$ 3,241,192.79	
Union Building Corporation — Canada	100,633.53	
Health Institute of the UAW-CIO	252,878.26	
Stocks	11,401.43	3,606,106.01
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>		<b>\$20,449,532.81</b>

### LIABILITIES

<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Accounts and Bills Unpaid	\$ 39,736.62	
CIO Per Capita Tax	125,870.20	
Payroll Deductions and Exchanges	200,470.28	
Total Liabilities		\$ 366,077.10

### NET WORTH

<b>NET WORTH REPRESENTED BY EXCESS OF RESOURCES OVER LIABILITIES ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS:</b>		
Represented by Liquid Assets:		
General Fund	\$ 7,725,956.09	
Educational Fund	12,549.60	
Recreational Fund	140,767.31	
Citizenship Fund	173,564.30	
Fair Practice and Anti-Discrimination Fund	15,268.55	
International Strike Fund	7,254,987.85	
Total Represented by Liquid Assets	\$14,950,856.90	
Represented by Other Assets	5,132,598.81	20,083,455.71
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH</b>		<b>\$20,449,532.81</b>

### EXHIBIT "A"

### INTERNATIONAL UNION UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AIRCRAFT & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA—C.I.O. STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

	Six Months Ended June 30, 1954	Six Months Ended Dec. 31, 1954	Year Ended Dec. 31, 1954
<b>CASH ON HAND—</b>			
December 31, 1953	\$ 1,688,260.63		\$ 1,688,260.63
June 30, 1954		\$ 3,164,528.68	
<b>ADD—RECEIPTS:</b>			
General Fund	7,513,577.02	7,090,477.47	14,604,054.49
Educational Fund	235,839.81	210,225.03	446,064.84
Recreational Fund	99,103.42	91,965.22	191,068.64
Fair Practice and Anti-Discrimination Fund	78,619.81	70,080.00	148,699.81
International Strike Fund	2,025,635.08	2,157,822.31	4,183,457.39
Citizenship Fund	396,392.94	351,402.00	747,794.94
Total Fund Receipts	\$10,349,168.08	\$ 9,971,972.03	\$20,321,140.11
Sale of Investment Securities:			
U.S. Government Bonds and Certificates of Indebtedness	\$ 2,992,625.00	\$ 996,718.75	\$ 3,989,343.75
Dominion of Canada Bonds	141,782.50	928,410.00	1,070,192.50
General Motors Acceptance Corp. Bonds	212,362.50	111,237.50	323,600.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$13,695,938.08</b>	<b>\$12,008,338.28</b>	<b>\$25,704,276.36</b>
Together	\$15,384,198.71	\$15,172,866.96	\$27,392,536.99
<b>DEDUCT—DISBURSEMENTS:</b>			
General Fund	\$ 6,632,895.60	\$ 6,901,918.41	\$13,534,814.01
Educational Fund	328,476.52	350,406.46	678,882.98
Recreational Fund	89,871.50	116,738.72	206,610.22
Fair Practice and Anti-Discrimination Fund	84,706.48	77,921.62	162,628.10
International Strike Fund	1,329,527.43	4,217,305.93	5,546,833.36
Citizenship Fund	490,092.50	668,396.83	1,158,489.33
Total Fund Disbursements	\$ 8,955,570.03	\$12,332,687.97	\$21,288,258.00
Purchase of Investment Securities:			
U.S. Government Bonds and Certificates of Indebtedness	3,000,000.00	502,968.75	3,502,968.75
Dominion of Canada Bonds	264,100.00		264,100.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$12,219,670.03</b>	<b>\$12,835,656.72</b>	<b>\$25,055,326.75</b>
<b>CASH ON HAND—</b>			
June 30, 1954	\$ 3,164,528.68		
December 31, 1954		\$ 2,337,210.24	\$ 2,337,210.24

# CIO and AFL Delegates Attend UAW Skilled Trades Conference

**CLEVELAND**—Contributing to success of the Fourth Annual International Skilled Trades Conference of the UAW-CIO were attendance and participation of 25 fraternal delegates from four CIO and one AFL International Unions. Largest of the fraternal delegations was from the AFL Machinists (IAM-AFL) represented by 19 men. Also represented were the CIO Rubber Workers, Electrical Workers, Shipyard Workers and Communication Workers.

