

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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WASHINGTON, D. C. — Walter Reuther, chairman of CIO's National Housing Committee, is shown as he appeared before the Housing and Rent Subcommittee of the Senate and urged that the Senate Banking and Currency Committee report housing legislation as soon as possible. Reuther said: "Last year we had a housing crisis in this country. Today we have a housing tragedy." He also stated: "We must build a minimum of two million homes a year for the next ten years—a total of twenty million homes." Reuther was referring to his recently announced plan for homes, jobs and planes.

—International News Photo.



FILIBUSTER GRINDS ON

Pages Two, Four

Reaction Uses Racism for Fake Front in Filibuster

This is the news

BASIC ISSUES LOST IN WORDY SPECTACLE

In his regular CBS broadcast February 28, Edward R. Murrow, distinguished radio commentator, made some penetrating observations on the filibuster. He has granted permission to the AUTO WORKER to print that portion of his program:

Bring out the throat lozenges, ear plugs and carpet slippers—the Senate is heading for another filibuster. This time it's to be a filibuster to preserve the filibuster. The decision to force a showdown now was made in a 45-minute session this morning among President Truman, Vice-President Barkley, Senator Lucas of Illinois and House Speaker Rayburn. And the proposal is, that debate on any subject in the Senate can be limited or stopped by a two-thirds vote. The issue that lies behind this is the President's Civil Rights Program. Other legislation will have to wait. No one knows for how long the Senators will shower each other with oratory. It could turn out to be an unprecedented test of vocal chords and physical stamina—and of the tolerance and patience of the country.

Senator Scott Lucas of Illinois is handling the strategy for the Administration.

Senator Russell of Georgia is directing the strategy of the Southern Senators.

CRIES "STATES' RIGHTS"

Today, Senator George—also of Georgia—said the issues raised in the "memorable debate" are bound to have repercussions hereafter. He denounced the rules change as interference with States Rights and attacked the various Civil Rights proposals as being either unconstitutional, or of giving power to the federal government which rightly belongs to the states.

The split in the Democratic Party that occurred at Philadelphia, that produced the Dixiecrat movement, will now be fought out on the floor of the Senate, with the Republicans representing the Administration's only chance of winning.

MINORITY'S WEAPON

The filibuster—a word which came into our language from the buccaners of the Spanish Main—has been the traditional weapon to defeat or delay legislation. It is the weapon of a determined minority; and the pages of the Congressional Record are proof that it has often driven the level of Senatorial debate far below the standard that would be permitted in a high school debating society. One of the best comments on this practice was made by Senator Barkley when, during a filibuster, the galleries were warned not to laugh. Said the Senator:

"When people go to the circus, they ought to be allowed to laugh at the monkeys."

NO LAUGHING MATTER

This filibuster, unless it is compromised, is not likely to produce much laughter. The southerners are not only fighting against anti-poll tax legislation, anti-segregation and anti-lynch laws; not only against fair employment practices acts; they are arguing to preserve their political power, their bargaining position, preserve their power inside their own party and their coalition potential with northern Republicans. If the President's Civil Rights program were to become law, and were enforced, the whole pattern of political power in the South would be altered; the strength of labor unions would be enormously increased and southern industry greatly affected. A combination of Negro and white working men's votes could result in sending to Congress representatives with a totally different outlook and objective from those who are now there. The effect of that, not only upon the South, but upon the rest of the country in terms of legislation, could be enormous. The issue here is not merely segregation or states rights. It is both broader and deeper than that.

LOSE WORLD PRESTIGE

It is unfortunate that in the spectacle to which we are to be subjected, most of the basic issues will be lost in a welter of words, and an opportunity to inform the public will thereby be missed. Damage to the esteem in which the Senate is held is inevitable. Damage to our stature in the eyes of the rest of the world is unavoidable. As early as 1790, Senator MacClay of Pennsylvania, writing in his diary of an earlier and less well-organized filibuster, said that as a result of it "the confidence of the people is departing from us."

WASHINGTON—The Liberty League rides again, as in 1935-37—this time wearing the hood of racist opposition to civil rights.

Back of the phony filibuster over the fake change in Senate Rule 22 on cloture (limitation of debate) is a coalition of reaction that hopes to:

1. Block the Truman Fair Deal program by splitting the Democratic Party wide open for keeps;
2. Blame the Democratic Party for non-performance on civil rights;

3. Duck any effective action on FEPC and other civil rights bills by keeping the present Rule 22 requirement that debate can be limited only by a two-thirds vote—which amounts to keeping a veto power in the hands of one-third-plus-one of those present and voting;

4. Pretend to strike a blow for civil rights by amending Rule 22 by making a two-thirds vote to limit debate applicable to motions as it now is only to bills—which can be done by Vice-President Barkley at any time simply by reading his own opinion made last August 2 during Senate debate on the same point;

5. At the very least, to stall action on Taft-Hartley repeal, extension of rent control, housing, reciprocal trade, increased social security, a higher minimum wage, inflation control, action to break bottlenecks in steel, fertilizer, power, aluminum, MVA, CVA, etc., etc.

Within a few hours after the fake filibuster started, the CIO had letters on every Senator's desk, calling for a showdown on the real issue of majority vs. minority rule. CIO Legislative Director Nathan Cowan called for support of the Myers-Morse Resolution, changing the present two-thirds rule to a simple majority—not the so-called "constitutional majority" of 49, which would permit Senators to vote "No" by being absent, as in T-H plant elections. In his letter to Senators, Cowan said:

To transform the debate into a real discussion of the basic issue, and to insure a showdown and record vote upon it, we urge you to:

1. Insist upon day-and-night, round-the-clock sessions;
2. Sign and present immediately a cloture petition which, under Vice-President Barkley's certain ruling, will be valid against any filibuster device;
3. Insist upon the adoption of the Myers-Morse resolution as an amendment to the Hayden-Wherry resolution;
4. Vote for cloture and for the Myers-Morse resolution.

The above course, if begun at once, can bring the debate to a decisive vote within a week or 10 days, without causing an undue delay of other vital measures.

Taft Switches Position; Sees Dixiecrat Alliance

WASHINGTON—The enchanting prospect of a Senate run by a Republican-Dixiecrat combination led by Senator Robert A. Taft has caused that Senator Taft to switch sides on the filibuster issue.

Taft (R., O.) now favors the Hayden-Wherry resolution, changing Senate Rule XXII to make cloture (limitation of debate) valid against debate on a motion to take up a bill, while leaving untouched the veto power of one-third plus one of the Senate.

OPPOSED VANDENBERG

But on Aug. 2 it was Taft who supported Senator Knowland (R., Cal.) in opposition to Senator Vandenberg's ruling as president pro tempore of the Senate, that cloture could NOT be invoked against a motion but only against a bill. It was Taft who on Aug. 2, as reported at pages 9753-4 of the Congressional Record, appealed from the Vandenberg decision in these words:

"Mr. President, I appeal from the decision of the Chair, chiefly, of course, because it leaves the Senate in an almost impossible situation. A motion to take up is subject to debate, and against it, under the Chair's decision, a cloture petition cannot lie. Consequently, there is no way by which this situation can be changed, except by physical exhaustion, by keeping the Senate in session day in and day out, which, I hope, will not be necessary, although we shall have to get to it next year unless this proposed change is made.

"I appreciate the view of the president pro tempore as to what the word 'measure' means—which, after all, is a very narrow question and certainly is open to debate. I further appreciate the Chair's good faith in making the ruling. However, it is a question on which the Senate has never

spoken, and I believe the Senate should determine that question before forcing us into a position of having a filibuster on an attempt to change the rule, which perhaps would be even a more difficult matter, because every Senator interested in stopping any bill at all would oppose an attempt to change the rule."

Taft's present support of the warty Hayden-Wherry resolution is not inconsistent with the assurance that he gave Southern Democrats during his political barnstorming through the South last fall.

THAT'S WHAT THE MAN SAID

Speaking at Nashville, Taft said: "There is a basic agreement between the Southern Democrats and the Republican Party."

Speaking at St. Petersburg, Fla., Oct. 13, Taft said, as reported by the Associated Press, that President Truman's program was "far from the ideas of most Southern Democrats" because he (Truman) would have a Washington bureau "subject the life of every family to direction from a federal bureau," adding:

"The remedy of the New Dealers for every problem is to create a federal bureau, give it unlimited power and unlimited money, and take over from the states all the functions granted to them by Congress."

The Republicans, on the other hand, Taft said, are working "to achieve progress in material welfare and full employment while maintaining the liberty of the individual and the liberty of the local community to live their own lives and work out their own problems."

Murray to Truman

My dear Mr. President:

Your Jefferson-Jackson Day address of last night is a forthright and heart-warming reaffirmation of the splendid platform which carried you and the American people to victory last fall.

I am particularly gratified by the timely and un-the Taft-Hartley Law. You equivocal words you devoted to the fight for repeal of have expressed the feelings of the American people when you state that special interests are plotting to deprive the people of what they voted for on November 2.

I repeat what I have told you before: The millions of members of the Congress of Industrial Organizations stand solidly behind you in your crusade for "the welfare and the advancement of the people of this nation." With determination such as you expressed in your address and the loyal cooperation of the Congress, the "fair deal" program can be promptly enacted into law.

Respectfully yours,
Philip Murray.

NEW ELECTION AT NORTH AMERICAN

WASHINGTON (LPA) — Another costly union shop election, now recognized as one of the follies of the Taft-Hartley Law, has been set aside by the National Labor Relations Board because the conditions were not conducive to a free vote by the union members.

The board nullified the election last August at the four plants of North American Aviation, Inc., in southern California, involving more than 15,000 workers being represented by the UAW-CIO.

The closed shop vote in this case was by mail, and the board found that not only was there too little time for the members to vote and return their ballots, but that the company had been allowed to address the envelopes containing the ballots and that no provision was made for prepaid postage for returning ballots.

The board, in reviewing the case, said that the responsibility of the national board to see that elections of all kinds are carried out "under conditions as nearly ideal as possible" was moving it to throw out the election and order a new one.

This is standard Southern double talk used in opposing FEPC, anti-lynch, anti-poll tax and equal accommodation legislation.

A SELL-OUT

These Taft statements, plus endorsement of Republican candidates by Jesse Jones and other opponents of civil rights legislation, led UAW-CIO President Reuther to charge, in his Oct. 31 nation-wide radio broadcast, that "the Republicans have extended their brand of unity into the South by making a deal with the Dixiecrats to sell out civil rights."

Popularity of the two-thirds rule among many Republicans indicates that the deal is still on, as far as they are concerned.

Conference Delegates Vote Unanimous Approval of 1949 Economic Program



Part of the 250 delegates who voted approval of the 1949 economic program in Detroit February 19.

Industry-wide Strategy Rejected In Favor of Setting Pattern

More than 250 delegates to the UAW-CIO International Economic Conference in Detroit on Feb. 19 unanimously approved the 1949 economic objectives of the union as recommended by the International Executive Board.

Delegates also approved, with only two dissenting votes, the strategy of submitting the demands through normal channels as provided in UAW contracts with a concentrated drive to break through an important sector of the industry and thus establish a pattern. Upon establishment of such a pattern, efforts will then be made to apply it uniformly throughout the industry.

The 1949 economic demands, outlined in detail in earlier issues of *The United Automobile Worker*, are briefly:

A \$100-a-month pension at age 60, after 25 years of service, to be financed by the employer.

A health, hospital and security plan, to be financed by the employer on the basis of 5 per cent of payroll.

A wage adjustment that will restore purchasing power to the level of June, 1946.

In the case of both the pension plan and the security plan, the employer is to pay moneys set aside for those purposes into separate trust funds, which will be administered by a Board of Trustees on which the union will have equal representation with management.

CONSIDER TWO PROPOSALS

On the question of strategy, the delegates considered two proposals. One was the proposal outlined above, which was adopted. The other was a proposal to attempt to initiate industry-wide bargaining supported by a general strike, if necessary, throughout the entire industry, if management refused to meet our demands on an industry-wide basis. This latter proposal was rejected.

The board's recommendations on economic demands were presented to the conference by President Walter P. Reuther.

FIGHT IF NECESSARY

"We are prepared and it is our desire to sit down across the bargaining table with management and find a solution to these needs," Reuther told the delegates. "We are willing to make every possible effort to find a satisfactory, constructive and intelligent solution, but if management continues in its refusal to meet their social obligations to the workers, then your

union, provided the workers are willing, is prepared to use every weapon possessed by free labor to achieve these objectives."

Sec.-Treas. Emil Mazey presented the recommendation of the Executive Board on strategy—that the union drive to break through an important sector of the industry and establish a pattern and then apply the pattern to the rest of industry.

COAL AND AUTOS

He noted that advocates of the industry-wide approach and an industry-wide strike make comparisons with the industry-wide bargaining used in the coal industry.

"There is a lot of difference between the economics of the coal industry and the automobile industry," he said. "We can't get along without coal, but we can get along without cars. The war demonstrated that it is possible for our nation to live without new automobiles for long periods of time. The best way for us to win our economic demands is to take cognizance of the competitive differences in our industry between Chrysler and Ford and General Motors."

GM SITUATION

The conference also heard a report from T. A. Johnstone, Assistant Director of the UAW-CIO GM Department, on the cost-of-living wage adjustment and plans of the International Union to open exploratory conferences with the General Motors Corporation immediately following issuance of the Supreme Court decision on the Inland Steel case. This case will be heard by the Supreme Court during its March session, and a decision which will determine the legality of collective bargaining on pension plans and other security matters should be forthcoming during the month of April.

Immediately following the establishment of a pattern for pensions, health and security programs and wage matters in important sections of the automobile industry in 1949, these exploratory conferences with GM will be transformed into serious negotiations, President Reuther said.

The conference approved Johnstone's report.

FE REPORT

Vice-President John W. Livingston reported on efforts of the UAW to carry out national CIO policies with respect to affiliation of the Farm Equipment Workers with the UAW-CIO. The UAW will continue its drive to bring together in one union all the workers in the agricultural implement field, so that their combined strength can win for the workers in this industry the economic gains and improved working conditions to which they are entitled, Livingston said.

The conference approved Livingston's report.

Representation at the conference included the whole negotiating committees from the Big Three, representatives from all other corporation councils and from all automotive and agricultural implement corporations. In addition to these, there were five delegates from each region to represent workers in plants not otherwise represented.

Johnstone Statement on The GM Wage Adjustment

T. A. Johnstone, assistant director of the UAW General Motors Department, February 25 issued the following statement to the press. The statement was also sent to all GM local unions and units:

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' announcement of the January 15 cost-of-living index of 170.9 means two cents downward an hour adjustment of General Motors workers' wages for the three-month period beginning March 6.

Members of our union were not fooled by the illusory three cents "wage increase" of last September. We are not now deceived as to the illusory two cents "wage cut" next month. The escalator clause neither increased nor reduced our standard of living since the signing of the agreement. It has served simply to hold our purchasing power approximately constant since the agreement of May 29, 1948.

THREE CENTS UP IN MAY

On May 29 of this year, however, GM workers will receive a three-cents-an-hour increase not subject to the fluctuations of the BLS Consumers Price Index. This increase is guaranteed by the "improvement factor" clause of the union's agreement with the corporation which recognizes the work' right to an annual improvement in standards of living.

It is too early to tell whether or not the drop in prices of food, apparel and house furnishings in the past three months means an end to the inflationary trend. We hope it does. The GM workers accept the March cost-of-living adjustment not as a "pay cut," but as an indication that prices are on the way down. We are well aware that economic security depends on bringing about a balance between purchasing power and prices—and prices have a long way to go down. The gradual decline in prices as

reflected in the Consumers' Price Index is a welcome economic sign.

NO HELP FROM GM

Attention should be called to the fact that the auto industry, particularly the General Motors Corporation, has not contributed to the lower prices of 1949. In fact, without benefit of "wage increases" as an excuse, the industry, including GM, has continued to increase prices throughout the past quarter. The corporation, ending up the year with record profits, quietly raised prices of 1949 Chevrolet models from \$42 to \$110, Pontiacs from \$55 to \$150 and made similar increases in Oldsmobile and Buick prices. The corporation's policy of increasing prices at this juncture has no honest economic base. It simply reflects the irresponsibility of a corporation which chooses to stand in the way of the gradual readjustment of our present inflationed price structure.

MATERIALS DOWN

There are other reasons why prices should be reduced. According to the *Chicago Journal of Commerce* (February 17, 1949) costs of materials to the auto industry are on the decline, "competition among suppliers has increased. That means lower prices . . . (The) buyers' market is back. Sellers from all over the country are beating a path to the door of the automobile (corporation) purchasing agents." Prices of grey iron castings, fabrics, leather goods, rubber products, paint oils and of other materials important to the auto industry are on the decline.

Burke Proposes Bill for Women

WASHINGTON (LPA) — Elimination of discrimination against women in industry is the purpose of a bill introduced by Rep. Thomas H. Burke (D., Ohio).

The bill, calling for the establishment of a Presidential commission to investigate and eliminate such discriminatory practices, would guarantee to women equal legal status without endangering the special benefits now afforded them under the law.

Reuther Says GM Must Go Along with Pattern

When a pattern for pensions, health and security programs and wage matters has been established in important sections of the automobile industry, the UAW-CIO will serve those same demands on the General Motors Corporation in 1949, President Walter P. Reuther said last month.

Reuther pointed out that General Motors is already committed to joining with the UAW-CIO in exploratory discussions of pension and security programs as soon as a decision on the legality of collective bargaining on these matters is handed down by a court of last resort. Such a decision is expected some time in April by the U. S. Supreme Court in the Inland Steel case, which is scheduled to be heard by the court this month.

IMMEDIATE DISCUSSIONS

The UAW-CIO will demand that these exploratory discussions begin immediately after the Inland Steel decision is handed down. Then, when a pattern is set, the exploratory discussions will be converted into serious negotiations, Reuther said.

Although the GM contract does

not expire until 1950, "General Motors cannot isolate itself from the rest of the industry," Reuther said. "They have to live with the practical facts of life."

RECALLS 1948

The UAW-CIO President recalled the situation in 1948, when the steel industry had flatly turned down any wage increases for the steel workers and the steel workers were powerless to strike. Then when the UAW-CIO broke through big business' united front and won a wage increase at General Motors, steel management reconsidered and granted a \$1-a-day increase. Likewise, the rest of big industry, which had resisted wage increases up until that time capitulated to the demands of their workers, even in cases where they were not obligated to by union contract.

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The Filibuster...

Once again the nation is being treated to the disgraceful spectacle of a handful of unscrupulous U. S. Senators blocking and disrupting essential work of the U. S. government. At a time of the kind of world and domestic crisis we are experiencing now, this is nothing short of sabotage.

The filibuster—theoretically a parliamentary device to protect the interests of a minority—is actually a grotesque caricature of the democratic process in the hands of the Southern reactionaries and their Northern Republican colleagues; it is being used to frustrate democracy and deprive the American people of rights and services which an overwhelming majority have voted for.

There is more behind the filibuster than merely the opposition of Southern reactionary Senators to civil rights legislation. It is an organized conspiracy to defeat President Truman's Fair Deal legislation and to block the progress of the American people toward a more liberal and progressive government.

We of the *United Automobile Worker* believe we could prove these statements to the satisfaction of any fair-minded person, but we don't see why we should when it has been done for us.

On Feb. 11, 1949, the *United States News* published an article which explains with extraordinary candor just what is behind the filibuster. The *United States News* is published by the well-known anti-Roosevelt, anti-Truman, anti-labor columnist, David Lawrence, who certainly cannot be accused of a liberal point of view, and here are some of the things it says:

"It (the filibuster) is a stand of Southern Senators to keep the old way of life for the South and to keep their own places of power. And it is a battle in which Northern conservatives have a big stake.

"Business outside the South is interested in the fight. Many Southern plants run on Northern capital. Southern Democrats have often combined with Northern Republicans to fight off New Deal labor and tax legislation. The old coalition now is threatened.

"Under the present regime, the South stays conservative and business has a strong voice in running affairs. The system thrives on low votes and a divided labor force.

"Through this coalition, Republicans and Southern Democrats have been able to hold in check Democratic Presidents and New Deal legislation.

"An undivided Southern working force would be easier to unionize.

"A politician's nightmare is shaping up in this picture of the South. If the white man and the Negro throw down racial prejudice and work together, unionization will grow. With stronger unions, the workers can do the same job on Southern conservatives they have done on Northern conservatives.

"If whites and Negro workers in the South manage to work together and get to the polls, they can send a new kind of Southerner to Washington. He would speak for the poorest people in the nation and might make the New York and Chicago New Dealers look like pikers."

And there you have it. That's what the filibuster is for. And, in the course of using it, the reactionaries, North and South, are endangering the whole Fair Deal program for which a decisive majority of the American people voted last November. One of the first and most disastrous casualties could be rent control, which goes out the window March 31 unless a new bill is passed.

We think the whole American people ought to rise up in wrath against this disgraceful and dishonorable spectacle. We hope all UAW-CIO members do their part by writing to their Senators, whatever side they are on, and let them know that we will not tolerate this kind of sabotage of the people's will.

Two Powerful Southerners Stand In Way of Truman Tax Program

(The by-line of Nathan Robertson has, for many years, been seen on significant news reports from Capitol Hill. Robertson was chief of PM's Washington bureau, and before that, chief of the AP Senate staff. He is now writing regularly for Labor Press Associates and this paper.)

By Nathan Robertson

WASHINGTON (LPA)—President Truman has for the second time in the past two weeks made it clear to Congress and the world that he expects a new tax bill at this session of Congress to balance the economy and to provide revenue for his "fair deal" program.

But the President has a real battle on his hands on this issue—which perhaps is hotter than anything he is asking from Congress with the possible exception of national health insurance—an equally integral part of his program.

For the two key men in Congress—Chairman Robert L. Doughton (D., N. C.), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Chairman Walter George (D., Ga.), of the Senate Finance Committee—can almost alone make or break presidential plans on taxes, and both are against the President, or at least very lukewarm.

Long-time observers have for many years remarked how George

and Doughton—like the proverbial Senator Claghorn—could always be against taxes and for appropriations—although in this case they are against both, in order to hold down taxes on the rich.

TOO TOUGH ON RICH

Throughout the years, when war called for high appropriations to pay for fighting and to avoid inflation, George and Doughton always held back from the Administration's full tax program on the ground that it was too tough on the rich, or was all that could be obtained from the taxpayers, despite the fact that they found little difficulty in increasing taxes on the little working guy many fold.

Then came the postwar period, when George and Doughton quickly fell into line on repealing the excess profits tax and cutting taxes on the rich to bolster free enterprise and get production under way. This, they contended, was the way to fight inflation—not high taxes and price controls, as the Administration argued.

"INCENTIVES"

Over and over again from the Georges and the Doughtons in Congress the people were told during the immediate postwar years that lower taxes were necessary to give business an incentive for production. This propaganda culminated last year with Congressional approval of the Republican \$4,000,000,000 tax cut for the wealthy, over President Truman's veto. It is significant to note that both George and Doughton opposed the President's position on this vital issue.

Now President Truman, with a strongly Democratic Congress ready to follow his lead, is asking for higher taxes to undo the damage done by the Republicans last year. Both George and Doughton are now contending that this is no time for increasing taxes because we may be heading for a period of deflation, instead of inflation, and you should never increase taxes if you are fighting deflation.

That is a very sound position—in fact, it is the position all labor and new deal economists have taken for years. But it implies that in times of inflation you should raise taxes. In other words, if George and Doughton today accept the philosophy of taxes that the New Dealers and labor spokesmen stand for, why didn't they last year when these economists were opposing lower taxes?

COUNTRYCLUB VIEW

The answer is that the Georges and Doughtons in Congress can always find a reason for cutting taxes or opposing increased taxes on the wealthy—but they never can seem to find any reason for lowering taxes on the working people. They—like so many other people in Congress who are businessmen, lawyers or others with the business viewpoint—always seem to look at such issues through the eyes of the countryclub crowd—rather than the working man's.

President Truman is sticking by his proposals. He told his press conference last month that he is strongly in favor of his program as ever, and that the reason the House Ways and Means Committee had scheduled social security proposals ahead of taxes was because the tax measure wasn't ready yet. How long it might take to get it "ready" for Doughton and George is the question that needs answering.

COMPETITIVE SHOPS START SERIES OF CONFERENCES

Moves toward development of a standard contract in the bearing industry and the establishment of a UAW Bearing Council have resulted from the first of a series of conferences called by Vice-President Richard Gosser, Director of the Competitive Shop Department. The conference, held in Buffalo, February 19, elected a committee of five delegates to meet with the UAW Research and Engineering Department representatives to work out a contract that would be used by all locals in the bearing industry.

COUNCIL ELECTS

Upon Gosser's recommendation, the conference formed a permanent

Bearing Council. Officers elected were: F. Gallagher, Detroit, Chairman; R. Bloomquist, Sandusky, O., Vice-Chairman; C. Johnson, Jamestown, N. Y., Secretary-Treasurer.

OTHER CONFERENCES SET

Other conferences called by the Competitive Shop Department are: Spicer Conference, held at the headquarters of Local 12, Toledo; Nut, Screw and Bolt Conference, Morrison Hotel, Chicago, and a re-activated conference in the Heating, Refrigeration and Radiation industry will be held March 26.

Further information on the conference series may be obtained from Joseph Mattson, Assistant Director, Competitive Shop Department, 281 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit.