Participation of these fraternal delegates gave the entire Conference a wider scope. That helped make the Conference one of the landmarks in the fight for universally recognized Journeymen Cards and union-approved apprenticeship programs.

### 758 ATTEND CONFAB

This was the largest Skilled Trades conference ever, with 758 delegates, fraternal delegates, staff members and officers attending. UAW delegates represented 250,000 skilled workers in the U. S. and Canada.

Throughout the 3-day Conference, two underlying themes were stressed. One was the importance of the Journeyman Card to the entire Skilled Trades program. The other was the need for close harmony, cooperation and mutual understanding of common problems between the production and skilled workers, not only within the UAW, but in other unions as well.

Emphasizing importance of the Journeyman Card, UAW Vice-President Richard T. Gosser, director of the Skilled Trades Department, was presented with his Card as a Journeyman Electrician.

Among the more important actions of the Skilled Trades delegates, were approval of resolutions for elimination of the helper classification, change-over employees not to acquire journeyman seniority, establishment of Regional Skilled Trades Councils, contract safeguards on hiring bonafide journeymen, employers' mandatory issuance of employment records for journeyman purposes, and addition of wood model builders classification.

### REPEAL TAFT-HARTLEY

Other actions included adoption of resolutions on disapproval of contracts without apprenticeship ratio, equalization of overtime, outside contactors, standardization of contract provisions, automatic progression, seven day operations, repeal of Taft-Hartley, supporting Kohler strikers, and letter condemning Government award of Kohler defense contract.

Gosser, the Conference Chairman, told the delegates that they could take "a step forward for America. Our de-

mands, when we win them, will elevate the entire society in which we live. Everyone . . . will be the recipient of a better way of life."

Gosser concluded with words of advice to the Conference, "Go back home and praise your Union. Build your Union, because the Union needs the unqualified support of every one of its members and all the support that we can gain from other segments of American society to win this struggle in 1955."

### PROFITS BOOMING

Speaking to the delegates, UAW Vice-President John W. Livingston stressed the need for close cooperation between skilled workers and their production

buddies. He pointed out how General Motors sales dropped off in 1954, their production fell off, profits before taxes fell off, but their profits after taxes soared.