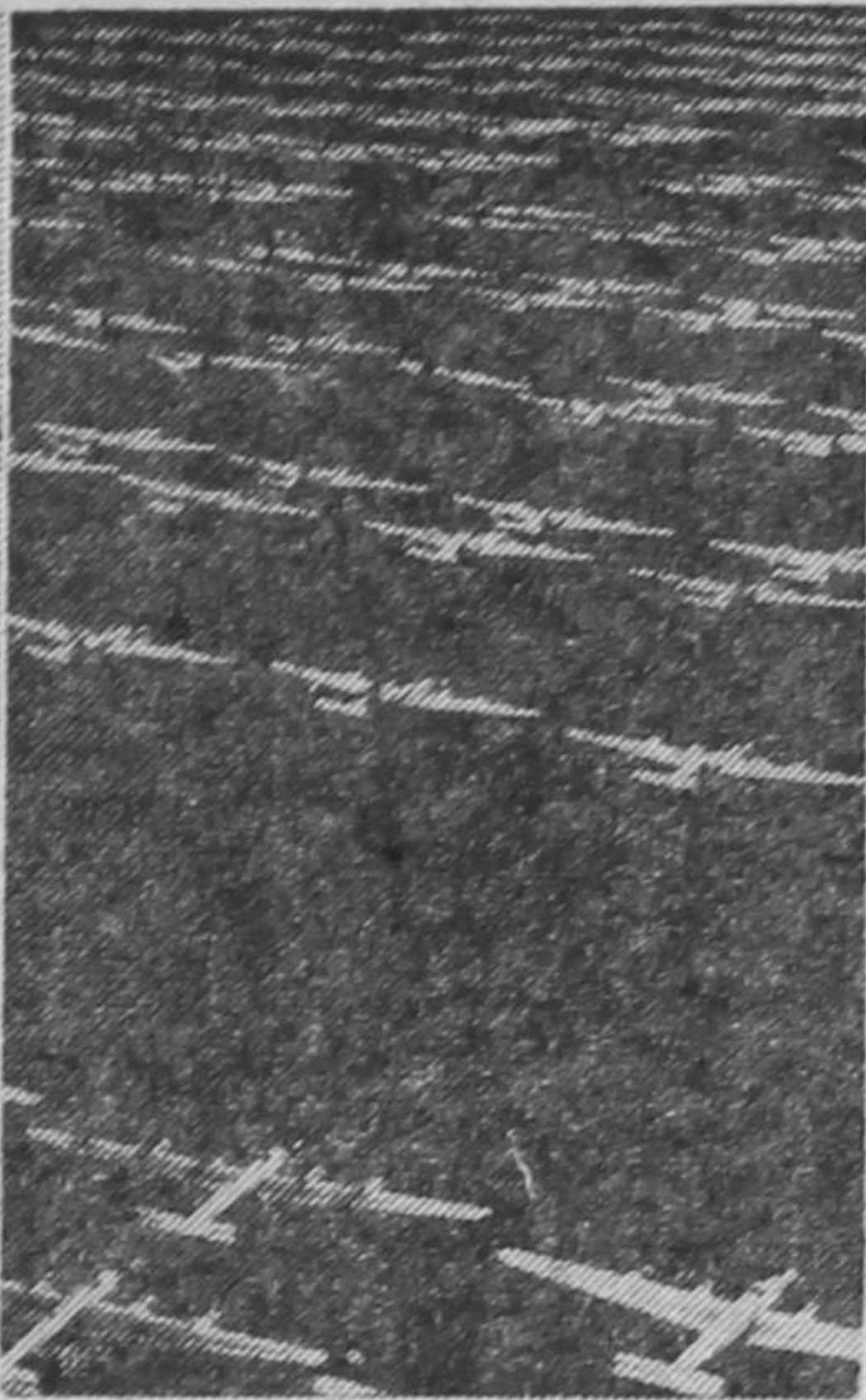
DOCTORS ORDER REUTHER VACATION

UAW President Walter P. Reuther will be back on the job for the meeting of the International Executive Board March 14, after a three-week vacation taken at the insistence of his physicians.

Doctors attending Reuther said that his arm's recovery is proceeding satisfactorily but that the UAW-CIO President had been working too hard during the last several months. A continuation of the schedule he has been following might possibly impede recovery, they said.



Here is the opening of the Canadian-American Bowling Tournament in Windsor, Ontario, sponsored by the UAW-CIO. Lined up to start the balls rolling are, from left, William H. Oliver, UAW Fair Practices Dept. Co-Director, Region 1-A Co-Director Joe McCusker and the Mayor of Windsor.



Obsolete Houses . . . Obsolete Planes . . . and Obsolete Workers?

Murray Offers to Prove Case for Steel Expansion

PITTSBURGH—President Philip Murray of the United Steelworkers last month sent the following telegram to Representative Brent Spence (D., K.), chairman of the House Banking and Currency Committee:

"In connection with the introduction of the bill calling for expansion of the steel industry, I want to give you the viewpoints of the United Steelworkers of America (CIO) at this time and hope to supplement this with detailed testimony whenever the committee announces hearings.

"The United Steelworkers of America (CIO) believes the very foundation of our economy may depend upon whether or not the steel-making capacity is expanded to meet current and future needs.

"Smaller processing and fabricating firms, many of whom are wholly dependent on reasonable supplies of steel, have been pleading for action. Many of them face the possibility of being squeezed out of business by the shortage.

"With vast rebuilding projects under way in this country as well as in a number of war-torn countries, there is a cry for steel that grows persistently louder.

"Studies conducted by the Steel Union show that there is not enough capacity to meet the country's needs if a high level of prosperity and employment is to be sustained.

"Refusal of the industry to expand production is based on the

theory that the boom-or-bust cycle will prevail. The United Steelworkers of America does not share this lack of confidence in the soundness of our economy.

"It has become increasingly clear that steel is the real bottleneck which is holding back needed production in a whole network of industries.

"The industry has turned a deaf ear to the plea for more steel capacity. That stand is not new to the industry. In the early war years, steel, aluminum and other basic industries vigorously fought expansion. Industrial experts went to great length to convince the government that there was plenty of steel to take care of demands.

"We are prepared to show:

"1. Industry figures on capacity increases and expansion are greatly inflated.

"2. There is still a shortage of steel, which is holding back production in other industries.

"3. Industrial spokesmen have been poor prophets regarding the length of the shortage.

"4. Several companies need loans for expansion purposes and would be happy to avail themselves of government loans.

"5. Sufficient materials are available or can be made available for expanding.

"6. Capacity expansion will not be nearly so expensive as has been estimated.

"7. National defense potential needs make further delay a dangerous gamble."

PRESS, CAPITOL HILL COMMENT ON REUTHER HOMES-JOBS-PLANES PLAN

Early reaction to the Reuther plan for producing houses in place of obsolete planes ran from warm approval to approval with "buts" to caution to outright resistance.

Most of the early response, however, appeared favorable. The professional critics of anything that originates with labor, remembering their experience with the first Reuther plan for conversion to war production, were feeling around gingerly before again hooting.

In Washington, following Reuther's testimony on the plan before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, Sen. John Sparkman (D., Ala.), chairman of the housing subcommittee, said he would give "serious consideration" to the proposals and that air force officials said plane manufacturers would be consulted about it.

HUMPHREY SAYS "EXCELLENT"

Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D., Minn.) enthusiastically rated the plan "excellent." "It shows again," he said, "the creative thinking of Mr. Reuther and the labor movement. It is one of the attacks on the housing problem that will jar the complacent and conservative out of their unwillingness to try a new solution." It is Humphrey's opinion, he told LPA, that the plan can work because it makes "constructive use of existing resources and existing plant equipment."

IT CAN BE DONE

Citing his experience in tooling and on the production line, Rep. Tom Burke (D., Ohio) expressed confidence that "it can be done." The current proposals "apply the same general principles to housing" that the original Reuther plan applied to our defense needs before the war, Burke asserted. Referring to our war production record on fighter planes, the Toledo Congressman declared that "though Walter never got the credit for it, he laid down the plan that was followed."

N. Y. HERALD-TRIBUNE

A number of obstacles were cited by the *Herald-Tribune*, which

called the plan "intriguing"—but the editorial went on to say, "We would like to see Mr. Reuther's plan get a little more attention from Congress."

WASHINGTON (D. C.) STAR

Although anticipating difficulties in the way of a "sword-into-plowshare" program, the *Star* said, "Public resistance might well be overcome by an intensive educational campaign. Such a campaign might effect a reasonable liberalization of restrictive codes. Once the market for such homes becomes active, private capital probably would not be long in finding its way into the new industry. Certainly, in these times of housing shortages throughout the country, the Reuther plan is deserving of consideration."

N. Y. TIMES

The *Times* called the plan "... an idea that appeals to the imagination and which, in principle, has the claim of logic."

Pointing out that many companies had developed experience that could guide the government, the *Times* said, "A whole new industry could flower from this idea of the mass-produced house if government, business and labor interests on all levels got behind it. There could be a creation of useful jobs, after training, for the rather considerable body of unemployed who are now being counted with some concern.

"Can the American government, which in wartime led industry and labor into such extraordinary feats of production, create now an assembly line of mass-production for good homes at a reasonable cost?"

Chicago Group Honors UAW

The UAW-CIO last month was selected by a panel of over 100 citizens for a place on the "Chicago-Land Honor Roll" for its work against discrimination in bowling.

The award was made by the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination.

Congress Told 'GM Strike Was Good' As House Group Opens T-H Hearings

WASHINGTON—The 1945-46 UAW-CIO strike against General Motors "was a good strike and a necessary strike because of the attitude of the great two-billion-dollar corporation that was trying to set a pattern for postwar America," Rep. Peter W. Rodino, Jr., (D., N. J.) told the House Labor Committee when he appeared as the first witness in the hearings on the Thomas-Lesinski Bill (S. 249 and H. R. 2032) to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act and re-enact the Wagner Act with amend-

ments. Rep. Rodino told the committee that he knew that he had personal knowledge of the GM strike because "my father was a worker at the Hyatt Roller Bearing plant of GM," and, as a member of the UAW-CIO, was in the 1945-46 strike.

The GM strike was necessary, Rep. Rodino said, "because of the attitude of the great \$2,000,000,000 corporation that was trying to set a pattern for postwar America, a pattern of behavior in which the American wage earners, who had turned out the greatest production in the history of the world, were going to be put through the economic wringer and have their unions weakened and maybe broken by vast corporate power.

STEEL STRIKE, TOO

"We had a steel strike, too, and that was necessary because of the attitude of the U. S. Steel Corporation and other big employers. I remember that it was made a matter of public record that these big gilt-edged corporations held a secret meeting in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in the winter of 1946, in which they discussed the matter of a labor policy. It is all a matter of record in the hearings before the Senate Labor Committee, I believe, and any member of this committee can look it up.

"C. E. Wilson, of General Electric, told about it on the stand, and later, another C. E. Wilson, of General Motors, testifying in a National Labor Relations Board hearing in Detroit, on an unfair labor charge filed against the corporation, explained that he had met there with the representatives of the other corporations because 'we were all looking down the barrel of the same gun.' He went on to tell the examiner who, by the way, was the same Gerard Reilly, then a member of the Na-

tional Labor Relations Board who is now on the General Motors payroll at \$3,000 a month as a Washington lobbyist, that it was a pity that those men—meaning the management representatives meeting secretly in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel could not 'make the decisions for the country.'"

The Taft-Hartley Act was passed because the 80th Congress blamed labor for a postwar inflation of which workers and their families were the principal victims, Rep. Rodino told the committee.

"What else could workers do? They tried to negotiate. In some cases, such as the General Motors strike, the union offered to arbitrate, to reduce their demands to whatever the mammoth General Motors Corporation could pay without either increasing prices or reducing profits below a very generous yield on net worth. The union went into hearings of a fact-finding board set up by the President. But the corporation walked out, refused to cooperate. Then, when the fact-finding board made its recommendations, the union accepted, but the corporation refused and the strike went on all through the winter of 1946.

PUBLIC BE DAMNED

"Who was being cooperative and who was being uncooperative in that case? Who was considering the public welfare—not to speak of the welfare of the wage earners and their families? Who was telling the public welfare to be damned for the sake of profits in an attempt to try to beat the General Motors workers to their knees? I say, thank God the General Motors workers held out and got a settlement for the amount that had been recommended by the fact-finding board. That was a good strike and a necessary strike. "While that was the sort of at-

Rep. Peter W. Rodino, Jr., the first witness in the House Labor Committee hearings on repeal of Taft-Hartley, represents the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey and succeeded Rep. Fred A. Hartley, the former chairman of the House Labor Committee, in Rodino's words opening his testimony, "the nominal author of the Act which the bill before you, H. R. 2032, is intended to repeal."

Under questioning, it was brought out that Hartley is now president of the Tool Owners' Union. Rep. Cleveland Bailey (D., W. Va.) introduced in the Record a decision by the New York Board of Standards and Appeals, denouncing the Tool Owners' Union as a fake union, "fascistic" in structure in that the "members" had no control over the policies of the "union," designed to protect the interests of share-holders.

mosphere we had in 1946 and later in the year, price control was weakened and finally killed and the NAM and the Chamber of Commerce stampeded the American people with full-page ads into voting for candidates who promised to take off price control altogether on the understanding that we would have such a flood of goods that prices would come down. You know whether they did or not.

"So, in 1947, instead of blaming the profiteers who were cashing in billions of profits on the people's need for goods, the 80th Congress adopted the Taft-Hartley bill which was written as Representative Klein has described in the quotation I read earlier in my remarks.

LABOR KICKED AROUND

"Labor, which was already one of the principal victims of runaway inflation, was to be put in a straitjacket and kicked around under the Taft-Hartley Act. Employers who wanted to continue peaceful industrial relations were also put in a straitjacket.

"The people of my district and the people of New Jersey and the people of the United States just don't like this law and want it repealed."

CIO Heads Visit Truman, Urge Action on Fair Deal

WASHINGTON (LPA)—After a visit to the White House, March 4, CIO leaders expressed confidence that President Truman will do all in his power to get quick Congressional action on his Fair Deal program.

The group told Truman that they welcomed his suggestion "for taking that program directly to the people once again, in order to overcome the fierce resistance of those special interests whose propaganda campaign is designed to nullify the results of the election." In his Jefferson-Jackson Day speech, the President said he would tour the country, if necessary, to push through his program.

In a statement issued after the

meeting, the CIOers condemned the "undemocratic filibuster issued under the cloak of 'free speech'" and called for "immediate decisive action to pass the Thomas-Lesinski bill repealing the Taft-Hartley Act, to enact an adequate minimum wage law, and for passage of civil rights, social security, the economic and tax program, housing, rent control, health insurance, and the other legislation outlined in the President's messages and in the Democratic platform."

Members of the White House delegation were: James B. Carey, Walter Reuther, David J. McDonald, Arthur J. Goldberg, Frank Rosenblum, George Baldanzl, L. S. Buckmaster, Joseph Curran, John Green and Jack Kroll.

Unemployed at the Plant Gates?

PLANS TO AVOID DEPRESSION GETTING LITTLE ATTENTION

WASHINGTON—Which will it be—planned unemployment or a plan for full employment?

While the legislative battles are fought over measures of immediate importance to labor, this vital basic question is limping around in the Washington background.

Will the government discharge its responsibility to maintain maximum employment and production, as directed by Congress in the Employment Act of 1946?

Is business guessing right when it bases its plans on a repetition of depression, like the one that started in 1930?

The President stepped up to this one in his message to Congress, in January, but to date he is getting only luke warm support from his fellow Democrats.

STRAWS IN THE WIND

Latest bale of hay to show which way the wind blows is a wordy report to Congress by the Joint Committee of Senate and House created by the 1946 Act. While it endorses many of the recommendations the President has made, it ducks major issues.

Most important evidence on the question placed before the committee is omitted from the report. This was a statement by Economic Adviser John D. Clark to the effect that a lot of businessmen want unemployment. Speaking for the President's Council of Economic Advisers on February 9, Clark said:

"We have had presented to us repeatedly in our conferences with representatives of business that very proposal—that the best thing that could happen would be to have a larger degree of unemployment in order that there might be at the factory gates each morning a list of job hunters (what is happening in their kitchens I don't know) because that would make labor more eager and more productive."

PRESS SILENT

The Joint Committee makes no mention of this undisputed statement of fact by Clark which reveals the business plan for unemployment. It got the same silent treatment from the press.

The Joint Committee is also uncertain as to what our production goals should be if we are to have full employment. Should we aim for 20 per cent less than in 1948, or only five per cent less, it asks. Or should we look forward to steady growth in output year after year?

LINES AT GATES

Production goals even five per cent below 1948 would give the businessmen the line-up of workers at the gates which they told Clark they want. Full employment can be achieved only if we keep raising output some three or four per cent a year, as the council told the committee.

But the committee asks which of these two should be our goal and comes up with no answer.

Planned unemployment or a plan for full employment strikes close to the economic security of workers and of farmers, but in Washington it's almost the least publicized issue of the session thus far.

READY FOR FIGHT

Hearings on the question are slated to start before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee March 16. A number of CIO unions are lining up to fight on the full-employment side. Steel and Auto unions, especially, will be demanding that Congress carry out the President's proposal of action against calculated scarcity in steel, aluminum and other basic industries.

The President proposed that the

government offer loans to private industry to build additional capacity where needed, or build and lease the new plants itself if industry refuses to do so.

"The special interests are on the job year in and year out—seven days a week and 24 hours a day," said President Truman in his Jefferson-Jackson Day speech.

"Night and day," he said, "they are trying to convince the people that the Taft-Hartley Act is a good law.

"The Taft-Hartley Act is an insult to the working men and women of this country, and they will not rest until it is destroyed.

"With the support of fair-minded Americans, regardless of party, we will continue to work for its repeal until it is replaced upon our statute books with a labor law that is fair and decent."

We Pay to Get Smacked

Huge Crackpot Lobby Is Financed by Taxpayers

WASHINGTON (LPA)—Somewhere between one million and three million reprints of Congressional speeches by Representative Ralph Gwinn (R., N. Y.) against rent control, price control and federal aid to education were stacked up in the back of the House Office Building late last month along with envelopes bearing Gwinn's frank.

The reprints, paid for by several powerful lobbying groups, cannot only go out postage-free under the Congressman's signature but may be folded, stuffed and sealed by government employes in the House folding-room.

Correspondent Oliver Pilat revealed in a New York Post story that printing costs for the deluge of propaganda were paid by Frank E. Gannett's Committee for Constitutional Government, the National Apartment Owners Association and a curlous character named Percy L. Greaves, Jr., who operates a 'research organization for Rightist groups.'

T-H SPONSORS HELPING

The Committee for Constitutional Government, frequently branded as a near-Fascist outfit by labor leaders, was last heard from when it carried on an expensive campaign pushing the Taft-Hartley Act.

The committee went to the National Apartment House Owners Association for a \$1,000 contribution to cover franking of Gwinn's rent control speech.

Greaves, now working out of Gwinn's office, has an illustrious career behind him. His last job was an anti-Semitic, anti-alien pamphlet fighting against Congress aid to displaced persons. Before that he worked for Representative Hartley on the Taft-Hartley Law. Before that, he ran the Republican committee investigating Pearl Harbor, and during the war he was employed by the Republican National Committee.

HITLER THEORIST

Gwinn once wrote a book called "From Fifth Avenue to the Farm," which expresses many of the race theories held by Hitler.

His remarks on rent control, being sent out with the taxpayers' money, sound as though they were written by the real estate lobby. "If rent control were eliminated," he says, "there would be a reshuffling of the cards; many families would double up, persons living in houses would move into smaller quarters, and in the course of a few months the demand for housing and the supply would be equalized and there would no longer be a housing shortage."

Another of his gems called "A Free Economy, the Only Source of Ample Food and Shelter," has the subtitle, "Four Thousand Years of Failure of Price Control." Price controls, he said, did not start with Leon Henderson. They go back to

the Babylonians in 2285 B. C., and people have been hungry ever since.

Federal aid to education, he opposes on the grounds that "the sickness of the world is not due so much to the lack of money for education as it is to the lack of God in the instruction in the moral law."

Labor groups are pressing for a Congressional investigation into Gwinn's use of the frank to send out propaganda for pressure groups.

"This stuff ought to be removed—Yawn!"



UAW Locals, Regions Demand T-H Repeal

WASHINGTON—UAW-CIO demands for quick repeal of Taft-Hartley by enactment of the Thomas-Lesinski Bill without weakening amendments are rolling into the offices of Senators and Representatives from all parts of the United States.

On February 23, UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther urged early action by the Senate Labor Committee, pointing out that filibustering tactics in committee and on the floor in offering scores of amendments were intended to defeat not only the repeal of Taft-Hartley but to block "the entire legislative program endorsed November 2.

"This over-all strategy . . . may even be intended to promote industrial unrest and uncertainty, lack of confidence, a decline in business activity and employment, and a drop in national income and revenues that will then be used to oppose both the entire domestic program and adequate ECA aid to other democratic nations."

As part of National CIO policy,

all UAW-CIO local unions and members have been alerted, through Regional, Subregional and Area offices, to the importance of following up political activity during the 1948 political campaign with action NOW to impress upon Senators the strength of the demand for Taft-Hartley repeal.

One of the most effective responses was addressed to the members of the Senate Labor Committee by the UAW-CIO Subregional office in Milwaukee in the form of a letter describing the way Taft-Hartley had destroyed peaceful collective bargaining between employes and the Hotpoint Company. It was packed with facts and dates and was both hot and to the point.



HOW TO FIGHT RENT CONTROL—The Congressional Record reprints shown here in the folding room back of the New House Office Bldg. are only a small part of the stacks of "remarks" by Rep. Ralph Gwinn (R., N.Y.), which stretch down long corridors and are estimated at a possible 3,000,000 copies. These pearls of wisdom by Gwinn on the evils of rent control, price control and federal aid to education are being distributed by the Committee for Constitutional Government, a labor-hating outfit backed by reactionary publisher Frank Gannett. The committee, which financed an expensive campaign for the Taft-Hartley Act, is now putting dough into spreading Gwinn's poison. Another backer is the National Apartment House Owners' Association. (LPA.)

T-H Repeal Fight Still Hot Despite Filibuster

WASHINGTON—Backed up behind the Senate filibuster over the phony amendment to the Senate Rules on cloture (limiting debate) is the Thomas-Lesinski Bill (S. 249—H. R. 2032) to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act and re-enact the Wagner Act with amendments outlawing secondary boycotts in support of jurisdictional strikes and providing arbitration for jurisdictional disputes.

Senate Labor Committee Chairman Thomas' (D., Utah) ruling that amendments in committee were out of order was supported by a straight party vote, 8 to 5, but it simply postponed the three-way fight among the (1) Democrats on the committee, (2) Senator Taft, who is fighting to save the name and some of the worst features of his pet act, and (3) Senator Wayne Morse (R. Ore.) who is in the middle and, as swing man, may now be able to re-write the bill on the floor.

One big question now is whether tight drawing of party lines has hardened the situation to the point where Morse can't get enough so-called liberal Republicans to back amendments offered by him and Senator Ives (R., N. Y.) while at the same time beating down worse amendments by the Taft-Byrd coalition.

38 SURE VOTES

Best count now is that the Taft-Hartley repeal forces have 38 sure votes—10 less than enough to pass S. 249. Of the 54 members in the Senate to vote for the original Taft-Hartley Bill, the most optimistic estimate of those who might now vote for repeal of Taft-Hartley and re-enactment of the Wagner Act as proposed in S. 249—with perhaps a few Morse amendments tacked on for Republican face-saving—adds up to 26, or 16 more than the 10 needed. But this estimate includes everything up to a miracle in political persuasion.

Morse claims that the repeal forces must pick up 14 Republican votes to win. If the filibuster split throws some of the Southern Democrats who voted against Taft-Hartley over into the Taft-Hartley camp, he may be right.

GOP VOTES NECESSARY

Under the circumstances, political arithmetic shows the necessity of getting a sizable bloc of so-called liberal Republicans, mostly from the more industrialized states but including Aiken and Flanders of Vermont, and Tobey of New Hampshire, over on the repeal side.

The alternative is a Democratic vs. Republican showdown, with a big bloc of Southern poll-taxers crossing the line to vote with the Republicans to vote for either (a) continuance of Taft-Hartley or (b)

a new Taft-Hartley Act so much WORSE than the present law that, if it passed both Houses, would have to be vetoed in favor of keeping the present law.

Of course, as Morse pointed out March 1 in a speech warning fellow Republicans that their party must "get rid of the anti-labor label" of Taft-Hartley, in order to win in 1950 and 1952, a defeat of Taft-Hartley repeal by a Republican-Southern Democrat coalition now might make political hay for Democrats two and four years from now. But, in the meantime, union members would have to live with Taft-Hartley or something worse.

LABOR GOING ALL OUT

Facing this picture, CIO and all labor are going all out to get enough votes in the Senate to pass S. 249 or something very close to it.

That means the working men and women back home and their families are going to have to demonstrate to their Senators that enactment of S. 249, WITHOUT WEAKENING AMENDMENTS, is "must" on their list. Resolutions, individual letters, telegrams and phone calls that carry the ring of truth and sincerity will do the job. Nothing else will.