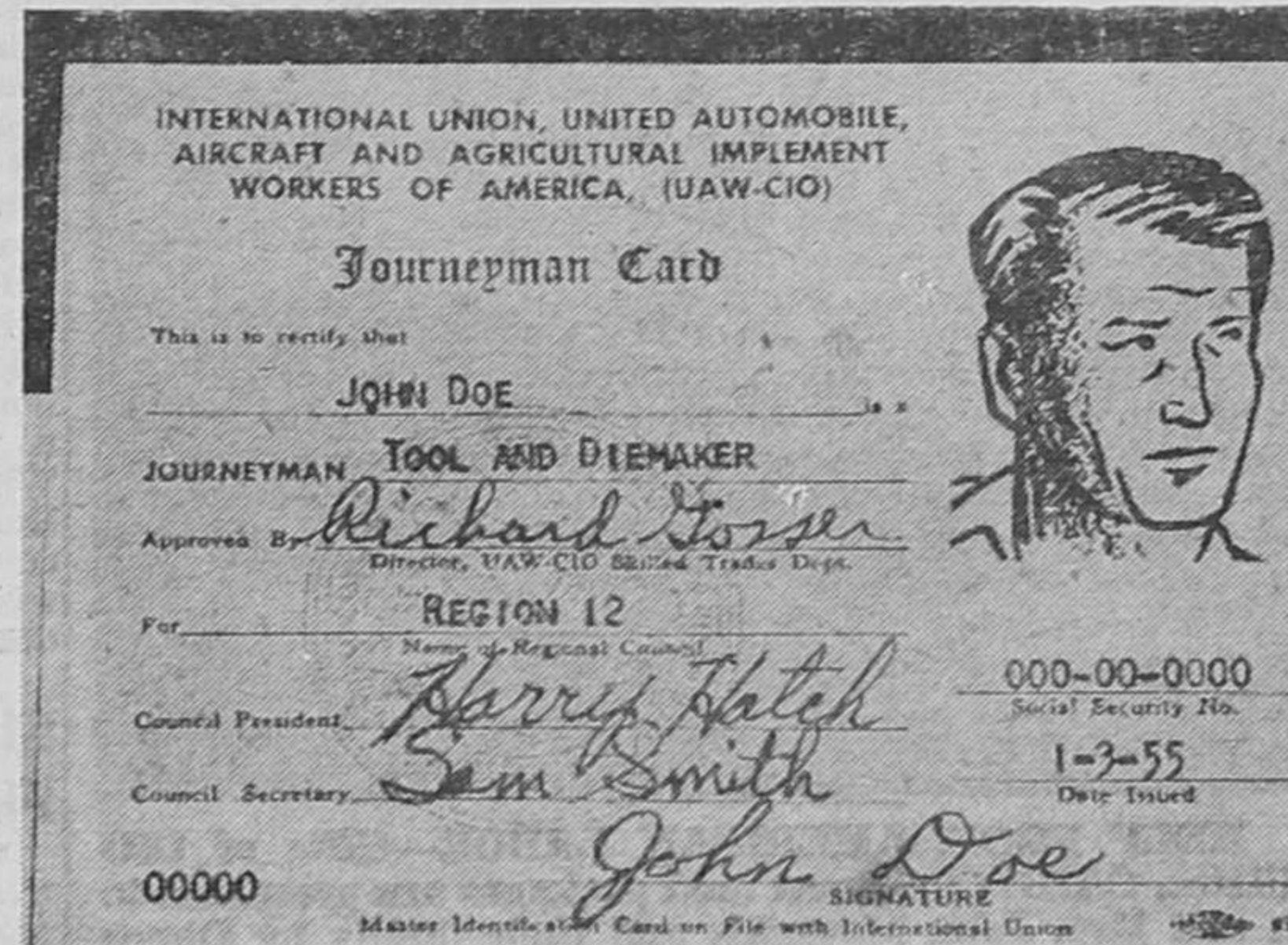
"That's the scandal of this nation (aircraft industry)," declared the UAW veep, who is also director of the Union's GM and Aircraft Departments. "Why, in 1953 profits on their investment amounted to 25 cents on the dollar. In 1954, profits after taxes increased 50 per cent, but sales only increased 3 per cent!"

Other speakers were Region 2 Director Patrick O'Malley who welcomed the delegates, and Detroit UAW Board members Norman Matthews and Joseph McCusker (both members of the International Skilled Trades Committee chaired by Gosser).