Here is the list of the 26 Senators mentioned above:

- Knowland (R., California)
- Baldwin (R., Connecticut)
- Williams (R., Delaware)
- Russell (D., Georgia)
- Hickenlooper (R., Iowa)
- Chapman (D., Kentucky)
- Ellender (D., Louisiana)
- Smith (R., Maine)
- Tydings (D., Maryland)
- O'Connor (D., Maryland)
- Saltonstall (R., Massachusetts)
- Lodge (R., Massachusetts)
- Ferguson (R., Michigan)
- Vandenberg (R., Michigan)
- Thye (R., Minnesota)
- Tobey (R., New Hampshire)
- Smith (R., New Jersey)
- Iver (R., New York)
- Young (R., North Dakota)
- Martin (R., Pennsylvania)
- Maybank (D., South Carolina)
- Gurney (R., South Dakota)
- McKellar (D., Tennessee)
- Johnson (D., Texas)
- Aiken (R., Vermont)
- Flanders (R., Vermont)
- Wiley (R., Wisconsin)

Curb Monopoly or Face Depression, O'Mahoney Warns

COLUMBUS, Ohio (LPA)—Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.) warned in a speech to the Ohio Farm Bureau here last week that if monopolies by the giant corporations of the United States are not curbed the result may be a depression that would have to be cured by such drastic action by the federal government as to seriously cripple our democratic principles.

Combinations of big business in this country, Sen. O'Mahoney said, have brought about a concentration of employment far beyond the imagination of most people. For instance, 4,900 businesses, out of a total of 3,500,000 in the nation, are employing 40 per cent of all workers.

Forty-eight of these huge corporations each is worth more than a billion dollars, while only 13 of the individual states has assets of that amount.

"If we don't want monopoly, then we have got to make up our minds that these organizations must get their charters from the national government, which alone has the power to regulate commerce between the states," he added.

"I don't want to break up big

business, but I want to give little business, the workers and the farmer a better break," he said.

SPECIAL INTEREST "FRONTS" ON RAMPAGE IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON—The Liberty League rides again. As in 1935-37, the forces of reaction wear dozens of fronts and disguises. President Truman wasn't talking generalities through his hat when he denounced the "special interests that are on the job year in and year out, seven days a week and 24 hours a day."

From the registrations under the Lobby Regulation Act, a pretty good list of these "fronts" can be compiled, as shown below. And there are others, more powerful, working in secret, behind the "fronts" that have registered.

The deadlock over the change in Senate rules is NOT different or separate from the fight to repeal Taft-Hartley and to enact the Fair Deal program. It is part of the same fight.

SHIFT ATTACK

The bipartisan coalition that fronts for special interests has simply succeeded in shifting the first big battle in the 81st Congress to civil rights, where racist appeals to prejudice, fear and hate can be used in an attempt to split the American people, split Congress, split the Democratic and Republican Parties and, by so doing, stop the Fair Deal program dead in its tracks before it can get started.

In 1935-37, it was special interests vs. the New Deal; now it is special interests vs. the Fair Deal.

In 1935-37, the "front" for special interests was the Liberty League that advised corporations to ignore the Wagner Act because it was unconstitutional; in 1949, the front is the Committee for the Preservation of the Taft-Hartley Act, aided by dozens of other eager beavers and legal beagles.

HERE THEY ARE

Here is a partial list of special interest "fronts" who, though specializing in some instances, together act to block the entire Fair Deal program, including Taft-Hartley repeal, higher minimum wages, civil rights legislation, increased social security, national health insurance, rent control, housing, valley authorities, etc., etc.

1. The Committee for the Preservation of the Taft-Hartley Act. Chairman: William Ingles, registered lobbyist and labor advisor for Allis-Chalmers, J. I. Case, American Mining Congress, National Association of Electric Companies, Inland Steel, Foremen's League for Education, Falk Corp., American Hotel Association, etc. According to Rep. Klein (D., N. Y.), Ingles helped write the Taft-Hartley Act. Speaking in the House on April 15, 1947, Rep. Klein said: "The bill was . . . actually written with the help of . . . the National Association of Manufacturers and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. Some of the most valuable assistance came from William Ingles, who . . . represents Allis-Chalmers Co., Fruehauf Trailer Co., J. I. Case Co., the Falk Corp. and Inland Steel Co. . . ."

2. National Association of Manufacturers reported, under the Lobby Regulation Act, expenditures of nearly \$5,000,000 during 1948 and maintains a big Washington lobby

Denham Cleans Up . . . in a Way

Robert N. Denham has been overruled in a fight over a bathtub.

The NLRB, of which he is the Grand Exalted General Counsel, is moving to new quarters in the Federal Security Agency. Denham found that the main suite of the new offices had a de luxe bath and shower. Used to having his orders obeyed at NLRB, Denham demanded that he be given the suite—and the tub.

NLRB Chairman Paul Herzog, who has urged Congress to abolish Denham's duties, got his dander up, insisted that he get the suite.

Herzog won out. Denham then galloped over to the Public Building Administration and demanded a similar shower and tub for his offices. PBA agreed pronto.

It'll cost the taxpayers \$1,000 to keep Denham clean.

Carey Says Commies Hurt T-H Repeal

James B. Carey, Secretary-Treasurer of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, last month denounced the "effrontery" of the Communist Party for injecting itself into the Senate Labor Committee hearings on the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law, and charged that workers in Soviet Russia are "today being operated under a Communist version of the Taft-Hartley Law."

Carey, who made his accusations in a letter to the Committee Chairman, Senator Elbert D. Thomas (D., Utah), acted after John Williamson, Labor Secretary of the Communist Party in the United States, sent the committee a statement "apparently calculated to present the viewpoint of American labor on the Taft-Hartley Law."

"The Communist Party does not speak for organized labor," said Carey, "its claims to the contrary notwithstanding. It speaks only for itself and the foreign interests which it represents."

Earlier, Carey wrote Thomas denying a statement by Robert M. Denham, General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, that abolition of the non-Communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law would discourage men like Jim Carey in their drives to rid the labor movement of Communist leadership. Carey called for the end of the affidavit.

of the drive to break up the federal-state system of unemployment compensation and public employment services. And here are Calhoun's other retainer fees: Toilet Goods Association, of New York, \$500 retainer and \$100 a day for all time he puts in, plus expenses; Avon Products, Inc., of New York; Beauty Counselors, Inc., of Grosse Pointe, Mich.; Better Brushes, Inc., of Palmer, Mass.; Stanley Home Products, Inc., of Westfield, Mass., and the C. H. Stuart Co., of Newark, N. J., all of whom have common interests, \$200 a month from each plus out-of-town expenses; the Alaska Transportation Co., of Seattle, Wash., \$100 a day; and the Brass & Bronze Ingot Institute.

This is only a partial list of the coalition of special interest lobbies. Undoubtedly, they tie across to the Tideland Oil lobby, the Natural Gas lobby and reach into the various farm commodity lobbies and the anti-civil rights lobbies.



WASHINGTON, D. C.—CIO representatives testify before the House Labor Committee, Feb. 1, to urge speedy approval of legislation to overhaul the Wage-Hour Act to protect "substandard" workers and employers who want to "pay their employes a decent wage." Left to right are: Irving J. Levy, General Counsel of the UAW (CIO); Vera Miller, Vice-President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers (CIO), and Solomon Barkin, Research Director of the Textile Workers Union of America.

—Acme Photo.

Revolt of the Doctors

Mushrooming Opposition Threatens AMA Hierarchy

For the first time in its long history of dictatorial rule of the medical profession, the American Medical Association's aging and backward hierarchy is running into real and substantial opposition from its members.

This opposition grows out of the AMA's fight against the national health program advocated by President Truman.

Crying "Socialism" and "Communism," the AMA last December (in a secret and closed meeting of its all-powerful House of Delegates) levied a \$25 assessment against all members to raise a war chest to fight Truman's program to provide medical care for all who need it. Despite the terrific power the Association holds over individual doctors, that action aroused a storm of protest which has been snowballing ever since until now it has reached the proportions of a serious and significant revolt among the doctors.

In fact, when you consider the hundreds and thousands of individual physicians who are afraid to speak up for fear of reprisals that might destroy their professional careers, it is not unlikely that the AMA campaign is opposed by a MAJORITY of the doctors of the nation.

REFUSE LEVY

One of the first reactions came from a group of 136 outstanding doctors of national reputation, headed by Dr. Edward A. Park, emeritus professor of pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University. This group said they would refuse to pay the assessment if the funds "are to be used for propaganda and legislative lobbying instead of developing a comprehensive medical care program."

On top of this protest, the two largest county medical associations in the country—Kings County (Brooklyn) and New York County (Manhattan)—have voted decisively against paying the assessment and against support of the AMA's fight against the national health program.

In view of such reactions, the

AMA, in mid-February, hastily threw together a "program" which it offered as its alternative to the national health program.

Dr. Park's group—now increased to 166 nationally prominent doctors—immediately characterized the "program" as "vague and inadequate" and urged the AMA to "recognize the right of the consumer to participate in the development of medical care plans."

This group also demanded that the Association call a national conference of representatives of labor, industry, farm groups, medical practice, medical education and research, hospitals and other interested lay and medical groups to form a joint planning committee that would "prepare the details of a truly comprehensive plan of preventive and curative medicine for the nation."

GRASS-ROOTS REBELLION

In addition to these comparative newcomers to the revolt, a fight has been carried on for a much longer period by the Committee for the Nation's Health, headed by Dr. Channing Frothingham of Boston, who has twice been president of the Massachusetts Medical Society. Dr. Frothingham's committee vigorously supports Truman's health program. He and his committee predicted last December that the AMA's action on the \$25 assessment might "precipitate a grass-roots rebellion among the ranks of American doctors."

Not all of the others revolting against AMA dictation give full support to the Truman program, but they recognize that a serious medical care problem exists and that the AMA has done and is do-

SINGLE WOMEN FIND \$1 WAGE TOUGH GOING

WASHINGTON (LPA)—A \$1-an-hour wage, such as that proposed in bills now before Congress, is the absolute minimum on which a single woman can live in the state which has the lowest such budget, according to a compilation made by the US Labor Department.

The Women's Bureau collected 12 budgets that are used by state governments to estimate what is required by a self-supporting woman without dependents to maintain herself in health and meet the customary requirements of day-to-day living.

Union Theatre Gives Two Benefits

The Greater Detroit CIO Recreation Council will sponsor the three-act comedy entitled, "The Whole Town Is Talking," to be presented by the Union Theatre at Schiller Hall on April 15, and at Local 157 on April 16.

Featuring members of five different unions, including the UAW, "The Whole Town Is Talking," is a hilarious farce which has met with enthusiastic response throughout the country during the last several years.

Proceeds from the production will go to the UAW Children's Campaign. Tickets are available through the UAW Recreation Department.

ing nothing about it. They are demanding that the AMA quit fighting against the Truman program and try to do something constructive to meet the serious and real problem that exists.

"Mine is better!"



GM Is Ordered to Bargain On Pensions, Social Security

WASHINGTON (LPA)—Forthcoming contract negotiations of United Auto Workers-CIO received a boost when NLRB held, in an unanimous decision, that General Motors Corp. must bargain with the union on pension, insurance and other social security programs.

Even board member J. Copeland Gray, who has dissented in all previous cases on the subject, signed the decision ordering the company to bargain with UAW on any insurance plan they consider and to stop making any changes in the present plan without first consulting the union.

SUPREME COURT TO ACT

The GM contract provides for bargaining on social security and pensions as soon as it's legally determined whether they are a proper matter for negotiation. The Supreme Court is expected to rule on the subject in the "Inland Steel" case before the end of March.

A YEAR TO DECIDE

The NLRB decision on General Motors was more than a year

in the mill. It began in November, 1947, when the company announced, without consulting the union, that it was inaugurating a new insurance plan effective Feb. 1, 1948. A complaint was filed by UAW Associate Counsel A. L. Zwerdling, and the NLRB got a court order keeping GM from putting the plan into effect for the 225,000 workers represented by UAW.

The board found that UAW has been bargaining agent in General Motors plants since 1940, that GM signed an agreement in April, 1947, to bargain on proposed changes in its insurance plan, and that the union had asked to bargain on the subject. Social security programs come within the scope of collective bargaining, the board now rules, and as such it is compulsory that they be discussed with the union.

UAW-CIO Skating Meet Set For March 19 in Lansing

Twice postponed because of warm weather, the annual UAW-CIO skating meet is scheduled for Saturday, March 19, at Lansing's indoor Michigan State Ice Skating Arena.

Amateur Skating Union President Ben Babdade promised the appearance of speed stars from all over the Midwest and from Canada for the event. The imported stars will challenge such title defenders as Loraine Sabbe, senior women's titleholder, and Terry Browne, who won the senior men's championship in 1948. Both Browne and Miss Sabbe would have been absent from the championships had they not been postponed, as both skaters were at big events elsewhere on the previous dates. Both have assured tournament officials they will be on hand for the Lansing event.

CHAMPS BACK

Other event winners from 1948's championship will be back, but

several of them are in new classes. John James, who won the intermediate boys' crown in last year's event, will test the men's senior B racers this year. Doris Droste has graduated to rival Loraine Sabbe for the women's title. Miss Droste was intermediate girls' winner last year. Another graduate is Bob Feskorn, who will be after John James' vacated boys' intermediate throne.

The day's events include novelty and novice races in addition to the top-level competitions. Union affiliation is not required for entries in any event except the novice races, which are open only to CIO members and their families.

STYLISTS FEATURED

Special feature will be a demonstration of figure skating by prominent stylists.

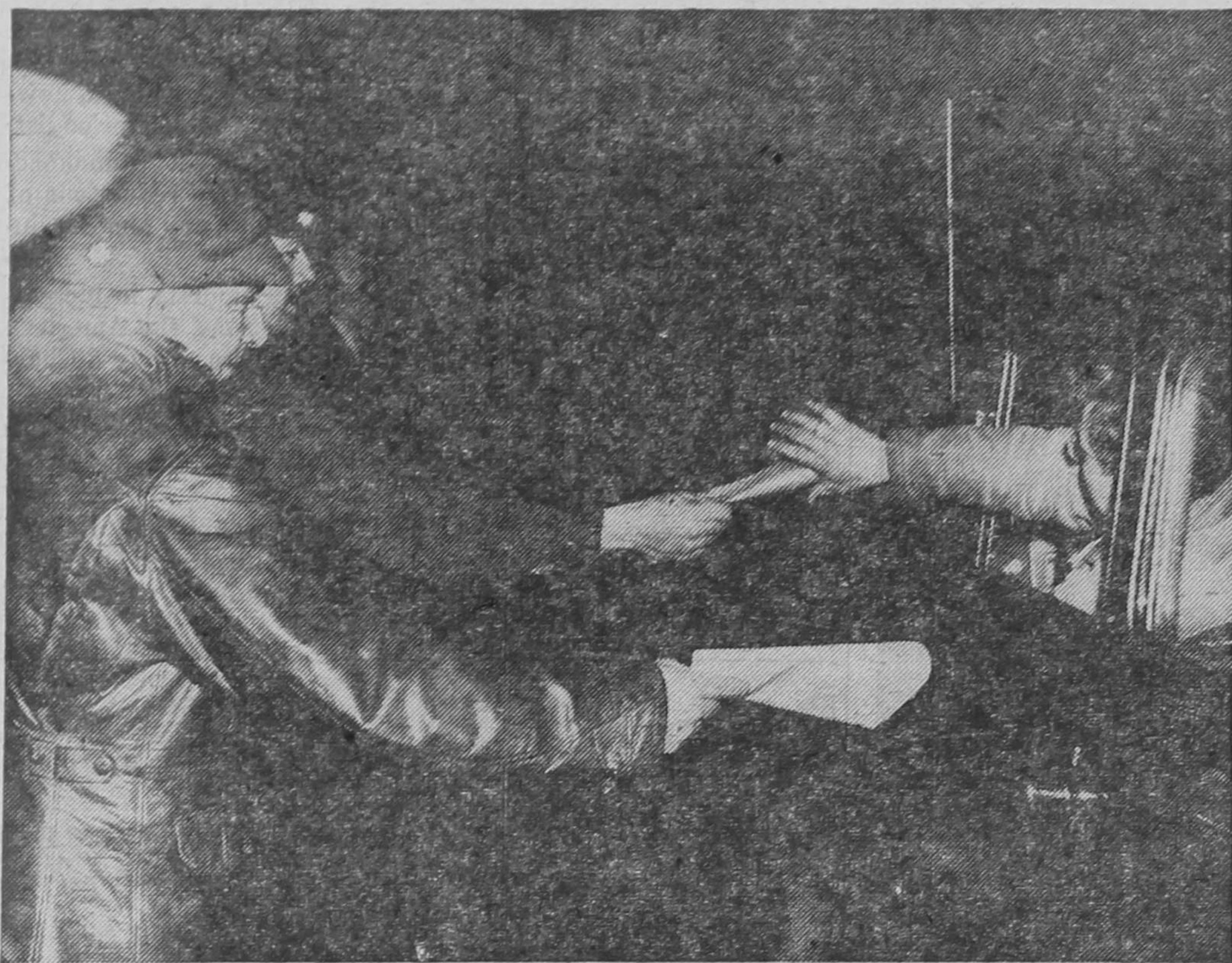
The meet is co-sponsored by the UAW-CIO Recreation Department and the Michigan Skating Association. Ben Babdade, National Amateur Skating Union President, will be in charge.



Presentation of mats and slip covers for children in polio ward at Herman Kiefer Hospital by Michael Lacey, Co-Director, Region 1; O. M. Hawkins, representing Norman Matthews, Co-Director; Ed Lee, Detroit Education Rep.; John Hardon, President, Local 783, UAW-CIO, whose daughter, Jean, is second from right and a victim of this dread disease.

The mats measure 5x7 feet and provide a safe way for exercising and strengthening the muscles of the children. The only place the children could crawl and exercise before the UAW stepped in was on narrow tables, and several children fell off, injuring themselves. The money was raised through the Region 1 Education Conference.

Farm Implement Drive Moves Ahead



A Harvester worker at East Moline accepts a handbill from a UAW member.

Mazey, Livingston, Board Members in East Moline for Second Handbilling

EAST MOLINE—Freedom of speech and press were restored to this community Monday, February 21, when the UAW-CIO returned to deliver the message of CIO policy to workers at the East Moline International Harvester Works.

The UAW-CIO handbill crew was led by Emil Mazey, UAW-CIO International Secretary-Treasurer, and John W. Livingston, UAW-CIO Vice-President and Director of the union's Agricultural Implement Department, plus six International board members.

Board members present were: Pat Greathouse, Region 4, Chicago; William McAulay, Region 1-B, Pontiac, Michigan; Leonard Woodcock, Region 1-D, Muskegon, Michigan; Ray Berndt, Region 3, Indianapolis; Russell Letner, Region 5, St. Louis, and Thomas Starling, Region 8, Atlanta.

MISSION ANNOUNCED

The intention of UAW-CIO to return to East Moline for the purpose of distributing literature at the Harvester plant was announced to the press at 4:00 a. m., Saturday morning, February 19.

In a release issued jointly by Livingston and Greathouse from the UAW-CIO Chicago headquarters, the union declared:

"Because the public has been confused as to what actually occurred when the FE people made an unprovoked attack on UAW members February 10, this time we are notifying the press and public well in advance, so that interested parties may observe the peaceful and lawful conduct of the UAW-CIO.

NLRB VOTE

"For our part, we will, as before, conduct ourselves in a peaceful and orderly manner. It is ridiculous to think that we would do otherwise, since we know that agricultural implement workers will ultimately vote their free choice in NLRB-conducted elections."

This announcement was given wide publicity in the press, and a flock of reporters and photographers were on hand to record the conduct of the UAW-CIO and the FE.

A number of local policemen, bolstered by detachments of Illinois state police, were on hand to protect the rights of people to distribute handbills.

MURRAY MESSAGE

The message delivered was contained in the third edition of UAW-CIO Farm Implement Facts.

It featured a copy of the February 14 letter from CIO President Philip Murray to Walter P. Reuther and Grant Oakes, clarifying and restating the action of the National CIO Executive Board ordering the FE to merge with the UAW-CIO.

While a handful of FE leaders were on hand to heckle and threaten workers who accepted the papers, the reception from the workers themselves was generally good, and many of them on both shifts carried the papers away for further study.



Kitty Co-op Says:

"When you're looking for someone to criticize, don't turn away from the face in the mirror."

Livingston Reports Good Progress on all Fronts

CHICAGO—UAW-CIO's drive to unite all farm implement workers in its ranks rolled into the second month, with reports of progress streaming in from all fronts, Vice-President John W. Livingston, director of the campaign, reported as the *Auto Worker* went to press.

Following the release of a letter sent by CIO President Philip Murray to Walter P. Reuther and Grant Oakes, FE President, restating the necessity for FE to merge with UAW-CIO, there was a sharp upsurge of FE rank-and-file support for the merger.

TWO PLANTS READY

In two plants, collection of signed UAW-CIO authorization cards neared the 30 per cent total required to back up a petition for a National Labor Relations Board representation election.

At the big McCormick Works plant in Chicago—where the FE top leaders suspended a majority of the Local 108 leaders who are backing the merger—a last minute drive was under way to gather in the last few cards needed to hit the 30 per cent mark.

OPEN HEADQUARTERS

The final spurt was expedited by the opening of a UAW-CIO headquarters near the McCormick plant, which will also be used by Harvester Tractor workers and McCormick Twine Mill workers.

While the drive at McCormick was gaining speed, UAW-CIO moved on another front against the FE dictatorship. Harold Katz, a member of the UAW-CIO Region 4 Legal Staff, acting on behalf of the suspended leaders of FE Local 108, filed a petition for an injunction to void the suspensions in Cook County Circuit Court.

In Springfield, Illinois, a rank-and-file committee was rounding up the last handful of authorization cards needed to get an election. Russell Merrill, UAW-CIO Region 3 Representative in charge of the Springfield Allis-Chalmers drive, said that the petition for an election in the plant would certainly be filed before March 15.

BIG LIFT

The Springfield drive got a big lift on Sunday, February 20, when the CIO Allis-Chalmers Council, meeting in LaPorte, Indiana, adopted the UAW-CIO 1949 economic program as their demands for this year's negotiations with their employer.

This Council is made up of three UAW-CIO locals, three UE locals and two FE locals. Charles Schultz, President of UAW-CIO Local 248, West Allis, Wisconsin, was elected Secretary of the Council—in which position he will have the responsibility of coordinating the 1949 negotiations.

Two CIO Regional Directors have called upon FE members in

their regions to get into the UAW-CIO and help speed the implementation of the merger. In Chicago, Mike Mann, Illinois CIO Director, said that his Council has set up a five-man committee to assist the UAW-CIO Farm Implement Drive.

PROGRESS IN LOUISVILLE

Hardy Merrill, UAW-CIO Representative stationed in Louisville, Kentucky, to work on the drive at the Harvester plant in that city, reported substantial progress. He said that a large number of FE Harvester workers attended a CIO Council meeting there, which was addressed by UAW-CIO Vice-President John W. Livingston and William Taylor, Kentucky CIO Director.

Taylor urged the FE members to comply with CIO policy and pledged his aid in uniting all farm implement workers in the UAW-CIO.

UAW-CIO activity was increasing in the Quad-City area, after a successful distribution of a copy of CIO President Murray's letter to the workers at the E. Moline Harvester Works. The distribution was led by Vice-President John W. Livingston and Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, with the aid of Board members Greathouse, Berndt, Letner, McAulay and Starling.

New in-plant contacts were being made steadily after the February 21 distribution, and a stream of literature was being mailed into all FE plants in the Quad-City area. Newspaper ads and radio programs were being used to speed up the drive.

REGION 3 ACTIVE

Region 3 Director Ray Berndt reported progress in two other FE plants on which his staff members are working. On March 2, Berndt personally led a crew of handbillers who covered the Harvester plant in Richmond, Indiana. He reports a steady collection of authorization cards at the Oliver plant in South Bend, Indiana.

On Monday morning, February 28, Region 4 Director Pat Greathouse led a crew of organizers who distributed copies of the special drive paper, "Farm Implement Facts," at the Harvester plant in Rock Falls, Illinois.