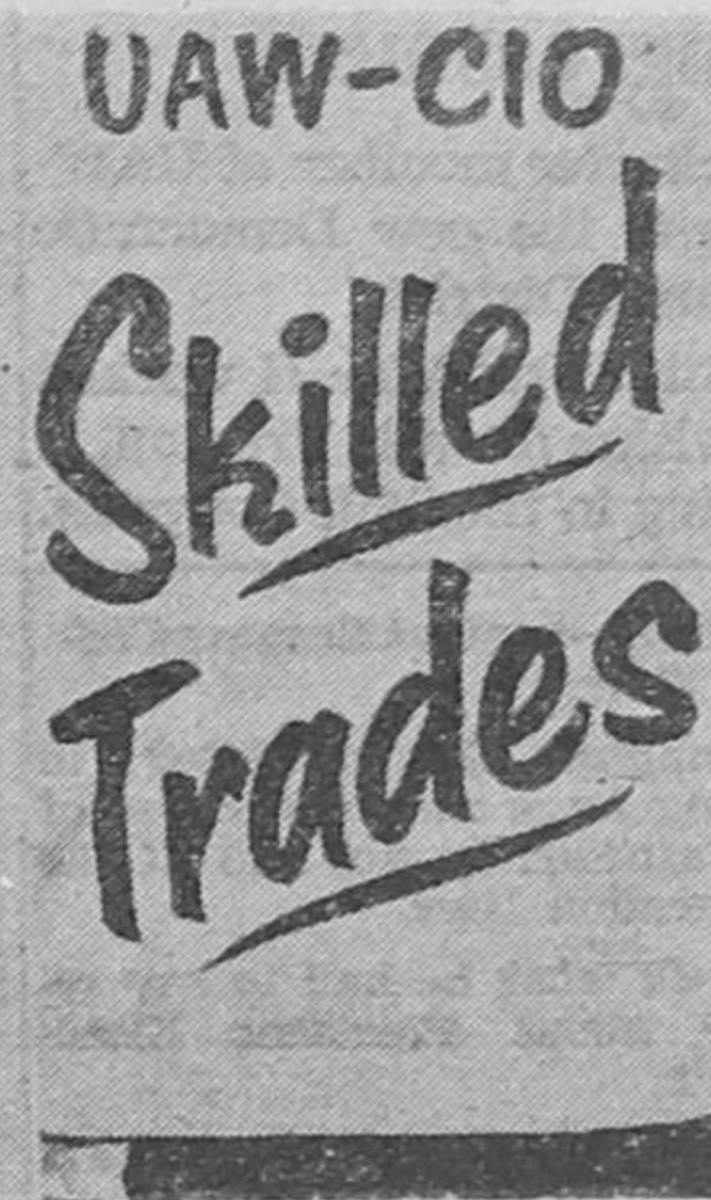
UAW Education Director Brendan Sexton, Assistant Ford Director Nelson Samp (substituting for Ford Director Ken Bannon), and Fair Practices Co-Director William Oliver also were among the featured speakers.



**VICE-PRESIDENT RICHARD T. GOSSER**, director of the UAW's Skilled Trades Department, calls the conference of delegates and AFL and CIO guests to order.



**LARGE JOURNEYMAN CARD** was prominently displayed on the platform facing the Skilled Trades delegates. Pushing recognition of these cards by the auto manufacturers and various companies under UAW agreements is one of the major jobs of the Skilled Trades Department and Councils.



## CHRYSLER APPROVES DISCOUNTS

For years Chrysler Corporation turned a deaf ear to UAW-CIO proposals that the men and women who make the cars be given a better chance to buy them. This month Chrysler put the idea into effect.

All Chrysler employees will be able to get cars through dealers at substantial discounts. It was such a big change in policy that newspapers across the nation carried Page One stories of the 18 per cent saving.

Norman Matthews, director of the UAW-CIO Chrysler Department, commented:

"We think that Chrysler's acceptance of the long-standing Union proposal that workers be permitted to buy cars at a discount is a progressive step on the part of management. It will give workers a much better chance to buy the products they build."

"Chrysler Corporation is the first member of the automobile industry's Big Three to make a discount available to all of its employees for the purchase of all lines of its cars."

"The discount plan should benefit both the workers, in savings, and the corporation, in larger sales."

## Labor Board Puts Squeeze On Mine, Mill

**WASHINGTON (PAI)** — The International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers and its affiliated unions have been disqualified by the National Labor Relations Board from bringing cases to the Board, participating in representation elections, or making valid union-shop agreements.

The action was taken as a result of a Board finding that the union was not in compliance with the non-Communist affidavit requirement of Taft-Hartley. The finding was based on charges that Maurice E. Travis, secretary-treasurer of the union, had sworn falsely filling out a non-Communist affidavit that he was not a Communist and did not "believe in" or "support any organization that believes in or teaches the overthrow of the United States Government by force or by any illegal or unconstitutional methods."

The Board held that Travis, in reality, had not changed his allegiance to and support of the Communist Party nor his belief in forceful overthrow of the U.S. Government.

**KOHLER LOCAL PREXY GRASKAMP** brings Skilled Trades delegates up-to-date on the long-drawn out strike against Kohler, the Bath-tub Baron. He holds aloft a pamphlet "For These We Fight," a graphic description of the many reasons behind the strike.



**STRIKE UP THE BAND** — Delegates to the Fourth Skilled Trades Conference in Cleveland take time out to indulge in a little song shouting during a noon-time recess. They are led by Arnold Schenofsky, pride of Toledo's Local 12, a familiar figure at UAW conventions and conferences.



**REGISTRATION TIME** for the 758 delegates, fraternal delegates and staff members attending the Skilled Trades Conference held in Cleveland's Hollenden Hotel is a busy time for the secretaries and staffers assigned to the job as they try to get everyone squared away with a minimum of delay.



FORMER AUTO WORKER and now Congressman Frank Thompson, Jr., (D., N.J.) demonstrates his local union training to staff members Charlotte Eldredge, left, and Mrs. Olga Brown as he helps address envelopes for a message to his constituents.

### Charter Member of UAW Local One of Three CIO Congressmen

TRENTON, New Jersey — A charter member of UAW-CIO Amalgamated Local 731 here is the new Democratic Congressman from the State's Fourth District.

Frank Thompson, Jr., who until World War II worked at the General Motors Ternstedt Division plant in Trenton, is one of three CIO members now sitting in the 84th Congress.

The others are Representatives Don Magnuson (D., Wash.) and Leo O'Brien, (D., N.Y.), both members of the American Newspaper Guild.

(Rep. Magnuson is not to be confused with the Senator with the same name and from the same state).

#### ASK FOR '1776'

The first CIO man ever to sit in Congress was Tom Burke, a UAW-CIO member who represented Toledo, Ohio, in the House of Representatives. (He too is not to be confused with the just defeated Senator with the same name from the same state).

Burke is now a legislative representative of the National CIO in Washington.

Thompson, whose telephone extension appropriately enough is 1776, occupies the seat formerly held by Representative Charles Howell, who gave up his House post to run—unsuc-

### Rising Profits Make Companies Excellent Targets

LANSING, Michigan — Corporation profit figures are a justification for the UAW-CIO's 1955 contract demands, John W. Livingston, the union's vice-president and General Motors department director, told the Michigan CIO Legislative Conference.

Livingston said that Republican "spare-the-rich" tax policies have resulted in tremendous savings for the big corporations. In GM alone the tax savings permitted the corporation last year to show 34 per cent increase in profits over 1953.

He observed that the boost in profits came during a year in which GM employment production and sales had dropped over the previous year.

He said that the Eisenhower Administration's elimination of the excess profits tax was nothing more than a payoff for the support which big business gave the Republicans in the 1952 election. In 1953 GM paid an excess profits tax of \$247 million. Last year the tax was wiped out and GM paid nothing on its excess profits which amounted to \$250-million more than in 1953.

Livingston added Republican tax policies have made the corporations "fat as geese."

cessfully—against Senator Clifford Case.

Thompson is interested in pushing for a radical revision of the Taft-Hartley Act and of the immigration laws.

Here's what he had to say recently about President Eisenhower:

"I don't believe in Democrats going around saying Eisenhower is a great man, but he needs a Democratic Congress."

#### PAC BUCKS HELP

Thompson's political background includes three terms in the lower house of the New Jersey State Legislature, of which he was minority leader. His record on labor matters has, of course, been excellent, as the New Jersey State CIO legislative report shows.

In addition to handling unemployment and workmen's compensation legislation and temporary disability benefits improvements, he also put through a revision in motor vehicle licensing laws benefiting working people.

Of the minimum wage increase asked by President Eisenhower, Thompson says: "The 90-cent figure is good, but not good enough. Why not raise it to a dollar or \$1.25 an hour?"

The new Congressman gives considerable credit for his election to the help he got from New Jersey CIO-PAC groups. "The Mercer and Burlington County committees were especially active," he says.

"Their registration drive, their tremendous number of effective election day workers and their financial help were invaluable."

### Dave McDonald New CIO Veep

WASHINGTON (PAI) — The CIO Executive Board has elected President David J. McDonald of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO as a vice president of the CIO. McDonald has been a member of the Executive Board for a number of years.

The post was made vacant by the death last month of James G. Thimmes, vice-president of the CIO Steelworkers.

Named to succeed McDonald on the Executive Board was Secretary-Treasurer I. W. Abel of the Steelworkers.