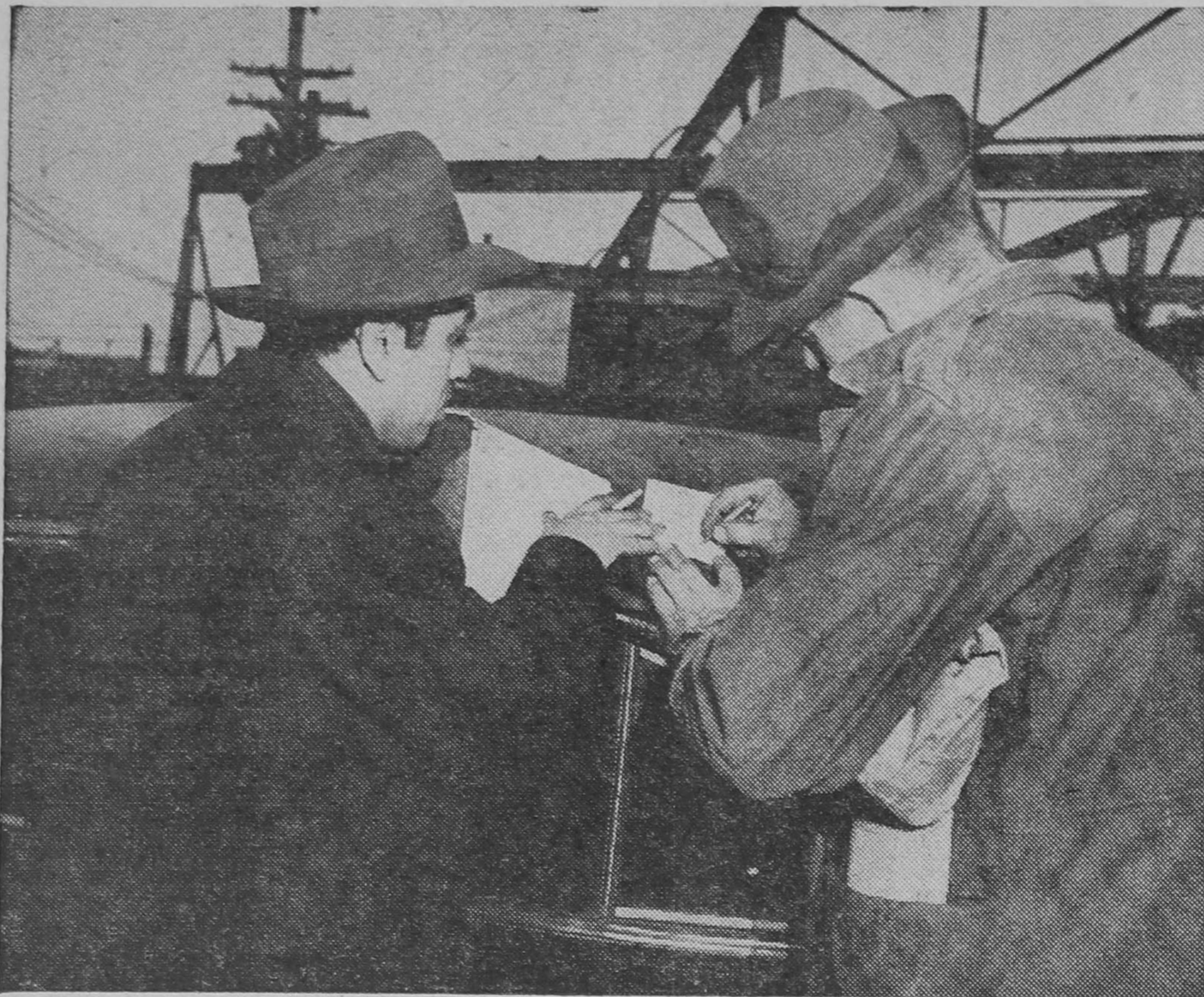
Sunday, March 6, marked the beginning of a regular UAW-CIO radio broadcast on Chicago Station WJJD. The program is heard from 1:10 to 1:15 daily, and from 1:15 to 1:30 every Sunday.



Handbilling lineup at the return engagement at East Moline Harvester works. Emil Mazey and Pat Greathouse, bareheaded in a cold drizzle, are next to the car. Mazey's assistant, Tom Clampitt, faces right in foreground.



Mazey turns to chat with workers. Greathouse (left) and Vice-President Livingston seem happy about their reception.



Above is a scene being repeated throughout the farm implement industry. A McCormick Harvester worker is being signed up on a UAW authorization card by Sal Ceja, former Recording Secretary of FE Local 108.

Press Is Overjoyed at GM's 'Price Cut'—Customers Aren't

Announcement of a "\$10 to \$40" automobile price cut by the General Motors Corporation last month was duly hailed in Page One headlines by the obedient press and in flash bulletins by the equally obedient radio. The prospective car-buyer, however, simply yawned as he took another look at GM's price list.

A UAW-CIO statement following the "price cut" announcement said: "The piddling General Motors price reductions of \$10 on Chevrolets and \$40 on some Cadillacs are another instance of too little, too late.

"If General Motors had shown the same modesty in increasing prices as they now show in price reductions, the American people would not still be paying Cadillac prices to buy a Chevrolet.

"These price reductions may be soothing public-relations balm for General Motors, but they do not represent significant savings to car buyers."

Thorough investigation by the UAW-CIO Research Department has failed to reveal long lines of customers at Chevrolet dealers' doors clamoring to take advantage of GM's month-end bargain sale.

Packard Official Fails To Answer Fraud Charges

A high official of the Packard Motor Car Company early this month refused to appear at a hearing to answer charges of fraud brought against him by the UAW-CIO.

Walter Uptegrove, Packard unemployment compensation director, had been accused of violating provisions of the Michigan Unemployment Compensation Act.

In an earlier hearing before MUCC referee Charles Rubinoff, A. L. Zwerdling, UAW associate counsel, charged Uptegrove with deliberately making false statements under oath for the purpose of obtaining a disqualification for a Packard employe who lost his job because of epileptic seizures.

Zwerdling asked Rubinoff to invoke sections 54 and 62 of the Act against Uptegrove, which provide for a financial penalty against the employer and criminal proceedings against the employer representative guilty of attempted fraud.

Tom Doherty, of the UAW-CIO Unemployment Compensation department, reported the case arose when Uptegrove testified in an MUCC hearing that the claimant had been discharged for misconduct in connection with his work because he had not told the Com-

pany that he was subject to seizures.

"It was later discovered that the company had been aware of this condition and that he had not been discharged but had resigned instead," Doherty pointed out.

The charges have been taken under advisement by Rubinoff. If he upholds the union's position, the case will go to the County Prosecutor with recommendations for action against Uptegrove.

"Every few weeks the newspapers carry reports of claimants given court sentences for obtaining benefits by false statements," Doherty declared. "We do not defend such cases, but we do insist that a similar yardstick be applied to cases involving false statements by employer representatives."

States Moving To Clean Up Labor Laws

WASHINGTON (LPA)—Labor's drive to repeal the many anti-labor state laws enacted in the past few years is beginning to bear fruit.

In more than two dozen states, bills have been introduced, and in many cases gone through committees and onto the floors of the legislatures, to do away with the stringent regulations against labor that were so prevalent after their 1947 sessions.

Here is a brief roundup of major labor relations bills introduced in the legislatures, with the action taken wherever there has been any to date:

Colorado: The House passed a bill to repeal the restrictive State Labor Relations Act of 1943. The repealer faces a stiffer fight in the Senate, but Gov. Lee Knous is steadfastly behind it.

Delaware: The House voted 21 to 14 to repeal the 1947 State Labor Relations Law that has been described as "the most vicious in the country—even worse than Taft-Hartley." Gov. E. E. Carvel is for outright and fast repeal.

Idaho: The House is considering a bill to enact a State Labor Law modeled after the Wagner Act, and it has already passed a bill to permit the check-off. Another bill already through the House repeals the Act calling for compulsory arbitration in utility disputes.

Massachusetts: A bill introduced calls for creation of a new Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

Minnesota: The House and Senate are considering bills to repeal the secondary boycott ban, and the House is also working on a bill to repeal an Act of 1943 which stringently regulates labor unions.

Missouri: Both House and Senate are considering bills to repeal an Act of 1947 which prohibits jurisdictional strikes, sympathy strikes, secondary boycotts, and strikes by state employes.

Michigan: A bill has been introduced in the Senate for outright repeal of the vicious Bonine-Tripp Law of 1947, which attempted to limit the right to strike and tied labor up with endless red tape. Much of the Act has been declared unconstitutional by the state courts.

Nebraska: A bill creating a Labor Law similar to the Wagner Act is under consideration in the House.

New Jersey: The House is consid-

Big Brooklyn Shop in UAW

Workers at the American Machine and Foundry Company, of Brooklyn, N. Y., gave an overwhelming vote early this month to the UAW-CIO, it was announced by Charles H. Kerrigan, Director of UAW Region 9-A.

The NLRB election gave the UAW 983 votes; 100 voted for the IAM, and 338 for no union.

The plant normally employs about 2,400 workers.

ering a bill to prohibit the importation of strikebreakers.

New York: The House is considering a bill to repeal the law outlawing strikes in public utilities. Another bill would permit employes of the state and its political subdivisions to join unions and bargain collectively.

North Dakota: The House Labor Committee has reported favorably a bill which would repeal the 1947 Act prohibiting the closed shop or any other form of union security agreement. The committee also killed a bill which would declare secondary boycotts and sympathy strikes against public policy. Another bill provides for a Mediation Division in the Agriculture and Labor Department.

Ohio: The House voted 71 to 61 to repeal the vicious anti-labor Ferguson Act of 1947. The House also passed a bill which would require the state and political subdivisions to recognize the right of employes to join unions.

Oregon: A bill has been introduced in the House to repeal the 1947 law making secondary boycotts unlawful.

Pennsylvania: A bill has been introduced in the Senate to stop the issuance of injunctions in labor disputes.

South Carolina: A bill has been introduced in the House to enact a Labor Relations Law similar to the Wagner Act.

South Dakota: The House is considering a bill to repeal the Anti-Closed Shop Law, one restricting picketing, and another allowing suits against unions.

Tennessee: Both House and Senate Labor Committees have approved a bill repealing the "Little Taft-Hartley" of 1947, which prohibits the closed shop or any other type of union security agreement.

Washington: A bill to compel scabs to register with the State Department of Labor and Industry is now being considered by the House.

West Virginia: The House has received a bill to enact a Labor Relations Law modeled after the Wagner Law.



UAW Leader Pat O'Malley, recently elected President of the Cleveland Industrial Union Council in a Right Wing sweep.

Forge Council Sets Meeting

Nearing the end of its first year of successful work in behalf of Drop Forge workers, the International Forge Council has announced a meeting March 12 in Fremont, Ohio.

Council Chairman Robert S. Jones said: "Any Drop Forge Units or Locals wishing to send delegates to a council meeting are entitled to two delegates, one of whom shall be a forging operator or heater. All such units or locals are invited to affiliate with the council."

The purposes of the International Forge Council are:

1. To better acquaint the forge workers with conditions of the different forge shops.
2. To take wages out of competition by establishing a standard wage and conditions for all forging units and affiliated work.
3. To unite and strive for better working conditions for all.
4. To assist and cooperate with the Research and Engineering Department and the International President, Officers and Regional Director's Staff in organization of unorganized plants.

LOCAL 217 WINS UNIT

Paul E. Miley, Director of Region 2A UAW-CIO, announces that the Sobel Corrugated Container Company of Cleveland, Ohio, voted 3 to 1 in favor of the UAW-CIO, in an NLRB election held January 31, 1949. They now become mem-

FIRST FE ELECTION SLATED FOR A-C PLANT

Workers employed in the Allis-Chalmers plant in Springfield, Illinois, were the first to petition for an NLRB election in which they can vote for the UAW-CIO to represent them—as a result of the UAW-CIO drive to unite all FE workers in its ranks—it was announced in Chicago this month.

The announcement was made jointly by Ray Berndt, Director of Region 3, UAW-CIO, in which the plant is located, and Pat Greathouse, Director of Region 4. Both Berndt and Greathouse are members of the UAW-CIO Executive Board and members of the Agricultural Implement Committee. Vice-President John W. Livingston, is Chairman of the Committee and Director of the Agricultural Implement Department. Workers at the Springfield Allis-Chalmers plant numbering approximately 3,000, are currently represented by FE Local 120.

The petition was filed at the Chicago regional office of the NLRB, March 8, by Pat Greathouse, Russell Merrill, UAW-CIO

bers of amalgamated Local 217 UAW-CIO. International Representative Stanley Kwiat was in charge of organization, assisted by Business Representative Clinton Bell. Negotiations on a contract will begin immediately.

Employment Low In January

The Census Bureau reported a rise in unemployment of 700,000 in January, bringing the total to 2,650,000.

Total employment fell to 57,500,000. The unemployed figure was 600,000 higher than in January, 1948. Total employment, though below December, was 265,000 higher than a year ago.

Are You Listening?

If so, send a postcard to the UAW's own Radio Station. Let us know if we're reaching you. Address 12300 Radio Place, Detroit 28. If not, begin now. Listen to WDET—101.9 on your FM dial—the voice of your own UAW-CIO.

SKILLED TRADES MEET IN CHICAGO

Skilled Tradesmen of the UAW-CIO, meeting in Chicago, Ill., at the quarterly conference of the International Skilled Trades Council, after thorough debate, approved a motion: "That the International Skilled Trades Council, UAW-CIO, recommend to all affiliated Councils a change in the requirements for issuance of Journeyman Cards in order to conform to the Journeyman-Upgrader Program." This program had been unanimously approved at the quarterly conference held at Toledo, Ohio, in November, 1948. The Journeyman-Upgrader program was unanimously adopted by the joint Journeyman-Upgrader Committee, which was established by the UAW-CIO Convention in an effort to resolve this problem, and subsequently approved by the International Executive Board.

The conference was attended by 33 delegates, representing Skilled Tradesmen of 11 affiliated Councils in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, New York and Canada. The assembled delegates voted to hold their next Conference on May 6th and 7th in Milwaukee, Wis.

MAINTENANCE

The Skilled Trades Conference also reiterated its previous position in regard to the Powerhouse Workers' "seven-day operation schedule" and instructed the Secretary to forward copies of the resolution to the respective Regional Directors for their consideration.

ENGINEERING

The Engineering Job Shop organizing drive in the Detroit area is receiving considerable interest. The most recent shop to be organized is the Multi-Hydraulic Welding & Machine Co. The Engineers at this plant voted 100 per cent for the UAW-CIO and are currently in the process of negotiating an agreement with the company.

FE Biggies Prosecuted

ROCK ISLAND—Justice began catching up with the FE top leaders here last month.

Two weeks after they directed an unprovoked attack on UAW-CIO handbill distributors by misguided members of FE, the FE top leaders appeared to get bailed out on charges of conspiracy and conspiracy to cause a riot.

Those who appeared, in answer to warrants obtained by State's Attorney Bernard J. Moran, on the basis of information filed by the UAW-CIO, were:

Grant Oakes, John Shaffer, Charles Lawson, John T. Watkins, Thomas Kelly, Arvid Sheets, Lyle Davis and Gerald McMahill.

MEMBERS INSTRUCTED

Moran said that Oakes, Shaffer and Lawson "did unlawfully, fraudulently and maliciously issue or utter a circular or instruction to the members and did distribute said circular or printed notice among members of said organization with fraudulent and malicious intent, wrongfully and wickedly to injure the persons and character of other persons, to wit: Michael Dergo, Charles Barnes, Pat Great-house and John W. Livingston."

The latter persons named are all UAW-CIO officers or representatives.

Moran based his charges on the notorious January FE News which said "muscular reception committees" were on hand at FE plants to receive, UAW-CIO organizers, and on a letter from Oakes advising FE members to treat UAW-CIO people as "finks and scabs."



"Community Clinic" featuring discussions of human relations is a weekly Sunday feature at 1:35 p. m. on WDET. In the picture above, George Schermer, moderator, is discussing, "Should There Be FEPC in Michigan?" With him are, from left: Geraldine Bledsoe, Chief Minority Section, Michigan Employment Service; Schermer; William H. Oliver, Co-Director UAW-CIO Fair Practices Department, and Booz Siegel, Law Professor, Wayne University.



WDET Station Manager Ben Hoberman, seated, goes over program with Assistant Program Director Paul Morris, left, and Announcer Bob Cordell.



"Sports Review" with Betty Hicks, right, former national women's golf champion, is one of WDET's most popular Sunday features at 12:45 p. m. Sportswoman Hicks tells the big stories behind sports events and interviews leading athletic figures.

WDET-FM PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

101.9 Megacycles Channel 270

News Every Hour on the Half-Hour

On the air 3-10 p. m. Monday through Friday;

8 a. m.-10 p. m. Saturday and Sunday

SUNDAY

- 9:00 Cosmopolitan Program in Italian
- 10:00 Cosmopolitan Program in Polish
- 11:00 Cosmopolitan Program in Yiddish
- 12:30 Your Washington Correspondent
- 12:45 Betty Hicks' Sports Fairway
- 1:35 Community Clinic
- 2:35 Opera Matinee
- 3:30 Gilbert & Sullivan Concert
- 4:30 Great Books Discussion
- 5:15 You and Your City
- 6:00 Keyboard Masters
- 6:30 Labor Views the News
- 7:00 Footlight Parade
- 8:00 Detroit Public Library Symphony

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

- 3:00 Cosmopolitan Program in Polish
- 3:30 Cosmopolitan Program in Italian
- 4:15 A Woman's World
- 5:00 Story Time
- 5:55 Around the Town
- 6:00 Sports Roundup
- 6:30 Labor Views the News
- 7:00 Music You Want
- 7:30 News Roundup
- 8:00 Detroit Public Library Symphony
- 9:00 Wayne Faculty Round Table—Monday
- Other nights, Music of the Theatre.

SATURDAY

- 8:00 Tie Toc Tunes
- 9:00 Americana
- 12:00 Downbeat
- 12:30 News Roundup
- 1:15 You and Your Health
- 1:35 Music in the Modern Manner
- 3:00 Vocal Varieties
- 4:00 Piano Patterns
- 4:30 Tropicana
- 5:00 Jazz Corner
- 6:30 Labor Views the News
- 7:00 All Time Favorites
- 7:30 News Roundup
- 9:00 Ballroom of the Air

MURRAY LETTER ON FE

February 14, 1949.

Mr. Walter P. Reuther, President,
United Automobile, Aircraft, Agricultural
Implement Workers of America,
411 W. Milwaukee Avenue,
Detroit 2, Michigan.

Mr. Grant W. Oakes, President,
United Farm Equipment & Metal Workers of America,
110 S. Canal Street,
Chicago 6, Illinois.

Dear Presidents Reuther and Oakes:

I am writing to you in order to clarify the position of the National CIO in reference to problems which have arisen in the agricultural implement industry.

For a number of years a jurisdictional dispute has existed between the two CIO unions in the agricultural implement industry. Both the United Automobile, Aircraft, Agricultural Implement Workers of America and the United Farm Equipment & Metal Workers of America hold CIO charters granting jurisdiction in this field. This division of jurisdiction between the two unions has retarded the completion of organizational work and has weakened the efforts of workers in the agricultural implement industry to secure maximum economic gains and improved working conditions. Naturally, this situation is of grave and serious concern to the CIO as a whole.

This problem came before the CIO Jurisdictional Committee in 1945. The CIO Jurisdictional Committee, after reviewing all the facts, found that the UAW-CIO had original jurisdiction in this field and had substantial organization in agricultural implement plants several years before the FE-CIO was organized. Because of this, and since the nature of this industry is so closely allied with the automotive industry, the CIO Jurisdictional Committee reaffirmed the jurisdictional rights of the UAW-CIO in the agricultural implement industry and directed the FE-CIO to amalgamate with the UAW-CIO. The CIO Executive Board concurred in this recommendation.

The matter was again presented to the CIO Executive Board on November 27, 1948, immediately following the last CIO convention. After a full discussion, the CIO Executive Board, acting in the interest of the workers in the agricultural implement industry, both organized and unorganized, directed the United Farm Equipment & Metal Workers of America to take immediate steps to affiliate with the United Automobile, Aircraft, Agricultural Implement Workers of America. By this resolution, the CIO Executive Board affirmatively recognized that this affiliation is organizationally sound, is consistent with the provisions of industrial unionism and that the Constitution of the UAW-CIO guarantees membership rights and representation in accordance with democratic trade union principles.

Following the adoption of this resolution, the President of the CIO designated Emil Rieve, President of the Textile Workers Union of America; Jacob Potofsky, President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, and Joseph Curran, President of the National Maritime Union, as a committee of three to work with the UAW-CIO and the FE-CIO in the implementation of the resolution.

This committee, after giving appropriate notice to the two unions concerned, held a meeting at Chicago, Illinois, on January 7, 1949. Officials of the UAW-CIO appeared at this meeting for the purpose of lending wholesome support to the resolution of the CIO Executive Board, directing affiliation of FE-CIO with UAW-CIO. Officials of FE-CIO, however, appeared at this meeting and read a prepared statement to the committee, in which the FE in effect refused to discuss with the committee the question or method of affiliation.

As President of the CIO, I consider it my bounden duty to enforce decisions of the CIO arrived at after due deliberation and democratic debate. Under the Constitution of the CIO, the CIO Executive Board, between conventions, is the supreme legislative body of our great organization. The Executive Board of the CIO, on two separate occasions, has directed the United Farm Equipment & Metal Workers of America to affiliate with the United Automobile, Aircraft, Agricultural Implement Workers of America. This decision of the Executive Board should be given effect in the spirit in which the resolution was enacted. A continuation of the present situation can, in the language of the Executive Board, "only serve to further penalize these workers and weaken their collective bargaining power by strengthening the resistance of the powerful corporations in whose plants they work."

There can be no misunderstanding about the decision twice arrived at by the CIO Executive Board. This decision plainly says that the United Farm Equipment & Metal Workers of America-CIO should take immediate steps to affiliate with the United Automobile, Aircraft, Agricultural Implement Workers of America-CIO. The jurisdictional rights of the UAW-CIO have been recognized and reaffirmed by the Executive Board of the CIO, and no consideration has or will be given to the formation or recognition of any new union in this field.

I therefore call upon the parties concerned to give immediate effect to the foregoing decisions of the CIO Executive Board in cooperation with the committee which I have heretofore designated for this purpose.

Fraternally yours,

PHILIP MURRAY,
President.

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

GM Veto for This One?

Worker Education Bill Moves Ahead in Senate

WASHINGTON (LPA)—The bill to set up a Labor Extension Service in the Labor Department was reported favorably by the Senate Labor Committee this month, the day after conclusion of the hearings on Taft-Hartley repeal.

S. 110, authored by Chairman Elbert Thomas (D., Utah), would authorize provision of services through state educational institutions to wage earners. Classes and other resources would be made available to unions, under a program supervised by a state advisory board.

The measure is expected to pass the Senate, and then it will be up to the House Labor Committee, which has before it a bill identical with the Senate one, written by Rep. Thor C. Tollefson (R., Wash.).



Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., appeals for support of CARE during his recent visit to Detroit. Fairbanks congratulated UAW and CIO for their CARE participation.

There would be fewer strikes "when people sitting on opposite sides of the table are equally well-equipped and well-informed," Tollefson said in a radio forum broadcast for west coast audiences this month. He advocated quick passage of his Labor Extension Service bill as one stop in this direction.

On the same discussion, AFL Legislative Representative Walter Mason told listeners that "one of the strongest arguments for the passage of this act is the great opportunity I can see to give workers the vision of, and the equipment for, cooperation with management."

Every section of the labor movement supports and endorses the bill, Chairman Hilda Smith of the National Committee for Extension of Labor Education pointed out in summing up the discussion.

No Action Yet On Oleo Bill

WASHINGTON — "With world peace at stake, and with the future of our democratic way of life facing serious challenge, let's stop wasting time over the color of table fat," Donald Montgomery of the UAW-CIO Washington Office told the House Agriculture Committee at its recent hearings on oleomargarine.

Appearing for the CIO, he endorsed the Poague Bill to remove all federal restrictions on margarine, except the Food and Drug regulations, which require honest labeling.

Montgomery scored the butter lobby's bill, which would prohibit entirely the sale of yellow margarine. He also suggested that Congress eliminate from the Food and Drug Act the special provision which exempts butter, cheese and ice cream from the requirement placed on all other foods that when artificial coloring is used it must be disclosed on the label.

Judge Deals Another Blow To Michigan Anti-Labor Law

Michigan's Bonine-Tripp Act, already badly battered in the courts, last month had more holes shot in it as Circuit Judge Joseph F. Sanford directed the acquittal of UAW-CIO leaders Leonard Woodcock and James Elliott on the grounds that vital sections of the Act were unconstitutional.

Woodcock, UAW Region 1-D Director, and Elliott, President of the UAW Local Union at the Campbell-Wyant-Cannon Foundry, had been charged with violation of the Act

in "instigating a strike" at the Foundry without first having a state-conducted election.

Judge Sanford held that it was "the manifest intent of Congress in enacting the Taft-Hartley Act to expressly or impliedly suspend and supersede the police power of the several states to enact and enforce legislation such as involved in this case."

The UAW leaders admittedly defied the law for the purpose of testing its constitutionality.

Cooperators Strike Oil In Wisconsin

Gasoline, oil and service station accommodations will be supplied cooperatively for all of the consumer-minded residents of La Crosse, Wis.

This is an achievement of a group of workers who decided some time ago to organize a cooperative and informed as many people as possible about the benefits of cooperatives. Then came the day when the largest, best located, most attractive service station in La Crosse could be bought.

After contacting expert technical people from the Regional Co-op Wholesale, they advised the co-op group that the station was worth the money.

The UAW Co-op Division was called in to help plan the drive for members and share capital. Andrew Jensen, Labor Relations Director of Midland Co-op Wholesale, came in to La Crosse every week to meet with the organizers and give direction to the drive. Technical assistance on operations was provided by Midland field men. The United Rubber Workers' International, supplied a full-time organizer for a six weeks' period.

100% STOCK PURCHASE

Officers of Local 14, United Rubber Workers, together with the officers of Local 124 (Wm. Spah, President of the local) state that every member has purchased at least one share of stock. Brother Marshall, President of Local 395, came back from the UAW Educational Conference in Milwaukee and initiated the drive in his hotel. Alvin Danielson of Local 396, was one of the key persons in planning the drive and getting the members of the local solidly behind the co-op.

Local 401, UAW-CIO, also participated in the drive. The Brewery Workers, AFL groups, and others in the community who were interested in pushing for a co-op assisted in the drive.

GREATHOUSE HELPS

Pat Greathouse, Director, Region 4, and Don Yolton of the Sub-Regional Office in La Crosse, provided office space and the help of his office staff in conducting the drive.

At a city-wide rally at the AFL Labor Temple on February 14, the climax of the drive was reached when Joe Gilbert, 84-year-old English-born labor crusader, reviewed the plan for workers and their families to live decently. He said, "No one has given the worker anything. He is respected for what is fair and just, and is willing to fight for, and that applies to the entire family at the economic level."



Charlie Marks, Educational Director of Local 306, is directing singing for the local's young people. Local 306 has regular youth activities to keep the children off the streets, thereby doing its share to combat juvenile delinquency.