#### Wrong Dog Bitten

### Senators Cite Monopoly Menace; Nation's Newspapers Ignore Story

The headline you never read could well have been: SENATE COMMITTEE CHARGES MONOPOLIES HEAD NATION TOWARD ANOTHER DEPRESSION The reason you never read it is because nearly all newspapers ignored the story.

The *New York Times*, however, reported it in a Page One story last month. It devoted 25 column inches to the 115-page report released by a Senate subcommittee which looked into monopolies and the power business.

#### DANGER OF COLLAPSE

The subcommittee, headed by Senator William Langer (R., N. D.), charged, "a new trend toward monopoly and concentrations of economic power (is) heading the country for a 'devastating business collapse,'" the *Times* reported.

The report also condemned the Administration's controversial Dixon-Yates contract as "a dramatic manifestation" of the current monopoly movement. It also charged that "Wall Street domination" of the pow-

er industry was bringing back to life the evils of the holding company.

The subcommittee noted that since 1950 the rate of acquisitions and mergers of manufacturing and mining concerns had "nearly quadrupled" and that recent figures "closely parallel those of the years leading to the 1929 debacle."

#### CONGRESS SHOULD ACT

The report cited the Dixon-Yates contract as a "clean-cut example . . . of the private monopoly drive to eliminate public and cooperative competition in the electric power business." It added this suggestion:

"The danger to the country from monopoly run wild is written in large letters across the recent economic and political history of this nation. The committee therefore feels that it cannot overstate the imperative necessity for the Congress to deal with the issue immediately."

It wasn't the kind of story most big advertisers fancy. If your home daily didn't carry it, that's a pretty good cue as to why. When a Republican criticizes Big Business, it's a real man-bite-dog development. Most newspapers apparently felt it was the wrong dog.

### Six More Insurance Firms Hit the Dust

WASHINGTON—The Federal Trade Commission has taken another crack at the booming accident and health insurance business by accusing six more companies of making phony claims in advertisements.

This was the second crack-down in recent months. Seventeen firms were charged last Fall with making similar claims.

The six newly-accused companies are: Sterling Insurance Company and Combined Insurance Co. of America, both of Chicago; Professional Insurance Co., Jacksonville, Florida; Service Life Insurance Co., Omaha, Nebraska; Postal Life and Casualty Insurance Co., Kansas City, and Guardian Insurance Co., Dallas.



HELP FROM AMERICAN LABOR—Gifts of CIO affiliates, CARE Christmas food packages are presented to Mr. and Mrs. John Mavrikis and their family by Dimos Zografos (right), Athens Labor Center. With them are their sons Antonis (left) and Mitsos (right). A tile worker, Mavrikis earns the equivalent of \$30 a month. Some 1,400 Greek unionists' families received the CIO gift packages through CARE. Contributing unions included the UAW, TWUA, ANG and UWUA.

### Heavyweight Violator Given Lightweight Fine

TAMPA, Florida — Karl L. Smith, ex-middleweight prizefighter, is one man who can take a rap on the knuckles and come bcring on in for more.

Smith, operator of the Lone Palm Preserving Company, was found guilty of a 43-count criminal charge involving wage and hour violations back in 1946. He was fined only \$500.

Last month he was found guilty of violating minimum wage and overtime regulations, record keeping and shipping provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. He was found guilty of firing an employe illegally and of trying to intimidate witnesses against him.

U.S. District Court Judge William Barker placed him under \$1,500 bond pending the report of a probation officer. He could be fined after that, of course.

The Department of Labor press release made no mention of any order to give workers the money they had coming to them.

#### Just a Joke, Officer

ALLENTOWN, Pa.—An old tried-and-true gimmick used by AFL Plumbers to avoid parking tickets stopped up. Parking in a restricted zone for a quick house call, one union plumber stuck his usual card, "Plumber at Work," on the windshield and went inside. This time, however, when he returned he found a parking ticket under the windshield wiper. Written across the top was the message, "Policeman At Work."

#### Named McNamara Aide

Sam Jacobs, a staff member of the UAW-CIO Washington office, has been named legislative assistant to Senator Pat McNamara, the new Democratic Senator from Michigan who defeated Senator Homer Ferguson in the last election.



The Detroit Free Press

Joe's Out Of His Class